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The Octofoil

9th Infantry Division Association

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8-1-1993

### The Octofoil, August/September/October 1993

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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# THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N. J. 07087

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Volume XLVIII Number 4

Aug-Sept-Oct, 1993

## The Forty Ninth Memorial Mass and Service

The 49th Memorial Mass and Service was held in Worcester, MA on October 17th. This year, like the past few years, our attendance was about one hundred. As we say so often our ranks are growing thinner.

The C.P. room was well stocked with food, drink and people on Saturday afternoon and evening. Everyone seemed glad to be there and to have made it one more time.

### Always Beautiful

The Mass on Sunday morning at the Immaculate Conception Church was as always beautiful. The Worcester Police Color Guard always adds a special tone to the occasion, and though it was the 49th year, to me the playing of tape at the end of mass brings back the memory of special comrades killed in action. I'm sure this is true for other men in attendance.

### Memorial Prayers

At the outdoor memorial prayers were said for the 4581 men of the 9th who were killed in action in WWII and for those who have since followed. As always we pray for those who gave their lives in Vietnam. Herbert Olsen and Vincent Guglielmino. Both who lost brothers in WWII, placed the Octofoil wreath on the memorial. The Color Guard dipped their flags as the sound of taps ended the ceremony. So for the 49th year we remembered what Father Edward Connors said when he celebrated the first Memorial Mass in 1945. Always remember our beloved dead.

### Luncheon

A 1:00 p.m. luncheon followed at the Ramada Inn. The main speaker was Tom Boyle who traced many of our campaigns from Africa to the Elbe River. Tom believes the 39th was the top regiment. Dan Quinn thinks the 47th regiment won the war. I know the 60th regiment surpassed them all.

After many good-byes and promises to meet next year for our fiftieth, we wished everyone a safe trip home.

### Appreciated

Despite a knee operation in July, Fran Maher, the N.E. Chapter president and chairman of the '94 reunion at Lake Placid, did all the leg work preparing for our annual pilgrimage to Worcester.

A special thanks to Olive Maher for all of the delicacies she baked for the C.P. room.

Stay well - happy holidays to all. We are looking forward to 1994. It will be a big year for the N.E. Chapter preparing for the Lake Placid Reunion and our 50th Memorial Mass and Service.

Sincerely,  
Ron Murphy  
Secretary-N.E. Chapter

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Ninth Infantry Division "Old Reliables"

At the final Board of Governors meeting in San Antonio I was elected to the office of President of our great Association for the coming year. It was with great pleasure that I accepted and an honor that I will cherish for the rest of my life. I will do my best, working with the Board of Governors, and together we will keep our bonds strong.

Our next reunion will be held at Lake Placid June 8, 9 & 10, 1994. The New England chapter is graciously hosting this reunion. To those of you who have made many reunions in the past, thanks a million. I have many great and dear friends in the Ninth Division Association that I have met through the years and many old friends, closer than brothers, known from our combat days.

To those of you who have never attended a reunion, it is later than you think. Every year our ranks are thinner. Make every effort to attend.

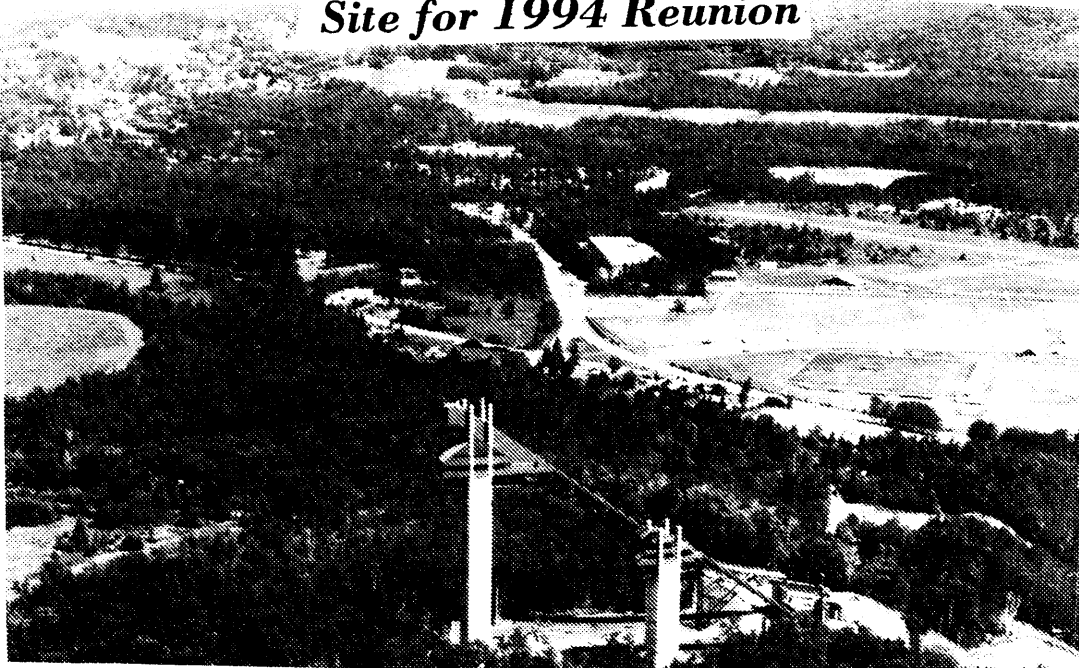
To the Greater Texas chapter and Past President John Miller, thank you for a wonderful reunion in San Antonio.

Edwin W. Wisniewski 47th Inf.  
7576 Gratiot Ave  
Columbus, MI 48063



Ed Wisniewski presenting John Miller the outgoing President a plaque for a job well done. This was the scene at the Banquet Saturday night. (Photo by Billie Martin)

## Site for 1994 Reunion



A view of Lake Placid where the Association's 49th reunion will be held this June. Shown here are the Olympic Ski Jumps. Plastic matting has been installed which allows for year-around ski-jumping. There will be jumping going on during the association's reunion.

The Village of Lake Placid, a noted summer and winter resort, 1965 feet above sea level, at its highest elevation is situated in the scenic "high peak" area of the Adirondack Mountains in Essex County, New York. It lies on the shores of lakes Mirror (formerly Bennet's Pond) and Placid, and is surrounded by the vast Adirondack State Park lands.

Lake Placid is located in the Northeast corner of New York State, 120 miles from Montreal and 140 miles from Albany. Lake Placid is ideal for meetings and conventions such as our association will hold next summer, June 9, 10, 11, 1994.

### 1994 ANNUAL REUNION

#### The Grandview Holiday Inn

Lake Placid's most superb accommodations, dining and recreation are found on 40 acres in the center of the village overlooking the lake at the superior rated Grandview Holiday Inn.

From the rooms available, you can choose from chalets and guest rooms with fireplaces and jacuzzis, mini-suites, condos and hotel rooms boasting spectacular mountain and lakeviews.

The hotel's distinctive difference is found in the array of choices it has to offer:

Six unique dining rooms

Private trout streams on premises

Five tennis courts

Holiday Inn Health Club — large indoor pool, whirlpool, sauna, life cycles, lifesteps, rowing machines, treadmill, toning tables, weight station, tanning salon and masseur.

Fifty acre trout fishing preserve minutes from the hotel.

The Lake Placid Olympic Center and Convention facilities are adjacent to the hotel.

The diversity of the Grandview Holiday Inn ranges from beautifully restored rooms with a classic Adirondack atmosphere to the Grand Olympic Ballroom.

The unique facilities offer an experience that is unmatched by any other resort.

#### Most Scenic Highway

The drive to Lake Placid is as beautiful as the destination. Voted "America's Most Scenic Highway" in 1966 the New York State Northway stretches from Albany to the Canadian border through the untouched natural beauty of the Adirondack Park. The uninterrupted vistas of Route 73, the final roadway into Lake Placid, unveil a panorama of the majestic High Peaks just before the highway curls around the base of the Olympic Ski Jump Towers, Lake Placid's greatest landmarks. You have arrived!

#### Year Round Appeal

Still alive is the excitement in Lake Placid preparation for the 1980 Olympic Winter Games resulted in the construction of ultra-modern facilities, now very unique attractions to visitors, as well as the sites of countless national and international sporting events. Completing the year-round appeal in the area are the lakes, streams, mountains and all the accompanying attractions which focus on them.

#### Sightseeing

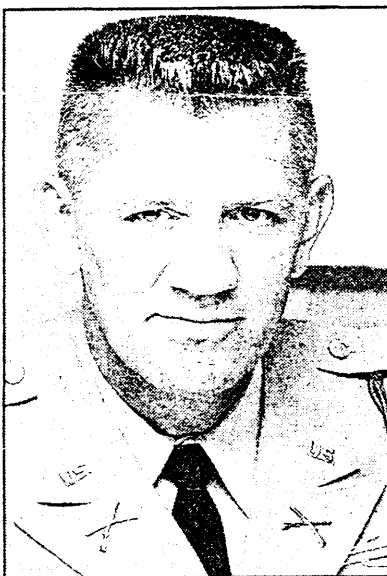
Enjoy a complete personalized and informative tour of the Olympic venues, and the Lake Placid area by air conditioned mini coach.

Tour Lake Placid in one of the enclosed tour boats. The hour-long cruise is a peaceful and breathtaking trip covering 16 miles of scenic Adirondack beauty. The tour boats pass through the islands, by large private homes and estates and cruise by the base of Whiteface Mountain, site of the 1980 Olympic Alpine Events. This delightful trip is a must for all visitors to Lake Placid. Rain or shine, a delightful experience.

Lake Placid is the place to be on June 9th, 10th and 11th of 1994.

Ron Murphy  
Sec. N.E. chapter  
44 Strawberry Lane  
Scituate, Ma 02066

## Taps Sounded



Keene Wilson

Keene "Slick" Wilson former 3rd Battalion Commander of the 60th Infantry Regiment passed away this past Winter after a bout with Cancer. We got to know Slick from the reunions (we were 47th men) a real nice guy and a gentleman. He was buried with full military honors in a ceremony befitting a man whose bravery in battle once earned him a commendation on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives.

According to a spokesman from the National Guard (Alabama) "It would be easy to say that Col. Wilson was one of Alabama's most decorated soldiers of any War".

Col. Wilson is survived by two sons, Keene Norwood Wilson, Jr., of California, and Robert Wilson of Texas. Rest in peace old warrior and to his family we offer our belated sympathy.

THE OCTOFOIL

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

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Phila, PA 18148

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Weehawken, NJ 07087

Board of Governors

1994  
Bill Carson  
Melbourne, FL  
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Wauwatosa, WI  
Ron Murphy  
Scituate, MA  
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1995  
John J. O'Grady  
Plantation, FL  
Marv Levy  
Merrick, NY  
Frank Haines  
Trenton, NJ  
Billie Martin  
Birmingham, MI  
Ted Preston  
Walworth, WI  
John Miller  
Arlington TX  
1996  
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Al Farrante  
Framingham, MA  
Henry Phillips  
Penn Valley, CA  
Adolph Wadalavage  
Ozone, Pk. NY  
Marty Krasovitz  
Gibbsboro, NJ

Published five times yearly. May, June, July - Aug. Sept.  
Oct. - Nov. Dec. - Jan. Feb. - Mar, April by and for the mem-  
bers 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 pho-  
tographs and art work in good condition.

