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The Octofoil, May/June/July 1984

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N. J. 07087

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Subscription Dues: \$5.00 per year - \$1.50
will be earmarked to pay for the Octofoil

Volume XXXVIV

Number 3

May June July 1984

My Dear 9th Infantry Division Men--

I am truly sorry that I could not be with you at The reunion at Lake Placid. On June 23rd I officiated at two weddings - and officiated at the renewal of wedding vows of a couple married 50 years ago. Even though I am officially retired I still get pretty good business. The weddings I call my REPEAT business - I am officiating at many weddings of young people whom I baptized when they were infants. Even though I was not with you in person, I offered Mass that weekend for all my 9th Division men, the living and the deceased - and their families.

Last December I was in Washington to officiate at a marriage and while there I visited General and Mrs. Craig - a lovely visit - and the General agreed with General Westmoreland that I was the worst soldier in the 9th Division - NO RESPECT. But in January, Mrs. Craig phoned me that the General had a shock - and a few days later General Craig went off to God - and it was my privilege to celebrate his funeral Mass at Fort Myers. His children were all there and most of his 44 grandchildren. General Westmoreland attended the funeral Mass and I met about 10 other 9th Division men. As you know, these are critical days for General Westmoreland, as he prepares for his suit against CBS. A few years ago he was defamed on that television station. The Capital Legal Foundation in Washington is a non-profit organization dedicated to going to bat for worthy causes. This organization is espousing the cause of General Westmoreland in his suit against CBS. Many of you have sent donations to the Capital Legal Foundation, to help defray the cost - But I am sure that your president, our devoted Tom Boyle, will tell you more about this.

Worcester Memorial

On Sunday, November 11, 1984 it will be my privilege to have you with me in Worcester, Mass., as we have our 40th Annual Memorial Mass and Service for our Beloved Deceased who died in Combat - 4581 - and we now include those 9th Division men who died in combat in Vietnam. As you know, at this Mass and Service we pray for a just and lasting PEACE. As usual, we shall gather Saturday evening, November 10, 1984 at the Sheraton Lincoln Inn in Worcester. I hope that again Tom Boyle and his helpers will arrange a buffet supper Saturday evening at the Inn - last year it was MOST successful - Tom and his men did a great job. On Sunday at 9:30 a.m. we shall meet at the Fire Station on Grove Street and march - I use the word "march" advisedly - to the Church for the Mass at 10 o'clock. After the Mass we will have our ecumenical service at our outdoor Memorial - and then to the Sheraton Lincoln Inn for our luncheon. This is our 40th Memorial Service - think of it, our 40th - you are the old faithful - and a few months after next November I shall reach my 80th birthday. This could be my swan song. PLEASE, PLEASE, try to be with me. For the regulars, come again - for the once-in-a-while, make it this year - and for the never-shows, make this year your first - for at my age it could very well be my last.

For Rooms -- Francis K. Maher, 14 Davenport St., Worcester, MA 01610 - Tel. - (617) 756-1803. Franny will take good care of you. my address -- Rev. Edward T. Connors, 87-5 Park Ave., Worcester, MA 01605 - Tel. - (617) 752-1164

Pray for old man Connors - pray for one another. God bless all and thanks for putting up with me these many years.
Father Connors

Room Reservations Worcester Memorial

Memorial Mass Sunday November 11th and Monday will be a National Holiday. I will be most happy to make your room reservations, you must tell me if you want a double or single and how many people in the room. Also the date of arrival and departure and if you are making reservations for more than one room. You must send the names for the second room. I have sixty rooms already taken at the Sheraton so early reservations are a must. Sheraton-Lincoln \$58.00 for a double or single. You may use a personal check for a deposit but not for your final bill. Credit cards can be used but you must give card name-number and expiration date.

Days Inn Motel rooms are \$42.88 plus \$5.00 for each additional person and \$47.88 plus \$5.00 for each additional person. You must send a one day deposit before you receive a confirmation. Yankee Budget - \$31.50 for double and a one days deposit before a confirmation is sent out. All checks should be made payable to the Hotel where you are staying.

Francis Maher

Seeking

Contributions

THE CAPITAL LEGAL FOUNDATION, WHICH IS REPRESENTING GEN. WILLIAM C. WESTMORELAND, USAR (Ret.), without charge in his suit against CBS, is seeking contributions to help offset costs of the litigation. In a January 1982 television program, CBS accused the general of leading a conspiracy to suppress information from the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Con-

gress and the President on the size of communist forces in Vietnam. After repeated unsuccessful attempts to obtain an apology from the network, General Westmoreland decided to initiate civil action. The trial is to begin on 15 September in New York. Tax-deductible contributions, made payable to the "Capital Legal Foundation/General Westmoreland, can be sent to: Veterans for Westmoreland, P. O. Box 264, Locust Valley, N.Y. 11560.

FORTY YEARS AGO

Forty years ago, in 1945, Father Connors called a group of us to meet with him at St. Peter's rectory in Worcester. He told us of his plans to have a Memorial Mass for the 4,581 men of the Ninth Infantry Division who had made the supreme sacrifice, while serving their country.

I remember it so well. Men of all faiths were at this meeting, and it was their unanimous opinion that Father should hold a memorial service dedicated to our dead comrades. This was the beginning of our annual Pilgrimage, so rightfully named by one of the men from the Ninth.

Will Again Gather

On Sunday, November 11th, Veteran's Day, Father will again gather all of us together in remembrance of our beloved dead. Stop and think for a moment... what a remarkable and wonderful occasion this is. Forty years of remembrance.

As we all know, Father looks on us as his family. A day never goes by that we are not remembered in his thoughts and prayers.

Often we in the New England area are asked, "What can we do for Father?" The most satisfying and rewarding gift we can give Father is to make this the largest turnout ever for this year's Memorial Service.

Never Forgotten

For Forty years, Father has never forgotten. Let's now make ourselves a promise that we, too, will not forget. Be in Worcester on Sunday November 11th, to honor those who died in the service of our country.

Sincerely,

Ron Murphy

44 Strawberry Lane
Scituate, Mass 02066

MEMORIAL FUND

The association is ever grateful to those who contributed at the reunion and to the following members who remembered this fund.

Michigan Chapter (In memory of Bill Andrews, Fred Josey and Bill Zimmerman)
Martin Bergman
M.R. Bassel
Louis J. Netta
Elmer Wagner
Vere Charles Stephens
George Hulka
Frank V. Novello
Felix Tomlinson
Frank Machek

(Continued on page 2)

French City Honors American Liberator

CHERBOURG, France (AP) - This French city paid homage Tuesday to the memory of U.S. Sgt. William F. Finley, the symbol of Cherbourg's liberation from German occupation 40 years ago, and through him "to sacrifice of your soldiers for the freedom of our country."

With those words, Mayor Jean-Pierre Godefroy joined Finley's three sisters in drawing back France and American flags to unveil a plaque on the field of honor in Germany...at the age of 20, for liberating the building June 26, 1944.

Finley of Decatur, Ill., leading a patrol of the 39th Regt. 9th Inf Div, sprinted across a city square under German machine-gun fire on the evening of June 26, 1944, and liberated the City Hall. That action has come to mean freedom for the people of Cherbourg.

The France inscription reads:

"In memory of Sgt. William F. Finley, 39th Infantry Regiment of the 9th Division, who fell on the field of honor in Germany, April 1, 1945, age 20. He was the first to arrive at this City Hall on the evening of June 26, 1944. Cherbourg regained its freedom.

A color guard of Co C, 1st Bn, 39th Inf Regt, paraded the U.S. and regimental flags. French veterans formed another honor guard with their association flags and British officers and men from the visiting Royal Navy frigate Rothesay joined the simple ceremony in the Place de la Republique as a French Navy band played martial tunes.

"When I saw the plaque, it brought tears to my eyes," said Finley's sister, Betty Sims of Decatur. "When I saw our soldiers lay the wreath...It makes us feel so great that there are people like this in this world, that they have honored our brother like this."

Sims, her sister, Jackie Neff of Decatur, and Finley's third sister, Marjorie Lockard of Lexington, Ky., were the guests of honor at the ceremony. With them was Cherbourg resident Bernard Lequere, who saw Finley's dash across the square under German machine-gun fire. His family housed Finley for two nights and Lequere corresponded with the sergeant.

The wreath was laid by Lt. Pierre Lys of Gainsville, Fla., commander of the color guard, on behalf of the regiment now stationed in Baumholder, Germany.

In a brief speech, Godefroy said he wanted to express "the undying memory of Cherbourg and of France" to all those resistance fighters at home and Allied soldiers from abroad, who fought for France's freedom.

Crowds of Cherbourg citizens, young and old, watched the ceremony quietly, applauding when the plaque was unveiled, and giving a particularly warm round of applause at the 39th Regt color guard marched away.

At a reception afterward in the City Hall, French and Americans exchanged souvenirs. Godefroy gave Finley's sisters small silver plates - "modest souvenirs, but they carry with them the hearts of all the people of Cherbourg."

Finley's sisters presented the city with a gold medallion of the city of Decatur and a congressional letter of appreciation from Rep. Richard Durbin, D-Ill.

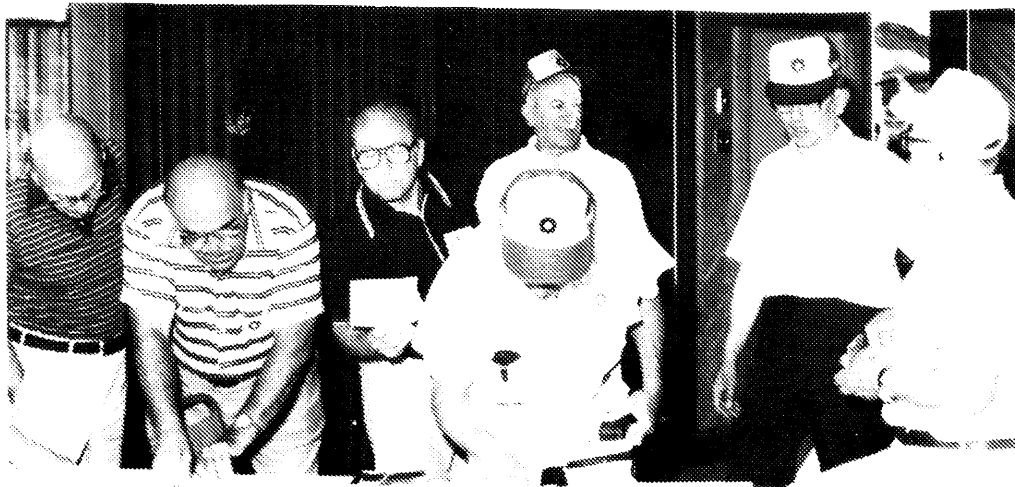
Neff said they were particularly moved that the ceremonies concluded with the presentation of a medal to a Cherbourg resistance worker. "That's a beautiful gesture," she said.

"The people of Cherbourg have been just wonderful to us," said Sims.

The city decided to make Finley the symbol of the liberation to personalize the 40th anniversary celebrations, said Paul Ingouf, a Cherbourg journalist and historian who instigated the search for Finley. The sergeants' relatives were located after an Associated Press story on the city's search for Finley was carried by the Decatur Herald and Review.

"Until we saw that," said Lockard, "we had known nothing of what Biddy did here. We never knew what he did during the war, until they came and told us he was dead."

Finley died of wounds suffered in action in Germany April 1, 1945. He is buried in Margraten, the Netherlands. Sims and Neff hope to be able to visit the cemetery shortly. Their mother, though confined to a wheelchair, made two visits there.



