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The Octofoil

9th Infantry Division Association

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The Octofoil, August/September/October 1999

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

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

Volume XLXXIV Number 4

Aug-Sept-Oct 1999

NINTH DIVISION WORCESTER MEMORIAL SERVICE

Sunday, October Twenty Fourth, 1999 was a beautiful fall day in Worcester, Massachusetts, as the men of the Ninth met for the fifty fifth year at the Immaculate Conception Church. In 1945, Father Conner called us together — to remember those men who had made the supreme sacrifice for their country. Now when we meet we not only pay tribute to those men but also honor all our comrades who are no longer with us. When one stops and thinks what a beautiful and meaningful thing this is, the act of Remembrance and the men of the Ninth have been doing for fifty five years.

Mass was celebrated by "Msg" Thomas Needham, the pastor. When Mass came to an end, the Worcester Police Color Guard stood in front of the altar with our flag, as the choir along with the Congregation sang our "National Anthem". Then "God Bless America" was sung by all and it certainly makes you feel proud to be part of these wonderful group of guys who never forget. Finally, taps were played and I must admit, as I'm sure it does to so many, it fills you with emotion and the possibility of a tear in your eyes.

Then it was outside to our beautiful memorial for a short service and then on to the Sheraton for our luncheon. At the luncheon, Herb Olsen was "Master of Ceremonies". Fran Maher spoke, then I said a few words, next came Dan Quinn, then the President of the Association Marty Gross with the final speaker being Tom Boyle.

In 1984 a Boston TV station did a Veteran's Day special that included a short piece about our Memorial Service in Worcester, MA. A neighbor taped the story for me, and I put it away with some other mementos of the Ninth Division. Recently, I got the tape out and have enjoyed watching it and once again hearing Father Connor's voice. The mother of my granddaughter's friends makes videos, and I talked to her about putting the news story together with some photos of Father Connor. The result is a twelve minute tape. The first part has photographs of Father with us during the War and in Worcester, MA, and the second part is the story from the Boston TV show. I have enjoyed seeing Father and thought some of you might like to see this as well. I can get copies made and send them to you. If you would like a copy, please send your address along with ten dollars to 44 Strawberry Lane, Situate, MA 02066.

Sincerely,
Ronald Murphy

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

It is both a privilege and a pleasure to serve as your 55th President and to lead this great organization into the 21st century.

Over a half a century ago we fought and died to preserve our freedom and values that are near and dear to all of us. It's nice that the media have finally realized we were "the greatest generation." As our ranks grow thinner, our memories dim, we will never forget our comrades both living and gone, who contributed so much to perpetuate "the American way of life."

We are looking forward to the millennium and hope to greet you all at our next banner reunion at Kutshers Country Club in the Catskill Mountains of N.Y. on May 2nd, 3rd and 4th. I hope you all will be able to attend and continue to carry on the comradeship and good fellowship that our organization stands for.

Happy holidays and good health to all.

Sincerely
Martin Gross, Pres.
100 Daly Blvd - Unit 415
Oceanside, NY 11572

TEXAS & THE GREATER SOUTHWEST CHAPTER NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

The National Board of Governors awarded the reunion for the year 2001 to the Texas Greater Southwest Chapter to be held in Houston, Tex. in May 2001. The Chapter had submitted a proposal for this reunion to be held in Houston in the year 2001 but a vote of the Board members was not taken because of some loose ends. Rather than hold a special meeting on the matter, Martin Gross, President, called a vote by mail and the majority of the members voted to grant the Texas Chapter the 2001 Reunion.

When was the last time you wrote a letter to our Mail Call Column? Just a postal card would denote your interest and let some buddy know where you are. You like to read what other members send in ... why not do your own part and write a few lines now and then for their enjoyment.

THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT ON MATT URBAN'S MONUMENT

Dear Members of The Ninth Infantry Division Association:

It has been a long time and your patience is appreciated. We are making progress and the monument should be in place before the cold weather comes.

At any rate, it will be too late to arrange a formal dedication program. We have decided to postpone the ceremony until April 1, 2000 during the "Cherry Blossom Time" in Washington, DC. We do believe that everyone will be pleased with the monument in our effort to honor a great hero and one of our own.

Keep that date in mind, April 1, 2000 because you all are invited to attend the Dedication Ceremony at the gravesite. (Grave 40 Sec. 7A at Arlington National Cemetery).

Once again, the committee expresses its deep gratitude to each and everyone who have contributed in making this "dream" come true. Without you it would never have happened.

