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9th Infantry Division Association

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The Octofoil, May/June/July 1999

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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Recommended Citation

Ninth Infantry Division Association, "The Octofoil, May/June/July 1999" (1999). *The Octofoil*. 331.
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THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N.J. 07087 NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Volume XLXXIV Number 3

May-June-July 1999

"Lest We Forget"

Dear Friend,

Starting in 1945, Father called us together every year to pray for our dead. We who were privileged to know this great priest feel that his spirit is still with us. His call went to men of all faiths and beliefs. He even encouraged non-believers to join together in this expression of devotion.

We who call ourselves "Friends of Father Connors" will again join together in praying for our dead on Sunday, Oct. 24, 1998 at the eleven o'clock Mass at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Grove Street, Worcester, MA.

We will also remember in our prayers the men who wore the Octofoil, returned with us, and who have now gone on to their eternal reward. A service will follow the Mass at the memorial on the church grounds dedicated to all who served wearing the Octofoil.

We will also sponsor a luncheon at the Holiday Inn, Lincoln Street, Worcester, MA, at 12:30 p.m. We guarantee that you will be on your way by 3:00 p.m.

We invite all members to join us as we pray for our dead.

We have reserved rooms at the Holiday Inn, Worcester. Reservations must be made by yourselves. The phone number is 1-508-852-4000. Reservations must be made by September 17, 1999. Reservations for the luncheon must be made payable to "New England Chapter, Ninth Infantry Division Association," at a cost of \$20.00, and mailed to Thomas J. Boyle, 39 Hall Avenue, Somerville, MA 02144. Should you have problems, please call 1-617-625-8127.

We ask you to join us as we say a few prayers for the 4,581 men we left behind.

Room 102 will open about 4:00 p.m., on Saturday, October 23rd, 1999.

Friends of Father Connors,
Fran Maher, Herb Olsen, Ron Murphy, Tom Boyle

Change of Command



Jack Collier giving the Gavel of his office to the newly elected president of the Association Marty Gross.

The 1999 Reunion Committee Report

The Reunion Committee wishes to thank all who attended our 1999 Reunion at Hyannis, Mass.

It is our opinion that everything went well. We could have used a few more members but time seems to be taking its toll.

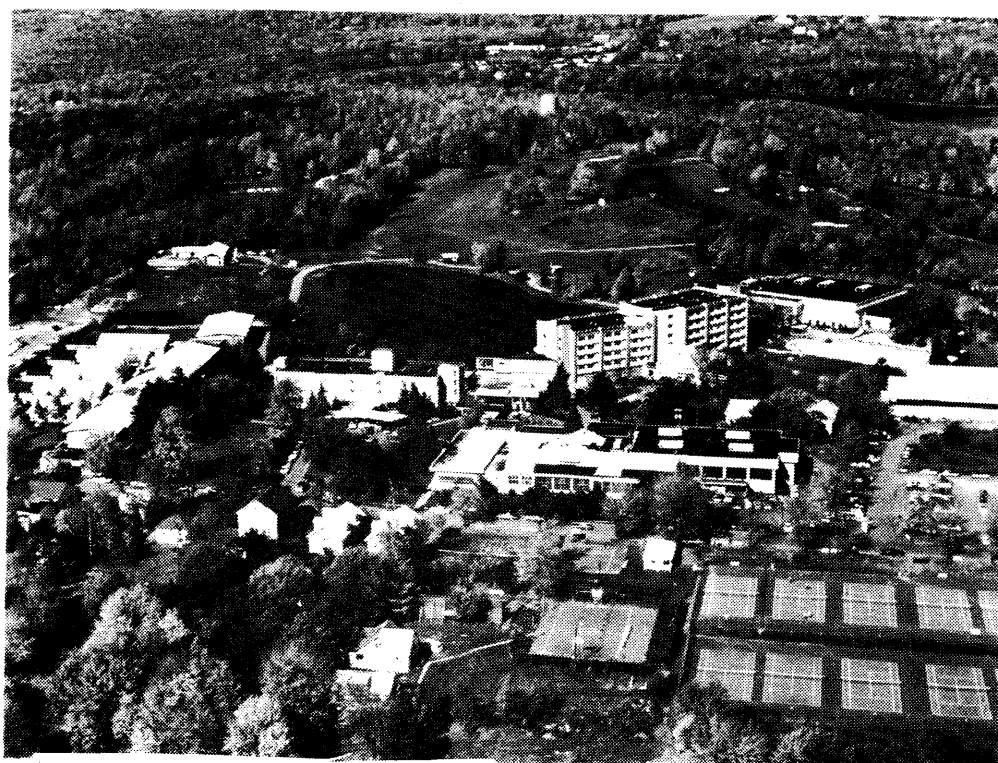
Father William Campbell of Falmouth, Mass. celebrated Mass for us on Sunday, May 23, 1999. His Homily was excellent.

The evenings of dancing to the music of Lou Columbo were excellent. The Business Meeting was well attended as were the Board of Governors meetings. Martin Gross was elected President and Tom Hatton was elected First Vice President. The Greater New York Chapter was chosen for the year 2000 Reunion.

We had 256 members and guests attend the luncheon at the Elks Hall and 280 members and guests attend the dinner. Herb Olsen was the M.C. for the dinner. The evening was made pleasant by the words of Lt. Col. Mark Reardon and was finished up with antics of Frank Murphy.

Our Memorial Service was held in the courtyard of the hotel under most pleasant surroundings. The Bugler sounded "Assembly" at 10:00 A.M. Ernie Micka served as the O.D. and we started the service with two Gold Star Brothers, Herb Olsen and Charlie McLhinney carrying in the floral Octofoil escorted by the Bag Pipers playing the Army Song. Our theme was "We Remember." Pres. Collier

Continued on page 4



HEADQUARTERS FOR 2000 NEW YORK 55TH REUNION

*** Seeking Pays Off ***
*** Never Give Up ***

In the OCTOFOIL of Aug.-Sept.-Oct. 1997 under "Seeking" I was looking for men who came to the 47th Infantry via the good ship "Louis Pasteur" in January 1945; and with the help of Bill Crain, out in Ohio, I have tracked down Allen J. Kelley away out in Sun City, California, my old fox-hole buddy.

More recently, still "Seeking" I have found another man practically right under my feet, less than two miles away door to door. The only problem was that all of these years I was spelling his name wrong. Joe Maiale and I shared the same barracks down in Texas, the same compartment on the boat going over, and the same windowless train ride to Verviers from Le Harve. When we got to the 47th he was sent to "I" company while I went to "George." We still have a lot of catching-up to do.

In the Jan.-Feb. 1999 OCTOFOIL again under "Seeking", I was wondering about the stone house up on the Roer during the last week of February 1945. It happens that the first meeting face to face with my friend Joe Maiale I brought along some OCTOFOILS for him to catch-up with some of his other buddies; and wouldn't you just know it, he was at the same stone house that I was writing about. Only he was stuck out there much longer than I was there. Now I know that the dirty job was put on Item company.

The lesson here is that if you keep the faith and have a lot of patience, eventually the answers will come to you when you least expect them and usually from unexpected sources. You just have to keep "pluggin" along; and it will all work out. Seeking does pay off ... for those who don't give up. Thank you, Lord.

Joe Killen, G-47
God Bless America

Kutsher's Country Club Monticello, NY

The 9th Infantry Division Association
will greet the New Millennium
in the Catskill Mountains in 2000!

In the first half of the 20th Century an historical date was established with the activation of the 9th Infantry Division on August 1, 1940. Our division association will mark another milestone 60 years later in the 21st Century with the coming together of Ninthmen, their families and friends at its 55th Annual Reunion at the famous Kutsher's Country Club Resort Hotel on May 2, 3, 4 and 5 in the year 2000.

The convention committee of the host Greater NY Chapter and the Kutsher's convention staff have been working for months to ensure that the 55th gathering of "Old Reliables," their ladies, and guests will receive the best of the world-famous Kutsher's outstanding accommodations, dining, activities, and entertainment.

There will be no strip ticket charges! The inclusive price covers three meals daily, with many delicious choices, and any special diets, in our own dining room. Over the next months the Octofoil will keep you apprised of the developing programs of interest. If you remember the great time you had at the 1996 reunion in the Catskill Mountains, the Kutcher's reunion promises to be even more memorable in 2000. Rates and reservation details will follow in the next issue of the Octofoil.

The Free Amenities Include:

* Different all-star variety show nightly * Never a cover or minimum * Late night lounge shows * Discotheque music * Little Club for late dancing * Health and Fitness Center * Indoor swimming pool * Shopping Arcade * Valet car parking * Handball, Paddleball, Tennis * Shuttle bus to Apollo Shopping Mall * Golf

In Addition:

We will also have a lavish complimentary cocktail party with open bar and hot and cold hors d'oeuvres on Thursday prior to our banquet.

Look for more exciting details to come in the next Octofoil.

— Your host, the Greater NY Chapter

LATEST REPORT ON THE MATT URBAN MONUMENT

Peter Radichio and I wish that we could announce that everything is all set for that big Dedication come August 25th. But that is not the case. We have run into all kinds of obstacles and it will take a little more time before we complete our mission.

We are now working with The Columbia Gardens Memorials located in Arlington, Va. Their proximity to The National Cemetery and years of experience in placing monuments over there should solve most of our problems. The latest Draft is now being completed and hopefully will be accepted.

With all the problems that we've encountered, the Monument Fund was not one of them. Some donations are still coming in and we are very grateful to everyone who have contributed to this most worthy project. We promise not to let you down.

