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The Octofoil, August/September/October 1986

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N. J. 07087

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Association Dues: \$5.00 per year - \$1.50
 ultra earmarked to pay for the Octofoil

Volume XXXVI Number 4

Aug-Sept-Oct 1986

1987 REUNION PROGRAM

THURSDAY - JULY 23, 1987

REGISTRATION - 10:00 AM ALL DAY
 GOLF OUTING
 BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING - 4:00 PM
 OPENING NITE RECEPTION - 9:00 PM to 12:00

FRIDAY - JULY 24, 1987

REGISTRATION - 10:00 AM ALL DAY
 BUSINESS MEETINGS - 10:00 AM
 GENERAL MEETING - 11:00 AM
 LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING & SOCIAL - 10:00 AM
 BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING - 3:00 PM
 PARTY NITE - 9:00 PM to 12:00

SATURDAY - JULY 25, 1986

REGISTRATION - 10:00 AM ALL DAY
 MEMORIAL MASS - 8:30 AM
 MEMORIAL CEREMONY - 10:00 AM
 EVENING MASS - 4:30 PM
 BANQUET - 7:00 PM

Pennsy potpourri

You name it, the State of Pennsylvania has it!

Variety is the name of the game in the Keystone State, from its thriving cities with world-class museums and famous symphony orchestras, to its primitive paths meandering through awesomely beautiful countryside. It offers primeval forests where ancient pine trees tower high into the crystal clear air in outdoor areas resplendent with sparkling lakes teeming with trout.

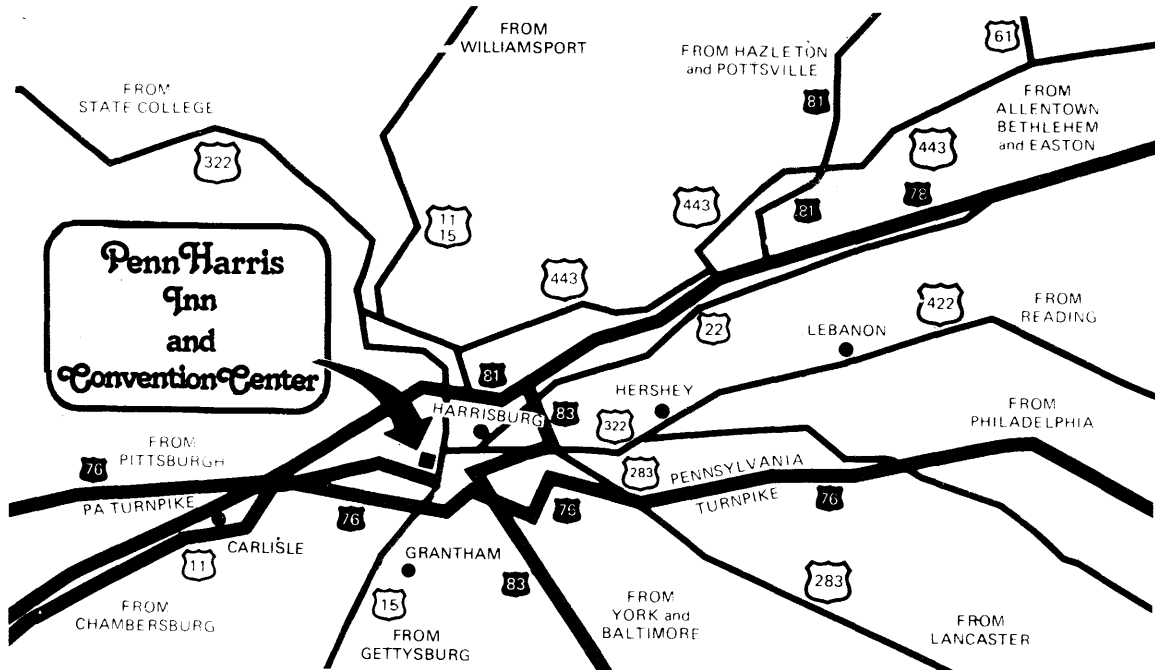
Pennsylvania long has been known for its fascinating historic places. Visit handsome old homes steeped in the country's history. Civil War battlefields or wooden forts where nearby fields are strewn with arrowheads.

But it is the friendly and unique character of the people who live there, both now and in years long gone, who set the stage for a marvelous, relaxing vacation in Pennsylvania.



A photo of the 1962 Memorial Service in Worcester recalls many memories as this year's Service held on Sunday November 9th is to be held for the 42nd time. Missing this year will be John Rizzo shown in the background, also our Gold Star parents Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Waldron, and Joseph Lynch, Congressman Donahue, General Craig and Father Connors our beloved Chaplain.

Roads Leading to Reunion



Directions to the
 Penn Harris Motor Inn
 and
 Convention Center

Rts. 11 & 15, Camp Hill Bypass
 Camp Hill, PA 17011
 (717) 763-7117

P.O. Box 2563, Harrisburg, PA 17105

When Traveling By Car

From Philadelphia Area
 West on Pennsylvania Turnpike (I-76) to Exit 17. North on US 15 for 6 miles.

From New York
 South on New Jersey Turnpike to Exit 6. West on Pennsylvania Turnpike to Exit 17. North on US 15 for 6 miles.

From Pittsburgh and Points West
 East on Pennsylvania Turnpike (I-76) to Exit 17. North on US 15 for 6 miles.

From York, Baltimore and Washington
 North on Interstate 83 to Pennsylvania Turnpike entrance 18. West on Turnpike to Exit 17. North on US 15 for 6 miles.

From Hazelton, Pottsville, Upper NY State & Canada
 South on Interstate 81. Exit 21 (Enola Exit). South on US 11 - 15 for 5 1/2 miles. Turn right at 3rd light.

Ladies Corner

Mrs. Phyllis Perna of the Philly-Delaware Valley Chapter is making plans for our meeting-luncheon at the reunion in Camp Hill, Pa. on July 24, 1987 at 10:00 A.M. Please send your luncheon deposit of \$5.00 to her at 2642 South Juniper Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19148. Do Not include your deposit with your husband's order for strip tickets. The Ladies' Auxiliary is in charge of the luncheon and we must handle the funds separately from the strip tickets and hotel reservations.

Gentlemen, please alert your mates to the Ladies' Auxiliary articles in The Octofoil; many ladies said they never read The Octofoil.

We look forward to a wonderful meeting in Camp Hill. Please keep in mind the Polyanna Raffle and start collecting your items now. Polyanna gifts are a contribution of new white elephants you may have. Wrapped individually, they add to the mystery of the raffle.

Wanda M. Preston
 President, Ladies' Aux.

Increase in Membership

TO: Members of the 9th Infantry Division Association
 FROM: Carlos B. Esteva, President
 SUBJECT: Increase in membership

- 1- It is well known that many men served during World War II in the 9th Infantry Division and in its attached units.
- 2- Many of these men are not aware that our Association exists and I do believe that if contacted they will join our ranks.
- 3- I challenge every member and every chapter of our Association to recruit these men. You may place spots in your local Radio and TV Stations, as they will be glad to do this as a public service, also you may get in touch with your local newspapers and they will be only too glad to help you out.
- 4- Starting as of 30 July 1986, I am putting up a cash prize of two hundred and fifty dollars for the chapter that recruits the most new members.
- 5- Transfers from other chapter will not count but members who dropped out and are brought back are in order.
- 6- In case of a tie the prize will be divided equally among the winning chapters.
- 7- The contest will end on the 1st of July 1987 and our National Secretary Dan Quinn will notify as to who is the winner, his report will be final.
- 8- Now its up to you out there to bring in new members to our Association and the same time help out your chapter.
- 9- Good luck.

PLACES OF INTEREST WITHIN THE AREA OF THE REUNION

GETTYSBURG	1 HOUR RIDE FROM PENN HARRIS
LANCASTER DUTCH COUNTY	1 HOUR RIDE FROM PENN HARRIS
HARRISBURG-THE STATE CAPITOL	15 MINUTES RIDE FROM PENN HARRIS
HERSHEY CHOCOLATE TOWN	1/2 HOUR RIDE FROM PENN HARRIS
CARLISLE BARRACKS	3/4 HOUR RIDE FROM PENN HARRIS

THERE ARE SEVERAL OTHER INTERESTING PLACES IN THE AREA, WHICH WILL BE POSTED AT THE CONVENTION CENTER.

THE PENN HARRIS CONVENTION CENTER IS ABOUT 17 MILES AWAY FROM THE HARRISBURG AIRPORT. AIRLINES COMING INTO THE HARRISBURG AIRPORT ARE:

U.S. AIR
 TWA AIRLINES
 UNITED AIRLINES
 PIEDMONT HENSEN AIRLINES
 AMERICAN AIRLINES
 FLORIDA EXPRESS

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

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The official publication of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Single copy price is 25 cents per issue or by mail \$1.50 per year payable in advance when dues are paid. Dues are \$5.00 per year with \$1.50 of the \$5.00 earmarked for the issues of The Octofoil. Members should notify the National Secretary, Daniel Quinn, 412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N.J. of any change in address.

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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Volume XXXVI Number 4 Aug-Sept-Oct 1986

Publication No. 402520

THE MEMORIAL FUND OF
THE 9TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
Scholarship Information

The Memorial Fund of the Ninth Infantry Division Association was established by the members of the association to commemorate the memory of their comrades who paid the supreme sacrifice in battle. As a part of this fund the association established a scholarship program. Scholarships are awarded each year to descendants of men who served in The Ninth Infantry Division. Each scholarship is for one year.

ELIGIBILITY FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

A person who wishes to apply for a scholarship must be descended from a man who served with The Ninth Infantry Division. Children of former members of the division will be given first consideration, but children of men killed in combat given first preference.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The following procedures must be followed by those wishing to apply for the scholarships:

1. Send a letter of application, written in expository form, to the chairman of the scholarship committee stating the following: name, address, age, and sex of the applicant; name, address, and occupation of the applicant's parents or guardians; the name and address of the secondary school the applicant is attending or has attended and graduated; the name and address of the college the applicant expects to attend; the vocational goal of the applicant; and the name of and degree of relationship to a former member of the division. The unit and dates of service in the division of the former member must be included.

High School Students:

2. A transcript of the applicant's high school record must be included with the letter of application. The transcript must include at least the first seven semesters of the applicant's record.

3. The applicant must have a counselor or principal of the high school, he or she is attending write a letter of recommendation to the chairman of the scholarship committee.

4. The applicant must submit the scores of the SAT of the CEEB. The scores may be included on the high school transcript or sent to the Scholarship Chairman from the College Entrance Examination Board. Scores of the ACT may be submitted in lieu of the SAT.

College Students:

5. College students must send a copy of their college record transcript. The record must include the grades of the first semester of the current school year if the student is currently enrolled in college.

6. THE APPLICATION MUST BE SENT TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE BY MARCH 15. Applications received after March 15 will not be considered.

7. All applicants must accept the decision of the Scholarship Committee as final.

8. Information to determine financial need will be requested by the Scholarship Committee, after the applications have been considered.

9. Recipients of the scholarships may apply for renewal of the scholarship each year. A copy of the student's college grades, and a letter requesting renewal of the scholarship should be sent to the chairman by March 15.

10. All applications must be sent to: John J. Clouser, Scholarship Chairman, Ninth Infantry Division Association, 1088 North Circle Drive, Crystal River, FL. 32629.

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION 1987 REUNION
CAMP HILL, PENNSYLVANIA
(July 23-26) 1987

All Reservations must be made on this form and mailed to the Penn Harris Inn and Convention Center, P.O. Box 2653, Harrisburg, PA 17105, and must be accompanied by a check in The amount of \$50 per room reserved.