An extract from the certificate of incorporation of the 9th  
Infantry Division Association read: "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 pro-  
moting an everlasting world peace exclusively by 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 of the 20th.

Second-Class Postage paid at Union City, N.J. 07087, and  
additional offices.

POST MASTER: Send address changes to 412 Gregory  
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Publication # 402820

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      ☐

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.

LADIES CORNER

Oh what a beautiful, clean,  
fun-filled and great-to-visit city  
San Antonio is! The 500 plus 9th  
Division Association members  
who spent 3-4 days there think  
so, including the 111-112  
Auxiliary members who attend-  
ed our Brunch/Fashion Show/  
Meeting on October 8th. Be-  
sides the joys of the city of San  
Antonio, we had a delicious  
Brunch and a fascinating  
Fashion Show narrated by Mrs.  
San Antonio, modeled (among  
others) by Miss San Antonio,  
and sponsored by The Tequila  
Tree, a wonderful store in  
Market Square in downtown San  
Antonio. The colors of the Sun  
and Desert were woven into the  
lovely clothes they modeled for  
us. The models were beautiful,  
the clothes were outstanding,  
and they came in all sizes, not  
just the models' sizes. Quite a  
few of us visited the Tequila  
Tree the next day, and I must  
confess I even bought a few  
things I could not resist. For the  
show and the decorations, etc.  
we must thank the Texas  
Chapter's Ladies Auxiliary,  
namely: Jean Miller, Rose  
Botella, Dorothy Burkey, and  
others whose names I do not  
know. Rose Botella, through her  
Avon connections placed a bot-  
tle (full size) of an Avon Scent at  
each place. Mine was "Mesmer-  
ize". Rose said to pour it into a  
tub of water soak in it, then  
Mesmerize Joe! Thank you so  
much Rose and ladies for mak-  
ing our Meeting such a beautiful  
affair.

ELECTIONS

After the show we had our  
Annual Meeting, with elections:  
Carol Saunders stepped up from  
Vice-President to President;  
Chaplain Mary McLaughlin vol-  
unteered for Vice-President;  
Virginia Driscoll ditto for the  
Secretary's job; I re-enlisted for  
Treasurer, and President Mary  
Brasington volunteered for  
Chaplain. All were elected unan-  
imously. The new President  
Carol Saunders and I then took  
several minutes for a very spe-  
cial duty. Unknown to all  
(except my husband, Joe) we  
had handsome plaques made  
for 8 special women, reading as  
follows: "Presented to name for  
devoted service as Secre-  
tary/Treasurer or President of  
Ladies Auxiliary 9th Division  
Association 1975-1987 or other  
dates served". In order of time  
served we gave them to: Lily  
Krasovetz, 12 years; Lorraine  
Clark, 4 years; Irene Tapp, 2  
years; Phyllis Perna, 4 years; Iris  
Canales, 1 year; Wanda Preston,  
2 years; Ruth Lees, 2 years; and  
Mary Brasington, 2 years. It was  
an honor long overdue and we  
are sorry that we didn't do it  
sooner, or mention and honor  
all the women who have worked  
so hard to keep our Auxiliary a  
going organization, dedicated to  
helping Veterans in need.  
Thanks Ladies! Speaking of  
Veterans in need, we voted on  
giving \$400.00 checks to  
Auxiliary Member Mary Brasing-  
ton for the McGuire VA hospital  
in Richmond, Virginia; to  
Auxiliary Member Billie  
McKinney for the Veterans  
Affairs Medical Center in  
Martinsburg, West Virginia; to  
Auxiliary Member June  
Hoepfner for the Lyons VA  
Medical Center in Lyons, New  
Jersey; and to Tony Giralico for  
the Batavia, New York Veterans  
Hospital. The voting on this  
matter was very peaceful this  
year, as the Officers, after  
receiving requests from 5 peo-  
ple during the year voted to  
nominate 4 of them for the

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION

LAKE PLACID  
HOLIDAY INN SUNSPREE RESORT  
LODGING RESERVATION FORM

Arrival: Thursday, June 9, 1994  
or Friday, June 10, 1994

Departure: Sunday, June 12, 1994

All reservations must be made on this form and returned  
by Thursday, May 12, 1994 with a deposit of \$100.00 per  
room to:

Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort  
1 Olympic Drive  
Lake Placid, New York 12946  
(518) 523-2556  
FAX: (518) 523-9410

3 Night Package      2 Night Package  
Arrival: Thur. 6/9/94      Fri. 6/10/94

Standard Rooms:

Single:	\$391.05	\$305.16
Double:	246.08	192.84
Triple:	210.01	163.98
Quad:	191.39	150.14

Mini-Suites:

Single:	\$549.00	410.46
Double:	325.85	245.49
Triple:	262.68	199.08
Quad:	231.08	175.88
Tax:	Inclusive	Inclusive
Gratuity	Inclusive	Inclusive

Rates are quoted on a per person, per stay basis and for a  
2 night minimum stay.

The "3 Night" Package Rates include: 3 Nights' Lodging, 3  
Breakfasts, Complimentary Welcome Party on Thursday  
night, Dinner on Thursday, Complimentary Cocktail  
Reception and Dinner on Friday, 1 Banquet on Saturday  
and all Taxes and Gratuities.

The "2 Night" Package Rates include: 2 Nights' Lodging, 2  
Breakfasts, Complimentary Cocktail Reception and Dinner  
on Friday, 1 Banquet on Saturday and all Taxes and  
Gratuities.

- \*\*\*\*\*
- \*\* Reservations must be received by Thursday, May 12,  
1994.
- \*\* Reservations received after this date will be accepted  
upon availability.
- \*\* Deposits will be refunded, if cancellation is received by  
Thursday, May 26, 1994.
- \*\* Payment arrangements for the total package will be  
required upon arrival in the form of cash or major cred-  
it card. Personal checks will not be accepted as  
a method of final payment.
- \*\* Credit will not be given for missed meals or early  
departures
- \*\* Check in time is 3:00 PM, Check out time is 11:00 AM
- \*\* Telephone reservations will not be accepted.
- \*\* Telefaxed reservations must be guaranteed by a major  
credit card.
- \*\* All standard rooms have 2 double beds.
- \*\* Rollaway beds are available upon request at an addi-  
tional charge.

\*\*\*\*\*  
To confirm your room, it is necessary to guarantee your  
reservation with a \$100.00 deposit in the form of a Check  
or a Major Credit Card.

— \$100.00 Check      — \$100.00 Credit Card  
Card Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Unit: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Persons: \_\_\_\_\_  
Standard: \_\_\_\_\_ Mini-Suite: \_\_\_\_\_  
Single: \_\_\_\_\_ Double: \_\_\_\_\_ Triple: \_\_\_\_\_ Squad \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Roommate(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Arrival Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Anticipated Time of Arrival: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*  
Package Rates for our Specialty Rooms with Fireplaces and  
Jacuzzis available upon request.

Rates for Early Arrival on Wednesday, June 8th or for Late  
Departure on Monday, June 13th are:

	Standard	Mini-Suite
Single:	\$ 81.76	\$135.61
Double:	\$ 89.70	143.54
Triple:	109.38	163.80
Quad:	129.08	184.04

Tax & Gratuity: Inclusive      Inclusive  
These "Bed & Breakfast" rates are quoted per room per  
night, including 1 Night's Lodging, Breakfast, Tax and  
Breakfast Gratuity. Reservations will be accepted subject  
to availability.  
\*\*\*\*\*

donations. The 5th one had  
already received our check 2  
years ago, and will go on the list  
for a later donation.

Our Pollyanna was a success  
as usual and we thank those  
ladies who sold the tickets:  
Rosalie Painter, Ruth Jordan,  
Ruth Lees, and Lorraine Clark.  
The list of winners of our Big  
Raffle held on Friday, October  
8th at 9:00 P.M. is still inconclu-

sive, and I hope to have it ready  
for the next edition.

Take care and have very  
Happy Holidays coming up in  
the next 2 months. Good-bye for  
now and please keep in touch.

Ellie Taubner,  
Treasurer  
85 Smith Avenue  
Bergenfield, NJ 07621

SAN ANTONIO THE BEST TIME EVERY TIME ...

... was certainly in evidence for those in attendance at the 48th Annual Reunion. Although the circle grows smaller each year, many members turned out for what was a first tip to Texas and the Great Southwest. Arriving in the Alamo City early and staying late, they visited many historic areas in and around San Antonio. To many this was a "Holiday in Texas"! Al and Gen Zenka even made it to Larado on the Mexican border where Al dipped a foot in the Rio Grande. I hope that it has not fallen off by now! The rodeo was the usual success where "Old Reliabilities" rode chairs and stools and shot the BULL! It was good that the same guys won after three days of recalling days of fifty years plus ... but my, my, don't the stories get better? For some fifteen this was their first reunion ... how sweet it was!

The committee was delighted with the response to the many planned activities. There were some very interesting Unplanned activities, especially the tours. How about the large numbers who shook a "wicked leg" to Sturchio's Orchestra? Did you see Rucker do his famous CRUTCH STOMP? It is rumored that he has six "spare parts": and is an almost bionic man!

MEMORIAL SERVICE

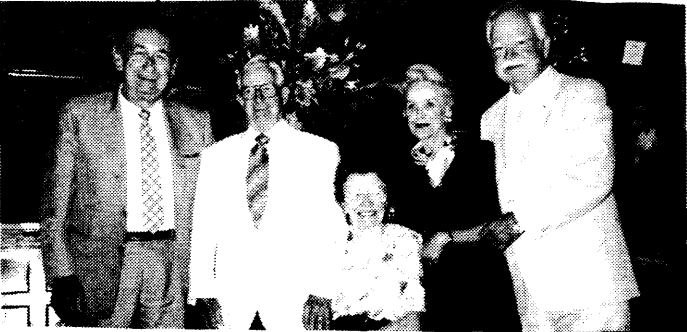
The outstanding and very moving Memorial Service was planned by Ken Myers and Chapter chaplain William Lynch. Good planning made the execution superb and many members were deeply moved by the choir from the San Antonio Church of the Nazarene under the direction of Reverend Wentworth.

"TWO TO TANGO"

The banquet on Saturday night featured a Texas Gourmet Delight and a continuation of the Rodeo! President John W. Miller thanked everyone for coming and gave special recognition to the fifteen members who were attending their first reunion. Assuring everyone that it was a genuine privilege to host the reunion as a neophyte chapter, he presented a plaque to each of the committee members. Pete Rice, President of the sot chapter presented John Miller a plaque of appreciation



Ed Wisniewski and wife Margaret, Father Jerry Rowan and Pete Rice are shown at the Saturday night banquet. (Photo by Billie Martin)



Nick Chipura Co I 39th is shown (l-r) with John Adams, Ann Adams, Janie Palmer, Trent Palmer at Arnaud's Restaurant in New Orleans. Story appears in Mail Call. They met in September and then attended the reunion in Texas in October.

for his leadership in forming the chapter and being the chairman of the reunion. Jean Miller was also recognized for her outstanding contributions in directing the ladies auxiliary at the national and state level. As it takes "two to Tango", Jean kept John in line and together they were a great team in assuring all visitors had a memorable experience.

Dan Quinn, Executive Secretary, presented Certificates of Recognition to 23 members from the various chapters for their contributions at the local level. The retiring members of the Board of Governor's also were given certificates for their dedicated service to the Association.

