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The Octofoil, August/September/October 1996

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

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

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION Volume XLXXI Number 4 Aug-Sept-Oct 1996

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To all men who wore the Ninth Patch I want to thank you for your confidence by electing me for the second time president of our association. I feel very honored, I will give you 101 percent during my term in office.

The first time as president we had the reunion in Philadelphia. My home town. It was convenient for me.

Of course I had the good fortune of having men who run other reunions before such as Len Tomassone, Nick D'Agostino, John Saboto, Pat DiColli, Paul Lisa, Tony Saprono, Marty Krasovetz. They along with our wives who by the way planned several successful programs.

This time the reunion is in Louisville, Kentucky. This is the reason I'm going to Kentucky sometime in October to get a first hand look at our Headquarter Hotel. I have the help of Henry Santos, Mike Bemonte who will be there along with Bob Hughes to help plan a good program. Our wives will be coming along to add the woman's touch.

I also called for a board meeting to be held in Worcester at the time of our Memorial Mass. Dan notified all board members. He informed me we have enough for a quorum.

We will discuss our trip to Kentucky plus other items on the agenda. We will also discuss the possible sites for 1998 convention.

By the way I tried to get Bob Hughes to postpone the Kentucky Derby until our reunion but he said that was out of the question. However he has a few other surprises.

I feel a strong bond for all men of the Ninth that cements us together. As our men go to meet our Heavenly Father we have to close ranks.

I remain your President,
Respectfully
Al Perna
2642 S. Juniper St.,
Philadelphia, PA 19148

P.S. Sunday the Del Valley Chapter had a meeting at Lenny's House. It was a surprise going away party for Nick D'Agostino and wife. They are moving to Florida. The Florida Chapter is getting a very good active member. We are going to miss them very much. For years we had our picnic at Nick's house. We are going to have trouble finding a place like Nick's. Good luck on your new house. We all plan to go down to see him and use his house for a jumping off place for Micky Mouse.

52nd Annual Memorial Mass and Service Worcester, Massachusetts

The Ninth Infantry Division Association

The "Friends" of Father Connors on October 20, 1996 once again conducted the Memorial to the men of the Ninth despite a storm that hit the East coast from Florida to Maine. About 100 members attended the Mass and luncheon began in 1945 by the late Father Ed Connors Division Chaplain.

There were a few cancellations (especially for those with long motor trips) but members came as far as California, Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Massachusetts, to remember the departed members of the Ninth.

Minutes of the 182nd Meeting of the National Board of Governors — Ninth Infantry Division Association

The 182nd meeting of the National Board of Governors of the Ninth Infantry Association took place at the Holiday Inn, Worcester, Massachusetts October 19, 1996. President Perna called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and asked the members to stand for a moment of silent prayer in memory of our departed comrades. Members attending the meeting were Herb Olsen, Bill

Shea, Floyd Hennessy, Al Zenka, Charles LiBretto, Alternate Members Henry Santos and Pat DeColi. Past Presidents Walter O'Keefe, Ron Murphy, Dave Heller Judge Advocate, Tom Boyle Treasurer, and past board member Al Feranti, George Brown and Ed Gill. Hopkins and Driscoll had to cancel out at the last minute. Ed Hopkins had indicated he would attend but at the last moment had to go emergency operation for a heart-bypass. Jim Driscoll's wife was ill and he could not attend.

Dan Quinn read the minutes of the previous meeting that took place at the reunion held at the Concord Hotel in June. Upon a motion made by Al Zenka and seconded by Bill Shea it was voted to: Accept the secretary's reading of the minutes from the 181st meeting.

Thomas Boyle when called upon for the treasurer's report gave a detailed explanation of the spending and income for the last few months. Upon a motion made by Henry Santos and seconded by Floyd Hennessy it was voted to accept the treasurer's report.

Continued on page 3

LADIES CORNER

Now, where did I leave off in the July column? Oh yes, that column was dated July 14th, and the next day Joe and I were to leave for a 7-night Steamboat Cruise on The American Queen up the Mississippi River from St. Louis, Mo. to St. Paul, Minnesota. Well, we did, Joe left all the driving to someone else — and we both had one H--- of a time while they did it. Such opulence, and Grandeur (late 1880s style) and such service!! What a hardship it was to come home and to do all that cooking, bed-making, laundry, and cleaning myself! Besides that, we went through 26 Locks on the Upper Mississippi River, stopped at Mark Twain's home in Hannibal, Missouri, a Horse Farm in Prairie Du Chien, Iowa, Dubuque, Iowa, where we gambled a few dollars on a River Boat Casino, and stopped at the oldest town in Minnesota; Wabasha (1823) where they had a Brass Band, the Mayor and Council, and 4 Beauty Queens to welcome us! Boy, did they love us on that River.

At night in the pitch black darkness, a 60 Million Watt Searchlight had to find the channel in the middle of the River because it is very shallow (15 ft.) at this part, and we were all out on deck watching it. Very fascinating and fortunate for us that our stateroom was on the Observation Deck in front of the boat, we so had front row seats for the spectacle. I believe that everybody should take a trip like this — "Ole Mississippi" is really quite a River.

Now, for other news — have none — just join our Auxiliary if you haven't already — find a Veterans' group which needs money, tell an officer of it, write to me please, and take care. By the way, Marlene Sanchez we passed Davenport, Iowa on the way up the River, and I called out to you, but I guess you didn't hear me, did you?

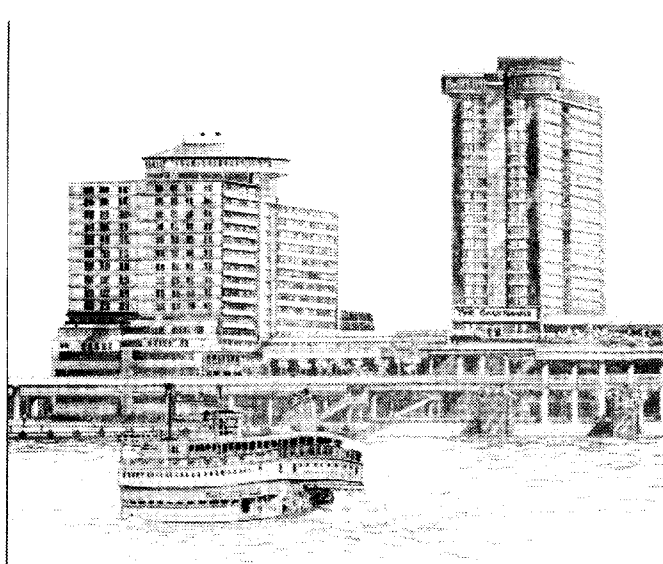
Ellie Taubner
85 Smith Avenue
Bergenfield, NJ 07621
Co. B 47th Inf.



"Looavull" is looking better all the time!!!

KENTUCKY

1997 LOUISVILLE



THE GALT HOUSE HOTEL INVITES THE 9TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, MAY 22-25

We are fortunate to have "family" members living in the city and knowledgeable of our needs for a super reunion. So far only two have been put to work, Bob Hughes, a former "A" Co., 15th Engineers' medic and a former "B" Co. 15th first sergeant. Bob has good connections in the right places of government, having been in local and state politics for many years and is still active as Senior Citizen Activities Coordinator. Who better for our social needs?

Both Bob and Ernie spent a whole day with the committee with various offices in various corners of the city, saving us an awful lot of time in locating people we needed to talk to.

Ernie Micka, the 1st Sgt. has agreed to oversee registrations and city information center with his bride, Dot as an equal partner which will allow some time for the committee to see "Looneyville" rather than be cooped up in the hotel working and trying to answer questions of a city they know nothing about. In addition to Ernie and Dot we will have people from the Convention & Visitors Bureau helping with registration and local information.

We've been asked about the dates of the reunion, the Memorial Day holiday etc. Because the Galt is so popular, mostly veterans groups, it was the best possible time we could get. Remember, we only had one year rather than the usual two years to negotiate and prepare. If the dates conflict with yours in some way I'm sure it will be worth the sacrifice for one time.

For starters, our first night welcoming party will be aboard the Belle Of Louisville, thanks to the management's cooperation. We will have a typical KFC two piece chicken dinner buffet with waiter/waitress service if needed, with all the "fixins" with drinks available from the ships galley. Only pure vegetable oil will be used so with that in mind and some still can't have the KFC dinner please advise us as soon as possible and we will arrange a substitute. We are still negotiating an entertainment program that will be suitable.

Friday night's program will be a most pleasant surprise but not yet a "done deal."

Mike Belmonte has the duffers' program on the fire and will let you golfers know shortly.

Urgent request!! If you even think there's a good chance you will attend, PLEASE, PLEASE send in your reservations as soon as possible (you can always cancel) for two reasons, first reason is — to be sure you will be housed in the GALT. We were only allowed a room block of 250 rooms but were promised more if we needed them — (with a catch — if available). We don't want anyone housed in another hotel just because their reservations were late. The Galt is a VERY BUSY hotel. Bear in mind that there's much more to see and do in LEWISVILLE than you can do in three days and the cost of getting there is already paid, you should consider a day or two prior and after reunion dates.

We have yet to receive any input or suggestions on how to make this another great reunion. How about it gals, any suggestions!

