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9th Infantry Division Association

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The Octofoil, January/February 1994

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N. J. 07087

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Volume XLIX Number 1

Jan-Feb 1994

1994 Reunion Lake Placid, New York June 9, 10, 11 Table of Events

Thursday, June 9, 1994

Event	Time	Place
Golf	9:30AM	Meet at Hotel Lobby
Registration	2:00PM	Hotel Lobby
Board of Governors Meeting	4:00 P.M.	Mirror Lake Room
Dinner	5:00PM-7:00PM	Olympic Room
Welcoming Party	8:00PM-12:00PM	Olympic Room

Friday, June 10, 1994

Event	Time	Place
Registration	10:00AM	Hotel Lobby
General Membership Meeting	9:00AM-10:00AM	Olympic Room
Committee Meetings	10:00AM-11:00AM	Olympic Room
General Meeting Reconvenes	11:00AM-12:30AM	Olympic Room
Banquet Table Reservations	12:00AM-2:00PM	Hotel Lobby
Banquet Table Reservations, other than groups of ten	1:30PM-2:00PM	Hotel Lobby
Women's Luncheon	To be announced	To be Announced
New Board of Governors Meeting	4:30PM-5:00PM	Galucci Room
Dinner	5:00PM-7:00PM	Mirror Lake Room
Dance	8:00PM-12:00PM	Olympic Room

Saturday, June 11, 1994

Event	Time	Place
NO REGISTRATION		
Memorial Service	10:00AM-11:00AM	Skyroom
Banquet Table Reservations	1:00PM-2:00PM	Hotel Lobby
Banquet Table Reservations other than groups of ten	1:30PM-2:00PM	Hotel Lobby
Catholic Mass	4:30PM	Skyroom
Cocktail Party	6:00PM-7:00PM	Olympic Room
Banquet	7:30PM	Olympic Room

For those participating in the package plan, breakfast Friday, Saturday, and Sunday will be in the dining room, starting at 7:00AM.

Traveling to Lake Placid

Driving

From Metropolitan New York and New Jersey area: Take the New York State Thruway (I-87) to Exit 24 (Albany). Take Northway (I-87) to Exit 30. Follow Route 9N two miles to Route 73 and continue 28 miles to Lake Placid/Whiteface Mt. area.

From Philadelphia, Washington, DC and points south: Use New Jersey Turnpike and connect with Garden State Parkway and follow to New York State Thruway. Take the New York State Thruway (I-87) to Exit 24 (Albany). Take Northway (I-87) to Exit 30. Follow Route 9N two miles to Route 73 and continue 28 miles to Lake Placid/Whiteface Mt. area.

From Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, and points midwest: Take I-90 (New York State Thruway) to Syracuse I-81 Exit 36. Follow I-81 north to Watertown, then east on Route 3 to Saranac Lake. Take Route 86 east to Lake Placid.

From Boston, Springfield, Hartford: Take I-90 West (Mass. Turnpike) to Albany, then I-787 north to Cohoes. Connect with Route 7 west and then take I-87 north. Follow I-87 (Northway) to Exit 30. Follow Route 9N two miles to Route 73 and continue 28 miles to Lake Placid/Whiteface Mt. area.

Airports

Lake Placid Airport: 1 mile south of village on Route 73, 518-523-2473. Hours of operation: daily 9am - 5pm. Runway: 4,300 ft. Services: AirCharter, tie down, 80-100 av-gas, scenic flights, plane repairs, flight instruction, air taxi, and air ambulance.

Adirondack Airport: Saranac Lake, 16 miles from Lake Placid on Route 86, 518-891-2290. Commercial flights: USAir, 800-428-4322 for flight information and reservations; flights available from many eastern locations.

Airport Limos

Lake Placid Sightseeing, Inc.: From the Adirondack Airport, Lake Placid Sightseeing, Inc. has pick-up service available. Call for reservations, 518-523-4431. There are also limousines and taxis at the airport.

Rail Service

Amtrak: Operates between New York City and Montreal; local stop in Westport, NY (40 minutes from Lake Placid); shuttle bus service to Lake Placid may be arranged with a reservation, 518-523-4431.

Bus Service

Adirondack Trailways: Service between Lake Placid, Albany, and New York City; provides service from Long Island, Westchester, Rockland, and Bergen Counties; 1-800-225-6815.

Welcome to the 1994 Reunion



Back up hotel for overflow

The picturesque back up Hotel "The Golden Arrow" is shown on Lake Mirror located below the Grandview Holiday Inn. The reunion committee will have shuttle buses between the hotels — while they are located short distances from each other — it is an up hill climb to the C.P. (Grandview Inn).

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! **RESORT WITH A HISTORY**

Lake Placid is a resort with a History that focuses on the Lake Placid Club Resort. The "Club," founded by Dr. Melvil Dewey in 1895, lured the attention of a number of significant people into the area. Groundwork was set for the development of winter sports facilities and events in areas such as speed skating, ski jumping, bobsled, figure skating and harness racing. This pioneer effort ultimately resulted in the hosting of the 1932 Olympic Winter Games in Lake Placid which captured international attention.

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.

Group rates will be made available to the 9th Infantry Division for many or all of the following attractions:

OLYMPIC VENUES
WHITEFACE MEMORIAL HIGHWAY — Eight mile highway built as a memorial to WWI Veterans; panoramic view stretching to Vermont.
WHITEFACE MT. AERIAL CHAIRLIFT — Chilling ride on 2-person lift to the summit of Whiteface Mountain.

An Invitation

Over the past three years our reunions have been held in the North Central States (Wisconsin), the South East (Fort Bragg, N.C.), and last year in the South West (San Antonio, Tx.). All great reunions and well attended.

This year the Ninth Infantry Division Association invites you to join us in the Northeast (Lake Placid, N.Y.).

We visited Lake Placid in 1984 and from the words of all who attended it was a very pleasant reunion. Lake Placid is a well known resort nestled in the hills of up state New York. It is a village that has dedicated its community to the training of young men and women to represent our great nation in the Winter-Olympics all over the world. The ski jumps (2), and the outdoor-Olympic skating rink and the Olympic training facilities and programs are all in place for us to see.

The village of Lake Placid is a quaint community and a secure community where you may stroll throughout the village that has many shops filled with goods and souvenirs. Should you not care to dine at our hotel, the streets contain many excellent dining spots.

The response to our 49th Reunion according to the Grandview Holiday Inn has been excellent. We invite you to make your reservations now to assure you of a pleasant stay with us at the Grandview Holiday Inn.

The reunion committee looks forward to meeting all of you at Lake Placid for a very pleasant reunion that we know you will not forget.

Best regards

Thomas J. Boyle

For the 1994 Reunion Committee

OLYMPIC ICE ARENA

Four ice surfaces enclosed in arena; spectators view training figure skaters, hockey, curling, concerts; cafeteria, box office, executive offices of Olympic Regional Development Authority.

MT. VAN HOEVENBERG — Olympic truck tour of Bobsled and Luge tracks. Olympic Bobrun is a mile long, concrete run which tourists may walk, particularly fascinating through famous Zig-Zag curve. Luge track is 1000 meters long in serpent-like shape. Both are refrigerated and iced in winter.

Cross Country and Biathlon area has miles of trails which may be walked or hiked in summer season, picnic tables available for lunching.

INTERVALE SKI JUMP COMPLEX - SUMMER SKI JUMPING on newly installed, plastic matting, allows athletes to jump the 70 meter tower, landing.

GOLFING

There are 81 holes of golf to be played in the Lake Placid area, all framed within the beautiful vistas of the Adirondack Mountains. In Lake Placid:

LAKE PLACID CLUB RESORT — Three courses, attached to sprawling resort grounds (Two 18 hole courses, one 9 hole course).

CENTER FOR MUSIC, DRAMA AND ART — Modern theatre seating 350 people, which hosts a number of dramatic performances, dances, musical concerts and recitals. Also houses a Fine Arts Gallery and Library, very unique to the North Country.

MOVIE THEATRES — There are three screens! Tourists are almost always assured a new feature, with two showings nightly.

RESTAURANTS — There are over 50 restaurants in the Lake Placid area which is known for its outstanding dining. A number of International menus are available in addition to fine, American dining.

NIGHTCLUBS — There are several nightclubs located right in the village of Lake Placid, most offering nightly entertainment and dancing.

**Reunion 1994
Lake Placid
June 9, 10, 11**

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

National Officers

President
Edwin Wisniewski
7576 Gratiot Rd.
Columbus, Mi 48063

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

Pat DeColli, 2nd V.P.
1017 Jackson St.
Phila, PA 18148

Francis Maher, 3rd V.P.
14 Davenport St.
Worcester, MA 01610

Dave Heller
Judge Advocate
618 Sumac Rd.
Highland Pk. Il 60036

Thomas Boyle, Treasurer
39 Hall Avenue
Somerville, MA 02144

Daniel Quinn, Secretary
412 Gregory Avenue
Weehawken, NJ 07087

Board of Governors

1994
Bill Carson
Melbourne, FL
Howard Gaertner
Wauwatosa, WI
Ron Murphy
Scituate, MA
Len Tomassone
Pennsauken, NJ

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
Edwin Wisniewski
Columbus, MI
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 members of the Ninth
Infantry Division Association. News items, feature stories, pho-
tographs and art material from members will be appreciated. Every
effort will be made to return photographs and art work in good condi-
tion.

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 mem-
ory of our fallen comrades, to preserve the esprit de corps of the
Division, to assist in promoting an everlasting world peace exclusi-
vely 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 Avenue,
Weehawken, N.J. 07087.

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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 ☐

Ladies Auxiliary
Ninth Infantry Division Association
Membership Application

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

Enclosed please find dues for:

Name.....

Street Address.....

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

My spouse (Brother or relative)

Served with.....

One year..... \$2.00

Credit Chapter.....

Tip of the Hat

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

Edward Sarnocinski

Siegfried Reinheimer

Ernest G. Micka

Mrs. Hugh Cappella – In memo-
ry of her husband, Hugh.

Vivienne Kuhrt – In memory of
her brother, George Morgan.

Lisolette Gonzalez – In membo-
ry of husband, Frank

Charles Duling

James S. Moore

Herbert Ravlin – In memory of
Robert L. Spencer, 709 Ord.

Norma Pelland – In memory of
husband, Cam

Richard McGrath – In memory
of his brother, Raymond, 76th
Inf. Div.

Tony Madonna – In memory of
Louse Mullins, wife of James

Paul Bolduc – In memory of
Byron Angell, B Co. 15th Engrs.