DUFFERS

The golf tournament proved to be a "heated challenge" under a bright blue Texas sky. Richard Granbery awarded the following prizes: First place — Billy McKinney; Second place — Ruth Lannon; Longest drive on #4 — Mike Pelle; Closest to the pin on #18 — John Badura.

For those who flew on Delta and presented their names Herbert Stern had their name drawn for a prize from Delta Airlines. The prize was one round-trip ticket good for one year to any place Delta flies in the continental United States, Canada, Bermuda or Puerto Rico. W.C. (Bill) Mauser (84th Field) was the lucky winner.

As the meeting progressed to completion, John Miller was presented with an OCTOFOIL plaque on behalf of the Association for his leadership as National President, by Dan Quinn. President Miller again thanked the membership for the opportunity of service to the association and introduced Edwin Wisniewski, Richmond, Michigan as the President of the Association for 1993-1994 as he passed the gavel of authority. President-elect Wisniewski thanked the membership for their confidence in designating him President of the Association for the coming term as President. The meeting adjourned to meet at Lake Placid, New York during the second week of June, 1994.

Adios Amigos ...

Memorial Service

We received many requests for a copy of the prayer at the Memorial Service offered by Rev. William Lynch of the Texas Chapter.

Holy Father:

*We pause in this pensive and reflective hour to honor our fallen comrades. And in these moments of reminiscence our minds permit the passing in review of those sainted soldiers who paid the supreme sacrifice;*

*In the sand dunes and craggy knolls of Africa;*

*In the grassy slopes and hillocks of Sicily;*

*In the hedgerows of France;*

*And in the hamlets and villages of Germany.*

*To this innumerable caravan immortalized by their sacrifice, we add our friends who survived the carnage of war but in these recent times yielded to the inevitable. Yet, like John Gillespie Magee, Jr. all of these more positively proclaim:*

*"Oh, I have skipped the surly bonds of earth.*

*And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;*

*And, while with silent, lifting mind,*

*I've trod the high untrespassed sanctity of space,*

*Put out my hand, and touched the face of God."*

*Now, may memory sweet sift our minds of the unpleasant, the unprofitable and allow us these sacred and meaningful moments to behold the good, the glorious. Along the lane of life's memories may we pick a little memento from the past and build a bouquet that will brighten the living room of our heart. Then, in our hearts may we joyously sing:*

*Precious memories, how they linger*

*How they ever flood my soul,*

*In the stillness of the midnight*

*Precious memories wealth unfold.*

Amen



Lloyd Fisher and Clark Gronevant of A Bty 26th FA are shown at the San Antonio reunion waiting for the Memorial Service to begin. (Photos supplied by Billie Martin)

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP  
MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION

(Act of October 23, 1962: Section 4369, Title 39, United States Code)

1A. Title of Publication: THE OCTOFOIL. 1B. Publication No.: 402820. 2. Date of Filing: Sept. 17, 1993  
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For Completion by Nonprofit Organizations Authorized To Mail at Special Rates (DMM Section 423.12 only). The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for Federal income tax purposes (Check one)

x (1) Has Not Changed During the Preceding 12 Months		
10. Extent and Nature of Circulation	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
A. Total No. Copies (Net Press Run)	2400	2400
B. Paid Circulation		
1. Sales through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors and Counter Sales	None	None
2. Mail Subscriptions	2295	2295
C. Total Paid Circulation (Sum of 10B1 and 10B2)	2295	2295
D. Free Distribution		
By Mail, Carrier or other means		
Samples, Complimentary, and other free copies	55	55
E. Total Distribution (Sum of C and D)	2350	2350
F. Copies Not Distributed		
1. Office use, left over, Unaccounted, spoiled after printing	50	50
2. Return from news agents	None	None
G. TOTAL (Sum of E, F1 and 2-should equal net press run shown in A)	2400	2400
11. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.		

Daniel Quinn, Editor

TEXAS AND GREATER  
SOUTHWEST CHAPTER  
NEWSLETTER

What a privilege to host the Forty-Eighth Annual Reunion! How delighted we were at the turn out and the positive vibes that we received by those in attendance. So many came early and some stayed late to enjoy a vacation as a fringe benefit of the reunion.

As a new chapter, it was realized from the beginning that this would be a gargantuan undertaking. As the committee jelled, it became apparent that our chairman, John Miller, was most fortunate. Every member of the committee had retired from a professional career in one of the following: Hotel Management, Tours and Travel; Communications; Clergy; Printing; Conference Director; Food Service; Floristry; Sales and Merchandising ... so, they all took another fling! It was hoped that the flings were not too dusty!

Though a bit rusty, the tasks evolved with gratifying results. There were a few mistakes ... but the "person who has never made a mistake, has not been born" or "is not doing anything!" Believe me there was plenty of "doing" in San Antonio. The dedicated committee members drove innumerable miles; made countless phone calls and wrote lots of letters ... just 'cause they were determined to develop the theme: SAN ANTONIO, THE BEST TIME EVERY TIME. Then there was Dan and Marie Quinn who published practically everything that was sent — including pictures. The convention and Visitor's Center provided a wealth of materials — written and photographic.

Many "rub-off" values accrued to the chapter: (1) The knowledge that it could be done. (2) The strengthening of our chapter; (3) The courage to do it again. Publicity about the reunion brought twenty-five new members into the chapter. On doing it again, those of you who came to San Antonio had only "A Taste of Texas!" There is more, so much more in Beautiful, Beautiful Texas, where the beautiful Bluebonnets grow.

The Metroplex of Dallas/Fort Worth; The plains and deserts of far West Texas; The super-conductor-super collider; Houston and NASA; Austin and the State capital complex ... Just say the word Pardner and Ya'll come again ... the latch string is always out.

Next Chapter Meeting: Stagecoach Inn: Salado, Texas 76571; Telephone: (817) 947-5111 or 800-732-8994. Identify yourself as a member of the 9th Division. Date: March 18th. Bus-iness meeting 10:30 a.m.

There may be a special rate for arrival on 18th but Stagecoach Inn will verify. (\$46.00).

Many beautiful shops and splendid food. We will rehash the very successful San Antonio meeting.





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

We are back home from our 48th Reunion in San Antonio, where 8 of us attending had a great time. Orion and Etsie Shockley, Nino and Julie Cecchine, Chuck and Joyce Munger, and Ellie and I were there. It was a beautiful and clean city, and we had fun, but we missed Bob and Moira Moore, who had to cancel at the last minute due to illness. We hope to see both of you at next year's Reunion, OK? Our next Reunion will be in Lake Placid, New York, which will be close to home for a lot of you. Some of us were there already and it is quite pretty. It will be in June, that's all I can tell you as they did not have anymore information about it in San Antonio. Look for the details in the next Octofoil edition. Our 50th Reunion in 1995 is planned for New Orleans, Louisiana, so save your money and make time to come! Dennis Canedy wrote that he will be going to Worcester for the Memorial Service on October 16-17th, and will represent "B" Company as no one else seems able to attend from our Company. Pat and Anne Morano used to go every year, and the rest of us went sometimes, but this year the date is too close to the San Antonio Reunion. Since Lake Placid is not too far from Conn. maybe you can come there too, Dennis? How about it? To the rest of Company B — Stan and Florence Adowski, John Campagnone, Joe and Stella Cichockie, Joe and Rose Harvilla, Bill Klauz, Anne Morano, Olga Palega, and Ed and Helen Sarnocinski — how about a big turnout for '94? You too, Joe Metzcavage? Like the Good Old Days?

### TEXAS REUNION

But more about the Texas Reunion. There were only 8 of us from Company B there, but what a good time we had. We walked the famous and beautiful RiverWalk (after all what else could 4 Infantry men do?) we rode a barge down the San Antonio River alongside it; we had a great fish dinner at Landry's (on Dan Quinn's recommendation) after riding to it on one of the famous 10+ Trolleys that run all over San Antonio; but most of all we visited and talked. We talked about the same stuff we always do talk about of course. Our wives' conversation topics may be up-to-date, but ours are still a little dated; and Shockley has the largest collection of interesting stories, (mostly true) of anyone I know. We also celebrated Etsie Shockley's birthday on Saturday. What a very special person she is, and the six of us wished her well with a small corsage and a bottle of Chivas Regal. Many Happy Returns, and years of happiness to come Etsie! Well, gotta go; please send me some news to print. Keep well and see you next year. Oh, we also visited the Alamo, the Spanish Governor's Palace and some old and beautiful Missions, and the Market Square where our wives managed to spend some money in the Tequila Tree. (At least Ellie did!)

Joe Taubner  
85 Smith Avenue  
Bergenfield, NJ 07621  
(201) 385-5280  
October 21, 1993

## F Company-Forty-Seventh Infantry

Although I was unable to be present at the festivities, F company-47th sent 19 representatives to our CP in San Antonio. Milt reports that in addition to our four former company commanders: Otto Geyer, Jack Armstrong, Chuck Jones, and Ray Schmader, the following people graced our CP: John Zulkiewski, Earl Wilkey, Robert Bigbaek, Bob DeSandy, Willie Mizell, Vincent Guglielmino, Milton Zucker, Dan Quinn, Irma Koskie (widow of Chuck), Charley Williams, Bob Landis, Charles Rochelle, Herb Hoepfner, George Brown, Only Rischel (Doc's widow), and Wayne Wilkey (Earl's son). In addition to the above, there were ten or eleven wives present. Bill Mooty's gang from E Company plus men and women from G and H Companies kept our CP room full and active.

We all owe a vote of thanks to Milt Zucker, Bill Mooty, and George Brown for their efforts in making things run so smoothly. Such dedication deserves so much more than a pat on the back, but I know these men get their kicks out of giving. Seeing the pleasure of those around them as they greet old war time buddies is all the reward they require. Never-the-less, THANKS Milt, Bill, and George.

It is with heavy heart that I pass along the sad news of the death of one of "F" Company's stalwarts, Larry Ghery. I don't remember ever attending a reunion without seeing Larry's smiling face. Larry was as valorous in fighting his last battle of the past fifteen years as he was in fighting the horrible war of the forties that brought us all together. He fought both battles with a quiet dignity and a fierce tenacity. Larry was a man of exceptional strength and outstanding courage. Future reunions will not be the same without Larry's presence. His old messmates join his grief stricken widow, Kay, in bidding their old machine gun sergeant "adieu".

Ed Hopkins  
1000 Hollywood Ave.  
Metuchen, NJ 08840

## Lake Placid, New York

### REUNION 1994



Walter O'Keeffe dug up this picture taken in Sicily Sept. 1943 of the 4th Platoon Co E 47th showing his machine gun section. Top row: Unknown, Sgt. John Bac-Paul Schumer, Sgt. William Pring, O'Keeffe. Bottom row: John Miller, Frank Catania, John Leiter, Schumer, Pring, Catania were killed in Europe.

## K Co 47th Inf. Reunion Newsletter

The 48th Reunion was a success despite the worst managed hotel in the galaxy. Those who were lucky enough to be denied accommodations in the Reunion hotel, probably have nothing but fond memories.

Those in attendance were: Frank Corvino and Edith, Joe Killackey and daughter, George Nicklin and Kate, Bill McKinney and Billie, Red Thompson and Ethyl, and Chester, Alice, Dirk, Miriam, and Dan Jordan. Everyone looked fit and the oldest man in the world looked younger than he did two years ago in Milwaukee.