Respectfully
John Bonkowski
The Matt Urban
Monument Committee
Peter A. Radichio
John Bonkowski

Sorry the latest Donor List was missing in our last report. We thank you and all who have contributed since then:

Walter Williams, PLAV
PFC James Pawlak PLAV
Post #169, Sterling Heights, MI.

Henry & Evelyn Golabiecki,
Co C 47th
Chester & Ayn Mikus Sr.
84th FA

PLAV National Department
Frank Siemaszko PLAV Post
#169

Edwin & Margaret Wisniewski Ser. Co. 47th

Mrs. June Hoepfner (Memory of husband, Herbert)
Co F 2nd Bn 47th

Bill & Iris Canales K Co 47th
(second donation)

Charles & Mary McLrinney
(Memory of brother, Walter
KIA with 47th)

Edward Romanek PLAV Post
#75, Dearborn, MI

Thomas H. McGinley,
Cannon Co 47th

Neil McNeil 9th Sig.

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



HEADQUARTERS FOR 55TH REUNION

Kutsher's Country Club
Monticello, NY

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

TUESDAY TO FRIDAY, MAY 2 TO 5, 2000

The lush, green Catskill Mountains, home of legendary slumbering Rip Van Winkle, will soon have a coverlet of snow during the coming winter months. BUT COMES SPRING—the snow will have melted and Rip Van Winkle will be rocked out of his 20-years' sleep into the New Millennium by the tumultuous gathering of the "Old Reliables," their ladies, and guests, at the 9th Infantry Division Association 55th Annual Reunion at the fabulous Kutsher's Country Club Resort Hotel, Monticello, New York.

While Rip still sleeps, the NY Chapter reunion committee and the Kutsher's staff are wide awake ironing out the myriad of details to make our reunion the most memorable—with outstanding accommodations, dining, activities and entertainment. Remember, there are no strip ticket charges: the inclusive price covers three meals daily, with delicious choices of fare, and special diets. Look over the accompanying particulars on the next page of the Octofoil.

Rip may still be sleeping for the winter, but you should get your reservations in now—before you forget—and lose sleep over it later!

The Free Amenities Include:

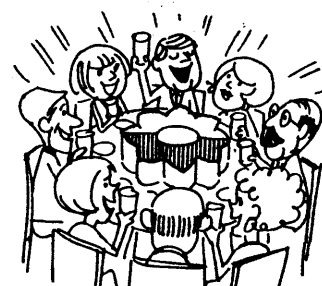
* Different all-star variety show nightly * Never a cover or minimum * Late night lounge shows * Discotheque music * Deep End Lounge for late dancing * Health and Fitness Center * Indoor swimming pool * Shopping Arcade * Valet car parking * Handball, Paddleball, Tennis * Golf * Shuttle bus to Apollo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

In Addition:

After dinner on Tuesday, May 2, there will be a one-hour Welcome Party with beer, soda, pretzels and chips, and an open cash bar—and we will 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



**Deadline for next
issue of the Octofoil
Dec. 20th**

THE OCTOFOIL

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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|---|---|
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| | 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.

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Publication #40282u

**STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP
MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION**
(Act of October 23, 1962: Section 4369, Title 39, United States Code)

1A. Title of Publication: THE OCTOFOIL. 1B. Publication No.: 40282u. 2. Date of Filing: Oct. 6, 1999
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| FOR COMPLETION BY NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AUTHORIZED TO MAIL AT SPECIAL RATES (Section 423.12 DMM only) The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for Federal income tax pur- poses (check one) | | |
|--|--|---|
| x (1) HAS NOT CHANGED DURING PRECEDING 12 MONTHS | | |
| 10. EXTENT AND NATURE OF CIRCULATION | AVERAGE NO. COPIES EACH ISSUE DURING PRECEDING 12 MONTHS | ACTUAL NO. COPIES OF SINGLE ISSUE PUBLISHED NEAREST TO FILING DATE |
| A. Total No. Copies (Net Press Run) | 2400 | 2400 |
| B. Paid Circulation | | |
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| C. Total Paid Circulation (Sum of 10B1 and 10B2) | 2250 | 2250 |
| D. Free Distribution | | |
| By Mail, Carrier or other means | | |
| Samples, Complimentary, and other free copies | 100 | 100 |
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| 2. Return from news agents | None | None |
| G. TOTAL (Sum of E, F1 and 2-should equal net press run shown in A) | 2400 | 2400 |
| 11. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete. | | |
| Daniel Quinn | | |