John Van Son

Donald Gilchrist

Matz McLaughlin – In memory
of Larry Gheye & Tony Man-
zollila

Seeking

26th FA
COLONEL (RET.)
JOHN E. COLEMAN
191 Folsom Drive,
Dayton, Ohio 45405-1109

On behalf of his son-in-law a
long-time English friend (Lt-Col
Geoffrey Court) has just sought
my help. The young man, J.
Nicholas Kingsford, is working
with a committee at Alresford,
Hampshire that is developing
plans for the local commemora-
tion of the 50th anniversary of
D-Day. Some sort of event will
probably be held in Broad
Street on June 5th. He wrote my
friend Geoffrey that he is partic-
ularly seeking information as to
any 9th Division veterans who
might be going to England as
"there is a plaque on a house in
Broad Street which identifies
that property as the headquar-
ters of the 47th Infantry
Regiment" — so the 9th is well
remembered in that area.

I seemed to recall that my
cousin Lt. Col. Wendel T.
Chaffin had served in the 47th,
telephoned him, and thus
obtained the information about
your association. He thought
that perhaps this English
inquiry might be mentioned in
your newsletter/magazine.
Indeed, perhaps you already
have some word as to names
(or at least numbers) who might
be going over there. While I do
not know Mr. Kingsford's
address, anything addressed to:
Mr. J. Nicholas Kingsford, c/o
Lt.-Col G. D. W. Court, MC, TD,
Swallowfields, Litton Cheney
Dorchester, DT2 9AE England,
will get into his hands promptly.

Anything you can do to facili-
tate communication will be
appreciated by all concerned
(including members of your
association, no doubt).

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

Arrival: Thur. 6/9/94

2 Night Package

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.

Strip tickets will be sold on Thursday and Friday only, at
a cost of \$60.00. The strip ticket includes the Thursday
night welcoming party, the Friday night dance, and the
Saturday night banquet. It does not include the Saturday
night cocktail party. The cocktail party is an "extra" for
those purchasing the two- or three-day package.

Strip tickets will be sold on a cash basis only. No person-
al checks will be accepted.

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.

Battle of Normandy Foundation

I am writing about an article I received in the mail from a 9th Division member Mr. Walter Victor, Atlanta, Ga. I had told him about the brochure we received at the 9th reunion in San Antonio, Texas in Oct. and he was interested in subscribing, until he read this article in the Atlanta Journal newspaper.

I am enclosing copies of both items and wonder what can be done about letting people know of the fraud? I along with some others from New York have sent money to register for this "Wall of Liberty," I received a "Certificate of Registration" and a letter signed by the Anthony Stout and I am wondering how many more have been taken, if this is a fraud. Who else do I write to? Should it be printed in the Octofoil? and I wonder why it never made it to the national wire service. I have not seen it in my papers here in Upstate New York.

I thought also they were having tours over there to France hoping to see this "Wall of Liberty" this coming June.

Maybe you have already heard of this, if not thought I should let someone know.

I enjoy receiving the Octofoil and thought the reunion in San Antonio, Texas was super. Hoping to see you in Lake Placid, N.Y. in June.

(Mrs.) Ralton M. Speers
Widow of
Rev. Ralton M. Speers
60th Inf. 9th Div.

Q: I've heard that the Battle of Normandy Foundation, formed to build a wall in France to honor all soldiers who served in the European Theater during World War II, is in financial trouble because of possible misuse of funds and that some members of Congress who serve on its board has resigned from the board. Any truth to this?

- Tom Peters, Dunwoody

A: You heard right. The Washington Times reported the story. Although the story did not make it onto the national wire services, some veterans and veterans groups have read it and are faxing copies to buddies across the country.

The Times story called Anthony Stout, founder of the Battle of Normandy Foundation, which solicited funds from veterans and their families nationwide, "a classic Washington clout merchant (who) for more than 20 years has been spending millions of other people's money on himself and the rich and powerful."



Awaiting the Memorial Program at the San Antonio Reunion, widows of members occupy the front row. It was one of the most impressive ceremony held at our reunions.

COMBAT INFANTRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION

If you were awarded the coveted Combat Infantryman's Badge, you belong in our elite association. We are new, we are different, but we are still that proud and "very special" group of veterans.

His Normandy project attracted the support of some lawmakers, including Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.) and Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.) and a slew of high-level French and American diplomats.

The newspaper reported that of the \$8.2 million collected from veterans — who paid \$40 to have their names inscribed on the wall — and interested parties as of Dec. 31, 1992, Stout sent a mere \$206,968 to Caen, France, to build the wall and accompanying museum. The rest went for overseas travel to lawmakers, VIPs and other big donors, entertainment; Stout's salary; personal and business expenses; and hard-sell direct mail fund raising.

In brochures, Stout presented his "50th D-Day Anniversary Commission" as being a branch of the federal government and with the help of lawmakers, he finagled a congressional contribution of \$3 million from the sale of U.S. Treasury D-Day memorial coins. The General Accounting Office in investigating.

Editors Note:

Usually we try to stay clear of organizations asking for help in raising funds or trying to sell a book or what not to our membership. Recently it has come to our attention about the Battle of Normandy Foundation formed to build a wall in France to honor all soldiers who served in the European Theater during WW2 raised doubts about its origin or purpose. We tried to investigate the cause of the rumor about the foundation but could not come up with an answer to the problem except that in its early stages the committee for the foundation was very liberal with the spending of expenses.

A retired Captain (Army) from Pennsylvania had contacted the Secretary's office with a list of names of men who had contributed to this fund (ten names in all) to verify if they were members of our organization and had served in Europe Campaign. This was after we had called the Foundation Headquarters in Washington, DC and questioned them about the rumors etc. We feel that there are powers to be that have much more influence to check into this matter than this office. So be guided accordingly. Let's hope that Senator's Dole and Thurmond have straightened out the matter.

For information, brochure and application, please send a legal size, self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

Leo E. Kibble
Rural Route 3
Smethport, PA 16749

Ladies Corner

The United States Mail Service was a bit slow this past week in getting mail from The Lake Placid Convention bureau to President Carol Saunders in Tennessee, but fortunately just in time for my call to her this AM on plans for our Reunion Meeting in June. Consequently, we have come up with our choice of the proposals sent to Carol. Here it is: On Friday, June 10th, at 9:30 A.M. we plan to have the ladies attending — "Spend some time with a local artisan, who will lead a workshop in putting together an Adirondack craft. Each participant will be provided with a kit of materials that they will turn into a keepsake of their Lake Placid stay." Doesn't that sound great? **The Adirondacks Handicrafters Work Shop** will provide us with the Artisan and materials, and we will provide the labor. Of course, we will also have a light breakfast: Coffee, Tea, donuts or the like, and hopefully fruit juices too. The cost of all this will be \$10.00, and as usual, send your checks, made out to the **Ladies Auxiliary 9th Division Association**, to me, Ellie Taubner at the address below. If you want to join us, need I remind you that I need your **own** name and the money as soon as possible! You will receive a card with your confirmation number just as soon as I receive your check. The materials must be ordered in advance for the members attending, so there can be no last minute **tickets sold!** Do you all hear that? Those of you, in the past, who have waited until the day before or at the door, to buy your ticket, will be out of luck. There is a cut-off date which I won't reveal to you now, since some of you will procrastinate and wait until June to send your check. In fact, there are several ladies who have been last-minute joiners for the last two and three Reunions. One time I can excuse, but not anymore than that. If for some reason, you must cancel, after you have sent in your money, **I will refund the \$10.00.** OK?



About to place a wreath at the Monument in Worcester are (left to right) Vince Guglielmino and Herb Olsen. They lost their brothers who also served with the Ninth *(47th) in France.

39th Inf. I Co.
PAUL J. CALLAHAN
Newberry Este.
435 Orchard W.
Dallas, Pa. 18612

Enclosed are my dues for the next three years. I really look forward to this paper in hopes I may see someones name from our Co. Keep up the good work.

Enough of that, don't forget to bring your Pollyanna gifts; something small, cute, inexpensive, necessary or unnecessary, hand-made or store-bought, and wrapped. OK?

SAD NEWS

Some sad news — Irene Tapp, Past President in 1979 & 1980, passed away on December 14th. A long-time member and supporter of our Auxiliary, she lost her gallant battle against cancer. I had sent her a Plaque from the San Antonio Reunion Meeting, as she was not well enough to be present then. In January, her husband Everett Tapp wrote me: "She enjoyed and appreciated the Plaque very much — but was too sick to even write a note of thanks at that time." We last saw her at the Fayetteville Reunion and shall miss her. If you wish to send condolences — her husband, Everett Tapp lives at 163 Meadow Circle, Ellentown, Florida 34222, and memorials to "American Cancer Society or the Hospice of South West Florida, 6055 Rind Blvd, Sarasota, Florida 34238.

APPRECIATION

In the late Fall, Past Presidents Iris Canales and Phyllis Perna wrote/called me with their appreciation of their plaques. It was such a small gesture for such large contributions the ladies honored gave to us and I am glad we did it. Aren't you? So — it was all business today — outside of **too much snow**, my personal life has been uneventful. Christmas was lovely and lively with the advent of Jake Dennis Taubner on December 21st. Such a gift — "All Us Taubners" (we number 21 now!) just loved having a new baby! He now weighs over 12 pounds and is just beautiful. If the snow **ever** goes away this Grandma wants to take him for a walk in his carriage. Well, you all take care and keep in touch!

Ellie Taubner, Treasurer
85 Smith Avenue
Bergenfield, NJ 07621

TAPS SOUNDED

With profound regret and remorse we announce the passing of these "Old Reliabilities" and friends.

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

Robert Marshall
2nd Bn. 60th Inf.

Charles Duncan
9th Med. Bn.

Dr. Charles Elliott
9th Med. Bn.

Robert Myers
9th Med. Bn.

Clarence Fowler
47th Inf. M Co.

Richard Boots
47th Inf. 3rd Bn. Hq.

Oscar Thompson
B Co. 39th Inf.

Frank Gonzalez
47th Inf. G Co.

Delbert Erdmann

Jack Benanty
26th FA

Wm. Burroughs

Walter Jackson
60th Inf.

J. William Engle
60th Inf.

Louise Mullens
Wife of James B Co., 15th Engrs.

Marie Laskau
Wife of deceased Jake,
A Co. 47th Inf.

Taps Sounded



Oscar H. Thompson

Joe Gravino, Company B 39th Infantry notified us of the death of Oscar H. Thompson of Atlanta, Ga. Joe writes he was a tremendous person as well as a soldier. Oscar commanded Company B 39th and rose through the ranks to become Battalion Commander of the 1st Bn 39th Inf.

He leaves his wife Frances and seven children, and 17 grandchildren. We offer our belated sympathy to his family and may he rest in peace.