The above-mentioned check must be made payable to the Penn Harris Inn and Convention Center.

All reservations must be received prior to June 29, 1987. Those reservations received after June 29, 1987, are subject to availability.

All changes must be made in writing, when practical and must be received by the Penn Harris Inn and Convention Center no later than July 10, 1987.

Refunds will be given only to those cancellations received in writing prior to 5 p.m. on July 10, 1987.

You will receive confirmation of your reservation from the Penn Harris Inn and Convention Center.

Check in time is 3 p.m. Check out time is 1 p.m.

All final payments must be either in cash or major credit card.

*Payment in full is required at check in (all major credit cards accepted).

*Special full American prices are available for early arrivals and late stayers.

PLAN I (July 23-26)

Single Occupancy: \$275 per person
Double Occupancy: \$200 per person
Triple Occupancy: \$170 per person
Quad. Occupancy: \$165 per person
Package includes three (3) nights lodging, 3 full breakfasts, 2 full dinners, 1 prime rib banquet, 2 beer parties and all tax and gratuity on a per person basis.

PLAN II (July 24-26)

Single Occupancy: \$202 per person
Double Occupancy: \$149 per person
Triple Occupancy: \$129 per person
Quad. Occupancy: \$118 per person
Package includes two (2) nights lodging, 2 full breakfasts, 1 full dinner, 1 prime rib banquet, 1 beer party and all tax and gratuity on a per person basis.

NAME: _____ STREET: _____

CITY/PROV: _____ ZIP _____

BUSINESS PHONE: _____ HOME PHONE: _____

ARRIVAL DATE: _____ DEPARTURE DATE: _____

PACKAGE CHOICE: PLAN I _____ PLAN II _____

I WILL REQUIRE THE FOLLOWING ACCOMMODATIONS:

_____ Room(s) Single Occupancy \$ _____ Enclosed
_____ Room(s) Double Occupancy \$ _____ Enclosed
_____ Room(s) Triple Occupancy \$ _____ Enclosed
_____ Room(s) Quad. Occupancy \$ _____ Enclosed

PLEASE LIST BELOW THE NAMES OF THE INDIVIDUALS WHO WILL OCCUPY THE ABOVE ROOMS:

Members can arrive before meals for \$53.00 per day per
Thursday and stay without room (two people).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING RESERVATIONS, PLEASE CALL:
717-763-7117

INSIDE PENN: 1-800-772-PENN and OUTSIDE PENN: 1-800-345 PENN

Tip of Hat

We wish to thank the following members and friends for remembering the Memorial Fund.

Philip Maresca
Jane Josey (In memory of husband, Fred)
Floyd Richardson (In memory of Jack DiSanto, Luke Savage & Steve Lelak)
Mrs. Angela Mysyk (In memory of her husband Mike & Fr. Connors)
John Compel
Mrs. Anna Hatrack (In memory of her husband George)
Walter Farleigh
Richard Kent
Al Seeley (In memory of Paul Drummond)
Michael Patrick (In memory of Fr. Connors)
Nicholas Wagner
Joseph San Filippo
Mrs. Frank Jenkins (In memory of her husband Frank)

47th Inf K Co
JOE KILLACKY
105 Queenswood Rd.
Bolingbrook, Il 60439

Thought you might enjoy the enclosed story. These fly guys don't fool around! I for one had a great time in Nashville and want to thank you and those who made it all possible. For any grippers, I'll just pass on my Irish Grandmothers saying "Fight ye devils. I hate Peace!" Keep up the good work.

REQUEST FOR SPACE IN REUNION SOUVENIR PROGRAM BOOK

FULL PAGE - \$50.00 HALF PAGE - \$30.00
QUARTER PAGE - \$20.00 EIGHTH PAGE - \$10.00
BOOSTER ADS \$2.00 -
NAME AND UNIT

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO
PHILADELPHIA-DELAWARE VALLEY CHAPTER
- 9TH INFANTRY DIVISION.

SEND TO NICK D'OGOSTINO
153 GRANT AVENUE
CHERRY HILL, NJ 08002

BOOSTER AND AD DEADLINE IS JUNE 1ST, 1987

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 ☐

Widow's Auxiliary Member _____ \$ 2.00 ☐

Please credit the following chapter:

Philly-Delaware-Valley ☐ Greater New York ☐

Illinois ☐ Washington, D.C. ☐

New England ☐ Michigan ☐

Ohio ☐ Fayetteville ☐

Florida ☐ Fort Bragg, N.C. ☐

THE OCTOFOIL

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION (Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685)

9. FOR COMPLETION BY NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS
AUTHORIZED TO MAIL AT SPECIAL RATES (Section 411.3
DMM only) The purpose function, and nonprofit status of this
organization and the exempt status for Federal income tax pur-
poses (Check one)

x (1) HAS NOT CHANGED DURING PRECEDING 12 MONTHS

10. EXTENT AND NATURE OF CIRCULATION	AVERAGE NO. COPIES EACH ISSUE DURING PRECEDING 12 MONTHS	ACTUAL NO. COPIES OF SINGLE ISSUE PUBLISHED NEAREST TO FILING DATE
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A. Total No. Copies (Net Press Run)	2100	2100
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B. Paid Circulation

1. Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors and Counter Sales	None	None
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2. Mail Subscriptions	1950	1950
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C. Total Paid Circulation (Sum of 10B1 and 10B2)	1950	1950
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D. Free Distribution

By Mail, Carrier or other means Samples, Complimen- tary, and other free copies	50	50
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E. Total Distribution (Sum of C and D)	2000	2000
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F. Copies Not Distributed

1. Office use, left over, Unaccounted, spoiled after printing	100	100
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2. Return from news agents	None	None
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G. TOTAL (Sum of E, F1 and 2- should equal net press run shown in A)	2100	2100
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11. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct
and complete.

Daniel Quinn

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

Greetings once again from the Keystone State - Chambersburg, Pa. We are delighted to receive some interesting correspondence from several of our "BECO" Buddies. In writing a column such as we attempt to do, for all our "BECO" buddies, as well as getting it published in our very good and most informative OCTOFOIL, takes a lot of doing. Most, if not all our buddies live miles apart. Learning of their well-being, family concerns, and just receiving "friendly" notes or letters for either Art Stenzel and myself is a tremendous asset. This enables us to continue our columns for publication in each issue of the OCTOFOIL.

Our "BECO" Buddy and Columnist Art Stenzel put it very succinctly when he wrote the following insert in a beautiful photo album he recently sent to me which contains photos of "BECO" members who were at the 41st Annual Reunion of our 9th Inf. Div. Assoc., in Nashville, Tenn.

The delight of Honest Friendship is,

That it can be resumed instantly,

Regardless of the time it has been in abeyance.

There are no preliminaries or formalities to observe,

No protocol to be established, No Modus Operandi (mode of operating) to be set up.

A brief letter from Orion "Shock" Shockley, who lives way out in Langley, in the State of Washington. Since returning from Nashville, he's been to Colorado once and Missouri twice. "Shock" wrote his letter just prior to his leaving for Alaska. As if that wasn't enough, he is now on his way to Australia and New Zealand "for about a month on business." Thanks a million "Shock" for taking time out from your busy schedule and keeping in touch with us.

We were delighted that he and his lovely wife Eleanor were all our "BECO" gang for the Reunion in Nashville this summer.

We were especially happy to receive a letter from George (Brownie) Brown a member of the N.Y. Chapter of our 9th Inf. Div. Assoc.

George and his wife Goody who live in Freehold, New York were pleasantly surprised to be visited (in August) by Alice and Norman Caswell a "BECO" Buddy and recent National President of our 9th Inf. Div. Assoc. George was happy to see and learn that Norman "looked real good and gained about 16 pounds and was in fine spirits."

Alice and Norman were up in the Catskills enjoying the fine country no doubt this has helped Norman greatly. He appears to be well on his way to recovery from his illness. They plan on going to Worcester and then to the Reunion next year.

By the time our "BECO" members read this column, Ann and I will have attended the 42nd Annual Memorial Mass in Worcester, Mass., Sunday, November 9, 1986 at the Immaculate Conception Church, which was dedicated to the loving memory of Father Edward T. Connors. We all hope that what Father Connors called the "Annual Pilgrimage" to Worcester for the Annual Memorial Mass for the 4581 men of the 9th Inf. Div., who gave their lives during World War 2; will continue for many years to come.

Until next time, our sincerest regards, best wishes and good health to all our "BECO" Buddies and their families. Happy Thanksgiving to all!

PAT J. MORANO
2208 Lincoln Way East
Chambersburg, Pa. 17201
ART J. STENZEL
8705 Village Mill Row
Bayonet Point, Florida 33567

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER NEWS

For the past few weeks, members of the New England Chapter have been busy making plans for the November Memorial Mass and service. This year the Mass and service will be dedicated to our beloved Chaplain, Father Edward T. Connors, who died in January. Our last meeting was held at the N.C.O. Club at Hanscom Air Field, courtesy of Gil Pernokas. All of our plans were finalized at this meeting and we hope to have a large turnout in November. After our meeting, we enjoyed a delicious lunch in the dining room. At a previous meeting, the officers for the coming year were elected. They are as follows: Pres. Gil Pernokas, Vice Pres. Larry McLaughlin, Treas. Tom Boyle, Secy. Ron Murphy. The men of the New England Chapter are looking forward to our next reunion at Camp Hill, Pa. In fact, so much so that we already have confirmed reservations. We know that this will be a super reunion. So hop on the bandwagon with us and make your reservations early.

Ron V. Murphy
44 Strawberry Lane
Scituate, Ma. 02066

Michigan News Notes:

Our 1986-1987 Season is underway and it got off to a good start. Seventy one members and guests showed up for the Michigan Outstate Meeting at Angola, Ind. Three couples for the first time. Needless to say a good time was had by all.

The main order of business was the election of officers for 1987. Percy Hough is the President, Jim Bruner 1st Vice President, Calvin Daniels 2nd Vice President, Rodger E. Alsgaard Secretary, Elmer Wagner Treasurer, Don Lewis Adjutant, Everette Tapp Chaplain and Billie Martin historian. The above will be installed into office at our Christmas party meeting in December.

This years party is being held in Marine City, Mi. and is being hosted by Leonard DeBell and his wife Loretta. This is a new place for us and we are looking for a big turn out. Those of you not members of the Michigan Chapter may get more information by calling Leonard at 1-313-794-2418.

I know this time of the year gets a lot of attention as it concerns the arrival of Old St. Nick. But let not the 1987 National Reunion in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania be forgotten. Pledge now that you will have your confirmed room reservation in the toe of your sock hanging on the mantel. You couldn't give yourself a better more satisfying Christmas Present.

Let it be that when Dan Quinn asks "How many first timers are present" you will be the first to stand up.

So to the post office one more time.

God Bless you All.

Rodger E. Alsgaard Sec'y.
Michian Chapter

ILLINOIS NEWSLETTER

Greetings from the Illinois Chapter at last. Time has a way of slipping by since we both are retired.

First of all our belated thanks to the committee for a successful reunion in Nashville. It was great seeing so many of our buddies and wives. We all had a good time but were a little disappointed we couldn't all be in the same hotel. It makes it difficult to visit with friends who were at a different hotel.

We definitely see the reason for pre-registration and felt sorry for those who were unable to attend the Saturday Banquet. Our reservations are in already for next year.

In July we had the pleasure of visiting John and Helen Clouser in Michigan. We had a great time and enjoyed seeing beautiful upper Michigan. Our visit was short but pleasant. Next time, we will stay longer (if asked). John and Helen have spent their retirement well and have accomplished many new challenges. The lakes surrounding their home are beautiful.