Deadline for next issue Dec. 20th

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

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President
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2642 S. Juniper St.
Philadelphia, Pa.19148

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114 Charles Street
Floral Park, NY 11001

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Philadelphia, PA 18148

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Judge Advocate
618 Sumac Rd
Highland Pk. IL 60035

Thomas Boyle, Treasurer
39 Hall Avenue
Somerville, MA 02144

Daniel Quinn, Secretary
412 Gregory Avenue
Weehawken, NJ 07087

Board of Governors

1997
Nicholas D'Agostine
Cherry Hill, NJ
Michael Belmonte
Oak Park, IL
James P. Driscoll
Holiday, FL
Herb Olsen
Marson Mills, MA
1998
Ed Hopkins
Metuchen, NJ
Ken Meyer
Belton, TX
Phil Bermami
Daytona, FL
Owen Salle
Decatur, IL
Al Zenka
Bellrose, NY
Floyd Hennessey
Lambertville, MI

1999
Al Perna
Philadelphia, PA

Charles LiBretto
Paramus, NJ

Thomas Hatton
Saginaw, MI
William Shea
Scarboro, ME

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 exclusiv-
ely 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.

Volume XLXXI Number 4 Aug-Sept-Oct 1996

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.....

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 Auxilliary Member.....\$30.00

Decals.....50 each

Please credit the following chapter:

Philly-Delaware Valley ☐ Greater New York ☐
Illinois ☐ Washington, D.C. ☐
New England ☐ Michigan ☐
Florida ☐ New Jersey ☐
Texas Gr South West ☐ California Chapter ☐

Ladies Auxiliary
Ninth Infantry Division Association
Membership Application
Carol Saunders, Treasurer, Ladies Auxilliary
P.O. Box 1584, Greenfield, Tn 37744

Enclosed please find dues for:

Name.....

Street Address.....

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

My spouse (Brother or relative)

Served with.....

One year.....\$3.00

Credit Chapter.....

Tip of the Hat

Remembering the Memorial
Fund and their buddies who
have answered their last roll
call we thank the following
members and friends:

Mrs. Margaret Nicoletti - In
memory of husband, Joseph,
60th Inf. A Co.

Herbert Ravlin - In memory
of John Vesse and Robert L.
Spencer, 709 Ord. Co.

Pat Zona - In memory of
John Kowalski, 709 Ord. Co.

Mary Lackman - In memory
of husband, James, 39th Inf.

Boardman Lockwood - In
memory of, respect for and
thought of: George W.
Smythe, Jesse F. Niven,
Anthony DeLaura, Lindsey
Nelson, Frank Brusil, Ray
Inzer, Randall Bryant and
Lewis E. Maness.

George A. Pedrick - In mem-
ory of Ralph Carci.

Anthony San Giacomo - In
memory of Tony Madonna,
Mary Murphy and Bill
Davidson.

Paul Keller - In memory of
his wife Idola.

James A. Dulong.

Mrs. Peter Mastrangelo - In
memory of husband, Peter,
B Co. 47th Inf.

John Bauman - In memory
of Joyce Baccile.

Mrs. Rosamae Mooty - In
memory of husband William
"Pete" Mooty, 47th Inf. E Co.

James M. Otts - In memory
of all our fallen comrades
and Philip Emmons, 15th
Engrs. Co's "A." and "B."

George Van Leuven - In
memory of John T. Brown
and Douglas France.

Alex Forrest - In memory of
Phil Emmons and Billy
Dallas, 15th Engrs. Bn.

Richard McGrath - In memo-
ry of Mary Murphy.

Joseph Perambo

H. W. Kolthmoos, M.D., - In
memory of Rev. L.B. Kines.

Gil Pernokas - In memory of
the 26th F.A. Bn., and my
wife, Eileen, and brothers
George, Charles and
Angelos.

Henry G. Bauman.



SEEKING

Bob Max would appreciate
hearing from any of our
members who remember his
brother Bill, KIA in April
1943. Bill was a member at
that time with Company B
47th Inf. Bob Max may be
contacted at 9706 Rolling
Ridge Drive, Fairfax Station,
VA 22039 or telephone 703-
755-8373.

ROOM RESERVATIONS

RESERVATION FORM• FOR RESERVATIONS OR
CANCELLATIONS CALL (502) 589-5200

THE GALT HOUSE
WELCOMES

NINTH INFANTRY
DIVISION ASSOCIATION
MAY 22- 24, 1997

ARRIVAL DATE _____
TIME: _____ ☐AM ☐PM

DEPARTURE DATE: _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY/STATE/ZIP _____ PHONE _____

REPRESENTING _____ CITY/STATE _____

NAME(S) OF ROOM OCCUPANTS _____

HANDICAP FACILITIES NEEDED: YES ☐ NO ☐

CHECK ENCLOSED FOR DEPOSIT: ☐ AMOUNT \$ _____

MAXIMUM 4 PEOPLE PER ROOM. ROLLAWAYS NOT AVAILABLE.

NO PETS PLEASE!

CREDIT CARD FOR DEPOSIT: ☐AmEx ☐M/C ☐VISA ☐DC/CB

CARDHOLDER'S NAME: _____

NO.: _____ EXP.: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

ROOM DESCRIPTION (Please indicate choice of accommodation)

2 DBL BEDS: # of Persons: ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4

\$67 \$67 \$77 \$87

KING BED: # of Persons: ☐ 1 ☐ 2

\$67 \$67

RIVER SUITES: (Parlor/1 BR/2 BEDS) \$200

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS: April 21, 1997

Rates are subject to state and local taxes.

Complete Information Above:

Return With DEPOSIT

TO PHONE IN RESERVATIONS, CALL:
1-800-843-4258 (outside Kentucky)
1-800-633-1561 (inside Kentucky)

FOR RESERVATIONS OR CANCELLATIONS CALL:
(502) 589-5200

CHECK IN TIME: 3:00 P.M. CHECK OUT TIME : 12:00 NOON

To guarantee your reservation we require one night's deposit
(using either an ENCLOSED CHECK, a MONEY ORDER or a
MAJOR CREDIT CARD with expiration date and signature.
"DEPOSIT WILL BE CHARGED TO YOUR CREDIT CARD AT
THE TIME THE RESERVATION IS CONFIRMED.

We regret that we cannot hold reservations after 6:00 p.m. on
the date of arrival without guaranteeing the reservation with
one of the above methods. Deposits will be refunded only if can-
cellation notification is received at least 48 hours prior to
arrival.

We will make every effort to honor requests for specific types
and locations of rooms; however, on occasion, we cannot meet
such requests and reserve the right to provide alternate accom-
modations.

Reservations requested after DATE SHOWN ABOVE or after
the room block has been filled are subject to availability and
may not be available at the convention rate.

ATTENTION GOLFERS

Thursday morning, May 22, 1997, the 9th Division
golfers will tee off at the Hidden Creek Golf Course. It is
located across the Ohio River in Indiana, some ten miles
from the hotel. Hidden Creek is well named.

The fee of \$35.00 per golfer will include golf, cart and
prizes. Thursday was selected for two reasons: 1. Rates
were less expensive. 2. Starting tee times more readily
available. Al Perna and I played the back nine holes. The
course is only five years old and we found it to be very
sporty. When you play it, you will understand why the
name "Hidden Creek."

I would like a post card or a short note from those who
are going to play. I need a rough estimate to reserve start-
ing tee times.

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

708-386-7865

AWARDS COMMITTEE

Hip, Hip, Hurray!. The awards committee received
about six requests this year although a couple came too
late, try again and get to your VA hospital, nursing home,
old soldiers home etc. and find out what they need that
the government doesn't provide excepting items like
socks, toilet articles etc. We awarded TVs and eye glasses
this year to three VA hospitals. The chief of volunteers
has a "wish list" we can work from. Have her/him send
each of us his/her request (to save time and postage).
Send to:

Larry McLaughlin, Chairman, 82 Gould St., Wakefield,
MA 01880; Adolph Wadalavage, 94-20 96th St., Ozone
Park, NY 11416-1609; Henry Santos, 911 N. Connechuset
Rd., Tampa, FL 33617-4517.

Continued from page 1

Board Meeting

Al Zenka co-chairman for the 1996 reunion held in New York reported on the finalization of that reunion and turned over a check of \$1351.59 to President Al Perna the profits realized from the Reunion. Perna thanked Zenka and his committee for their report and a wonderful reunion.

Henry Santos Co-Chairman of the 1997 Kentucky reunion gave a detailed report on the Louisville reunion by stating that he had met with Co-Chairman Mike Belmonte, President Al Perna, Bob Hughes, Ernie Mica at the Galt House Hotel and finalized details. Details will appear in the Octofoil.

President Perna presented a proposal for the 1998 reunion to be held in Virginia at the Hampton Inn in Hampton, Va. He had visited the property on his way home from Kentucky and was well pleased with the layout, the prices, location, and recommendations of other veterans groups that held reunions at this facility. A committee of four members will visit the hotel in March or April to finalized bids or proposals. The majority of members present were in favor of this selection.

As recommended by the Financial Committee at the Reunion necessary funds for operation will be transferred to the General Fund. This began a discussion on the future of the Association and what was to be done in the future. Ed Hopkins who sponsored this proposal at the general meeting (at the reunion) was absent because of health reasons.

There being no other business to come before this body and upon a motion made by Bill Shea and seconded by Floyd Hennessy it was voted to: Adjourn at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Quinn
National Secretary

ILLINOIS CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

We went to Louisville the first week of October and met with Henry Santos and Al Perna. We stayed at the Galt House Hotel where the reunion will be held next year. We were very pleased with the accommodations at the hotel. The rooms were spacious and bright. The hotel is centrally located and easy to reach, if you take the right road in to Louisville. We came in on I-65 but missed the turn off at I-64 which leads directly to the hotel, which can be seen from the highway. The staff was very congenial. There are three restaurants in the hotel. We ate at the River Grill which features a buffet or sit down service. There is a Tavern Grill and an excellent 25th Floor dining area which revolves. Louisville is a beautiful city. There is a Tooterville Trolley outside the hotel which takes you to a shopping mall and to a theater center. The trolley is free and runs all day at ten minute intervals. Henry Santos made an excellent choice of hotels and we encourage everyone to attend in '97.

