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9th Infantry Division Association

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The Octofoil, January/February 1992

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N. J. 07087

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Volume Number 1 Jan-Feb 1992

COMMITTEE MEMBERS 1992 REUNION - 9th DIV. Fayetteville, Fort Bragg

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Bob DeSandy
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28387
1-919-695-3042

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412 Gregory Ave.
Weehawken, NJ
078087
1-201-866-8195

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94107

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1161 S. Lombard
Oak Park, IL 60304
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Al Perna

2642 S. Juniper St.
Philadelphia, PA
19148
1-215-467-2159

All members of the Board of Governors

MEMORIAL PROGRAM:

George Brown
Rte. #1 Box 142
Freehold, NY 12431
1-518-634-7109

GOLF:

Frank Rankin
201 Willowside Dr.
Mt. Holly, NC 18120

Bob DeSandy

Bob DeSandy

Fort Bragg Reunion dates June 11, 12, 13

As we go to press with the Jan-Feb issue of the Octofoil the Reunion Committee reports that they have received over 300 Pre-registration requests for Strip Tickets. For those attending their first reunion the Strip Tickets are for the three day reunion and this includes the Thursday night get together with refreshments. The Friday Memorial Service, bus fare to Ft. Bragg, with lunch at the Officers Mess Hall and the Friday night Dance and get together. Saturday the business of the Association will be conducted in the morning with the Banquet held in the evening. The price for the three days is \$55.00. If purchased separately the price will be \$5.00 for registration and \$10.00 on Thursday night welcome party, \$10.00 for the bus to the Memorial Service, \$10.00 for the Luncheon and \$10.00 for the Friday night get together and dance. The Banquet will be \$30.00 per ticket, for a total of \$75.

The Reunion Committee knew in advance that there weren't any hotels in Fayetteville that could accommodate the number of people expected to attend. Several hotels had to be used and so the Association will provide transportation to and from the hotels. This has been a big bone of contention when the committee tries to select a hotel that will accommodate all of our people under one roof. The other bone rattler is the banquet on Saturday night - not too many hotels can accommodate our group at times around 1000 people. Do hope the members will try to understand the situation.

Pre-Register now and be assured of having tickets for the Welcoming Party on Thursday night, the Friday Dance and the Saturday Banquet. (see page 2)

Veterans Awards.

The committee consisting of Larry McLughlin, Chairmen, Henry Santos and Adolph Wadalavage have been busy for the last several years making awards or donations in the Name of the Ninth Infantry Division Association to any VA Hospital or nursing homes for veterans.

Anyone with a request for such funds are asked to write to:

Larry McLughlin
73 Gould Street,
Wakefield, Mass 01880

Henry Santos
9811 Connechusetts
Tampa, Fla 33616

Adolph Wadalavage
94 36 96th St.
Ozone Park, NY 11416

Requests should be received in advance of the Reunion in order to give the committee time for consideration.

Deadline for next issue April 20th

LADIES CORNER

Well, are you ready? Ready for another fun and fact-filled Auxiliary meeting in June, in North Carolina? I hope so, and I have more details on it for you. First, to refresh your memory, it will be held on Saturday, June 13, 1992 at 9:30 AM, in The Holiday Inn Bordeaux. The cost will be \$10.00 (make your checks out to: Ladies Auxiliary, 9th Div. Assn. and mail them to me, Ellie Taubner, at the address below) and for that, we will have a bountiful Brunch consisting of:

Assorted Fruit Juices
Danish/Croissants/
Assorted Muffins
Array of Fresh Fruit Bowls
Eggs Benedict
Crepes a la Reine
Rice Pilaf

Broccoli and Carrot Mix
Coffee, Decaf, Tea, Milk

Sounds good, doesn't it? After that, we will see a show arranged for us by a Representative from Belk's Department Store in Fayetteville. Complete details on the show are not yet available. We will end with our annual meeting and Pollyanna Raffle. Those of you who attended last year's meeting in September in Milwaukee, will remember what a great time we all had, from the food to the show, so please get your money into me as quickly as possible. The capacity of our room is only 125, and, as usual, the rule is first come, first served.

In lieu of admission tickets, I will mail to you, who send in \$10.00 checks, a post card with a confirmation number on it. Please save the card and bring it with you in June. Thank you.

With that finished, we will go on to other business. 1) We need Pollyanna gifts - something nice, cute, inexpensive, and/or useful, wrapped up, to be raffled off, with all proceeds going into our Auxiliary Treasury. 2) We need suggestions for donations to Veterans Hospitals/Homes near you or which you know about. Lastly, we need Volunteers to help us sell Pollyanna Raffle tickets, and tickets on our Big Raffle. Think on it, please?

As for my ongoing features on "Friends"; of necessity in this column, I must be brief. At this coming meeting, I hope to see a few old friends (besides my very old 47th, B Company ones), especially Elva Slagle and Marlene Sanchez. I met Elva while standing on line for the Auxiliary Luncheon in Harrisburg, Penna. in 1987. We sat together and have managed to see each other at all subsequent Reunions, renewing our friendship. It would seem strange not to see Elva at a Reunion. Marlene Sanchez, I also remember from the 1987 Reunion, always there, always active, and doing her part to help our group's efforts.

Thanks for the memories, Ladies. In the next column, I'll spotlight Ruth Lees and Wanda Preston, unless you have some Ladies you would like to tell us about. OK? Take care now, and send those checks to me. Keep in touch and I'll see you in June.
Ellie Tauber, Treasurer
85 Smith Avenue
Bergenfield, NJ 07621

Speaker at Memorial Services



B.G. Frank L. Gunn, former Bn Commander of the 39th Infantry will be the speaker at the Memorial Services this summer at Fort Bragg.

Brig. Gen. Frank L. Gunn speaker at the Memorial Services to be held at the Reunion on June 12, 1992, was a former Bn Commander of the 39th Infantry. Frank began his career with the Ninth in 1941 as a 2nd Lt. and ended up being a Battalion Commander when the war ended. He participated in eight Campaigns while with the Ninth and after the war ended he returned to the United States and reported for duty as a Battalion Commander at the US Army Infantry Replacement Training Center, Fort McClellan, Alabama. In 1946 he received a Regular Army Commission and assigned as a Regular Army instructor with the South Carolina National Guard.

He was then stationed in Okinawa and in 1950 was assigned as Chief of the Comptrollers Management Division. Returning to the USA in 1951 he attended Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Upon graduation in 1952 he was assigned to faculty of the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia. In August of 1961 General Gunn assumed the duties of the Chief of Staff of the 1st Cavalry Division in Korea. Returning to the US he continued with Schooling and was promoted to Brigadier General in August 1964. In 1968 he was designated Assistant Division Commander of the 9th Infantry Division in Vietnam thus after an absence of 26 years he returned to the unit in which he first served as a Second Lieutenant.

Brig. Gen. Gunn returned to the United States in 1970 and reported to Headquarters of the United States Continental Army Command at Fort Monroe, Virginia. He retired from the Army in 1971.

1992 REUNION PROGRAM

THURSDAY, JUNE 11th

REGISTRATION..... 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
GOLF OUTING..... 9:00 AM
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING..... 4:00 PM
OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION..... 8:00 PM - 11:30 PM

FRIDAY, JUNE 12th

REGISTRATION..... 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
BUS ASSEMBLY..... 9:00 AM
MEMORIAL - FORT BRAGG..... 10:00 AM
LUNCH - FORT BRAGG..... 12:00 PM-Noon
DANCE..... 8:00 PM - 11:30 PM

SATURDAY, JUNE 13th

REGISTRATION..... 9:00 AM -Noon
LADIES BRUNCH AND MEETING..... 9:30 AM
BUSINESS AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS..... 9:45 AM
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING..... 11:00 AM
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING..... 3:00 PM
BANQUET..... 6:30 PM

THE OCTOFOIL
Form 2579 should be sent to
412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087
Octofoil Associated Editors
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National Officers
President
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110 Hollywood Avenue
Metuchen, N.J. 08840

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

Pat DeColli, 2nd VP
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Phila. Pa 19148

Fran Maher, 3rd VP
14 Davenport St.
Worcester, MA 01610

Dave Heller
Judge Advocate
616 Sumac Rd.
Highland Pk, IL 60036

Thomas Boyle, Treasurer
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Daniel Quinn, Secretary
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Weehawken, NJ 07087

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E. Boston, MA

1994
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Howard Gaertner
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Scituate, MA
Leonard Tomassone
Pennsauken, NJ

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 ever-lasting 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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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..... \$10.00 ☐

Sustaining Member.....

Donation Memorial Scholarship Fund..... ☐

THREE-YEAR MEMBER..... \$25.00 ☐

Life Membership..... \$75.00 ☐

Ladies Auxiliary Member..... \$ 2.00 ☐

Decals..... 50- each

60th Hist..... \$ 2.50 (incl. post.)

Please credit the following chapter:

Philly-Delaware Valley ☐ Greater New York ☐
Illinois ☐ Washington, D.C. ☐
New England ☐ Michigan ☐
Florida ☐ New Jersey ☐
Texas ☐

Ladies Auxiliary Ninth Infantry Division Association Membership Application

Ellie Taubner, Treasurer, Ladies Auxiliary
Ninth Infantry Division Association
85 Smith Avenue, Bergenfield, N.J. 07621

Enclosed please find dues for:

Name.....

Street Address.....

City..... State..... Zip.....

My spouse (Brother or relative)

Served with.....

One year..... \$2.00

Credit Chapter.....

Room Reservations

Holiday Inn
BORDEAUX Welcomes

1707 Owen Drive, Fayetteville, NC 28304
(919) 323-0111
800-325-0211

A confirmation of your reservation
will be mailed to you.

Reservation Deadline **MAY 21, 1992**

Group name: **Ninth Infantry Division Association**

Dates: **June 11, 12, 13, 1992**

*Group reservations deadline: **MAY 21, 1992**

Arrival date: _____

Number of nights you will stay: _____

Number of people in room: _____

Approx. arrival time: _____

(check in 3 p.m., check out 12:00 noon)

Method of transportation: _____

☐ Car ☐ Air ☐ Other

*Please Note: Special conference rates are based on reservation deadline. After this date, all subsequent reservations will be subject to availability and current hotel room rates.

Check here _____ if rollaway in needed (\$10.00 ea.).

*If rate requested is not available, the next available rate will be assigned. To secure lowest available rate, early response is suggested.

Print or Type

Name _____ Company/Group _____
(last) (first) (initial)

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____ Sharing room with: _____

Special Requests: ☐ Prefer non-smoking ☐ Other (specify) _____
() Every attempt will be made to honor your request, however we cannot guarantee a special request.)

To guarantee your reservation we require first night's deposit or credit card guarantee. Include 8.0% total tax with deposit.

DO NOT SEND CASH. Make check or money order payable to Holiday Inn Bordeaux.