Sincerely,
John Bonkowski
19241 Angela Ct.
Roseville, MI 48066
(810) 296-1239

THE OCTOFOIL

Form 2579 should be sent to
412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087
Octofoil Associated Editors
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National Officers
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65 Prospect Ave. Apt. 28W
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Saginaw, MI 48602

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Oak Park, IL 60304

Pat DeColli, 3rd V.P.
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Philadelphia, PA 18148

Dave Heller
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

2000

Richard Boudouy
Altamonte Springs, FL
Jack Collier
St. Louis, MO
Larry McLaughlin
Wakefield, MA
Richard Starr
Philadelphia, PA
John Miller
Arlington, TX

2001

Marty Gross
Hewlett, NY
Howard Gaertner
Wauwatosa, WI
Charles Vanderpoel
Jacksonville, Fla.
Elmer Wagner
Bay City, MI
Frank Haines
Trenton, NJ

2002

Joseph Killen
Valley Stream, NY
William Doty
Baden, PA
Billie Martin
Beverly Hills, MI
Lenny Tomassone
Pennsauken, NJ

Published five times yearly. May, June, July - Aug., Sept., Oct., - Nov., Dec., - Jan., Feb., - Mar, April by and for the members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. News items, feature stories, photographs and art material from members will be appreciated. Every effort will be made to return photographs and art work in good condition.

An extract from the certificate of incorporation of the 9th Infantry Division Association read: "This Association is formed by the officers and men of the 9th Infantry Division in order to perpetuate the memory of our fallen comrades, to preserve the esprit de corps of the Division, to assist in promoting an everlasting world peace exclusively by means of educational activities and to serve as an information bureau to former members of the 9th Infantry Division."

Copy must be received on or before the 15th of each month to guarantee publication of the 20th.

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

POST MASTER: Send address changes to 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087.

Volume XLXXIV Number 3 May-June-July 1999

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 Auxillary Member.....\$300

Decals.....50-each

Philly-Delaware Valley ☐ Greater New York ☐

Illinois ☐ Washington, D.C. ☐

New England ☐ Michigan ☐

Florida ☐ New Jersey ☐

Texas ☐ California Chapter ☐

Ladies Auxiliary
Ninth Infantry Division Association

Membership Application

Clara Scott, Treasurer

1517 Shields St.

Sherman, Tx. 75092

Tel. #903-893-8696

Enclosed please find dues for:

Name.....

Street Address.....

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

My spouse (Brother or relative)

Served with.....

One year.....\$3.00

Credit Chapter.....

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.



Edward "Hoppy" Hopkins
47th Inf. F Co.

Edward T. Hopkins passed away on June 14, 1999 at the John F. Kennedy Medical Center in Edison, NJ. Hoppy had failing health for the past months and was unable to attend the reunions and activities he enjoyed so much. He was instrumental in getting Company F 47th Infantry members together for a number of years and then he organized and formed the New Jersey Chapter of this Association. Hoppy served on the National Board of Governors for two years and was elected President of the Association in 1990.

His Memorial Service was held on June 19th and among the many friends and relations attending were Janet and George Brown, Marie and Dan Quinn, Emil Langer, Jack Finnigan and Mike Yednak, all of the Ninth Infantry Association. Rest in peace old timer, we'll miss you.

Thomas Reith
B Co. 15th Engrs.

Lee Chatfield

A.J. Seasock
39th Inf.

Ralph Lassen
60th Inf. Hqtrs.

Lyle Leaver
G Co. 39th Inf.

Ayn Mikus
Wife of Chester Mikus,
84th F.A.

Ernest Newhart
A & B Co. 15th Engrs.

Edwin E. Brewer
L Co. 60th Inf.

Thaddeus Szczygiel
C Btry 60th F.A.

Francis Smiles
Medic 47th Inf.

James Shaw
39th Inf. M Co.

John Zulkiewski
47th Inf. Co. F & Hq. 2nd Bn.

Billy Pitt
47th A.T.

Anthony Sangiacomo
15th Engrs. B Co.

Percy Hough
A Co. 39th Inf.

Ronald E. Frank Co. D. 47th Reg. pinning 2nd Lt. Bars on grand-daughter, Kimberly Ferguson, also pictured are parents Elaine and Joseph Ferguson, at the graduation at West Point May29, 1999

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:

Addie Leaver - In memory of husband, Lyle Leaver, G Co. 39th Inf.

Chester Mikus - In memory of wife, Ayn

Richard McGrath - In memory of Milton Marsh, Holt Rast and Ernest Newhart 15th Engrs. B Co.

Billy Alsbrook - In memory of Lyle Leaver

James E. Miller - 39th Inf. 3rd Bn.

Clarence Ray - In memory of Vestal Lester L Co. 47th Inf.
Donald Crass - In memory of Richard Nevens, F Co. 60th Inf.

Mary Ann Szczygiel - In memory of husband, Thaddeus, C Btry. 60th F.A.

Arthur Clark - In memory of James Shaw, M Co. 39th Inf.

Frank Haines - In memory of Edward "Hoppy" Hopkins, F Co. 47th Inf.

George Hulka 60th Inf.

Preston Strillings, M.P's

Albert Farese - In memory of Anthony Sangiacomo, B Co. 15th Engrs.

Ruth Reith - In memory of husband Thomas, B Co. 15th Engr.

Robert Mandle - In memory of Milton Marsh and Holt Rast, both of 15th Engrs. Bn.

Sam Robinson - 84th FA To all we left behind.

Emil Langer - In memory of Delsie Jiminez

Doris Carney - In memory of husband Eugene Carney D Co. 60th Inf.

George Stein - In memory of Ernest Bartroff and Thomas Rumore, both of B Co. 9th Med. Bn.

Jerry Fasano - In memory of Charlie Roberts, Steve Dobrino and Jim Tomaso, all A Co. 15th Engrs.

Sam Robinson, T. Terricola, Dick O'Connor - In memory of Ayn Mikus

Sam Robinson - In memory of Ayn Mikus, wife of Chester Mikus B 84th F.A. and Jack Kargir and special get well to John Vandermeiden, 84th F.A.

Charles McLhinney - In memory of all departed members of 9th Inf. Div.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Another great Reunion, thanks to Tom Boyle, Herb Olsen, Ron Murphy, and their helpers. We are sure blessed with all the great people that we have in the 9th Inf. Div. Assn. What a honor it was for me to serve as President of this outstanding Assn. Thanks again to the board for electing me.

Once again I can't say enough about our beautiful ladies, who attend our reunions with us, they are the greatest. You beautiful widows that attend know that you are always welcome and we all love you. Thank you for attending.

Here are some of the reasons why I have looked forward to each reunion since 1971. In 1971 I met Bob & Maxine Cole, George Albert, George Zipfel, and Randy Brown. In 1972 I met George and Goody Brown, John & Ginny Allen. In 1973 I met Evie & Henry Golabiecki, also Wally & Madeline Burr. In 1974 I met Joe Williams, and Gen. Randle. There are many more people that Nadine and I have met but it seems like my long term memory is better than the short one. We have enjoyed the hospitality of the Coles, Browns, Allens, Golabieckis, Burrs, and Williams. My short term memory is waking up. I don't want to forget Kenny Meyers. Because of him Nadine and I have attended two Infantry Balls at Fort Leavenworth, Ks. and four times at Fort Leonard Wood in Mo. It was wonderful experience. One nice thing about the Military is they respect age no matter what your rank was. We are lucky that we do have a lot of good people in our Military.

I do not want to forget Evie & Henry Golabiecki you were missed. Age is finally catching up with them, Evie (86) Henry (88). We were together a lot of years. Bob & Max Cole you are missed also. Marty Gross our new President have a good and fun year. Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Mr. Jack A. Collier
126 Saint John Ave.
Webster Groves, MO 63119



**Minutes of the 189th Meeting of the
National Board of
Governors, the Ninth
Infantry Division
Association**

The meeting took place at the Hyannis Four Point Motel in Hyannis, Massachusetts on May 23rd, 1999 at 5:00 P.M. The meeting was called to order by President Jack Collier, attended by Al Perna, Chas. Libretto, Marty Gross, Larry McLaughlin, Dick Boudouy, Dick Starr, Len Tomassone, Pete Rice, Jack Blann, Frank Haines, Bill Shea, Tom Hatton, Billie Martin, Dave Heller Judge advocate was unable to attend the meeting and reunion.

Also present at the meeting were Emil Langer, Adolph Wadalavage, Roger Asgaard, Al Ferrante, Ron Murphy, Herb Olsen and Tom Boyle Treasurer and Joe Killen.

Jack Collier read the minutes of the last meeting held in Worcester last October (1998).

Jack Collier opened the meeting and suggested that a motion be made to reimburse Tom Hatton for expenses incurred at last years reunion when an oversight of a Complimentary room should have been granted Tom Hatton as President of the Association.

Upon a motion made by Marty Gross and seconded by Charles Libretto it was voted to reimburse Tom Hatton the sum of \$300.00.

President Collier opened another subject relating to a request by a young writer - Richard P. Whaley from Tenn. for permission to use the Division's History book "8 Stars to Victory" for reference to a book he would like to write on the Ninth Infantry Division during WW 2. Upon a motion made by Pete Rice and seconded by Dick Starr it was voted to give Vincent Whaley permission to go ahead on his project.

President Collier asked for volunteers before assigning members of the Board to act as Chairmen for the various committees for the general meeting to be held tomorrow: Frank Haines will chair the Finance Committee, Charles Libretto to head the Nominating Committee, Elmer Wagner to Chair the Newspaper Committee, Al Perna the By-Laws Committee, Misc. Committee, Dick Starr.