The Illinois Chapter also met at the Grays in Fontana, Wisconsin in July for a meeting. We had a good turn out with beautiful weather to enhance our visit. The Clarks, Prestons, Andersons, Hennemuths plus Bill's brother and sister-in-law from Oakdale, Pa., the Hellers, Irma Koskie and the Belmontes answered the roll call at the Grays.

Next on the agenda was a meeting at the Clarks in Waynestown, Indiana. Sorry to report not too many were able to show up. Bill and Peggy Hennemuth became grandparents the night before our meeting and left for New Jersey to see their new grandson. Their daughter Joy gave birth to a son, Jacob. Many had other commitments so all that was there was the Hellers, the Cantors from Indiana, the Mortons, who by the way will be moving to Florida, and the Belmontes. A good time was had by all. We celebrated Dave Heller's birthday that weekend. We were amazed at Paul Clark's green thumb. He has one cherry tomato plant that covers a twelve foot square area.

Last weekend was the Michigan-Illinois Outstate gathering in Angola, Indiana. Due to illness in the family, the writers were not able to attend but we hear that there was a good turnout and enjoyed by all present. We understand there were some problems at the hotel but nothing deters the old reliables from enjoying themselves. Food and drinks flowed freely. Everyone enjoyed seeing the Clousers and from Oklahoma, Larry and Kay Ghere. We are all looking forward to next year's gathering in Angola. No definite date has been set yet but it may be the second or third weekend in October. More details later.

The Christmas Party is scheduled for December 6th at the home of Roger and Doris Elmer in Chicago. Notices will be sent out to the members about the details. Plans will be made at that time for a weekend in Madison, Wisconsin in the Spring.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike and Ann Belmonte
1161 South Lombard
Oak Park, IL 60304

PHILLY-DELAWARE CHAPTER

Our annual picnic was hosted by Mr. & Mrs. Nick Dogastino at their Cherry Hill, N.J. home. The weather was beautiful and so was the membership turn out. 36 members of the chapter made it a great day. Tony Soprano had his corn boiler going full blast, and we enjoyed some of the sweetest south Jersey corn on the cob. Betty MacDougall has been ailing with a blood disorder and still made the picnic. That's what you call True Grit! Congratulations to newlyweds Mr. & Mrs. Frank Trieble. Mrs. Trieble is the former Stella Butskus. We wish them Gods Blessings. All conversation is about the reunion. The committee members promise to

make this the best one ever. Anyone needing information about the reunion can write to Art MacDougall, 5051 Holmstead St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19135. In attendance and all looking well were John & Shirley Sabato, Paul & Lydia Liza, Tony & Verna Soprano, Dick & Mary Jane Starr, Pat DiColla, Theresa Cupreys, Chester & Ann Mikus, Bill Solli-day, Ed & Helen Sarnocinski, Lenny & Edie Tomassone, Al & Phyllis Perna, Marty & Lillian Krasovetz, Dick & Ann Wilson and to those members who came and I missed, see you at the next meeting. Best of everything.

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

SERVICE BATTERY 26th Field Artillery Battalion

Ninth Infantry Division In Memoriam

Reverend Edward T. Connors, died, January 31, 1986
Keson Nosek, died, August 28, 1985

Paul Griffin, died, September 22, 1985

"Lest We Forget"

Father Connors and our Memorial Mass have been a part of our lives for over forty years. A tradition started with the Old Immaculate and Old Bancroft continues. Yet, for our part, it is sadly different this time. Father Connors will no longer be in his pulpit. Rather, he will be there in spirit, and in Heaven where he belongs. He will be telling the more than 458 men that preceded him of the wonderful gang in the 9th Division.

In the past few months one of the gang developed a serious heart condition. He is still in a rehabilitation center in his home town. This gang member is Harry Fry, 231 Mary Street, Munhall, PA. Send some notes or cards to him. His wife Dorothy, stays with him during all visiting hours. WRITE! Another gang member would like to hear from some of you guys. He's Arnold Leach, 70 Diamond Street, St. Albans, VT. He needs something to cheer him up.

Ross Kepple has a new address. It is the Newcomb Hotel, 400 Maine Street, Quincy, Illinois 62301. There should be someone from 26FA and living in Quincy whom Ross would like to see.

Change your records also for:

Truly G. Hammock to 8406 Copperpenny Terrace, Chesterfield, VA.

Everett Grigsby to 227 South 2nd St., Seward, Nebraska.

Fred Keyes to 41 South Road, Rye Beach, NH 03871.

Isadore Blitzstein to 7400 Roosevelt Blvd., Apt. C-104, Philadelphia, PA.

John Hennessey moved - left no address.

Anthony Ponticello and Robert Porter have retired. Bob spends so much time hunting and fishing that his golf score has become a disaster. Sacco and Pergi could not take retirement, so they went back to work for the fifth time. Albanese and Roscoe are beginning to feel the aches and pains that go with old age. One day last August, Joe and Jeannette, Elmer and Joyce, Alice and I had dinner at the famous Old Mill in Westminster, MA.

1987 - The Command Post for the 1987 Reunion will be Camp Hill, PA.

Joseph McKenzie
95 Washington Ave.
Waltham, MA 02154

Most folks don't mind the hands of time too much...it's the feet of crows.

Taps Sounded

With deep regret we announce the passing of these "Old Reliables" and friends. May they rest in peace. To their families and loved ones we offer our sympathy.

Harold Rhoades
M Co. 60th Inf.
John Dolak
47th Inf. I Co.
Bruce Johnstone
C Co. 39th Inf.
Eddie Van Meter
C Co. 9th Med.
Stanley Putt
F Co. 47th Inf.
Mike Mysyk
G Co. 60th Inf.
William Lovejoy
B Co. 47th Inf.
Delbert Pembridge
M Co. 60th Inf.
Col. Randall Bryant
47th Inf.
Harry Veeneman
899 TD
Vernon Dean
9th Med.
George Hatrak
I Co. 47th Inf.
Pat Canonica
34th Fa.
Tony Battaglia
B Co. 39th Inf.
Dr. Hyman Copleman
47th Inf.
Nicholas F. Staniewicz
Hq. 1st. Bn. 47th Inf.
Frank Jenkins
47th Inf. Cannon Co.
James Hennelly
26th FA
Saul Mitnowsky
47th Inf. K Co.
Mrs. Agnes Randle
Wife of General Randle
47th Inf.

60th INF
MRS. ANGELA MYSYK
12604 Darlington Ave.
Garfield Hts., Ohio 44125

Dear Members of the 9th Division: It is with sadness and a heavy heart that I inform you of the death of my husband, Michael on July 3, 1986, at Highlandview Hospital. He thought the world of all his comrades and spoke highly of everyone. I am still in shock over the great loss of my one and only but with God's help and my Guardian angel I am trying my hardest to cope with loneliness after 39 years of marriage. Enclosed is a check in memory of Mike and his buddy Fr. Connors. Please remember him in your prayers.

60th Inf. E Co.
MRS. MADELINE BURR
365 Bleecker St.
Gloversville, N.Y. 12078

Little did I think Wally would be with our beloved Fr. Connors so soon. I know there are many who share my grief and I'm sure it will be his smile people will remember. He had looked forward to Nashville so much and had made plans to extend our trip so we could see more of that part of the U.S. Everyone that knew Wally, knew how much his army buddies meant to him. I can't imagine never seeing the friends both Wally and I made since we've been going to the reunions and the Memorial Mass. Our children also feel this way so I am hoping if we can gather the courage to come without him, we may see some of you once again.



47th Inf Serv & Can Co
MRS. FRANK JENKINS
1711 W. Wilson St.
Tarboro, N.C. 27886

Some already know of the passing of my husband, Frank on 6-4-85 but I haven't seen it in the Octofoil so I guess it wasn't reported to you. He was a member of the 47th and joined the army Sept. 18, 1940 and was discharged Nov. 22, 1944. He fought a 6 year battle with cancer but he wasn't down but about 3 months. He only went to one reunion, at Ft. Bragg, but thoroughly enjoyed it. He looked forward to the Octofoil to see if he could find anyone he remembered and he did find some and called them and one or two called him. I am enclosing a small donation for the Memorial Fund in his memory. Thank you for all the enjoyment you have brought to us thru the Octofoil and I hope you will continue to send it to me.

47th Inf. I Co.
STEPHANIE DOLAK
305 St. Louis Ave.
Pt. Pleasant Beach, N.J. 08742
It is with a heavy heart that I write to let you know that John passed away on August 4th. He had a heart attack and was gone within 2 days.

The passing of Mrs. Agnes Randle, wife of General Edwin Randle along with our many buddies who have answered their last roll call brings many moments to mind. Agnes was a sweet and gentle woman who attended many reunions along with the General and when she didn't attend the Nashville reunion this year we all felt her absence, as she and her "Ed" had attended faithfully these gatherings of the "Old Reliables".

Dr. Hyman Copleman, a member of the 47th Infantry, was one of the most decorated surgeons of World War 2. He joined the 47th in Fort Bragg and served in the 1st and 3rd Battalions. Captured by the Germans and held prisoner in Chartes, France until the troops overtook the positions held by the Germans he was awarded one of his Silver Stars for helping a number of Allied prisoners to escape while endangering his life.

A very active man he was a lifelong resident of New Brunswick, New Jersey, and was fondly known as New Jersey Dean of Sports Medicine, he served as the head physician for the athletic program at Rutgers University for 50 years.

Stanley Putt who served with Company F 47th Infantry passed away suddenly and several former members of Company F attended the funeral. He and his wife Gloria were active in Church affairs and school and his funeral had a large turnout especially with all the little children from the school, attending the Funeral Mass.

M Co. 60th Inf.
ROBERT BOVANIZER
14 Sabre Park
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

We of M Co. of the 60th Infantry were saddened to hear in July of the passing of Harold Rhoades. He lost his long and valiant battle with Cancer on June 30, 1986. He served with our Company with distinction and will be missed. We enclose his address so anyone wishing to drop a note to his wife Irene may do so. Mrs. Irene Rhoades, Leisure Pt., Box 15A, Millsboro, Del. 19966. Also the sudden death of Delbert Pembridge of 46 Park West Estates, 3003 Broadway West, Tucson, Az. 85745. Del and Gwen have been regular attenders of the reunions.

OLD RELIABLES INVADE NASHVILLE!

Although some difficulty was experienced in establishing the initial beach head at the Radisson Plaza Hotel, the end results justified the delay. Memories are made of things as developed at the 41st Annual reunion of the Ninth Infantry Division. And as the years slip away these experiences become more memorable. It is most difficult for any hotel to evict guests who overstay check-out time in order for new guests to check into comfortable and clean rooms. But few hotels have ever experienced an invasion by the swarming hordes of the 9th Division! While these members are well indoctrinated in the tactics of "hurry up and wait," of days gone by, the antiquated system of check in was quite a surprise. But... "Aw, shaddup and besides the bar was close by ... and then, the person that has never made a mistake, has not been born yet!

Congratulations to the committee for rolling with the punches and coming through with a great reunion. Everyone was bedded down in time for the pleasantries of the opening reception. It makes one so humble to see one of the old Buddies of so long ago. Every year someone shows up that was presumed to be dead for lo these many years. The tales though mellowed by age are nonetheless just as realistic and dramatic as when they happened to all the members of that group of men known as "Hiler's Nemesis."

The memorial address given by General Norbett J. Hennen (60th Inf.) as the highlight of the Saturday morning service was stirring and most provocative. There was scarcely a dry eye in the entire group as we paid tribute to those 4581 comrades killed in action. So many of us in attendance could easily have added to that number. We never know the answer to the question of WHY?... but accept it as fate in the pattern of the world and breathe a prayer in silent dedication to continue on for their sake. The magnificent phenomenon of the afterglow that lingers on following sunset was a good analogy on the General." ... when a good man passes, the sky of this world is luminous long after he is out of sight... he leaves much behind." Each of us cherishes these memories.