BILL won the NINTH GOLF Tournament and JOE and I tore up the NORTH HILLS CC course.

If the K MEN look a little grave in the photos it could be because I shared a little insight I have gained about our predicament in WWII. First the Infantry Rifleman is an infinitesimally small part of the army and essentially the only one to want hostilities to cease. We had been in a depression for years and most people in the army never had it so good, especially the rear echelon who lived like kings with hot and cold running women and black market profits. TIME/LIFE Books has published a volume on the THIRD REICH that says there were very few Europeans who wished to be liberated, they were comfortable with Hitler's domination and we were just upsetting the new social order. YOU THINK YOU WERE SCARED THEN, WHAT IF YOU HAD KNOWN HOW MANY PEOPLE WERE ON YOUR SIDE?

For all of the well-to-do NINTH people, they are having a fabulous FOLLOW-YOUR FOOTSTEPS trip to Europe next year beginning in England on the 31st of May. They will attend the 50th Anniversary of D-DAY on the beach and in 15 days cover what it took us ten months to cover in 44 and 45. From New York it is \$3,622.00+ each. You can go on the QEII for \$1,349.00 extra. If I win the lottery you will see me there. Even with the lottery I will fly, I went over the first time in the QEII and if you've seen one you've seen 'em all.

Just before I left for San Antonio I finally managed to run down TOM SHELTON, the third platoon sergeant. His address is:

Thomas D. Sheldon  
6620 Plaska Ave.  
Huntington Park, Ca 90255  
(213)585-5264

I called him up and though I was his Platoon Leader for four months and XO and CO for four months, he didn't remember me. I impress a lot of people like that.

Chester H. Jordan  
1058 West Lakeview Drive  
Baton Rouge, La., 70810

## M COMPANY (47TH) CHRONICLER

Dear Compadres:

Home again after the 3500-mile drive to San Antonio and back. Was it worth it? You can bet your old Army boots on it! Those Texas hombres put on a FINE Reunion for us, we recharged the old M Company batteries and I sold a fair number of copies of the new book, Sedjenane, to the assembled 9th Division fellows. Add to these things a beautiful drive through the Colorado mountains with the trees doing their gorgeous tricks of this season, plus some fine shopping in Sante Fe along the way, and it was very satisfying.

We missed Bill and Norma Horan at San Antonio. Bill had a stroke a few weeks ago but the news is that his recovery is encouraging. He is home now so I'm sure he'd like to have a word from his M Company buddies. His address and phone no. are: 386 Victoria Dr., Columbus, GA, 31907; (706) 687-0290.

M's attendance at this Reunion was down a bit but, given the distance to San Antonio for most, it was to be expected. We had Don Koth with his fiancée Karen (they'll tie the knot "sometime this winter."), Conda and Jean Knee, Ed and Mary Wills, the two Joes — Kearns and Kscenitis, Willard and Mabel Norris, Howard and Grace Gaertner, Jack and his wife (a real booster of Downer's Grove, IL), and Leo and Goodie Fatlan. We found for their first time at one of these affairs, Morris Taylor of Fort Worth, TX, and Dick Yates of Rancho Cordova, CA, both once of the 2nd Platoon though at different parts of our journey. It was good to see all of them again.

Sad news from John Knight to pass on: Ed Little lost his wife Edna a few weeks ago. They were regulars at the Reunions. Ed can be reached with condolences at 313 Washington St., Tamaqua, PA, 18252; (717) 668-3421.

Joe Duyraski has sent me a classic souvenir of our days in England — his three-day pass to London, signed by me, which was also his reservation for a cot at the A.R.C. Hans Crescent Club. How about that!

Her are some address changes:

Duncan W. Murphy is now at 984 Gallup Dr., Twin Falls, ID, 83301-6822.

Clifford C. Evans, 528 Cordele Rd., Albany, GA, 31703.

Rufus M. McCollum, 1204 S. Fern Ave., Broken Arrow, OK, 74012-5003.

Glen A. Devore, 1002 Samuel St., Trl. #142, Pocatello, ID, 83204-2093.

Before closing and getting on with a huge backlog of orders for Sedjenane, for all those who attended the Reunion I want to extend our congratulations to John Miller and his band of helpers from the Texas Chapter of the Association, including our own Willard and Mabel Norris, for a fine job, well-done. Lee and I heard not a word of complaint from our bunch. And, oh yes, I am honored to report that I have joined Harold Gaertner on the Association's Board of Governors. My official title is "Member-at-Large." That doesn't refer to my ever-onward corpulence but to the fact that I represent you all wherever you may be. So, if you have any beefs, let's hear 'em.

Red Phillips  
14002 Hemlock Dr.  
Penn Valley, CA 95946

## 9th Signal Company's, 6th Annual Reunion

Well the troops arrived at the Holiday/Day's Inn complex in Springfield, Missouri on September 23rd, 1993 for the 9th Signals annual 3 day Reunion. This great affair was handled by "Our Resident Agent's", Georgia & Keith Hunter and they did a terrific job.

Their Program was well thought out and was really enjoyed by all who were present, who by the way, came from all points of the compass and points in-between.

The entire affair was chaired by Bill & Evelyn Miller and Dick and Mary Craig. One of the outings was to the "Bass Sports Center" in Springfield and that must be seen to be appreciated, a First class Haven for all sportsmen, and the Ladies had enough time for their usual shopping spree.

The "Hole-in-the-Wall" was, as usual, in operation and the gathering point for remembering old Friends, Past experiences and appreciating all the Good Lord has Blessed us with and it was our fervent hope that ALL the 9th Signalmen could reassemble and be as one, once again.

At the Saturday evening Banquet our Honored Dead were fondly remembered in the opening Invocation, as well as those who wished to be with us, but unable to do so for reasons beyond their control.

It was late Saturday evening that fond and sometimes emotional Farewell's took place, but with the Desire, God Willing to get together for "At Least One More Time".

Ray Connolly  
11 Dunstable Road  
Southampton, N.J. 08088

### I 39th MEMBERS MEET

For many years, Platoon Sergeant Nick Chipura had thought about trying to locate his old platoon leader, but the only address he had was from 1947 and it was in Alabama. Nick lives in New Jersey.

Taking a chance, Nick made a special trip to Birmingham. Finding no one at home at the 1947 address, he went across the street. By good fortune, they were relatives of the long lost Lieutenant and they directed Nick to an address in Pensacola, Florida.

So it was, Nick Chipura located John Adams. Following phone conversation and correspondence, Chipura and Adams agreed to meet in New Orleans in September with another I Company 39th Lieutenant, A Trent Palmer who lives in Louisiana. Adams and Palmer brought their wives and they all talked about World War II over fine food and good wine.

The three men had not been together since Inchenhofen, Germany in the summer of 1945. Chipura and Palmer had met in more recent years at mini-reunions of I Company and Adams promises to attend the next such reunion.



Deadline for next  
issue of the Octofoil  
Dec. 20th

## New York Chapter Report

## AFTER THE SUMMER

The NY Chapter met at Masonic Hall, 71 W 23rd St, NYC on Friday, September 10, 1993. At 7:30 p.m. President Tony Varone opened the meeting with the flag pledge of allegiance and peace prayer by our resident chaplain George Apar. We were meeting for the first time since the summer hiatus and it was good to see our 9th comrades again – but some were conspicuously missing. As most of you know by now, Secretary Art Schmidt had fallen and fractured the upper part of his remaining amputated leg. He is hospitalized at the VA Medical Center, E 23 St & First Ave, NY, from well-wishers. Get well soon, Art.

Also on sick call, Charlie Libretto had bypass heart surgery during the summer and he reported that he was mending well. Frank Golub also had stomach surgery and is reported on the road to recovery.

Correspondence was read to the assembled from Al Zenka, relating to Abe Strom (who lives in Israel). We also heard from Ken Meyer.

Marty Gross reported that the Concord mini-reunion was a great success in June and members look forward to another resort get-together in the future.

The San Antonio Reunion was discussed and Charlie Libretto was replaced by Marty Gross as representative to the nominating committee at the convention.

Attending, not mentioned above were: Bill Canales, Tony De Robertis, Al Eisen, Vincent Guglielmino, Marv Levy, Charlie Vandermark, Adolph Wadalavage and Joe Rzesniowicki.

## AFTER THE TEXAS REUNION

On Friday, October 15, 1993 the NY Chapter met again at the Masonic Hall in NYC. Prez Tony Varone opened the meeting with our monthly ceremony. No correspondence was read since our secretary Art Schmidt wasn't present. Marv Levy took over the recording secretarial duties temporarily. We were delighted to see 9th man Walter O'Keefe present, who lives in San Francisco, and was in NY for a short time.

## New Jersey Chapter

It is always with heavy heart that I must report the death of our men. The morning of October 23, Hugh Lee passed on to his eternal rest. Lee's first inkling of sickness appeared when he had a respiratory attack at the banquet at The Pines in New York in 1989. Prior to that he had been in attendance at every Chapter meeting that we had, and it was a rare national reunion that Lee missed. He cherished his affiliation with his old comrades of WWII. Lee served with Company L of the Thirty-ninth Infantry. For forty-seven years he served with the Summit Police Department with distinction, and after retirement he served as a police dispatcher with the police. We will miss this old soldier, and we send our condolences to his lovely widow Ronnie.

I was hoping to arrange for another buffet/dance at the Bound Brook Moose, but Richie informs me that the hall is no longer available to outside organizations. Perhaps we can make arrangements with some other group in the near future.

Those who attended the San Antonio Reunion said they had a good time. Marty Gross reported that he and Al Zenka nominated Adolph Wadalavage for the Board of Governors and Adolph accepted. We were glad to hear that Charlie Libretto was well enough to attend the Reunion. The NY Chapter presented a bid for the '96 Reunion.

Members Quinn, Klaus, DeRobertis and Wadalavage reported that they had visited Art Schmidt at the VA Medical Center and that he was on the mend and in good spirits.

Next order of business included reminders for the Oct. 16 and 17 Memorial Services in Worcester; Nov. 19 Nomination of NY Chapter Officers; Dec. 17 Election of Officers and 50-50 Raffle Drawings; and Jan. 21, 1994 Installation of Officers.

Meeting was adjourned and we partook of delicacies provided by our hospitality staff while Adolph Wadalavage played a tape recording of the Memorial Service from the Texas Reunion.

Members attending the October meeting not mentioned earlier: George Apar, Bill Canales, Tony DeRobertis,

Anton Dietrich, Vincent Guglielmino, Bill Klaus, Emil Langer, Al Lubrano, Dan Quinn, Joe Rzesniowick and Charles Vandermark.

NY Chapter dues reminder! If you have not done so please send in your dues: \$10 per year; \$25 for 3 years; and \$75 for Lifetime Membership. Make checks payable to "Greater NY Chapter, 9th Inf. Div. Ass'n, Inc." Send to Treasurer, Charles Vandermark, 38 Miller Avenue, Floral Park, New York, NY 11001-3325. (Tel. 516, 352-7360) Marv Levy Co A, 60th Infantry 2044 Ellen Drive Merrick, NY 11566

I will be sending you good men a full report of the state of your CP Fund along with my holiday greetings in late December or early November. Meanwhile stay healthy and shoot for Lake Placid in '94!