Marty Gross of the New York Chapter addressed the members on the next reunion to be held in Kutchers Inn in the Catskills on May 2 to the 5th 2000. It will include three meals a day, a welcoming cocktail Party, entertainment at nights with daily activities. The rooms will start at \$240.00 per night per person and the top rooms will be \$270.00 pp for 3 nights. Marty says there is not much difference in the rooms. More details will appear in the Octofoil.

Larry McLaughlin when called upon for his report for this years awards told of the big difference in this years request from last year when they only received one

request - this years amounted to 8 requests but they were only considering 5 received from our members. Instead of request for approx. \$1000 or so to give each of the 5 requests consideration for approx. \$300.00. They were awarded to: North Carolina State Veteran Nursing Home through Bob DeSandy for \$300.00 V.V. Lutz Medical Center, Saginaw, Mich. by Roger Alsgaard \$300.00, V.A. Medical Center, West Haven, Ct. by Trevor Jones \$300.00, V.A. Medical Center, Iron Mountain, Mich. by Donald Crass \$300, Wisconsin Veterans Home, King, Wisc. by Donald Crass \$300.00.

Upon a motion made by Charlie Libretto and seconded by Tom Hatton it was voted to: Accept the report and recommendation of the Veterans Award Committee. President Jack Collier thanked Larry McLaughlin and his committee for their efforts.

There being no other business to come before this Body and upon a motion made by Al Perna and seconded by Rich Boudouy, it was voted to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 P.M.

**The 190th Meeting of the
National Board**

The 190th meeting of the Board of Governors of this Association took place at Four Point Hotel Hyannis, Massachusetts. President Collier called the meeting to order at 5:15 May 24, 1999 and immediately Collier asked for elections of Officers for the coming year.

Jack Collier asked the members to rise for a moment of silence in memory of our departed comrades.

Marty Gross was elected president, Thomas Hatton was elected to be the 1st Vice President, Mike Belmonte elected to the 2nd Vice President, Pat DeColi elected as 3rd Vice President, Dave Heller, Judge Advocate, Treasurer Tom Boyle, Secretary Dan Quinn.

Collier turned over the gavel of his office to the newly elected President of the association Marty Gross who thanked the members for the honor of being elected as President and promised that he would do his best to uphold the office of president. Collier thanked the members for their cooperation during his term in office and wished Gross all the best for the coming year.

Frank Haines was called upon for a report on the Committee he headed regarding the future of the association. After much discussion it was voted to have Frank Haines committee run a survey through the Octofoil to all of the members on their thought on this subject. This motion was made by Haines and seconded by Starro and so moved.

Upon a motion made by Len Tomassone and seconded by Elmer Wagner it was voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 P.M.

**The 55th Meeting of the 9th Inf. Division Association
Took Place on May 24, 1999 in Hyannis, Mass.**

At the site of the C.P. The Sheraton Four Points Hotel located in Hyannis. President Jack Collier called the meeting to order with 98 members present. He then asked the members to rise for a moment of silence and a prayer for the 4581 men we left behind and for all those who have since joined the ranks of the departed. Collier asked the members to remain standing and recite with him The Pledge of Allegiance To the Flag. Naming the Chairman of the various committees he called for recess for the committees to meet and to be back again at 11:45 a.m. to resume the meeting.

At 11:45 a.m. President Collier called the meeting back to order and asked the secretary to read the minutes of the last reunion held in Hampton, Va. in 1998.

Upon a motion made by Roger Alsgaard and seconded by Richard Starr it was voted to accept the reading of the minutes and instruct the Secretary to place copy on file.

President Collier then called on Tom Boyle for the Treasurers report ... Boyle gave a detailed report on the spending and income of the association. President Collier thanked Boyle for his report and upon a motion made by Marty Gross and seconded by Emil Wagner it was voted to accept the Treasurers report.

Newspaper Committee

President Collier called upon the chairman of the Newspaper Committee Elmer Wagner for his report. Wagner named the following men who served with him on this Committee: M.C. McKnight, Pete Rice, Art Schmidt, Bill Martin and Joe Killen. Wagner reported that the committee would like to thank the Editor for a fine job done through the years and a very important means of communicating for the membership, that helps to keep us going and a big asset to the membership, that the Ladies Auxiliary report on their activities and what the widows are doing etc. They would also suggest that the Editor put a small column of the name and address of various chapter Secretary's and their phone numbers so that with all the moving around and traveling by our members they could contact when visiting that state. Keep the same format for the Octofoil five issues a year, etc. President Collier thanked Wagner and his committee for their report and upon a motion made by Emil Langer and seconded by Al Perna, it was voted to accept report.

Miscellaneous Committee

Dick Starr, chairman of the Miscellaneous Committee when called upon for his report named the following members who served with him on this committee: Anton Dietrich and Roger Alsgaard. Dick Starr noted that the board meeting is becoming a general meeting with all the Past Board members attending and members popping up with questions and suggestions. Realizing it is a good healthy sign but it makes for rather prolonging the intent of the meeting and the committee members to speak their piece and then get on with general business, other than the committee report.

President Collier thanked Starr and his committee for their report and upon motion made by Al Perna and seconded by Tom Hatton, it was voted to; Accept the miscellaneous committee report so voted and carried.

Nominating Committee

Charles Libretto, chairman of the nomination committee when called upon named the following members who served with him on this committee: Pat Decoli, Thomas Hatton, Jack Blann. Libretto mentioned to the members of his committee that when considering a member to hold office in this association that would be willing to serve and attend the few meetings that are held. As there are four members going off the Board this year the committee recommends that these members replace them: From Philly-Delaware Len Tomassone replacing Al Perna, Billie Martin replacing Tom Hatton, Joe Killen replacing Charles Libretto and Bill Doty at large replacing Bill Shea.

President Collier called for nominations from the floor and there being none and upon a motion made by Tom Boyle it was moved to close the nominations and elect to the board the members chosen by this committee and so moved.

Finance Committee

President Collier then called upon Frank Haines of the finance committee. He named these members who served with him on this committee: Ed Gill, Al Farese, Marty Gross, John Bonkowski and Bill Mauser.

National Treasurer Tom Boyle met with the Finance Committee and responded to several questions asked by Committee members. The committee reviewed the previous year's income and spending and proposed the following summary of budget estimates for the fiscal year ending May 31, 2000. The chairman gave a summary only to save time. Details are added below for the information of all members.

Summary: General Fund

Opening Cash Balance	\$ 2,024
Estimated Income - Gen Fd..	<u>+14,360</u>
Total Estimated Current Income	\$16,384
Proposed Spending	<u>-21,930</u>
From Capital and Memorial Accounts- to Balance Budget	\$5,546

Continued on next page

Deadline for next Octofoil Oct. 20th

39th Inf

DON LAVENDER
2913-49th Street
Des Moines, IA 50310

The enclosed is a copy from the AAA-O News dated August 3, 1945.

I remember it and perhaps many others do too. I thought it might be worth repeating - especially the quote from Patton "There are probably few divisions in the world in your class." Or his final quote: "I can hardly think of another Division that has written its name so large upon the scroll of history."

It might smooth the ruffled feathers of those who still think Stephen Ambrose did not do the 9th Justice.

General George S. Patton, Commanding General of the Third Army, reviewed and addressed units of the Ninth Division on its Fifth Anniversary last Wednesday, August 1st, at the Manching Airport near Ingolstadt.

Arriving at the airport in a C-47, General Patton received the four flourishes of a four star general from trumpeters of the Division band, then swept up to the reviewing stand in his car, escorted by eight 'blitz buggies' and several motorcycles.

As he approached the reviewing stand, the General, flanked by his aides, again received his four flourishes, this time from the Division band, a seventeen gun salute from howitzers of Division Artillery, and then inspected the Division from an open scout car.

With the massed colors of the Division for a background, General Patton presented a third Oak Leaf Cluster to Colonel Van H. Bond for his Silver Star, a DSC to Lt. Malcolm B. Gott, formerly of Company H, a Legion of Merit to Brigadier General Reese M. Howell of Division Artillery, and five Silver Star Medals to other members of the Division. He next presented five Presidential Citations to units of the Division, one to the 39th's Second Battalion for action near Le Desert, France, last July when it "fought off and crushed an enemy armored threat to break through to Isigny and separate the Allied forces."

General Patton, in his address to the members of the Division, mentioned the last time he spoke to the Ninth in Sicily. Expressing sorrow that so many members of the Ninth who fought in Africa and Sicily are no longer here, General Patton said, "We should not be sorry that these men died so much as we should be glad that they were born and lived. There are probably few Divisions in the world in your class," said General Patton.

The General went on to say that it is up to the men who fought to prevent another war, but we "cannot prevent wars by being weak any more than we can prevent fires by abolishing the fire department." Wishing the Division "many happy returns of the day" on its Fifth Anniversary, General Patton remarked that he "can hardly think of another Division that has written its name so large upon the scroll of history."

Continued from last page

Details of Proposed Year 2000 Annual Budget

Income:	
Balance carried over Gen. Fd.	\$ 2,024
Dues	6,400
Dividends:	
SSC (Income Acct.) - CGM (Mutual Acct.)	2,400
Sales	60
Reunion - Exp. '99	2,000
Reunion - Adv. 2000	2,000
Donations - Veterans' Facilities	1,500
	<u>14,360</u>
From Capital and Memorial Accounts	\$16,384
To Balance	<u>+5,546</u>
	21,930
Expenses:	
Secretary Salary	1,000
Clerical	1,000
Utilities	1,330
Postage	3,420
Miscellaneous	480
Supplies	720
Secretary Expense	1,000
Editor Expense	500
Treasurer Expense	400
Octofoil	8,500
Accountant	300
Memorial Wreath	135
Donations - Veterans Facilities	1,500
Bank Charges	145
Reunion Exp.	<u>1,500</u>
Total Expenses	21,930

The committee recommended (1) that the secretary be authorized to review banking costs and services in order to get maximum advantage of the association's money; and (2) that the budget submitted by the committee be approved by the membership.