Lindsey Nelson reminisced with us at the banquet on Saturday night. Once again the memories of past days for the "graduates of MacFaydens pond, New River, Fort Bragg" and beyond were re-lived with the lighter side of these episodes. Lindsey proved once again that he qualifies as one of the OLD RELIABLES. He touched the heart strings of all of us as we made a tactical withdrawal from Nashville.

1987 Reunion, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania

Make reservations like, NOW! Send \$50.00 to: Harris Conv. Center; P.O. Box 2653; Harrisburg, Pa. 17105.

60th Inf
ROBERT RUCKER
205 Greenway Dr.
Bryan, Tx. 77801

39th Inf B Co
JOE GRAVINO
10 Center St.
Macedon, N.Y. 14502

Enclosed is membership dues from Joe Saraceno. We were saddened to learn of the death of Tony Battaglia, B Co 39th, about July 10. Our mini-reunion was held in Newark, N.Y. the first part of June and a great time was had by all. Hope to see everyone at PennHarris.

Message from last year's President

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Guests on the dais, the Guys and Gals of the 9th Infantry Division Association and Friends:

I just want to take this opportunity as President of this great association, to welcome you all here on this, the occasion of our 41st Annual Reunion, held this year in Nashville, Tennessee.

I wish that I could have welcomed you in person, but it just wasn't to be. My thoughts will be with you this weekend — I just hope that I will be able to make other reunions in the future.

I want to thank our Co-Chairmen, Bob DeSandy and Dan Quinn, for the fine job they did in putting this reunion together — thanks also to their helpers — men such as Tom Boyle, Elmer Wagner, Emil Langer, Fran Maher, and John Clouser. I'm sure there are many others I have missed.

This year, along with others, we lost our great Chaplain, Father Connors — he, and they will be sorely missed. Father Connors, as we all know initiated the Annual Memorial Mass held in Worcester, Mass. for the 4581 men who lost their lives and for that, we shall be forever grateful. I should hope that we can continue what Father Connors started — even after over 40 years, great crowds continued to come to Worcester — let's continue the practice!

Again, I am sorry I couldn't be with you on this weekend — I was looking forward to Nashville. I felt honored to have been President of this fine organization.

Thank you one and all - May God Bless You.

Norm Caswell

Company B Reunion

On June 14 the World War II Company "B" of the 39th Infantry held their banquet in the Wayne Room at the Newark Sheraton. Veterans from Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Kentucky attended the dinner of roast beef or veal parmesan. There was a lot of "remember the time..." at the reunion banquet.

Several members spoke both before and after the sit-down dinner. They thanked the many unsung heroes of the company, which they've lost — six members in the last year. Dinner was shared with family, friends and special guests.

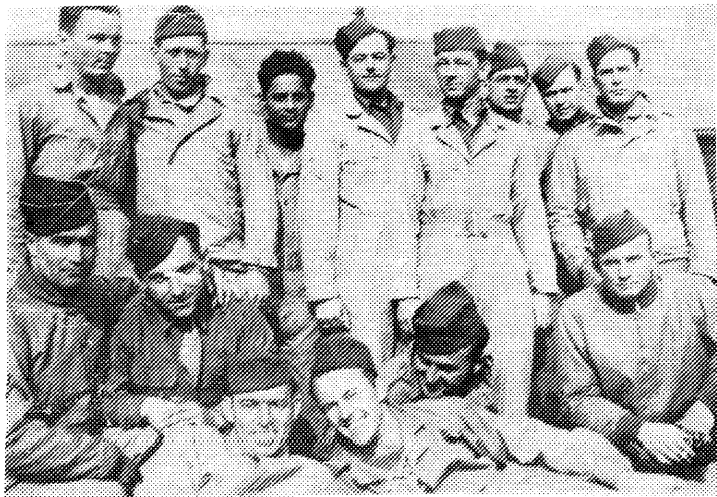
NINTH DIVISON CAPS AVAILABLE

Due to the continuing demand at reunions, I will keep 9th division association golf caps available. They also can be obtained by mail for a total cost of \$6.50 per cap, including shipping. These caps with an adjustable back (one size fits all) have the 9th division embroidered emblem. Five styles are available:- 1. Summer cap which has a white front panel with a royal blue visor and nylon mesh back panel. A most popular cap. 2. Winter cap in all navy blue. 3. Light weight, all navy blue summer cap. 4. All white summer cap with nylon mesh back panel. 5. Summer cap for youths (ages 8 to 14 yrs.) which has a white front panel with a royal blue visor and nylon mesh back panel. Also the embroidered emblems are available separately for sewing on jackets for \$2.25 each total cost. Please address all orders to:- Mr. Elmer Wagner, 2833 Hotchkiss Rd., Bay City, Mi., 48706.

The less a man know the easier it is to convince him that he knows it all.



Lou Sieben sends photo of the 2nd Bn 47th Inf taken in Germany (no date supplied, but it looks like the ending days of the War). 1st row: left to right: Capt. Lorenze, Co H, Father DeLaura Chaplin, Lt. Col Maness, C.O. 2nd Bn, Capt Duncan S 5, Lt Bonnet S 2, Lt Nygren S 4, — Standing Capt Schmader Co F, Capt Petty Co E, Lt Henney Co G, Capt Compton S 1, Capt Welsh S 3 and Lt Sieben Medics. Maybe General Maness will remember the time and fill us in with the dates and maybe the whereabouts of some of these men. We know that Father DeLaura is dead and Captain Duncan died in an automobile accident a few years ago. Captain Schmader is a member of the association along with General Maness and Lou Sieben.



Paul Davis 39th A*T sends this photo of the old gang taken in Barton Stacey, England, 1944. Top row Shaw, Cottrell, Pagan, Pisarick, Davis, A'Alvia, Ferguson, Allen. Bottom row: McCullough, Rivelli, Fowler, Tucate, Demasko, Reynolds.

Co. F 47th Inf
ED "HOPPY" HOPKINS
110 Hollywood Avenue
Metuchen, New Jersey 08840

We missed some important people at the reunion, people who we knew expected to be in Nashville but somehow didn't make it. I refer especially to Tex Hoffler and Larry Ghre. Now you tell me that Tex was having some serious trouble with his teeth so he was unable to get to Nashville. We missed him on this trip but I'm sure that we'll see him at future reunions, especially after his old buddy Lee Grimwood retires from the banking business and has more time available to travel. I hope Larry's problem wasn't illness, though I know that both he and his lovely Kay have not been in the pink these last couple years. Hopefully, next reunion will find them both champing at the bit in Harrisburg. Also among the missing due to various reasons, mainly conflicting schedules, were Frank Gonzol, Lee Grimwood, George King, and Joe Bergin. All the above made generous contributions to our CP fund even though they were unable to partake of the festivities in person. Their spirits were with us as their names came up in our conversations. Three whose spirits were among us almost constantly were Chuck Koskie, Tony Repetti, and Pop Zucker. The tribute to Tony and the others conducted by Rud Hoffman on Saturday night after the banquet was indeed a moving, emotion packed moment that made us all aware of our own mortality and reminded us of the contributions each of these fine men made to make our lives a bit richer for having had the privilege of sharing their mess. It was great to see Irma Koskie again after a two year absence.

FIVE FORMER C.O.S.

We of F Company, 47th Infantry, were honored by having five of our former company commanders with us in Nashville, plus our own General Lewis "Chip" Maness, a man who joined F Company as a brand new second lieutenant just graduated from Clemson University, and who went on to retire as a Brigadier General after a distinguished military career. Seeing and drinking with General Chip, Frank Smith, Otto Geyer, Chuck Jones, Ray Schmacher, and Jack Armstrong was both a pleasant and stimulating experience.

UNABLE TO ATTEND

Some of those men unable to attend besides those I mentioned above were Paul Pryimak, who sent me a nice note asking me to remember him to everybody, and his wife Geraldine. Both have had some severe bouts with illness since we last saw them. It is great to see Charley and Doris Williams whom we had not seen since they moved to Arizona. Others we miss and haven't seen for various periods of time are Stanly Putt, Bill Buemi, Ed Netta, Al Munatore, Frank Ghatt, Bill MacDonald, Elwood Schmidt, Joe Ayles, Lou Slatnick, George Gaynor, Warren Lane, Yosh Ryn-cavage, Bill Larson, Al Yanushesky, Chris Argyris, Otto Kanack, Roy Schumacher, Stew Miller, Frank Gilsenan, Milt Zucker, Shorty Mann, Jack Healy, Hugh Dunlap, Whitey Waszkiewicz, and Jack Ginn. Why not contact one or two of these men and ask them to attend the next reunion?

1987 REUNION

CAMP HILL, PENN

60th Inf.
ALBERT M. HODGE
Forest Cove Dev.
2 Cove Dr.
Savannah, Ga. 31419

The writer was deeply saddened upon learning of the passing of Paul Drummond. He was indeed a gentleman in every respect. He was truly a Christian, devoted Husband, and Father. He was greatly admired by many friends and associates. I first met Paul when I was assigned to the Personal Branch as Company Clerk for "I" Co. 60th Infantry in 1941. Most of us worked together through-out the 8 Infantry Campaigns of WW-II until the end of 1945. The solidification of our group cannot be minimized. It was a bond that we cannot extricate ourselves from.

After his discharge in WW-II, Paul was employed as Personnel Director with Lockheed Aircraft until he retired therefrom, and pursued other endeavors of his choice. Unfortunately, he developed a very serious case of emphysema. The writer readily recalls a few years ago while visiting us we were at Savannah Beach on Tybee Island, and our planned walk was curtailed because of a breathing problem that he was plagued with, however, our respective wives Mabel and Louise continued on their mission.

It should be mentioned that on a memorable occasion at a 9th Infantry Division Reunion in New York — Paul Drummond, and His Lovely Wife Louise invited all of the Personnel Group of the 60th Infantry over to his Home on Long Island. Our three Children were real young at that time. They keep mentioning it to us to this date.

May the writer conclude by saying we shall always cherish the fond memories of the by-gone days and our association with him. We extend our sincere condolence to the entire Family. We wish them ALL GODS RICHEST BLESSINGS.

39th Inf A Co
THOMAS BOWER
23 Roslyn Rd.
Sound Beach, N.Y. 11789
"It's a Small World"

This story goes back a few years, the old saying, "It's a small world" is true in this case. I joined the 9th in the Hurtigen Forest, I was assigned to A Co. 39th, they were banged up bad at the time, and were placed in reserve to have a well deserved rest. This is where I met Pfc. Donald Mullvay. We got along well right from the start. Don told me he came from the lower east side of New York City. I was a member of the steamfitters Local #638, N.Y.C. and many of our members lived on the east side and Don knew many of my good friends.

Well Don and I along with everyone in the Div. put in a real rough winter. After a tough counter attack against the Germans in the battle of the Bulge, we were relieved for a short rest. The town we were in (never did know the name) had an old castle, Don and I were walking through an old barn and some young fellow was cleaning his Tommie Gun with a shaving brush. Don, kidding around grabbed the opening on the barrel and said, I'd like to get a winner, the safety was off the gun and Don got his winner, about four rounds through the palm of his hand. So Don wound up in the States. Well later I got banged up a little and spent about six months in Army

hospitals from France to England and then home to the States, discharged Nov. 2, 1945.