☐ Credit Card # _____
Type: _____ Exp.: _____
☐ Check # _____ Amount _____
(signature) (date)

Special Conference Rates (circle accommodations desired)*				
	1 Double Bed	2 Double Beds	King	Concierge Floor
Single (1 person)	\$52	\$52		
Double (2 people)	\$52	\$52		
Triple (3 people)				
Quad (4 people)				
Suites				
	\$ \$135 & up. Phone hotel directly if suite is desired.			

The following methods of payment are acceptable to guarantee your guest room. We accept Visa, Master Card, American Express, Diners/C.B., Discover, Holiday Inn Inc., and JCB.

DON'T BE A NO-SHOW!

To cancel your reservations call toll free 1-800-235-0211 or 1-919-323-0111. Deposit refunded only if reservation is cancelled 7 days prior to arrival and you have your cancellation number.

Tip of the Hat

The following members remembered by contributing to the Memorial Fund.
We salute you.

Walter J. Labaj

Milton Zucker

Bert Waller

Siegfried Runheimer

David M. Sanner - Memory of Carlton McCall.

Anonymous - Memory of Maj. Gen. George Smythe, Brig. Gen. Edwin Randle, Capt. Jesse Niven (D Co. 47th Inf.) Capt. Anthony DeLaura (1st Bn. Chaplain).

Michael Deresh - In memory of Gerge Bako.

Warren Evans

Robert A. Watts

Lawrence P. Vinci - In memory of Lt. Berend Albers.

Rev. Earl Goss

Richard McGrath - In memory of B Co. 15th Engrs.

Robert McGoldrick - In memory of John Rafferty, Hq. 9th Div. Arty. (K.I.A.).

Frank Duenas

Richard McGrath - In memory of Fred D'Amore.

Dr. Martin Gross - In memory of Dr. Abraham Kaufman.

Louis Prince - In memory of Charles Alcorn.

John Caughey

Salvatore Albanese

William Rybka



Pre-Registration Procedure Forty-Seventh Annual Reunion June 11, 12, 13, 1992

Pre-Registration for all the events (Strip) Tickets will be used again this year at the Forty-Seventh Reunion and the 50th Anniversary of the Ninth leaving Ft. Bragg.

1. Fill out the Pre-Registration Form provided below.
2. Write a check or money order to The Ninth Infantry Reunion Committee for the full amount of the tickets.
3. Mail the Pre-Registration Form and the check or money order to Daniel Quinn, 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087.
4. You will receive a confirmation Card Receipt.
5. This Card Receipt must be presented at the Reunion Pre-Registration Desk to pick up the tickets, program and registration packet.
6. Cancellation of Pre-Registrations will be honored for a full refund if received before June 1st. Cancellations received after June 1st, will have a partial refund.
7. To Cancel a Pre-Registration, contact Dan Quinn at 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N.J. 07087 or telephone 201-866-8195 prior to June 1, 1992. After June 5th, call the Holiday Inn at Fayetteville, North Carolina, 800-325-0211 and leave a message to Dan Quinn or Bob DeSandy.
8. Pre-Register now and be assured of having tickets for the Welcoming Party on Thursday night, the Friday Dance and the Saturday Banquet.

Pre-Registration Form Forty-Seventh Annual Reunion June 11, 12, 13, 1992 Fayetteville, North Carolina

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Guest Names _____

Telephone _____ Unit in the Ninth _____

All Event (Strip) Tickets: Quantity _____ at \$55.00 each
Total _____

☐ Please check if you are a Gold Star Wife or Members Widow or Family

If at all possible please send separate checks for dues and pre-registration for the Reunion Strip Tickets.

Attention All Duffers
Those interested in playing golf on Thursday morning, June 11, 1992 at the Course arranged by the Reunion Committee are requested to contact Bob DeSandy. Tee off time will be at 9:00 AM and Bob would like to know how many people are going to play. He had to make the necessary arrangements. Bob's address is 109 Canterbury Rd., Southern Pines, N.C. 28387.

47th Inf. A Co.
WARREN EVANS
251 W. 6th Street
Grafton, N.D. 58237

It is impossible to give priority when we have lost a friend and comrade or a family member thereof.

We love them all, one as much as another.

Enclosed is a token of my feeling in my hopes that we will never forget.

ORLANDO FLORIDA SITE OF FLORIDA CHAPTER SPRING MEETING

The Florida Chapter will hold its Spring Meeting at the Ramada Hotel Resort, 7400 International Drive in Orlando, Florida on April 2, 3, 4 with departure on Sunday April 5, 1992.

Henry Santos is the Chairman of this affair. He has made arrangements for an "Early-Bird" Italian dinner for Thursday night at Caruso's Palace...Orlando's Landmark Italian Ristorante, on International Drive. For Friday, the members will attend a new show entitled "Mardi Gras." Then on Saturday will be the Business Meeting at 10:00 A.M. and a 3 entree buffet on Saturday evening.

These Florida Chapter Meetings are enjoyable "mini-reunions." The Hospitality Room will be well stocked with drinks and other goodies. All Florida Chapter dues paying members will receive (or perhaps have already received) complete information including the order form in plenty of time before the April 2nd date. If any member has not received his invitation, please contact Henry Santos, 9811 Connechuset Rd. N. Tampa, FL 33617. Phone: (813/985-5444).

Any 9th Infantry Division veteran who served with the 9th in World War II is cordially invited to attend. For further information, contact Henry Santos or Emil J. De Donato, Secretary, FL Chapter.

Emil J. De Donato
3650 S. W. Mosswood St.
Dunnellon, FL., 32630
(904) 489-4070

A Btry 60th F.A. Bn. Newsletter

We lost another one, Edward Wardzala, left us on October 30, 1991. His sister returned my Christmas Card with the sad news. Eddie, who never married, lived in Ludlow, Mass. The last time I saw him was at the Hotel New Yorker, N.Y., 1954. Also at that reunion, along with Eddie, there was Michael Patrick, Al Friedlemer and M.J. Powers. Powers passed away during the 9th's Reunion at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, 1977. He worked all his life at the steel mills of South Chicago and had just retired that year.

At this last reunion in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, I met for the first time, Joe Ryan of Cleveland, Ohio. Joe left "A" Btry. in the Spring of 1942 for O.C.S. After school, he was assigned to the 36th Inf. Div. It was his first ever reunion with the 9th. Joe and I spent a few hours going over the group picture of the Battery taken in Ft. Bragg in February of 1942. Almost fifty percent of that group never went overseas with the 9th.

In 1982 "A" made a good showing at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina. Let's see if we can better it this year. Phone, write a letter or post card to that buddy of yours, tell him you'll be there and ask him to come, the more the merrier. What about those who live in N.C., D.A. Dalton, Sylvia, N.C., O.O.L. Moser, Rural Hall, N.C., Chester McFatter, Goldsboro, N.C., and T. Byrd, also of N.C. Has anyone seen or heard anything from these guys? Meanwhile, I know that Norris Gray, Lou Prince, Michael Patrick, John Liggeri, Ed Colonello, and I will be there. How about it - will you be there? It's later than you think - Take care - God Bless.

Mike Belmonte
1161 S. Lombard
Oak Park, IL 60304

ILLINOIS CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Greetings from the Midwest where we just had a taste of Spring for the past two days. All our Illinois members who are in Florida have nothing on us.

We have finally closed the books on the 46th Reunion in Milwaukee. A Report and check for \$2600.00 was forwarded to Dan Quinn as well as a report to all the Officers and Board Members. We are happy to announce that we were successful financially as well as socially.

We have had a few people under the weather for a while. Gordon Anderson's wife, Marian, was hospitalized with pneumonia after the holidays. She is doing better but still weak. Lew Gray's wife, Muriel, had surgery in January but is well on the way to recovery and planning to leave for Florida this month.

The Clarks called after the holidays to inform us of Bill Morton's passing. Bill was with B Co. 60th and lived in Indiana. The Clarks were ready for a trip to Ft. Bragg and Florida for a few weeks or longer. Now that Lorraine has retired - no time limits have to be set.

We have also heard from the Gaertners and Howard is improving after another bout after the holidays. He is even putting on some weight.

Our next meeting for the Illinois Chapter will be held in Madison, Wisconsin at the Ramada Inn on May 2nd. Election of officers will be held. Also, final plans will be made for our Memorial Day Services and picnic following. Before we know it, it will be time to pack up and leave for Ft. Bragg. We are all looking forward to another successful reunion.

We just received a note from Del Erdmann's wife that he passed away on January 22, 1992. Del Erdmann was in G Co. 39th Regiment. He attended the Milwaukee Reunion.

Also heard from Paul and Lorraine Clark that Bill Morton, Co. B - 60th passed away in January.

Another to add to the list is Ed Wardzala, A Btry, 60th F.A. Bn. His sister informs us that he passed away October 30, 1991.

Respectfully,
Mike and Ann Belmonti
1161 So. Lombard
Oak Park, IL 60304

THE DELAWARE VALLEY CHAPTER

Our annual Christmas dinner was held at Ralph's Restaurant in the heart of Little Italy in South Philadelphia. About thirty members attended. As always, the food was excellent. Tony Soprano had his usual double helping. Bill Solliday entertained us whistling several impressions of bird calls. Several members told jokes - some ancient, some up to date. We sang Christmas carols, drank, and made merry. A fine time was had by all. A special thank you to Phyllis Perna for the terrific job she did coordinating the festivities.

Prior to dinner we held a quick meeting to discuss our reunion at Fort Bragg. We expect a very large turnout from our Chapter. We will finalize the count at the next meeting.

Due to the death of his wife, Reds Mac Dougall was unable to attend. We all thought the world of his wife Betty who passed away before the holidays. She will be sadly missed. Just got word that John Sabato's baby grandson had a stomach operation. He will be in our prayers.

Your comrade,
Al Perna
2642 S. Juniper St.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19148

Michigan News Notes

So it's 1992 and the start of a new chapter in the life and times of The Ninth Division Association. It has been a long life for all of us. Do you remember where you were on December 7th, 1941? Then recall the many foot steps that led to the end of a very long and hazardous trip that started in 1942. Sure we remember! Some times I can't recall what I had for breakfast come lunch time of the same day. But all that, which was burned in my mind for three years and more can be easily recalled.

The one good thing that came out of it for me was the men I met on the way. Some are no longer with us but I am talking of men like Charlie Koskie who made army life bearable for me. Sam Buemi who made Basic Training some what easier by his being effervescent and great fun to be with. I will never forget Stanley Roth who died in my arms. For those of us who live on there are the National Reunions and Chapter meetings where we get together to rehash the same stories year after year. As my wife says "I know they are telling the truth as the stories never change from one telling to the next."

This year Jennie and I will not be at Fayetteville. We have our sights set on San Antonio in 1993.