Respectfully submitted,
Ed Sim, N.J., Al Farese, N.J., Marty Gross, N.Y.
John Bonkowski, Mich., W.C. "Bill" Manser, at-large
Frank Hawes, N.J. chairman

Upon a motion made by Len Tomassone and seconded by Dick Irvine it was voted to: Accept the financial report.

By-Laws Committee

Al Perna chairman of the By-laws committee named the following members who served with him on this committee: Al Zenka, Mike Belmonte, Henry Geary, Art Doering, Fran Maher, Lawrence Kaufman, Len Tommassone, Dick Baudouy, Pete Radichio and Adolph Wadalavga. Perna reported that this committee recommends to leave the Bylaws as they are alone and upon a motion made by Pat Coli and seconded by Dick Starr it was voted to accept the report and recommendation of this committee. President Collier thanked Perna and his committee for their report.

Vets Awards

Larry McLaughlin of the Vets Awards committee when called upon for his report named Adolph Wadalavge and Joe Williams as permanent members of this committee and told how requests this year had nine members writing whereas last year there was only one. Some requests were repeats so the committee eliminated four of them and granted 5 awards to be given to the following: Bob DeSandy for the North Carolina Vets Nursing Home \$300, Roger Alsgaard for the VA Lutz Medical Center in Saginaw, Mich. \$300, Trevor Jones, VA Medical Center, W. Haven, Ct. \$300, Donald Crass, VA Medical Center, Iron Mountain, Mich. \$300, Donald Crass, Vets Home, King, Wisconsin \$300.

Upon a motion made by Charles Libretto and seconded by Tom Hatton, it was voted to: accept the report and recommendation of this committee. President Collier thanked Larry McLaughlin and his committee for their efforts.

Upon a motion made by Dick Starr and seconded by Olido Starro it was voted to accept the report and recommendations of this committee.

President Collier asked if there was any other business to come before this body and Fran Maher of the NE Chapter made a suggestion on a motion to donate \$500 a year for the upkeep of the monument on the church ground and this opened a discussion with George Brown stating he would donate the \$2,000.00 for the four years of \$500 a year as requested. It ended up with the motion being tabled till a study could be made by the Board of Governors concerning the condition of the Monument.

Upon a motion made by Pat Decoli and seconded by Al Perna it was voted to adjourn the meeting at 12:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Daniel Quinn
National Secretary

Continued from page 1

**Reunion
Hyannis, MA**

and Sec. Quinn spoke. Each Chapter presented a floral tribute to the Octofoil. Tom Boyle traced our days at Fort Bragg to the Elbe River. The Service brought back many memories, some good and some not so good. There were many moist eyes during the service. The service ended with bugler Lou Columbo playing "Lights Out."

Submitted by the reunion Comm.
Herb Olsen, Ron Murphy, Fran Maher, Tom Boyle

**Last NY Chapter Meeting
Before Summer Hiatus**

The NY Chapter held its final meeting before summer at the Masonic Hall, 71 West 23rd St., on June 18, 1999. At 7:30 p.m. chapter president Joe Killen opened the meeting with members pledge of allegiance and salute to the flag, and a short prayer for peace. A moment of silence was held for our departed comrades.

Secretary Art Schmidt read the minutes of our previous meeting which was held during our May 15 picnic in Bethpage State Park, following our annual Memorial March and Service at the VA National Cemetery in Farmingdale, Long Island. (We thank Cemetery Director Arthur Smith for he and his staff's dedication and cooperation for our memorial service). Treasurer Al Zenka then gave the chapter's sound financial report.

Correspondence was read by Prez Killen, including an order from Rose, wife of deceased Tom L. Richey, for William Kreye's book, "Pawns of War." We were also notified of member Francis Smiles passing. Our heartfelt condolences to the Smiles family.

On sick call was Joe Brody. Word from Tony Varone is that he was feeling better. We hope for better health in the days to come for our buddies who are not too well.

Reunion and Mini Reunion

Next order of business was a discussion of reunion plans. Attending members to the Hyannis Reunion spoke well of the reunion and indicated they had a good time. Marty Gross then proceeded with info on the NY Chapter's hosting the millenium year 2000 reunion. Gross reported that his committee had finalized reunion plans with Kutsher's Country Club Resort Hotel in the Catskills, New York. (See details elsewhere in Octofoil).

Al Zenka reported plans were all set for the chapter's mini reunion at the Catskills, NY Friar Tuck Inn in September. Details follow this NY Chapter report.

Members attending the June meeting, not mentioned above: Anton Dietrich, Jack Holuboff, Bill Klauz, Emil Langer, Marv Levy, Charlie LiBretto, Al Lipton, Al Lubrano, Joe Maile (welcomed new member), Gene Magidson, Joe Rzesniowicki and Dan Quinn.

NY Chapter reminder: if you haven't paid your dues for 1999 now is the time to catch up - \$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, 9-12 Doran Avenue, Glendale, NY 11385.

The NY Chapter wishes 9th men and their families a happy and healthy summer!

Friar Tuck Mini Reunion Information

As in the past, we will bivouac for five days, four nights, beginning with dinner on Monday, September 13, and ending with lunch on Friday, September 17, 1999. The cost is as follows: \$233.00 per person double occupancy; \$267.00 single occupancy; \$218.00 per person triple occupancy, gratuities and baggage handling included. All family members and friends are welcome.

Available activities include, among others, two outdoor swimming pools and Jacuzzi, one indoor pool and Jacuzzi, men and women's gym and health club with sauna and steam rooms, indoor and outdoor Boccie and Shuffleboard, game room, Ping Pong and pool tables, video movie room, OTB Teletheatre in our Robin Hood Lounge, nightly entertainment, Bingo, Horse racing.

We would appreciate a deposit of \$50.00 per person as soon as possible and the balance no later than August 25th. Please make checks payable to the Greater New York Chapter, 9th Infantry Division Assn., and mail to:

Al Zenka, Treasurer
82-36 234th Street
Queens Village, NY 11427-2118

Please let us know if you have any special requests, i.e., Main House or Camelot II (motel-type rooms), handicapped rooms, table seating, etc. If you have any questions, please call me at (718) 479-9341.

Marv Levy
Co A 60th
2044 Ellen Drive
Merrick, NY 11566-5404



Members of the various Chapters representing their Chapters awaiting the call for placing of the flowers on the Wreath at the Memorial Ceremony; Hyannis Reunion L-R: Ron Murphy, New England Chapter; Al Perna of the Philly Delaware Chapter; Jack Blann, Texas Chapter; Frank Haines, NJ Chapter; Tom Hatton, Michigan Chapter, Mike Belmonte, Illinois Chapter and Pete Radichio, Florida Chapter.

Co. B 47th Inf
ORION C. SHOCKLEY
1 River Bend Drive
P.O. Box 340
Gustavus, Alaska 99826
(907) 697-2426

I have no quarrel with Stephen Ambrose with his lack of mention of the 9th Division. He has the right to include what he wishes in his book. However, I do think that he should have included the surrender of Fort Du Homet in Cherbourg - the last part to that city to surrender.

Included with this letter is a picture of General Eddy with General Satler and the German Staff at the time of the surrender, and a letter from General Eddy to me thanking me for the picture.

My only objection to Mr. Ambrose is the inaccuracies that occur in his book "Citizen Soldiers." I only can personally relate to two which are: His account of the death of Gen McNair by bombs from our planes. He infers that B 17's dropped those bombs. I was only about 150 yards away, and while I did not see him killed, I saw B 26's fly over his position and drop bombs. This incident was probably reported in the Stars nd Stripes, so with proper research, could have been authenticated.

Also, he reports on the death of Captain Minton. He took the word of another soldier, which is always suspect as to accuracy. Minton's name was James, not Charles. Lt. Klauz (Later Lt. Col.) and I were present and only about 10 feet from Minton when we were shelled at the 1st Battalion Command Post during a meeting just prior to the big break through near St. Lo. Neither of us was aware that 3 new Lts. were killed at that time - but it made a good story.

As to being a good researcher, as some have said - I cannot agree. Ambrose is National Director of the "D" Day Museum, and as such, should have access to the official records - such as the "After Action Reports." I have obtained some of those reports since I am writing my memoirs for my family. These are not for publication, but are backed up by official orders and pictures since there are a lot of skeptics out there - which there should be. Those writers who publish books which only include what they were told by others, cannot be sure of the motives of those he quotes.

Perhaps A. Whitney Brown in his book "The Big Picture" (Harper-Collins) said it best when he wrote -

"The past is what actually happened, but History is only what someone wrote down."

Unfortunately, years from now, people reading history will have no actual knowledge of what actually happened. This has happened many times, for hundreds of years, and will continue to happen.

Because of my location in Alaska during the summer months, I have been unable to attend the last two reunions. I will be 82 next year, but hope to get to one more reunion.

FLORIDA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

3 DAYS 2 NIGHTS CHAPTER MINI REUNION: The Florida Chapter will hold its 1999 Fall Chapter Reunion on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, October 29, 30 and 31 at the DAYTONA BEACH & CONFERENCE CENTER HOTEL, located on 2700 North Atlantic Ave., Daytona Beach, Florida. The Committee consists of Richard Baudouy, Chairman; Chas Van der Poel, Co-Chairman and Emil De Donato, Adv/Promotion/Publicity Manager.