About a month later I decided to go back to work. That spring on the east side of N.Y. I was working with my partner on a housing job. After being on the job a few days my partner and I starting looking for a bookmaker, as he and I were horse players from a way back. We found one, Sam was his first name, he had been with the 9th Div. He told us he would send his man about ten to twelve to pick up our bets. The next day right on time, who walks in, you guessed it, good old Don, well he sure was a sight for sore eyes, and I sure was glad to see him. This lasted a few months and all of a sudden no more Don. A few years later through a friend of his I found out he reenlisted in the Army and wound up in Korea. I also found out that Don after leaving the army was taken down with cirrhosis and passed away, Don was quite a guy.

I will close this letter now, I am still trying to locate 1st Lt. Anthony from A Co. 39th. 15th Engrs. B Co.
RICHARD McGRATH
2856 W. 85th St.
Chicago, Ill. 60652

It's time again to thank all the people who do such great work in running our reunions. The one at Nashville was highlighted by a very good banquet. Dan Quinn and Bob DeSandy and whoever were on their various committees did an outstanding job. We never get enough of Lindsay Nelson's stories and he is at his best reliving his life with the 9th. I finally got a chance to tell Lindsay in person, how proud I am that I was lucky enough to be in his unit, yet when I talked to him I got embarrassed in finding a good choice of words. Thanks Lindsay for your support and I am also thankful you find time to come to the division's activities. Dan Quinn once again was the show stopper! He had my wife and I laughing so much we were falling off our chairs. Vaudeville will never be dead as long as Dan is around! Thanks Dan, not only for all your work on behalf of the association, but also for making our good times better. The banquet had very good food and we were lucky in our seating arrangement, right near the speakers table. I am sure I can thank Fred D'Amore and his New England group for that piece of luck. I know some were unlucky and had poor seats in the hall and others could not get in, which is why I already have sent in my deposit for next year's reunion.

It is good to hear that the annual Memorial Mass in Worcester will be continued. Thanks to the New England Chapter. I enjoyed the birthday celebration of the Statue of Liberty. The TV show of the party was outstanding in its coverage, including people who were immigrants and what the statue meant to them, however, I was hoping they would show some of the ETO veterans coming home from the war and what the statue meant to them. They had a chance to make up for the neglect the 9th suffered during WW 2, but once again they goofed! This letter is going to lift some guilt off my shoulders. That paragraph in the Octofoil which reads "When was the last time you wrote to the Octofoil, etc., etc." Just a postcard would denote your interest and let some buddy know where you are. I swear that's put in for people like me. Looking forward to November and remember Fr. Connors and how hard he worked to keep us (The Old Reliables) together.

Who Was That Un-Masked Man?

I would like to hear from twenty men also Lt. Raymond A. Porter and his jeep driver of A.T. Co., 39th INF. REG., 9th INF. DIV. plus three military policemen. The twenty soldiers I refer to were trapped behind the German lines late February 21, 1943 just after Rommel's axis forces attacked through the Kasserine Pass and up the road toward Thala in Tunisia, North Africa. I found you, a few at a time, stretched-out along the deep wadi on the east side of the road that night. Three of the soldiers were Sgt. Michael J. Shaw, Norman R. Fowler and Leonard P. Mattiello. I was the soldier who led all of you back through the enemy lines of the Afrika Korps to our forward out-post where we were greeted by two military police. I pray that all of you are well and enjoying family life in our great United States of America. I do hope that my efforts were not in vain and that a lot of good came of it all.

The M.P. who warned me not to go down into the valley because it would be suicide may also like to write to me to at least say, "Hello". I can still see you kneeling beside the road by a huge boulder directing everyone to the rear as you were doing on that devastating afternoon and evening. As you and I watched the battle exploding in all its fury and raging on ever so fiercely, I turned to you and I asked you to wish me "Lots of Good Luck". I was being drawn toward the battle by a gut feeling. I felt that I had to avenge the death of my friends and the destruction of our equipment. Watching our troops over run, torn apart, mauled and outnumbered by the German war machine hurt me deeply. I wanted to hurt and destroy them if I could and while doing so maybe help any of our men who were surviving this onslaught.

It all seemed hopeless at the time but I challenged the enemy by fighting my way through their positions while cutting their numbers down a little. I was glad I did because I came out a winner and returned victorious with at least you twenty men from behind the German lines. We moved silently through the cold dark evening hours and by early morning before dawn we reached our forward position. The outpost was manned by two military police who directed us to the officers and men waiting to return us to our respective command posts. I believe, after we separated, you men, who returned with me, were asking each other, "Who was that un-masked man, that soldier who led us safely back?" Well men, now you know; so please write to me and at least say "Hello" Matter of fact it may be a good time to get together after these forty plus years to do some celebrating together and with our families too. Let me hear from you soon and God Bless.

Yours in Comradship,
Anthony Varone

75 9th Ave.
Kings Park, New York 11754
39th Inf.

60th Inf F Co
WALLACE MILLER
517 Cumberland Ave
Tullahoma, Tn. 37388

I received the info about the reunion in Nashville and want to thank you. However I was unable to go either day. I recently received news of the death of 2 former 9th men. Lester Paquin died in June 1985 and Roy Paquin died in Nov. 1985, both of F Co 60th Inf. Best regards to the 9th.

OUR LIEUTENANT

This is an episode over a 3 week period from the hills of El Guettar to the Sedjenane valley. It tells of our first encounter with a seasoned enemy and ends with our Lt. being killed in action. He was the first engineer officer to give his life for his country. Anyone who was at El Guettar will never forget it. The days were hot and the nights were cold, except when "Jerry" flew over. First would come the parachute flares hanging over us. They would light up the area like it was "Broadway". Within 20 to 30 seconds, down would come the butterfly bombs exploding over our heads. In our hole with our halftrack over it, we felt fairly safe. "Jerry" came over all night, one plane at a time. Our planes ruled the sky by day, but as soon as it got dark "Jerry" took over. I remember one of their planes coming over just as it was getting light. It was a two engine light bomber but he didn't drop any bombs as he came over the area. All of a sudden he started firing his machine guns at the ground. Within seconds every gun there started firing at him. One of our guys jumped up on our half-track and started shooting at him with our 50 caliber. Tracers filled the morning sky and the plane started to smoke from one of its engines. It banked to the right and started to go down behind one of the hills ahead. A few minutes later we saw black smoke billowing up from where it crashed. Our platoon was behind one of the small hills back of the 3rd Bn. of the 47th Inf. We were the third platoon of B Co. 15th Engr. Bn. attached to the 3rd Bn. One afternoon a jeep pulled up near our position with 2 stars on the front. An officer got out and climbed up to where we were dug in. We knew right away that he was someone special as soon as he got close to us. After we saluted him, he told us he was General Patton, commander of the 2nd Corps. I'll never forget his uniform, the riding boots, 2 pearl handled pistols and the scarf around his neck. We filled him in on the situation in our immediate area. All the while Lt. Ware was talking to the General, he kept looking at the hills ahead with his binoculars. As he was leaving he said "We'll beat those sons of bitches", and was gone. I looked at Lt. Ware in amazement but we both felt good.

About the ninth night we were told we were relieving part of the 47th. We loaded up on our trucks and were driven to the base of the hill on our immediate front. On the way we passed the 105's that were firing away. We climbed a large hill and when we were near the top. Lt. Ware told us to dig in or use a hole already there. All night long he kept checking to see how we were doing.

At dawn it got quiet and we sure were glad, since our artillery fired over our heads all night. Fortunately for us the "Krauts" had pulled out during the night so we got very little return fire. I looked over the top of the hill, just as it was getting light, and saw 2 dead Germans who never made it to the top. A short time later, we saw tanks moving very slowly in the valley below us. We couldn't tell if they were ours since they were too far away. They were heading east so we figures they were ours. The "Krauts" were on the run and we sure were glad.

Charles Hoffman
91-43 - 81st St.
Woodhaven, N.Y. 11421
Co. B, 15th Engrs.

Continued next issue

mail call

39th Inf G Co
JIM LEMMA
1213 E. Windemere
Royal Oak, Mi. 48073

Thought it was time to contribute a letter to mail call. Really enjoyed the reunion and met several men I had never seen before. Except for checking in to the room, everything went smooth as silk. Lindsay Nelson was good at the banquet but Dan was in rare form and stole the show. I also enjoyed Grand Ole Opry and can't believe the amount of talent they have. Can anybody help me with an address on 2 guys I would like to find. The first is a guy named Browning and he was from St. Louis, Mo. The other guy was from California and was a sportscaster before the war, he was G Co. Reg't clerk. The last time I saw him was the middle of May 1945 at Rosenheim, Germany. I was on a 3 day R&R. He was a short guy with dark hair and I think he was Italian. I hope to see you all in 1987 at Camp Hill, Pa.

47th Inf Hq Co 2nd Bt
JEROME SHAPIRO
739 W. 186th St.
New York, N.Y. 10033

Nashville was great, except the Hotel was overbooked and the banquet hall wasn't large enough for the 850 people present. The Radisson was nice and so was the filet mignon dinner, but the people there were the best. 45 first timers, that's a record! Father Time is bringing out many more old 9th divisioners. Gen. Maness's speeches are becoming a pleasant addition to the reunions. Again - where are you? Arthur Goldberger (Gardiner) of 2nd bn 47th adn Isidore Lehman "E" co's great runner. Let's hear from you or from someone who knows their whereabouts. On to Pennsylvania) God bless all.

60th Inf G Co
MRS. JANE JOSEY
12013 S Saginaw, Bldg 6 Apt 23
Grand Blanc, Mi. 48439

I enjoyed the reunion very much and thought it was a great one. As one lady told me, it was her first time also since the death of her husband. She said as much as she and Fred thought of the 9th, it was good thing to do, if only in their memory. I also enjoyed the hotel I was staying in, the Maxwell House, and the shuttle busses were great, especially since I was alone. Thanks again and enclosed find a check in the memory of Fred Josey by his wife Jane.

47th Inf. Hq. 3rd Bn
DARIO GAGLIASSO
536 Barto St.
Santa Clara, Ca. 95051

Enclosed find Life Membership plus a little for the Memorial Fund. Can't make the reunion this year but my wife and I expect to drive to the east coast next year and hope to be in Pennsylvania for the reunion. We had a great time in Lake Placid and met a lot of nice people. I have retired and have a lot of time to take it easy.

47th Inf Cannon Co
BOB BELL
9136 Hutton Dr
Sun City, AZ. 85351

Enclosed find my check for 3 years dues. Moved out west 6 years ago from W. Pa. after retiring from Allegheny Ludlum Steel Corp. I play a lot of golf and really love this weather. Enjoy the Octofoil very much but don't see many Cannon Co. names.

47th Inf
JOSEPH WILLIAMS
1900 E. Holly Oaks Lk Rd
Jacksonville, Fl. 32211

In spite of a few minor hotel problems I personally think the Nashville reunion was successful and some people need to learn how to cope with a few minor problems. Dottie and I go to the reunions with a positive attitude that we will enjoy them and it has always worked out that way for us. Dottie and I continued on to Canada from Nashville and had a marvelous 4 week vacation in Quebec, Niagara Falls, Toronto, Montreal, P.E. Island, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and went over to the Statue of Liberty, a great trip! I spoke with Gen. Maness to inform him of the passing of Mrs. Randle and he also informed me about Randy Bryant who died July 4th. Gen. Maness sent flowers for Mrs. Randle from the 47th and I have sent roses from the Florida Chapter and drove to Clearwater for the memorial service. She was cremated and her ashes will be sent to their burial plot in Illinois. The Florida Chapter will hold its next meeting Oct. 16 and 17 in Orlando. My regards to my good friend, Walter O'Keefe.