Members checking the registration list at Lake Placid. (photo by Billie Martin)

THE OCTOFOIL
Form 2579 should be sent to
412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087
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Walter O'Keeffe and Daniel Quinn

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Honorary Member Emeritus
Father Edward Connors

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Published five times yearly, May, June, July, — Aug. Sept. Oct. — Nov.-Dec., Jan-Feb., Mar-April 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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Pat Canonica sends this pictures in 1945-Germany. 34th FA men-left to right: J.P. Miller, Joe Bucca, Sam Master, Cpl. Willingham and Pat. Two men are not identified. Story appears in Mail call.

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Dan Quinn, National Secretary, 9th Infantry Division Assn.
412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, New Jersey 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 ☐
Donation Memorial Scholarship Fund ☐
THREE-YEAR MEMBER \$13.00 ☐
Life Membership \$50.00 ☐
Ladies' Auxiliary Member \$ 2.00 ☐
Decals \$.50 ☐
60th Infantry History \$ 2.00 ☐

Please credit the following chapter:

Philly-Delaware/Valley	<input type="checkbox"/>	Greater New York	<input type="checkbox"/>
Illinois	<input type="checkbox"/>	Washington, D.C.	<input type="checkbox"/>
New England	<input type="checkbox"/>	Michigan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Florida	<input type="checkbox"/>		

continued from page 1

Memorial Fund

Edwin Scherer
R.M.A. Hirst
John Bosko
Julius E. Clark
Ann & Jerry Shapiro (In memory of Myrtle Guglielmino)
Andrew Kopach
Boardman Lockwood (In memory of Myrtle Guglielmino)
Earl Sullivan
Felton Jones
Frank Gonzol (In memory of George Savage & Anthony Zuk)
The Ladies Auxiliary

Fr. DeLaura Chime Fund
Elmer Berta
We salute you.

TAPS SOUNDED

It is our sad duty to announce the passing of these "Old Reliables" who have answered their last roll call.

*There is no Death!
What seems so is transition
This life of Mortal breath
Is but a suburb of the life elysian
Whose portal we call death.*

Michael Bich
60th FA
Steve Bakos
AT 47th
Edward German
Hq Btry 84th FA
James F.X. Delehanty
84th FA Med Det.
Joseph Dailydas
34th FA Btry
Howard Heilman
60th Inf
Arthur Lougher
60th Inf Co E
Norman Harrington
47th Inf Co E
Charles J. Dusky
60th Inf Co B
William J. O'Linn
47th Inf Co A
Milton O. Hacker
47th Inf Co E
Edward J. Sypniewski
9th Med Co B
William Rhett Taber
47th Inf
James Sharp
9th Med Co C

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

"In Memorium, William Rhett Taber, 47th Inf."

"Rhett Taber was one of my oldest and closest military friends and when he passed away on 14 June it was a very sad day for me and his many friends. He was a patient in the Bay Pines V.A. Hospital, St. Petersburg, Florida, having been transferred there from Walter Reed in Washington where he had been hospitalized since early last fall. He was buried in the Bay Pines National Cemetery.

I first met Rhett when he joined the 47th at Ft. Bragg in the fall of 1940. After serving as a platoon leader in C Company, he was given command of A Company which he held until 1944. At one time during that period I was the Acting Bn. Commander of the 1st. Bn and he was my Executive Officer. We developed a close friendship which lasted until the present. In 1944 he was transferred to the newly activated Civil Affairs Section but still remained with the 47th as C.A. Officer. He was there when the war ended in 1945. I had an almost daily contact with him during that entire period.

His first postwar assignment was with the S&F. Infantry School at Benning. While there he qualified as a glider pilot. He

continued page 3

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The new Board of Governors elected me President of the 9th Infantry Division Association for the 1984-1985 term. This honor which was bestowed upon me at Lake Placid is one which I will always cherish. It is a very special privilege to serve as the President of such a fine organization whose members wore the Octofoil during WW 2 to help preserve the freedoms that all Americans enjoy today. A sincere thank you is extended to Herb Olsen and his committee for the very successful reunion at Lake Placid. The actual attendance greatly exceeded the anticipated turnout. A very special compliment is due Fran Maher and his fellow New England Chapter members for conducting the annual reunion Memorial Service with such reverence and dignity at the lakeside band shell. Turning to the future, our Board of Governors will meet again in conjunction with Father Connors annual Memorial Mass and Service. This Memorial Service which honors all of our deceased members will be on Sunday, November 11th of this year in Worcester, Mass. Our 40th annual reunion will be June 6, 7 and 8, 1985 in Orlando, Florida at the Sheraton Twin Towers Hotel. The Florida Chapter reunion committee has extended a hearty welcome and is promising us a good time with much to see and do in central Florida. In conclusion I wish to thank Past President Tom Boyle for his sincere efforts and dedication in making this past year another successful one in our organizations history. With the help of the Board of Governors, National Officers and members I am confident that we can continue the great tradition, esprit de corps and comradeship of our beloved Ninth Infantry Division Association.

Elmer Wagner

LADIES AUXILIARY

Please accept our check for \$311 which is \$61 from ladies memberships and \$250 donation to the Scholarship Fund. I would like to keep you informed of the activity at this past reunion. We had 3 beautiful items which we gave to the lucky holder of the ticket. (1.) A gorgeous hand loomed shawl done by Terri Lee, daughter of Hugh & Ronnie, Co L, 39th of Summit, N.J. The lucky winner was Mrs. Harold Frantz of Elkhart, Ind. (2.) The very impressive Octofoil hook rug donated and crafted by our Pres. Lorraine Clark and the lucky winner was Mrs. Peter Pemko from Pennsylvania. (3.) A gorgeous afghan was donated by our member Lillian Gonzol of Middlesex, N.J. Unfortunately we did not get the name of the winner. Maybe he or she will read this and send their name

to one of the officers. We gratefully thank Ronnie Lee and her daughter, Lorraine Clark and Lillian Gonzol for their personal contribution of these prize gifts which brought a total of \$455. We also thank our members who brought very interesting Pollyanna gifts which brought a total of \$128. Donors were Lillian Gonzol, Lorraine Clark, Iris Canales, Wanda Preston, Erma Teachout, Ronnie Lee, Rosalee Painter, Florence Seibel and many whose names we could not get. Have a good summer.

Lilly Krasovetz,
Sec. Treas.

Lorraine Clark,
Pres.
Wanda Preston,
Vice Pres.
Rosalee Painter
Chaplain



Dick Pepper supplies us with this picture taken in August 1945. Part of Company L 39th Infantry Motor Section: Left to right: Dick Pepper, Bert Hegg and Louis Giovanetti.

Co M 39th Inf
ANTHONY J. CARMECI
Star Rt 7
Barryville, N.Y. 12719

I must say you looked real well for what you had been thru. I guess most of us were disappointed that Father Connors was not present (understandably so) or that we did not have a renowned speaker.

Most of all who attended had a marvelous time with weather, food and accommodations to match. To think the Convention Bureau fell down on some important issues and had it not been for the good feeling of all of our members and friends who made all things right.

I think some consideration should be given to holding a future convention at the Concord in the Catskills. With free golf on the one course, on the premises, with a small fee at two others on the premises. All kinds of activities for women such as fashion shows, tennis, swimming lessons, dance lessons, with two on premises night clubs, sauna, massages,

auctions, painting sales, games and accommodations for 3500 people. That same banquet could of been had with a dozen food options and served in ten minutes, plus good name entertainment every night.

Saw a few friends such as Ben Murell, who looks great also, Tom Orband who also looked real good. No one from Co. 39th but did meet a fine gentleman who is New York Chapter President, Adolph Wadalvage who presented me with photos. But I must add that a perfectly friendly atmosphere prevailed at all times. That really makes this gathering worth the while. This was a friendly town. I would also hope the Florida convention is held in cool weather like April or May.

Well Dan I hope all stays well with you and before I sign off, I have to, last, but not least, congratulate the Convention Committee on the fine organized job they did.

(Continued from page 2)

In Memorium

attended the C & GSC at Ft. Leavenworth in 1948-49, while I was there as an instructor and General Eddy was Commandant. I was assigned as his Faculty Advisor. This was no small chore for I knew Rhett could be very stubborn. If he didn't agree with the school solution he wrote his own although fully knowing what the school wanted. One day, General Eddy called me to his office.

"Randy, do you realize that Taber is very near the bottom of the class?" I told him I did. "Well, what are you doing about it? You know we cannot let a 9th Div. officer fail." I told him that Rhett knew all the answers for I had talked to him about it. But many times he did not agree and refused to give the school solution. And that we had discussed it many times.

"Randy, you get hold of Taber and give him a direct order from me to forget his ideas and to put down what we want. If he doesn't I'll be talking to you again, OK?" Rhett passed.

Rhett had a terrific sense of dry humor and many times his associates didn't quite understand him. Here are two of my favorites from his many quotes:

When asked how many children he had, he would answer, "Well, just two to speak of."

Another. When asked how are you feeling, Rhett? "Just like any true Southern gentleman at 10 A.M."

A favorite incident in my memory was when we went on a week's pass to London in November 1943:

We left Alresford, Hants, on the same day but I left in the early afternoon and he was to join me that night. We had a reservation at the Red Cross hotel, the Cavendish, in Germyn Street, Mayfair. In fact, Rhett arrived so late the office was closed and we went down early the next morning to check him in. The rather old-maidish Red Cross manager asked him where he had spent the night and he told her in my room. She look horrified and said, "But there is only one bed in that room. You two ought to be ashamed of yourselves, don't you know there is a war on?" Rhett drew himself up to his full military height and answered, "My Dear Madam, certainly we know there's a war on and we've just completed three campaigns. Did you realize that in the field, two soldiers share just one small pup tent every night?" End of discussion.

Rhett comes from an illustrious Carolina family. One ancestor, Colonel Wm. Rhett, captured the noted pirate, Steve Barnett, a lieutenant of Black Beard, in 1694. This put a stop forever to their ravaging the Carolina coast. Colonel Rhett's sword is a family heirloom and is passed on to elder sons at an appropriate time. Colonel Rhett had been the first English Governor of the Bahama Islands. Rhett received the sword from his father in 1929 when he was the honor graduate of a military high school in Montgomery Alabama. The Rhett and Taber families have been prominent leaders in the Carolinas for many generations.

Rhett graduated from the Citadel Military College, studying pre-law, in 1936, having been a classmate of General Westmoreland's until Westy chose the USMA. Subsequently Rhett studied law until the war intervened.

Rhett had an aptitude for foreign languages and was fluent in Spanish and French. At Ft. Bragg he was interviewed as a prospective member of the OSS but he spoke French with too much of a southern accent. He was considered well suited for assignment to military missions. He served 3 years in Venezuela as the Senior Advisor to their Military Academy. After a tour in the Pentagon, he was assigned to duty in Taiwan as an advisor. Most of his two years were spent on the island of Quemoy under Communist Army artillery fire.

Rhett is survived by his wife, Margaret, of Bradenton, Florida; one son, Rhett, Junior, who lives in Honolulu and a daughter who is married to Colonel Rennagel, a Permanent Professor at the USMA, West Point. So you see, he really did have "two children to speak of."

This has been written in a rather light vein, but that is the way Rhett would want to be remembered and the way I prefer to remember him."

Col. Randall Bryant, USA-Ret.
15640 SW 85 Ave
Miami, FL. 33157

9th Med Bn
PETE RADICCHIO
9415 Blind Pass Rd #703
St. Petersburg, FL. 33706

Received a telephone call Thursday, July 5, 1984, at about 9:00 P.M. and was told that Edward J. Sypniewski had died on July 4, 1984.

I caught a 1:30 A.M. flight out of the Clearwater - St. Petersburg Airport to New York and that morning I was at the funeral home to say goodbye to Eddie. Later in the morning we went to the church and then on to Calverton National Cemetery, L.I., New York, I was with Vito and Vinnie Splendorio.