Now on a "Chapter" sad note. I report the death of Vincent Temple of I Co. 47th and Anthony "Tony" Czymbor of Hqs. and A/T 60th.

Adding the name of Charlie Alcorn, reported in the Nov./Dec. Octofoil, makes it three members of The Michigan Chapter who have passed away in a very short period. So it is true that "Taps" is in the future for all of us. As Fr. Connors once said "I know heaven is my home but I am not home sick."

Rodger E. Alsgaard Sec'y.
Michigan Chapter

2834 Wynes St.
Saginaw, Mi. 48602
Michigan News:

THE GREATER NEW YORK AREA REPORT

On January 17, 1992 the NY Area Chapter met at the Masonic Hall, 71 West 23rd Street, NYC, for its monthly meeting which began at 8 p.m. We started off the new year with the 1992 Installation of Officers. They are...President: Anthony DeRobertis, 1st Vice President: Anthony Varone, 2nd Vice President: Al Zenka, Sgt. of Arms: Charlie LiBretto, Secretary: Art Schmidt, Treasurer: Anton Dietrich and Chaplain: George Apar. Chapter Board of Governors are...47th: Dan Quinn, 39th: Lou Almasy, 60th: Charlie LiBretto, Special Troops: Adolph Wadalavage, and Divarty: James Haroutunian.

Outgoing 1991 prez Marv Levy handed the gavel over to Tony and wished him a good year in his tenure as president. On behalf of the membership, Tony presented Marv with an Octofoil plaque in recognition of his efforts as former president.

During the meeting, correspondence was read to members from: Martin Gill, Co G 47th and Div Hdqs; a thank-you from Pat Becker to Charlie LiBretto for paying a condolence call to the Becker family after the passing of Al Becker, Co C 39th; and a note from Woodrow Gardella, Bty C 64th FA.

Following general reports and discussions, the meeting was adjourned and we headed for the hospitality table where Art Schmidt and Tony DeRobertis provided the deli delights.

New Jersey Chapter 110 Hollywood Avenue Metuchen, NJ 08840

Proud Wearer of the Octofoil:
Lucy and I wish you all a Happy and Prosperous 1992... and at this stage of the game we add HEALTHY!

Our biggest event this past year was our Buffet Dinner/Dance at the Bound Brook Moose Club attended by some fifty people, members and their ladies. This event was both a social and a financial success! Our receipts at \$12.50 per ticket and including the fifty/fifty came to \$658.50 and our expenses were \$600.29. Included in the expenses were a \$5.00 tip to the bartender and I sent Frank Gonzol a twenty dollar check to buy a gift for Richie Sturdivent, in appreciation of the not insignificant contribution he made to the success of the event. He objected strenuously to taking a gift, but I insisted. Rich did it out of friendship for Frank and in appreciation of our contributions in the forties. Thus, we realized a net profit of \$58.21. I was really expecting to have a net loss which I intended to make up out of our treasury, so I was quite pleased to realize a profit. Where else could we rent a hall, engage a 9 piece band and Chanteusse, have a delicious dinner, complete with salad, coffee, and dessert, an open bar plus the companionship of such a great bunch of people - all for \$12.50 per person? Those of you who were unable to attend this bash missed a fun-filled afternoon. We'll give you another chance next year. I'm sorry, we did not have fifty people in attendance. We sold fifty tickets; some bought tickets, but did not attend. We thank these people for their generosity.

It is time for dues again! Check your membership cards. Also take a look at the envelope that this letter arrived in. If there is a colored magic marker highlighted on the return address, then your dues are due. Why not send in three years worth of dues now? Three years amounts to \$25.00.

Please, I repeat, PLEASE, S'IL VOUS PLAIT, POR FAVOR, BITE, VAR SNALL, PER FAVORE, BITTE send your dues money to me. When you send it directly to National, I am not always notified. In that case, I'll be sending you correspondence requesting your dues, and eventually you'll stop receiving our newsletter. Right now we only receive one dollar of your dues money, and it is scarcely enough to pay the postage for your newsletter. When I have to send additional requests to you it results in more postage. Also it's embarrassing to have to dun for dues. Rates are now \$10 for one year, \$25 for three years, and \$75 for Life. Look at the return address on your envelope. If it is highlighted, you owe dues. If you believe that you paid your dues and I made a mistake, write me a note.

We'll be having our next luncheon-meeting somewhere in the Trenton area, probably in March. Try to make it.

There will be a big goings-on at our next reunion in June in Fayetteville, N.C. Remember, it is the fiftieth anniversary of our departure from this town when we left for the Great Adventure! The reservation forms will be in the next copy of *The Octofoil* which should be in the mail shortly after you receive this letter. Remember that you can always cancel out your reservation up till a reasonable time before the June date. Why not contact your old fox hole buddy - you know the one: the guy you haven't seen in forty-seven years, the one you vowed that you'd never forget. Tell him you're going to Fayetteville in '92 and you hope he'll be there. You'll never regret it, and you'll probably never miss another reunion! Just ask the guys who have done this in the past.

Once again, have a happy, healthy, and prosperous 1992!
Ed Hopkins.

After some other general business, meeting was adjourned and we partook of our monthly repast provided ably by Art and Tony. Art also reminds those who have not done so, to send in their 1992 dues to him at the address below. Dues are \$10 for 1 yr., \$25 for 3 yrs., and \$75 for Life Membership. Make checks payable to the Greater New York Chapter, 9th Inf. Div. Assn.

Arthur R. Schmidt,
Secretary,
69-20 69th Street
Glendale, NY 11385-6696

Marv Levy
Co. A 60th Inf.
2044 Ellen Drive
Merrick, NY 11566

Mini Reunion 9th Medical Bn.

The Mini Reunion for the 9th Medical Bn. will be April 10 and 11th at Pigeon Forge, TN.

For more information contact:

John Lewis
211 Midland Street
Shelbyville, TN 37160

1993 Reunion being held in San Antonio, Texas selected the dates of October 7, 8, and 9th. More detail will follow.

PROPOSAL TO AMEND MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS
Article II, Section 5 of the Bylaws
Ninth Infantry Division Association

I, Henry G. "Red" Phillips, propose to insert the following between "May 7, 1945," and "and served honorably in the Ninth Infantry Division":

"and during the officially established campaigns of the Vietnam War."

The purpose of this amendment is to increase enrollment by permitting combat veterans of our Division from the Vietnam War to join us.

FAT'S IN THE FIRE

Well, fellows, "the fat's in the fire" as regards my belief that the Association should open its membership to combat veterans of the 9th in Vietnam. According to our President Ed Hopkins, there will be a vote of this issue taken at the Reunion in Fayetteville in June. I've talked about this with a number of you whose strongly "opposed" opinions were expected. Perhaps, on considering my arguments for a change, those contrary opinions were held at least a little less vociferously. The alternative, when you think about it, is kind of bleak.

It was suggested that because of the high proportion of black soldiers in the combat units of the Vietnam War, if the Bylaws were changed it would follow that we would see large numbers of this race joining the Association. My reference here was to the box on p. 366 of "Eight Stars to Victory," and its reminder that the 9th played an important part in the Army's later complete integration of black soldiers. The so-called "Fourth Platoon" experiment, successfully conducted by all three of our regiments in the spring of '45, made a great deal of difference in the way the Korean and Vietnam Wars were manned and organized. Furthermore, from those platoons we've had black members of the Association since its inception. It's a little late to wonder whether they are qualified to be with us.

The point also was made that, because of the standard 13-month tour of duty in Vietnam, the total combat service of its typical veteran was hardly comparable with that of one of our war. Well, of course, that assumes that our guy went the whole nine yards. But did he? Nobody knows but I'd bet that today's typical Association member probably had about a year under fire — he came in as a replacement in Normandy and survived VE Day. The 9th in Vietnam put in eight campaigns (the same as we did in the ETO). It had 985 days there and its members earned nine Congressional Medals of Honor. I haven't had time yet to measure the blood they spilt but I daresay it matched ours.

But my main point, aside from the question of whether these younger guys deserve, is simply — WE NEED THEM if someone is to carry on with the task of honoring what the 9th has meant in our great country's history.

I had a letter recently from one of our members who was ordering "El Guettar." He is bringing his son to Fayetteville, an Active Army bird colonel now, who had done his Vietnam tour in dad's old outfit. Wow! That nearly blew the steel pot off my silvery thatch. I just hope that before the Colonel leaves F'ville, Dan Quinn's been able to pick up his dues. Saludos, amigos!

Red Phillips
14002 Hemlock Dr.
Penn Valley, CA 95946



Divarty

BERT C. WALLER
12944 Camino Del Valle
Poway CA 92064

As many know, I have been writing in a rather amateurish fashion about some Commanders We Knew (CWK). These have included generals, colonels, privates, and civilians. The next issue, CWK C, will cover some chaplains who served with the Ninth and other units during WWII.

In my research on Father E.T. Connors, I find that when he talked about the dead of WWII 9th and prayed for them, almost always he joined the WWII 9th dead with the Vietnam 9th dead in his thoughts and prayers. In fact he called this out in his "summons" to attend the Annual Memorial Mass and Service.

I can believe that Father Connors would support strongly, as I do, the opening up of enrollment in our association to those who wore the Octofoil in combat in Vietnam. I support fully the proposal by Red Phillips to amend our association Bylaws to permit enrollment of those who served in the Ninth Infantry Division "during the officially established campaigns of the Vietnam War."

Come on out and vote "yes" to amend Article II Section 5, as Phillips has proposed!

60th Infantry
WYETT COLCLASURE
R1 Box 251
Kismundy, IL 62854

It is fitting and proper that the reunion '92 be back where it all started. For me it was in tent city, out on the edge of Ft. Bragg, 1940.

I have read the proposed resolutions by Red Phillips and strongly urge its adoption. If we don't we are a last man's club that would be disrespectful to our fallen and deceased comrades.

Since deactivation of the 9th Division, those loyal and courageous men of the Vietnam War, now have no association to hold on to.

The time has come to put the closed mind attitude behind us, and do the honorable thing.

There are a few of us; how many I do not know; who have sons and other relatives who served honorably with the Vietnam era 9th Division. I for one have a son who is counted in that number. He still wears the Octofoil proudly on the right shoulder.

I have invited him to attend our reunion as my guest. It would be nice if he could be a member.

Give this issue a chance! Looking forward to visiting with the best soldiers in the whole U.S.A.

47th Inf. Co A.
EMIL P. LANGER
3600 Harrison St.
Hollywood, FL 33021

I haven't written a letter to the Octofoil in some time now. Although my name appears in each one. I want to say that I agree with Red Phillips for his proposal to "Amend Membership Qualifications." I am sorry we did not do it years ago. In his proposal, he states "we need new blood" otherwise we will die on the vine. I am sure it will pass now.

The Class of 1941 - 1945 Asks

Once again we have forces in our mist who are intent on raping our bylaws written by charter members, many of whom gave uncountable hours of their time and effort that we would honor and respect - live up to and defend.