We heard from the Baumans recently and it seems like John has been in the hospital for a while but is improving. He had a reoccurrence of his previous illness. He also fell a few weeks ago and broke his nose. As soon as he recovers sufficiently, he will be going in for surgery to correct his nose.

The cookout at the Gaertners in August was successful with plenty of food and good company to go around. The day of the cookout, the Gaertners were parents to baby rabbits who made their home on the lawn. At this writing I cannot recall all who attended and rather than omit anyone as was the case with the Concord Reunion, no names will be mentioned. (Ted Preston was accidentally omitted in our last report on the Concord. Sorry Ted!)

ANGOLA REUNION

Our Angola Reunion was a huge success. The grand total was 61 present. The weather was beautiful, we ate, drank, talked, shopped, golfed, ate some more and talked some more. It was great seeing Roger Alsquaard again although it wasn't the same without Jennie at his side. She is in a nursing home at present. Thanks to the Michigan Chapter for a job well done and also thanks to Barney Tobacco for all the pumpkins and corn he donated. We had members from Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee, South Carolina and Philadelphia. Looking forward to seeing everyone again plus more next year in Angola on October 14 and 15, 1997 — same place.

We held a meeting at Angola and discussed plans for our Holiday Party which will be held on December 7th at the home of Dolores and John Bauman. More details later.

Due to the Louisville Reunion being held in May next year, we have changed the dates for our Madison Wisconsin Mini Reunion. We are planning it for the first week in August. When plans are finalized, we will publish them.

Start making plans for Louisville and don't forget to send me a card about the golf.

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

NY Area Chapter Meets After Summer Hiatus

On Friday, September 20, 1996, at 7:30 p.m., the first fall meeting of the NY Area Chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, 71 W 23rd Street, NYC. The fifteen attending members were called to order by chapter president Marty Gross. Pledge of allegiance to the flag was made and invocation was given by resident chaplain George Apar.

First order of business began with Secretary Art Schmidt reading minutes of the previous June meeting, followed by Treasurer Al Zenka's financial report. Correspondence to the chapter was then read by prez Marty Gross from — Nick Androvich, Mrs. Mascangelo, . . . Mrs. Minenna Sargis, and Mrs. Saquella. Members were sadly informed by Charlie LiBretto that Mrs. Ryan wrote him that member John Ryan had died. Also, we were informed that Al Eisen's wife Claire . . . had passed away. The chapter sends its heartfelt condolences to Al and Mrs. Ryan and their families. Prez Gross also noted that Marv Levy's wife Barbara had cataract eye surgery and Marv was home with her.

Plans for the Worcester Memorial Pilgrimage in October were discussed as well as the forthcoming 52nd Annual Reunion in Louisville in 1997.

A recurring concern of nighttime travel during the winter months for New York City chapter meetings was brought up by some members. Many were concerned about traveling home late at night by subway after the meetings. Car travelers declined to drive in during weather-related bad road conditions. In 1996, January and February meetings were wash-outs due to expected and actual snowstorms: one meeting was canceled and only five members showed up at the other. A suggestion was made to hold our meetings during the day, possibly around noon. This solution, however, posed other considerations for car travelers, most of whom drive in from New Jersey or Long Island: where to park in NYC during the day without paying the exorbitant commercial garage rates. Although most members are retired, some still-working comrades might not be able to attend daytime meetings. Along with this conundrum was the possibility of our meeting place changing back to the Lexington Avenue-25th Street Armory (rent free) since the Masonic Hall (at the time of this meeting) might be raising the rent for our command post. The Armory location, across town on the east side, could be more of a traveling hardship for some members. Those who used the bus or train would be the least affected. The situation for daytime meetings will be discussed again at the next meeting.

Continued on page 5

The final test of maturity is — the forgiveness of our elders—

Murray Kumpton

FLORIDA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

COME AND ENJOY THE BONANZA DEAL: That's right! Chairman Phil Berman, his wife and members of the reunion committee have put together a 4 day money saving program that figures up to be a BONANZA DEAL!

All members of the Florida Chapter should have received the October 15th mailing sent by Phil Berman. It consisted of the PROGRAM SHEET, the ORDER FORM and the ENTERTAINMENT SHEET. The dates for this Fall Meeting are November 21, 22, 23, and 24 (Departure day). The C.P. will be at the Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort Hotel located at 600 North Atlantic Ave., Daytona Beach, FL. Directions to the hotel are printed on the bottom of the entertainment sheet featuring the ITALIAN SOPHIE TUCKER ... who promises to put on quite a show.

The mailing literature says it all ... we will be dining out as a group for Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights and then again for breakfast on Sunday morning. On Thursday and Friday evenings, the group will dine at two of the finest restaurants in Daytona Beach. For Saturday night, the Holiday Inn features an "all you can eat" buffet that rivals the best of buffets no matter where you live. Soon after the buffet, the group will go to the lounge where they will enjoy the antics and singing by Angie Terrigino ... The Italian Sophie Tucker.

For all those who plan to attend, please fill out the ORDER FORM, include the correct amount of your check and send it to Phil Berman immediately if you have not done so. Any member of the 9th Infantry Division Association who wishes to join us for this mini-reunion may do so by contacting either Phil Berman at 904/677-7292 or Emil J. De Donato at 352/489-4070 for your copy of the mailing, then fill out the order form with your check.

BUSINESS MEETING: H.F. Stansell, Chapter Vice President will chair the business meeting in place of John O'Grady, our devoted President who passed away on July 6th of this year. One of the main items on the agenda will be the nominations and elections of new Chapter officers.

HOSPITALITY ROOM: As per past mini-reunions, the Hospitality Room will be well stocked and will be opened during all "in-between" hours.

ROSTER CHANGES: Please make the following notes on your Membership Roster: Add: William F. Bongiorno, 108 Southampton Dr., Jupiter, FL 33458, 26th F.A. (Our apologies to Bill Bongiorno for this oversight whose name was inadvertently omitted from the printing of the April, 1996 Florida Chapter Membership Roster.)

Delete: James C. Coleman — deceased.

Please send all roster changes such as: moving addresses, deceased members, new members, etc. to Secretary Bill Fleming, 7861 Praver Dr. W., Jacksonville, FL 32217.

MUSEUM HONORS WW II VETERANS: William Fleming, Secretary of the Florida Chapter, sent in a very interesting and informative newspaper story on the Camp Blanding Museum. Charles Hancock is the Director of this museum. Together with committee members, Mr. Hancock is searching for the most appropriate ways to honor World War II servicemen and women who are not currently memorialized at this museum.

A tour of the museum is literally a step back to each phase of WW II. The museum was born as a labor of a few tremendously dedicated people. The museum runs completely through the help of volunteers. It was officially dedicated in 1970.

Nine complete infantry divisions trained at Camp Blanding in preparation for combat in World War II. Two out of the nine divisions took part in the initial invasion of France. Additionally, during it's peak in wartime, Camp Blanding had a fully operational hospital.

Camp Blanding is located just north of Starke, Florida off of U.S. 301. Take CR 230 East and follow the signs. All visitors are welcomed.

BITS & PIECES: To Company A 15th Engineer members: A phone call received by me (Emil De Donato) from a Mr. Robert Hurst informing me that Capt. Phil Emmons passed away from a sudden heart attack. Mr. Hurst asked me to inform former veterans of that company. Upon receiving that news, I immediately informed Henry Santos who soldiered with Co. A 15th Eng.

Sec./Treas. Audrey De Donato of the Women's auxiliary reports that their financial status is in good shape. The Women's Auxiliary officers agreed to subsidize some of the expenses of the coming Fall Meeting.

Henry Santos sent in a note saying he was leaving for Louisville, Kentucky then to attend the Memorial Services in Worchester followed by visits to friends in Rhode Island. We wish Henry and Eva a safe and productive trip.

All 9th Division Caps have been sold out, however we do have patches, window decals, lucite stands and some unit pins for sale. The display board will be set up at the coming meeting for any member wishing to purchase these items.

60th Inf.
CASIMIR PAKISZ
Box 397

Slovan, PA 15078

Please find check enclosed for 3 years dues.

I always look forward to receiving the Octofoil and enjoy reading it very much.

Emil J. De Donato
3650 S.W. Mosswood St.
Dunnellon, FL 34431
47th Inf.

The true meaning of life is to plant trees under whose shade you do not expect to sit.

Nelson Henderson

Deadline for next issue of the Octofoil

Dec. 20th

Taps Sounded

Call out our names
as the years go by—
Remember us—
and we will never die.

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

Joseph Nicoletti
60th Inf. A. Co.

Betty (Rizzo) Racomboli
Widow of John Rizzo, Co. F
47th

Robert H. Sakers
60th Inf.

Meredith Butterson
709 Ord. Co.

Vincent Mitchell
Med. Det. 60th Inf.

Don Gilchrist

Thomas D. Smith
Med. Det. 60th Inf.

James W. Lackman
39th Inf. 3rd Bn. Hdqs.

George Gaynor
47th Inf. F. Co.

Phil Emmons
15th Engrs.

Idola Keller
Wife of Paul Keller, Serv.
Co. 39th Inf.

Leola Shields
Wife of Roscoe Shields

Pat Rice
Wife of Pete Rice 84 FA.

Otto Geyer
F Co. 47th Inf.

Lou Slatnick
F Co. 47th Inf.

Savino DeRosa
39th Inf.

Joyce Baccile
Wife of Al Baccile 39th Inf.
B. Co.

Edward Hoffman
9th M.P. Plt.

John B. Jackson #
G 2 Sect. 9th

Walter Mikorski

Robert L. Walters
Cannon Co. 39th Inf.

Joseph DiDuro #
M Co. 60th Inf.