Ed was in Co. B, 9th Medics. He was a good man with great humor. He gave a lot of people a lot of laughs, and will be missed.

I'm sure it would be appreciated by Ed's wife, Elizabeth, and his family if all of you fellows who knew him would drop a line of condolence.

Ed's (Elizabeth's) address: Mrs. Edw. J. Sypniewski, 14 Westeria Lane, Wantagh, New York, 11793.

47th Inf. Co. A
MRS. ROBERT POTTMEYER
(Sister of William J. O'Linn)
Rt. 1, Box 75
Waterford, Ohio 45786

I want to inform you that my brother William J. O'Linn passed away on Nov. 19, 1983. The 47th Inf. he was in had covered 240 miles on foot between Port Lyautey and Safi in the North African campaign. The hot spots he had always said were at Kasserine Pass, El Guettar and the famous hills "Old Lady", "Hill 609" and "Green Hill".

From the 47th action in Sicily the men thought they were on their way home and found out the ship was headed for the French invasion. They hit the Normandy beaches and drove on into Belgium. He was discharged in 1945 and came home to hear his brother, Walter, had died in action with the 8th Inf. of the 3rd Army. Wm or Big Red as some of his infantry buddies called him had received the Bronze Star and several other awards. Please thank all those who took the time to write and to make his last days a little happier to know there were people that cared. I enjoy reading the Octofoil and so does my family. Thank you and keep up the good work.

26th FA
JOY MISCHLER (Wife of deceased Chesley)
264 Frank Ave.
Whitaker, Pa. 15120

My prayers and thoughts were with you these past few days. Remembering the good times of past reunions. How Ches looked forward to the conventions and seeing all his buddies. Regina or young Ches would bring me to the convention but I'm afraid I can't make it without Ches. I keep in touch with the Rolars, McKenzies and the Frantz and always look forward to reading the Octofoil. God be with you all and grant you all good health.

39th Inf 2nd & 3rd Bn
EDWARD B. BAILEY
PO Box 577
Demopolis, Ala. 36732

My check for dues enclosed. If there is another history of the Ninth, I would sure like to buy one; my children have worn my copy almost out. In your notice that dues are due, you suggested that a few lines be sent along.

I have just finished reading a book, Follow Me And Die. The destruction of an American Division in World War II. The book is relative to the 28th Division. This happened in the Hurtgen Forest. Those of us in the battle will well remember. The 28th Division relieved us. The 9th suffered greatly. That is where I got hit by an air burst along with my radio Sgt. Lt. General James M. Gavin has said of it "A battle that should not have been fought".

Cecil B. Currey, a professor of military history at the University of South Florida, has done a remarkable job of research. He writes that German commanders could not understand Hodges fixation on the Hurtgenwald, as the Germans called it. Particularly after the October failure there of the 9th Division. General Major Rudolf Freiheer Von Gersdorff, chief of staff of German seventh army, remained amazed at how unnecessarily his American enemies had scarred themselves in those forested depths. The book is available from the Military Book Club, Customer Service Center, Garden City, N.Y. 11535.

Dan, I'll sign this letter as C.O. of K Co. 39th Infantry, however, I began with G company, then E company, F Company and then took over K Company under Col. Stumpt. Col. Bond put my captain bars on me while with the 2nd Bn.

I am still running my business though a senior citizen now.

Best regards to you and those remembering me.

9th Med Bn
GEORGE STEIN
8747 E. Girard Ave.
Denver, Colo. 80231

First, I would like to thank you for the excellent verification you sent me on my claim. I also want to thank my other buddies Jack Wilson, and Vito Splendorio for their great help.

My wife and I thoroughly enjoyed ourselves at the Lake Placid reunion, and I would like to compliment all those who had a hand in making it such a big success. I just feel sorry for those who couldn't make it, as they missed a wonderful time.

Pete Radichio is claiming the next reunion, in Orlando, Florida is going to be the best, and if I know Pete, he's going to do it. So all of you old buddies from the Medical Bn., let's all meet in Orlando, and make it one of the biggest yet.

Nothing gives you more leisure than being on time for appointments.

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

Lake Placid! What a wonderful name, and doesn't it have a beautiful ring to it! Well buddies, we believe all of us who were there are in agreement that this Lake Placid event was one of our more memorable "Reunions" in many, many years.

Our "Be CO" gang who attended were:

Norman and Alice Caswell, Stan and Florence Adowski, Olga Palega, John Morgan, Orion and Eleanor Shockley, Jack and Kay DiSanto, Steve and Kay DeLuna (Former "A" Co-47th Inf.) Joe and Eleanor Taubner, Ed and Helen Sarnocinski, John and Catherine Compagnone, Joe Metscavage, Art and Grace Stenzel, Pat and Ann Morano and Joe and Stella Cichocki.

Along with all our other activities we participated in the Cruise on Lake Placid. Just beautiful! Driving to the top of Whiteface Mt. Also dining at some exceptional fine restaurants; The "Alpine" and "Fredericks."

On Saturday, June 23, our correspondent Art Stenzel had the pleasure of meeting, Grady Turnage and his wonderful concerned wife. They made the lengthy trip from Tulsa, Oklahoma to express, personally, their deep appreciation to the many individuals within the 9th Inf. Div. Organization who have been and are still trying to prove Grady's eligibility as a P.O.W. for Veteran's Administration benefits.

It was shocking to learn of their Inter-Action with the Reagan Administration's top appointee to the V.A. who, in the words of Mrs. Turnage "operate on the premise that there is no such a thing as a P.O.W." adding - in other words one should save their last bullet to perform the obvious. — Perhaps it's time all veteran organizations protest this reign by a person lacking the qualities of a humanistic approach toward problems of veterans. You members can start the "removal action" by writing to your representatives in Washington, D.C. - Also, vote accordingly come election day!!

Among our own "missing" at the Lake Placid Reunion were:

Joe and Edith Podany, Bill Klauz, Dennis and Thora Canedy, Joe and Rose Harvilla, George and Jane Bentley, Bob and Anna Edie, Pete and Nettie Mastroangelo, Larry and Greer Krogbin, and George Apar. — To all of you: We missed you - while you missed out on one of our memorable "get-togethers."

Unforgettable Moments of the 39th Annual Reunion:

The ceremonial services for our 4,581 honored dead of the 9th Inf. Div. - along the shore of beautiful "Mirror Lake." All of us who attended these services will, we are certain, not forget this memorable event. The tour of the 70 Meter and 90 Meter Ski Jump of The Intervale Ski Jump Complex of Lake Placid which were used in the last winter Olympics; were most interesting. Ascending the 90 Meter tower by elevator and then stepping out into the observation deck for a spectacular panoramic view of the Lake Placid Area was a breathtaking experience.

Finally, once again a great big "Thank You" to Ed and Helen Sarnocinski our gracious CP "Hosts" who do the job-as usual, superbly!

In closing, we remind you that our 40th Annual Memorial Mass and Services, for our Beloved Deceased of the 9th Inf. Div., will be held in

Worcester, Mass. at The Immaculate Conception Church on Veteran's Day, Sunday, Nov. 11, 1984. We hope to see many of our "BECO" buddies in Worcester-so start making your reservations now! Until next time - God Bless all of you!

PAT J. MORANO
2208 LINCOLN WAY EAST
CHAMBERSBURG, PA. 17201
ART J. STENZEL
8705 VILLAGE MILL ROW
BAYONET POINT, FLA. 33567

COMPANY C 9TH
MEDICAL BATTALION
ON TOP OF OLD
SMOKY! APRIL 28-29,
1984.

Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, in the beautiful Smoky Mountains, was the place chosen by Chairman John Lewis for Company C 9th Medics to hold its first ever company reunion. Travel distance was no barrier and in true tradition they came from near and far to be together with their former buddies who had not been together for close to 40 years.

GUESSING GAMES

There were several guessing games going on with each new arrival. We sure have changed in looks. KALICH from New Mexico, MADORE from way up in Maine, SAMMONS from Illinois, COY MARTIN from Arkansas, MOTLEY and ROACH from Virginia, KLOOZ from Ohio, JOE KASH from Pennsylvania, COCHRAN from Georgia, JOHNSTONE from Florida, FITE from North Carolina and DENTON, LEWIS, and SHARP, the local boys from Tennessee. Many of the wives accompanied their husbands and for most this was a first time to become acquainted after all these years.

EXCHANGING PHOTOS

Everyone had a great time exchanging photo albums and action shots that had been gathering dust all these years and just waiting for the chance of letting others see themselves and to prove the stories they told were true.

On Sunday morning, in nice bright sunshine, every one gathered around the pool area for a Memorial Service. Chairman Lewis asked Charlie Denton to conduct a very beautiful and reverent Memorial Service in honor of the Company men who have passed on during or since our return from the E.T.O.

Most of the group left after the service, some for home and others to tour this attractive area.

EXPRESS APPRECIATION

Everyone that attended expressed their appreciation to JOHN LEWIS for all the effort, work and expense in making this reunion such a success, and we hope there will be another one in the near future.

We have all the addresses of those mentioned above for our file. Keep in touch. Call Bruce B. Johnstone, 813-736-3414, or write, 100 Glenneslane, Apt. 109, Dunedin, FL 33528 and they will be mailed promptly.

39th Inf Co's C and Can Co
TOM ORBAND
11 Arthur St.
Binghamton, N.Y. 13905

I have a new address, I sold my house. I am moving to 11 Arthur Street, Binghamton, N.Y. 13905.

I sure enjoyed the reunion, I met so many of my friends. Company B 39th Infantry took a vote and we are going to Florida next year. As you know I haven't hit many reunions. It was good to see you — Marie, Frank Fazio, Benny Murall and all of B company and other friends.

Lake Placid Reunion in Review

F COMPANY FORTY-SEVENTH INFANTRY CP

Kudos Are In Order

Though many of us had our doubts about the wisdom of choosing Lake Placid and their package plan for our thirty-ninth reunion, the event came off without a flaw, and the cost was reasonable. A more beautiful setting we could not have asked for, nor could we expect a more courteous, friendly, and attentive staff, than that which took care of our needs at the Holiday Inn. Kudos are in order for the members of the committee that organized the reunion. We certainly could not have asked for a more successful event.

No Handicap

Establishing our Command Post at the Copper Kettle across from the public parking lot proved to be no handicap for the former foot sloggers. Many of us climbed the steps from the public lot up to the Holiday Inn as easily as we climbed mountains in the early forties — well, almost as easily. Florence DeSandy insisted that I get into Bob's car and ride the rest of the way after we had reached the road almost at the top. She had mistakenly interpreted my stop at the gazebo at the half-way point as a rest stop, when actually I had stopped to admire the view — also, I like to breathe hard like that when viewing such a magnificent scene! Florence also was alarmed at the color of my face, but then how was she to know that Lucy likes those shades of reds and purples?

Perpetual Youth

One seventy-five year old youngster that I saw scrambling up the hill with ease was Pop Zucker. He seemed to be moving faster than he did that day in Cefalu when he came running up the hill with the fire extinguisher the day I blew up the latrine. To this day I insist that the straddle trenches were more sanitary and better suited for the development of calf and thigh muscles. Pop's clock must run backwards. He looks better now than he did forty-three years ago. He attributes his perpetual youth to a regimen of regular exercise, wise diet, and the ministrations of a loving, caring wife. It was Pop's first reunion in a long time, but I bet it will be a long time till he misses another one. We can probably count on him for the next twenty reunions.