B Co. 15th Engrs.
TONY MADONNA
40 Orient Way
Worcester, MA 01604

Just a brief note with check for the Memorial Fund. Jim's wife Louise Mullen, passed away Feb. 4th after a short illness. The check will be to the Memorial Fund in her honor. Jim Mullen was from B Co. 15th Engineers, he and his wife attended many National 9th Div. reunions and they rarely missed the Father Connors Memorial Masses. The engineer gang will miss her.

I have already registered at The Holiday Inn at Lake Placid, with hopes of getting together with the Engineer group. Wishing for a great reunion.

9th Medical Bn. Reunion
The mini-reunion of the 9th Medical Battalion will be held May 13 and 14th at the Shoneys Inn in Chattanooga, Tennessee. For further information contact:

John Lewis
211 Midland Street
Shelbyville, TN 37160
615 684-2496

50th Anniversary - D Day

RONALD M. A. HIRST 60th Inf.
Mathildenstrasse 4
D-6200 Wiesbaden
Tel. (0611) 56 18 56

On the attached three pages you will find dates, places and events which have been scheduled (to date) to commemorate 50th anniversary of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy. You may wish to publish for information of our Association as I believe a number are planning a trip. Of particular note, let me point out FOUR events of particular interest for the members — they may wish to go to Normandy later in June and forgo D-Day on the Beach.

18 June LIBERATION OF BARNEVILLE COMMEMORATION
24 June OFFICIAL WELCOME TO VETERANS AT TOWN HALL
(Hotel d'Ville)
25 June LIBERATION OF BEAUMONT-HAGUE COMMEMORATION
26 June ANNIVERSARY DAY OF CHERBOURG'S LIBERATION

If I obtain more information on these four events, Dan, I will pass it on. If any member has a question to which they believe I can establish answer (OTHER THAN FOR QUARTERS), let them write. I'll do my best.

Then too, Dan, I've been informed by Mr. James YENCKEL, Assistant Editor, The Washington Post, the Department of Defense will issue special badges for veterans who attend U.S.-sponsored commemorative events in Normandy for 50 Anniversary of D-Day. For information, those interested should write: WW II Commemorative Committee, Attention: Veteran Identification Program, 5001 Eisenhower Avenue, Washington DC 22333.

And finally, Dan, the US Mint will strike 3 WW II 50 Anniversary commemorative coins. Those interested should write US Mint, P.O. Box 41998, Philadelphia PA 19101-1998.

That ties it down for 1993, Dan. I will be in Normandy 30 May - 11 June 1994. Not so much to attend official functions (which I shall) but more important to visit with the countless Norman friends and sit at their table to enjoy their fruits from the ocean (which I dote on). If any of our men are coming I'd like to hear from them IF they are coming during the days of my tenure in country.

My wife, who accompanied me for 40 anniversary, will not make this trip. TOO many people, to many events "Mr." Hirst must attend. And, I received the sad news that our son will not fly in from Santa Barbara CA — business commitments will preclude. We'll make it together later in the year.

Take care of one another, Dan, keep the faith and God-willing continue that superlative effort in publishing our newspaper.

Btry "A" - 60th F.A. Bn.

In the last issue of the Octofoil, Walt Quigley informed us that Al DeNaro and James Myers passed away. Add another name — Al Friedlmier, who after a long bout with emphysema and congestive heart failure, passed away on June 13, 1993.

Al Friedlmier, from the Bronx, and I, from the Windy City, had some great times kidding each other about our sport teams. In the 60's, Al worked for a firm that required him to fly to Chicago on business. He would call me and we got together for lunch or dinner. It was on those occasions that Al told me some great stories about "A" Btry men. Wish I had written them down. Some were priceless.

Lake Walt Quigley my list of "A" Battery men has diminished greatly. Among the active that exchange letters with me are Fred Auth, Ed Colonello, Ed Freund, Norris Gray, Melvin Jaggi, John Liggero, Frank Lovell, Lou Prince, Walt Quigley, Mike Patrick, Joe Ryan, Jim Stebbins and Donald Williams. I also get cards and letters from the widows of Barhight, Eugene Elliott, H. Goff, Jesse Posey, Wilbur Sanders, Harry Torhan and George Wenshutonis.

At one time, I also had contact with the following men: S. DiRenzo, S. Jones, S. Krystosiak, L. Moser, T. Davis, Lee Goin, Jim Landis, M. Powers and Lewandowski, also, Ed Wardzalo, who never married, and my friend and buddy, Dom Greco, who has been in a nursing home for the past five years with Alzheimer.

So once again, may I remind you. MAKE THAT REUNION — IT IS LATER THAN YOU THINK.

Mike Belmonte
1161 South Lombard
Oak Park, IL 60304

New Jersey Chapter

It was good to talk with you yesterday and to learn that you and Marie are holding your own. It has been some time since the New Jersey Chapter has had its last meeting, mainly because there isn't a great deal of business to transact. Though it is always uplifting to meet with this great bunch of guys, I have refrained from calling a meeting because of the terrible weather we in the Northeast have been having this winter.

I have been in touch with some of our people, mostly men with whom I served. Since the Bound Brook Moose Club is no longer available to us for our annual buffet/dance, I have been exploring other possibilities. Jack Finnigan has suggested the VFW Post to which both he and I belong. The Michael A. Kelly Post in Union. The Post is easily accessible to the Garden State Parkway so that we all can reach it with a minimum of effort. Jack, being a founding father of the Post, assures me that we can keep the price of our affair well within the bounds of reason, so that cost should not be a factor in preventing anyone from attending. We would like to continue this tradition for the next forty or fifty years. Right now we are looking at a date in early April, probably on a Sunday afternoon.

I hope to see more of our members at the reunion in June. Lake Placid is truly a beautiful setting and the facilities are very good. Try to make it and enjoy a long weekend with some of your old wartime buddies.

Ed Hoppie Hopkins
1000 Hollywood Ave.
Metuchen, NJ 08840

New York Chapter Area Report

Officers For 1994

The NY Chapter met at the Masonic hall, 71 W. 23rd Street, NYC on Friday, January 17, 1994. President Tony Varone opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by resident-chaplain George Apar's invocation.

Yours truly, acting recording secretary for Art Schmidt, who is still recovering from his broken thigh, read the previous meeting minutes. Treasurer Charlie Vandermark followed with the Chapter's financial report which appeared to be in sound condition. Charlie then read correspondence from: Mrs. John W. Burke, acknowledging condolence from the Chapter for member John (deceased). Bill Klaus sent a thank-you to the Chapter, acknowledging his first prize winners in the 1993 Christmas 50-50 Raffle. Joseph O'Reilly returned his prize winnings, donating it to the Chapter general fund. Al Zenka reported a phone call from Al Lipton that he was having knee surgery. The Chapter wishes Al a successful operation and quick return to health.

On old business, the general consensus was that everyone attending the NY Chapter's Christmas Dinner on Friday, December 17, 1993, enjoyed it very much.

On new business in Chapter, we welcomed new member Saul Bernstein of Div. Hdqs. (Saul's record shows he took basic training as an infantry replacement at the same time as me at Fort McClellan, Alabama, 1943-44.)

Oh, before I forget, this scribe neglected to report the full list of winners in our Christmas 50-50 Raffle in my December report. Those \$5 winners omitted were: Steve Parillo, J.M. O'Reilly, Ann Reeder, Vincent A. Iannuci, Luisa San Giacomo and Walter O'Keeffe.

The January meeting's last major business conducted was the Installation of Officers for 1994. Our eloquent master of ceremonies George Apar officiated at the changing of the guard. George lauded the outgoing Chapter board chaired by Prez Tony Varone for an excellent year in office. Tony received an Octofoil plaque and then turned over the gavel to newly-elected president Alphonse Zenka. The new board, including some members of the old board supporting Al, are 1st VP Charlie LiBretto, 2nd VP Marty Gross, Secretary Art Schmidt and Treasurer Charles Vandermark. The NY Chapter Board of Governors were pretty much the same old active bunch representing: 39th — Hermino Suarez, 47th — Dan Quinn, 60th — Charlie LiBretto, Divarty — Al Lipton, Special Troops — Adolph Wadalavage and Sgt. of Arms — Tony DeRobertis. The NY Chapter membership wishes the new officers a successful administration in 1994.

The meeting was then adjourned and we partook of delicacies provided by hospitality staff Al Zenka and Tony DeRobertis.

Members attending not mentioned above were Bill Canales, Anton Dietrich and Vincent Guglielmino.

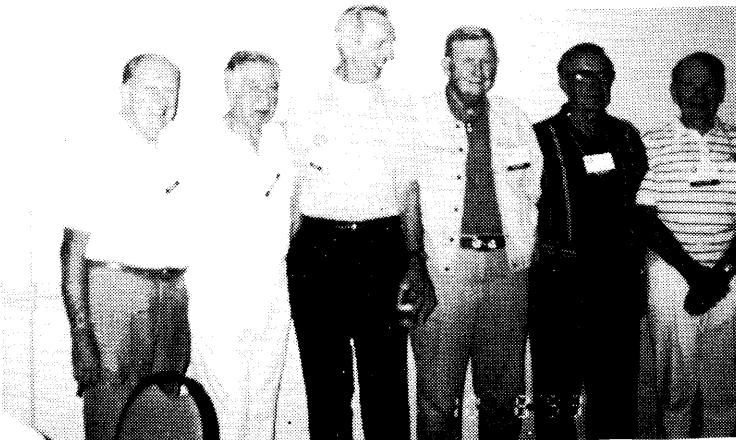
(On a sad note, reported to the Chapter in February after writing this report, was the demise of member Jim Mullen's dear wife, Louise. The membership sends heartfelt condolences to Jim and his family.)

NY Chapter members reminder! If you have not done so, please remit your dues: \$10 per year, \$25 for 3 years and \$75 for Lifetime Membership. Make checks payable to "Greater NY Chapter, 9th Inf. Div. Assoc." Send to Treasurer Charles Vandermark, 38 Miller Avenue, Floral Park, NY 11001-3325. (Tel.

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

Reunion 1994
Lake Placid
June 9, 10, 11

At the New York Chapter installations outgoing President of the Chapter (left) Tony Varone received plaque from newly installed Chapter President Al Zenka.



George Niclin, M.D., Co. K 47th sends this photo taken at the San Antonio reunion from left to right: George Niclin, Frank Corvino: Joseph Killacky: Chester Joran; Billy McKinny and Evan "Reds" Thompson.