Co B 39th Inf
AL BACCILE
300 Rilla St.
Elmira Hts., N.Y. 14903

The 9th Div. N.Y. chapter did their usual outstanding job.

I have always enjoyed attending the 9th Div. reunions when hosted by our chapter.

Joyce (my wife) and I were at the Concord and it is with much regret I announce that she recently passed away with cancer.



Phillip B. Emmons

I am sorry to inform you that Phil Emmons, one of our chapter representatives on the Board of Governors, passed away Monday September 2 as the result of a heart attack. Phil was buried in his hometown of Shreveport, Louisiana and our chapter sent a wreath representing the association.

Phil was our point man in arranging the Chapter meeting scheduled for October 16 in Shreveport. He had done all the groundwork for the meeting and the invitations have already been sent out. We shall miss him greatly!

We will select another representative from our Chapter at the October meeting and I will notify you after the meeting who will fill his vacancy on the national board of directors.

Sincerely,
Willard Norris
President
504 East Kerr
Burnet, Texas 78611

Manchester Twp — Louis Almassy of Crestwood Village II, Whiting section of Manchester Twp., N.J. died Saturday, January 27, 1996 at home. Mr. Almassy lived in New York City before moving to Whiting in 1993. He retired in 1982 after 55 years as a margin broker from Pershing and Co., Wall St., New York City, formerly Laidlaw and Co.

Mr. Almassy served with the 9th Inf. Div. during WWII. In 1990 he was president of The Greater New York Chapter 9th Infantry Division. He was predeceased by his wife, Minnie, in 1974. He is survived by one daughter, Helen Newman of Los Angeles, Ca.; one niece, Audrienne Toomey and one nephew, R. Eric Grunert.

39th Inf. 3rd Bn. Hqs.
JAMES W. LACKMAN
1420 S. 32nd St.
Decatur, IL 62521

This is to notify you that my husband, James W. Lackman, passed away on May 16, 1996. Jim had retired from the Illinois Power Co., Decatur, IL in 1981 and had enjoyed good health, travel, sailing and golf until about 2 years ago. He was able to be at home and was able to get out until 2 weeks before his death.

He always enjoyed each issue of "Octofoil."

I am enclosing a memorial in memory of my husband, James W. Lackman.

My deepest sympathy to Mrs. William Moody whose husband Bill was my first Sargent in Co. E. 47th Inf. Maurice Houches Sr. 133 Jackson St. Haskell, N.J. 07420

Seeking

I am seeking information on behalf of my father Capt. Leon Sieminski (now Major) concerning verification of injuries he received while serving with Cannon Company 47th Infantry 9th Division during WWII - European Theater.

Leon joined the Army in Jan. 1933 serving 9 years in Hawaii with the 27th Infantry attaining the rank of 1st Sergeant before entering OCS. He left Fort Bragg in 1942 and was attached to the 47th Infantry Cannon Company in North Africa. Later he entered Sicily, Normandy, and participated in the invasion of Europe. He also served as a Forward Observer on an L-5. He retired in 1954 with the rank of Major.

Medical records have apparently been lost in a fire and he needs another source for proof of injuries received.

He did receive the Purple Heart, Silver Star, and 2 Bronze Stars. We need dates and places, possible hospitalization, names of comrades. Documentation is needed for VA nursing home benefits. Leon cannot remember these things due to present illness (Alzheimers).

Anyone with knowledge of these injuries please forward information in writing to daughter, Loretta Ceklosky.

Thank You,

Loretta Ceklosky
109 W. Dorrance St.
Kingston, Pa. 18704

Taps Sounded



John Lewis who passed away this year after attending a Mini Reunion he had put together for members of the 9th Med Bn. John had kept the members of the 9th Medical Bn together and held Mini Reunions for the group throughout the years. "Somewhere afar, Some white, tremendous daybreak and the light, Returning, shall give back the golden hours." So long John.

SICK CALL

John Parisi an old timer from Co. C39th (now of 49 Elm St., Staten Island, NY 10310) has been missing from the NY meetings and reunions because of illness. How's about writing a few lines or a get well card.

Heard from Henry Santos that Carlos Esteve another old timer from the 39th now of PO Box 968, Arecibo, PR 00612 was set back recently when he suffered a mild stroke. Send him a card or a note of cheer. (It's nice to be nice and show that old gang that we didn't forget).

Help Wanted On Eddy Bio

Writing has started on the Eddy bio and I'm up to Chapter 4 which covers his Georgia decade, 1920-'30, when he converted from "Damyantee" to adopted "Reb."

I'm still looking for anecdotes, remembrances of the 9th vets who had contacts, however remote, with the man during their service together in the Division. I am desperately seeking those of his personal staff who went with him to XII Corps in late August '44 — Chester W. Bornholdt (driver), Joseph L. Detronsky (bodyguard) and John H. R. Wooten (stenographer). Does anyone know what became of these fellows? Even their hometowns would be useful.

I'm getting careless in my old age. Someone wrote that they had found a plaque on the wall of a hospital ICU waiting room, somewhere in the midwest. The plaque noted the General's generosity in setting up the room, or maybe to the hospital generally. My letter from whoever sent this tidbit has disappeared, now that I'm ready to go after more details. I do recall that this town meant nothing to me then, in terms of what I knew of Eddy's moves. Now, I know much more. So, if you're still with us, pal, please write again.

Eddy's Georgia decade was spent at Ft. Benning and Gainesville, GA (Co. Os. Crse, TIS, '20-21; Inf. Board, '21-24; ROTC Riverside MA, Gainesville, '25-29; and Adv. Crse. TIS, '29-30). Due to three tours of duty there while in the Army, and a recent trip back to research this book, it's familiar territory, but I wouldn't want to live there. He did — went back after retirement in '53, became president of the Ft. Benning bank, and died in its hospital in '62. One can hardly get more loyal than that!

I take note here to thank some of our fellows who have been keeping this old scribbler going, namely: "Chick" Hennen and Joe Joseph re Eddy's schooling at Shattuck, MA up in Faribault, MN; Jim Leopold re Eddy's childhood years in Chicago's Buena Park neighborhood; Herb Clark re time spent in Iowa; and Jack Eddy of Carmel, CA, who has cheerfully helped answering my endless letters about family matters and Jack's time as his uncle's ADC during the war. The service of these men to the cause has gone way beyond rumination and I'm happy for the opportunity to thank them here publically. Ciao!

Red Phillips
14002 Hemlock Dr.
Penn Valley, CA 95946
(916) 432-1409

P.S. Do any former Raiders recall the capture of the Dill river bridge at Sinn, in Hesse, on 27 March '45? This was part of the Ruhr encirclement. Sinn is 28 km. north of Wetzlar, home of the Leica camera. If this comes to your mind, please write to: Claudio-Michael Becker, Papiermuehle 10, 35764, Sinn, Hessen, Germany.

Thank You

To the members of the 9th Div. 47th Inf. Co. E.

I want you to know how much Pete (William H. Mooty) looked forward to the Reunions. We enjoyed everyone of them and all the people attending. Came home thinking of the next one coming up.

We appreciated the cards of encouragement and the phone calls made to him during his illness.

I also want to thank you for the concern and thoughtfulness shown to his family during his sickness and death.

Sincerely
Rosamae Mooty
2023 Williamsburg Way
Birmingham, Ala. 35223

Grateful

The family of Louis Slatnick Co. F 47th Inf. acknowledges with grateful appreciation your very kind expression of sympathy.

Marion Slatnick
284 Tall Oak Rd.
Edison, NJ 08837

39th Inf. E Co.
CHARLOTTE ALLEN
83 Hampton Road
Elmira, NY 14904

It is regretful that I must inform you that Boyd died April 20, 1994.

Somehow it was something I put off until the next issue of Octofoil arrived.

Boyd was in Co. E., 39th Inf. - 9th Division.

Always read your paper from cover to cover. Truly proud of being part of this branch of service.

NJ CHAPTER

Ed "Hoppe" Hopkins Company F 47th and the New Jersey Chapter writer now of 110 Hollywood Ave., Metuchen, NJ 08840 missed the "deadline" for this issue of the Octofoil because of a set back with the "old ticker." Ed, Jack Finnigan and yours truly attended the funeral service of Lou Slatnick a few weeks ago. George Gaynor (Co. F 47th the week before) and we heard from Bob DeSandy that Otto Guyer, Co. F 47th had answered his last roll call.

Dear Dan

I am writing to let you know my husband Earl Lees F Co 60th Inf passed away February 16, 1996 after a long bout of 25 months of cancer.

I want to thank Cliff Painter and Rosalie for taking the time to spread the word to the members. Also to Mary and Herb Brasengton calling John Miller. I thank every one for the beautiful cards. We missed two reunions as with the radiation and chemotherapy treatment we couldn't make it. So as I now go through the changes in life, which was so good. We would have celebrated 49 years in May.

I hope you folks are enjoying good health.

Earl loved the Association with all of the 9th and F Co men and ladies too.

Ruth Lees
1280 Morris Ave.
No. Huntingdan, Pa. 15642

GREATER NEW YORK
Continued from page 3

After some closing business, meeting was adjourned and we enjoyed a repast provided by our hospitality chairman Tony DeRobertis, and engaged in lively conversation about our past summer activities — and long-past war experiences.

Reminder to those who haven't done so: send in your raffle tickets and contributions to the 50-50 Christmas Raffle. Also, Secretary Art Schmidt would be very happy to issue your membership card if you pay the dues — \$10 for 1 year, \$25 for 3 years, and \$75 for Lifetime Membership. Make checks payable to the Greater NY Chapter, 9th Inf. Div. Assn. and send to Arthur R. Schmidt, Secretary, 89-12 Doran Avenue, Glendale, NY 11385.