I am impelled and would be remiss if I didn't "take pen in hand" to share my thoughts with our membership on a very sore subject that already has our "FAMILY DIVIDED," a raping that according to several letters and one long telephone conversation is the reason the senders and the caller did not attend a reunion since the near bloodshed reunion a few years ago. (I hope they still pay their dues and read the OCTOFOIL), others are conspicuous by their absence.

Is it the fear of being embroiled in another heated confrontation? Of course we must assume that probably as many have stayed away because we "FOUGHT OFF THE R A P E attempt," the DEMOCRATIC way.

Did we not, along with our allies, enter into WW-2 to put an end to the TYRANNY of Hitler and his cohorts? Have the few who would divide us forgotten, forgotten the 16,961 wounded along the way, many who lost contact with their "BUDDIES" because they did not return to their units as they would have liked and have been reunited so many years after WW-2 ended? Have they forgotten the 4,581 felled along the way? They were members of THE "CLASS of 1941 - 1945" just as a high school CLASS reunion, is for and of classmates of that particular class year. True, Article 1 of our BYLAWS does state in part - "to perpetuate" etc.. The word "perpetuate" is taken out of context and is followed by "the memory of OUR FALLEN COMRADES." These bylaws were written by OUR members who wore the OCTOFOIL WHILE SERVING OUR COUNTRY during the time frame of December 7, 1941 - May 7, 1945 when memories of "the great depression, Model T, CCC, Glen Miller etc. were vivid in our minds and are still brought up in conversation from time to time by O U R COMRADES. Our is a possessive pronoun which in this case refers to those serving in the above time frame.

I know some of our members are proud (and justly so) parents of younger veterans who also wore the OCTOFOIL and I know first hand these younger veterans are no less proud of their attributes some twenty (20) years later as we were/are but experience tells me few if any wearer of the OCTOFOIL in post WW2 years are really interested in becoming members of OUR association for the fellowship we can provide as an ASSOCIATION which Webster describes as "a connection, a UNION, a SOCIETY, the members of which are united for a common purpose. Except for the fact that the younger men wore the OCTOFOIL I see nothing common, not the enemy, tactics, equipment etc., nothing was common except for the above and the fact that these young men too had wounded, left dead and poured blood.

OUR association is not to be confused with The American Legion, VFW, DAV etc. which are intended for any and all veterans who still must meet certain qualifications. Example, a veteran who does not have a disability of at least zero percent and a claim number cannot be a member of the DAV

DEMOCRACY or TYRANNY?

Example: A member of the Knights of Columbus can not sponsor his son for a K of C membership if the son is not a practicing catholic. Excluding certain people from many organizations is not considered discrimination, but DNQ, (does not qualify).

If, on the other hand it truly is our fellowship that is desired I have no objection to fathers bringing sons or other younger vets of the 9th division as guests on a space available basis, a club could be formed as one I belonged to in Rhode Island — members of the KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS and MASONS would meet from time to time as The MASON-KNIGHT club, we had a great relationship.

I believe those who advocate abridging our sacred bylaws do so with good intentions, not realizing the reversal of their thinking but refuse to accept the results of DEMOCRACY at work and stubbornly (that 9th division instinct) come back to attack again and again.

I have in my files a letter from a Vietnam vet who was quite upset, no, very angry because his service period did not qualify him. I wrote explaining a bit more in detail the rules etc., he not only accepted my explanation but sent a fifteen dollar (\$15.00) check donation to the Fla. chapter.

I've invited him to be my guest twice but he declined both times, once to a meeting in Jacksonville, just a few miles from his home.

How I feel on this sore subjects does not matter but the fact that our "FAMILY" as a whole represents a reasonably good cross section of AMERICANS, we as a lot have spoken several times. Why can not the results of DEMOCRACY at work be accepted?

Now let's assume the flood gates are opened and a thousand or more new members are added to our roster that now lists about 2,300 members. Do we put a cap on the number as to who will be able to attend a reunion? Do we draw straws, run a lottery for the number who can be accommodated at a given site? Not many hotels that are affordable to so many of O U R members are available. Only those who have searched for properties for our reunion know what I'm saying is true, too many just pay and attend then wait for the next one.

Consider our upcoming reunion site in Fayetteville - 290 rooms I believe, and only a percentage of these are committed to us with the overflow being farmed out to other motels miles away.

Now consider that the banquet hall can only seat 1,000. Do we banquet in shifts? Roll dice, draw straws?

Where do we draw the line? What article or section of our bylaws will be next on the "HIT LIST?"

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION can be proud of being the envy of many, we've lived with our bylaws and DEMOCRACY for forty six (46) years. Who said "If it ain't broke don't fix it?"

Do we want to pay the price for being wimps to TYRANNY? I think/hope not.

Sadly, if you cannot be in attendance at the business meeting your vote cannot be counted but those of you/us attending the general meeting can be a part of DEMOCRACY at work. VOTE your conscience.

Henry Santos
A Co. 15th Engrs.

STALAGS 9A, 9B, & 9C ASSOCIATION
Ziegenheim-Bad Orb-
Berga am Elster
AMERICANS HELD POW
IN GERMANY

We are trying to locate men who were held prisoner by the Germans in Stalags 9A, 9B, 9C, and Hamelberg during World War Two. Many of the men held in these camps were captured during the Battle of the Bulge. The camps also held men from many units who fought in France, Germany, Luxembourg, Belgium, and Holland. There were also men from the Army Air Force in these camps. There must have been men from the 9th Infantry Division held in these camps.

We would like to get a notice in the 9th Infantry Division bulletin or news letter and a mention at your reunion. If we should contact someone else please let us know who to call or write.

Enclosed please find an information sheet and 5th Reunion reservation form.

Our association does not conflict with other military associations. As a matter of fact we have noticed many of the people attending the 106th Infantry Division Association Reunions for the first time came because of attending the Stalags 9A, 9B, and 9C Association Reunions.

At the present time we have close to 600 names in our roster. This must be about 10% of the men held in these camps.

Thanks for your help.

Sincerely
Peter House
(904) 724-8316

NINTH SIGNAL COMPANY REUNION

If you haven't already done so, this is a great time to sign up for the Ninth Signal Company, Ninth Infantry Division Reunion at Fort Bragg, Fayetteville, North Carolina. It was 50 years ago that as hale and hearty young men we embarked on what was to become the greatest experience of our lifetime. The sands of time are shifting. Will we be here for the next 50th reunion? Or even the next 25th reunion?

We are making every effort to make it the greatest reunion of all. We are eager to see a good representation of all special troops. If you did not receive our letter with reservations forms, let us know and we will be glad to send another to you. Going back to Fort Bragg will give our comrades from the south and other parts of our country a better opportunity to enjoy the best ever comradeship.

Just received a call from Major Eisenstatt to say that he will be with us.

Please bring along any wartime pictures you may have. Also, if you have any taken at Fort Bragg, we would like to see them.

Don't forget the ladies. They always have a great time together.

In the meantime, God bless and keep us. See you at Fayetteville, North Carolina, on June 11th, 12th and 13th, 1992.

Your Co-Chairmen,
William Miller
507 Eskridge Drive
Wilmington, Del. 19809
Richard A. Craig
10 Whitney Street
White Plains, NY 10606

Fort Bragg
Reunion Dates
June 11, 12, 13 1992

C Co. 47th Inf.
HOWARD D. BROOKS
P.O. Box 141
S. Harpswell, ME 04079

Gen. Randle printed this in the edition of THE BUGLE, which he edited and printed on his own printing press. He set the type and printed it. It appeared in THE BELLEAIR BUGLE No. 41...January 1981...ten years ago last January. I thought this might be appropriate for putting at the head of the list of names of members of the 9th Division, who have answered the last call.

TAPS SOUNDED

Do not stand at my grave and weep.
I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow.
I am the diamond glints of snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
I am the gentle autumn's rain.
When you awaken in the morning's hush...
I am the swift uplifting rush of quiet birds in circled flight.
Do not stand at my grave and cry.
I am not there. I did not die.
Author Unknown

With saddened heart we announce the passing of these "Old Reliabilities" and friends.

Clement "Lundy" Fucci

Millie Kinkoph
Wife of Robert (47th Inf.)

Claude Murray
Hqs. Btry. 26th F.A. Bn.

Richard Tees

Carlton McCall
H Co. 60th Inf.

John Prokop
60th Inf. D Co.

Michael A. Lombardi

David Kidd
AT Co. 39th Inf.

Casey Petrectis
9th M.P.

Fred D'Amore
15th Engrs.

Carey Cox
1st Bn. 60th Inf. (C.O.)

Beryl Pappas
Wife of Robert Pappas

Del Erdmann
G Co. 39th Inf.

Ed Wardzala
A-Btry 60th F.A. Bn.

Bill Morton
B Co. 60th Inf.

Lou Gershenow
47th Inf.

William Dotzert
34th F.A. Bn.

Vincent Temple
I Co. 47th Inf.

Anthony Czymbor
Hq. & A.T. 60th

Dr. Abraham Kaufman
C.O. of 9th Med. Bn.

Orin Shell
Co. M 47th Inf.

William Koumanelis
Co. M 47th Inf.

Charles Albert
Son of George Albert
1st. Bn 60th Inf.

TAPS

Louis Gershenow, a Colonel who retired as chief of staff of the Military District of Washington, DC died of pneumonia Feb. 2, 1992 at Kimbrow Army Hospital at Fort Meade.

Colonel Gershenow commanded the 2nd Bn 47th in the N. African Invasion in 1942 and was captured in Tunisia in 1943 at the battle of El Guettar. The Colonel attended several reunions of the Association. He is survived by his wife Esther and two children and two grandchildren.

Ken Meyers
111 Greenbriar St.
Belton, Texas 76513

Just a few lines to notify you of the death of Harold C. Werner, of Copperas Cove, Texas.

Harold was a member of 'M' Company, 47th Infantry Regiment.

Willard Norris who also was an 'M' Company member, and I, attended his funeral.

Harold's date of death was Saturday - 28 December 1991.

34th F.A.
LEON BIRUM
R.R. #1, Box 59
Union City, IN 47390

It has been several months since I've written a letter to the Octofoil. Time for the dues to be paid and to write a few lines. Always great to receive the Octofoil and read all the letters from all the old men. As everyone else, to see a letter from someone in your outfit, is always a reward.

I have been busy the last three months, trying to get information together to publish a "NEWS LETTER" to the fellows from the 34th. At this date I have sent cards to eighty five former members of the Battalion. The letters are coming in with info that I asked for, and I hope to publish the letter about the 1st of December. What a treat it was to read about the lives of the men since the Big War. Some of the letters contained news of illness or deaths, that were very sad.