REVISITED

As promised, here is an account of my memorable return to the Cherbourg Peninsula. On June 4, 1993 my wife Margaret Ann and I visited Greville-Hague, about 15 miles NW of Cherbourg. On 6/30/44, the 2nd Battalion of the 47th had the job of mopping up the last of the Germans in the area and Greville is where the fighting ended. I wrote a letter addressed to The Mayor of Greville, saying that I intended to visit Greville on 6/4 and hope to find some people who remembered what had happened on the day of June 30, 1944. I received an enthusiastic reply, offering to meet us in Cherbourg and inviting us stay with him at his home. We did not accept this kind offer as we were planning to tour Normandy in a rental car, and since I speak French so poorly, to stay with the mayor and his wife would have been a disaster.

What transpired on that day will be in my memory for the rest of my life. We were greeted by the mayor, Charles Couppey, and about 50 of the villagers at the Town Hall. Mayor Couppey was 14 years old on the day of liberation (June 30, 1944) and remembers the day vividly. We participated in a wreath laying at the village memorial, attended a champagne reception in the library, where the Conseiller General of the area and Mayor of Beaumont, Michel Laurent, gave a speech and presented me with a memento of the day; were the guess of honor at a 4 hour banquet attended by about 30 of the villagers; toured the battlefield, and ended up with a visit to the mayors home. The events of the day were covered by a reporter from the Cherbourg regional newspaper and duly reported the next day, with accompanying photographs.

At the ceremonies, I met Maurice Livroy who was part of a group of five Frenchmen who worked with the 3rd battalion, 47th intelligence section during the drive on Cherbourg. He gave me a copy of a letter of commendation given to him by the then Lt. Col. Clayman, and he is anxious to learn of Col. Clayman's career after the Normandy campaign.

Greville is the birthplace of a famous painter, J.F. Millet, and Mayor Couppey is planning a joint Millet/9th Division museum in the village. I gave him my uniform, and some other memorabilia to start off the 9th Division. Does anyone out there have anything they would like to contribute?

At the banquet, a woman, Mme. Sanson of Vauille, asked if I could help her locate the 47th Infantry surgeon who delivered her baby girl on June 30, 1944. Does anyone have any knowledge of this? She would like to write to him, or to his family if he is no longer living.

Co H-47th Inf
ROBERT ALBERTER
26 Fountain of Youth Blvd.
St. Augustine, FL 32084

60th Inf. G Co.
SIEGFRIED REINHEIMER
2572 Wilson Ave.
Bronx, N.Y. 10469

Here is my dues for 1994 and something for the memorial fund. I am still looking for someone from G. Co. 60th to write but I am still disappointed. Have to look for some pictures and send them to you. Have a healthy 1994 and all the best.

THE OCTOFOIL

FLORIDA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

JACKSONVILLE, FL APRIL 22, 23, & 24. That's the week-end the Florida chapter will hold their Spring 1994 Mini-Reunion and Meeting. Mark your calendar and plan ahead.

Chairman Bill Fleming, together with his committee, prepared a detailed 8 1/2" x 14" sheet which combines the schedule of events and the costs involved. This mailing will be sent to the Florida Chapter Members on March 16, 1994. When you receive it, please act on it immediately. Bill must know the "count" no later than April 9, 1994. The mailing will consist of the Order Form, a copy of the new Membership Roster, Direction and a detailed map to the Marriott Jacksonville Hotel and other pertinent information. Put the Direction Sheet in your glove compartment immediately ... no excuse for getting lost. Bill promises that the Saturday Night Speaker will be informative and entertaining. Jacksonville, FL is a great place for enjoyment. There are many interesting places to visit. These Chapter Reunions are a lot of fun. Come and enjoy the Hospitality Room and the socializing with the members. To those who have never attended any one of these gatherings, now is the time to come. "Enjoy yourself ... it's later than you think".

Any 9th Infantry Division WWII veteran are welcome to participate. For complete information please contact Chairman Bill Fleming, 761 Praver Drive, West; Jacksonville, FL 32217 (904) 733-1877 or Emil J. De Donato, 3650 S.W. Mosswood St., Dunnellon, FL (904) 489-4070.

NEW MEMBERSHIP ROSTER. The 1994 Membership Roster has been completed and will be included in the March 16th mailing. All future changes, additions and deletions will be noted in the OCTOFOIL Florida Chapter Newsletter. All members are urged to update their own copy. Anyone else wishing a copy, please send \$1.00 and a self-addressed stamped #10 envelope to Emil J. De Donato, 3650 S.W. Mosswood St. Dunnellon, FL 34431.

CHAPTER DUES. Dues Reminder notices will be included in the March 16th mailing to those members whose dues expire in April this year. PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES PROMPTLY.

CAP PROGRAM. We have been receiving orders for the ALL WHITE & the BLUE & WHITE 9th Infantry Division caps from all over the country. Now is the time to get one to wear at the Lake Placid National Reunion. They are priced at \$10.00 each which covers the cost of the postage and handling charges. To order: state quantity; color wanted; where to send and include a check for the exact amount. NO CREDIT CARDS PLEASE. Mail to Emil J. De Donato, 3650 S.W. Mosswood St., Dunnellon, FL 34431.

MAIL RECEIVED (Bits & Pieces). Norris Gray sent in a full color reproduction of Space-Shuttle STS-60 DISCOVERY. The American and Russian Flags symbolizes the partnership of the two countries and also their crew members taking flight in space together for the first time. These reproductions could very well become commemorative pieces. For further information regarding the Space Program, write to Public Affairs Office, NASA Headquarters, Washington, D.C. Norris Gray usually attends our Chapter Meetings. Come to meet him ... he is a consultant at the Space Center here in Florida ... he may even get you a pass to the Center.

Lester E. Schwar. CO. I 47th Infantry sent a photo of himself and his friend Bob Faux taken at Ft. Bragg in 1942. Lester joined the Florida Chapter recently. Also ordered a 9th Infantry Division Cap. Welcome to our Chapter ... hope you can make our meetings.

John W. Miller, Chairman of the 48th Annual Reunion in San Antonio, TX sent in a thank you note for the nice article my office wrote regarding the fine job they did at the last Reunion.

Henry Santos continues to show improvement from his latest stroke. We pray and hope that Henry makes a speedy full recovery. For many years, Henry and his wife Eva gave unselflessly of their time and yes even some of their money in their work for the National Organization and especially the Florida Chapter. Thank you Eva and Henry.

Felix Ottolini, who recently joined the Florida Chapter, has been in contact with both Phil Berman and Emil De Donato by phone. He plans to make the Jacksonville Meeting and we hope to meet him there.

Albert M. Hodge's daughter Debbie von Allman sent us a video tape of the Texas Memorial Services that she took during the San Antonio Annual Reunion. The singing performance by The Church of the Nazarene Choir was inspiring and emotional for this occasion. Debbie captured the singing segment of the program as well as any professional photographer. We plan to play this video at the Jacksonville April 22 & 23 Meeting.

P.S. As the Public Relations Officer of the Florida Chapter, I have received numerous letters and phone calls from members of our Chapter as well as from the National Organization inquiring about our NEWSLETTER, some requesting a copy of our Roster, orders for the 9th Infantry Cap, different Regimental Pins and other matters. I believe I have responded to all correspondence received however if I missed some, kindly get in touch with me again. Thank you.

NAME BADGES — Don't forget them ... especially those of you who plan to attend the Jacksonville April 22 & 23rd Mini-Reunion. Some of you have more than one. Take them with you. We can save the expense and the time that it takes to issue a new one.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY. Lila Stansell, President of the Florida Chapter Women's Auxillary, urges all members to attend the business meeting scheduled for Saturday, April 23rd. (Time to be posted on the Bulletin Board). The Committee has been planning different "Things-to-do" during the Off-Hours. Plan to attend.

Audrey De Donato reminds the women to bring a small "Polly Ana" gift to be raffled off. The money gained from this sale is for the Women's Treasury.

Emil J. De Donato
3650 SW Mosswood St.
Dunnellon, FL 34431
FL Chapt Pub Rel Officer

RE: HAMBONE

The latest issue of THE OCTOFOIL was in my mail today. The mails are slow these days. They seem to be positively moribund at times!

In reading through this copy of our association newspaper, I noticed the letter from one Mrs. Nockemann, of Southsea, Hants, England. (By the way, the "Brits" prefer to have you use United Kingdom instead of just England!) If the lady had contacted the Winchester Tourist Board Information Centre, they could have given her more information. Actually, the dog was named HAMBONE, Jr. In the official brochure "D-DAY IN THE DISTRICT OF WINCHESTER" the dog is mentioned, and a photo of his tombstone, located near the path along the river at a place called THE DEAN. As far as I know, to which men the dog belonged, and why it was called Hambone, Jr. is not known. The original marker must have been of wood. Who erected the stone marker is another mystery that someone may be able to unravel. Many folk in Winchester have fond memories of us!

Additional D-DAY materials are available at the address given below, that commemorate that historic date, 6th of June 1994. Write to:
SOUTHERN TOURIST BOARD
40 CHAMBERLAYNE ROAD
EASTLEIGH
HAMPSHIRE SO5 5JH
UNITED KINGDOM

I do not know whether there might be a charge, or not, for same.

ALSO DISTINGUISHED MEMBER

I noticed, also, the photograph of Frank Brusic, probably from a newspaper clipping sent to you. I, also, was inducted as a Distinguished Member of the 47th Infantry Regiment, at Fort Lewis, WA on 8th May 1992. (See enclosed). You may verify this by getting in touch with Master Sgt. (ret) Kenneth 'MOOSE' Meyer. The local papers thought it wasn't news; they concentrate on giving their readers the latest scores for local basketball games and other 'trivia'! so I have no photo clipping to send you.

Last, and finally, is my admission that my dues are due for 1994. Since I was 80 on December 27, 1993, I guess I'll pay each year's dues as they become due, from now on, not being an optimist, by nature. Like a lot of other things these days, I have to be satisfied just reading about the Annual 9th Division Reunion each year from now on, after attending the one, my last, at Fayetteville (Fort Bragg).

There seems to be fewer and fewer members of the 47th, and especially, 'C' Co., who write these days. A good reason, probably, as the "TAPS SOUNDED" column each issue demonstrates. Those of us who were in on the beginning at Safi, Morocco, and before, know we all have been living on 'borrowed time' and are lucky to be here and able to 'crow about it'. Right?