The 9th Infantry Division Association 55th ANNUAL REUNION
Tuesday to Friday - May 2 to 5, 2000
at
KUTSHER's
Country Club Resort Hotel
Monticello, New York 12701
(A photocopy of Reservation Form may be used if you do not wish to cut up
your Octofoil)

| | | |
|---|-------------------------------|---|
| 9th Inf. Div. Assn. | Room Reservations | May 2 to 5, 2000 |
| Name | Spouse Name | |
| Unit (Regt, Co, Btry, etc) | | |
| Street Address | | |
| City | State | Zip |
| Telephone (Home) | (Bus) | |
| Date arrive on | Date depart on | |
| If Other Than M/M, I will share with | | |
| Please state any special request: Handicapped, etc. | | |
| SEE NOTE BELOW if paying by Credit Card* Please give info: | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Express | <input type="checkbox"/> Visa | <input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard # |
| | Exp. Date | |

NO STRIP TICKETS REQUIRED!
ROOM RATES PER PERSON for A **MINIMUM** of a **3 night stay** which includes 9 full meals and gratuities for the Dining Room staff and the Chambermaid staff are as follows:
ACCOMMODATIONS (Please indicate):
.....Marquis (Ultra Deluxe)
.....Tower (Super Deluxe)
.....600 Section (Standard)

Attach additional note with following indications if desired. For those who wish to arrive early: The same daily rate will be in effect for up to two nights before the start of the reunion as follows:

| | | SINGLE | DOUBLE | TRIPLE |
|-------------|---------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Marquis | 1 night early..... | \$120 | \$ 95 | \$ 80 |
| | 2 nights early..... | 235 | 185 | 155 |
| Tower | 1 night early | 110 | 85 | 75 |
| | 2 nights early | 220 | 170 | 145 |
| 600 Section | 1 night early | 105 | 80 | 70 |
| | 2 nights early | 210 | 160 | 140 |

People who wish to stay only ONE night during the reunion can do so if space is available. The ROOM RATE plus \$20 for the ONE night early arrivers is the rate for this privilege. To extend your stay beyond the Friday exit time, the higher weekend rate will be in effect. Arrangements must be with the hotel management.

Make all payments by **CHECK ONLY** payable to:
9th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION REUNION Y2K

Mail the completed Registration Form with check to: Reunion Committee Chairman Joe Killen, 224 North Grove Street, Valley Stream, NY 11580. Deposits of \$50 per person will be accepted until April 1, 2000. Reservations made after April 1, 2000 will be subject to room availability. Cancellations made up to 72 hours before the reunion are fully refundable. Only checks payable to the 9th Inf Div Assn (tax-exempt organization) will not be subject to sales taxes. For more info call Joe Killen 516-561-7346. Balance upon checking out of hotel must be made also payable to: 9th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION REUNION Y2K

***CREDIT CARDS**-Reservations and **PAYMENT IN FULL** must be sent directly to Kutsher's hotel, as credit card payments are subject to the Sullivan County and New York State Sales Taxes of approximately \$40.00. For hotel information contact Kutsher's Country Club Resort Hotel and Conference Center, Monticello, New York 12701. Tel. (914) 794-6000 or call Toll Free 800 431-1273.

TRANSPORTATION

Public:
Scheduled Short Line Bus Service from Port Authority Terminal in Manhattan to Monticello. Charter Bus, Car Service, Private Limousine Service available. Call Kutsher's Service Desk for information.

Automobile:
From New York City and Metropolitan Area: (2 hours) George Washington Bridge to New Jersey Palisades Parkway to New York State Thruway North. Proceed on Thruway to Exit 16 (Harriman) and proceed on Route 17 West to Exit 105B. **Turn left at first traffic light onto ANAWANA LAKE ROAD—three miles to Kutsher's.**
From Long Island: Long Island Expressway West to Cross Island Parkway. North across the Whitestone Bridge to Cross Bronx Expressway to Major Deegan Expressway North to the N.Y.S. Thruway North to Exit 16. Follow directions to Kutsher's as above.
From Syracuse: Route 81 South to Binghamton. Take Route 17 East to Exit 105B. Follow directions to Kutsher's as above.
Buffalo/Rochester: New York State Thruway to Exit 36, Syracuse. Follow Syracuse directions to Kutsher's as above.