Charles Rabley, of Elida, OH, traveled to my farm, to bring me some names and addresses, and information about himself. Several of the men have been very cooperative in sending me names and addresses. Mrs. Wilhamena Hardy, of Milledgeville, GA, called to inform me that her husband, Charles, and Clyde Niblett, her brother-in-law, had passed away in the last year.

The following men and their wives, Col. Donald Harrison, Jack Lannon, and Bob Baldridge, stopped by the farm to visit, in September. They came at different times, but it was wonderful getting to see them and talking about the old times.

Sheldon Stoddard is recovering from a heart attack and then bypass surgery. He is going through exercise therapy and doing quite well. Jesse Davis had surgery for blocked artery in his head and is doing fine. Frank Personette and Walter Nalepa are both experiencing health problems.

My wife and I left Oct. 17th for Worcester, MA. We got to the Hudson River and had to turn back, due to my wife becoming ill. I have reservations at the Holiday Bourdeau, in Fayetteville, and hope to be there in June for the Division Reunion.

Always good to receive the Octofoil — keep up the good work.



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

Greetings once again from beautiful Cumberland Valley, where at this time winter is half over! We've been most fortunate that our snowfall this winter was mild, to say the least! At the present time, rainfall is taking over. This has made our local farmers delighted because we were in the midst of a drought throughout the tri-state area of Pennsylvania, Maryland and West Virginia. It looks like spring will be here before we realize it.

There isn't much news to report at this time for our "B" Co. Buddies. I had a pleasant phone conversation with "Shock" Shockley. He reports that he is feeling very well after his surgery. He also said that he will be on his way shortly for Australia. His has his doctor's OK for the trip. "Shock" expects to be back by March 27, 1992. "Shock" lives in Denver, Colorado, as reported in our last Octofoil issue Nov.-Dec. 1991. "Shock" has given us his new telephone number for all of those "B" Buddies who would like to call him. The telephone number is 303-741-4221. "Shock" and his lovely wife Elsie were in fine spirits and were raring to get "on the road again." Good luck to both of you from all our "B" Co. Buddies.

Ann and I called "B" Co. Buddy John Campagnone. We learned that Johnny was in an automobile accident and sustained some injuries — luckily none serious. Johnny had his small granddaughter with him. Since no other car was involved in the accident Johnny said he thanks the good Lord that nothing happened to his granddaughter. From all accounts it appears that Johnny's medication was in part responsible for the accident. Johnny's car was totaled so it will be some time before he is able to get transportation. Johnny would like to be able to attend our coming reunion at Fort Bragg this June. If anyone from our "B" Co. Group can help Johnny in the matter please write me at my address, or phone me as shown on the bottom of this column. Thank you very much!!

I also contacted Joe and Stella Cicharki. Although they have their medical problems they said they are going to send in their reservations for the Ft. Bragg Reunion.

I have had a recurrence of back problems recently. As a result, I have had to undergo Radiation Treatments once again. I was told that I would need 10 treatments. I expect to complete the treatments this week (Feb. 21st). There is improvement and I have had few side effects as a result of the radiation. I hope to get back to my activities in a week or two.

Well "B" Co. Buddies it is time to "talk up" our coming Reunion at Ft. Bragg, N.C. June 11, 12, 13, 1992. So much has been written, talked about and plans made for the Reunion. Tempis Fugit! Time is going by fast — so make your reservations to attend this most magnificent of all Reunions of our wonderful 9th Inf. Div. Assoc. God Bless all our "B" Co. Buddies and keep well!!

Pat J. Morano
2208 Lincoln Way East
Chambersburg, Pa. 17201
Phone: 717-352-3650

39th Inf. K Co.
VINCENT MARSH
22138 Hartley Rd.
Alliance, OH 44601

I am sending my dues for the next 3 years. Thank you. I enjoy reading the Octofoil. Keep up the good work. You fellows do a fine job.

M COMPANY (47TH INFANTRY) CHRONICLER

It was typical of Harold Werner that the previous "Octofoil" included his name under "Taps" along with his letter saluting Orin Shell, a 2nd Platoon brother who has preceded us on that final journey. Harold was thinking about others right up to the end since death took him working at his kitchen table on a history of his church. I had a letter from Harold at Christmas-time commenting on the previous year's death of Bill Koumanelis, another Fort Bragg original. This was also news to me, too late to include in the just-submitted "Chronicler," but a phone call to Dan Quinn got it in "Taps."

I hope Dan will have space in this issue for a photo of M's mini-reunion there in Copperas Cove on December 16th. Willard Norris sent it in along with his order for a copy of "El Guettar." John B. Evans, who started the whole thing with his trip to Texas, has also ordered a copy. These guys came along to M later in the game but they found old timers, like Harold, still gabbing about our first battle with the Germans. Here's a tip of the old steel pot to Harold, that machine gunner par excellence, a good writer and "compadre fino."

This might be 2nd Platoon Week. At Christmas my wife Lee and I journeyed south and stopped in San Luis Obispo for an all-too-short visit with another old-timer, Bob Cunningham. Bob, originally from the Bronx, had a career as a linotypist with the LA Times. He still carries a touch on NY in his larynx and he and his bride are quite active with the local VFW. Irene stems from Merry Olde England but not Basingstoke. Was married to another VFW and, when she lost her husband about the same time that Bob became a widower, the happy end happened. Luck of the M-ers.

Joe Kaminski of Toledo, OH and once a 2nd Platoon medic has written of his visit to another rat-a-tatter, Sam Draper. They met at Gatlingberg in the Smokies and I'll bet they got an earful of the fine old country music that happens in those parts. Now, these lads have an idea for a platoon-wide affair next year and I say, make a company deal and I'll come. They're trying to settle on a good spot and I've suggested something central like Pennsylvania. I also suggest that they contact one of our most recent compadres, Louis A. LaCivita of McKees Rocks, PA 15136 (near Pittsburgh; 414-331-4758). Lou was a Normandy replacement and WIA

at Schevenhutte. Now he's the very active quartermaster of the local Italian-American War Veterans post and a member of his State Veterans Commission. My point is, fellows, the guy's got a hall!

Harold Gaertner of Wauwautosa, WI, reports that he's fit again and plans to be with us in Fayetteville next June. He bought a second copy of "El Guettar" to donate to the local library. That sounds like a winner, Howard. I hope the idea catches on.

Frank Pereira of Central Falls, RI, has moved but didn't give us a forwarding address. I've asked Joe Cebulski to check it out.

Wilton Taylor's phone number in Wiaconda, MO, doesn't get him and he won't respond to my letters. Anyone heard from him?

Frank Tibbetts of Franklin, NH, has had a slight change of address — it's now Route 268 instead of 127.

Likewise, John Poggio wants me to let you know that they changed his street number. It's now 4007. Topsail Trail of Gulf Harbor in New Port Richie, FL 34652. John was one of my squad leaders at El Guettar and helped out when I was wounded there.

Jack Knight of Wilkes-Barre, PA, liked "El Guettar- Crucible of Leadership" but was troubled by the title. I told him that a crucible was something like a steel pot, a very versatile piece of equipment. I could not quarrel with his conclusion — "Good old-fashioned planning is no replacement for good old-fashioned luck," Amen, Brother John!

Our own "Captain" Duncan W. Murphy of Twin Falls, ID, has written nice things about "El Guettar" which were especially appreciated coming from one who succeeded so well in both academic and military circles. Now let's be seeing you in Fayetteville, Murph — you know the way.

Recently, I was looking for one of the missing, Kenneth L. Kunz of Sorento, IL, and he turned up (thanks to Ma Bell) but it developed that Ken was a K/47 guy. He did offer, however, this gracious testimonial:

"I have great respect for M Company. They saved our hides several times but I remember one time well. We got counter-attacked and they (the Germans) had an open field to cross and (our) 81s had it zeroed in. Saved the day for me!"

I had lunch a few weeks ago with Dick Yates, once of the 1st Platoon and now of Rancho Cordova, CA. We talked for hours of old and intermediate history. It was a happy afternoon for this old soldier.



Red Phillips sends this photo of a couple M/47 members at a Mini Reunion held last December. L-R Willard Norris, Evalia Evans, Harold Werner, John B. Evans and Mabel Norris.

Deadline for next issue April 20th



Pat Morano (Co B 47th) sends this photo that he received from Art Stenzel taken at Ft. Bragg in 1941. Top row l-r: Epifanio, Sarnorinski, Krstovich, Lelak and unknown. 1st row: Luther Taylor, Messelsohn, Knaub, Curcio, Sgt. Burkes, Hill, Pat Morano, Faulconbridge.



Jim Leopold sends this picture taken in 1944. The Officers of Company E 47th Inf taken May 1944 at Bighton Wood, Alresford, England. Clockwise - bottom left - Bill Cookman (KIA 10/44) Bill Larson Co, Guy Wilkes (KIA 6/44), Glen Carl (KIA 7/44), Elmer Graff, Tay Rainey, Jim Leopold extreme right. Jim has reservations for the reunion.



Walter J. Victor an old timer from the 9th who attends all of our reunions and is kept busy with this camera was honored recently by the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum of Cooperstown, N.Y. Victor presented the Museum a picture of three Atlanta Brave pitchers, Alejandro Pena, Kent Mercken, and Mark Wohlers. The three pitchers pitched no hitters during the season. Walter received a Life Time pass and citation from the Baseball Hall of Fame. He has been taking pictures for the Atlanta Braves for 25 years. (and may we add longer than that at our reunions)



Al Bruchac, 60th Inf was honored recently by the Chamber of Commerce of the Borough of Queens, New York when he was awarded the prestigious Paul Harris Fellowship Award from the Rotary Club of Queens. Al is on the right with Dennis Tortora, the president of the club, doing the presentation.

Co. L 47th Inf.

ROBERT S. McAULLEY

I am enclosing a poem that was written during and after the invasion of North Africa. It was composed by Frank Stebbins of Co. L 47th. It expresses feelings that were felt concerning our Wars with regards to past as well as the future, of this wonderful, great country of ours.

Frank was a sincere, patriotic kind of person. He enlisted in the Regular Army to join the Infantry. He told me he wanted to see action and that he hoped his experiences would make him a far better writer. Frank and I served with Co. L 47th from Safi French Morocco to Tunis. He finished this poem in Port Layauty. He read it to us over a camp fire. The following day I showed it to our Company Commander Capt. Wilson. It was such a stirring poem that Capt. Wilson told our company clerk to make copies of it. It was posted on our bulletin board for everyone to read. I kept a copy that I carried through the war ever since.

Frank was captured in Tunisia and was held for about 2½ years. He went through hell during his interment. He had to make a forced march of about 100 miles in the snow. He didn't have shoes, he wrapped his feet in burlap bags. I feel it would be greatly appreciated by members of our Armed Forces and average citizen to have it placed in the Octofoil.

Frank was sent to a nursing home from Baltimore to Salisbury, Md. when I caught up with him.