I hope those of you who attended the San Antonio reunion enjoyed your stay in the Lone Star State. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend this one. Lucy and I are both looking forward to Lake Placid in June.

I am now collecting dues for 1994. You may send your dues to me at 110 Hollywood Avenue, Metuchen, NJ 08840. Make Check payable to NJ Chapter, 9th Div. Assoc.

ED HOPKINS  
110 Hollywood Avenue  
Metuchen, NJ 08840-2216

Can Co 47th  
TOM MCGINLEY  
210 Hugel Dr.  
Pittsburgh, PA  
15209-2066

Dear Dan & Marie,

I have to report that we have moved from the old 12 room homestead with 50 steps to the street to a 4 room apartment with less than 5 steps. The old legs aren't what they used to be.

I saw this article in the paper about Westmorland and I thought I would pass it on.

Hope you are all well and see you in Texas or Worcester.

## ILLINOIS CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

We arrived home safe and sound from the San Antonio, Texas Reunion. It was a long trip but we made several stops on the way back which made it pleasurable. There's so much to see in our country. All it takes is time and money.

Our congratulations to the Texas Chapter for a grand reunion. We know what it takes to run a reunion and appreciate all their hard work, time and efforts expended to make a successful reunion. No matter how hard the committee tries, there are always complaints but you won't hear any from us. We did have some trouble with hotel confirmations but that's not the committee's fault. We were pleased with our rooms and location near the pool.

We enjoyed the Welcome Party "Down Mexico Way" even though we almost got stranded at the Riverwalk. The trolley driver couldn't find the hotel and after riding around town — he dropped us off where we started and suggested we board another trolley. We enjoyed meeting with our friends and enjoyed the music of the strolling musicians. It was good seeing the widows of our members, Irma Koskie, Agnes Spears, Only Rischel and Madeline Burr.

Friday while the ladies enjoyed a Brunch and Fashion Show, the men attended meetings. We joined up in the afternoon and enjoyed the sights of San Antonio and a ride along the Riverwalk. The Friday Dance "Western Style" was great. We enjoyed the companionship and dancing to a marvelous band. We finally convinced the band to play "Alley Cat" but it was late and the participants were few in number but enjoyed by all present.

The Memorial Services Saturday morning were most impressive. Congratulations to the committee for a service which left a lasting impression on all. The singing of the Choir of the San Antonio Church of the Nazarene was very moving and inspiring.

The Reunion concluded with the Banquet Saturday night with the usual speeches and a surprise speaker who fooled us all. Congratulations to the new President of the Association, Edwin Wisniewski from Michigan. Good luck!

## Co "K" 60th

ROBERT H. RUCKER  
5055 W. Panther Creek Drive  
C-1103

The Woodlands, Texas 77381

My heart was further saddened when I learned of Keene N. "Slick" Wilson's death last month. "Slick" was one of thousands who answered the call to serve their country because he thought it was the right thing to do. Enlisting as a private he rose through the ranks to a colonel during our war! He accepted surrender terms from the Germans in Vienna.

When my right leg was blown off on March 23, 1943, I knew that I was through, so I sent for "Slick." I admonished him to take over ... these men will follow you through Hell!...and they did.

## -Division License Plates

9th Division aluminum license plates are available for a total cost of \$8.00 each which includes postage. These plates are white with blue lettering and border. A large red, white and blue Octofoil, is at the center. The lettering is 9th In. Div. Assn. Across the bottom are the 8 battle stars and invasion arrowhead like on our newspaper masthead. Send all orders made payable to: Elmer Wagner, 2833 Hotchkiss Rd., Bay City, MI 48706.

## GOOD JOB

Thanks again to the Texas Chapter for a job well done. We were disappointed no information was available for the 1994 Reunion. We do not have dates nor location other than Lake Placid, N.Y. Information should be in this issue of the Octofoil. We are looking forward to attending next year, the Good Lord willing.

## SAD NEWS

We have some sad news to report at this time. Larry Ghery, formerly of Illinois, but recently in Tulsa, passed away September 9, 1993 after a long illness. Larry was in "F" Co. 47th Inf. Larry attended many reunions with his wife, Kay. He was in Fayetteville last year with his son as Kay was not up to making the trip. We also heard from Marian Cook, wife of Lester "L.V." Cook of Oakfield, Wisconsin. Lester passed away very quietly on August 3 and was buried with Military Rites. He was in the 60th Infantry Regiment. Our condolences to both families on their loss. We will miss them dearly.

Not much news in the Health Report this time. Only news to report is that Muriel Gray — wife of Lewis Gray — will be undergoing surgery in a few weeks. Good luck, Muriel.

## HOLIDAY PARTY

Our Holiday Party this year will be on December 11th at the Grand Milwaukee Hotel in Milwaukee. We have reserved a Hospitality Room and all are invited. Rooms are \$69.00 plus tax and reservations must be made directly to the Hotel. Rooms will be held until November 12th. Toll Free number is 800-558-3862. Mention the 9th Infantry Division Association for special rates. For more information contact Gordon Anderson or Mike Belmonte.

Best wishes to all our fellow members and their families for a Happy Thanksgiving and a Happy Holiday Season. A speeding recovery to all the members who are ill and were unable to attend the San Antonio Reunion.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Belmonte  
1161 S. Lombard Ave.  
Oak Park, IL 60304



The Town of Selma, Alabama is developing a section of their museum as a tribute to "Slick." As you know he never talked much about his service in the war but his story needs to be told. I am appealing for HELP! Anyone at any level who had contact with "Slick," please write me a letter regarding him and your association. Please emphasize his leadership and/or personal adventures about him. I will assemble them and get to the proper authorities. I will also give a follow up on this project and this should be done in every home town because the stories will soon be gone forever as the years are taking their toll.

## Taps Sounded

Call out or names  
as the years go by-  
Remember us-  
and we will never die

With deep remorse we announce the passing of these friends and comrades.  
May they rest in peace.  
To their loved ones we extend our deepest sympathy.

Keene "Slick" Wilson  
Co. 3rd Bn. 60 Inf.

Albert Lehmann  
Hqs. Co. 47th Inf.

George Furber  
Btry C 60th F.A.

James Johnson  
A Co. 47th Inf.

Edna Hummel  
Wife of Dr. R.M. Hummel  
60th Inf. & 9th Med. Bn.

Lester V. Cook  
Serv. Co. 60th Inf.

Henry G. Hall  
Co. E 47th Inf.

Larry Ghery  
F Co. 47th Inf.

Woodrow Greeno  
60th Inf. M Co.

Jack Safford  
2nd Bn 47th Inf.

Lou Schneider  
M Co. 47th Inf.

Edward Gill  
B Btry, 84th F.A.

Jesse Davis  
34th F.A.

William Virgili  
Co. G 39th Inf.

Hugh Lee  
L Co. 39th Inf.

Justin O'Keefe  
Brother of Capt. John  
O'Keefe (K.I.A.)  
A Co. 47th Inf.

Kermit Waddell  
M Co. 60th Inf.

Betty Rumenapp  
Widow of Bob Rumenapp  
60th Inf. Cannon Co.

Viola Stockford  
Widow of Kleber Stockford  
D Co. 60th

## 60th Inf. Serv. Co.

MARION COOK  
P.O. Box 273  
Oakfield, WI. 53065

Your paper, The Octofoil, arrived a few days too late for Lester (LV) to read and enjoy, as he always did.

Lester Cook passed away, very quietly in his sleep on August 3rd. He was buried with Military Rites on August 7th in the little cemetery he took care of here in Oakfield, WI.

You will remember him as the "Old Reliable" from Service Co., 60th Infantry who always wore his "Go Devil" helmet (the original) to the reunions — Nashville, Orlando, Ft. Bragg, Milwaukee. He enjoyed (and so did I) every one of them.

If you haven't read the last page of the most recent issue of the Octofoil do so. He has an article and a picture of our mini reunion in California.

Please keep me on your mailing list as I too love to read the Octofoil.

# Business Conducted at Reunion

## Minutes of the 174th Meeting of the National Board of Governors The Ninth Infantry Division Association

The 174th Board Meeting of the Ninth Infantry Division was held in San Antonio, Texas at the Holiday Inn Riverwalk Hotel on Oct. 7th, 1993, at 4:05 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by President John Miller who asked the members to stand for a moment of silent prayer in memory of our departed members. Attending the meeting were Al Perna, Bill Carson, Ted Preston, George Brown, Bob DeSandy, Trevor Jones, Billy Martin. Also present were 1st V.P. Vincent Goglielmino, Judge Advocate Dave Heller, 2nd V.P. Pat DeColli and members Larry McLaughlin, Al Ferrante, Adolph Wadalavage, and Ed Wisniewski.

Secretary Dan Quinn read the minutes of the last meeting held in June of 1992 at Fort Bragg and upon a motion made by Al Perna and seconded by Bob DeSandy it was voted to: Accept the reading of the minutes and instruct the secretary to place copy of same on file.

Due to the absence of Tom Boyle the Treasurer (due to illness) the treasurer report was omitted by a motion made by Al Perna and seconded by Bill Martin.

President John Miller opened a discussion on the possibility of the Association conducting a tour to Europe for the 50th Anniversary of D Day in Normandy. After discussion the matter was tabled.

John Miller Chairman of the Texas Reunion briefed the members as to the attendance (over 500 people) were expected and to events that will take place the next two days.

Larry McLaughlin Chairman of the Veterans awards committee named Adolph Wadalavage and Henry Santos as permanent members of this committee. The committee recommends that \$900.00 be allowed to purchase three (3) TVs for a VA Hospital so designated. Upon a motion by Bob DeSandy and seconded by George Brown it was voted to: Grant the committee the \$900.00 for the purchase of TV's.

Larry McLaughlin also spoke of a recommendation he made regarding the placing of an additional market and the naming of a street at Fort Bragg where the Ninth Memorial Monument is placed. After discussion the matter was tabled.

President Miller spoke about a recruitment drive for membership of our association.

There being no other business to come before the Board and upon a motion made by Al Perna and seconded by Trevor Jones it was voted to: Adjourn the meeting at 5:20 P.M.

Daniel Quinn  
National Secretary

## Minutes of the 49th Meeting of the General Membership The Ninth Infantry Division Association

The 49th Meeting of the General Membership of the Ninth Infantry Division Association was held at 9:35 AM attended by 185 members. President of the Association John Miller called the meeting to order and asked the members to rise and salute our flag while reciting the "The pledge of Allegiance" with him. John asked the members to remain standing for a moment of silent prayer for our departed members. Miller then named the following Board members who will

act as Chairpersons for the various committees for the general meeting. Al Perna, Finance Committee, George Brown for the By-laws Committee, Newspaper Trevor Jones, Miscellaneous Committee Ted Preston, and Bob DeSandy for the Nominating Committee. President then adjourned the meeting till 11:00 AM for the committees to meet.

At 11:05 AM President Miller again reopened the meeting and asked the Secretary to read the minutes of the last general meeting held at Fort Bragg-Fayetteville, NC. Upon a motion made by Bob DeSandy and seconded by Allen Tomassone, it was voted to accept the reading of the minutes and instruct the secretary to place copy on file.