60th Inf K Co
JOHN CRIMI
95 Harvard St.
Hartford, Ct. 06106

Thank you for your help. I enjoy receiving the Octofoil so enclose my dues for the next year. I would be interested in any mini-reunion since I have commitments for the last week in July and will not make the Penn Hills reunion.

47th Inf C Co 4th Platoon
PAUL REEL
2701 N. Lamer St.
Burbank, Ca 91504

I recently bought this book at Crown Books in Glendale, Ca. by H.P. Willcott a British historical writer. The books title is June 1944 in France, Italy, Eastern Europe and Pacific, published in 1984. Covers the U.S. first Army landings in Normandy D-Day through 30 June 1944. Some of you may have read it.

Mentions all U.S. Army units and the Utah Beachheads, the U.S. Armys advance across the Cotentin Peninsula. Mentions that the U.S. 9th established their own beachheads. The author refers to the U.S. 9th Inf. Div. achieving their objectives. He refers to the 9th as the U.S. armys Elite 9th Inf. Div. This is the only mention of any elite unit Ally or German.

Makes me proud to be at one time a soldier in the 9th Inf. Div.

I would welcome any response from anyone in the 9th Inf. Div. Association.
Best Regards.

26th FA
WILLIAM A. LEWIS
54 Hopewell Dr.
Struthers, Ohio 44471

I am moving Bill from Westwood to Ron Joy Nursing Home. His condition is just the same, still paralyzed on his left side. He has a very happy attitude, never giving up. Thanks to his army buddies who have written. I'll answer anyone for him. His new address is: — Ron Joy Nursing Home, 830 Boardman Canfield Rd., Youngstown, Ohio 44512. He has not had anymore strokes and has been sick for 1½ years. Thank you kindly.

Mrs. Dorothy Lewis

84th FA
WILLIAM MAUSER
2721 N. Garden Dr. #310
Lake Worth, Fl. 33461

Enclosed find check for 3 years dues per your "red" letter Octofoil. It's my loss, but we will not be at the reunion in Nashville as we are expecting another grandchild. My sincere greetings to all my 84th FA comrades. I was grieved over Fr. Connors passing and we can be comforted knowing his stand assured him a place in Heaven. A stalwart, Tony "Smoke" Chaconas has also departed our ranks. There may be others of the 84th I am not aware of. Sam Robinson and wife, Belle, stopped by to see us. Also Steve Yuhasz, Harmon Raybon and wife, Blondell. Most enjoyable time reminiscing! Almost got together with Pete Rice last year when he attended Orlando reunion. I finally established status and whereabouts of my first CO, Col Bill Lange. He is alive and well and just as full of spirit as we knew him 45 yrs. ago. We had a delightful luncheon with him last year as did Cal Polivy, John Van der Meiden and our spouses. Bert Waller, Div. Arty Hq, has not been in touch lately. What a joyful reunion we had with him and his family in San Diego 2 years ago. I've rambled enough. My best wishes and gratitude to you both for your faithfulness in helping to keep the lines of communication open for all these years.

47th Inf. M Co.
BILL KOWALCZYK
30 Marlborough St.
Chicopee, Ma. 01020

On the 4th of July, instead of playing with his sparklers and fire-crackers, Ben Kovacs (Hqs. Co.) called to brag about the wonderful time had by all in Nashville. (Largest crowd ever?) Lately it seems that something always pops up preventing me from attending reunions. This time my brother had a stroke and as the only living relative I had to be prepared for the worst. Also, I must report that an M Co. mini reunion was held at my home on June 20th and the guest of honor was Jerry (Red) Phillips, author of "Heavy Weapons". Jerry was the first to arrive and with a 'straight face' I told him that I called the "Massachusetts connection" but everyone had some excuse for not coming. I never lie, just prevaricate. Later on the guys came dribbling in, consisting of Walt Jezowski, Jim Jamoulis, Bill Koumanelis, Don Case, Stan Petlak and a former I Co. member, Bill Hawkins. Of course there were refreshments including booze and beer. Also Jim Janoulis brought over 4 pizzas and a Greek pasta. He said it was non fattening. Jim owns the Cape Cod Cafe on Main St. in Brockton, Mass., so if any of you are on the east coast, drop in and Jim will treat you regally and the price is right. My best wishes to all.

39th Inf B Co
LUCIEN LUCAS
2312 Eastridge Rd
Lthrl-Timnum, Md. 21093

Thanks for sending me the Octofoil and the information concerning the reunion. We won't be able to make the Nashville reunion but definitely plan to be at the next one. Sorry it's taken me so long to join up again.

84th FA C Btry
HARMON RAYBON
Rt. 1 Box 17
Webb, Ala.

It's been a while since I wrote to the Octofoil and I'm very sorry I let the paper expire. Enclosing dues for 3 years so maybe I won't let it run out again. I have enjoyed it so much in the past. I hope things are fine with you and your family. You have done so much for the association. I don't think all the guys including me appreciate your service as much as we should. Thank you for keeping things alive and going forward. I have just had the best experience of my life. My wife and I just returned from Lake Worth, Fl. where we spent some time with my former battery commander, William Mauser, and his lovely wife. I will always be grateful to him for his concern for his men and his ability as a fine leader. The first thing we did was to go to church with Bill and his family, the First Baptist Church of Lake Worth. The people treated us with that good old southern hospitality. I want to say thanks again, Bill and his family for being so nice.

60th Inf B Co
JOSEPH SAN FILIPPO
22 Simmons Pl.
Wayne, N.J. 07470

I will be at the 1987 reunion and am looking forward to seeing many familiar faces from long ago. After joining the association several years ago I received letters from several friends. Unfortunately (for me), I never answered them. I have now resolved not to let that ever happen again, being recently retired, I will have ample time to do it. Best wishes. Enclosed are my dues and a donation to the Memorial Fund.

15th Engrs. A Co.
ROBERT FREED
26 Strauss St.
Buffalo, N.Y. 14212

Thank you for the letter of June 4th and I am glad you wrote because after all these years I never knew the 9th existed. I served in the 9th in the army of occupation. Enclosed is my life membership in the Association.

60th Inf F Co
JOHN MILLER
1511 Cochise Dr.
Arlington, Tx 76012

I consider it a great honor to receive your card from the convention signed by members of F Co. In my 26 years service I never served with greater men than those of F Co 60th Inf. While you were at the convention I was visiting Ed Pavlich, formerly F Co weapons platoon. I'm sure all ears were burning. I finally found out who drank Capt. Krix's wine while bivouaced at Cork Forest.

47th Inf B Co
GUY LAWRENCE
2036 Mtn. View Terr.
Roanoke, Va. 24015

My wife and I enjoyed the reunion at Nashville and want to congratulate you on what a great job you did. I sat at the table with Don and Mary Murphy. They are the only one's I can remember. That's what happens when you get old. I'm sending a picture of the Rest Center. It was in the Alps with horseback riding and sailing on the lake. We meet Jane and George Bentley from Atlanta. Keep up the good work. God bless you all.

60th Inf M Co
MICHAEL CHICVARA
1611 SW 97th Ct.
Miami, Fl. 33165

Enclosed, please find check for dues for the next three years. The best bargain for thirteen dollars that I have ever spent in my life. I sure am looking forward, for the reunion in June, and also for the mini-reunion on the 23rd, 24th & 25th of June in Sheffield, Alabama, at the Holiday Inn for all the former members of Co. "M" 60th Inf. Directly from that one, it is only two hours to the big one in Nashville. Just a matter of transferring coathangers from one closet to another without packing any suitcases, and having breakfast in Sheffield, and lunch in Nashville. I understand that Curtis "Buck" Buchanan the host in Sheffield has arranged for the "ULTIMATE" in mini-reunions to out-do any preceding or subsequent company re-unions, ever. Knowing him, I believe him. All "M" Co men, please take notice.

15th Engrs C Co
G. VERNON BELL
R#1 Box 129A
Presque Isle, Me. 04769

Oops, when the Jan-Feb. issue of the Octofoil arrived in red ink I decided then and there to send in my dues for 3 years. Also find a donation in memory of Fr. Connors, he sure was a special person. I and my wife met him twice but was very impressed. We want to thank Mary and Ron Murphy for informing us of his passing while we were in Florida. We are now spending the summer in Maine and the winters in Florida. Vernon is still running his business in the summer. Wishing each and everyone a happy and a healthy summer.

TONY (CISCO KID) VARONE
75 9th Ave.
Kings Park, N.Y. 11754

I bet a good time was had by all at the reunion and I am saddened not to have been able to attend. I hope my friend Norman Paternostro of New Orleans reached you (Dan) at Nashville. Your work with the 9th and the Octofoil is great. It keeps you guys busy and your hard work keeps us 9th men and our families happy and well informed about many of our buddies and the happenings throughout our great outfit. I am enclosing a letter I hope you will print in the Octofoil, space permitting. I know I should have written sooner but I always said, "I'll do it tomorrow" and now that tomorrow is here. It would be really wonderful to hear from those men who were a part of our early combat days when we were up against great odds.

Co M 47th Inf
EDWARD LITTLE
233 Schuylkill Ave
Tamaqua, Pa. 18252

It was a pleasure meeting all you fellows at the reunion and reminiscing. Even though I had only met a couple of you overseas, it was an honor to meet the ones I had heard so much about. I was disappointed that the one fellow I knew best, was not there. Do hope he will be at the next one. Come on "Slim La Bar" I would like to hear from you. If any of the fellows get in to this part of the country, please get in touch with me. May the Good Lord take a liking to all of you and make all your pleasures turn into habits.

If mankind is so evolved, then why do we need lobster bibs?

What this country needs is a good five-cent anything.

The deadline for copy of the next issue of the Octofoil will be December 20th

mail call

Hq. 1st Bn. 60th Inf.
CHARLES ALCORN
9264 Harvard
Detroit, MI 48224

At Nashville this year I met and talked with 7 guys who were there when I was there, 41-42 years ago. This was worth the price of admission and -much, much more. The insufficiencies of the Radisson-Plaza facilities was somewhat irritating but nothing that old soldiers couldn't cope with. Lindsey Nelson's talk recreated the spirit of those times; he recounted only his own experiences but with that touch of irony — the essence of the military — to which the rest of us were able to relate our own experiences. Lindsey's closing remarks epitomized the feelings which brought us together and I would like to see them printed in the Octofoil if possible.

On a critical note: I do not feel that the Grand Ole Opry, or any other show, is appropriate for a reunion. You can go to a show anywhere, anytime but you can only see and talk with these guys once a year — if then. The distaff of course were all for it; would it be possible to program some special event distinctively for them, or simply allocate this time for socializing? (In passing: I thought that the show was 3rd rate and I strongly resented the blatant commercials consequent to the simultaneous live broadcast. Our seats in the first row on the extreme right flank gave an excellent worm's-eye enfilade view which would be desirable only if you had shooting in mind. The group presence was only mentioned in passing by one of the performers and nothing was said about the Division. If a show is a must — please, no more Grand Ole Opry.

TO ALL MEMBERS OF 1ST BN. 60TH INF. WHO WERE AT OR AROUND RAGUHN IN APRIL, 1945:

I have 400 ft. of regular 8mm movie film from there which I will be pleased to send to anyone wishing to view it, subject to the following stipulations:

1. Keep it for a reasonable time, up to about 30 days.
2. I will send it registered mail and request it be returned to me, or sent on to the next man, the same way. (No use insuring it as it is irreplaceable.)
3. You will need a regular 8mm projector and screen. (Can be rented if need be.)

Among those that I have been able to identify are John Moore, Bill Adams, Lt. Weakley, Bill Self, the Chaplain, SanFilipo, Doc Hummel, Ted Healey, Lloyd Talent, Leo Williamson, Gen. Craig, Pvt. Hood and another Co. runner. There are several others who I can't identify and some Germans beating the Russians to our side, also the river, the weir, the bridge and some beat-up buildings.