Pleasantly Surprised

Smig Tokarchek surprised us by arriving all out of breath Friday evening after dinner. He had called me at home Tuesday evening to tell me that he wouldn't be able to make the affair. You can imagine how pleasantly surprised I was to see him emerge from the bar into the hotel lobby! He had been vacationing in his new motor home with Marie and his son Paul in the Cape May area of New Jersey when, on Friday morning he told Marie that he was going to drive the hundred miles up the Garden State Parkway to Belmar for a visit with Tony Repetti. When he missed the Belmar exit, he figured that so long as he had traveled that distance he might as well drive the remaining seven hundred miles or so to Lake Placid. It is no wonder that Marie was amazed and confused when he called to tell her where he was so she wouldn't mark him AWOL. But after thirty-five years of marriage she must know that she is married to an amazing guy — and the confusion comes with the territory.

Old Friendships

It was great renewing old friendships with Pop, Larry Ghare, Chuck Koskie, Frank Gonzol, Otto Geyer, Rut Hoffman, Paul Giarraputo, Rodger Alsgaard, Bob DeSandy, George King, Ray Schmader, and Joe Bergin. It was the first time I remember seeing Jack Stafford since the war. I also made some new friendships as we welcomed some of our old buddies to their first reunion ever: Curtis Hoffer who drove up from Virginia where he is a CPA working out of Portsmouth, and his old pal Lee Grimwood who came in from Kansas. These two joined our company together, fought together, were wounded within minutes of each other in Normandy, and were evacuated together to England. Though their tenure in the Ninth Infantry Division was a brief one, their contribution was enormous. Now that they have found us, we hope to see them at more of our reunions. I know they enjoyed every minute of it.

We were a bit disappointed to have only two of our former company commanders with us this year. Both Otto Geyer and Ray Schmader looked great. It was good to see how well Gerry had recovered from the surgery that had prevented her from attending the Detroit blast. We missed Frank Smith and Chuck Jones. We hope their absence is attributable to nothing more serious than an unavoidable business commitment, and that we'll see them both in Orlando. Reports have reached me that Ken Yenni, another of our fine officers, had a slight heart attack in early June and was under doctor's orders to avoid travel. We hope this issue of the Octofoil finds him fully recovered and ready to go. George King tells me that he is coming along nicely, but was extremely disappointed to miss the festivities at Lake Placid.

Frank Gonzol blew a head gasket shortly before arriving at the Holiday Inn with his wife and Pop, so he had to give up thoughts of an extended trip through New England. Instead, he, Lyl, and Pop rode back to Jersey with Lucy and me. After an enjoyable pit stop at the Zuckers' house where we met Pop's charming wife, we dropped Frank and Lyl off at their home in Middlesex. Frank grabbed himself a few hours' sleep, rented a flat bed, and drove on back to Lake Placid to pick up his Olds. He was back home with the car the next day, he drove it off the truck and into his driveway where he shot it (I think).

Once again some of our favorite people were unable to make the reunion for various reasons: Tony Repetti's health wouldn't permit the trip; Al Munatore had a previous engagement with some "financial advisors" in Atlantic City; Earl Wilkey's wife was too ill to travel at the time; Paul Pryjmak was involved elsewhere; Felton Jones had made plans to be with his daughter; Vinnie Guglielmino was still grieving the tremendous loss of his wife Myrtle, whom we all loved; Ed Netta had a business transaction that he couldn't postpone; Charlie Williams had moved to the Far West to his retirement home.

Never Responded

Some others to whom I had written never responded. I sincerely hope these men are in good health: Stanley Putt, Sam "Bill" Buemi, Frank Ghatto,

Bill MacDonald, Ed Johnstone, Frank Smith, Chuck Jones, Vic Asleson, Joe Ayles, Elwood Schmidt, Bill Larson, Frank Gilseman, Chip Maness, Warren Lane, Ron Schumacher, George Gaynor, and Steward Miller. Hopefully we'll see many of them in Orlando in '85.

Hit Jackpot

I had a pleasant experience a couple weeks ago. While looking in the Essex County suburban phone directory I came across a David Slatnick. Thinking, "I wonder if that could be Lou Slatnick's son?" I called the number. "No, that's my cousin;" "Yes, he was in WW II;" "Yes, he used to work for the post office, but he is now retired;" "I don't know what division he was in, but I do know that he was in the infantry, and he was in those places that you mentioned. He was shot by a sniper in Normandy, right through the chest, grazing the lung and exiting out the back." When I received these answers to my questions, I knew that I had hit the jackpot. Not only had I located my good friend, but I discovered that he had been living within walking distance (and that's close these days) of me. We had a great chat over a four hour lunch and a few beers, then Lucy and I had dinner with him and his lovely British war bride, Marion. I'm sure Lucy and I will be seeing a great deal of Lou and Marion these next few decades.

Just before leaving for Lake Placid I received a note from former F Company BAR man Sam Bill Buemi asking me to inquire around to see if I could find any F Company, 47th men who might have remembered a third platoon man named Murphy Loveless Commack. Murphy was killed while serving with the 9th, and his brother and sister-in-law would like to know a bit more about his life with the outfit and the circumstances of his death. I am sure that any little anecdotes about their brother will help to warm their hearts as they experience a bit of what Murph experienced, even though they will live the events vicariously. Those of you who were closer to Commack than I was may contact his sister-in-law at: Catherine Commack, 7725 Marfa St., Fort Worth, Texas 76116. I'm sure anything you send along will be deeply appreciated. It is the very least we can do to ease the grief of a fallen buddy's relatives.

Second Home

Lucy and I have just bought a second home at Surf City on Long Beach Island right here in Jersey. It is to be our retirement home. Long Beach Island is a sand spot about eighteen miles long about thirty miles north of Atlantic City, which means that we'll be able to avail ourselves of the museums, churches, and cultural events for which this Ocean Gem is known worldwide. The beaches here on Long Beach Island are some of the finest in the world, and the prevailing breezes are cooling and refreshing. We are looking forward to many years of happy retirement and good fishing.

See you all in Orlando.
Co. F 47th
Ed Hopkins
110 Hollywood Avenue
Metuchen, N.J. 08840



Seeks Aid

Thank you for your prompt reply. In answer to your question no I was not an officer. I was discharged as private first class.

I left the states in Dec. 1941, with the 6th Division and was torpedoed in the New York harbor. They sent me to Nova Scotia. We then returned to New York where I was sent to Iceland. I have a few pictures of the old original bunch of my outfit. I can't remember most of their names. When I left Iceland I joined the 9th Division on board ship and remained with them till the end of the war, with exception of the 45 days I was a prisoner. My first stop with the 9th. was Africa then Sicily- in Nov. 43 I went to England. Then to the Invasion of Normandy. I landed on Omaha Beach. I was taken prisoner at St. Lo, France. In about 45 days I was liberated by the 9th Division. That day the Germans tied my feet and hands and set me on fire I nearly burned to death. I was taken back to the 9th Div. aide station where I stayed two or three weeks. I rejoined the 9th. in Belgium and continued fighting till the defeat of Germany. I came home with the 14th armored Div. and was discharged Sept. 19, 1945. My discharge says I was with the 154 Signal corp. but to my knowledge I never was unless they put me with them to discharge me.

I'm enclosing a letter I received from one of the men who liberated me.

I have had my thyroid removed in Nov. it went so long that I got some brain damage from it. I have great difficulty remembering, especially names and places.

I have a picture of me taken in Germany wearing the ninth Div. patch I guess this is all the proof I have that I was ever in the 9th Div.

The government is giving me a real hard time about my benefits to date I don't get anything.

I would like to join the ninth Div. Assn. as I really appreciate your time and efforts to help me.

When I was a prisoner I never doubted the Ninth would save me, believing this helped me survive now once again the Ninth has come to my aide. Just hearing from someone in the Ninth has meant so much to me. I can't understand why my Country is treating me like the enemy now that I need the loyalty of my Country.

Grady Turnage
5632 W 24th Street
Tulsa, Okla 74107
918-446-3911

The search began several months ago when Grady E. Turnage appealed for aid in order to establish a Veteran's claim. Many members were contacted, especially those from Company L 47th Infantry the company Grady thought he was a member of at one time. Our records (the secretary's office) showed no Grady Turnage from Company L 47th Infantry, so from time to time we went over the entire roster (that was made up at the end of WW2) of all the companies and units of the Ninth Infantry Division. Grady had sent the names of some of his buddies but they too did not appear in with L Company. Lo and behold, while going over the roster of the 9th Signal Company, Special Troops we came upon the name of Grady E. Turnage, ASN 17016679 who at the time (1946) listed his address as 1919 N. Johnson Street, Springfield, Mo.

Two of the men Grady listed were found also in with the 9th Signal Company, Roy Boylett, ASN 6954936, at the time lived at 1041 Kate Rosshomes, Waco, Texas. (Not a member of the association therefore we do not have a more recent home address) and Charles Burch, 33015849 living at W. Shirley St., Mt. Vernon, Pa. (he too is not a member of the association).

Grady was at the reunion in Lake Placid and there were four members of the 9th Signal Company in attendance but he did not meet them. We do hope that one of our members do remember Grady and can help him in his hour of need.

Norman G. Pohler
300 Biltmore Drive
Colonial Hts., Va. 23834

My cousin Pfc Paul D. Wendling, entered the Army from Cantor, Ohio in 1943. He was a replacement to Co D 60th Infantry joining them in England. He was wounded in France on July 15, 1944 and died of his wounds the following day. I particularly would appreciate receiving information i.e., the date and place of the next reunion, also if possible appreciate receiving a list of names and address's of members of Company D 60th Inf. and most of all would appreciate hearing from any members who knew and served with Paul.

60th Inf. Hq. 2nd Bn
MILTON CORDRAY
R 1 Box 375
Ravenel, S.C. 29470

I regret that I couldn't attend the reunion with all of you. I trust you all enjoyed it. I hear from Albert Hodge and some of our other friends occasionally.



Picture of Grady Turnage taken shortly after the War. We are hoping some of our members will remember him and help with his claim.

Business Transacted at Reunion

The 148th Meeting of the Ninth Infantry division Association's National Board of Governors took place in Lake Placid, New York on June 21, 1984, at the Holiday Inn. The meeting was called to order at 4:05 P.M. by President of the Association Thomas Boyle. Attending the meeting were: Fred D'Amore, Harry Wax, Walter O'Keeffe, Art MacDougall, Larru Ghare, Warren Boulden, Elmer Wagner, Herb Olsen, Al Perna, Roger Alsgaard, and Ralph Carci. Also in attendance were Past Presidents, Emil Langer, John Clouser, Fran Maher and Bob DeSandy. Also Adolph Wadalavage, Art Schmidt, Norm Casswell and Pete Radichio.

President Boyle asked the members to please rise and recite with him the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag and then to remain standing for a moment of silent prayer in memory of the departed men of the Ninth.

The secretary read the meetings of the 147th meeting of the Board of Governors held in Worcester in November 1983. Upon a motion made by Harry Wax and seconded by Warren Boulden it was voted to: Accept the reading of the minutes and have the secretary place copy of same on file.

Fred D'Amore Treasurer gave his report on the spendings and income for the year. Upon a motion made by Elmer Wagner and seconded by Herb Olsen it was voted to: Accept the treasurer's report. President Boyle thanked D'Amore for his report.

Herb Olsen Chairman of the reunion briefed the members on the reunion. Herb told the members that 600 people had pre-registered for the reunion and another 100 or so members are expected to attend. Boyle thanked Olsen for his report.

Scholarship Awards

John Clouser chairman of the Scholarship committee submitted his report on the Committee's recommendations for the 1984-85 awards. The Committee, a permanent one, consists of Joseph Williams and Mike Deresh with Clouser as Chairman. Clouser explained how the candidates are selected to their financial need and academic ability. This year six applicants will receive awards. Five are renewals and one new applicant. They will share \$2800.00.

New Applicants

Sharon L. Rappazini, daughter of Joseph Rappazini, 60th Infantry.