Secretary Quinn then read the report submitted by Tom Boyle the Treasurer (absent due to illness) and upon a motion made by Marty Krasovetz and seconded by Nick Dogostino it was voted to: Accept the Treasurers report.

### By-Laws Committee

President John Miller called upon the Chairman of the By-laws Committee George Brown who named these men who served with him on his committee. Pat DeColli, Richard Grandberry, Ed Wisniewski, Norris Grey and Dave Heller Judge Advocate. Heller reviewed the By-laws and called attention to the recent changes to the By-laws. The By-laws were discussed and no changes are recommended at this time President Miller thanked George Brown and his committee for their report and upon a motion made by Gordon Anderson and seconded by Emil DeDonato it was voted to accept the report of the By-laws committee.

### Newspaper Committee

Trevor Jones of the newspaper committee was called upon for his report and he named the following men who served on this committee: Floyd Hennessey, Bill Martin, Nick Dogostino, Emil DeDonato, Owen Sallert, Paul Clark, Bob Rucker and Bob Burkey. The committee recommends that consideration be given for advertising for sale by Chapters such as caps, shirts or other similar items. This would be part of the Chapters news letters and would be no different than advertising books written by members. The committee also recommends to keep the issues of the Octofoil at five copies a year. Thank the newspaper staff for a an excellent job (as usual). To enhance the appearance of different Chapters recognition it has been suggested that any chapter may submit their own logo mast head as a newsletter. This is purely voluntary by every chapter. President Miller thanked Trevor Jones and his committee for their report. Upon a motion made by Dave O'Grady and seconded by Al Zanka it was voted to accept the committee report. Bob Rucker addressed the floor and thanked the Editors for a fine job with the coverage given the Texas Reunion in each issue of the Octofoil.

### Miscellaneous Committee

Ted Preston chairman of the Miscellaneous Committee was called upon for his report and named the following members who served on this committee Herb Brasington, William DeBruyn, Roger Elmer, Phillip Emmons, Adolph Wadalavage, Hal Stansell, Bern Wilder and Earl Lees.

The committee discussed the Ladies Auxiliary the host Chapter will do the arranging of

procedure for their meeting. The association should complement the ladies for the job they are doing with their raffle and all the funds they donate to Veterans Organizations. Also discussed was the 50th Anniversary of D Day in France next year. The committee recommends that those interested in attending obtain information from Galaxie or other tour groups. Texas chapter has various names of companies conducting these tours.

The Committee discussed the Memorial at Worchester on the Church grounds of the late Father Connors and the committee recommends that the secretary contact members of the new England chapter (Ron Murphy and Fran Maher) to find out if the Catholic Diocese of Worchester would permit the Association to maintain the Monument.

The committee also recommends that the host Chapter give better directions to the Headquarters Hotel. President Miller thanked Ted Preston and his committee for their efforts. Upon a motion by Al Perna and seconded by Vince Guglielimo, it was voted to: Accept the report and recommendations of the Miscellaneous Committee.

### Finance Committee

Al Perna Chairman of the Finance Committee was called for his report and he named the members who served with him on this committee: Gordon Anderson Illinois Chapter, Lewis Gray Illinois Chapter, Tony Seprano Philly-Delaware Valley Chapter, Pete Rice, Jr Texas-Greater Southwest Chapter, Will Norris Texas-Greater Southwest Chapter, Phil Berman Florida Chapter, Elmer Wagner Michigan Chapter, Frank Haines New Jersey Chapter, Vincent Guglielmino and Walter O'Keeffe New York Chapter. The Committee Recommends that the same budget as last year be used:

Income Anticipated Dues-	
	\$10,000.00
CGM Mutual Fund	2,000.00
Sudder Stevens Mut Fund	1,000.00
	1,000.00
Reunion	1,000.00
Sales	200.00
Total	\$14,200.00

Expenses 1993-94 Budget	
Octofoil	\$7,636.00
Sec Sal	1,000.00
Clerical	1,000.00
Sec Expen	1,000.00
Editors Exp	400.00
Treasur Exp	350.00
Accountant	300.00
FICA	76.00
Postage	3,200.00
Supplies	650.00
Misc Exp.	450.00
Total Exp	\$17,341.00

A \$3,141.00 deficit is estimated - these funds are available from the General Fund.

President Miller thanked Al Perna and his committee for their report. Upon a motion made by Ted Preston and seconded by Roger Elmer it was voted to: Accept the report and recommendations of the finance committee.

### Nominating Committee

Bob DeSandy Chairman of the Nominating Committee reported that the following members served with him on this committee: Tom Hatton Michigan Chapter, Richard McGrath Illinois Chapter, Charles Williams, Michigan Chapter, Martin Gross New York Chapter, Al Zenka New York Chapter, Bill Carson Florida Chapter, Howard Gaernter Illinois Chapter and Gordon

Schneider, Texas-Greater Southwest Chapter. The committee recommends that five are going off the Board and they be replaced by Ed Wisniewski of the Michigan Chapter, Adolph Wadalavage New York Chapter, Marty Krasovetz, Philly-Del Valley Chapter, Al Ferrante New England Chapter and Henry (Red) Phillips California at Large. They will replace: Bob DeSandy Michigan, Al Perna Philly-Del Valley, Trevor Jones at Large, George Brown New York Chapter and Ed McGrath New England.

President Miller thanked Al Perna for their report and upon a motion made by Al Perna and seconded by Len Tomassone it was voted to: Accept the report and recommendation of the Nominating Committee and to close nominations. A motion by Bill Coen and seconded by Joh Sabato was made to: have the Secretary cast one ballot for a unanimous election of the above named members.

President Miller briefed the membership as to events to come and thanked the members for attending the meeting. There being no other business to come before this meeting and upon a motion duly made by Bob DeSandy and seconded by Vincent Guglielmino it was to vote and adjourn the meeting at 11:45 A.M.

Respectfully submitted

Daniel Quinn  
National Secretary

## Minutes of the 175th Meeting of the National Board of Governors

The 175th meeting of the National Board of Governors of the Ninth Infantry Division Association took place at the Holiday Inn-Riverwalk San Antonio, Texas on October 9, 1993. The meeting was called to order by President Jon Miller of the association at 4:30 P.M., who welcomed the new Board members and asked the members to stand with him for a moment of silent prayer for our departed members. Those in attendance were new members Al Ferrante, Ed Wisniewski, Adolph Wadalavage, Marty Krasovetz and Henry (Red) Phillips. They were joined by members of the Board Len Tomassone, Ted Preston, Howard Gaertner, Bill Carson, and Billie Martin. Also in attendance were Pat DeColli, Mart Gross, Paul Clark, Phil Berman.

Len Tomassone made a motion that was seconded by Ed Wisniewski to omit the reading of the minutes of the last meeting and so carried.

Marty Krasovetz made a motion that was seconded by Billie Martin to omit the treasurers report and so carried.

### Elections

President Miller then called for election for the coming year. Elected for the year 1994 were:

**Edwin Wisniewski President**  
**1st VP Vincent Guglielmino**  
**2nd VP Pat DeColli**  
**3rd VP Fran Maher**  
**Treasurer Tom Boyle**  
**Judge Advocate Dave Heller**  
**Secretary Dan Quinn**

President Miller turned over the gavel to the newly elected President Ed Wisniewski and he thanked the members for their cooperation this past year. Ed Wisniewski accepted the gavel and thanked the membership for the honor bestowed upon him and promised to do his best while in office. Ed called upon John Miller for a few remarks as he is the Chairman of the reunion. John spoke of the speaker for the reunion and all the members who helped

make this a great reunion. He also reminded them of the Memorial Service to be held in the morning.

### Future Reunions

President called for bids for the 1995 reunion. Marty Gross spoke for the New York Chapter for the year 1996 to be held at Grossinger, a fine hotel in the Catskills that can accommodate the association members in grand style. Phil Berman submitted for the City of New Orleans in 1995 to be conducted by Florida members. Gross stressed that New York was willing to wait for 1996 as the New England Chapter is holding the 1994 reunion at Lake Placid, NY. The 1995 reunion was awarded to the Florida Chapter to be held in New Orleans.

A discussion was started by Adolph Wadalavage regarding the selling of material at the reunions that it was getting to look like a "Flea Market". After going back and forth it was decided to table the matter.

Dave Heller spoke about the Directory he had made in 1989 and asked the members to check with their chapter members if they would be interested in the making of a new directory. Several suggestions were made to Heller and the matter will be studied.

There being no other business to come before the Board and upon a motion made by Len Tomassone and seconded by John Miller it was voted to: Adjourn the meeting at 5:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted  
Daniel Quinn,  
National Secretary

### 60th Inf.

JOSEPH RAPPAZINI  
24001 Sherman St.  
Oak Park, MI 48237-1822  
Dear Dan,

Warmest regards and tenderest memories of which we share in common and treasure. At this time they relate to the latest news. "Slick" Wilson's passing.

### FONDLY

Whether yesterday, or yesterday, memories lay claim

To so many recalled faces and most familiar names.

The name I espy is "Slick"; on his face the warming smile.

No wonder then the lack of dread as he trudged each weary mile.

The men he led, though they feared the foe,

Crossed the desert, scaled the heights, plodded through the snow,

For in their hearts they realized who led them they did know,

Engagement, fierce and deadly, would occur when met the foe.

And yet, knowing that "Slick," their commander, would lead them in the strife,

Each and every brave G.I. on the gamble staked his life.

Because well he knew the price could be high.

But guiding them on, the leader they did espy.

Seeing "Slick" there warmed their hearts made light,

And together they joined in on the struggle for the right.

To this day we recall there Colonel Keene,

And the praise we express, we truly mean.

Best wishes,  
Joe R.





# FLORIDA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

San Antonio, Texas: Over 21 members of the Florida Chapter attended the Texas Reunion. There were 19 couples and a few singles. Sue Johnstone, Joseph Kearns and Michael Deresh were among the singles. Fred and Lotti Schacor arrived for the first day but left for California to visit their daughter. Word came that Milton McDaniel and his wife had to turn around while driving to Texas after learning about the death of his mother-in-law. We were sorry to learn of this "ill-timed" death as the Mc Daniels would have enjoyed being with their comrades. Henry and Eva Santos could not make this Reunion due to Henry's illness. Henry is feeling much better and should be in the groove for the next Chapter Meeting. Ret. Gen. "Chip" Maness was unable to attend due to illness. All of the Florida Chapter Officers, with the exception of Bill Fleming, were at the Reunion.

In a brief sentence... the Texas Chapter did a good job considering the amount of work required and the vastness of territory their members had to travel. Our congratulations and appreciation for a job "well done".

**Next Chapter Meeting:** President John O'Grady reported that Bill Fleming, Chairman of the 1994 Spring Meeting, is on target on the preparations of this event. A special meeting, is on target on the preparations of this event. A special meeting of all Chapter Officers will be held some time in November to discuss the final preparations. The Florida Chapter 1994 Spring Meeting will be held in Jacksonville, FL. More information will appear in the next issue of the OCTOFOIL. Also, a detailed mailing to all Florida Chapter members will be made 6 to 8 weeks prior the the actual; date. For further information contact Bill Fleming, 7861 Prayer Dr. West, Jacksonville, FL 32217 or phone (904) 733-1877.