The Oceanview (not Oceanfront) room rate is set at \$46.00 per night, double or single occupancy. Arrangements have been made to have a group dinner on Friday, October 29th at Julian's Restaurant ... a landmark place for family dining for more than a quarter of a century. Julian's Restaurant is located at 88 South Atlantic Ave. in Ormond Beach approximately 1 1/4 miles north of the hotel.

Immediately following the dinner the group will proceed to the DAYTONA BEACH PLAYHOUSE which will feature a COLE PORTER REVIEW show.

The Men's and Women's Auxiliary Meetings will take place on Saturday morning in separate rooms. Saturday afternoon affords several hours of FREE TIME to go sight-seeing; shopping; a walk on the beach; or relax by spending time visiting with friends in the Hospitality Room.

The Saturday Night Banquet will be held in one of the private rooms of the hotel. There will be live entertainment by Glenn & Sullivan. This duo will provide music for our dining and dancing pleasure a la 1940/1950 style.

The Hospitality Room will be ready by 11:00 o'clock on Friday and earlier on Saturday morning. Check-in time at the hotel is 3:00 P.M. however come to the Hospitality Room where Emil and Audrey will greet you.

Sunday Morning Full Breakfast starts at 8:00 A.M. This will be an ALL AMERICAN seated breakfast held in a private room. As in the past reunions, this function allows the members to share an hour or more together before saying our "good-byes."

REGARDING THE COST: The Reunion Committee worked very hard to make this Reunion very affordable. For two people, the Committee estimates the cost for 2 nights lodging, 2 dinners at Julian's Restaurant; 2 tickets to Daytona Beach Playhouse, 2 banquet dinners which includes entertainment, 2 Sunday morning breakfasts to run approximately \$198.00. (Single person will be less). All taxes, and gratuities are included. Donations for the Hospitality Room will be accepted but not compulsory. This is truly a BARGAIN ... just compare this program to other similar functions. Please make every effort to attend ... invite a family member or a friend and let's enjoy the camaraderie.

A printed program is being developed consisting of an Information Sheet, the Order Form, Tickets, etc. will be sent to the membership approximately 6 weeks prior to October 29th. Anyone else wishing to receive this mailing, please contact Emil De Donato at 3650 S.W. Mosswood St., Dunnellon, FL 34431, Phone 352-489-4070.

RICHARD BAUDOUY NOW ACTING TREASURER:

Shortly after the demise of Treasurer Philip Berman, all records, bank statements, plans for the Fall Reunion that Phil had made, were obtained from Barbara Berman. Fiscal and business order was maintained after going through a maze of boxes, files, papers, etc. by Emil De Donato and Richard Baudouy. Because Pres. Baudouy volunteered to act as Chairman of the Fall Reunion, it was only natural that he would take over the role of "Acting Treasurer" until a new Treasurer is elected. Until such time, all members are urged to send in their dues to Richard Baudouy, 515 Oakcrest St., Altamonte Springs, FL., 32714 Phone: 407-862-7157. Dues are needed to run the Florida Chapter. Money is needed for Postages, Telephone Calls, Stationery, Printings, organizing Chapter Reunions, etc. are just some of the items requiring money. REMEMBER: The Officers do not receive any compensation for their many many hours of hard work to keep this Chapter viable.

ROSTER UPDATE

King, Irving: Change telephone area code to 850 instead of 904

Langer, Jerome: Change address to 215 Imperial Southgate, Lakeland, FL 33803

Mellinger, Marlin: Change address to read: 2174 Evans Rd. Dunedin, FL 34698

Miller, Le Roy: Change phone number to read 904-471-0842

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY NEWS

Ruth King: A letter from Ruth stated she celebrated her 80th birthday with first cousins and friends. Over the years, the month of March has spelled trouble. In 1969 she had a bout with cancer then in 1992 Ruth suffered a slight heart attack and this past March, cancer showed up again. However, with "special plumbing", she is able to care for herself ... with the help from her husband Irv, her daughter, and a son. In a recent phone conversation with both Ruth and her husband, they said they are coping with the situation as best as they could. Your prayers, cards and perhaps a phone call will greatly be appreciated. The phone area code has been changed to 850 instead of 904. Their phone number is 850-997-3813.

Helen Mellinger: A note from her husband Marlin stated that they had a change of address to 2174 Evans Rd., Dunedin, Marlin and Helen are considering attending our October Reunion. We would love to meet both of you so just drop me a note after you read this Newsletter and let me know your situation.

Lotti Schacor: During a recent visit, Lotti said she was going to volunteer to work at Monroe Regional Hospital located in Ocala, Florida. Lotti looks fine ... even mows her own lawn. Lotti can be reached at 21528 Honeysuckle St., Dunnellon FL 34431 Phone: 352-489-5554.

9th Div MP

LOU VIVOLLO
2 Summit Ave.
Revere, MA 02151

Me and wife are fine and like to hear the same from you. I will miss you at the Memorial Mass. Time sure passes on, as we are hitting the deck, slowly, and surely. We will make it at the mass like I have been doing for the last of many years, can't count them. This 9th Div. annual reunion at Catskill, N.Y. came out one week after the Memorial Mass. So I have sent out some to some of the boys and I am keeping a few more when I make the mass. Dan, I live around 60 miles from the reunion at Hyannis, Mass and I can't even make it, sure busy with the grandchildren and many V.A. appt. but I am still in there punching. Hoping to see you later on. Good health.

60th Inf. 9th Div.

PAT C. WILLIAMSON
Lt. Col. USA (Ret.)
1733A 8th Street Dr. NE
Hickory, NC 28601

To keep the record straight for historical purposes my record of service with 60th Inf 9th Div is as follows:

1. Oct. 1942 - Joined 60th Inf Hq Co
2. 1943 - Joined K Co Plt Leader - 2 Plt & weapon Plt.
3. 1944 Normandy Commander Co I and Co K - promoted verbal order to Capt when Keene (Slick) Wilson promoted major on same order.
4. 1944 - Was S-3 - 3rd BN at Meu River when Bertoli was killed.
5. 44 became Ex o 3rd BN when Major Bruchac left.
6. 1945 - Jan was put in command of 1st BN when Lt Col Chatfield was wounded.
7. Feb. '45 - Was hit and was air evacuated to England. Promoted to Major - P304 Div history.
8. April 45 - Returned to both and reassigned as Co 1st BN served till war ended.
9. Was assigned as Co 2 BN 261st IN55 Div till sent 21 - turned 24 on Aug. 45 - on way home.

9TH MP

PRESTON STILLINGS
4600 McMillan Dr.
Bay Minette, AL 36507

It is time to renew again. I hate to buy a green banana these days, someone else might have to eat it. I will take a chance on three more years of the Octofoil. Two years ago during Hurricane Danny we flooded, six inches of water in the house. We did have flood insurance, so we dried out the house and sold it. We moved to Bay Minette, AL in March 1998. Both the wife and I have been in the hospital in the past year. My wife takes a lot of drugs, but I don't. Articles enclosed you might use in the Octofoil. The one about the truce I thought could have been soldiers from the 9th.

F Co. 47th Inf.

BOARDMAN F. LOCKWOOD
P.O. Box 85
South Casco, ME 04077

Sorry I won't make the Hyannis Reunion. Please pay my respects to all and regards to the "F Co CP".

84th F.A.

SAMUEL D. ROBINSON
Madrid Bldg. 1-D
400 Paradise Rd.
Swampscott, MA 01907

Sorry I missed the Hyannis reunion. I am in a cast up to my knee (ankle problem). We are only a few hours away, but had to cancel. Best to all the guys!

60th F.A.Bn Hqs Btry

MURIEL GRAY
GYRV Apt. 120
270 Ridge Rd.
Walmart, WI 53184

Thank you very much for continuing to send me the Octofoil. I'm sure I'll continue to enjoy it. I miss Lew very much as you can imagine, after 56 1/2 years. He was always proud of his service with the Ninth Division. He was buried with full military honors at Rines Grove, IL. I was particularly touched when Mike Belmonte gave him a smart salute just before the casket was closed. I am enclosing a card with my new address as of July 1. Thank you for publishing it.

2nd Bn 47th Inf.

JOSEPH A. SCARDILLI
105 Woods Rd.
Absecon, N.J. 08201

I just wanted to finally thank you for your serving as secretary and keeper of the keys for the Ninth Division Association. Your oversight of the Octofoil is very much appreciated and very reminiscent of the time we all spent together. (this lousy secretary - Just gave her three months off without pay and cut coffee time to 2 minutes.) Ethel and I have a condo in Scottsdale Arizona with 2 bedrooms, if you are ever in the area please get in touch with me at 602-451-5389. In February of 1996 we had a 50th wedding anniversary with 80 guests and one of the guests was our own Emil Langer who made regular visits to an adjacent town I cannot mention by contract being the richest guy there. According to my recollection Emil might be the poorest contributor to the AC economy, especially after returning from AC and contributing to our 50th celebration. I am not driving for now as a result of a major quadruple (4 for those that remember) bypass and a main valve leaking battery. This happened after (Italian) I must have returned from a 9th Div convention and a very enjoyable and excessive Beerfest and a few Polkas, about ten years ago. After recovery I was quite normal except for an occasional bout with Vertigo (I guess I was always Dizzy dreaming of riches to gain in A.C. In the summer of 98. I am now recovering from a major stroke in June of 98 and much to the delight of the other motorists I was forbidden to drive and I responded so that I may extend my honorary title of THE RICHEST MAN IN ATLANTIC CITY, COUNTY, ABSECON AND THE 9TH DIVISION) I just received a letter from the treasurer regarding the coming convention at the Briarcliffs in September. I will try to make it if I can arrange proper transportation. I'll close by saying Hi to all who will listen. Give my love to Marie (but don't tell Ethel.) Take care and if you got any money come down to South Jersey and make a contribution to my bank (Oh that lousy secretary) account. I hope you are reading both sides of the political story - things are not what they used to be. The trouble is KILROY WAS NOT HERE.