Renewals

Deborah A. Bacchieri, daughter of Joseph Bacchieri, 47th Infantry, Jane Bacchieri, daughter of Joseph Bacchieri, 47th Infantry, Linda M. Belmonte, daughter of Mike Belmonte, 60th F.A., Mary Lynn (Molly) McGinley, daughter of Thomas McGinley, 47th Infantry, Therese A. Rappazini, daughter of Joseph Rappazini, 60th Infantry.

As of 1961 when the Scholarship Committee was activated the association has granted a total sum of \$38,605.00.

President Boyle thanked Clouser and his committee for their efforts on behalf of the association and upon a motion made by Al Perna and seconded by Harry Wax it was voted to: Accept the report and recommendations of the Scholarship Committee.

1985 Reunion

Pete Radichio reported for the Florida Chapter who will conduct the reunion for 1985 that the Sheraton-Towers will be the headquarters for June 6,7,8, 1985 reunion. This is a large hotel that will accommodate all our members

under one roof with the room rates being \$58.00 for a double room with free parking. More details will appear in the Octofoil.

A discussion on the Marker Committee was tabled to a future meeting.

The Future Reunion Committee discussed possible sites for the 1986 reunion. A recess was in order with the final recommendations to be made on Friday at the final Board Meeting of the reunion.

Upon a motion made by Walter O'Keeffe and seconded by Herb Olsen it was voted to: Adjourn the meeting at 5:32 P.M.

The 39th Meeting of the Ninth Infantry Division Association

The 39th meeting of the Ninth Infantry Division Association took place in Lake Placid, New York on June 22, 1984, at the Holiday Inn. President Boyle called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. Boyle asked the membership to rise and join with him in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag and to remain standing for a silent prayer in memory of the departed men of the Ninth.

Warm Welcome

Michael Shea, Vice Commander of the American Legion Post #326 of Essex County, New York addressed the members and welcomed all to Lake Placid. President of the Association Thomas Boyle thanked Shea for his warm words of welcome.

Boyle then appointed chairmen of the various committees and asked that they return to the general meeting at 11:00 A.M. Herb Olsen will chair the Nominating Committee, Walter O'Keeffe the Finance Committee, Harry Wax the By-Laws Committee, Larry Ghare the Miscellaneous Committee and Elmer Wagner the Newspaper Committee.

At 11:05 A.M. President Boyle called the meeting to order with 242 members present.

The secretary, Daniel Quinn, read the minutes of the 38th meeting that took place in Detroit, Michigan on July 21, 1983, and upon a motion duly made by Al Perna and seconded by Bill Bongiorno it was voted to: Accept the reading of the minutes and instruct the secretary to place copy of same on file.

Fred D'Amore the treasurer was called upon for his report and he gave a detailed account of the income and spendings for the past year. Upon a motion made by Bob DeSandy and seconded by Rev. Ralton Speers it was voted to: Accept the report of the treasurer. President Boyle thanked D'Amore for his report.

Finance Committee

Walter O'Keeffe Chairman of the Finance Committee was called upon for his report and he named the following members who served on the committee: Bob DeSandy, Art MacDougall, Gordon Anderson, Fred D'Amore and Pete Radichio.

The committee submits this budget for approval:

Anticipated Income	
Dues	\$5000.00
Investments	3150.00
Reunion	1000.00
	\$9150.00

Disbursements

Secretary Salary	\$ 1000.00
Clerical Help	900.00
Utilities	1100.00
Postage	2100.00
Supplies	500.00
Miscellaneous Expense	300.00
Secretary Expense	400.00

Treasurer Expense	200.00
Octofoil	5000.00
Editors Expense	400.00
F.I.C.A.	68.34
Memorial Wreath	50.00
Accountant Fee	175.00
Dues Reminder	100.00
Stationery & Printing	300.00
Total	\$12593.34

A deficit of \$3443.34 will be taken from the General Account if necessary.

Upon a motion duly made by Emerson Gross and seconded by George Brown it was voted to: Accept the report of the finance committee. President Boyle thanked Walter O'Keeffe and his committee for their report.

By-Laws

Harry Wax Chairman of the By-Laws Committee then reported the committee consisting of George Brown, John Bonkowski, Pat DeColli, Fran Maher and Lawrence Kauffman had met and recommended that: Proposed change (regarding membership) and published in the Octofoil of the January-February 1984 issue be disregarded and no change made and retain Status Quo. The committee also recommends a new 5 year moratorium on this proposal and due notice given to membership and published in the Octofoil before the next reunion.

Upon a motion made by Charles Koskie and seconded by Ed Sarnocinski it was voted to: Accept the By-Laws Committee report. President Boyle thanked Harry Wax and his committee.

The miscellaneous committee chairman Larry Ghare named these members who served with him on this committee: Bruce Johnstone, Aldor Cook, Ed Shea, Frank Russo and Paul Clark. The committee recommends the following:

1. Future reunions to be held outside of large cities in areas that are able to accommodate the group in one hotel.
2. Chapters or members looking for hospitality rooms should contact the reunion chairman well in advance of the reunion dates.
3. Encourage pre-registration for all reunions.
4. Memorial Services have been most impressive so the association should continue with this practice.
5. The annual financial report of the association be published in the Octofoil in the issue following the reunion.

Upon a motion made by Frank Rankin and seconded by Len Tomassone it was voted to: Accept the report of the Miscellaneous Committee. President Boyle thanked Ghare and his committee.

Newspaper

Elmer Wagner Chairman of the Newspaper Committee then was called upon for his report and he named the following members who served with him on this committee: Billie Martin, Art Schmidt, Warren Boulden, Nick Dogostino, and Mike Belmonte. The committee reports the following:

1. Continue with six (6) issues of the Octofoil, if possible.
2. Continue to print the cut off date, for copy to be received by the Editors.
3. The Ladies Auxiliary should be encouraged to send information.
4. Continue with Mail Call.
5. Members should be advised that any proposed change in the By-Laws must appear in the Octofoil 30 days prior to the annual reunion and general business meeting.

6. Recommend that black and white only photos be used for the Octofoil (for best results).

7. Continue to red-line the mailing addresses of members who are delinquent in their dues.

8. This committee recommends that the Editors of the Octofoil be complimented for a job well done.

Upon a motion made by Ed Hopkins and seconded by Jack Collier it was voted to: Accept the report and recommendations of this committee. Boyle thanked Elmer Wagner and his committee.

Nominating

Herb Olsen Chairman of the Nominating Committee named the following members who served with him on the committee: Bill Bongiorno, John Sabato, Chuck Koskie, Emil Langer. The committee recommends that the following members replace the five members leaving the Board of Governors: Norman Caswell, New York; Gil Pernokas, New England; Richard Starr, Philly-Delaware Valley; Bob DeSandy, Michigan; Louis Connors, Washington, D.C.

Motion made by John Sabato and seconded by Mike Belmonte to accept report of this committee. Motion made by John Sabato and seconded by Marc Sciarappa to close nominations. Both motions carried. Upon a motion made by John Sabato and seconded by Mike Belmonte it was voted to: Have the secretary cast one ballot for a unanimous slate of officers.

President Boyle thanked Herb Olsen and his committee.

Herb Olsen then briefed the members on the events of the reunion and the Memorial Service to take place on Saturday morning.

Scholarship Committee

John Clouser chairman of the Scholarship Committee reported that this is a permanent committee consisting of Michael Deresh and Joseph Williams. This year the committee recommends that six applicants be granted the awards amounting to \$2800.00. One new applicant and five renewals all related to men of the Ninth are selected according to their academic ability and financial need. The Board of Governors at their meeting held on June 21, 1984 had approved the recommendations of the Scholarship Committee. The association has granted \$38,605.00 since the program was started in 1961.

President Boyle thanked Clouser and his committee for their efforts.

While he was at the speakers platform Clouser also spoke of the trip that the group had made to North Africa last year.

Upon a motion made by Al Perna and seconded by Ed Hopkins it was voted to: Accept the Scholarship report.

Florida In 1985

Pete Radichio informed the members that the Sheraton Towers in Orlando, Florida had been selected for the headquarters for the 1985 reunion with the dates of June 6, 7, 8, 1985.

Worcester Memorial

Fran Maher briefed the members on the 40th Memorial Mass and Service to be held by Father Connors in Worcester on November 11th. Fran will take reservations for rooms; details will appear in the Octofoil.

Support The General

President Boyle told the members of General Westmoreland's court battle with CBS and upon a motion made by George Brown and

seconded by Fran Maher it was voted to: Support the General in this battle.

Against Change

The proposed change of the By-Laws as submitted by Jerry Teachout in the Jan.-Feb. issue of the Octofoil (1984) regarding the requirements for membership in the association, be changed to admit all those who wore the Octofoil, was made into a motion by Teachout and seconded by Pete Radichio but the majority of the members present voted against the change.

Upon a motion made by George Brown and seconded by Mike Belmonte it was voted to: Adjourn the meeting at 12:25 P.M.

The 149th Meeting National Board of Governors

The 149th meeting of the National Board of Governors of the association took place in Lake Placid, New York on June 22, 1984 at the Holiday Inn. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 P.M. by President Boyle. In attendance were: Norman Caswell, Harry Wax, Richard Starr, Ralph Carci, Al Perna, Robert DeSandy, Larry Ghare, Elmer Wagner and Gil Pernokas. Also in attendance were Pete Radichio, John Clouser, Fred D'Amore, Chas. Koskie, Larry McLaughlin and Emil Langer.

Upon a motion made by Rob DeSandy and seconded by Elmer Wagner it was voted to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the 149th board meeting.

Upon a motion made by Al Perna and seconded by Norm Caswell it was voted to: dispense with the treasurer report.

Election of Officers

The election of officers was held with the following elected to serve for the coming year:

President	Elmer Wagner
1st V.P.	Vincent Guglielmino
2nd V.P.	Pete Radichio
3rd V.P.	Ron Murphy
Judge Advoc.	Harrison Daysh
Secretary	Daniel Quinn
Treasurer	Thomas Boyle

Retiring President Thomas Boyle turned over the gavel to the elected President Elmer Wagner and wished him all of the best for his year in office. Boyle spoke of the great privilege to be President of this great organization and thanked the members for their support over the year. Elmer Wagner thanked the members for electing him president and hoped that he will be able to do as good a job as Tom Boyle.

Future Reunion Sites

The committee for future reunion sites consisting of John Clouser, Walter O'Keeffe, Fran Maher and Marty Krisovetz reported to the members that they recommend Nashville, Tenn., as site for the 1986 reunion. Upon a motion duly made by Al Perna and seconded by Larry Ghare it was voted to: Accept the report and recommendations of the committee.

Two members will leave this committee this year, they are Maher and Krasovetz, Bob DeSandy and Woody Lockwood will serve till 1985, O'Keeffe and Clouser will serve till 1986. President Wagner appointed Fran Maher and Pete Radichio to serve on this committee till 1987, Bob DeSandy will be chairman for this year.

A motion to adjourn was made by Al Perna and seconded by Gil Pernokas at 4:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted
Daniel Quinn
National Secretary

ILLINOIS CHAPTER NEWS

Beautiful Reunion

Greetings from the Illinois Chapter after a brief absence. We are all recuperating from the Lake Placid Reunion which was very successful. We all had a wonderful time and enjoyed meeting with all our old buddies from near and far. Our congratulations to the committee for a beautiful reunion. We were a little apprehensive at first for being placed in the Hilton Hotel but after the first few hours and our first elegant meal at the Hilton, we considered ourselves fortunate to be in our Lakeside rooms. We had a fair turnout from the Illinois Chapter. The Koskies and the Andersons drove out together. The Belmontes and Paulis made the trip together, returning via Canada. The Grays travelled from Wisconsin after just returning from England where they visited their son who has been quite ill. The Gheres ventured to Lake Placid on their own as did the Clarks who travelled in from Indiana. The Prestons also motored in from Wisconsin. The Hennemuths were scheduled to come but some job commitments came up at the last minute forcing them to cancel. Dave Heller was planning to come but never quite made it. We were also happy to be with the Clousers.