BY AIR
From JFK Airport: Van Wyck Expressway to the Whitestone Bridge to Cross Bronx Expressway to the Major Deegan Expressway North to N.Y.S. Thruway North to Exit 16. Take Route 17W to Exit 105B. **Turn left at first traffic light onto ANAWANA LAKE ROAD—three miles to Kutsher's.**
From La Guardia Airport: Grand Central Parkway to the Triboro Bridge to Major Deegan Expressway North to N.Y.S. Thruway North. Follow directions to Kutsher's as above.
From Newark Airport: New Jersey Turnpike North to Route 80 West to the Garden State Parkway North of N.Y.S. Thruway North. Follow directions to Kutsher's as above.
From Stewart Int'l Airport: Leave airport and turn left. At first traffic light make a left. Take 84 West to Binghamton Exit. Take 17 West to Exit 105B. Follow directions to Kutsher's as above.
Car Rental: Major car rental agencies are located at all New York Airports and Stewart Airport. Driving time from Stewart to Kutsher's approximately 50 minutes.

FLORIDA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

WRITER'S NOTE: For the past 21 years, Audrey and I have been visiting Richard and Lillian Manfredi in Sanger, California on alternate years. During the Manfredi visits to us in Florida, they attended numerous Florida Chapter and National Reunions. Richard Manfredi joined the 9th Division in Sicily and continued his service in Hq. Co. 47th Infantry Regiment until the end of the war. Because the deadline to get this newsletter into the OCTOFOIL by October 15th cannot wait until we arrive back in Florida, I find myself writing this column on and from the kitchen table at the Manfredi home in Sanger, California.

FLORIDA CHAPTER REUNION: On Saturday, October 3, President Baudouy phoned me in California to say that all indications pointed to a well attended reunion. All plans were finalized and members were sending in their Order Forms. Wally Richardson, who now resides in Indiana, will attend. Members will remember Wally as the Auctioneer who performed his skills at auctioneering at some of our past reunions. Wally moved from his Maggie Valley, North Carolina home to his new address at 843 Peppermill Run, Greenwood, IN 46143-8349. Please correct your roster to Wally's new address.

H.F. STANSELL: Lila and H.F. attended Co. M 47th Infantry Reunion in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee the latter part of September. They usually combine the reunion with a visit to H.F.'s brother in that area. It was at his brother's home that H.F. became sick causing Lila and H.F. to return to their Ormond Beach home earlier than they planned. Once home, H.F. checked into the hospital to have slight surgery. He is now at home recovering nicely. Both he and Lila hope that they can attend the Chapter Reunion.

RUTH KING DIED: After many years of battling cancer and other illnesses, Ruth King, 80 years old, passed away on August 27, 1999. Ruth was a remarkable woman. Despite her illnesses over the many years, she worked in her large garden in Monticello, FL, attended many Chapter Reunions and National Reunions with her husband Irv. She did her house chores and hardly ever complained. On September 18, 1999, a Memorial Service was held. Chuck Vander Poel and Richard Baudouy attended the service representing the Florida Chapter. Ruth's ashes were spread over the land of her favorite garden. May she rest in peace.

DOROTHY FLEMING DEAD AT 80: Dorothy was born on February 25, 1919 in Pittsburgh, PA. She entered into rest on August 29, 1999. The funeral services were held on Wednesday, September 1, 1999 at the Lakewood Church in Jacksonville, FL. Reverend John Nicolson officiated the services and the interment was at Greenlawn Cemetery in Jacksonville. Members of the Florida Chapter who attended the services were: Richard Baudouy, Charles and Dolores Vander Poel, Emil and Audrey De Donato and Joe and Dottie Williams. Arrangements were made by Hardage-Giddens Funeral Home, Jacksonville. May the Good Lord grant her everlasting life.

HELEN HULSLANDER: We received a note from Helen stating that she and her husband Bob spent a wonderful vacation in the Canadian Rockies this past Summer. Despite their many commitments and busy schedule, they will make an effort to attend this reunion. We were happy to learn that both Bob and Helen are feeling fine.

Michigan Chapter

The election of officers for the year 2000 was held at the meeting of October 9, 1999 in Angola, Indiana. The following officers were elected: Billie Martin, President; Roger Alsgaard, 1st V.P.; Barney Tobacco, 2nd V.P.; Ed Wisniewski, Secretary; Elmer Wagner, Treasurer; Barney Tobacco, Chaplain; Billie Martin, Historian; Tony Barnese, Sgt-at-Arms.

Grateful thanks to Roger Alsgaard for his many years of service as the secretary of the Michigan Chapter. He did an outstanding job.

The lack of attendance at meetings is causing concern. It was decided to hold four meetings a year: the Memorial Service in the spring, the August picnic, the October outstate meeting in Angola, and the Christmas party in Frankenmuth, MI.