PAY OFF BATTLE — A MUST
Oh, yeah! One last thing! If you haven't gotten 'Red' Phillips' SEDJENANE, The Pay-off Battle don't waste another minute. It's the real stuff, to those of us who were there, and, who knows? Maybe those of you who joined us in England, or later, may enjoy reading some additional 9th Division history, especially your own regiment's part, for that was the FIRST time we fought in Africa, as a division, thanks to

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

I don't know what the rest of you think, but as of now, I've had enough snow! My driveway is 110 feet long, and has been too much to shovel this winter, when you get one snow storm after another, with no place left to put the d— stuff! And don't you guys in Florida laugh, understand!! Oh well we only have 5 more weeks of winter left. Since I am a School Crossing Guard here in Bergenfield, I may have to work further into the summer, as our schools have to make up 5 days lost due to the snow and ice. But we will still make Lake Placid. In the last Octofoil, I saw a note from Warren Robinson, who wrote that he joined B Company at the Rhine River. Warren — I was 1st Sergeant of B Company at that time, and while I don't remember your name, I can help you with the names of some men you may recognize from that time. Better still, come join us at Lake Placid in June. It's not too far from where you live. Ellie and I will drive there, taking about 5-6 hours from our home in New Jersey. Send in your reservation and write back to me if you decide to come. OK?

In January, Chuck Munger sent me the names of three more Company B men: Les Wasiohn, Warren Demeritt, and James B. Thompson. Thanks Chuck. If you three men are reading this, I hope you also join us in Lake Placid. Company B usually has a good time, and the More the Merrier! Last time in 1982, the 9th Division Reunion had a turnout of about 1000. Hope we can match that figure in June. We will, if Les & Clara Campen, Joe & Stella Cichockie, Joe & Rose Harvilla, Joe Metzccavage, Olga Palega, Bob & Moira Moore, Ed & Helen Sarnocinski, and Bill Klauz make up their minds to come.

Stan & Florence Adowski, John Campagnone, Chuck & Joyce Munger, and Chick & Julie Cecchini have already said they are coming. So, get your reservations in and let me know if you are coming, please. Until then keep in touch. As always

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

M.P. & Div. Hdqs.
DON MYERS
Box 97
Moravia, N.Y. 13118

It is a pleasure to pay up for another 3 years. To those who remember me — a big hello and all is well. I joined the 9th at Fort Bragg and was assigned to the M.P. Platoon. Stayed there until Kasserine then transferred to Hdqs. Co. Special Platoon. In Sicily I was transferred to Div. Hdqs. APO 9 and stayed there till the end. All my best to everyone.

9th Q M
ANDY SINARE
716 E. 162 St.
Cleveland, OH 44110

Just a few lines to say that all is well at our house. Enclosed find check for one years dues. Enjoy the Octofoil very much. I sent out 15 Christmas cards to my buddies of the 9th QM. I hope that you will have a nice Christmas. I may see you at the next reunion.

Maj. Gen Omar Bradley, and NOT Patton.

1st Sgt. "C" Co. 47th Inf. (Ret)
HOWARD D. BROOKS
P.O. Box 141
South Harpswell, Maine
04079-0141

ILLINOIS CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Getting through this long, cold, stormy weather in the Midwest makes it difficult to get together much with the chapter members. We did meet for lunch in February just to socialize. Present were the Andersons, Baumans, Hellers, Irma Koskie and the Belmontes. We met at the Silver Stallion and enjoyed a leisure afternoon rehashing old war stories and hearing stories about a week some of the wives had to relate. Marion Anderson, DV Heller and Grace Gaertner spent a seek in the Chicago Downtown area on an Elder Hostel Program. The girls enjoyed the week and came back culturally enriched. Their husbands survived the week also.

We do hope all our snowbirds are enjoying their stay in Florida. They include the Prestons, Grays, Hennamuths, Elmers and Paulis. We wish them all a safe trip home.

Our next meeting will be in Madison, Wisconsin at the Ramada Inn on May 13th and 14th. Reservations for rooms can be made directly with the Ramada Inn mentioning the 9th for the special rates. All are invited to attend. Room rates are single \$45, Double \$48.75 plus tax. Mike Carpenter as usual will be in charge of arrangements. We will hold election of officers at this meeting. Be there or be elected.

Our reservations are in for Lake Placid and we are looking forward to another great Reunion.

Mike Belmonte
1161 South Lombard Ave.
Oak Park, IL 60304

"F" Company 47th Infantry

All systems are "GO" for our CP at Lake Placid. The confirmation for our CP arrived in yesterday's mail. My thanks to you who wrote the Holiday Inn people in Memphis urging them to have the Lake Placid Holiday Inn get the confirmation to me.

I had the pleasure of attending Jack Finnigan's seventy-fifth birthday party last month and it was a gala affair. The problem was that Jack showed up an hour before he was supposed to, so it kind of spoiled the surprise. He arrived before most of the guests. Jack looked surprisingly hale and hearty for an old duffer!

George King had a serious bout with his divertick, necessitating a stay in the hospital. He also has been having trouble with an old ulcer that keeps kicking in to remind him that he is mortal like the rest of us. Last week when I talked with him he sounded upbeat, which just goes to show that you can't keep a good man down.

Lyl Gonzol, Frank's beloved, has been laid low for a long time now. Frank has been caretaker for well over a year now, and at last had to place her in a nursing home. At this writing Frank himself is in the Morristown General Hospital, Morristown, N.J. How's about a few cheer up cards for these nice folks.

I'll be getting a letter out to you good men well before the reunion date, I know that some of you will be attending the events in Normandy so will be unable to attend the Lake Placid bash, but I know that enough of you will be in attendance in Lake Placid to make it worthwhile to be there. Lucy joins me in wishing you all the best, and we're both looking forward to seeing you in June.

Ed Hopkins
110 Hollywood Ave.
Metuchen, N.J. 08840-2116

M COMPANY (47TH) CHRONICLER

Dear Compadres:

Another Christmas is under the belt; a miracle that I should live so long. Lee and I went down south to visit my brother and his family and stopped overnight at the north end of the San Fernando valley in a rickety hotel situated on top of what developed as the epicenter of the big earthquake that came a few weeks later. I'm sure the motel never made it. We've had our fill of that stuff and may never go down there again.

I have sad news of M's former mess sergeant, Charley Rehberger of Brooklyn NY. Charley was not a great one for writing. We had a Christmas card but with his name carefully scratched through. I wrote his wife who responded that Charley had passed away a couple of years ago.

In addition to wielding a mean spatula with the famous M Company hotcakes, Charley had a devastating "one-two" with the closed fist. Not many knew he had been a Golden Gloves champ. One day on the way to Africa, a crate of boxing gear was opened and a ring was set up on one of the hatchtops. There was some clumsy sparring around and then Lieutenant Bob Hulslander, the pride of I Company, took off his shirt and put on a pair of gloves, challenging all comers. He had a couple of quick successes and then Charley appeared in the ring. Now Bob had (still does have) a brilliant smile. It was still on his face though sort of crooked when he went beddie-bye half way through his first round with Charley.

Willard Norris writes of hearing from a Marshall VA neighbor of Robert D. Golden that his compadre from the 2nd Platoon had passed on. Willard wrote: "I remember a frequent expression of 'Smokey' during the heat of battle. 'Man I'm sore skeered.' I remember too that he was always willing to volunteer for any task in spite of the danger involved. He was the example of true hero who, in spite of fear, did his duty always. It is an honor to have been his section leader in combat and his friend for the rest of his life." That's beautifully expressed, Willard.

I also heard from the widow of former mortarman Clarence L. Fowler that his great heart gave out on 27 December 1993. His wife Tula writes from Duncan SC that "he was very proud of having served with the outfit and always talked fondly of his GI buddies." Clarence was with us in M from 21 June '44 until 3 Jan. '45.

Ben Kovacs and his wife, Barbara, are now established at 8402 Skylark Ave., Hobe Sound, FL, 33455. Christmas cards kept coming in so I'm up-to-date on Bill and Norma Horan (Columbus GA), Miles and Doris Jankovic (St. Petersburg FL), Harold and Viola Steele (Aiken GA), Jack and Ruth Knight (Wilkes-Barre PA), Willard and Mabel Norris (Burnet TX), Morris and Doris Goldblatt (Delray Beach FL), Leo and Goodie Fatlan, (Braidwood IL), Ed and Mary Wills (Florence KY) and Dewey Siddons (Richmond VA). Thank you all!

Ominously perhaps, my Christmas greetings to those M-ers who are not getting the Octofoil were returned by the postmasters of Eli Kikoen (East Meadow NY) and Harvey Levzov (Portage WI) as "moved — forwarding order expired." If anyone has any word on their whereabouts, please let me know.

Once-a-mortarman Charles R. Hodge of Colonia NJ wrote to order his copy of "Sedjenane." That's the old M Company spirit, Charlie!

Bill Horan called the other day to report continued progress. The best medicine of all, he said, were all the cards and calls from well-wishing M-ers. Ed Wills called to make sure that I had my reservations for Lake Placid (Yes! Yes!! Yes!!!). Also Ed reported that Conda Knee, who hadn't been too perky down in Texas, had been able to get VA to restore his original medication so he was quite recovered. I'm so happy to hear that as these days days good company buglers are hard to come by.

Readers may recall my announcement that "Sedjenane" was my final writing of 9th Division history as I was into a history of my present neighborhood while recovering from combat fatigue after culling all those war stories. Well, then I became bored to tears since Penn Valley CA, while a nice place to live in, must be the original Dullsville. Along comes one C. Thurston Earls, once of the 9th in the Remagen Bridgehead. It got me thinking; always dangerous, dear wife says.

Finding and seizing the Rhine river bridge at Remagen on 7 March '45 was a fabulous stroke of luck for the Allies and the 9th Armored Div., which pulled it off deserves a lot of credit. On the other hand, exploiting that lucky stroke became the mission of the 9th Infantry Div and, in light of the ferocious, last gasp effort of the Germans to stop the Octofoil Division, the next seek or so possibly encompassed its finest WW II hours. The 47th RCT with attachments, the 9th Signal Co, and the 9th MP Platoon received Distinguished Unit Citations for their efforts there, but the original idea was to have the entire division so honored. Never before had it been so battle-tested and found to be so outstanding. For a while our CG, General Craig, was directing two other divisions as well as his own units before a corps headquarters was established in the bridgehead. The 9th was fighting with all three of its infantry regiments abreast in order to take the high ground and to cut the Ruhr-Frankfurt autobahn by 18 March. Though hairy at times the outcome was never in doubt. The 9th prevailed!

Again I will be writing about a battle that I missed ("goofing off" on a stateside R&R at the time) so lots of help will be needed. I will stick to the same format used in "El Guettar" and "Sedjenane" and depend upon your recollection of incidents, conditions and personalities that in the course of the battle were memorable. No matter how trivial you may think that your particular memory is, please jot it down and send it along. You'll be helping to make history, believe it or not.