Florida Chapter to Host the 50th Annual Reunion:

Philip Berman, a member of the National Board of Directors, announced that the Florida Chapter will host the Golden (50th) Anniversary Reunion to be held in New Orleans, Louisiana. The New England Chapter is making preparations to hold the 1994 Annual Reunion in Lake Placid, New York. More information on these events will appear in the OCTOFOIL.

**Mail From Members:** Lila and H.F. Stansell, V.P. of the Florida Chapter, spent part of their Summer vacation visiting family in Atlanta and Rome, Georgia. They also attended the Company M, 60th Infantry reunion in South Bend, Indiana. There they visited the Campus of Notre Dame and other interesting places. H.F. and Lila Stansell were at the Texas Reunion.

Donald Wright closed his insurance office however he could be reached at 19330 Whispering Pines Rd., Miami, FL 33157-8822.

Art Schneider met Alfred M. Burrows, a 9th Inf. Div. veteran who would like to join the Florida Chapter, Alfred Burrows was sent an application form and hopefully we could add his name to our Membership Roster.

LeRoy Miller was having some medical problems and had to cancel out on his Texas reservations. LeRoy is feeling much better now and plans to attend the Spring Chapter meeting in Jacksonville some time in April, 1994.

Jordan Bierman joined the Florida Chapter in August of this year. He is looking forward to attending the Florida Chapter meeting in Jacksonville.

Norris Gray sent in a full color reproduction of the Space Shuttle STS-51 DISCOVERY. Norris is a consultant for NASA and a good man to know if you wish passes to Kennedy Space Center.

Emil Langer, who is a honorary member inquired about tours to Africa and Europe. GALAXY TOURS had a table at the Texas Reunion with complete information about a 50th Anniversary tour. Please contact Miss Alison Dodge, Sales/Marketing, GALAXY TOURS, 997 Old Eagle School Rd., Suite 207 P.O. Box 234, Wayne, Pa. 19087-0234 or phone 1-800-523-7287 for the brochure containing complete information or talk with Miss Dodge.

**Dues Reminder:** A specially designed card was prepared and sent to delinquent dues paying Chapter Members. if you did not receive your notice, please pay your dues immediately. Chapter dues are: \$5.00 for one year and \$13.00 for three years. Send your check to Philip Bermans, Treasurer, FL Chapter, 9th Inf Div. Assn. 322 Bucknell Dr., Daytona Beach, FL 32118. Remember... it is your dues that keeps the 9th infantry Division alive and working. The Officers, Committeemen and a few others give much of their time and energy without compensation so please pay your dues on time. We must never forget those men who were killed in action and those who have passed away since the end of WWII.

**Cap Program:** The sale of caps have been moving along. We have a quantity of Blue & White and All White caps with the 9th Infantry Division Assn. emblem in stock. The size is adjustable. They are of good quality with mesh backs. They make an ideal gift for all occasions. They are priced at \$10.00 each which covers the cost of shipping/handling and few bucks profit for our Chapter Treasurer. To order: state quantity, color desired. Contact Emil J. De Donato, 3650 S. W. Mosswood Street, Dunnellon FL 34431-3439. Include check for correct amount. (No Credit Cards, please).

**47th Regimental Pins:** Over the past years, several Chapter members inquired about purchasing the 47th Infantry Regimental Pin. At the recent 48th Annual Reunion held in San Antonio, Texas, a Mt. Rich "Doc" Moser, owner of "THE VETERAN'S PX" said he could obtain them. Because a few Chapter members wanted the 47th Infantry Regiments Pin, I took the liberty to order a small quantity. If you wish to purchase this pin, contact: Emil J. De Donato, 3650 S. W. Mosswood St., Dunnellon, FL 34431-3439 Phone: (904) 489-4070. The cost for each pin will be \$8.00 which covers the cost of mailing, etc.

15 Engs. B Co.  
RICHARD C. McGRATH  
2856 West 85th Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60652

Yesterday, was one good day as I had an early Christmas present when Charlie Hoffman called from New York. That gift was a pleasant surprise. Charlie has finally hung it up and joined the rest of us retirees. We hashed over the war days and he told me some heroic stories about Lt. Holt Rast. I told him it's too bad he won't make the reunion as Holt,, the All American Alabama football player, will be making the 48th Annual Ninth Div. bash. This will be Holt's first reunion and that ought to bring out a lot of, "Old Reliables" from B. Co. 15th Eng. Bn.

Sorry, to hear that Art Schmidt is in the hospital and won't make the reunion — must be the first one he will miss? Speedy recovery to Art, he'll be missed by all his buddies.

Also, heard from Tony Madonna that he won't make the reunion, but that Alley Ferrante will.

So far I have heard that Holt Rast, Phil Emmons, Paul Lisa, Bob Apel, and myself will be on the line for roll call.

Hoping that Met Otts, Frank Rankin, Ed Kurlewiez, Alex Forrest and many more of the B Co. brass will be in Lone Ranger country.

Oh yes, Tony also told me he heard from Rich Iannone who lives in California and will be in San Antonio for his first reunion.

Looking forward to the 48th get together and much thanks to Bob Rucker and all his hands for this gala event.

Hasta La Vista Adios

84th FA  
WILLIAM C. MAUSER  
2721 N. Garden Dr. #310  
Lake Worth, FL 33461  
(407) 965-2241

Snaps enclosed of your 2 guys that "got theirs" in Africa. It was good to see you but missed seeing Marie. You two are the "muscle" behind keeping the 9th Div Assn "alive & well" for almost 50 years! Thank you very much!

The Reunion committee did a great job! Our thanks to them.

Our 84th FA Bn had 12 Sons of Guns" plus their lovely spouses "present and accounted for"! Here's the roll-call:

Claude Ball, Frank Haines, Bob Mc Goldrick, Bill Mauser, Dick O'Connor, John Peluso, Charlie Pitney, Pete Rice, Bill "Ryb" Rybka, George Ruetschi, Matt Szuba and John Vander Meiden.

Question? Where are the "Son of Guns" who can still keep their powder dry and bubbles level? See you all in Lake Placid or "Up younder." Lord bless.

9th Q.M.  
Harold Hokanson  
40 Foxtail Drive  
Kingston, MA 02364

Just a few lines while signing up for three more years. The remainder to be put into the Memorial Fund. When I wrote Feb. 20, I remember it was 52 years ago being sworn into the U.S. Army. Had planned to attend Ft. Bragg reunion; Joe Russo and I had bought train tickets and made hotel reservations. However, we both had medical problems that had to be investigated. So, had to cancel our plans. Needless to say, we both were very disappointed. thank you for the enjoyment I get from reading the Octofoil.

## Tip of the Hat

The Memorial Fund was enriched by the generosity of these members and friends who remembered. We salute you.

Kenneth Hill — In memory of Lt. Col Preston Gordon  
V. Charles Stephens — In memory of Col. Keene Wilson, CO 3rd Bn 60th Inf.  
Michael Fazio — In memory of Col Keene Wilson, 3rd Bn. 60th Inf.  
Al Bruchal — In memory of Col. Keene Wilson  
Robert Manole — In memory of Gioconso Archangeli and Samuel Matejzel.  
Anthony Micke — In memory of Boys of Co. D., 39th Inf.  
Andrew Kopach  
Heather Wasserman — In memory of husband, Walter and Keene Wilson  
Donald Muhlenbrugh  
Helen and Al Holmes — In memory of Joe Lagattuta, K. Co. 47th and John Mrugula.  
Glen E. Smith — In memory of James Johnson, A Co. 47th Inf.  
Richard McGrath — In memory of Cas Pawelak  
Billy Allsbrook — In memory of Joe Sukon, Roy Gumbinger, Ed Wooten and Hilliard Riddick, 39th Inf. G Co.  
Jerome Sypnieski — In memory of Walter "Buer" Yoder, L Co. 47th Inf.  
Dr. Walter J. Sperling  
William Estabrooks



Bill Steer supplies us with a photo taken in 1942 when parts of the Division were located on Chicken Road, Ft. Bragg, NC. Shown in the picture are (center) Father Connors (with the helmet) to the right is Major William Phillips of Memphis, Tenn. who later became Division Chaplain, on the left is Chaplain Phillips driver (name lost in time) and behind him is Ken Gross Chaplain Connors driver and the other man is Bill Steer a chaplain's assistant.

## 9TH DIVISION GOLF CAPS

9th Division Association golf caps can be obtained by mail for a total cost of \$10.00 per cap which includes postage. These caps with an adjustable back (one size fits all) have the 9th Division Association embroidered emblem. Three styles are available:

1. Summer cap (most popular style) which has a white front panel with a royal blue visor and nylon mesh back panel.
2. Winter cap in all navy blue.
3. All white plain summer cap.

Send all orders made payable to: Elmer Wagner, 2833 Hotchkiss Rd., Bay City, MI 48706.

## "OLD RELIABLES & WONDERFUL WIVES"

### 9th Infantry Association Reunion Shirts

Last year, many of us went to the Fort Bragg P.X. to get souvenirs for grand-kids and others.

Some of us settled for "T" shirts that said "FORT BRAGG", when we would have preferred shirts showing the OCTOFOIL and "9th. Infantry Division".

If you would like shirts for kids, grand-kids, or yourselves, please fill in and mail the enclosed order form. We would prefer to hand you the shirts at San Antonio, but if you cannot make the Reunion this year we will mail. NOTE: a mailing fee of \$2 per package must be charged.

Pete Rice, Jr.  
#2 Royal Way  
Dallas, Texas 75229

### SEDJENANE: The Pay-off Battle

by Lt Col. Henry G. "Red" Phillips, USA (Ret.)

This sequel to *El Guettar: Crucible of Leadership* follows the 9th Infantry Division to Bizerte, Tunisia, in the epic struggle of early May, 1943, which broke the back of Axis forces in Africa. Bigger and better than its predecessor. Authoritatively acclaimed:

General William C. Westmoreland, USA (Ret.), former CO, 34th FA Bn.: "...Phillips' two books make a package that should be on every professional soldier's bookshelf."

Maj. Gen. Norbert J. Hennen, USAR (Ret.), former S2, 60th Inf.: "...He has made a fine contribution to the Army's military history."

Maj. Gen. Michael B. Kauffman, USAR (Ret.), former CO, 2nd Bn., 60th Inf.: "...held my attention from start to finish."

Military historian Martin Blumenson: "...a careful and authoritative reconstruction."

Military historian Carlo W. D'Este: "...a splendid account."

Paperback, 176 pp. w/maps, photos & biog. index. Send \$16.25 (incl p&h) to the author at 14002 Hemlock Dr, Penn Valley, CA, 95946. ISBN 0-9637444-0-2. Available 1 October 1993.

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



# MAIL CALL

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

Eleven years ago, 1982, I came to Worcester for my first time at the Memorial Mass. All the years since WWII I constantly thought of my time with the 34 F.A. Bn. and the men I had the great honor to serve with for three years. It was almost unbelievable that for the first time I was seeing in person, a number of these comrade-in-arms.

One of the men was Jesse Davis, from Hebron, Ohio, who had made the long trip to Worcester twenty six times since Father Connors had organized the Memorial Mass in 1945. Over the years, Jesse and several of the 34th men always set up a Command Post in one of the local hotels and had a great time reminiscing and establishing a close relationship, like a family.

It is with deep regret that I have to report that Jesse died October 14. The same week of the 1993 Memorial Mass that he had so faithfully supported. He was seventy six and had lost his wife, Elizabeth, seven years earlier. Jesse suffered complications from a kidney failure.