The next meeting/Christmas party will be held at Fischer Restaurant in Frankenmuth, MI Dec. 8, 1999, at noon.

Respectfully submitted,
Edwin W. Wisniewski
Secretary,
Michigan Chapter
9th Infantry Division Assn:

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY NEWS

The Ladies Auxiliary respectfully dedicates this column and extends our gratitude to Ellie Tauber for her years of service in writing for the Ladies Column for the Octofoil, a true labor of love.

Ellie, we missed you this spring and look forward to seeing you both at Kutsher's, along with the many familiar faces, as well as new ones, who may well be able to meet us all in Monticello.

The Ladies Auxiliary in May 1999 was held at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Hyannis, Mass. Twenty five ladies were present. The meeting was called to order by our President Marlene Sanchez and opened with the flag salute, followed by Mary Layse offering the prayer.

The Treasurers report gave a balance of \$1,706.30. Victoria Cook suggested a donation to the Matt Urban Memorial Fund. A \$200.00 donation was suggested and approved by the membership.

Elisha Pintor was recognized for her efforts in the raffle tickets sale for the Pollyanna gifts.

The following funds were added to the Treasury: \$60.00 - dues; \$25.00 - donations; \$61.00 - Pollyanna ticket sales.

The elected officers for the year 2000 are as follows:
President - Felice Perna; Vice President - Jean Geary;
Treasurer - Lola Booth; Secretary - June E. Hoepfner;
Chaplain - Lucille Memoli.

June E. Hoepfner
2 Orchard Rd.
Piscataway, NJ 08854-5544

Directions to Kutschers Reunion

From Southern New Jersey & Philadelphia: (3 hours from Phila.) New Jersey Turnpike to Exit 11 Garden State Parkway North to New York State Thruway North. N.Y.S. Thruway to Exit 16 and proceed on 17 West to Exit 105B. Follow directions to Kutsher's as above.

From Allentown/Scranton, Pa: Northeast Extension of Pennsylvania Turnpike North to Route 84 East to Exit 4 West. Take Route 17 West to Exit 105B. Follow directions to Kutsher's as above.

From Boston and New England States: (4 1/2 hours fr. Boston, 3 hours fr. Springfield) Mass. Turnpike to Sturbridge Exit. Route 84 West to New York Exit 4W to Route 17 West to Exit 105B. Follow directions to Kutsher's as above.

DOROTHY AND NORRIS GRAY: A "Bang-Up" 4th of July was spent by the Norrises with their family in Miami. Although Norris says he is "retired", he maintains his status with NASA as a Consultant. Norris has been associated with the NASA agency for many years and traveled to many countries performing his duties. Dorothy and Norris attended practically every Chapter Reunion and many National Reunions as well. They plan to be with us for the Daytona Reunion on October 29 to the 31st.

EVA SANTOS: On June 3rd, a triple By-Pass operation was performed on Eva. During her recuperating period, the Veteran's Hospital and the Nursing Home gave their permission to have Henry transported to visit his wife at home. In a phone conversation with Audrey De Donato, Eva stated that she is feeling fine and well enough to continue her visits to Henry at the Nursing Home. Hopefully Henry will feel up to it to attend our get-together.

SEEKING NEW ADDRESSES: Anyone knowing the correct addresses of the following Florida Chapter members are asked to send them to: Emil J. De Donato, 3650 S.W. Mosswood St., Dunnellon, FL 34431. Invitations to the Florida Chapter 1999 Fall Reunion sent to their old addresses listed below were returned by the Post Office as undelivered mail.

Robert Bogert (18843 Wharf Dr., Hudson, FL)
William Brandenburg (521 N. Riverside, Pompano Beach, FL)

John Lammie (3636 Camtrel St., New Port Richey, FL)
John Patrick Hynes (3346 Ramblewood Pl., Sarasota)
Spiro Sareyane (726 W. Lescot St., Port Orange)
Cletis Wainwright (1112 Shirley Rd., Jamestown, TN)

DUES REMINDER: Please pay your National Organization dues through the Florida Chapter as we earn a small commission. Send your check to: Richard Baudouy, 515 Oakcrest St., Altamonte Springs, FL 32714.