One thing I especially like about the prospect is that it will provide a means of recognizing the contributions of many 9th veterans who came along after Africa. Their blood, of course, ran just as red as that of the original gang — maybe even redder since they had not been subjected to Atabrine. We had a different set of generals and the 47th's CO was new to the Division, but the chief of staff (Westmoreland) and the CO's of the 39th (Bond) and 60th (Van Houghton) were seasoned hands. The mix

Texas & South West Chapter

Greetings from the desk of the Publicity Chairman, Bob Burky and the Texas Greater S.W. Chapter;

Now is the time to get busy after the holidays. A grand time was had at the San Antonio Reunion. I have received many compliments on the Memorial Service, very emotional. Many of the folks said it was one of the best, many have paid congratulations to the John Millers and their chapter members for a fine reunion. Dottie and I met some wonderful people, from Calif., Fla., Az., New York and from all over this great country of ours. We missed many of our fellow comrades, for some reason they miss the reunion. I understand that the Fla. Chapter will host the New Orleans gig, the Golden Anniversary 50th Annual Reunion in 1995. Also don't forget the 1994 reunion at Lake Placid. The Texas G.S.W. Chapter will meet in March. The meeting will be held on Mar. 19, 1994, at the Stage Coach Inn, Salado, Tx. Our first meeting will be at 10:30 A.M. in a private dining room. Brochures are enclosed. Please try to attend.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Patricia and I are looking forward to seeing you in Salado, Tx. for our meeting March 19, 1994 at 10:30 A.M. at the Stage Coach Inn in a private dining room. I have blocked out 10 rooms for those who wish to come on the night of 18th, at cost of \$46.00 for 2 or 1 person. Make reservations by calling 1-800-732-8994, specify you are with Texas & Greater Southwest Chapter of The Ninth Infantry Division. Specify king beds or twins or 2 full size, also there are Executive Suites for \$70.00. You are responsible for your own room. Check in after 3 p.m. and check out by 1 p.m. There is a Mill Creek 18 hole golf course with playing privileges for Stage Coach guests. If you care to play a game of golf please call Pete Rice 1-214-361-8533 or Gordon Schneider 1-817-457-0226, maybe after the meeting we could get a game of golf going for those who want to play. See you in Salado, Tx.

Pres. Pete Rice


WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

Looking forward to see the Ladies at the March 19, 1994 meeting at the Stage Coach Inn in Salado, Tx. The town has a MILE LONG SHOPPING AREA. It is composed of many interesting small quaint shops, carrying an abundance of beautiful merchandise. Many shops have a Victorian air about them. An exceptionally interesting sight in Salado is the Salado Creek meandering through the center of town. It is a natural spring fed creek and at one point on the stream visitors can see the mermaid statue "Serena" kneeling on the bank of the creek. This is a copy of the famous statue seen near the ocean's edge in Norway. Also in Salado there are many historic and interesting old homes. A cassette can be had at the hotel leading visitors on a self-guided tour of the homes and telling facts of interest about each home and bits of the house's history. The Stage Coach Inn itself is fascinating. The present dining room was the original old stage coach stop where pony express riders stopped and had a meal or changed horses. Old stage passengers stopped and had a meal or spent a night. The Inn was a stage stop around 1830 to 1850 on the Butterfield Line. The dining room has super food. Further highlights of the hotel itself are 2 tennis courts and an outdoor Jacuzzi. Also in the back of the hotel is a cave where the outlaw Sam Bass is reputed and have hidden gold that he stole on his raids. The ladies should have a good time going through the shops. There will be a short meeting if possible. I still have table decorations for sale.

See You in Salado
Dottie Burky, Pres.

Letter of Appreciation to our Past President John W. Miller and to his wife Jean, on behalf of our staff and members of the Texas G.S.W. Chapter, I know that our members are most grateful for your thoughtfulness. It is truly heartwarming to know that you and Jean were there for us. We thank you for your continued support and dedication to us, you are a great encouragement to us.

Publicity Chairman
Bob Burky



SEDJENANE
The Pay-Off Battle
by "Red" Phillips
Leading to the Capture of Bizerte, Tunisia,
by the 9th U.S. Infantry Division
May 9, 1943
Paperback, 176 pg 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.

was obviously good and it will be interesting and instructive to learn how the 9th's high tactical standards were maintained notwithstanding the full calendar of battles it had undertaken since the Invasion.

You can tell that I'm very "up" for the re-run. Adios amigos!

Red Phillips
14002 Hemlock Dr.
Penn Valley, CA 95946

F Co., 47th Inf.
JOHN ARMSTRONG
8360 Greensboro Drive
.McLean, VA 22102

Enclosed are dues for next three years. Thanks for the reminder. We thought San Antonio Reunion was great and Jackie and I are looking forward to Lake Placid in June, i.e., if we can find a dialysis within a reasonable distance from the Reunion.

I talk to Chuck Jones on the phone and we occasionally have lunch together. Also, Ray is in touch by mail as well as Bob Desandy. 1993 was a good year because we traveled a lot to see family and friends as well as the Reunion. We're hoping that we can do some more travelling in '94. I noticed Frank Brusie, D Co., 47th, was in the paper. He was the Mortar Plt. Sgt. when I was a West Point cadet. I was assigned for about a month to him for training in the summer of '42. That month made us a devoted 9th Div. 47th Inf. member and as a replacement I kept asking to be assigned to the 9th then the 47th. I was sure proud and happy to join the Division in Normandy.

47th Inf., "M" Co.
THOMAS J. MORGAN

508 Morton Circle
Chattanooga, Tenn. 37415-4328

Just noticed my membership card and the last year was 1993. Enclosed is check for 3 years' dues.

I have not been able to attend a Reunion since Nashville, and will not make this year's at Lake Placid. Sure would like to see the old gang again. It has been a rough time for me and the Mrs. since June of last year. Sister died 5th of June here; grandma died Nov. in Whitehouse, Texas; brother-in-law died in Jan. here and daughter-in-law died in Whitehouse, Texas Feb. 6th. Having made many trips between Chattanooga, Tenn. and Whitehouse, Texas in the last year. The old boy and the old bones both are almost worn out. Other than being very tired, I am blessed with reasonably good health, am retired now. Just doing a few odd jobs to keep from going stale.

60th Inf., D Co.
ALBIN ROBB
485 N. 1st Street
Gurnee, ILL 60031

Sorry I did not get to come to the Reunion in San Antonio. I was looking forward to it and to seeing some more of my buddies from Co. D, 60th Inf. But with my wife very sick and in the hospital, and the death of her brother right after that, could not get away. Maybe with God's help, may get to the next one.

Have a great New Year and a big hello to all from the 9th Div. Assn.

39th Inf. D Co.
JOSEPH GARGIULO

2 Lagoon Court

Copogue Harbor, NY 11726

Enclosed check for three more membership years. Enjoy your Octofoil publication. My wife and I look forward to visiting with you and my 9th Div. buddies at the Lake Placid Reunion in June. Best wishes to all for a healthy and happy New Year.

47th Inf C Co.
STANLEY POLLINGER
2317 Washington
Allentown, Pa. 18104

I wish to keep up my dues for the next three years. I am on the sick list for a while, hope to make Lake Placid in the summer.

THE OCTOFOIL

E. Co., 39th Inf.
RICHARD SOLAR
555 N. Pantano #368
Tucson, AZ 85710

Enclosed is check for my dues for the next three years. You are doing a fine job with the Octofoil. I read it over two and three times. I surely enjoy all the good readings. I am one of the replacements that joined the 9th Div. in March 1945. I attended the Ft. Bragg Reunion in '92 and really had a good time, especially meeting some of the old timers of Co. "E", 39th Regt. Ken Hill surely writes a great article which was in the last Octofoil. I just sent my reservation in for Lake Placid, so hope to see you all.

47th Inf. D Co.
IRWIN DUPUY
12233 N. Yorkdale Dr.
Baton Rouge, La. 70811

I am sending for another years subscription to the one and only Octofoil.

I am only too sorry to repeat why in these past few years I have seen possibly only two or three members of "D" Co. 47th, Inf. Regiment in the Octofoil.

Anyway I am confused with looking at the picture of Sgt. Brusic in your last issue. He has changed tremendously. He was the best 1st. Sergeant a fellow could ever meet. I had the best of officers and non-coms you could ever want to serve under. The weather is sloppy outside. I will have to use my Pirouge to go mail this letter. These swamps are something else.

BTRY C 60TH F.A.
GERALD T. BLACKWELL
122 South Howell Street,
Rocky Mount, N.C. 27804

Hi, just a few lines to say hello, and send my dues for 1994. I haven't been getting the 9th Div. paper The Octofoil very long, but wish I had been getting it a lot longer. I really enjoy reading it. I joined the outfit in the Sedjenane Valley and with it for the duration of the war. I was lucky I didn't get wounded, so I was able to stay with C Btry 60th the whole time, and with a very fine bunch of guys, and good soldiers. So long for now. Looking forward for the next Octofoil. The best of health to all the Vets left from World War II.

60th Inf. A. T. Co.
RICHARD F. WOLF
1024 Serafini Drive
Schenectady, N.Y. 12303

Ten years ago, I tried to replace decorations and medals that I had stolen during a robbery in my home. I was informed by the War Department that this would be extremely difficult or impossible because my records had been burned up in the Cleveland warehouse fire of 1973. I also had intentions of having some corrections on my discharge and separation papers. I was in all eight campaigns of the 9th Div. and do retain my original discharge papers. I have long since given up any chance of getting the lost medals or making changes on my discharge papers. Most of the men I had contact with after the war have passed on.

My point is: How many 9th division men know that their war records were burned up in the Cleveland fire and as far as the War Department is concerned they never were in the war? Regards.

746 Tank Bn
KENNETH E. FOGLE
418 Logan Street
Frederick, MD 21701-6339

Greetings from a member of the 746th Tank Bn. which was attached to your great division in World War II! Simon Roebuck has been in touch with me and we are having correspondence. It was good to hear from someone from the 9th and I would like to find out more about your organization — membership, and books such as "Eight Stars to Victory," etc. Let me hear from you soon.

I was in "D" Company (Recon.) of the 746th and later was transferred to "B" Company. I was in the Ardennes, Rhineland and Central European campaigns. My hand got tangled up with a shell as we were working on our way toward Berlin, and was in the 62nd Gen. Hospital outside of Paris for a while, later getting back to the outfit.

While getting enough points to come home, I was stationed in Reit im Winkl, Germany — near Munich. I understand that your Division organized while there.

Will be anxious to hear from you, and will write more later.