As a tribute to all the people that served in the Armed Forces and those yet to come, I would appreciate it to have the poem entered in the Octofoil.

LETTER BY "V" MAIL
(A Raider's ballad -
Pvt. Franklin Stebbing)

I
Just a few lines by "V" mail
From "somewhere in the world"
To let you know Old Glory
Has proudly been unfurled
On yet another hilltop
Looking homeward o'er the sea
And we'll fight to keep her
Planted there
Til all good men are free.

II
Sure, the nights are lonesome
Sure the goings tough
But we mean to keep on fighting
Til the heathens cry "enough"
Who frets the cramp of a fox-hole
Or the hornets from above?
The Yanks will attach through
Hell and back
For the distant ones they love.

III
So it's over God's green valleys
Or under the devil's arch
Our voice raised in battle
To a grimly cadenced march
Our souls aflame with powder
Our hearts begrimed with dust
But our song grows louder,
louder
As on - and on we thrust.

IV
Oh, there's many a saintly morn-
ing
And all the world seems well
When the sky is split by the
demon-spit
Of impromptu bats from hell
And death comes dancing 'round
me
In a sadist minuet
But we thumb our nose and man
our guns
Wit the taunting cry "not yet!"

V
And there's many a bitter eve-
ning
When we dream of the nearest
bed

But lay us down with the frosty
snail
And embrace the earth instead
For the Clarion Call at midnight
Is a soldier's lullaby
As "Taps" breathes o'er the
bivouac
And whispers: "God is Nigh..."

VI
And oft in the weary watches
Mid the aching solitude
A Sentry will see his destiny
In the unrelenting nude
And the ghosts will crowd around
him
Of memoried years since gone-
But he turns his back upon the
night
And strides into the dawn.

VII
For not by magnificent gesture
Will the lasting peace be won,
But by the honest conquest
Of small things overcome.
The shiver and the heartache
The quaint surmise of death -
Yet the steady step, advancing
Though horror scalds each
breath.

VIII
I want you to know I miss you
In each least thing I do,
But because I really love you
This is my battle too.
For one day the nameless yearn-
ing
Someday the privileged pain
Shall wear the stripes of victory
And our love will be again.

IX
Sometimes, at sudden splendor
Worn hearts are wont to break
And wearily surrender
To loves' habitual ache
Yet the pulse of freedom
quicken
Enriches love's sweet song -
And weary feet pick up the beat
And push yet on - and on.

X
I'd like to see the Ungodly three
At Liberty's judgment day
The paint-brush Hun and the
sinking sun
And the Mafian Poppinjay-
Hirohito, Benito, and Mad
Adolph
Caught in the merciless span
Of the light of peace and justice
In the court of the average man.

XI
For nothing is surer clearer
Than this ideal to me
That freedom persevering
Shall lead to victory
There will be aisles of silence
As "Taps" recounts the cost
But the lads who enrich the alien
soil
Shall not have really lost.

XII
They are the heart of America
Wherever they may be
Mounding the various hillside
By many an alien sea.
May their dust make "the
green grass greener"
May their souls make the air
more free

They are each in their silent
glory
A Statue of Liberty.

XIII
Doubt not the course of freedom
Just send us the love and the
guns
And we'll raise a scaffold in
Tokyo
And scatter the garrulous Huns
For we know the taste of Liberty
And the pleas of tolerant men
And before we cease the Prince
of Peace
Shall walk mid his sheep again.

XIV
So it's over the bleaching desert
And along the jungle trail
On mountain or in valley
Mid scorch or the wintry gale
And our song goes on as ever
For our hearts will never pale
Tis the Ballad of America
And must not shall not fail!

B Co. 15th Engrs.
RICHARD MCGRATH
2856 W. 85th Street
Chicago, IL 60652

To wish all on the staff of the
Octofoil a very happy holiday.
To Dan Quinn, his lovely wife
Marie, and Walter O'Keefe, we
give our heartfelt thanks for
your dedication in keeping the
Octofoil as our message center.
You are V.I.P.'s in our
thoughts. Thanks to you and all
your people that put out the
paper that helps keeps us in
touch. To all B. Company men
— if you want to make your-
selves feel good, send get well
cards to Barney Angell, Fred
Damore, Paul Lisa, and Jim
Mullen. It will be appreciated
by your "old reliable" buddies,
especially at this time of the
year. This is where the Ninth
Infantry Division directory
comes in handy.

Enclosed is donation to the
Memorial Fund, in memory of
Lt. Glendon Bowman. To this
draftee, Glenn was a good ex-
ample of what a regular should
be like, he looked and acted the
part. He was a soldier's soldier.
Coming up the ranks to be First
Sergeant and honored further
with a battlefield commission.
May he rest in peace and our
condolences to his family.

Merry Christmas to one and
all.

47th Inf C Co.
HOWARD BROOKS
P.O. Box 141
South Harpswell, ME 04079

Some of the old guys...most of
us are old now!..check in at
Christmas..those who have the
gumption to write! Of course, a
lot are gone now..the ranks thin
each year..but they are not
forgotten. One of the cards I
received was from Anthony
Forta..Tony' was one of the
fellows from Ft. Bragg
days..who went all the way..in
Europe he was in "C" Co.
Headquarters, the bugler &
messenger..he never had to
blow 'RETREAT!' for 'Char-
ley' Company!..on the bat-
tlefield anyway! He wrote that
Frank 'Hotsy' Santoro passed
away last year..he didn't give
the exact date. So, I thought I'd
let those of "C" Co. who
remember Santoro know. He
was not in the company when
we landed in France. 'Tony'
might not get around to it!

I've 'bit the bullet' and made
reservations for Fayetteville,
N.C. in June! My birthday was
a few days ago and I figured
that if I was going to attend
another reunion of the 9th that I
had better 'git scratchin' or I
might not make one again. So,
I'm hoping that "C" Co. will
decide this is the year, too,
before it is too late, in one way
or another. I know some of
those with which I am in touch,
are going to attend so it will be
a reunion in more ways than
one.

'Red' Phillips' little book of
reminiscences of the Battle of
El Guettar, straightened out
some things in my recollection
of that battle, that have been
'bugging me' for years. I
reread the TIME-LIFE book
"THE WAR IN THE
DESERT," too, because they
tie in well together. I'll have
something to say about all that
in a letter later on to The OC-
TOFOIL. Meanwhile, thanks
again for your dedication, and
that of the editing staff of it, in
keeping us in touch with the
past, as well as the present, ac-
tivities of those who did fight
the good fight, when our coun-
try needed us. Our division's
record speaks for itself!

The greatest of all arts???
The art of living together -- in
harmony.



Serv. Co. 60th Inf.
FRED GOLUB
21 Eenore Ave.
Monsey, NY 10952

**Swimmer Golub
places 2nd, thrice**

Fred Golub, 77, of Monsey, placed second in three categories at the Connecticut Senior Olympics at Bridgeport University, Saturday.

Golub placed second in the 50-meter freestyle (:58.0), 100-meter freestyle (2:12.79), and 200-meter freestyle (4:52.20).

June 3, 1991

**Golub wins swim event
at state Seniors Games**

Fred Golub, 77, of Monsey won the 75-79 age group 400-yard freestyle swim event yesterday at the New York State Senior Games at SUNY-Cortland.

Golub's time was 9:05.67. He also was second in the 75-79 200 freestyle, in 4:22.65.

In bowling, Golub finished second in the 75-79 group with a 504 series.

47th Inf. Hqs. Co.
LAWRENCE MARTIN
1418 Blair Loop Road
Danville, VA 24541

Sorry I'm late with dues. Sending check for three more years. I have had a bout with cancer for some 14 months now. Still trying to hang in there.

Was down to Bradenton, Florida last April to visit Spencer Norwood and wife. Had a swell time. Talked about the things that happened while in Germany with the 47th I & R Platoon. Bob Kinkophf has lost his wife "Millie" this past Sept. She had cancer. They were two sweet people. We were up to visit once with them. Millie sure was a swell cook. Bob and Spencer, plus Pete S. Malley's wife are the only ones I'm in touch with anymore. Pete was our radio man with I & R platoon.

If my health permits, maybe I'll be able to attend Reunion at Bragg this June.

Looks like the Taps Sounded list gets longer each year. May they rest in peace and may God Bless all old reliables still around.

If anyone passes by Danville, VA on way down South, please give me a call and stop by. Best wishes to all. Phone: 804-822-1757.

60th Inf. I Co. & Div. Hq
ROGER SCHAEFFER
1664 Sunset
Akron, OH 44301

Enclosed is my check for dues for '92, '93 and '94. I don't want that pink ink on my Octofoil!

I'm still heavily involved in professional music-dance bands, concert bands and orchestras in the Akron area. At last count, I was involved in seven bands and two orchestras and Mona - "Bee" to our close friends - plays in all but one of them. Most of our performances are "freebies" but a few pay bucks - not many though, for we will not play rock nor country and that's where the action is. But, at 73 years, I don't mind having some extra time to relax.

Take care - the best to you and yours for 1992, and to all of our 9th Division Association-ers!

El Guettar
Crucible of Leadership
9th U.S. Infantry Division Against
The Wehrmacht in Africa, April 1943

Red Phillips of the 47th Infantry has written a history book that should be of interest to all who served with the Ninth in North Africa and to those who are interested in the early battles of WW2 when the U.S. Army were coming of age against the finest of the German Army.

The cost of the book is \$12.50 (includes postage) and may be obtained by writing to Red Phillips at 14002 Hemlock Drive, Penn Valley, California 95046.

39th Inf. L Co.
C.E. MILLER
216 Bissell Ave.
Oil City, Pa. 16301

Enclosed is my three year membership. Keep up the good work and keep the Octofoil coming to my home. I swear that periodical is the best read of all magazines and newspapers delivered to me.

I only regret that more of the former members of Company L, 39th, do not report their letters for printing.

I am going to try to make the next reunion but all depends upon status of one of my daughters who is very sick. Hope to see you all then.

DOT & GEORGE FURBER
11825 S.W. 107 Ave.
Miami, Fla. 33176
305-233-3088

Hurray, George & I are going to be at the 50th anniversary of the 9th Division. We want to let you know where we are going to be so that we can get together. I hope to play tennis with Bob Tate again. Hope some others will bring their tennis rackets as I don't play singles anymore. It should be a great reunion. I know that Roscoe & Leola Shields are going to be there. They made reservations before Christmas and were smart to do as when we went to make reservations, they were all filled up at the Holiday Inn-Bordeaux. However, all the hotels are welcoming the 9th Div. and are giving the same discount and we have reservations for June 10th for 4 nights and are leaving June 14th. We will be staying at the Comfort Inn, Cross-Creek, U.S. 401 By-Pass 1922 Skibo Road, Fayetteville, North Carolina 28314, Phone 919-867-1777.

They will have a shuttle service provided from the headquarters Hotel to the Comfort Inn Cross Creek. We will probably not arrive until 6 PM or so on June 10th.