Co. F 60th Inf.

DONALD E. CROSS
2295 Strong Rd.
Phelps, WI. 54554

This letter to let you know my very good friend and buddy, Richard Nevens of Company F. 60th passed away on May 20, 1999. Rich and I escaped being captured by the Germans east of the Remagen bridge in the town of Lorscheid Germany after getting back to the C.P. we were interrogated. Richard went back to the company and was wounded a few days later. I was sent back to Chinney Belg. for so called battle fatigue treatment. It was 42 years later that we got together in Milwaukee, WI. at our 9th Division reunion.

Lila Stansell: A note dated July 1st received from Lila stated some good news and some bad news. The good news was that she had a successful cataract operation on her right eye. On the bad news side, she stated that H.F. may require a hernia operation and a slight nose correction. Lila is hoping and praying that they will be able to attend Co M Reunion in September and the Florida Chapter Reunion in October.

Erika Miller: 1999 has been a bad year for the Millers. A storm caused their roof to leak which had to be replaced. Then their air conditioning unit went dead. This was followed by their septic tank system requiring a new leach field ... which meant the better part of the lawn being ripped apart. Erika and Le Roy weathered these adversaries saying that they will not dampen their spirits to attend the October Chapter Reunion. (See you in the Hospitality Room early).

Virginia Driscoll: All attempts to reach you have failed ... hopefully you will see this notice. Please send me your Summer address so that I may include it in the new roster. Your phone number 727-842-6988 at your Florida address: 3213 Moog Rd Holiday, FL has been reported disconnected. Let me know whether you have moved. (Thanks, Audrey).

Women's Auxiliary Roster: A new Roster listing all names of women in the Chapter Auxiliary is being prepared by Audrey De Donato. All women of the Florida Chapter are urged to send in their name, address and phone number to Audrey immediately. A copy of the new roster will be handed out to all women attending the October 30th Auxiliary Meeting. Anyone wishing a copy is asked to make a donation of \$1.00 to cover the cost of postage and handling. Yearly dues for the Women's Auxiliary is a mere \$2.00 per year. Send correspondence to: Audrey M. Donato, 3650 S.W. Mosswood Street, Dunnellon, FL 34431. (Phone: 352-489-4070).

Here's How to Go About Writing for Information

Here's how to go about searching for Dad's War time record if he didn't return. There's no time like right now to write for your Dad's records.

The first record you should get is the record from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). This record will have the veteran's service number in it and also may have a social security number. It will also show designated next of kin and will contain marriage records and birth certificates. To get these records call (800) 827-1000. This will ring at your regional office. They will be able to tell you where your veteran's record is and where to write. Then write to that address requesting a complete copy of everything in their file. (Remember you are only eligible for these records if you are next of kin and the veteran was killed or missing in action.)

If you already have the selective service number, you will want to write to the National Personnel Records Center for the veteran's "jacket" right away also, but do this only after you have the selective service number. Ask for a copy of everything they have in your veteran's personnel records "jackets." Also ask for the "MED" records. (You must have a selective service number and ask for "MED" records specifically as they are only filed under the selective service number. These are not filed by name). Additionally, you can apply for any medals which you lost or never received. Write to:

**National Personnel
Records Center**
Military Personnel
Records
9700 Page Boulevard
St. Louis MO 63132

It takes a LONG time to get these records so the sooner you send-off the better. Many of these records were burned in a fire at the center in 1973, which may have happened in your case. But they will send proof of service. If you get lucky there will be much more. You can also apply for medals which have been lost or never received. Ask for a copy of the entire contents of their personnel record, or "jacket;" any medical records or copies of Surgeon General Tapes "MEDS"; any records they have regarding the award of medals.

Next, write for the mortuary records. These records were created to document the disposition of remains or to document why there were no remains. They have important information in them even if no body was recovered. They are especially useful if the personnel records were burned.



Placing of the Wreath at the Memorial Service are Herb Olson whose brother Gerard was KIA, 47th Inf. in Normandie and Charles McLhinney whose brother Walter was KIA in Germany.



Rev. Father Gerald Rowan offering his closing prayer at the conclusion of the Memorial Service. Shown also is Tom Boyle who acted as Master of Ceremonies for the service.



Members of the association are shown as they attended the Memorial Ceremony at the Hyannis Reunion held in May in Hyannis.



PRESCRIPTION FOR A LAUGH by John Curry

Just a line to say I'm living, that I'm not among the dead; though I'm getting more forgetful, and more "mixed up" in the head.

For sometimes I can't remember, when I stand at foot of stair, if I must go up for something, or I've just come down from there.

And before the "frig" so often, my poor mind is filled with doubt, have I just put food away, or have I come to take some out.

And there's times when it is dark out, with my night cap on my head, I don't know if I'm retiring, or just getting out of bed.

Members of the association are shown as they attended the Memorial Ceremony at the Hyannis Reunion held in May in Hyannis.

So if it's my turn to write you, there's no need in getting sore, I may think that I have written, and don't want to be a bore.

So remember — I love you, and I wish that you were here; but now it's nearly mail time so I must say "Good-bye dear."

There I stood beside the mailbox, with a face so very red, instead of mailing you my letter, I had opened it instead.

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



Lt. Col. Mark Reardon as he addressed the members at the closing night banquet of the Hyannis reunion. Reardon is an Army Historian writer who spoke of some of the battles the Ninth was engaged in Normandie.

POTSHOTS AND OTHER OBSERVATIONS FROM THE REUNION DUGOUT

This year, once again the 47th Infantry gang had the largest amount of registrants "on the boards" at the Cape Cod reunion; but the prize for the best showing by a company group, if there is such a prize, goes to the 15th Combat Engineers. B company had more men at the reunion than any other company in the entire Ninth Infantry Division. Well done, men.

And speaking of registrants by our reckoning at least three men neglected to sign-in. Our genial co-host, Tom Boyle was as busy as a bee seeing to our arrangements and "signing-in must have slipped his mind. Another non-signer was Pete Radichio, who was grounded for much too many hours in the Florida airport before his flight took off ... six hours late; and we have no idea why "Stumpy's" pal George Albert didn't sign-in.

On Sunday afternoon it was rumored that the hotel had two or three elevators in the building; but a scouting party led by Mike Belmonte and Father Jerry Rowan found that there was only one elevator, which the hotel relocated on a daily schedule to give the appearance of having more than just one. Wasn't that an old Army trick, shifting us around so that the Jerries would think that we were more than we actually were?

Didja know that on Cape Cod the basement level is marked as the first floor on the elevator panel, and the ground level is marked the second floor? Hey, it's their elevator and they can mark it anyway they want.

Our Sunday prayers for good weather were answered by a deluge on Monday and followed by a brilliant, sparkling crisp Tuesday morning in time for our outdoor Memorial Service. Just a bit too windy, but still a beautiful day. We even had two fly-overs during the service by the Barnstable airport "Puddle Jumpers."

Janet and George Brown again established a "E-F 47" CP. This writer luckily found it only once after many twists and turns through the maze of corridors in the hotel. On a second attempt I got as far as the lobby where I fell into "friendly faces." Was it a CP or an OP? Location, location, location ... next year you'll see.

Maybe if more of the 47th men who usually frequent that CP had been at the reunion then the CP wouldn't have seemed so lonely; as I looked around the room I was remembering all of those that were among the missing this year. If their absence means that they are saving themselves for next years "blow-out" that's a well and good, more power to them; but if their absence means that Mother Nature and Father Time are cutting down our ranks more than we would like to admit then all we can say is, "Chin up, God speed, and until we meet again we will pray for your well-being."

One thing that everyone in attendance will agree with was the fact that the reunion seemed to be almost over before we had hardly gotten started saying all of our hellos. I guess that's a sure sign that we all were enjoying ourselves and not watching the clock. "Time flies when you're having fun."

Ron Murphy posted himself in the hotel lobby on Wednesday morning to guide us "departees" and to point out the yellow brick road for us as we headed back to the Emerald City.

By the grace of the Almighty, may we all come together, hale and hearty, next May at the 55th reunion at Kutsher's Country Club in Monticello, New York.

Joe Killen, G-47

*** GOD BLESS AMERICA ***
*** SHOW YOUR COLORS *** FLY THE FLAG ***

ILLINOIS CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

First of all, we would like to thank the Reunion Committee for a job well done. Things ran very smoothly. The rooms were spacious and perfect. We sure did get our exercise going from place to place. The Memorial Services held in the Courtyard was very impressive. The Bag Pipers were an excellent addition to the services. The weather certainly cooperated. We were happy to see Fr. Rowan and that he was able to participate in the services. The music for the Reception and the following night was perfect for our group. We had a delicious meal for the banquet and enjoyed the speaker. Our thanks to the outgoing President Jack Collier for his contribution to the Organization. Congratulations to the new president, Marty Gross.