E Co. 60th Inf.
EZRA CLARK
301 W. College St.
Narrows, Va. 24124

Enclosed you will find a check for my 1994 dues. Sorry I haven't paid sooner but I have been in the hospital with pneumonia. But I'm feeling a lot better now. I enjoy reading the Octofoil and hearing from some of the old buddies that I was in with. I would like to hear from some of the old buddies that were in E company 60th Inf. Division from North Africa in 1942 and in Belgium where I was captured in Sept. 1944. We'd love to attend some of the reunions. But I'm crippled with arthritis and can't drive very far. But my thoughts are with the Division.

Hqs. Co. 2nd Bn 60th Inf.
CHARLES DULING
312 4th Ave.
Wilm. DE 19808

Enclosed are dues for the next three years and a little something for the Memorial fund. My wife and I are happy we were able to make it to San Antonio. It was a thoroughly enjoyable reunion. We enjoyed the good company of long time friends Mike Deresh, Dick and Carol Schmack, Al and Mabel Hodge with daughter Debbie and grandson Zach also Cal and Delores Hull. Warm regards to the ill and those who couldn't make it.

Best wishes to you and yours.

K Co 60th Inf.
JAMES F. HART
7 Nenagh Dr.
Wilm., Del. 19803

Just realized I had not paid my dues for 1994. The enclosed check will take care of that.

No news of any importance to pas on. My wife, six kids, eleven grand kids and three greats plus one on the way are all in good shape. We all get together at least twice a year and have a ball. A good way to stay young.

Hope you and Marie have a great year and many thanks for all the wonderful work you two have done for our super gang over all these years.

HQ & HQ Btry 34th F.A.
ALBERT J. (ALABAM) WILLING-HAM
2226 Wilcox Dr.
Greensboro, N.C. 27405

I was a member of HQ & HQ. Btry 34th F.A. Bat 9th Div. from 7 Sept. 1940 through 22 December 1945.

I know my membership is up sometime in 1994 so I am signing up for three-years.

Sure wish more 34th men would show up for our reunions. We sure had a ball at our first 34th F.A. reunion in Fayetteville. Thank you for all your work and time Leon Birum it could not have been better unless more had shown up.

Talk about looking at a living image Eric Sundan is sure one of Col. Sundan. Would like to thank Leslie Dail for the puddle stick, sure hope Gen. Westmoreland has learned to use his the correct way.

Looking forward to our Lake Placid reunion.

Hq. 1st Bn. 47th
ANDREW H. CRAWFORD
Box 27
Burke, N.Y. 12917

Dues renewal time is here again, so renew me for three years. Still hanging in here in Burke. It has been a terrible cold winter up here. This makes me think of the BOGLE. I will always remember the real buddies I met in the 9th. Thank you Dan for your dedicated services in keeping the association going. Many thanks to your hard working wife.

A.T. Co. & D Co. 60th Inf.
DONALD WHITENACK
131 Garfield Dr.
Longview, TX 75602

Enclosed is my check for dues.

I'm happy to be able to pay my dues but sorry that I've gotten behind.

Would love to hear from anyone who served in Dog Company, 60th Infantry from middle of July, 1994 to Sept. 25th, 1994, the date I was captured —, along with a bunch of Company A men.

Best regards.

Hq. Co. 3rd Bn 47th Inf.
ROBERT PETTEE
310 W. Meadowview Rd. #337
Greensboro, N.C. 27406

Enclosed is check for 3 years renewal. Because I'm late, the renewal is for 1993, 1994 and 1995.

Except for exchanges of correspondence with Red Phillips sharing recollections of Tunisia, I've been out of touch for many years, but scan each issue of Octofoil for familiar names, and often finding them.

Except for a year in Puerto Rico in the early '60's, I have remained in North Carolina since leaving active service in 1946. I retired from NC State Govt. in 1983 and currently have a part time job here in Greensboro. This keeps me busy enough to keep out of mischief, but with enough spare time to get into mischief if I want to.

I was widowed and have since remarried. I have two sons and twin daughters. And, so far, three grandchildren.

It would be nice to hear from folks.

Co. E 39th Inf.
MR. & MRS. RAYMOND J. NICHOLS
110 Gages Way R1
Brewster, MA 02631

Dolores and I are driving out to Lake Placid leaving Wednesday arriving Thursday.

Dolores and I are looking forward to seeing our friends at Lake Placid. We missed the last reunion in Tex.

Dolores and I are fine, just waiting to June.

SERV. CO. 60th Inf.
HENRY BIALOUS
154 Franklin St.
Brooklyn, NY 11222

It seems the more time elapses since that big one the more eagerly I look forward to the next Octofoil. The Nov. Dec. issue really started the memory wheels turning with that picture of K Co. 60th Inf. Linkinogger and Oakley were part of the Cadre and ABE Storm, Sid Levine, Nick Bianculli, Thurston Haggert, Harold Juneman and myself were all Camp Upton Inductees. I was a member of K Co. from Jan. until the day before the Carolina maneuvers began, I then transferred to Service Co.

I'm saying hello to the aforementioned who are still around and to George Grossman who had an article in the same issue and to the Octofoil "Keep up the good work."

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

This has been a winter to forget, however, as bad as it has been its not bad compared to the three winters overseas.

In looking over the last Octofoil I noticed more and more people are looking for information regarding lost loved ones. It comes to my mind that I would like some info about my only brother who was K.I.A. on February 7, 1945.

His unit A Company, 417th Inf. Reg't, 76th Inf. Division's first action was assaulting the German Seigfried line near Echternash. It was a giant task for a green division. They were to cross the Sauver river which at the time was a swift, vicious, obstacle which was a natural defense for the mind and pill-boxed German army.

Whether my brother and his B.A.R. Chicagosn buddy got across is not known. The last letter I received he noted that he was on our trail and soon he would see me, it was not to be.

Any help I could receive, such as books or personal accounts of that river crossing would be very much appreciated.

Enclosed is donation in memory of P.F.C. Raymond F. McGrath 76th Inf. Div.

15th Engrs A C
EDWARD "RICK" RICKERT
492 W 156th St.
Oak Forest, IL 60452

It's that time of the year again. Holidays of 1993 I was thinking back 50 years ago Christmas of 1943.

In Winchester, England, getting some much needed rest and preparing for the Big One.

Looking through some old pictures and letters I found a Christmas card that I sent my folks.

The Ninth Infantry Division wishes you a Merry Christmas also a V mail letter. With a G I holding a censured V mail letter somewhere in Britain, December 25, 1943.

I heard from a few of the old buddies, Carroll DeVoid, Edward Boyle, Jerry Fasano, Howard Horner, Edward Cinkovich, Alvin (Harry) James, Hoss Johnson, Dwight Merrill, Clem Przblyski, August Rintala, Henry Santos during the year. I heard from Capt. Phillip Emmons.

I'm enclosing a check for my dues. Thanks to all for keeping up the Octofoil.

We always can be proud of being a member of a great Division like the Ninth.

God's blessings to all.

47th G Co. 2nd Bn.
LISOLETTE GONZALEZ
34114 #10 School Rd.
Millington, Md 21651
Dear Mr. Quinn:

I am writing this letter with a sad and heavy heart. On Dec. 22, 1993, Frank "Sonny" Gonzalez Jr. passed away, after a long, long illness. I promised him that I would let his buddies know. Frank always waited eagerly for the Octofoil to arrive.

The children and I will miss him terribly. Greetings to all and God bless you.

709 Ord.
LOUIS BRUNO
P.O. Box 47
Midland, Pa. 15059

It's time again to renew my dues for 94-95-96.

I sure enjoy the Octofoil but I don't see any of the 709th men in the paper. I sure would like to hear from them. I keep in touch with Charles O'Connor and Pat Zona.

Pray all is well with you and family. Hope your new year is a healthy and happy one.

Co. I., 39th Inf.
CECIL JENKINS
9100 Ky. Hwy. 1247
Stanford, KY 40484

Enclosed is a check for 1994 dues. Enjoy the Octofoil. Read every line of it. Think you are doing a wonderful job with the paper. Always like to hear what some of my old war buddies are doing. Seem's like as we get older, we become closer than brothers. I Co., 39th Inf. will be having a Reunion in Lexington, KY Aug. 9, 10, 11, 1994. If anyone wants info. about the Reunion, I have the information. We usually have about 12 to 15 members and wives. We would like to have more. Age and health keeps taking it's toll. I had basic training Spring of '43 at Camp Wheeler, GA. Then went to Inf. school, Fort Benning, GA. Was sent to England early 1944. Joined the 9th Div. June 1944. Was wounded Aug. 6, 1944, sent back to Hospital in England. After leaving Hospital, came back to Co. I, 39th Inf. Was with the Div. to the Elb River. Came out of service Jan. 1946. Like to hear from anyone that remembers me. Some of the men I keep in contact with are Paul Callahan, Joseph Charnat, Nicholas Chipurai, J.C. Davison, Elbert De Witt, Ralph Elkins, Charles Holsapple, Edward Koneski, Don Laneder, James Onerton, Alonzo Palmer Sr., Jack Radabaugh, and Herschel Byrd. Maybe someone would like to contact these men. I have their addresses. Dan, hope you can read this. Keep up the good work.

B Co., 47th Inf.
HARRY BROWNE
1909 S. York St.
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

I am enclosing my check for another 3 years. I don't know if I will be able to make Lake Placid or not. I have had arthritis for the past four years and this makes travelling a little rough.

Two weeks ago I fell in my driveway and fractured my ankle, so I will be in a cast from the knee down to my toes. I am hoping to have that removed for Feb. 7th. I sure will be glad to be able to drive again.

While we were in France, I was detached from B Co. and sent to the Div. to run the Casual Co. Mess for replacements. I operated this to the end of the war under Capt. Warren Lafferty. I would sure appreciate if someone could give me the address of Capt. Lafferty.

**Reunion 1994
Lake Placid
June 9, 10, 11**



MAIL CALL

K Co. 60th

ROBERT H. RUCKER, #1103
5055 W. Panther Creek Drive
The Woodlands, TX 77381

As of Christmas, I have had all my "spare parts" repaired, renewed and/or replaced! Even have a new "Oscar", number 25 but I have yet to get the silver racing stripe on him. For this 25th prosthesis, age has dictated some new or revived wrinkles ... such as a small belt with elastic to help me pick him up each step. This is a precaution to prevent him deserting me as he did on my last trip to London. As I attempted to get in a taxi in front of Herrod's, I was backing in, crawfish fashion, when he slid off in all his naked glory, right between the feet of the cabbie! Neither of us will ever be the same. Instead of handing me Oscar, he chose to pick him up and brandishing him where all could see and hear, he rushed back to the next cabbie shouting, "Hey, matie, he's lost his 'bloody leg'!" Oh, there have been many amusing experiences during the past fifty years. And, I might add some that were not so amusing. I have shared these tales with many a civic club in a talk entitled, "Life With Oscar ... or You Can Do it on a Wooden Leg!"