Jesse will be remembered as a quiet, understanding individual, well liked by everyone. He was always ready to accept more than his share of responsibilities and worried that he wasn't doing enough.

He visited my farm twice this summer to assist in presenting me with two plaques for my efforts in organizing the first 34th F.A. Bn. reunion at Fayetteville, NC. in June. My wife and I attended his funeral service at Kikersville, Ohio, October 18th.

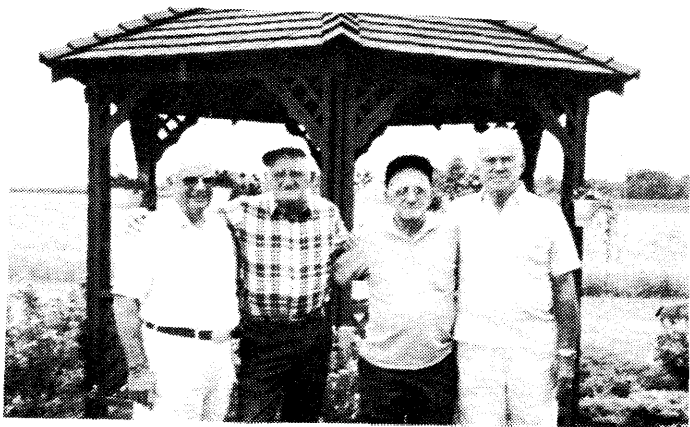
## 34TH F.A. REUNION

The 34th Reunion was a successful endeavor — attended by thirty two veterans. Sixty five were seated at the Banquet on Friday night, June 4th. The highlight of the Banquet was having General William C. Westmoreland as our principal speaker. The next day everyone enjoyed reminiscing with the General about the time spent at Ft. Bragg, North Africa, and Sicily.

Also attending the Banquet was Eric Sundin, son of our former Battalion Commander, Colonel Alvar Sundin.

We made an Army sponsored tour of Ft. Bragg and visited the JFK and 82nd Airborne Museums. A Howitzer section of a 155 Medium Artillery Battalion, demonstrated setting up a new model Howitzer and running through a simulated firing sequence.

The consensus of opinions was that there would have to be more reunions in the future.



Leon Birum of the 34th FA sends this photo taken recently at his farm in Union City, Ind., when a few of the men got together: L-R Leslie Dail, Candler, NC; Charles "Doc" Rabley, Elida, Oh; Jesse Davis Hebron, Oh and Leon. Leon was responsible for his group (34th FA) having a mini reunion last June at Fort Bragg.

**I. Co. 47th Inf.**  
GORDON MORK  
1407 N. Oakhill Ave.  
Janesville, WI. 53545

I enjoy getting the Octofoil and am enclosing dues for the next 3 yrs. I hope I have better luck getting them this time as I have not been getting 2 to 3 a year. Its because I move in the winter time to Texas and the postal service there is horrendous. This time I'm sending you a change of address. See if that helps.

We leave here in the middle of November and see no way to go to the reunion in San Antonio and return again a month later.

Missed the one in Milwaukee on account of a death in the family. Held auction of the farm in Northern Wisconsin on the same weekend. Thats how the map flops.

I wish someone would do me a favor and send me a roster of the men of I Co. that attended the reunion in San Antonio. I am interested if a Jessie (Roby) Robinson of Cisco, or Roscoe, Texas attended the convention, or if anyone knows anything about him. We shared pup tent halves for quite some time in Africa & Sicily.

**39th Inf. I Co.**  
RALPH BURRIS  
167 Christy Dr.  
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223

It looks like another three years has gone by and time to renew my membership.

Please note my new address is: 167 Christy Drive, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223.

I look forward to each issue of The Octofoil and always enjoy looking for any members of Company I-39th Infantry but so far I do not recognize any of the names. So many of us were known by nicknames, mine was "Lefty".

I notice Indiana and Michigan Company I members meet once a year but I haven't had the free time to make one of their meetings or make contact with them.

After retiring from the Postal Service I have been active in the Federal Retirees Association as a State Service Officer and this has kept me busy until recently.

My wife and I hope to make the next convention and maybe meet some Company I members or someone from the 9th Div. Rest Center at Kochelsee, Germany.

**39th Inf. L Co.**  
ED GILL  
Point Barden, Apt. B-27  
Somers Point, NJ 08244  
I heard from Tony P. Ponter, 6015 Co. Rd. 1435, Vinemout, AL 35179. A former L Co. 39th Sgt., he was a long timer in "L" and was still there when I arrived.

**39th Inf. D Co.**  
ANTHONY MILKE  
3573 Brookston Rd.  
Cloquet, Mn 55720

I was sorry to have missed the reunion at Fort Bragg. I was on the original cadre from the Fifth Division when the Ninth Div. was activated.

I am so busy hauling veterans to the hospitals that I will not be able to attend the one in Texas. I'm booked till Feb. 1994 to bring buddies to different V.A.M.C. in Minn; N.D. and Wisc.

I remember the reunion in D.C. when I was secretary for the D.C. Chapter, also Columbus, Ohio and a few others.

Always a buddie

**9th M.P. Co.**  
JOE A. MOWERY  
R-4, Box 310  
Forest City, N.C. 28043

Enclosed you will find check covering 3-year membership dues. I am sorry for the delay in mailing this check.

Life has been somewhat hectic for us this past year with some health problems. Surely would like to attend another reunion again but chances are rather slim at this time. I miss seeing the friends I served with and the new ones I have made over the years. My best wishes to all the men who wore the Octofoil in WWII and especially to the men of the 9th MP Co. I have a tape of "Bridge at Remagen." It is quite accurate of what happened. I watch it often. I spent most of my time there until it collapsed.

Best of health to you and your family, Dan. Your work with the Association has been wonderful over the years.

**60th Inf.**  
WILLIAM S. HORTON  
601 Northwood Dr.  
Modesto, Ca. 95350

Enclosed you will find my dues payment for three years and a request for 2 decals and a copy of the 60th history.

I joined the 60th at Ft. Bragg in Nov. 1941 and was with them in the invasion of Africa, Tunisia, Sicily, Normandy and interior France. I was wounded on Aug. 7, 1944 and spent approximately 2 years in various hospitals prior to my discharge in 1946.

The nature of my departure from the 60th, did not permit me to get the names and addresses of friends and fellow G.I.'s as I was hauled out on a stretcher and hospitalized. I've always felt bad about that.

I would hope to get to the reunion in October, but don't know if my physical condition will permit it. In any event, my heart will be there.

**47th Inf. L Co.**  
JEROME I. SYPNIESKI  
4435 46 Avenue So.  
Minneapolis, MN 55406

We lost a lot of our buddies and we who survived should not forget those who paid the greatest price.

I started at Fort Bragg — but after Africa and Sicily — my wounds gave me trouble and I transferred to the 8th Air Force.

Enclosing my dues and extra for the Memorial Fund. Especially for my good buddy Walter (Buck) Yoder — who we left behind in North Africa. We were together near Capt. Wilson when he was killed — that was a very rough day.

Thanks and God Bless all of the 9th, living and those who has passed on.

**Company G 47th Inf.**  
HERMON RAHN  
5599 New Hirtle Hwy  
Pisgah Forest, N.C. 28768

It has been a long time since I have written a letter to the Octofoil and it appears from the amount of letters in our paper that I am not the only one. I always wonder what has happened to all the buddies who don't write anymore. I know we have lost a good many of them.

Taps sounded for James A. Johnson of A Company 47th July 17th this year 1993. His son called and told me about James death. I contacted James wife and told her I would notify you in case they did not get a letter off. We were very good friends.

I try to keep in contact with Edwin Brewer out in Kansas and Mac McDaniel in Daytona Beach Florida. I have lost contact with Edward Maher of G Company and if anyone knows what happened to him I would like to know.

I had tried for years to locate Dewitt Stansell of E Company 47th. He was a buddy of mine and my oldest daughter finally located his family in Detroit, Michigan last year. We found that he was robbed and murdered in 1970 in Detroit. The men of E Company who knew him might like to know what happened to Stansell.

I send my best wishes to you Dan and Marie and to all of the men of the 9th that I knew and don't know.

**39th Inf**  
MICHAEL HABERMAN  
5 Cedar Waxwing  
Hacktystown, NJ 07840

Enclosed find three year membership and look forward to receiving the Octofoil.

It was great to talk to you and especially nice to speak to someone from my own home area. As I said I was born in Weehawken, grew up in Guttenburg (next town)

In late June 1944, just as Cherbourg was being taken I went up as a replacement with the 39th Inf and went through the Normandy campaign until mid August when I was hospitalized near Cherbourg, then sent back to England.

Until our chat I have been completely out of touch with members of the Division mostly because, after returning to the US completing my studies in Georgetown University, I returned to Europe (France) where I lived for several years, and was married to a French girl there. In fact I lived abroad for over 20 years in Europe, Canada, Mexico, Brazil so I had no contact as I said with the Division. I have even forgotten the Battalion, although I recall that everyone had AAA on their helmets which I was told was awarded for the outfit fighting prowess in Sicily. It stands for anytime, anywhere, anyhow barring none. If I recall correctly.

I returned to Normandy several times when I was living in France and also in 1984 with one of my sons. I hope to do so again soon especially as my brother-in-law (Fred) has retired to a home in Normandy. The next time I want to go through the area more carefully.

I do hope to get a chance to meet you and I thank you for the materials you sent me.

Remember

Lake Placid

1994

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**60th Inf**  
JOS RAPRAZINI  
24001 Sherman St.  
Oak Park, Mi. 48237

It would be a mortal sin not to let you know how great the occasion of the Ninth's reunion turned out to be. Just how memorable and gratifying it was is difficult to express. Just how meaningful such a get-together it cannot fully be explained — however, I'm certain that it can be felt, and, in addition, the warmth that is generated seems to increase at each successive gathering.

The purpose of this letter is manifold, but, in particular, it is to thank you (and your "better half") for the constant attention and devotion to the continual effort and devotion you have extended to the Ninth and each of its members so as to make it the great unit that it is! Truly, it's a unit to be proud of, and at the reunion it was evident in every face and every conversation that was held — certainly, the "ties that bind" the hearts and minds of each and all, and it is with genuine pride and warmth that all proclaim their belonging to the Ninth. Certainly, your loyalty and dedication and fervent efforts have contributed immensely to the remarkable spirit and devotion to the Ninth that is apparent in each and everyone that is a part of us.

Warmest regards.

**39th Inf. G. Co.**  
BILLY ALLSBROOK  
4616 Erath  
Ft Worth, Tx. 76119

Here is my contribution to the Memorial Fund in memory of Sgts. Joe Sukon, Roy Gumbinger, Hilliard Reddick and Ed Wooten.

It took over five years to locate these 39th Inf. G Company men produced by an intense search involving VA, DAV, Congressmen and help from Sgt. Robert L. Smith.

Also would like to hear from anyone that knew these 39th Inf. G Company men.

Joe Sukon and Roy Gumbinger were Plc's subsequent to Africa-Sicily and were promoted to Sgt. in France. Ed Wooten joined the 9th in France. Reddick in the Huertgen Forest. Both were later promoted to Sergeant.

It was my privilege to have known them. May they rest in peace.