Among one of the regulars who was missing was Al Sebock. We were sorry to hear of his death and extend our sympathies to his family.

Under One Roof

We are sure the Association was pleased with the number who attended this year. While we understand no one hotel in Lake Placid could accommodate the crowd, we are disappointed we were not all together. When the whole reunion is separated there is a different atmosphere and we hope that all future reunions, will be under one roof. Here's looking forward to a one hotel reunion in Orlando, Florida next year and Nashville in 1986.

Heard from Cas and Jean Pawlick. Cas has been bed-ridden since March. He's holding his own but is unable to join the Illinois Chapter activities and is missed by all. He has been enjoying the company of his triplet grandchildren who are now three years old.

Thankful

The Belmontes are again thankful for receiving a scholarship for their daughter, Linda. Mike has now joined the ranks of retirees and this scholarship will be most helpful as she enters her third year at Illinois State University.

Everyone in the Illinois Chapter is doing fine. The Clarks recently had a wedding in their family. Their daughter, Dora, was married on June 9th and now lives in Dwight, Illinois. The Illinois Chapter will hold the August meeting at the Clarks home in Indiana.

The Koskies are commuting between their Wisconsin home and Schiller Park long enough to see their grandchildren and daughters. The clousers plan to spend most of this summer in Michigan. The Winkelmans are doing well and actively involved in their VFW Post. The Hennemuths are busy working and in their spare time spend sometime with their grandchildren. The Grays are enjoying retirement in Wisconsin and may soon be visited by the whole Chapter. Other members of the Chapter are doing well

although other commitments interfere with other activities and not all the members can attend all functions.

Looking Forward

The Michigan and Illinois Chapters are looking forward to our next mini-outstate reunion to be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan in October. For further information contact the Michigan Chapter who will host the reunion this year.

Enjoy the rest of the summer.
Respectfully submitted,
Mike and Ann Belmonte
1161 South Lombard,
Oak Park, Ill. 60304

MICHIGAN HAPPENINGS

At our April meeting we elected Bob DeSandy to a three year term on the board of governors. He will be replacing me as my term expires at the June meeting in Lake Placid.

Also at the April meeting the following were elected: By-Laws Committee: John Obermiller. News Paper Committee Billie Martin. Nominating Committee Bill Debruyne. Miscellaneous Committee Ed. Wisniewski. Finance Committee Bob DeSandy.

This day, Sunday, our chapter had our Memorial Service. Thirty nine in attendance with Jane Josey, Lucile Andrews and Barb Meadows present.

Our Golden Roll Call now has fifty names on it. Time really takes its toll.

"The Days dwindle down to a precious few" Words from a popular song. How true they are.

Yes the year is half spent and we ask "where does the time go?"

The 39th Annual Reunion is now just a pleasant memory. It was fun and we enjoyed ourselves. Jennie was much impressed by the scenery which I could not enjoy while driving in low gear down a twisting, turning five mile descent. I did enjoy all of the beauty once that I could stop the car and get out for a short walk.

Job Well Done

I want to thank the committee for a job well done. Again I want to sing the praises of "pre-registration". The only complaint that I heard in four days was one about not being able to get a room in the Holiday Inn on Thursday Night. Tough but we are all given the opportunity to pre-register and that is the only way one can be assured accommodations in the number one hotel. I understand Florida will have room for all of us in the one hotel but again pre-registration beats standing in line on arrival.

Picnic

Now for July/August. The Michigan Chapter is just enjoying the hot dog days of July but come August 19th we will be having our Picnic at Kensington Metro Park in Detroit, Mi. For any one near by in Ohio or Ind. Just travel to I-96 get off at the Kent Rd. Exit and proceed to Area A (East Boat Launching Ramp) Don Lewis will be on the spot at 6:00 A.M. Bring your own Eggs, Sausage and Char Coal and join us for an early morning breakfast. Of course pack enough other goodies to carry you through Lunch and dinner. Come one come all. We do have a good time together.

Out State Meeting

In October we will be travelling to Grand Rapids, Mi. for our Annual Out State Meeting at the Holiday Inn East. The Date for this event is October 26-27th. This meeting is becoming more popular each year. With our good friends coming from Pa., Ohio, Ind. Ill. and Michigan. In past years we have had men present from Cal. and Iowa.

Now you may ask what does a fun week end like that cost. First there is the cost of transportation. The rooms are \$39.00 per night single and \$43.00 a night double. The cost of the Banquet on Saturday has not been finalized at this date. In the past we have found the dinner cost to be very reasonable based on the number attending.

Should you be interested you are requested to pre-register by sending your request to me giving your name and the type room required. I must ask that you get your request to me no later than August 15th. Do not send any money. You will handle your room payment with the Holiday on arrival or departure. We have a C.P. in operation Friday afternoon through late Saturday nights. You may bring your favorite munchies or other party food. Normally we have so much food that we do not bother going out for Friday Night dinner. (Charlie we will miss your smoked salmon.)

So now that I have your interest I will close and hope that this finds all of you enjoying life.

Remember that you didn't retire because you are old. You retired so that you could enjoy being free to do those things you have always wanted to do. So now do it, get out and join in your Chapters events.

Rodger E. Alsgaard Sec'y
Michigan Chapter
Ninth Infantry Division
Association

47th Inf Co L
JOHN STEMPERT, SR.
1491 Central Ave. Apt 609
Bridgeport, Ct. 06610

How come on all the words about the invasion of Europe and Sicily, the 9th is seldom talked about. I think someone could write about it and what was done. I'm beginning to think we are the forgotten ones of WW2, I know that little can be done now. I'm one proud dogface to have served with it, from 1942 to 1946 all the way! I hope all members feel the same way. Keep up the good work.

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.

Hdqrs. 3rd Bn. 60th Inf.
MICHAEL J. FAZIO
83-04 Parsons Blvd.
Jamaica, N.Y. 11432

My old buddy "Steve" Stephens inadvertently had a lapse of membership to 9th Inf. Div. Assn. and thus no longer received the Octofoil so I sent him a couple of my copies. Now he has resumed his membership and receives his Octofoil. We welcome him back to the fold.

It is now almost 40 years since the end of WW II and I feel proud that as 3rd Bn., 60th Inf. Sergeant-Major I served in the 9th along with some distinguished officers and men such as: Gen. Craig, Co. "Slick" Wilson, Major Al Bruchac, Lts. Wasserman, Rappazini, Potter etc. and men as: Sgt. "Chuck" Willsher, Sgt. Paul Duhamel (now deceased), Cpl. V. C. Stephens (my Battalion Clerk), Pvt. Joe Tomko, (Battalion Bugler) and many, many others too numerous to mention here.

At this time I would like to wish all of the members of our glorious 9th Inf. Div. Assn. good health, happiness and prosperity and sincerely wish all of us will be around for many years to come to enjoy our membership of this great organization and to be able to read and write to The Octofoil to let us know how things are going.

The only item that saddens me when I read the Octofoil is "Taps Sounded" which puts a tear in my eye. May all of these buddies who have passed on — Rest In Peace.

47th Inf M Co
JOHN DeSEPIO
539 Marion St.
Bound Brook, N.J. 08805

It's good to receive the Octofoil, this lets me know about my friends in M company and also what the 9th is doing. My wife and I aren't in the best of health but someday I hope to make one of the reunions, an ex-prisoner from Greensboro, N.C. sent me 2 pictures taken at the post flagpole. He tells me that one memorial is on one side of the flagpole and one on the other side. It sure makes me feel good to know that I had a part in both memorials. Best of health to all.

60th Inf Co L
BOB BURKY
8 Whispering Meadow
Joshua, Tx. 76058

Just a few lines to let you know I received your package containing the book, Octofoils, etc., which I enjoyed very much. The book which I read I'll cherish very much. I hope I hear from some of Co L. 60th boys that were in Africa, Decker, Halovak, Miller, Gossetree, Pointee, Cunningham, Halverson, Curtis and a little fellow from N.Y. Major Poo. I will get in touch with fellows in Ft. Worth and Arlington area.

9th DIV, 60th INF., WWII
EDWIN WILLIAMS
P.O. Box 9521,
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Needs to hear from anyone from 2nd Pltn., Co. E, in fighting from Normandy to Siegfried Line, Sept. 18, 1944, and in POW Camp Stalag VIIA, Mooseberg, Germany, to end of war.

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



Color Guard at Memorial Service with Mirro Lake in the background at Lake Placid. Left to right John Morrison, George Brown, Bill Greco and Max Umansky. (photo by Billie Martin)



Bill Canales supplies us with picture of Company K 47th -Infantry members at Lake Placid reunion; left to right, Bill McKinney, Evan (Red) Thompson, Max Umansky, John Mrugala, George Nicklin, Nat Valone, Bill Stokan and kneeling Bill (little pancho) Canales.

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

mail call

continued

Hq. Hq Btry, 34th FA Bn
PAT CANONICA
1803 S. 10th St.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19148

Thanks for sending the Octofoil, it brought back a lot of memories. I was in the wire section of the 34th from Jan. 1942 to the end of the war. I am sending a photo of some of the members of our wire section. There is J.P. Miller, who was switchboard operator, Joe Bucca, telephone operator, Sam Master was jeep driver and Cpl. Willingham and myself. The other two I can't recall their names. I will not be able to attend the reunion this year, but hope to attend future reunions. I don't think we have a chapter here in Philadelphia/ we met a couple of times after the war, but nothing came about. I hope someone will take an active part and form one. The last reunion we had in Philadelphia, 1948, my wife was in the hospital giving birth to my daughter. The next day Fr. Connors went to the hospital and gave my wife Mothers Blessing and she was so happy to see him. I wish the reunion a success and best wishes to all.

47th Inf. E Co.
C. E. COMBS
109 Arcadia Dr.
Middletown, Ohio 45042

The reunion was very nice and was good to see old friends and to make new ones. Several of the people that made the trip to North Africa were there and we got together at the banquet. Made the trip with Ray and Betty Wolf and on our trip home we stopped at Niagara Falls. Hope everyone had a safe journey home. Take care and God Bless.

34th FA Bn
RICHARD KEEGAN
85 Newton Dr.
Nashua, N.H. 03063

Sorry I can't be at Lake Placid but haven't retired as yet. In good shape health wise, pushing 67 this coming Sept and no symptoms of anything yet. Count your blessings and I sure do. We had quite a write up in our Nashua Telegram on Sgt Bill Finley. Was surprised as 94th has gotten little recognition. I have gone thru so many book stores in the past years and little or nothing is mentioned of the 9th. Why? Seems like we were some kind of phantom outfit that was there, yet very few have ever heard of us. As of this date, Time & Life gave us credit for things that were not mentioned on other publications. They say our division artillery at Thala saved the day for the whole North African campaign. Seems the news media has given us the cold shoulder in some instances. Was watching NBC version of D day and again nothing of the 9th. I understand we didn't land until D plus 4, but we sure did a good job when we landed. I get teed off when I read about action in Europe and some other outfit gets credit where I know we played a major roll. Places like El Guettar, Remagen Bridge. Seems the news media and other journalists had very little to say about us with the exception of Ernie Pyle whom I met at Special Troops Aid Station in Normandy. Well, Dan, just to get a small gripe off my chest but my question is Why? Maybe someone has an answer. Looking forward to seeing you at Worcester and hope all is well with you and the family.

9th Med Bn Co. B
PETE RADICHIO
9415 Blind Pass Rd
St. Petersburg, Fla. 33706

Good health and hope you got home without incident. The reunion was great! (Even though my golf was bad.) Everything went like clockwork. After we left Lake Placid, Ted Preston, me and the wives left for Montreal. Then we parted and Ted and Wanda went on to Quebec City, and we headed back.