Although we were fewer in number this year (280), those present seemed to enjoy themselves. The Illinois Chapter was poorly represented this year. We were wondering what happened to Owen Sallee who hasn't missed a reunion in years. Upon our return home, we received notice that Owen passed away in his sleep on May 28th of Cardio Pulmonary Failure. Our deepest sympathy to his wife, Marge, and family. He will be missed - especially in Angola - He was my golf buddy.

We had sort of a luncheon meeting in June. Present were the Andersons, Hennemuth, David Heller, the Paulis and Belmontes. We gave them a report on the Reunion and advised them of the location of the reunion next year. Lord willing, we plan to attend.

The end of July, we will be going to a cookout at the Gaertners in Wisconsin. More on this in our next issue.

Angola, Indiana Out State Meeting

Our mini reunion will be in Angola, Indiana on October 5th and 6th at the Holiday Inn - Angola. Rooms will be \$62.00 plus 8% tax and reservations should be made directly to the hotel before September 21, 1999. Phone number is 219-665-9471.

The Illinois Chapter will be the hosts this year. The mini reunion is open to all Midwest Members and anyone who would like to attend. Angola is a beautiful town in the Fall. There are many outlet shops to visit. Hope to see a good turn out.

Not much more news this time. Stay Well! A special "HI" to the members of the S.Y.N. Club.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Belmonte
1161 South Lombard
Oak Park, IL 60304



BAGPIPERS LEADING FLORAL WREATH.

C Btry 60th F.A.
MRS. TED SZCZYGIEL
121 Maple St.
Everson, Pa. 15631

I know I should have sent dues sooner but please find them enclosed for three years. My husband Thaddeus (Ted) Szczygiel was a member of the 9th Association for quite a few years. It's been very difficult to write and let you know about losing him. He passed away quite suddenly Jan. 4, 1998. He was a radio operator with C Battery 60th F.H. from the African Invasion in Nov. 42. He was also in Sicily and the Normandy Invasion - D + 4 in army lingo. He was wounded on June 29th of '44 in Normandy. He had a long road to recovery. Spent many months in hospitals at the time and later. How does a gal married to this wonderful guy for over 51 years keep going without him?

P.S. Was good to read about W. Garbella - finally someone from Ted's outfit - like he said - where are the guys from C Battery, 60th F.A.?? I know Ted never wrote, either!

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

It was good of Capt. Otto to let us know of the deaths of Lt. Milton Marsh and Capt. Holt Rast. We hate to hear of the passing of our revered officers of B. Co. 15th Engineer Bn., but if we don't know we can't honor them, as we want. All three of these officers were much respected and liked, we enlisted men were lucky to have such fine leaders. Bob Aspel called me to let me know that we also lost another comrade in Ernest Newhart. Ernie was another fine soldier that came to Fort Bragg to help mold the Division in the early years. To Alice, his lovely wife, we send our condolences.

Enclosed is my donation to the Memorial Fund for three outstanding men. I was sorry, because of my health, I can not be at the 54th reunion at Cape Cod. I have very pleasant memories of two other reunions at Cape Cod, a very pleasant place to spend a reunion. Many thanks to people like Ron Murphy who laid the groundwork.

SEEKING

Dear Mr. Quinn:
John Sperry, with MRFA-9th Division, gave me your name, in hopes that you can help me. My brother, Raymond Hayhurst served in Company G, 39th Inf Regt, 9th Inf Div, from Fort Bragg, to North Africa, to Sicily, to Normandy. He was killed at Cherbourg, June 25, 1944, by a German sniper. He earned the Silver Star in North Africa.

I am very anxious to learn if histories of the 9th Inf Div and/or the 39th Inf Regt, 9th Inf Div have been printed; and, if so, how might I obtain a copy of them.

Any help you can give me in this regard will be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,
Edward J. Hayhurst
290 S. Pears Avenue
Lima, OH 45805

34th F.A.
LESLIE DAIL
1367 Blind Ridge Rd.
Magnolia, N.C. 28453

When I changed my address to the mountains of N.C. I never thought I would be changing it again, but here is my new address:

Leslie Dail
1367 Blind Ridge Rd.
Magnolia, N.C. 28453

Now the reason for changing again is that my lovely wife Bonnie has alzheimers and was advised to move near a family member. So we moved by my daughter. Bonnie is now in an assisted living home and doing pretty good, but it's still a terrible thing for the family. I've talked to Leon Birium of the 34th recently. Also Albert Willingham. By the way Albert had open heart surgery since Christmas seems to be improving. Jack Lammon and Ruth spent last March in Myrtle Beach, S.C. Also Al Bensit and wife were there this year. We got in touch and met at the Battleship, North Carolina and had lunch together along with my daughter Carolyn. Went over a lot of stories with Jack. What a guy. One of my favorite stories he told was the one in Sicily when we had to cross Gen. Patton sector to get to our new Gun position when Patton's M.P.s stopped the convoy because Pattons army had to wear neckties. Needless to say we did not have ties. So Jack made out a I.O.U. to Patton for \$5 per man and sent it to Patton. We went our way but can you see Patton's face when he received this I.O.U. Westmoreland and Gen. Eddy had fought it out with Patton. Dan, please print my address in the Octofoil as quite a few of us still keep in touch and as you know our post office doesn't forward much mail anymore.

47th Inf. I Co.
CLARENCE F. RAY
3461 Chestnut Ridge Rd.
Penn Run, Pa.

Enclosed find check to the memorial fund in memory of Vestal Lester, former platoon leader of the 4th platoon and later company commander of L Co. 47th Inf. Regret we had to cancel out on the reunion last week. Best regards to you and Marie. You do a superb job for the assn. and the Octofoil.

We didn't move. Just a new address for enhanced 911. Yours in comradeship.

SEEKING

Dear Mr. Quinn,
A friend of mine is seeking anyone that was a prisoner of war from December 17th, 1944 at Stalag #4 a or b. We are interested in hearing from any prisoner of war who remembers Frank Kim. He was a tanker with the 3rd Armored Division captured on the first or second day of the Battle of the Bulge. He has a heavy Scotch brogue. His accent might help to have him remembered by his fellow prisoners.

The family is interested in hearing from any one that remembers Frank the Scotchman with the strange last name. Any information no matter how little would be appreciated by the family. Contact me, Woodrow C. Gardella, 87 Norwalk Avenue, Whiting, N.J. 08759.

K Co. 60th Inf. Laser Div.
CHARLES W. FISHER
Meadow House
132 Trout Run
Arlington, VT

Since I have not noticed his name in the Taps column in the Octofoil, perhaps no one has notified you of the passing of Ralph H. Lassen, Capt, 60th Infantry Hdqtrs on 17 July 1998.

I had a note last year from his widow, Peggy, in Sanford, NC, in which she also enclosed a copy of the beautiful eulogy their son-in-law delivered in remembrance of Ralph.

"I regret to inform you that Mr. Ralph H. Lassen, died this afternoon at 3:30 p.m. eastern daylight time. He died of complications from lung cancer and other afflictions in Carthage, North Carolina.

Ralph was an Iowa and South Dakota farmer, a musician, an athlete, a soldier, a businessman, a bureaucrat, a patriot, the father of Priscilla, the woman I married and my friend.

I saw him yesterday to say goodbye to him. He was very distressed and frustrated that he could not talk to me. In his dignified Danish way, he solved the problem this afternoon by passing into God's hands.

Ralph was one of the last survivors of the 60th Regimental Combat Team (The Go Devils) who, as part of the 9th Infantry Division (The Old Reliables), invaded North Africa, (then walked across it with the Afrika Korps in the way), helped clear out Sicily, trained the new guys how to fight in the spring of 1944. He then landed on Utah Beach on D+2 to take on the Wehrmacht in the hedgerows of France, then chased them through Belgium, the Huertgen Forest, Aachen, and across the Rhine at Remagen. Ralph almost lost his leg there and was finally sent back home to us with his third Purple Heart.

I want you to know that we have lost a good man today, and we will miss him.

Please take comfort in knowing that he is still leading the way. When we get there, he will have on a light and a hearty welcome waiting for us."

The 84th Field Artillery of 54th Annual Reunion of 9th Infantry Division Association

For the first time in several years the numbers representing the 84th F.A. Battalion declined. The reported ill health of several wives of men in the Bethlehem Headquarters reduced total attendance.

Attendees were Bill Mauser and Dottie from Lake Worth Florida; Pete Rice from Kaufman, Texas; Walter Ricker and two of his attractive daughters, Jean and Linda, from Greenville, Tenn.; Newton Fields and his new bride Joetta from Virginia; Ed Winsch, New York; and Frank and Alia Haines from Ewing, N.J.

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

MAIL CALL

1st Bn. HQ Co. 39 Inf.

CHARLES F. WARNER
507 E. Main St.
Bound Brook, NJ 08805-2032
I am sorry I didn't write sooner. But the month of June was bad. Still have the shingles. It's bad, 2 years now. I was so bad I called for an ambulance to take me to St. Peters Hospital in New Brunswick at 2:15 in the morning. I was bad. I don't know if I got a overdose of medicine, because I went in to dreamland and was hallucinating, really bad. I'll tell you about it one of these days. I was in the hospital from June 8 to 22nd. I went in for the pain of right stomach muscle. But three cat scans only showed my prostate was bad and they operated on it and I can get along pretty good but not for the shingles. I will be out for awhile yet. I can't ride or travel from the operation. Put this in the paper. Tell the fellows I am still around. If I get better they will see me. I still want General Gunn's address, which you didn't send me. I've been seeing the Veterans Administrator in Raritan, N.J. But can't make it to the head in Newark. He is trying to get me some money, which they refused me in 1958.