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

For those who have received Marv Levy's video: "Return to the Battle of Normandy - June 1944," you might be interested in knowing that the video has received the 1966 "TELLY" award bronze statuette as a finalist in the history/biography category.

Mini Reunion Company I-39th Infantry Regiment

Combat veterans of Company I-39 AAA-0 Regiment held their 8th annual reunion in the Comfort Inn at Akron, Ohio on August 4 and 7th.

The annual reunions were started 8 years ago when former members of Company I who kept in contact with one another through the years started meeting in Indiana. Since the first meetings additional members of the Company have been found and joined in the reunions. The last 3 reunions were held in Kentucky, Pennsylvania, and Ohio with plans to meet at Galesburg, Illinois next July 15, 16 and 17.

Those attending the reunion were Mae Dawson, wife of deceased member J. C. Dawson from Decatur, Texas, Dan Garvey from Appleton, Wisconsin, Cal (Paul) and Midge Callahan, John and Betty Vranesic from Pennsylvania, Cecil and Louise Jenkins, Ralph Elkins from Kentucky, Charles and Millie Holsapple from Indiana, Elbert DeWitt from Illinois, Jay Overton and Wylodean from Michigan, Jack and Mary Radabaugh, Ralph and Belva Burris from Ohio.

Our stalwart member, Nick Chipura from New Jersey made plans to attend but was hospitalized a few days before our meeting. Nick reported in by telephone from his hospital bed that he was improving and looking forward to attending the next reunion.

The days were filled with reminiscing of combat experiences from the hedge rows of France to the battles in Germany and how the last fifty years slipped by far too fast.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

CO A - 15th ENGRS

JOHN M. MAULE
124 Bear Lake Road
Muskegon, MI 49445

Someone said it was my turn to write to the OCTOFOIL. Red Phillips has written some nice books that are well worth reading. I read every article in the OCTOFOIL.

This is the final chapter of the story begun in the Octofoil of the Nov-Dec. issue 1995 by John Maule Co. A 15th Engineers. It was omitted in several issues due for lack of space.

I remember a time when I was driving Lt. Confer in our Jeep and a German machine gun opened up on us about 150 yards away. The tracers were going right in front of our faces. The machine gunner had the right height, but he was leading us too much. Lt. Confer was yelling at me to step on it. I had the pedal all the way down. We really lucked out that time. I know Lt. Confer got wounded a couple of times in France.

One day Sgt. Meithe and I were standing in the doorway of a church when a shell hit about three yards in front of us. His arm got a big piece of shrapnel in the muscle. My arm had been only inches away from his. He went to the hospital for several weeks. F. Hartzell and I wondered how the luck was staying with us, being wounded, but not losing our arms or legs.

Going through France, Belgium, and Germany we killed cows, deer, pigs, and chicken. That's living off the land, and much better than C Rations.

I often wonder, when we were climbing down the side of the ship on rope nets with helmet on, rifle over shoulder, two bandoleers of ammunition, cartridge belt full of ammunition, bayonet, canteen, first aid pack, back pack with all your goodies, if you slipped and fell into the water, how deep into the mud at the bottom would you go?

MEUSE RIVER

On September 5, we tried to cross the Meuse River at Dinant, about 2:30 a.m. and a full, bright moon. The Germans had blown up the catwalk over the dam. Our squad was to put a long narrow barge across the hole which was blown on the East side of the river. Two of us got on the other side of the hole, tying the barge to the catwalk when three German machine guns fired at us about 30' away. The two of us jumped in the river, not knowing if the water was two feet deep or 20 feet deep. It took me about a half hour to swim against the current, crawl back up on the dam and over to our side of the river. They took me to the hospital tent as I was cold and shivering. In this hospital tent was Shabot on a stretcher, he had three bullet holes that went straight through him. LeBourgeois was on a stretcher next to him with a bullet through his leg.

In the fall of 1993 I went to visit Tony Valerie in Cadillac, MI. Tony and his wife were very nice to visit with. Tony was shot up pretty badly on December 24, 1944. The German put 11 bullets in his leg just above the knee. Trussel also got a finger shot off trying to get this same German. Finally, when the German jumped out of a doorway, he fired eight bullets just inches from my right shoulder before his gun jammed. There were six or eight of us around the doorway, so we took care of him in a hurry. I still have the German's white rabbit fur jacket, full of bullet holes.

After we crossed the Remagen Bridge over the Rhine River on March 14, we loaded on trucks, went back across the bridge and took showers. The first time in many weeks. So some of us crossed the bridge three times before it collapsed.

These are the names of some of the men I remember: Chabot, McGill, Elington, Countryman, Reid, Chadwick, A. LeBourgeois, A. Levandoski, R. Horn, C. Many, G. Hureau, G. Nutting, A. Kopico, Greenberg, Moody, R. Hodick, I. Malone, Pelletier, Santa Crose, P. Dye, Stevenson, J. Jerick, Pete Magnelli, N. Mann, Davenport, Hofer, and R. Borener.

Ralph Elkins and Cecil Jenkins offered a memorial service for the deceased members and those unable to attend because of sickness or other commitments.

John Schopper and his wife Betty, an Akron resident stopped in to visit and joined in our reunion. John was a member of Company-B 39th Regiment during combat in France and Germany.

We thank the wives who are part of the reunions and for the great fellowship of this group. We hope to see everyone next July.

Ralph E. Burris
167 Christy Drive
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223

PICTURES, PICTURES, PICTURES. Many of us have had tons of them stored for years. I was going to get rid of old reunion, Ft. Bragg and other oldies I had rolled up or in boxes for years but took them with me to the Concord, laid them on a table and they were a feature attraction. Bring yours, we'll display for others to enjoy.



Jerry Langer sends this photo of members of the 26th FA. Top row l-r: Shore, Cohen, Grubb, Fitzgerald, Langer, Murray, bottom row: Albanese, Dolejes, Pergiovanni, Kepple, Inghart. Langer writes "these are the mechanics that kept the vehicles of the 26 Field Artillery running for 3 years. One break down, in 3 years and that was caused by dirty gas. We did our part now many of these men have since passed away. Langer now lives at 215 Imperial Southgate Villas, Lakeland, FL 33803.



Shown at the Memorial Service l-r: Henry Phillips, who gave the address, co-chairman Al Zenka, Rev. Hugh Whitaker, who offered the invocation, and Co-Chairman Marty Gross. Winged Victory Singers sang "My Buddy," "You'll Never Walk Alone" during the ceremony and closed with "America the Beautiful" and "God Bless America." Memorial address by Tom Boyle and placement of flowers on Memorial Wreath by Chapter members. Closing prayer was by George Anas. (Photo by Victor.)

**Mini Reunion
Co M - 60th Inf**

The 60th Inf., Co. M had their reunion on September 17th, 18 & 19th at the Ramada Inn in Pigeon Forge, Tenn. Everyone gave W.C. Hornady, Tip Gilbert, Walter Frasure, & Floyd Hutcherson credit for the best reunion ever. We all enjoyed and really appreciated all their efforts in making everyone comfortable. The rooms were excellent, and the food was great.

I was unable to assist them as I was diagnosed with cancer, but have had surgery and am feeling fine.

We were real pleased to have three widows there, Reva Singleton (Bob), Thelma Waddell (Kermit) also her son Tom, granddaughter and great grandson, Pat Gimlin (John) and John's sister, Lois Cowan.

Others attending were, Helen & Jim Snyder, Paul & Mary J. Pinard, Richard & Ruth Newell, Roy & Karen Smith, Nell & W.C. Hornady, Tip & Margaret Gilbert, Walter Frasure & Mary Ann Hall, Carolyn & Curtis Buchanan, Ruth & Wilford Thornton, H.F. & Lila Stansell & Lila's sister, Iris Chapman, Floyd & Melba Hutcherson, Louise & Siebert Vickers, Mildred & John Schettig & their daughter, Norene, Anna & Ted Tyszka, Phil Gilbert and Vivian, Ginny & Ed Lusk, Mildred Billington, Dean Heaton.

The 1997 mini reunion will be at the same Ramada Inn in September in Pigeon Forge.

Co M 60th Inf
Curtis Buchanan
2914 Alexander St.
Florence, AL 35630

TRUTH IS STRANGER THAN FICTION — WANTED — Funny wartime stories, anecdotes etc. that many of us experienced or heard etc., that we can put together to make interesting reading and probably insert into our reunion program booklet so others can enjoy.

Example: One day as we relaxed a bit during a lull, a sudden volley of 88s came special delivery making us scamper for cover. I dove into my foxhole and pressing mother earth for all I could when another body pressed me even more, it was "Duck" who didn't dig his own. I'm praying to be spared but "Duck" wasn't much of a believer as a rule but he asked "how do you pray?"

Example: While poking around in tall grass I saw a pair of nice, shiny leather German officer's boots protruding on a small hill, wow!!, what a find! As I neared this treasure I got a whiff of my first much dead, smelly body. Yep, you guess it, I left in a hurry.

Send to: Henry Santos, 9811 Connechusett Rd., Tampa, FL 33617.