Hope that we will get to see some of you - wear your name tags!!

See you

Cannon Co. 47th Inf.
ROBERT A. WATTS
4601 Walmsley Blvd.
Richmond, VA 23234

Enclosed is my check for Life Membership, the rest to the Memorial Fund. I was afraid I might forget to renew my membership so now its paid for good.

My wife and I missed Milwaukee. I had part of my colon removed, so we will be ready for the meeting in Fayetteville. Before joining the 47th Reg. in Winchester, I was with the 34th F.A. Bn. "A" Bty at Barton Stacey, England. The Battery Commander was Capt. Leon Birum and he has composed a newsletter and history of the 34th F.A. Bn. In his letter he said he would like to hear from anyone who was with the 34th during WWII. It's a fine compliment to the men and officers of the 34th, many thanks to Capt. Birum and I hope he and his wife can attend the meeting in June.

Fort Bragg
Reunion Dates
June 11, 12, 13 1992

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

I figured it was about time that you heard from the almost seemingly non-existent B Co. 60th. There are still some of us around.

I had planned to go to the reunion at Milwaukee, but, unfortunately, wasn't able to make it.

I had surgery in Nov. for the usual complaints of men of our age group. Everything went fine and I'm doing OK. My wife and I are going to Guadalupe, Mexico next month for two weeks. It will be our fourth trip there. We have enjoyed our stay there very much. Nice and warm. We will probably come back hom in a blizzard and three feet of snow. I'm enclosing my check for another three years dues. I don't want to miss any of the Octofoil.

My best wishes to everybody for a happy and prosperous New Year.

84th Field Artillery
BILL (RIP) RYBKA
5205 Sweetbriar Dr.
Raleigh, NC 27609

I thought the Orlando reunion, my first, just couldn't be equaled. I was wrong; Milwaukee was just as great. Now I'm looking forward, with great anticipation, to Ft. Bragg in June! The warmth and camaraderie at these reunions is unbelievable! There is one individual who really strives to enhance the fellowship - Bert Waller of the 9th Div Arty. He is everywhere at the reunion, with his video camera running, and a knack for quick witted interview. I was delighted to receive a copy of his Milwaukee tape and enjoyed reliving some of the "hilites."

I am enclosing a check for the Memorial Fund in Bert's name. "Thanks Bert, see you at Bragg! - Rip"

39th C Co.
CLETIS WINNINGHAM
P.O. Box 160
Allardt, Tenn. 38504

Enclosed are my dues. Last year is the first reunion I have attended, which was in Milwaukee. I was there for three days.

Sorry I hadn't gone to any of them before, but now plan on going to the rest as long as I can make it.

My wife and I really enjoyed it very much. Everyone seemed to be so friendly.

We have our reservation in for this year in North Carolina and I hope to see more there from the 39th, especially from C Company.

I really enjoy getting the Octofoil very much.

We made several new friends while in Milwaukee although they were not from the 39th.

60th Inf. D Co.
DONALD WHITENACK
131 W. Garfield Drive
Longview, TX 75602

Enclosed is my dues for 1992. I used to pay for 3 years at a time but when you get to be my age, you think twice about buying a bunch of bananas.

Your Ft. Bragg reunion is pretty far off from my residence but I sure hope to make it in '93, one in Texas.

Glad to see more and more names appearing in the Octofoil each month from D Co., men of the 60th. I began to think there was not too many of us left.

60th Inf. K Co.
E. J. PHILLIPS
6382 Hwy 42
Rex, GA 30273

Enclosed is my dues for Octofoil. As soon as I receive my copy I look for something from K Co. 60th Inf. I would like to hear from any of the guys that I have not seen at the Reunions.

15th Engrs. A Co.
EDWARD RICKERT
4912 W. 156th Street
Oak Forest, IL 60452

It's that time of the year again to send in my dues for 1992.

I heard from several of my Old Co. A 15th Engineers Buddies this year.

We sure had a group of fellows who stuck together, also some great officers.

The Octofoil is a terrific paper, and I sure enjoy reading it.

Thanks for a good job.

9th Recon.
NICHOLAS CAPOBIANCO
209 Blatchley Avenue
New Haven, Ct 06513

Enclosed is my check for another three years to our wonderful Association.

I am the unofficial Secretary of our group, "The Nomads" which was our code name during the war years, namely the 9th Recon. Troop. Beginning in 1961, we held our own Mini Reunions, in Ocean City, New Jersey and Morgantown, PA. That is 1961-62-63-71-75-77-83. We began meeting with the 9th Div. Convention at Camp Hill 1987 and of who can forget. "The Pines" which I am sure still is a fond memory for many former Division members. As of this date, we have about 15 men and their wives who have their reservations in, and we are all looking forward to it.

I do hope I will receive my new membership card, as mentioned in Ed Hopkins' column, only those with paid up membership will be entitled to vote.

"B" Co. 47th Inf.
HARRY F. BROWNE
1909 S. York Street
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

I noticed by my last Octofoil that my time had run out with 1991. I am enclosing a check for another three years. I sure wish I could make that Ft. Bragg convention but my health will not permit it. Three years ago I came down with a bad case of arthritis which really limits your activities. My good friend Jack Nailor goes to most of the conventions so I get a lot of news from him.

I sure miss Art Stengel's good news letters about all my good friends in "B" Co.

47th Inf. C Co.
GEORGE GAJDOS
435 Daniel Drive
Aliquippa, PA 15001

Enclosed find my dues for three years. I look forward to each issue of the Octofoil.

I retired on April 1, 1990 and am happy to say my health is very good and am looking for an enjoyable retirement. I keep looking for some of my buddies from "C" Co. but it seems that they are out of touch with the Association. Here's hoping that they drop a line or two to the Octofoil.

60th Inf. Co. F
DONALD E. CRASS
2295 Strong Road
Phelps, Wis. 54554

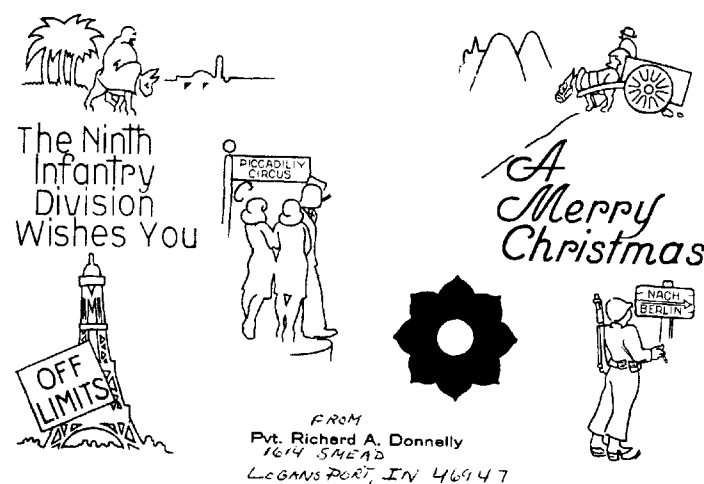
Just a few lines for the Octofoil. I have a question. I would like to find out the exact day I was assigned to company F 60th in Sept. 1944 and the day I left in March 1945 I can't get this information from the government as the records were burnt so they tell me.

Wish to thank the IL Chapter for the set up they had for us at Milw. Our rooms and C.P. were all on the same floor which kept our company together. I myself was pleased with this set up.

Also, wish to thank Cliff and Rosalie Painter for putting up with all of us and doing it year after year. I would encourage all of F Company to personally thank Cliff and Rosalie for the fine job in manning Co. F 60th C.P. I wish to thank Dan Quinn for the very fine job he does on the Octofoil and I am sure he could use more news in the Mail Call. Why don't you spent a few minutes to drop him a few lines for Mail Call.

The 3rd Infantry marches on
Q: While visiting Arlington Cemetery I saw a new monument that was dedicated to the 3rd Infantry Division. I served in the 3rd during World War II and seeing this memorial brought back memories. Who was responsible for erecting this memorial? And is there an association of veterans of the 3rd Infantry Division?

A: The memorial you saw was erected by the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division, which includes veterans who served with the 3rd.



If brains were leather, some people couldn't saddle a flea.

Money is better than poverty if only for financial reasons.

BANQUET SEATING BY RESERVATION ONLY **

Many members have asked to be seated at the Saturday nite banquet with buddies etc

To reserve a table a captain collects ten (10) dinner tickets which are to be included in each registration packet, takes the ten (10) tickets to the seating chairman who will be easy to find, he will assign a numbered table and number each ticket with the table number. There will be no need to stand waiting for the doors to open and rush in, we're getting too old for that.

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.

MAIL CALL

Hq. Co. 2nd Bn
39th Inf.
GEORGE A. PEDRICK, JR.
Dear Dan:

I ran across the article in the Wilmington, DE News Journal and thought it might be a good idea for the 9th Inf. Div. Ass'n to consider. Perhaps someone from Washington, D.C. area could get an idea of the type of monument that the 3rd Division has there in Arlington. It seems to me that a monument dedicated to the 9th Inf. Div. would be most fitting. I'm sure some of our comrades-in-arms are interested there. Perhaps the Board could look into this.

47th Inf. D Co. & Hq. Co.
JACOB HOLUBUFF
3101 Ocean Parkway
Brooklyn, NY 11235

My wife and I intended to meet with old buddies at Milwaukee in Sept.

I was part of 47th Inf. Ninth Div. Assoc. way back, but things got in the way and I lost all contact.

I was an original member at Fort Bragg and was part of Motor Squad in "D" Company in training at Ft. Bragg under Sgt. Brusyck but was later sent to radio school and in first landing at Safi was under Col. Randle and Emil DeDonato as part of Hq. Co. message Center. I did all my service with Hq. Co. 47th Inf. I saw action from landing in Safi in Nov. 1942 to Europe Ardennes, Germany, Central Europe, Normandy, Hedgerows, Northern France, Sicily, Tunisia. I am not bragging but was and am proud to be a Ninth Div. 47th Inf. survivor.

I am writing all this because I want to meet some of my buddies whom I haven't seen since August 1945. Then I was farmed out to Hq. 54th Armored Inf. Bn. as a high pointer for discharge and returned to good old U.S.A.

It's strange that I completed my service completely with 47th Inf. and was discharged from Hq. 54 Armored Inf. Bn. as listed on discharge. But really should have read 47th Inf. 9th Div. It never bothered me then, but I was only interested in going home.

I sent a few pictures of me from way back. I was married at Fort Bragg Chapel by Chaplain Tepper of 60th Inf. 9th Div. All my buddies of 47th Inf. were in Chapel. How could I forget, and buddies who were at The Chapel too.

I want to meet some of my buddies from 47th Inf. "D" Co. Hq. Co.

I wrote Emil De Denato of Fla. through the Octofoil rec'd from Bill Starro of 39th Inf. (family & friends) and made contact with Emil.