WRITER'S P.S.: Audrey and I enjoyed our stay with the Manfredi's despite the fact that Lillian Manfredi fractured her hip over a month ago. She is able to get around with her walker to do some cooking and house chores. Richard Manfredi is an excellent "substitute wife". He cooks, takes care of his wife, and helps Audrey with the washing of dishes, serving and handling the duties of five different organizations which he is an officer. Lillian is recuperating well after her hip surgery of over a month ago. Although she cannot venture out at this time, she insists that Audrey and I go with Richard to Table Mountain ... a Casino outside of Fresno, California where we lost some of our hard earned money trying to beat the slot machines. Audrey and I plan to be at our Florida home on or about October 16th. A full account what took place during the October 29, 30 and 31, 1999 Chapter Reunion will appear in the next issue of the OCTOFOIL ... God Willing.

Emil J. De Donato
FL Chapter Relations Officer
3650 S.W. Mosswood St.
Dunnellon, FL. 34431
Phone: 352-489-4070

M 60th Inf.
ROBERT BOVANIZER
14 Sabre Park
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

We all had a great time in Pidgeon Forge. We had 13 men and 12 women and a couple of guests. Our accommodations were very adequate. Our room fee included an expanded breakfast and a great Hospitality Room. We planned an evening meal together on Wednesday and went to Denny's back room. We shared lunch in the Hospitality Room every day.

At the mens meeting we all agreed we had overdone Pidgeon Forge, so Jim Snyder and his committee will choose another site for September 2000. The men also voted to stop the \$25.00 Memorial gift for a deceased man. So as of this time just cards to the deceased members family would be a nice gesture. That is as of September 1999

ILLINOIS CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

We had a cookout at the Gaertners in Wisconsin the end of July. It was good getting together as many of the Illinois members could not attend the last National Reunion in Hyannis. We welcomed newcomers, Edward and Ann Tyszka, "M" Co., 60th Inf. of Wisconsin. Also present were the Andersons, Apels, Clausers, Gaertners, Hellers (who were gracious enough to pick up Wanda Preston and Muriel Gray on the way), Hennemuths, Paulis, Irv Terchak and the Belmontes. Howard and Gordon did the cooking on the grill and the side dishes and desserts were provided by the others. Before leaving, the Gaertners presented us with Christmas in July gifts. A good time was had by all and the weather was beautiful.

In September, we held a luncheon meeting with the Andersons, Elmers (Doris Elmer is recuperating from double knee surgery and doing well. They're looking forward to going to Florida for the winter), Hennemuths and Belmontes. We discussed plans for the upcoming Memorial Services to be held in Walworth, Wisconsin for Ted Preston.

On September 18th we attended Memorial Services for Ted Preston which were jointly conducted by David Heller and The American Legion Post Commander of Walworth, Wisc. Many of Wanda's family and friends were present as well as the Illinois Chapter. The Legion furnished the Color Guard, Rifles and the Bugler for Taps. The Commander offered the privilege of shooting the rifles to our members but everyone refused. It was a beautiful service and afterwards, we returned to Wanda's home for lunch.

We just returned from our Mini-Reunion in Angola, Indiana. The colors are just beautiful this time of the year. We only had 39 people this year with many of the regulars missing. David Heller is having some medical treatments and was unable to attend. Jack Collier unfortunately broke a bone in his leg which prevented him from driving. Owen Sallee's widow, Marge, came. We were happy to see her. We were delighted to see the men from the 39th "K" Co. along with their wives. They came from Minnesota, Iowa, Ohio and Pennsylvania. As per usual, there were enough snacks and light liquid refreshments. Our thanks also to Barney Tobacco and his wife Helen for supplying pumpkins, squash and peppers along with a good number of ghords. The ladies took their annual trip to the shopping malls and we even had a threesome for golf.

At this time we would like to wish everyone a Very Happy Thanksgiving and though it seems too early, Best Wishes for a Happy Holiday Season and Happy and Healthy New Year to all.

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

Co. B 9th Medics
PETER A. RADICHIO
PO Box 1541

Homosassa Spg., FL 34447
I was notified by Fred Deck Company 9th Medics that they were having services at Bay Pines Cemetery, Florida. Margie and I went to pay our respects to our 9th Div. comrade. I would also like to inform the guys in Company C to drop Fred's wife a note that Fred lay to rest. Plus members of the 9th Medical Battalion drop a line or two about Fred. Remember, we are getting up in years. Always think of the good times as our lives are getting shorter. God Bless you all.

Here I am, back again hoping you and Marie are doing well. As for myself a little problem but I am living one day at a time. I have to live with what I have. (That's life). At this time I would like very much to mention names that made a very important decision to donate their generous donation toward Matt Urban Memorial gravestone. I want to thank you all as we do need people like you. We are near the top, please don't let up as we need a little more to reach the top. Thank you and God Bless.