60th Inf D Co
ALEXANDER SMITH
10 S. Rogosin St.
E. Rockingham, N.C. 28379

This is to let all my friends know I am retired and well. Went to visit Charles Walker in Aug., and I know he has a lot of friends he would like to hear from. I would be grateful to anyone who remembers me to drop a line.

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.

60th FA
LEO FEINSTEIN
5613 Ave. T
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11234

I was a member of the fire direction center of the Hq. Btry 60th FA from Ft. Bragg 1942 to sometime in 1945. Then I was sent back to Belgium, France, England and finally home via hospitals. I vaguely remember Col. Adams, Major Hotchefer, Major Elliott, Sgt. Sortino, Sgt. Gordon, S. Dalrymple, Sgt. Eddie Rousse, Cpl. Franks and a Cpl. Dwyer and myself were the fire direction team. I recently joined the VFW and one of the members was in the 9th. He told me about the Association and reading the Octofoil brought back memories. I am joining the Association and hope to get in touch with men who were in the 60th FA Bn.

47th Inf Hq & G Co
SPENCER NORWOOD
635 30th Ave W, #211F
Bradenton, FL 33505

There must have been quite a number of men that came from Camp Wolters, Texas to the 9th Division, Mersey, Mosell, Prosnick, Quinlan and myself came together in late August 1942. Moore, Sobleski, Melanson and some others came just before us. Some moments that stay alive in my mind, from the town of Safi to Dessau, landing in downtown Safi in the dark and not knowing what to expect. Guarding a German plane that was shot down in Kassarine Pass, heading into the El Guet-tar battle, going through the brush and hills of northern Tunisia, heading for Bizerte. Starting out at night to attack toward Cesaro, Sicily, wading ashore on Utah Beach. Most of G Co starting down a highway on the way to cutting the Cotenin Peninsula and getting shelled and machine gunned while out in the open. Fighting for each hedgerow on the way to St. Lo breakthrough. The Huertgen Forest. Two of our I & R jeeps going with Col. Smythe in to Monschau in the first day of the bulge. Fighting up to and taking the first dam, crawling along for half a day and watching the Remagen Bridge being bombed and shelled and wondering what it will be like when it is our turn to cross and many more hair raising experiences during this period. Thanks for doing such a good job with the Octofoil. We all enjoy it.

84th FA
WALTER RICKER
Rt 8 Box 440A
Greeneville, Tn. 37743

I just recently received my first copy of The Octofoil. I enjoyed it so much and look forward to reading it in the future. It was so good to read about men with whom I served in the Ninth Infantry. I still remember all the guys and remember them being great men.

It is with regret that I waited so long to write. Please find enclosed a check for \$13 (3 year membership).

I am retired now, living with my wife on a little farm in East Tennessee. I have 3 married daughters and 7 grandchildren.

From the beginning of the war, I served from Ft. Bragg, N.C. I would love to hear from any men who served in the 84th FA.

Again, I appreciate receiving The Octofoil and look forward to hearing from my old buddies.

Hq Div Arty
BERT WALLER
12944 Camino del Valle
Poway, Ca. 92064

You and all the others responsible did a very fine job in handling the Nashville reunion. Especially, this is true in view of the large number who came without advance registration. Nashville was an easy place in which to feel comfortable and I'm sure, on balance, everyone had a good time. Enjoyed visiting with everybody and in particular those from Div Arty. Hope the West gets a chance at one of the future reunions. Like San Diego?

60th Inf B Co
STEPHAN URBANYI
1085 Eastbrook Dr
Perrysburg, Ohio 43551

Sorry I missed the reunion in Nashville but I was deep in the process of buying and moving in to my present address. Regards to all.

DOC BALDINI
220 Esty St.
Ithaca, N.Y. 14850

It was a nice reunion. I'm only sorry that the banquet seats were all sold out. See you in Worcester.

60th Inf
AL SEELEY
240-08 144th Ave.
Rosedale, N.Y. 11422

Do not know if you have been advised of Paul Drummond's passing. He had been with the 60th from the beginning at Ft. Bragg. I believe he attended the reunions more than I did. I have enclosed a donation for the Memorial Fund in Paul's name.

2 Bn Hq & Hq Co 60th Inf
CARL HULL
1022 S. Eli Dr.
Tucson, AZ 85710

Just a note to forward this information on Bill Lovejoy in case the family doesn't get around to do so.

I met Bill thirty years ago when we first moved here after meeting a couple of his buddies at the Chicago reunion just before we came. He was a fine gentleman and very active in Civic affairs and will be very much missed by all.

I just wanted this to be included in "Taps" for his friends.

26th FA Bn Hq Btry
W. DONALD ROLAR
105 Oak Lane
Shippensburg, Pa.

I was glad to be at the Memorial service in Worcester after an absence of several years, but was unable to be in Nashville this year. I will be at Camp Hill, Pa. in 1987, that is less than 40 miles from my home. There are lots of activities for those who attend this reunion. Best wishes.

60th Inf Serv Co.
LESTER COOK
Box 273
Oakfield, Wi. 53065

Enclosed are dues for 3 years. Thanks for the Octofoil with the info on the reunion. Looking forward to it.

47th Inf M Co
CONDA KNEE
625 Ridgefield Rd.
Newark, Ohio 43055

I have been informed by Jesse Davis that you are the secretary of the association. Enclosed is a check for 3 years. I was a member from the time it was organized up to 1954 and somehow fell by the wayside. I have been in touch with Red Phillips after 41 years and it was good to talk with him. Would appreciate hearing from former members of M Co. Looking forward to receiving the Octofoil.

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

Thought I'd drop a few lines and answer John Celler. There are some of us around who remember the Huertgen Forst and the crossroads, also the V-1 tracks while at Camp Elsenborn and the day one of them fell on the company and wiped out the 4th platoon. As I remember, only one man was left not dead or injured, a sergeant who was up the hill in the chow lines as seconds were offered. I keep in touch with my squad leader, Tom Lovello. He was better known then as Sgt. Brooklyn. He now lives in Farmingdale, NY. Early in April, my wife and I took a trip to Tahiti. We were on Tahiti for 3 days and then had a 7 day cruise of the French Polynesian Islands including Bora Bora. I have seen references made to the book "The Battle of the Huertgen Forst" by Charles MacDonald. I have had a copy of it for 20 years and highly recommend it to anyone. It gives the story in great detail and one finds out what was going on in the whole area. It was good to see a note from another B-60th man. Keep them coming. I began to think I was the only one who wrote in, tho that hasn't been too often.

47th Inf B Co
PETER LESHKO
11940 301 N Lot 53
Thono, Fl 33592

Sure was good to hear from you and I enjoy the Octofoil very much. I lived in Martinsville and worked at the Lyons VA hospital for 17 years. Then I moved here to Florida to help open the VA at Tampa and after 11 years I retired. I am looking to buy a division history book and thought maybe someone has one or knows where I can get my hands on one. I would like to read where I spent my time when I was in uniform. Thank you.

47th Inf.
WILLIAM KLAUZ
1510 York Ave.
New York, N.Y. 10021

Bill sends word that he is up and feeling much better and also thanks all the members for their get well wishes. He is home now.

26th FA Serv. Btry.
C. JACK STRUBEL
367 Kaimake Loop
Kailua, HI 96734

Enclosed is my application and check for \$5.00 dues for one year.

I believe I was one of the first replacements allowing men with sufficient points to be sent home. At the time of my assignment to Service Battery 26th Field Artillery 9th Infantry, I was one rank below private, that of yard bird and only 20 years old making the great salary of \$50.00 per month plus O.S. pay.

Somehow, either I or my records were processed giving me the Central European battle star with the ETO ribbon.

Thank you for the latest edition of the Octofoil publication. I especially enjoyed the article about the 26th Field Service Battery by Joseph A. McKenzie.

Sorry I won't be able to attend the reunion. Perhaps another time when it is closer to Hawaii.

P.S. I was under the impression that the motto of the 9th Inf. Div. was "Hitler's Nemesis".

1987 Reunion in Camp Hill, Penn

47th Inf.
GEN. EDWIN RANDLE
503 Althea Rd.
Clearwater, Fl. 33516

Nurse Ann Malone writes, "the General thanks F Co. 47th men very much for the flowers, they were very nice. If all goes well, he is going to the 9th division meeting in November, that is if she can make it also."

39th AT
PAUL DAVIS
988 4th St.
Beaver, Pa. 15009

Was going through some old photos and came across this one of the 39th AT. It was taken at Barton Stacey, Eng. Thought some of the old gang would be interested. Top row:- Shaw, Cottrell, Pagan, Pizarick, Davis, D'Alvia, Ferguson, Allen. Bottom row:- McCullough, Rivelli, Fowler, Tucat, Demesko, Reynolds. Just returned from a trip west where we visited Fort Lewis, Wa. and saw where the 9th is being trained and also the museum.

60th Inf. 2nd Bn. Hqs.
JOHN COMPEL
2020 Barnsdale
McKeesport, Pa. 15132

Enclosed are my dues for the next 3 years and a little extra for the Memorial Fund. Didn't make the reunion this year, but sure will be at the 1987 one.

60th Inf. B Co.
JOHN LAMMIE
109 Concord Ave.
New Port Richey, Fl. 33552

I enjoy receiving the Octofoil and while reading it a couple of months ago, I noticed an article from a Leroy Angel asking for information about his father. His father was killed in France, but he had been a member of C Co. 60th Inf. We had been friends while in England and Leroy married an English girl a few days before we left England. In my last letter to Leroy, Jr., I sent him my copy of the Go Devils book. I also received copies of some snapshots taken in Europe. D.E. Honeycutt sent them to me and they brought back memories. I haven't been to a reunion as my health has not been too good but I hope to get to one soon. Keep up the good work and say hello to all.

47th Inf. M. Co.
HOWARD GAERTNER
2452 N. 93rd. St.
Wauwatosa, Wi. 53226

After reading Jerry Phillips' letter regarding M-47 in the May-June-July '86 issue of the Octofoil, I decided it was about time for me to become better acquainted with the members of the Association.

Since I've been a member of the Association for only a year, I've got some catching up to do. However, at this point in time, I do hope that Jerry has been able to count me among the survivors.

A span of forty-two years can really tarnish one's power of retention. But, if my memory serves me correctly, I was assigned to the machine gun section of M Company 47th Infantry after the fall of Cherbourg and recall somewhat vividly that the subsequent days and weeks were indeed grueling. My association with M-47 ended September 6, 1944.

Perhaps there are some comrades active in the Association who can better call to mind the events of those times. If so, I would appreciate hearing from them.

Lord willing, I'll make every effort to attend the next reunion.

MAIL CALL

39th Inf. C Co.
CARLOS WARD
10280 Eaton Pike
New Lebanon, Ohio 45345

A few lines to let you know my wife, Millie, and I enjoyed the reunion in Nashville and seeing old friends again. We meet new ones from the company each year and I hope to get a chance to contact each one and try to have a large group for the next reunion. I'm sending a picture of the ones that were at Nashville. There were some I hadn't seen for 43 years and sure was good to be together again. If there are any of the old gang out there that read this note and see the picture, join us at the next reunion. The good Lord willing, I'll be there.

60th Inf. Hq. Co. 2nd Bn.
AMBROSE WILKENS
RR Box 249
Nauvoo, IL 62354

Enclosed find dues for 3 more years. We are planning to attend the 1987 reunion at Camp Hill. We were very sorry to hear of the death of Paul Drummond. Had seen him at the reunion in Fayetteville. Always enjoy reading the Octofoil.