Sorry I am annoying you, but memories with troops of 47th, 9th Div. linger on and one can't erase.

Regards — and hope to meet you all in Ft. Bragg.

PS - Prayers for Good Health & Best for all 9th Div. buddies who gave their lives.

WILMER FIRME
Rt. 1
Adell, WI 53001

I live forty two miles north of Milwaukee. Wearing a VFW cap of Random Lake, he selected me to be featured on the Channel 6 news that evening.

It was nice to hear that many of my friends saw me on the news. I paid \$12.00 for a book of photos. The check was cashed, no book did I receive.

Enclosed a check for \$25.00 for 3 years subscription.

Will be at Bragg in June.

Co. C 47th Inf.
JACK A. COLLIER
126 St. John Ave.
St. Louis, Mo 63119

I want to take care of something that should have been done in 1985. This is to get Clem Przyblyski of Co. A 15th Engrs. into the Assn. Enclosed is check for one year's dues. Edward Rickert after reading my letter in that Octofoil wrote me to get Clem's address. I only had his phone number, so gave him a call. Even though it has been nearly seven years since I saw him last he remembered my wife and I visiting for a short time. Edward and Clem used to keep in touch with each other but somehow lost contact. Edward wrote me that he was with Clem when he got wounded. I am mailing Edward Rickert Clem's address with this letter to you. See you in Bragg.

39th M Co.
ANTHONY CARMECI
58 Old Minisink Fd. Rd.
Barryville, N.Y. 12719

Enclosed is my request for tickets and a note to let you know that if all goes well I'll be there on June 10. After all these years! I heard from an old Jersey friend and he said he will be there also. Sorry to hear of Johnny T. and Russo, they were from a neighboring town. In fact Trevelise was a neighbor of mine up here in the boondocks.

Making it pretty good healthwise but gave up a few jobs such as VFW Commander and did not accept County Commander. I will continue with the driving courses I have been giving for four years now. For those who don't already know, a former M Co. 39th Silver Star recipient was mentioned in Red Phillips book about El Guettar. He deserves it as he was the ultimate warrior. His name is Arthur C. Clark, of Florida and a former Jersey City resident.

Well so long for now and my best to Marie.

39th Inf. L Co.
EDWARD GILL
Point Garden, Apt. 7
Somers Point, N.J. 08244

This will be my first reunion since Philadelphia right after the war.

I know I won't know anybody and I doubt if anyone will remember me. But I want to be a part of this reunion — we are not getting any younger.

I was a Replacement right after the Bulge and only had a few months of combat.

I have made my hotel reservations. Hope to see you in June.

26th F.A. "A" Btry.
JOHN L. BABBITT
738 Berkley St.
R.F.D. #1
Berkley, MA 02779

Am sending along with my dues, copy of a letter I sent to my mother and father from North Africa 6/9/43, which was published in a book "Lines of Battle" 1943.

What was great about it was the fact I got to get the name "9th Infantry Division" published in the book along with my letter.

Book was very interesting with many other letters printed, made for good reading.

I enjoy "The Octofoil" very much, I miss hearing from A Btry. guys. Milt Parrott contacts me now and then. I am home from the V.A. again, they keep my going, will be driving again shortly. Wish you all a happy New Year and a healthful one too.

C Co. 39th Inf.
WALTER SMITH
1035 Terrace Blvd.
Trenton, NJ 08618

I read the book on the Battle of Sicily, and the only mention of the 9th, mentioned the landing at Palermo of the 9th. Now everyone of us knows, we landed at Gela, and Licata. I don't know where these two men (Mitcham and Von Stauffenberg) got their information. The only thing they did get right is of the Battle of Tronia, where the 39th took a beating. I remember a man (A. Ward) from Virginia, who lost his left arm there. Another man (name unknown) got into my slit trench, when I was back getting water, was killed by a burst of shrapnel. They were only two, how many others, I don't remember.

Nothing was mentioned of the 47th or 60th. Paddy Flint was mentioned in the book but with his name as Pappy Flint. He would raise hell if he could see that in print. Most everything else in the book comes up playing up the British.

They do mention the screw up with the Airborn being shot to hell by ship and anti aircraft fire. Nothing was coordinated. Best to everyone.

Co. D 39th Inf. & 1st Bn Hqs. Co.
ROGER L. VUILLEUMIER
Apt. C-104
2300 Indian Creek Blvd. W
Vero Beach, FL 32966-1391

It's about time that I sent you some news for Mail Call. I joined D Company of the 39th in April 1941, so was at Ft. Bragg for all the Basic Training and the Big Carolina. On returning to Bragg, was supposed to be released from the Army being 28 and then came Pearl Harbor. If it had to be, I was very glad that I could remain in the 9th. Remember '42 going on maneuvers up in Virginia in the Spring. Following that, went down to New River, N.C. for Amphibious Training. About that time a new company was made up from men of D Company and new men, 1st Bn Hq Co. I was put in an A.T. Platoon. The 39th was the first to leave Ft. Bragg, went up to Ft. Dix, N.J. After a week, we boarded the U.S.S. Survival Chase and headed for Northern Island, Belfast. After a week there, headed for N. Africa and as most of us know, after that came Sicily and then back to England. I was with the Division across part of Europe and into Germany a short ways where I injured my back. Was sent way back to a hospital in England. When I came out I was put in the M.P.'s 385th Bn. with other men from all Divisions. Guarding trains with all kinds of supplies from the Beaches up to Liege, Belgium. The group I was with, were stationed in Vervier Northern France. In the end, we went as far as Nuremberg, Germany at that time was stationed in Verdun, France, and that's where we were when the War ended. It was awhile before I got to LeHavre and on to a troop ship back to Staten Island and the Sand Pier we left from. How about that. On to Ft. Dix and home in July 1945. My wife and I lived for many years in Hartsdale, N.Y. Came to Florida 7 years ago, first lived up in the middle of the state near Leesburg in a retirement community. A year ago, moved down here to Vero Beach to a better retirement community. We like it here very much, as we have old friends and family along this coast.

Sure enjoy the Octofoil, keep up the good work and all the best wishes.

60th Inf. Co. G
S. REINHEIMER
2572 Wilson Avenue
Bronx, NY 10469

Here is my dues and something extra. Went to visit Hugh Whitaker in the fall, he was my stove mechanic. I hadn't seen him since 1946 and we had a good time together. I wrote for Christmas to my X mess sergeant but got no answer. He is Joe Cappolino. Take care and all the best.

47th Inf. F Co.
JOSEPH AYLES
16 Old Saw Mill Road
Trumbull, CT 06611

Enclosed is check to cover 3 years. My how time flies! Reservations in for Ft. Bragg. Not too much to say except glad not to see any familiar names in Taps, not good to see any but that is the way of life, the old make way for the new. Good health to all.

DUES REMINDER

This issue of the Octofoil has been used for years to remind our members that "dues are due." The caption "Is your Octofoil addressed with tell-tale red ink?" was used for years but now with our new computer mailing arrangements this is not possible. Instead we ask the members to check their Octofoil especially where their name is printed and above their first name you will find numbers and they will indicate what year your dues are paid up until. The letter L will indicate Life member - H will indicate Honorary member and 1991 will let you know that your dues are payable now.

If for some reason you find it difficult in paying the dues drop us a line and we will keep you on our membership roll, send you the paper and keep the matter confidential.

We remind our members that a limited budget keeps us from mailing the Octofoil to those who fall in the delinquent class. Send your dues to the secretary's office, 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087.

47th Inf. Cannon Co.
THOMAS MCGINLEY
519 Stanton Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15209

Looking forward to Ft. Bragg in June.

Hope you all are well as we are. I finally retired after 35 years with the (Commonwealth) Pennsylvania. All the kids are gone from the nest and now we have 9 grandchildren.

Keeping myself busy as Quarter-master with Post 166-VFW. I think I had you, Dan, in there for a visit many years ago. So long for now.

60th Inf. 3rd Bn. Hq. Co.
CHARLES WILLSHER
1146 - 3rd Avenue
Windom, MN 56101

Say hello to all the gang from the 3rd Bn. 60th Inf.

47th Inf. G Co.
FRANK (SONNY) GONZALEZ
34114 Number Ten School Rd.
Millington, MD 21651

Enclosed is my check to renew my membership, also, I am sending in an application for membership for Lyle Jones of Pocatello, Idaho. He was a member of my squad. I looked for him for more than 45 years and finally located him in Idaho. Since I last seen you I have undergone a triple heart bypass. After the heart bypass, my only remaining kidney stopped functioning so I have been on hemodialysis (kidney machine) 3 hours a day, 3 times a week. This has been going on for over two years now. So you can understand why I can't attend any reunions. I hope everyone has a good time at Fort Bragg this year. I hope that a reunion can be held in Baltimore soon.

Give my regards to Guglielmino and others from the Bn.

9th Q.M.
EUGENE CLARK
140 Mill Road
Southern Pines, N.C. 28287

I would like to sign up again.

The last membership card I have expired Dec. 31, 1953. After we returned to the USA in 1945 I took my discharge, but then re-enlisted. I finally got back with the 9th in Fort Dix, N.J. Final discharge in 1949.

I do hope that I will be able to get time off from work to get to the reunion.

Looking forward to meeting you.

THE OCTOFOIL
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4100 COCKEY BLVD
JOHN CLOUTIER
10600 CIRCLE
CRYSTAL RIVER, FL
34475

Have you sent in your Dues?

E Co. - 47th
JOE W. HASENFUS
3570 A Union Avenue
Pennsauken, NJ 08109

What's status of pictures photographer took at Milwaukee convention? Enjoyed seeing Capt. Petty and Mr. Mooty and Mr. and Mrs. Charles McLHinney at Milwaukee and others. Plan to attend Ft. Bragg convention and DAV Convention in Reno, Nevada, Aug. 1992. DAV Magazine had your attached notice of same on 9th Ft. Bragg Re-Union.

9th Div. Hqs.
JOHN M. ALLEY
4701 Kenmore Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22304

Here are my dues for 1992. Had almost forgotten until the arrival of the Octofoil today.

Am definitely planning to be at the 50th Reunion in June. We will be in Japan from 6 April until 22 April but that will not interfere with Bragg.

Here is something that sort of explains my attitude today. You might want to pass it on to your readers.

"At this state of life I grope and cope, I buy only small tubes of toothpaste, subscribe to magazines for only thirteen weeks, and I never buy long playing records. By some strange mystique, I am content."

See you in June.

34th FA Bn.
JESSE DAVIS
Box 84
Hebron, OH 43025

I am sending my dues for the next three years as they are due.

At Christmas, myself and forty others of the old 34th FA Bn. received a very welcome newsletter from Leon (Buck) Bium from Union City, Ind. He had addresses and what the forty of us have done since we left the service and he did an outstanding job and we all appreciate it.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE APRIL 20th