For those of you who did not see much of me in San Antonio, I was forced to rest a great deal so, after getting my assignments done, I went to my room and removed the exterior "parts" and rested with a short nap for a while. Most of you know that we must pause and re-charge our batteries on occasion. Oh yes, the docs have now worked on all but one of my appendages but I will do all possible to see that they do not work on that one.

I was terribly sorry to learn of Les Ronay's death as we were friends through the years since before we left Bragg. In fact, he roomed with me in Orlando at one of the reunions, not the last one. Response to my requests to tell the story about Keene "Slick" Wilson have been great but I need more. THIS IS THE LAST REQUEST via The Octofoil and I will appreciate any stories from anyone who was with him. I have the unique position of having been his only commanding officer in "K" Co. of the 60th, as he was promoted twice by Gen Ike and became the C.O. for many of those who survived. A tape from E.J. Phillips; Rex, Ga. was wonderful and not only told me about Wilson but many others and their Fate with Destiny.

I try to swim 3 or 4 times a week here at the retirement center as I must continue to get my strength back. It is a slow go as the upper arms and shoulders are deteriorating. But, "what the Hell" ... no one ever said that life was easy.

A Co. 15 Engs.

HENRY SANTOS
9811 Connechusett Rd.
Tampa, FL 33617

Bob "Doc" Hughes tells me he recently lost his son Michael and daughter Elaine — both died a few months apart. Even with his personal tragedy — he called to check on me — Thanks "Doc" I owe you another — and I want you to know I'm improving every day thanks to God.

As of now we're planning for Lake Placid.

Co B 47th Inf

EDWARD J. SARNOCINSKI
246 Estate Dr
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

An update on Robert and Anna Edie. Its been 15 years since Robert had his first stroke. He has had a few minor one's since. Anna (an angel of a wife) brought Robert's wheel chair and all to Orlando in 85 and then to Nashville in 86, along with some great cheese and summer baloney from New Philadelphia, Ohio, of some of you can remember!

Since then Robert ha been bed ridden for eight years. Five at home and three at a health center.

Anna called yesterday to inform us, Robert had his right leg above the knee removed Jan. 24th and at present he has had some relief of pain because of the operation.

Robert will be 80 years of age on April 26th. Like a true reliable, hanging in there. Anna 77 keeps him abreast of all that's going on and he can nod his head with a sign of appreciation. Since the last time I wrote to the Octofoil about this wonderful couple, they have received cards and letters and are grateful.

Keep them coming. Anna hasn't been able to respond because of her arthritis, and her own health deterioration. She's getting around with a walker and wheel chair. Each Monday morning a daughter brings her Holy Communion. A son has moved in now to help this very lovely lady to continue to see Robert. God Bless her and Robert and all of you who care. Roberts address: Hemmis Care Center, 1720 Cross St., Dover, Ohio 44622. Anna's address Anna Edie, 533 Stratton Ave. S.W. New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663.

So, keep the cards or letters coming and make their day and yours. You needn't have to be from B. Co. to say hello or the 47th Infantry.

As for us, Helen is hurting like many of you out there, and at this time, we doubt very much we can make it to Lake Placid. Let's hope for 95!

Best of good wishes to all, Ed.
P.S. Anna's phone # 1-216-339-3693.

L Co. 39th INF. Reg. 395-99-189
JOHN VAN SON
Oro Grande, Ca. 92368
619-951-1584

Attn: Members of the Ninth Infantry Association:

My name is John Van son and I was a member of L Co. 39th INF. I don't remember the names of those in my Platoon anymore. I sure wish I did, because I would like to write to some of them. If you are out there send a note to the Octofoil or to my home address.

I live in Oro Grande, California. It's a small town outside of Victorville. I would especially like to know if there are any L Co. men here in the high desert.

Enclosed is a check to pay my dues for another three years. I would like the rest contributed to the Memorial Fund. Please continue sending the Octofoil, because I really enjoy reading it from cover to cover.

A "Big Hello" to you all, and I look forward to hearing from you.

47th Inf. I Co. 3rd Bn Hdqs.

LYLE KELLY
W9180 Kelly Ln.
Deerbrook, Wi. 54424

Enclosed is check for three years, forgive me for being late with check. Did not realize that I had fallen behind.

Health problems? Possible! Had heart by pass for the second time last May. First time was in 1985. Have been getting along, fairly well!

The last time I saw you was at the reunion at Lake Placid in 1984. I was there with Al Bravin and Ben Kovacs, both from Hdq. Company 3rd Btl. 47th.

They are both still my best friends! We keep in touch.

Dan, I want to thank you for sending me the Octofoil, may you and yours have a Merry Xmas. and a very happy, healthy New Year. P.S. You do a very good job — Dan, thank you!

39th Inf. Regt. Hq. Co.

PAUL POTTS
2100 Norton Lane
Bedford, In. 47421

Another year has rolled by, seems they go a little faster than at one time. I am in fairly good health, had prostrate surgery in June but seem to be alright now. I hope all members of the 9th Div. good health for the coming year. If any members of Regt. Hq. Co. 39th read this, write me and I promise to answer. It's been 49 yrs. this Dec. 21st that I was wounded in Battle of Bulge and I was very fortunate to come thru and get home and have a pretty good life. Hope to be around for another year.

Regards.

47th Co. B

JAMES N. BINKES
PO Box 3403
Temple, TX 76505

My name is Ron Binkes. My father is still alive, served with the 47th Co B 9th Div. in North Africa Nov. 42-Dec. 43. His name is James N. Binkes an insal 1st Sgt. of Co B. 47th Regt. and prior to those dates. I'm trying to locate some information on the whereabouts of a few of his Sgts. and officers that were with him in North Africa. I have a copy of the rosters he had which you may keep. If you have a membership — let me know if it's available. Any help on the people listed below would be appreciated.

(1943)

- 1) David D. Grow Jr. Sgt.
- 2) Larry F. Krogbin St.
- 3) Troy B. Cerzine Lt.
- 4) Frank Lee
- 5) Frank Leesch, Lt.
- 6) Ralph Green

Send any information or where I might locate. Ron Binkes, PO Box 3403, Temple, TX 76505.

B Co 15th Engs

PAUL BOLDUC
573 Woonasquatucket Ave.
N. Providence, R.I. 02911

Enclosed you will find a check for my three year renewal.

The remainder to go to the Memorial Fund in memory of Byron (Barney) Angell. I recently was given a copy of the obituary notice by a friend and thought I would pass it on to you.

Had I known earlier I would have attended the wake and funeral services.

If all guess well I hope to attend the 1994 reunion.

47th Infantry

WILLIAM GREEN
PO Box 1794
Trenton, NJ 08607-1794

Hi Gang — Some news for your "Mail Call Column." I was in World War II with the 47th Infantry Regiment along with buddies of Bob McCulley now of Salisbury, Md. and Charley Fisher now of Arlington, Vt. (Do not know their company outfit.) I was in Company "L" of the 47th. We trained in Fort Bragg, No. Car. Entered into the war through French Morocco, Africa and continued fighting into Germany. I got wounded in northern Africa and that was the end of my fighting. My buddies continued on and helped finish the fight in Germany.

Many of us hope to be at Lake Placid reunion and swap ole stories. Best regards.

Dues Reminder

It is that time of the year when we remind our members that Dues are payable. We no longer can use the red tell ink so we ask the members to check above their names on the Octofoil and printed will be the year that membership is paid until. The Letter L100 will indicate a Life membership-H200 will indicate an Honorary member and the present year should read 94 or more.

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

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

Co K 47th Inf

GEORGE NICKLIN, M.D.
6 Butler Place
Garden City, L.I.,
N.Y. 11530-4603

I just wanted to send a note to you about the San Antonio reunion. Kate, my wife, and I had a tremendous time at San Antonio. There were six members of K Company 47th Regiment there. It was great to see these co-combatants, both at my time and two whom I was not able to observe directly, but who were there at the same time.

Frank Corvino was my squad leader when I was a 60-mm mortar gunner. He did an excellent job, both in running the squad and in surviving. Joseph Killacky was a messenger at the time I first saw him in Schevenhuetten, and did excellent work the four months that I was with K Company. Chester Jordan was an admirable platoon leader, and was the man who wrote the citation for Sheridan's congressional medal of honor at Frenzerberg. Billy McKinny and Evan "Reds" Thompson were the other co-combatants, whom I did not know well while fighting, but with whom I had a great time at a long series of reunions. My wife and I also had a great time playing golf while we were at San Antonio, and are looking forward to the Lake Placid reunion with the strong sense of fellowship and the fascinating things you can do at Lake Placid (such as going to the top of the ski jump without jumping off).

Enclosed is a photograph of myself and the five other members of K Company, taken on October 8 at San Antonio.

**Reunion 1994
Lake Placid
June 9, 10, 11**



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412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N.J. 07087

Publication No. 402820

Co. K 39th Inf.

BILL NELSON
371 Scenic Dr.
Steubenville, Ohio 43952

Hi Dan to all:

On Tuesday Feb. 2 "Ground Hog Day" I called Oscar Leindecker about visiting him on Friday the 4th. My wife "Vi" and I drove out to Sugar Creek in the Amish Country to visit him and his wife and tell them of the upcoming reunion in Lake Placid. We showed them pictures of some past reunions and made a copy of the Octofoil to send in for reservations. They are both interested.

About 4:30 P.M. we went to the Dutchmans Restaurant in Walnut Creek for dinner which was very good as usual. After dinner we drove around a little before going back to "Slicks" house as he was known in "K" Co.

He showed me his Coon-hounds as he is a Coon hunter. He got 93 Coons this season with the weather so bad in January he could only go out one night. That's not bad for a man 74 yrs. young. He looks real well, does not have a belly like some of us. He works on a farm looking after 82 head of beef cattle along with other farm chores. The man he works for has a Cheese factory, he had me a big chunk of swiss cheese which is very good.

Bill Doty from Baden, Pa. found Slick some way and called me and gave me his address and phone number. Slick has had only one contact since leaving the service. Bill Honas from Idaho and he passed away about five years ago.

All is in order for us to go to Lake Placid, we are looking forward to a good time as we had the last time we were there. We will have to leave early Sunday morning as our grandson is graduating from high school in Kennebunk, Maine at 2:30 on Sunday afternoon the 12th.

Looking forward to seeing all the old gang again.

Deadline for next issue of the Octofoil - April 20th