39th Inf. L Co.
RICHARD KRESS
657 W. Harrison St.
Alliance, Ohio 44601

Thanks for the memories of the 41st reunion. This was the first I attended. Had a wonderful time and was able to come in contact with 1 member from L Co. We were on the B.A.R. team together. First time we saw each other in 43 years! His name is Martin Shankman, 4750 Alahambra Ci., Coral Gables, FL 33146. I want to thank a good buddy for all of this happening. He called and told me about the Octofoil and I in turn went over to his house and read his copy of the Octofoil. It was then I decided to join the association. He and his wife were going to the reunion and asked if I would like to go with them. I don't know how to thank these good people. His name is Vincent Marsh (of K Co. 39th), 22138 Hartley Rd., Alliance, Ohio 44601. The sad part is he didn't get to see anyone he knew from his outfit. Maybe some of his buddies will see this and contact him. See you in 1987, in Pa.

39th Inf. H Co.
GEORGE HARRIS
2412 Ramblewood Dr.
District Hts., Md. 20747

I just joined the Ninth Infantry Division Association. My son sent me the Octofoil (Jan. & Feb.). As soon as I received it I joined. My son was also in H. Co. 39th Inf. in Vietnam.

I joined the 9th October, 1940, and stayed until Sept. 1945. I didn't know anything about the Association until my son told me about it.

I went back to Germany last Sept. I have two sons over there. I went to Remagen and saw what was left of the bridge. I'm sending a picture of the bridge and Gen. Patton's grave, which is in Luxenberg.

I'd like to hear from some of the fellows from H. Co., and I'd like to know where I could get history of the 39th Infantry or 9th Div. history. If anyone can help me I sure would be grateful.

There is a story about the Remagen bridge. They took the pillars out of the river and broke all the stones in small pieces and sold them on the river bank. They made a peace

museum in one of the towers. They have video tape and it tells how the bridge was taken. I hope to see you at Camp Hill next year.

60th FA A Btry.
MICHAEL PATRICK
156 Austin Ave.
Tappan, N.Y. 10983

Late in 1985 I wrote to the Octofoil asking for information or advice since my wife Anne and I were planning a trip to Europe hopefully to retrace a portion of the 9th Division route in 1944 & 1945. The response was excellent. I heard from Lou Prince and Mike Belmonte. Also a telephone call from Walter Quigley from California, all former 60th FA men. Also letters from Ronald Frank of the 47th and a letter from Scotty Hirst of the 60th Inf. Scotty wrote from Germany where he now makes his home. To all of you, our sincere thanks. Although our trip was delayed, we did make the trip last month, arriving in London on the 7th of Sept. and returning from Munich on the 20th. We spent 3 days in London and enjoyed every minute since our eldest son Michael was with us and since one of his college majors was European history he was an unofficial guide. Following London, a train ride to Portsmouth, then by ferry across the channel to Cherbourg. From Cherbourg, by auto, we went to Utah Beach, St. Mere Eglise, Carantan, St. Lo, Vire, Argentan, Laigle, Dreux, Versailles and on to Paris. We spent quite some time near Omaha Beach at the American cemetery at St. Laurent, this was for all of us and particularly to me a very emotional experience. As we walked slowly about this large beautiful resting place of our fallen comrades, I noticed that some of our men from the 9th are buried here, one of whom was Henry Lizon of A Btry. 60th FA, also Smith C. Griffin 60th Inf., Albert Nagy, 47th Inf. We took many pictures around the area and if anyone may be interested, please contact me. From Paris we continued on, after another son, Gregory and his wife Marla joined us. We drove to Verdun and Nancy in France, stayed overnight at Serrebourg and traveled through the Black Forest in W. Germany to Munich. While in the Munich area we went to Garmisch and to the Dachau concentration camp. We returned home satisfied with our trip but very tired. Thanks again to all of you who took the time to offer your help and advice. In another vein, we recently saw Al Friedmier of A Btry 60th Fa. He will be going with us to Worcester for the memorial service on Nov. 9th. Enclosed find dues plus something for the Memorial Fund in Fr. Connors memory.

47th Inf M Co
WILTON TAYLOR
Stop 6 Star Rte
McKittrick, Ca. 93251

Hope you and your family are in good health and that you had a good summer. We had heat sometimes of 107%! Tell all the fellows "hello" of the 47th and all 9th units also. Henry Phillips wrote that he was in Nashville and saw quite a few of the guys including Col. Bill Horan. Both have long years of service, after leaving the 9th, including Foreign service. Thanks for your detail editing and best wishes to all.

9th MP's
PRESTON STILLINGS
RR 1 Box 2BF
Daphne, AL 36526

After seeing Adolph Wadalavage's picture in the Octofoil, I thought I would share one of his favorite stories. Near the end of the war, our quartermaster got lost or was on vacation. One morning our top sergeant announced that the MP platoon was without rations. The platoon had its own kitchen, but usually it was near division headquarters. I asked my sergeant if I had his permission, while on patrol that morning, to find or hunt available rations. As I had just made corporal I thought I would get words of wisdom. He told me he could not authorize me to do this. My jeep driver went by the name of Trybala. Along about midmorning that jeep led us to a farm. Most farm hands were Poles. Guess who could speak Polish? We soon learned that the owners of this farm had not turned in all of their weapons. Among these was a beautiful shotgun. The owner consented for us to turn his weapons in. We also learned that there were 26 hens and 1 turkey that had not surrendered. We took all of them prisoners and went back to the CP. Now it happened that our kitchen was acting as a POW cage for this type of prisoner. After turning our prisoners over to the proper authorities we left. Shortly afterward the prisoners tried to escape and were killed. We heard later that our kitchen had a lot of guests from division headquarters for lunch. I was not allowed to send the shotgun home but the Lieutenant said I could have a big Nazi flag. Sorry I didn't get to Nashville. Hope to see everybody next year.

47th Inf G Co
HERMON RAHN
5599 New Hendersonville Hwy.
Pisgah Forest, N.C. 28768

I enjoyed our reunion in Nashville very much. It was another great one even though when I went to register, I could not get a ticket to anything because I did not pre-register! That did not dampen my spirits one bit. I went looking for old buddies and found them and met some new ones. I also met Mrs. Ann Dean and her mother, Myrtle. This to me is what the reunion is all about. There was no way I was going back home until it was all over. There is no way I am leaving this association. I want my Octofoil every time it is due. I enjoy reading the letters from all the soldiers and once in a while find a letter from another G Co buddy, with whom I served. I could not explain how delighted I was when I received my last Octofoil and the first letter I saw was written by Robert Mathis whom I had tried to locate since 1982 when I first found out about the association. My good buddy, Edwin Brewer of L Co 60th, found one of his company buddies at Nashville and what a meeting! My buddy, Frank Crapanzano of AT 60th, attends the reunions to see buddies from other companies, so let's all hang in there with our association and don't say quit. No one said it during the war. I admire Pat Morano and Art Stenzel because they speak their mind and keep coming to the reunions. Wherever the reunion is held, if we have an overflow crowd, let's just say that one sure was a success even if we have to put the chairs and tables in the street! I want to wish the best to you, Dan and Marie and also to all of my old G Co buddies and to all the men of the great 9th division!

JOHN J. CLOUSER
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60th Inf.
MIKE KAUFFMAN
4466 Abinadi Road
Salt Lake City, Utah 84214

Barney Ingebretsen (Service Co-60th Inf.) and I (2nd Bn 60th Inf.) attended the recent reunion in Nashville and enjoyed everything except the heat, humidity, and the competition of other tourists for facilities, transportation, and attractions.

We strongly recommend that our reunions be held in the Spring or Fall when it is cooler, and the resort hotels are less crowded.

Most of us are retired and no longer have to plan vacations when the kids are out of school. In addition, most resorts have their peak season in the summer months, and a large convention like ours could probably have its pick of the best places at attractive prices.

We don't know how the Site Committee selects the place and time for our conventions, but an informal poll of some twenty members, taken at Nashville indicated strong support for this suggestion.

We suggest that the Board of Governors take a poll of the membership at large to determine if this recommendation has any merit.

It was heartening to see many of our old buddies at the reunion, and my wife's comment after sitting in on many bull sessions was "well, you all fought WW II for the second time, and the 9th Division won it again."

Thanks to everyone who contributed to making this a memorable occasion.

47th Inf Co I
LEWIS J. MELE
14 Hi-Vue Dr.
Newburgh, N.Y. 12550

I enjoy reading the Octofoil and you are doing a great job. To Co I, 47th men I would like to hear from the 1st Sgt and Sgt Martin from Yonkers, N.Y. We three got hit about the same time on Sept. 6, 1944 in Belgium and were operated on at the same time. Where is Lt. Kent? He recommended the Silver Star in Aug. 1944 and I never received it.

60th Inf. L Co.
WALTER FARLEIGH
RFD #3 Box 3258
Bangor, Pa. 18013

Enclosed find dues for 3 years and a couple of dollars for the Memorial Fund in memory of a good friend Carroll T. Williams who lost his life in the first attack after we crossed the Remagen bridge. I also want to thank you for a job well done as secretary of the association. There's a question I would like answered — Who was the NCO in Hurtgen forest, that was eating a hot meal of frankfurters and ketchup and bent over because of incoming mail and when he straightened up looked down and seen ketchup on the front of his shirt, go up and ran like h--- for the CP because he thought he was shot? I hope someone answers this for me because it has been on my mind for over 40 years. This is true because I was sitting directly across from him. I'll sign off now hoping I'll get an answer. See you at the next reunion.

47th Inf D Co
GABRIEL KORMOS
200 Cindy Lane
Zephyrhills, FL 34248

I didn't know of the association until a short time ago. I met this fellow in Ocala, FL., with the 9th insignia on his cap and we started talking. He was in the 60th and his name is Cole Gronseth. He was nice enough to send me some copies of the Octofoil and even though I don't recognize any names, one did catch my eye because his name sounded Hungarian (I am also) and practically lives around the corner. His name is Julius Andradi from 47th AT. My wife and I stopped in to visit with Julius and his wife, and they are delightful! I have a feeling we will be seeing more of them. I was in the 9th from start to finish. Am planning to attend the next reunion and hopefully get to see some buddies.

39th Inf B Co
PAUL R. SAPP
POB 34
Hoboken, Ga. 31542

I would like to take time out to say I am very proud of the old 9th. Sending my membership dues along with this letter. I joined the 9th in 1940 when it was still in Tent City, and left it in Dec. 1944. Look forward to being a member of the association.

47th Inf Med Det
C.B. BAKER
2001 Oakland Ave.
Johnson City, TN. 37601

I would like to enroll my good friend Kent Herrin who served with the 9th Signal in Africa and Sicily. He needs to receive the Octofoil to learn of his friends in the 9th. It has been my intention for some time to do this. But have kept putting it off for one reason or another. His address is 1307 Lone Oak Rd., Johnson City, TN. 37601. Orion Shockley will be glad to get him in the fold as they are in touch with each other.

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

Just a few lines to let everyone know I missed the reunion in Nashville! I had planned to be there but a serious family illness just 2 days prior to departure prevented me from doing so! This would have been a first time reunion and I was crushed after planning for a year, maybe next time. Now the serious part of this letter, I need help in trying to obtain a roster of L Co 60th Inf fellers that were in North Africa from Nov. 8, 1941 to March 1942. Can any of you old reliables help as to where, how or whom I can contact as to status, such as KIA, wounded or MIA of Co L fellers. As I plan to write a short story of the good times and bad times as told by the Willies and Joes of Co L, the funny stuff, their combat experiences, their views of what they felt, the things that happened to their buddies. Any Co L photos or photos of any Co L boys or any information will be appreciated and would be returned guaranteed. Best regards to all 9th men.