We made stops in Virgennes, Vermont, where we visited Lennie Forand and wife Ramona, (he was with the 84th FA). Next stop was Stamford, Connecticut, where we had an enjoyable visit with Charles Mazzel and family (Charles was with the 9th Med's). Then on to Jacksonville to see Joe Williams, our Florida Chapter President and his gracious wife, Dottie, for an update on the reunion at Lake Placid. Then we left to visit our Chapter secretary at Ormond Beach, Phil Berman, and his outgoing wife Dotie. Finally we stopped to see Henry Santos and his sweet wife, Eva — (incidentally), Eva Santos is scheduled for a hip operation July 5th, our prayers are with her — God bless. 4,000 miles later and St. Pete Beach looks good for a rest!

Thanks Ted and Wanda Preston, for being there. I was so happy to see George and Cathy Stein, Vito and Winnie Splendorio, Frank and Vita Fazio, always gracious Gus and Ginnie Agostinelli, Joe and Marion Media, Aldor and Vickie Cook, Jack and Eva Wilson, and ad infinitum. But, first and foremost, it is always an honor and a pleasure to see Major J.P. Roller, M.D. and his absolutely beautiful wife Olive!! See you all in Worcester, Massachusetts.

On our arrival home, I had a letter from Randal H. Bryant in which he mentioned that Colonel Taber was in Bay Pine Veterans Hospital. The July 4th St. Petersburg Times newspaper noted that Colonel Taber was buried in the re-opening of the Bay Pines National Cemetery. Today I went to the cemetery to visit the grave to say a prayer for all the 9th Division men. Enclosed you will find an article on Colonel Taber. I am sure he had many friends.

Thank you, Dan and Marie: God bless you and I hope Dan our Golf improves.

60th Inf. Serv. Co.
CARL J. HILL
R 3
Afton, Okla. 74331

In answer to your note I am sending a chick for dues. I was one of the original charter members when the association was started. Myself, Ronald Copeland, Paul Harfield, James and Ed Suggs joined service company, 60th Inf. on Aug. 26, 1940 in Tent City on Chicken road and I and the 2 Sugg brothers stayed with the company until June 1945 when we were the first ones to be rotated back after the war. Would like to hear from any of the old members of the company.

47th Inf. Co. H
FRANK MACHEK
RD 1, Box 51
Pleasant Mount, Pa. 18453

It's been a long time since I've been to a reunion. Sorry to read about Harry Herman, he was my Cpl when he was with H CO. Met 2 men here in this part of Pa. from the 39th. Had Nick Russick and Pete Ambisi visit me. I was going to take the trip to France but had stomach trouble, ulcer. God willing I will try and make the reunion.

47th Inf. I Co
KENNETH BARLETT
655 E. Grant St. Box 40
Watseka, Ill. 60970

I am sending a check for three years dues ahead of time. I enjoy reading the Octofoil and I do not want to miss getting it.

I was one of 500 new replacements to join the 9th Div. in Nov. 1944 near Camp Elsenborn. I was a second gunner in the 4th platoon I Co. 3rd battalion, 47th Reg. Our company was living in two men holes in the forest near Kalterherberg, Germany. Major Inzer, our battalion Co. knowing that the men under him needed baths and clean clothes picked three men and me to get a make shift laundry together in a German house. Across the street in Kalterherberg some medics had put up some showers. With the men now able to shower and get some washed clothes from our laundry the morale of a few G.I.'s had been raised for a while.

After my outfit crossed the Remagen Bridge our laundry detail came to an end and I rejoined my company. After a couple of months we met the Russians at the Elbe River at Dessau, Germany.

Our battalion was sent to Stalag 7A, Mooseburg. There I became the company mail clerk. Now with the war over we had some spare time. I being a piano player was asked to join a G.I. variety show called "Oh! My Achin Back". There were fifteen men in the show, and we entertained different outfits in the battalion.

I was sent home in Oct. 1945 to be discharged, I still hear from Don Greenwell, a drummer and Elmer Wagner. I would enjoy hearing from the other members of that show if they remember me.

I was 38 years old when I was in the 9th Div. and I am now 77, and in good health still playing the piano and organ.

Co. E 60th Inf.
HARRY LIMANNI
124 Birch St.
Willimantic, Ct. 06226

I have been out of the Army for some time now I don't know if any of my buddies are alive. There is one fellow I know his name is Ed Thayer from South Windham, Maine. I don't know his address or if he is still around. I'm sorry I didn't send my dues in sooner, because I have so much to do around here. I lose the time to do anything.

39th Inf. D & L Co
RAYMOND TUJAQUE
552 Latham rd.
Mineola, N.Y. 11501

I must write and tell you of the very excellent job the reunion committee did for the 39th reunion at Lake Placid. My wife and I experienced a most enjoyable time and met many delightful people. Unfortunately, this was my first reunion as I was unaware of the 9th association for all these years and it was not until recently that I discovered its existence through a notice in the DAV magazine. After serving 11 months in the Pacific I was reassigned to the 9th in June 1944 and served 'til Dec 1944 when I was seriously wounded in the Bulge at Elsenborn. I was hospitalized for 3 years at various army hospitals in the U.S. and lost contact with many of my 9th buddies. I am interested in hearing from Capt. Guy Carr from Fayetteville, N.C. and anyone from K or L Co who remembers me. My wife and I are gearing up for the 40th in Orlando in 1985 and hope to see you at the next chapter meeting in September.

60th Inf. Co. D & H
JAMES D. SUMNER, JR.
10513 Rocca Place
Los Angeles, CA 90077

I did not know that there was a 9th Division Association until informed of it by Perry Q. Langston (Co. D, 60th Infantry). In 1983, Frank J. Horton (Cos. E & F, 60th Infantry) sent me a membership application. Incidentally, Frank J. Horton has now been a member of Congress for over 20 years.

I joined the 9th Division as a Second Lieutenant in June, 1941, and was assigned to Company H, 60th Infantry. In May, 1942, I became Company Commander of Company D, 60th Infantry. I was in that position during the landing at Port Lyautey, Morocco in 1942. I received a battlefield promotion to Captain and was decorated with the Silver Star for action during the landing. Shortly thereafter, I became a member of the staff of General George S. Patton, Jr. in Casablanca. However, I did visit the Division on several occasions in Morocco and Tunisia.

Made landing on D-Day, September, 1943, at Salerno, Italy. Was member of staff of 5th Army Hdq.

I became a member of the 36th Division in Italy in September, 1943, serving for a year as a Battalion Executive Officer and Battalion Commander. I was wounded in June 1944 and returned to the U.S.

I have been a Professor of Law at U.C.L.A. and a practicing attorney in Los Angeles, California since 1952.

Co B 60th Inf
GEORGE CYPHERS
18011 Windward Rd.
Cleveland, Oh 44119

My wife and I attended the reunion at Lake Placid and had a really great time.

Our congratulations to Herb Olsen and his committee and those who worked with them, we think they did a marvelous job. The package deal for everything, hotel, reception, meals and banquet all in one amount was particularly liked.

One other Company B-60th Inf man was registered and we got together and had a good time.

The thing that I didn't like was the vote on the proposed By-laws change. No discussion allowed and a vote taken. Though the Chair says it was defeated, from my vantage point there was a very substantial vote in favor. It is my belief that this is important enough that a poll should be taken of all the membership of the association. I realize that this would have to be done by mail and would entail a lot of work but think this is the best way to settle it.

Once again, I think it was a great reunion, the best one I have attended. Best wishes to all.

84th F.A.
WALTER TONDETER
11 North Chestnut Ave.
Whiting, N.J. 08759

Enclosed are dues for 3 years. Sorry for the oversight but we have been traveling.

We retired to the Pinelands of New Jersey (near the Shore) in 1982. Will write more about new careers — after retirement — in the future. We won't be at the reunion this year at Lake Placid, but expect to make it in 1985.

Sometimes folks think they're new thinkers because they don't know what the old thinkers thought.

B Btry 84th FA
RICHARD O'CONNOR
9567 Bluford Ave.
Whittier, Ca. 90605

I was hoping to be at Lake Placid with all of you but had to make a choice of major back surgery or sitting down and doing nothing for the rest of my life. I took a chance and had the surgery on May 14, was home on the 22nd. Grace and I walk every day and feel that I'll be OK. Went to see my M.D. for the first time and he was very pleased with my progress. I go back in 6 weeks, after which I hope to be able to play golf again. This year I have written and phoned quite a few 84th men, Tony Chaconas, Sam Robinson, Adam Yanulis, Jim White, Bill Mauser, Bill Perez, Ed Winsch and Waldo Huysman, quite a large phone bill, but worth it! I am going to try and make Worcester this fall. Since quitting my part time job the fun money is gone but something will show up. Grace and I have a good chance of getting tickets for the opening of the Los Angeles Olympics.

AT 47th Inf.
GEORGE REMALEY
Box 437 A, RD 1
Natrona Heights, Pa. 15065

I was happy to see my friends from AT 47th and all of my friends of the 39th and 60th. I also met some new ones and hope we can get to Florida next year. This was the best convention I have ever been to and we all acted right. The ones that didn't get there missed a good time. All you men from Pennsylvania should wear the tee shirt with "Black Mail is Legal" if you are a judge. We are being blackmailed by the lame brain judge from Philly with this emission crap. They only have it in some countries but after they get this going the whole state will be blackmailed. We have to get that judge out of office.

60th Inf. L Co.
WALTER B. FARLEIGH
R.D. 3 Box 3259
Bangor, Pa.

Three years ago when I joined the association there wasn't a prouder guy alive. But all good things must end. I suffered a pretty bad stroke on my whole left side. Although I have been incapacitated I have not left the old ball park. I have read the book "Pawns of War" and I cannot understand why he said that about the Dams because I was there when we took them along with the rest of the 60th. So much for now hoping that this note finds everyone in the best of health and the best for 1984.

26th FA Serv Btry
ANTHONY PONTICELLO
930 Ridge Rd.
Ambridge, Pa. 15003

I am recovering from a visit to the hospital and still shakey as you may notice in my writing. Had a bladder tumor removed so will be laid up for about 1 month. Enclosed is my dues.

60th Inf. H Co.
DALE DEARDORFF
216 E. Lincoln Ave.
Gettysburg, Pa. 17325

I enjoy reading the Octofoil hoping to see some news about former Co. H. 60th Inf. buddies that I was with for the short time in 1944. Enclosed is a verifax copy of some snapshots that were taken while stationed at Camp Bushfield near Winchester, England prior to the June 1944 invasion of Europe. (Editor's note: Could not reprint photos)

MAIL CALL

84th F.A. - B Bty.
OCTAVIAN -GANSKA
412 Meek St.
Sharon, Pa. 16146

Recently joined the 9th Div. Assoc. and can hardly wait to receive the Octofoil. Read every letter and article printed always hoping to hear from someone who served with me from North Africa, Sicily, England, Normandy Invasion and on thru Europe until I was shipped out with a bad case of yellow fever just before we crossed into Cologne. Am trying to find my Sgt. Lost track of him and my outfit after I was shipped back with the yellow fever. If anyone knows the whereabouts of Sgt. Walter "Bushel" Miazza from Phil., Pa. I'd certainly be eternally grateful if you'd let me know of his whereabouts. Hoping to hear from some one of my comrades that served with me. Also sending my 1984 dues in before I'm notified that it is late.

60th Inf. K Co
EDWARD M. STOKAN
4747 Plummer St.
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15201
Hello, all you 9th men!