Now the following names will be mentioned.

Joe F. Eska, Kiakusy Post #87, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Goodwin, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Coppelino, Mr. and Mrs. J. Coopel, Mr. and Mrs. Talorico, Mr. G. Fasano, Mr. W. Colchusure, Lt. Col. R. Cooley, 9th Med. Bn. donation, Mrs. L. Booth c/o 9th Div. donation.

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

New York Area Chapter Meeting

On October 15, 1999 the NY Chapter met at Masonic Hall, 71 W. 23rd Street in Manhattan at 7:30 PM. Chapter President Joe Killen opened the meeting with the members pledge of allegiance to the flag, invocation and a moment of silence for our departed comrades. Minutes of the Friar Tuck meeting was read and Al Zenka gave the financial report.

Correspondence was read from Mrs. Frank (Elizabeth) Kobalak who was recovering with cardiac therapy. Tony DeRobertis wrote from his new home in the Poconos, Pa. that he was wearing a pacemaker following his heart attack recently. Antoinette Mastangelo asked for help in getting survivors benefits after husband Peter died. Al Zenka reported that when he went to pick up Secretary Art Schmidt for this meeting Art was not well and could not leave his home. Zenka also noted that our past treasurer Charlie Vandermark had lung cancer and had been transferred from the Northport Veterans Hospital on Long Island to a hospice. (On Saturday, Oct. 16, Charlie passed away). The Chapter sends heartfelt condolences to the Vandermark family. We also send well wishes to our ailing members of the 9th family and hope for brighter days ahead.

On new business Prez Killen made a recommendation that we hold our annual Chapter Christmas party on a Sunday instead of our usual Friday night after-meetings so that our ladies could attend. He reported Niedersteins in Queens could accommodate us on December 4, 1999 and ladies were invited. The membership applauded the suggestion and the motion was unanimously approved. More details will be in the mail shortly.

Committee chairman Killen reported that preparations for the 55th reunion at Kutsher's was going ahead. After some other business meeting was adjourned and we partook of the hospitality table set up by Al Zenka.

Other members attending not mentioned above: Ed Harris, Marv Levy, Gene Magidson, Joe Maiale, Joe Rzesniowicki, Herminio Suarez, Dan Quinn and Adolph Wadalavage.

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

M Co. 47th

The following explains my absence in the last Octofoil and, on the basis of complaints from the M/47 lads, I'd better be in the next one or else???

M Company (47th) Chronicler

Dear Compadres:

On February 28 last, my darling bride of 57 years had a stroke. Three hospitals later we brought her home to a new place without stairs. She's wheelchair bound for now and the old place with its three flights just wouldn't hack it any longer. We're uptown now, nearer the doctors and ambulances, but I miss the old digs. After all, it was the birthplace of the 9th Div. "battle books" to say nothing of the Eddy opus.

For all the family crises, we're plugging along with "Eddy." The last chore is to produce an index and that's what's going on now. The editor says that if we wrap it up shortly we should be in the bookstores next February.

I'm sorry we couldn't be at Hyannis. Joe Kocenaitis has written that he was the only M-er to make an appearance. He was, a very lonely fellow.

So it goes. I hope that when the last man checks out of the last reunion - Dan Quinn, no doubt - he remembers to turn out th lights.

Hasta la vista
Red Phillips
184 Northridge Drive
Grass Valley CA 95945
(530) 272-7268

Octofoilers with computers and access to the Internet can find the announcement of Red Phillips' forthcoming publication, The Making of a Professional: Manton S. Eddy. Lt. Gen. USA.

Click on "greenwood.com" and look for "shopping cart." It's listed among "contributions to military studies."

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:

Charles McLhinney - In memory of Edward Hopkins, F Co. 47th Inf.

Ernest Micka - In memory of Milton Marsh, Holt Rast, Ernie Newhart and Tony SanGiacomo, all from B Co. 15 Engrs.

Benjamin Kovacs - In memory of Al Bravin, Hqs. 47th Inf.

Mrs. Curtis Hoffler - In memory of Ed Hopkins

Allie Ferrante - In memory of Holt Rast, Milton Marsh, Tony San Giacomo, Tom Reith, Ernie Newhart, B Co. 15th Engr.

George Brown - In memory of Ed "Hoppy" Hopkins.

John Bonkowski - In memory of Ayn Mikus, wife of Chester Mikus, 84th F.A., Percy Hough, A Co. 39th Inf., John Zulkiewski, 47th Inf., 2nd Bn. Co. F & Hqs.