**CALL OR WRITE A
FRIEND -
ENCOURAGE HIM
TO JOIN THE
ASSOCIATION**

GRATEFUL

Mr. Larry McLaughlin
Chairman Award Committee
Ninth Infantry Division Association
I want to thank you and the members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association for the \$300.00 donation to help benefit our hospitalized veterans.
The donation was deposited to the General Purpose Fund and earmarked for TV replacement per your request.
Enclosed is receipt #B9683957 for your records. Again thank you for your generous support.
Sincerely,
Carey E. Griffin
Voluntary Service Specialist
Department of Veterans Affairs
Medical Center
3200 Vine Street
Cincinnati, OH 45220

The Ninth Infantry Division Association.
On behalf of the Bay Pines VA Medical Center patients and staff, we wish to thank you and The Ninth Infantry Division Association for your donation of \$400.00. Check number 4914 has been deposited in General Post Fund Account No. 2 (General Purpose) for replacement of TV's. A receipt is enclosed.
We appreciate the continuing support that The Ninth Infantry Division Association provides to our hospitalized veterans and Medical Center.
Thomas H. Weaver, FACHE
Medical Center Director
Department of Veterans Affairs
Medical Center
Bay Pines FL 33504

The 9th Infantry Division Association
On behalf of our hospitalized veterans we wish to thank you and the 9th Infantry Division Association for the \$325.00 check. We have deposited the money into our General Purpose Fund (VIST) as requested.
Your generous donation will enable us to purchase eye glasses and visual aides for the patients at both Oakland and Aspinwall facilities. This will mean so much to the ones in need.
On behalf of our hospitalized veterans, thank you again for "putting veterans first."
A receipt is enclosed for your records.
Sincerely,
Theresa Cunningham
Chief, Voluntary Service
Department of Veterans Affairs
Medical Center
University Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15240-1001

REFLECTIONS - WWII
I listened; I watched; as
the wind whisked by; —
The grass was a-whirl; the
trees aw'ry! —
Was it in anger that it
whirled and signed?
My mind was astir; my
thoughts a-flutter;
There were words, but I
could but mutter,
As I envisioned armed G.I.'s
and rumbling tanks,
moving in out-spread ranks
Towards enemy positions fully
armed and aware
That allied troops and tanks
were everywhere.
What thoughts entered the
minds of "friend and foe"?
Thoughts of home and loved
ones?
enemy? who knows?
Without a doubt, in the
minds of those who
fought,
The question that arose is,
"What price must be paid
for what's been
wrought?
Is it not to be learned-ever-
by man
That other means than warfare
can let the world
understand
That all the "treasures" of
earth are meant to
be shared.
The price to be paid, simply,
that for one another
each cared!
Mr. & Mrs. J. Rappazini
24001 Sherman St.
Oak Park, MI 48237-1822

15th Engrs. A Co.
PAT MAISTO
5218 Shady Bluff St.
Durham, N.C. 27704
Enclosed is my check for 3 years. I'm enjoying reading the Octofoil and sorry I never was in touch with the organization till last year. I'm from Co. A, 15th Eng. Batt. and lost touch of all my comrades. I talked to Henry Santos and it seems most I've known are gone. I hope whoever is still around knows me. I drove at that time for Lt. Forrest and Capt. Emmons. I'm looking forward to meeting them again.
Best wishes to all.

9th Recon
WILLARD ADAMS
611 Virginia Ave.
Bucyrus, OH 44820
I served with the 9th Reconnaissance Troop attached to the 9th Infantry Division and would like to hear from Lt. Pricer, Richard Hall or any other members of that group.
Thank you.
Enclosed are dues for a year.

Co. A 47th Inf.
JOSEPH PERAMBO
51 Penna. Ave.
Phoenixville, Pa. 19460
Enclosed is a check for the Memorial Fund.
Hello to all my friends from Co. A 47th.

15th Engrs. B Co.
RICHARD C. MCGRATH
2856 West 85th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60652
It's always a real pleasure to get the Octofoil. I wait and wait and hope this is the day, even though it brings sad news with the "Taps Sounded."
It was a shock to learn of Mary Murphy's passing, she was a beautiful lady, and with her partner Ron, did so much good work for the association from the time it was organized.
Enclosed is a donation to the Memorial Fund in remembrance.
On the bright side it was a "picker upper" to see the First Sarge write one of his excellent letters. Although, it was B.S. about me being B Company's correspondent. I only write often to encourage the ("Top Kick" who was one of the best in the Ninth Division and the whole U.S. Army") and many others to write.
I have been disappointed, for years, because we don't get enough input from our comrades in B Company 15th Engineer Battalion.
Ernie Micka, I look forward to more of your letters and to see you at the next reunion (52nd?) in your home town.
Another brightener was a letter from that great entertainer Henry Santos. He sure knows how to put a spin on his letters. Henry is not only interesting but has always got a new wrinkle. The last couple of letters he put the Octofoil and 15th Engineer Battalion's insignias on the envelope with funny cartoons on the inside — very, very inventive.
Henry gave me the sad news of Capt. Phil Emmons' passing, another sad shock.
At one of the reunions Phil was introduced and I was surprised that he was B Company's C.O. at the Remagen bridgehead. I never knew as we were split in small groups all over the 47th Regiment's area. No roll calls in that place.
I have to go in the hospital again to have a new knee cap put on my prosthesis.
Oh well, it's the price you pay for being so lucky to age and get artificial knees.
Many thanks to Dan Quinn and his wonderful Marie — along with the Octofoil crew for making us lucky to have the paper.

39th Inf. I Co.
CECIL JENKINS
9100 Hwy. 1247
Stanford, KY 40484
Enclosed are my dues for 1996. Sorry I am late, getting a little slow I guess. Hope you and your family are well. I Co. has had a small reunion for the past several years. This year we will be meeting at Akron, Ohio. Hope to see many of my war buddies there. The reunion will be August 6-7. Would like to hear from anyone that remembers me. Hoping to see a lot of I Co. men August 1996. Comfort Inn - West, Akron, Ohio 44321-1372. Dan keep up the good work. May God bless you. Your 9th Division friend.

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17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner Daniel Quinn		Date Sept. 29, 1996

60th Inf.
WILLIAM HENNEMUTH
505 N. Wille St.
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056
Just sent Uncle Sam most of our money which reminded me I am late on my dues.
Don't look as of we will make N.Y. this year. We won't get back to Ill. till early May. Have seen some 9th people here, the Andersons, Clarks and the Clousers.
Hope you and Marie are in good health.
Best regards

Limited Edition Hardcover Books Still Available
THE PAWNS OF WAR
by: William Kreye - 39th Inf.
(now deceased)
Engrossing, personal and historical account of WWII with the 9th Inf Div - from Ft. Bragg to Germany. Price: \$10.95 + \$3 S&H. Send check payable to "Greater NY Chapter, 9th Inf Assn (noting Pawns of War on check) to Secretary Arthur R. Schmidt, 89-12 Doran Avenue, Glendale, NY 11385

Remember the Reunion Dates
May 22-25, 1997

Deadline for next
issue of the Octofoil Dec. 20th

CO. K 47TH INF.

BINGO!

In my digging for people who actually were at Frenzenburg Castle, two have resisted my efforts. Last year I finally scrubbed the Artillery Observer from my list because I found an old Artillery man who told me who he was, but that I was too late since he had died several years ago. I wish I had been in time to talk again to the most FORWARD Forward Observer I saw during the war.

The second man was Capt. WILLIAM EWALD who was sent by the 47th, to parley with the Krauts, give them permission to move their wounded, and try to talk them into surrender. A couple of years ago, I took all the WILLIAM EWALDS listed on my PHONE CD and sent them a 19 cent Penny Post Card, asking if they were my man. I got a number of calls and letters from interested EWALDS but none knew the REAL EWALD.

This year I got a new set of CD's and thought, what the hell, it's only a 20 cent Penny Post Card now, so I'll give it a raffle. BINGO! Within a week BILL called me from Cadillac, Michigan. He had not yet received his card (he was on the list) but his nephew in the Carolinas had called him about getting one.

BILL stayed in the Army and retired in the early seventies, as a CHICKEN COLONEL. He is now the CADILLAC BEAVER CONTROL OFFICER. This means he has year round open season on four trapping and shooting and enough furs to keep him warm, even in Michigan.

He wrote me his account of his trip to the Castle, which I have appended to all the others for publication by the MERRIAM PRESS at some future date.

The few of you who have copies of BULL SESSIONS might remember a report by Lt. LUDWIG HAVIGHORST who commanded the Paratroop Engineers in the Castle. Old LUDWIG has a whole page of his conversation with EWALD, chiding him for forsaking his homeland and making war on the helpless. WELL, BILL says he didn't talk to LUDWIG at all, he talked with Capt. BREGER, CO., 1st. Btn. Fusiliers, 27 Regt, 12th Inf. Division, who impressed him with his military decorum.

Co. F 47th Inf.

CHARLES E. ROCHELLE
6419 Nc. 86
Chapel Hill, NC 27514-9655
Hi Dan

I thought I would write a few lines to tell everyone I am doing fine. The 51st Reunion at Concord hotel in New York was a good one they get better every year. Looking forward for the one in Kentucky in May '97. See everybody then.

39th Inf. K Co.

JOHN MAGILL
6046 Paw Paw Plains Rd.
Lenoir City, Tn. 3777

Enclosed is check for 3-year renewal for Octofoil and dues. I hope we get to go to Kentucky reunion next year.

I got BILL's report just in time to pass it on to KLAUS SCHULZ, my German Historian, who provided me with much of the German information on Frenzenburg. Lt. HAVIGHORST is one of his discoveries, who he has talked with several times, but I doubt that he mentions Bill's report to Ludwig. He is however, giving a speech to the reunion of the 12th Inf. and 3rd Paratroop Division (the ones in the Castle) at Langerwehe-Merode this month. He may decide to finesse the whole truce episode.

BATTLE FLAG

As you can see herein, the battle flags came out A-OK and are now in the hands of my three sons.

I never could find an affordable battle streamer source, so I just printed a sheet with the ribbons and battles and if they ever get rich enough, or interested enough, they can flesh them out.

I must say that the JOCK-SWABBER GOLD looks pretty good, maybe we should trade the Infantry blue.

WHO'S ALIVE?