This is an old K Company, 60th man. I am going to Lake Placid with my brother Bill (who was in K Company, 47th) and John Morgan (a lieutenant from A Company, 47th). We are all from Pittsburgh. I sure would like to see some of my old buddies from the Weapons Platoon. Reading the Octofoil sure brings back memories. I like to remember all the good and fun times we had together. But the bad times still haunt me.

I am retired now. My wife Anne and I have nine children and two grandchildren. So you see we have our hands full. We have a Pittsburgh Chapter and have a luncheon once a month. It sure is good to chew the fat about old times.

I receive a call once or twice a year from Ed Phillips. Ed lives in Rex, Georgia. (Lucky for me, he pays for the call!). We reminisce for hours. There were a lot of good men who didn't make it back. My prayers are always with them.

So, God bless all of them and all of us who will join them in the future.

47th Inf. Hq 1st & 2nd Bn
ED SCHERER
51 Grosvenor Ct.
Kenmore, N.Y. 14223

Enclosed find dues for membership. I enjoyed talking to you the other evening and appreciated you filling me in on our mutual 47th acquaintances. Thanks for the latest copy of the Octofoil and the info on Lake Placid. I look forward to seeing you there.

60th AT Co.
LOUIS J. NETTA
2629 Belaire Dr.
Wilmington, De. 19808

Sorry we didn't get to the reunion in Lake Placid, as you know I had been in the hospital. Jean and Hoppy called when they came home and told us it was a great reunion with a big turnout. Hope at a later time the chapter can have it at Lake Placid again. Julia and I planned to make it for the past year, but I guess it wasn't in the cards. God willing, next time. We hope to see you all in Worcester. Enclosed a check for the Scholarship Fund.

Nothing blots out the reality of a cold winter better than a copy of the spring baseball schedule.

47th Inf. Med's
GEORGE W. DOHMANN
78 Kellogg St.
Brookfield, Conn. 06804

Been meaning to write for awhile but have had a difficult winter with on and off gripple, then flu and finally was hospitalized as I was found to have an anemia problem and shadow on my lung. I was operated on April 10th and left lung was found to be malignant so I was sewed up and am now on chemotherapy. I'm still recovering from the operation and sort of house bound in that I can't drive but many friends have been good to me, seeing that I eat, and driving me about as I get better. So I'm on a Day At A Time in a sense that I've not looked at before.

However, that is not my reason for writing. I hope to get to England and Cherburgh (where I was wounded) in July and in fact have been encouraged to do so by my doctor, health at the time permitting. I've asked this before but will ask again in hopes that someone now reading may remember, or know. Nick (Nichols F.) Pizoloto was a medic buddy out of the 3rd Bn. Aid Station (Capt. Copleman). I was in I Co., Nick was in heavy weapons (M Co.). I took care of him when he was wounded and I was wounded later that day (June 26th) and we were evacuated together. He returned to duty before me and Major Roberts (doctor) said he was back on the line but didn't know what unit. I was never able to find him and wondered if anyone knows if he actually returned to the lines. He is not listed among KIA for the 47th's Regt. history but is shown to have rec'd the Bronze Star in Normandy. He was from Brooklyn, N.Y. but have not been able to trace him there as no listing in phone book. If alive I would like to contact him and hope someone has some information.

It hardly seems 40 years when we were late teens or young 20's. A time I find hard to put out of my memory. Considering my illness I've had 40 years that so many (buddies) didn't get to have and although we would like to live to a ripe old age, I really can't complain. I was certainly in more threatening situations from Normandy right through the end. Will report on my trip as I really expect to make it.

9th QM Co.
FLOYD HENNESSEY
7925 Summerfield Bx 275
Lambertville, Mi. 48144

To the men of the 9th QM: My wife and I had one great time at Lake Placid. Those who shared the 39th reunion were, Trevor Jones & wife, Horace Abrams, Michael Dembitski & wife, Curtis Witt & wife and mother-in-law and yours truly and wife. We only wish others who live so close could attend. My wife and I spent a month in Florida in April and visited Tom Pitzer & wife, Julius Edster, Julius Dodd. It was 1945 I last saw Capt. Dodd and we had a little chat with Brig. Gen. Edwin Randle in Florida. I am looking forward to seeing more of the 9th QM next year in sunny Florida.

60th Inf. Co D
FRANCIS DONOHUE
RFD 1, Box 315
Springvale, Me. 04083

Sorry for being late with my dues. I am 76 now but I am signing up for 3 more years. Hope you are well and have a good time at Lake Placid.

39th Inf Hq Det. 3rd Bn
LOUIS R. FEITIG
RD 5 Box 5441
Stroudsburg, Pa. 18360

I am a former member of the Ninth Infantry Division having served with Headquarters Detachment of the Third Battalion of the 39th. Infantry Regiment from September of 1941, after having completed only basic training at Camp Croft, S. Carolina. The Division was on maneuvers in the Carolinas when I joined it. Shortly after our return to Fort Bragg, Pearl Harbor Day occurred and the next day we were sent up to Ashville, N. Carolina as part of a movement to protect various dams and reservoirs in the area.

Upon our return from Ashville, we were initiated into amphibious training and I can recall the inspection of this training by Lord Mountbatten.

In May of 1942 I was selected to go to O.C.S. at Fort Benning along with two other men from our Detachment. Subsequently, in May, June and July many men were sent from the Division for this training, in fact about one dozen men from our small detachment alone.

Upon my completion of the course I was sent to the 94th. Division at Fort Custer, Michigan, the Division was just being activated, and we subsequently trained our Division from scratch and then went overseas in August of 1944 and fought in the European Theater, where I was wounded, then spent considerable time in various hospitals, and finally retired due to physical disability as a result of the wounds, in 1947.

I possess and have read the Division publication "Eight Stars to Victory", and although I did not have the privilege of serving overseas with the Ninth Division. I have always been most proud of its record and the fact that I had been associated with it during its earlier days.

47th Inf. Co C
HOWARD D. BROOKS
PO Box 141
South Harpswell, Me. 04079

My face, like the printing in my address on the last issue of THE OCTOFOIL is RED! So, my check for \$13 is enclosed, for a continuing three years membership. You can see I am still an optimist. I was 70 in December of '83.

I'll be absent from the Lake Placid reunion for I no longer know anyone who attends these days and it is a busy season for me, and difficult to get away. I hear occasionally from some of the 'Charley' Co. old timers but I rarely see a letter from anyone whom I recognize in the columns of letters in MAIL CALL. If any of the old gang remember I hope they will take a minute to write and let me know about it!

This time of year, there are a lot of guys on the radio and TV recalling what THEY remember about D-Day..usually, they were so far removed from any action at any time in the days both before and after D-Day that they depend on hearsay and archival reports for their information. I suppose I shouldn't be surprised by that. It seems to be the way of the world, both past and present. We have always had a plethora of 'Heroes by Proxy'!

Enough grouching! Hope all is well with you, and my thanks and admiration for your continuing dedication to the maintenance of the association and what it was intended to mean for those of us who were around when it was founded.

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

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39th Inf. Co. L
ROBERT GORDON
1021 Merion Dr.
W. Mifflin, Pa. 15122

Sorry about the red ink on my Octofoil, somehow it got mislaid and I only found it the other day and realized I had fallen behind. But this is the first time that has happened in 39 years that I have been a member. It won't happen again. I won't make the reunion this year. It seems like something always comes up to keep me away. I will be retiring soon and then maybe I'll be able to come to the reunion. I keep looking in the Octo foil for familiar names but see very few. My memory isn't what it use to be and can't recall a lot of the mens names who were with me. Best wishes for a successful reunion and maybe I'll make the next one.

9th Medics, Co. A
VENARD P. DEAN
1869 Edgehill Dr.
Hueytown, Ala. 35020

Appreciate receiving a copy of the Octofoil so I enclose my dues. Do you ever get any communications from the Medics which I was with all thru the campaigns, for awhile with Hq detach. and most of the war with Co. A. I would like to hear from my old buddies Andy Andriola, Medea, W.D. Kennedy, Murphy, Mess Sgt. Merlino, Howie Marcus, etc. I remember Fr. Curtis, he bivouached with us thru the Hurtgen Forest and also a friend of an uncle of mine, Msgr. Dean. Good to hear from you and looking forward to the Octofoil.

47th AT Co.
JOSEPH M. SUAREZ
2900 W. 8th St.
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11224

I am sorry to have to miss this treasured get-together in Lake Placid but I'll be getting treatments in the hospital. Joseph Suarez, 47th Inf AR Co. wishes all my dear buddies a fond embrace and that someday will meet again. At the present time, eating my heart out.

60th Inf. Co. F
GERALD M. LINDNER
9335 4th Place
Highland, Ind. 46322

Back in the red again, 3 years flew by fast! Haven't been active in the past years attending conventions, etc. but have high hopes for the future years, may retire this coming year. Sorry to lose an old friend, Al Sebock from this area. Visited with Matt Urban and beautiful wife at that time. Hopes are up to be at Lake Placid.

9th Medics, C Co.
CHARLES H. DENTON
R 4. West Wolf Valley Rd.
Clinton, Tn. 37716

It was one great feeling to be with 14 of my dear friends on Apr. 28,29, 1984 at Pigeon Forge, Tn. No one will ever know how much I love those guys, hope we have more next meeting. Cochran, Fite, Johnston, Kash, Klooz, Kalich, Roach, Sharp, Martin, etc.

When was the last time you wrote a letter to our Mail Call Column? Just a postal card would denote your interest and let some buddy know where you are. You like to read what other members send in . . . why not do your own part and write a few lines now and then for their enjoyment.

39th Inf. Cannon Co.
EDWARD KILMER
51 N. Willard St.
Burlington, Vt. 05401

At Lake Placid I saw Mike Ford briefly. However I missed Tom Orband and Jim Burke. I also talked to Calvin Daniels of Tenn. who like me was later in the 39th Cannon Co. Former 9th divisioneers also now of this area who went to Lake Placid with me were Fred Nutt, 26th FA and Carroll Devold of the 15th engineers. We tried to get in to the banquet on Saturday evening but was unsuccessful. When I had talked on the phone to someone at the Lake Placid Convention Bureau a couple of weeks earlier, they said we would have no trouble buying tickets at the door, but the proved to be misinformation. I will make a special effort to attend Memorial Services at Worcester. Perhaps I will run in to more people from the 39th. I'm thankful to the Lord that so many of the old reliables are still around. At the same time I'm praying for the many who are now deceased. Best wishes to you and all the association of-ficers.

47th Inf. AT Co.
J. EDEL CLARK, JR.
PO Box 146, 102 Leonards Ct.
Camden, S.C. 29020

Enclosed are dues and something for the Scholarship Fund. Recently I heard from John Gasper, Charles Gerard and a long telephone visit with Howard Waldman. Howard will be at the convention. Also had a nice letter from Duane Olson who expressed a desire for info on the history of Northington Grange. The most comprehensive document I have seen was published in an English magazine titled "Hampshire. The Country Magazine". Two articles appeared in the March and April issue. This magazine is published by: Paul Cave Publishers Ltd., 74 Bedford Place, Southampton, SO1 2DF, England. Forty years ago we were packed and ready for our trip across the channel. My how that stirs my "cavern hall of memories".

60th AT Co.
MEL GILLIS
7656 E. Inverness
Mesa, Az. 85208

Saw my name in red, enclosed check for dues. 1 1/2 years to retirement. Enjoy reading the Octofoil.

Hq. 84th FA Bn
JACK KARGIR
27 Verndale St.
Brookline, Ma. 02146

Sorry I am late with my dues but I have been south all winter and just got back. I have to write a letter to Frank Haines in the near future. Also a call from Tom Boyle while I was away. Ray Peque has some pictures he wanted to send me. Ray, I would like to have the pictures. I have been retired since Oct. 31 and have been traveling and enjoying a leisure life.