Give my regards to the fellows in New York. I see the old gang is gone. Wish you could see the fellows. So let me know about things. I'll end now and will write again. I just turned 80 years old June 20th, still in the hospital by myself with a cake they gave me. Only had two visitors. Was bad for me. Like now in the hotel not many came to see me. I don't care. So long for a while.

2nd Bn. 60th Inf.
WYETT COLCLASURE
307 S. Washington St.
Kimmundly IL 62854

Renew membership, another three years. Use balance for Matt Urban memorial. There probably are not many left who remember when Matt first arrived at Fort Bragg. I am from tent city days 1940. Matt arrived, "D" 60 just in time for Carolina Maneuvers. "D" 60 commanded by Capt. Gus Gurletsky, 1st Lt. Charlie Fort was exto. I was the other 1st Lt. in "D" 60, Matt was the youngest 2nd Lt. of "D" 60. Gus was assigned as an interpreter for visiting Russian observers. (Gus spoke Russian), Charlie Fort commanded Co. "D" during maneuvers. I was assigned to Division G-3 as messenger to Corps G-3.

Matt was somewhat nonchalant, likeable, but serious when appropriate. At reunions when Charlie, Matt and I were present we managed to have some time for the three of us. His words, "three Co. "D" buddies," and we were! Have a great reunion; Time takes its revenge; for body abuse. Nila suffered a broken hip last winter and has difficulty getting around. Good luck, God Bless and I will see you all at the great Rendezvous.

MRS. RALTON M. SPEERS

5 Patricia Ave.
Albany, NY 12203-5207

Just a note to say I enjoyed the 54th annual reunion in Hyannis, Mass. on May 23-25th at the Four Points Hotel. The committee did a fine job. I was so pleased to receive a copy of "The Noble Ninth" a book of poems written by Joseph L. Rappazini of Mich. which he autographed for me. I want to thank him for his wonderful poems. He certainly is very talented. My best to you Dan and to Marie and the great time we had playing SYN card game with the girls.

9th Med Bn.

HERBERT STERN
12427 Old Oaks Dr.
Houston, TX 77024

I've been remiss in renewing my membership in the 9th Div. Assn. for 1999 - last minute family matters are preventing us from attending the Hyannis meeting. We'll miss seeing our friends. My contribution is wishing for a speedy, complete recovery of Lee Phillips. Best regards.

F Co. 60th Inf. 9th Div

GERALD M. LINDNER
9335 - 4th Place
Highland, Mn 46322

Cleaning out my desk for the upcoming millennium I encountered these papers of years past, collected and saved per usual, as an old infantryman would do. Perhaps they may be of some significant value for the Ninth history. I haven't been physically able to attend any recent reunions, however the past years I am in much better shape, for the shape I am in. Once again back to enjoying the sport of golfing and now bowling whenever possible. Travel at any distance isn't recommended for my wife and I.

SEEKING

Dear Mr. Quinn:

I'm trying to find information concerning my father's service in the 39th Infantry, 9th Division during World War II. He was a member of the Medical Detachment. His dog tag states the following: Arthur McMann, 32002894 T43, Evelyn V. McMann, 30 Elm St., Walden, NY.

I was told that he and his unit landed among the third wave at Omaha Beach on June 6, 1944. I was told that his unit was stationed for a time in Belgium.

I would like to learn more about his unit's war history as well as information concerning his individual military record.

Any help you can provide me will certainly be appreciated.

Sincerely,
James A. McMann
E Mail: jamcmann@aol.com
Snail Mail:
James A. McMann
15 Dena Drive
Blue Point, New York 11715
Telephone: 516-363-2313

Co K 60th Inf
JOSEPH L. RAPPAZINI
24001 Sherman
Oak Park, MI 48237

Dear Dan,

This writing is not a matter of choice! All morning I've been reflecting on the achievements of the Ninth, and unending warmth and admiration are the results.

I ponder and I ponder as I scan the names and places.

That kindle memories of hundred happenings and faces.

The feelings and responses around are always the same,

Because admiration for the Ninth will constantly remain!

Fears and anxieties that invaded each G.I.'s heart

Simply molded the comradeship that became of life a part.

Truly enough, these factors served to strengthen the bond

That promoted a fighting spirit that went far beyond -

The pledge that was made when men answered the call.

For, through each and all campaigns the "Doughboys" gave their all!

As the struggle progressed, still firmer ties were born,

Though the ranks of squads and companies were to be shorn.

In the hearts of the Ninth A profound, sympathetic link was formed!

When it was first conceived may not be known,

But, in the course of conflict, the seeds of victory had grown.

P.S. Memories here have been overwhelming.

J.R.

SEEKING

Dear Mr. Quinn:

My father fought in Europe with the 9th Infantry (France, Germany). His name was Warren Nichols, 60th Regiment, 2nd Battalion (I think) EASY Company. He was a machine gunner. Unfortunately he passed away 2 years ago. I was hoping you might be able to find anyone who knew him or refer me to someone who could. I have one item that you might be interested in. It appears to be from a battalion newsletter. It is titled SPORTSCASTING, Dated 27 July, 1945. My dad kept it because he was featured in the Softball section. The pitcher for Easy Co. was Feller, other players for Easy Co. listed are Gansman; for Fox Co. Van Summeron, Ferguson and I think Perigrin. I hope you find this helpful. If you'd like I could try and copy it for you. My dad told me a lot of stories and I would like to see if anyone is left that experienced them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Brian Nichols
188 Fartmouth
Toledo, OH 43614

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

Deadline for next issue Oct. 20th

Co. D 47th Inf
STAN BURNETT
4791 171 Ave
Bellevue, WA 98006

"The greatest 81mm mortar platoon in the U.S. Army". This platoon fired so many mortar rounds that the company kitchen truck carried a large supply of extra 81mm ammo over and above the basic load. The platoon even had its six mortars modified by the ordnance company. The ordnance experts drilled the base caps of the tubes and inserted set screws, allowing extra charges to be fired. This modification extended the maximum range of the weapons by several hundred yards.

While moving through France the platoon acquired two abandoned German 120mm mortars, and supplied them with ammo from roadside German ammo dumps. These weapons added to the platoon's firepower, and made the unit an even more effective support element.

One especially innovative technique employed by the platoon was the use of decoy positions. When moving forward to a new position, the platoon members would prepare the primary firing positions, while one mortar crew would take one mortar and a large supply of ammo by jeep and trailer to a preselected position which would be a likely spot for 81 mortars to fire from. The decoy position was always remote from road junctions or friendly forces positions. The mortar crew at the decoy position would fire several rounds at likely enemy targets along the battalion front, and immediately return to the primary position and set up the weapon for fire. It wouldn't take the enemy long, using crater analysis and frontline spotting reports, to locate the decoy position on a map. It was with great satisfaction that the platoon members would listen to the enemy counterbattery raining down on the unoccupied decoy position. Even when the platoon would fire later from its primary position, the first enemy counterbattery would fall on the decoy position.

Providing large volumes of accurate supporting fire for its battalion, turning their own weapons and munitions against the enemy, and tricking the enemy into firing vast quantities of its fast dwindling supply of munitions into an empty field should be enough to qualify this platoon as "the greatest."

I Had the honor and privilege of serving with the courageous and expert mortarmen of this platoon during the advance of the 9th Inf Div through France and Belgium to Germany. Names such as Buganski, Ottinger, Golden, Patire, Petrowski, Costa, Guarnieri, and Fennel remain in my fading memory, but there were many more outstanding men whose names belong in a Hall of Fame for mortarmen. God bless you all and keep you healthy wherever you are.

THE OCTOFOIL
412 Gregory Ave Weehawken, N. J. 07087
Publication No. 49230

Co. D. 47th Reg.
RONALD E. FRANK
R.D. #1 Box 82
Leechburg, Pa 15656

Enclosed you will find a picture of me, and my granddaughter 2nd Lt. Kimberly Ferguson a 1999 graduate of West Point Military Academy. Never did I ever dream that I would be back there, when we toured West Point in 1989. I was honored to pin a 2nd Lt. Bar on her shoulder as she requested me to do. To my surprise she gave to me her first salute as an Army Officer. Naturally I saluted her back. She also placed into my hand 2 new silver dollars dated 1995 and 1999. One for the year she went to West Point and the year she graduated. When she was little she would ask me if she could look at my medals, which I got out of a box in a drawer. Since then they have been put into a frame on the wall. Her picture is above mine, which we call our Military Corner. As the speaker said at the graduation ceremony, soon all the W.W. II vets will be gone. Our God and Lord was much emphasized at the Academy, which gives us some hope for the future. We are so proud of her, tears of joy flowed from our eyes, as we looked upon her in her Army uniform. Pray for our military people. Just had to tell you of our trip to West Point on May 29, 1999. And to share our joy with you 9th guys. Take care, and God Bless.

**New Jersey Chapter
New Jersey Attendees At
The 54th Annual Reunion
of the 9th Infantry
Division Association
Not All Present and
Accounted for**

New Jersey Chapter Members were not identifiable in significant numbers under the registration system of signing in only by military unit and not also State of residence.

Those recorded were Mr. and Mrs. Mike Wengryn, Passaic; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Gill, Somers Point; Mr. and Mrs. Albert Farese, Bernardsville; June (Mrs Herbert) Hoepfner, Piscataway; and Frank and Alice Haines, Ewing.

If there were other members of the N.J. Chapter in attendance who I did not meet, I apologize. I would appreciate having a note from them with address and telephone number so that I can maintain a record. I will try to obtain ladies' names from the Ladies' Auxilliary.

Frank Haines