For all I know, JOE KILLACKY, "RED" THOMPSON and Dr. NICKLIN are all that's left of "K." I have had letters and phone calls from JOE and RED and the GOOD DOCTOR sent me a campaign solicitation for one of his political favorites. She is a Republican running as a Democrat on a platform of GUN CONTROL and FEMME UBER ALLES. Thanks GEORGE, I'll pass.

"RED" is checking out Guinness Book of Records to determine if it is worth his while dribbling a basketball from his home in South Bend to the Reunion in Louisville. Should be a cinch, it looks down hill all the way on my map. Maybe I should check with EXPERT McWATERS before I start making map statements.

It does not appear that it will ever get COOL again in BIG BR. I start playing golf about 7:30 a.m. and when I finish my nine at 8:45 a.m., I haven't a dry stitch on me, including my straw hat.

Co. K. 47th Inf.
Chester H. Jordan
1058 West Lakeview Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70810-4641

A Bry 60th F.A.

LEO FEINSTEIN
5613 Avenue T Uppr
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11234

I attended the last reunion at the Concord Hotel and my wife and I enjoyed it so much. We are looking forward (God willing) to go to the next one in Kentucky. I met three of the guys I served with in 1942-45. I'm hoping to meet some more at the next reunion.

I am enclosing my dues and the auxiliary for my wife and the raffle tickets. I'm usually in Florida in the winter time so I'm enclosing my Florida phone number in case.

Sorry to miss the meetings. I'm feeling so-so- my age.

Take good care of yourselves.

SEEKING

ED LANGE
4510 Tamaron Drive
Greensboro, NC 27410
(910) 643-0653

I am writing to ask if you can help me in obtaining some additional information concerning my cousin... Alfred Lauper... serial number 42124977... who I believe was a member of the 60th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division.

As best as I can determine he was killed on December 16, 1994 in the first phase of the German breakthrough at the Bulge.

We lived in Belgium in 1982 for a year, and had the opportunity to visit the general areas of Eastern Belgium and Luxembourg at that time. Additionally, we visited and honored my cousin at his grave site at the Henri Chapelle American Military Cemetery...which was being beautifully maintained at that time.

I have been reading as much as possible about the specifics of that December 16th in the library books that are available, but there doesn't appear to be a great deal of detail referring to the 60th Infantry. I am very interested in obtaining more detail and would ask if you could advise me of any specific books, journals, after-action reports, and the like, that would expand on the specific actions of that day. My cousin was a fine fellow...I was about 11 years old when we learned of his death, and I have always been interested in learning as much as possible about what might have happened to him.

We are planning another trip to Europe in March and we plan to re-visit the Eastern Belgium area again. I would dearly love to visit the specific areas that the 60th Infantry Regiment occupied. Would you have some contacts or sources that could provide me with the level of information that I seek? Would you have known my cousin in some way?

Many thanks for your consideration in this matter. I look forward to hearing from you at your convenience.
Best Regards

60th Inf F Co

ANTON WRATNEY
1812 Trestle Glenn Rd.
Piedmont, CA 94610

I may owe for this year. Anyway, here is check for \$10. Hope all is well with you.

Had a very nice call from Capt. Alan W. Johnson, Jr., living in Atlantic Beach, Florida. He was F Co Commander Aug. 13 to Dec. 31, 1944. I visited an old friend in D.C. and looked up some stuff in the archives - Suitland Annex in Maryland while there. This was Jan. 1996. Found some interesting stuff on the 9th (60th) and sent copies to Cliff Painter 1st Lt. F Co. and he sent copies to Alan Johnson — Alan is 80+ so he is not traveling a lot — but he wants to get to Washington, D.C. and look up some stuff. It was great talking to him. Hope he can make the trip.
See you in the Catskills!

Co. C 39th Inf.

CARLOS D. WARD
10280 Eaton Pike
New Lebanon, OH 45345-9630
Hi Dan;

Just a few lines to say I enjoyed the Reunion at the Concord Resort there was plenty of room to do what had to take place to keep this great Div. going. Each year seems to better and to see the buddies that we were with in trouble as well as peace. It is always good to see Co. C. men that are able to make it as we have all these years. If nothing happens and God is willing I will see all in Louisville, Ky. next year. Would love to see more of Co. C 39th at the Reunions. So keep in touch and God Bless All. Will see you next May in Kentucky.

I talked to T. Boyle and ask him to send me a copy of his talk. Haven't heard from him anymore.

Take care and thanks!

Hqs. 2nd Bn. 39th Inf

JAMES BURKE
719-3rd Ave N.
Surfside Beach, S.C. 29575

Enclosed is my contribution to the memorial fund in memory of Edward Pictroski, Hq. & Hqs. Co., 2nd Bn. 39th Inf.

"Red" Pictroski served as the platoon sgt., Communications platoon 2nd Bn., and always performed his duties in an outstanding and dedicated manner for which he was awarded a high decoration. He knew his job and did it very well.

Good luck with the upcoming Reunion.

Co. D 47th

IRWIN J. DUPUY
12233 N. Yorkdale Dr.
Baton Rouge, La.

I am disturbed to hear that the Ninth Division wasn't mentioned in the "Battle of the Bulge" book. I guess the author figured we had too much glory for having made the entire war, from Safi, to Germany.

Frankly, I wonder why our air force had to drop overcoats to us in the "Monchau" Forest. We were frozen! And surrounded.

I wonder what the 88's were shooting our way for? I kept ducking and praying for some reason.

Clip after clip of 88's interrupted my meals and calls to nature, as well as my brave buddies.

60th Inf. L Co

CLIFTON LEE, JR.
210 County Road #135
Athens, Tn. 37303-6154

I wonder if there is anyone out there who was in the 60th Regiment, L Company, 3rd Battalion, 9th Inf. I served from 43 to 45 in Sicily, France, England, Holland and Germany. I would be interested in contacting anyone I might have served with. I read the letters in The Octofoil and have never seen anyone I might have served with. It would be nice to know there are others out there. I was the "kid" at the time.

I enjoy the publication and need to know about my dues. Please advise me of the amount and the due date.

Thank you.

C Co. 47th Inf.

JOHN VERAJA
63 South Nauraushaun Road
Pearl River, N.Y. 10965-2929

The 51st Annual Convention of the 9th Infantry Division simply overwhelmed me! I'm ashamed to admit that it was my first attendance. The high regard and comradeship I witnessed was inspiring and humbling. The women, Dan, were awesome in their "stand by your man" regard for the men of the 9th.

Enclosed, please find a check of life membership, and a check in memory of the below listed men who fell in Normandy, and never had the opportunity to share in the fellowship I saw at the Concord:

Joseph Gallagher, "B" Co. 47th Inf.

Chester Weborg, "C" Co. 47th Inf.

"Shorty" Laterza, "C" Co. 47th Inf.

Sgt. Alex Thomas, "C" Co. 47th Inf. (a Canadian, who received his American citizenship just days before he gave his life for his new homeland).

Sgt. Thomas and Laterza were originals having fought in Africa and Sicily, while Gallagher, Weborg, and I joined the 47th in England (Arlesford, Tichborne Estate).

Finally, Dan, thanks to you and your wife for the cordiality afforded me. Would very much appreciate any old copies of the Octofoil you can spare, and if the above names ring a bell with anyone — Amen Everyone I met were warm and welcoming; can't remember all their names — John Maloney, Walter Victor (Atlanta Braves photographer and his lovely wife), and Emil — on Board of Governors and ran affair at the Pines a couple of years back.

K Co. 39th Inf.

CLARENCE "BOB" WATSON
36 Alexandria Ave.
Glasser, N.J. 07837

I'm not much of a letter writer.

Must say, as many others have, you and your staff are doing a great job. Also Walter.

Enjoy the Octofoil.

K Co. 39th Inf.

DR. OLAF E. LANGLAND
1819 Babcock, Unit 113
San Antonio, TX 78229-4628

Please find enclosed my three-year dues and a donation to the memorial scholarship fund.

I was wounded on July 12, 1994, at Le Desert, France, and was ZI'd to U.S. December 1944. After the war, went to Dental School at the University of Iowa, Iowa City, and graduated in 1951. I am 70 years of age, and a Professor of Dentistry at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, and still going strong.

I was a rifleman replacement, and never met (since that time) a person who served with K Company, 39th Infantry Regiment, on July 12, 1944. Anyway, I cherish my memories of serving in Paddy Flint's old 39th Infantry Regiment prior to his death by a sniper's bullet on July 24, 1944.

God Bless you all.

MAIL CALL

**47th Inf. L Co.
& 3rd Bn. Hdq. Co.**
LYLE KELLY
W-9180-Kelly Ln.
Deerbrook, Wis. 54424

Hello again from cold and snowy Wisconsin. This has been the worst winter here in North Central Wisconsin that I can remember!

Health wise I am not doing too bad, after having two heart, and one aneurysm operations in the past eleven years I thank the Lord that I am still here.

I still keep in touch with Al Bravin, and Ben Kovacs.

I hope that you and your wife are both in good health, and continue to enjoy same.

Dan I would say that you have been the back bone of our association, and I say "thank" you for helping to keep us all together all these years. "God Bless." I really do enjoy receiving the Octofoil. Keep up the good work!

Enclosed is check for another three years.

15th Engrs. Co's A & B
JAMES OTTS
4800 Broomes Island Rd.
Republic, Md. 20676

It is with much regret and great sadness that I enclose the obituary of Philip B. Emmons — my very close friend of 59 years and comrade to all of us in the 15th Engineer Battalion (I ask that the "Mail Call" reprint those parts of the obituary deemed appropriate to our members).

Although the years have dimmed my memory (and my vision) of many details of our service together, and of names to go with faces, I suffer the loss of each of our friends and often remember our losses starting with Lt. Ware in N. Africa and ending with our most recent loss — Philip B. Emmons.

In memory of all of our fallen comrades, please accept the enclosed donation to the 9th Infantry Division Memorial Fund.

17th Inf. Regt.
BOARDMAN F. (WOODY)
LOCKWOOD
P.O. Box 85
South Casco, ME 04077

Fellow members of the 9th Inf. Ass'n. As times goes by interest in "our war" may diminish for some and increase for others. In my case it seems to increase and the latest, and one of the best, to come to hand is the autobiography of

General J. Lawton Collins who commanded VII Corps and subsequently became Chief of Staff of the Army 1949-53 which I acquired through The Scholars Bookshelf, 110 Milrich Rd., Cranburg, N.J. 08512. Their catalog(s) are of great interest on military history and general history. I look forward to our annual Mass in Worcester and to seeing the many loyal attendees which I find relatively easy to make although the annual reunions are more difficult. We can all be proud of our service in the 9th Division and can cherish the bond we share in our association membership.

Hq. & Hq. Bty. 9th Div. Arty
JAMES DULON
336-9th St.
Nokomis, Fla. 34275

Please renew my membership for another 3 years and to the Memorial Fund. Having just passed my 86th B/D I am hoping to be around to renew again in 1999.

709 Ord. Co.
PAT ZONA
P.O. Box 566
E. Sandwich, Ma. 02537

Enclosed please find a check covering 3 years dues, and a little something for the Memorial Fund in memory of John Kowalski, 709th Ordinance L.M Co.

We rarely see names from the 9th QM or 709th Ordinance Co. I'm sure that there are quite a few of the original 9th QM Battalion still around, and there must be many of them who are members of The Association. The original QM Battalion was broken up in 1942 and part of the personnel were used to form the 709th Ordinance Co. Not a great number of men, but a group of good soldiers.

Thanks for your many years of devoted service to the organization. Without you and other devotees, the Association and The Octofoil would have disappeared a long time ago. 51 years is a long time.

Good luck.

9th Q.M.
HAROLD HOKANSON
40 Foxtail Dr.
Kingston, Ma 02364.

First of all, thanks for your great job with the 9th Division Octofoil. All of a sudden thought I better look at my membership card and low and behold my dues run out in 1996. So I am sending \$25 for three (3) years. I see Joe Russo quite often considering our age and health. Thanks again for everything.

Co B 15th Engrs.
ANTHONY SAN GIACOMO
201 Catherine Lane
Manahawkin, N.J. 08050

Hope you and your wife haven't left the bundle at the dice table or Blackjack. It's nice to remember Mary Murphy and Tony Madonna and Bill Davidson and may they rest in peace.

See check enclosed for forty-five you see I didn't leave it all on the table and all the best to everyone and see you at the reunion at Holiday Inn.

All the best.

39th Inf. Serv. Co.
PAUL KELLER
8800 Walther Blvd. #1101
Parkville, Md. 21234

The passing of my wife Idola, 31 May 1996. We moved from Columbus, Ohio to Parkville, Md. in Aug. 1995 to a retirement apt. This has everything we could need, medical and everything else we needed.

60 Inf.
ROBERT BURKY
Kings Mill Apt. Complex
3208 Currie St. Apt. #603
Ft. Worth, Tx. 76133

Has moved to the above address.

SEEKING
MARK G. MUELLER
2820 So. Williams St.
Denver, Colorado 80210-6335

I appreciate talking with you today and the two addresses you gave me of men who served in Co. K, 60th Inf. I'm rewriting my letter to you of July 10, 1995, as per your request.

Here it is:

I have some pictures that were in my father's possession taken while he was in the 9th Division at Ft. Bragg, during the Carolina Maneuvers (pre-Pearl Harbor), before he went to OCS.

I was hoping someone in your association might be able to identify some of the men in the pictures. My father identified a few men in pictures by last name only.

Here's the information I have:

Father's name: (Pvt) Gregory A. Mueller

Served in: Co. K. 60th Infantry, 9th Inf. Div. (1941-42)

Here's names on pictures: Mr Thomas, Mr. Schwartz and Mr. Smith.

Maybe one of these men is a member of the association.

I believe Mr. Thomas was with the 9th through the war. He may have visited my father after the war, when he moved from Iowa to California.

I would deeply appreciate your assistance in this quest. The above is the main part of my initial letter to you. Maybe a query can be placed in your publication.

Thank you for your time.

Btry B & Hq. Btry. 60th & A Bn

GEO R. VAN LEUVEN SR.
111 Tower Rd. 501
Marietta, Ga. 30060

Just a note to tell you that I have moved from the New York area to the Atlanta, Ga. area. My new address is George R. Van Leuven, Sr., 111 Tower Rd. 501, Marietta, Ga. 30060.

I don't get to write much anymore since I became a life member, but put my new address in the Octofoil and if any other 9th men live in the Atlanta area and would like to get together have them call me 770-421-7273.

I am returning the raffle tickets and \$15.00 for the Memorial Fund in memory of John T. Brown and Douglas France who both passed away sometime ago.

26 F.A.
MICHAEL J. DOLE
30 Harmony Court
Danville, Ca. 94526

Enclosed please find my check for my 3 year dues. Just received my copy of the "Octofoil" and was very pleased to see a letter from my brother Danny Doyle, 47th Infantry, Company C. In his letter Danny raised a point about getting a plaque being placed on the Remagen Bridge for the 9th Infantry Division. I for one agree about having a plaque put there and also will be willing to work to see that it is done. What can we do?

Keep up the good work and give my best to all back east.

**CALL OR WRITE A
FRIEND -
ENCOURAGE HIM
TO JOIN THE
ASSOCIATION**

26th FA Bn & Div Arty
BORIS RAYNES
2532 Chelsea Road
Palos Verdes Estates,
CA 90274

Enclosed please find my three year membership dues. I just got the May-July '96 issue reminding me.

I sent off a letter to W.D. Davis (Hq 47th Inf) who was defending the shoulder patch insignia to other veterans from the slur of being a cookie division.

I referred to the authoritative Eight Stars to Victory at page 22 in which it stated, the following:

"Shoulder sleeve insignia became official for all units after the first world war and in 1923 the Ninth Infantry Division with War Department approval adopted the octofoil as its patch. The selection was a unique one, as the design dated back to the 15th century, when it was customary for each son to have an individual mark of distinction.

"Perhaps octo meaning eight is a bit confusing to many when speaking of the Ninth Division. But in foiling there are eight foils (positions) and heraldic rules gave the Octofoil to the ninth son, since it was symbolic of his being surrounded by eight brothers; which is an explanation of why this eight-petaled insignia is correct for the Ninth Army Division.

"The design consists of a red quatrefoil atop a blue quatrefoil with a white center. The red stands for the artillery, the blue for the infantry and the white denotes the color of the numerals found on the division flags. Surrounding the Octofoil is the rim of olive drab — symbolic as nothing else of the U.S. Army."

Incidentally, to back up its importance, I did contribute to the National Infantry Museum at Ft. Benning, Ga. my personal patch worn in combat together with this informative history and received an acknowledgement from the curator, Mr. Z. Frank Hanner, that it would indeed be part of their collection.

I want to thank the many authors of books who did contribute copies of their recollections to the museum with my encouragement and with the endorsement of our Association at the New Orleans 50th Reunion.

It would be great if we had a rich donor among us to pay for a memorial and we could get a great plaque at Ft. Benning to sit next to the Big Red One, but there I go dreaming.

I look forward to many more copies of Octofoil and hearing from you all.

9th Meds & Co. E 47th
TOM V. RUMORE
P.O. Box 82
Sound Beach, N.Y. 11789

Dealing with me certainly is making you earn your money, but thank you very much for your help.

I started with the 9th Div. 10 E Company as Company Aid Man in the 47th Inf. A short time later at St. Lo in France I was wounded so they sent me back to the 9th Med. I did such a good job there that they decided to keep me there till the war's end. Now glad to be here.

THE OCTOFOIL
412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N.J. 07087
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A

39th Inf. Co. E
JOHN SABATO
2743 Snyder Ave.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19145

Enclosed please find check for three years dues.

I was hoping to do this at the last reunion but unfortunately I could not make it. I hope to make the rest of them and see you and Marie there.

My best wishes to you and yours.

Co. G. 47th Inf.
WALTER LEE MIZWA
700 Mound Street,
Monongahela, PA 15063

I am going to attend the 51st convention for the 9th Infantry. My wife and daughter are also going to attend. I am searching for information about Marshall Dallo. He was in the 9th Infantry Co. G., 47th Infantry. He was killed in action during the D Day Invasion. I have many photographs to place on display. I hope to put names to some of them. I hope to see you in June.

Hq. Btry. 60th F.A.
NEIL ABEREGG
P.O. Box 357
Hundred, W. Va. 26575

I see on the address label that I have been A.W.O.L. for 3 years. I am sending for the next 3. I really appreciate receiving the Octofoil. I read every word.

I am not very good at keeping in touch, don't seem to have much time. Having trouble getting retired. Still farming. Have cut down to 33 head of cows.

We are planning on making the '97 Reunion in Louisville next spring.

Hqs. Co. 60th Inf.
KAREL GRIMM
620 S. Waupaca St.
Wautoma, WI 54982

I may be well overdue on dues so enclosed is \$25.00. I'm still looking for someone from Hq. Co. 60th Inf. from the years 1940 to 1942 when I left to get my commission in the Signal Corps and then a year later went to the Air Force flying B 17s. Still have a warm spot in my heart for the fellows and all the good training I got in the 9th.

Thanks much.

Would you please change Albert Napadano address to: Al Napadano, 101 W. Garfield Ave., New Castle, PA 16105.

Albert is very ill and is in Indian Creek Nursing Home. Thank you.

Al's brother
Nick Napadano