Mary Sander - In memory of husband, Kurt, 9th Recon Edward Drabik.

Raymond Gilbert - In memory of Hank Chiarini.

Helen Holmes - In memory of husband, Joe Lagattuta, K Co. 47th Inf.

Pete Radichio - In memory of George Stein, Ernie Bartroff, Eddie Sypniewski and Joe Todarello, all B Co. 9th Med.

Irving King - In memory of his wife, Ruth.

William Haas - In memory of George Stein.

Joseph Killen - In memory of Phil Emmons, Fr. "Flip" DeLaura and Vincent Guglielmino.

Jerome Sypnieski - In memory of those from L Co. who lost their lives overseas, especially 1st Sgt. Warm.

Anne Hennen - In memory of husband Maj. Gen. Norbert Hennen.

Donald Hyde - In memory of George Stein, B. Co. 9th Med.

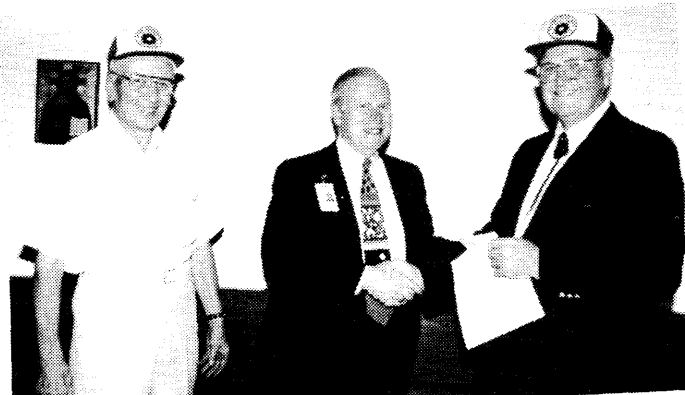
Dolores Bauman - In memory of husband, John Bauman, B, Co. 39th Inf.

"APPRECIATIVE"

On behalf of the Aleda E. Lutz VA Medical Center, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to you and the members of your organization for the donation of \$300, which was deposited to the GPF Unearmarked Account.

Your interest and support of our hospitalized veterans are deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,
Menahem Lender, M.D.
Acting Medical
Center Director



Rodger Alsgaard of the Michigan Chapter sends this photo of Tom Hatton, President of the Michigan Chapter presenting a check to Robert Sabin, Medical Director at the Lutz VA Medical Center in Saginaw Michigan from the National Association. Elmer Wagner witnesses the event.

Mrs. Mary Sander
44 East Harwood Terrace
Palisades Pk, NJ 07650
Dear Mr. Quinn,

It is with deep sadness that I'm informing you of the passing of my beloved husband Kurt on July 15, 1999. He was diagnosed with inoperable lung cancer on April 23rd. He didn't even make three months after that. He is deeply missed. Please include his name in your "Taps Sounded" column.

Kurt kept in touch with a few of his comrades mostly at Christmas with cards.

"Cappy" Capobianco, who attended most of the reunions, always kept Kurt informed of the happenings, and also sent pictures of the reunions, which Kurt enjoyed.

I have written "Cappy" a letter informing him of Kurt's passing.

I never met your wife Marie, but I do know, she is indeed a popular lady. I heard a lot about her at the Louisville reunion, which she was unable to attend.

You both do a wonderful job with the Octofoil. Kurt would pass it on to me, after he finished it. I would like to continue to receive the publication.

Thanks Dan and Marie for all your hard work. Good health to you both.

(Enclosed is a check for the Memorial Fund in memory of Kurt).

Co. B - 15th Engrs.

ALLIE FERRANTE
35 Cove Avenue
Framingham, MA 01702

Enclosed are my dues for the year 2000, as well as a donation to the Memorial Fund in memory of Co. B-15 Engrs. who passed away during the year: Holt Rast, Milton Marsh, Tony San Giacomo, Tom Reith, and Ernest Newhart.

Margie and I are doing fine and look forward to reuniting with friends at the 2000 Reunion at Kutchers in the Catskills.

Our company always had a good attendance and this one should be better.

B Co 15th Engrs

ERNIE MICKA
114 Spring Garden Dr.
Louisville, KY 40218

I'm not sure if I'm 6 months late in my dues or if I'm paying up 6 months ahead of time, but either way, the enclosed check is to extend my membership another 3 years with the remainder going to the Memorial Fund in memory of the following men from "B" Co., 15th Engineers:

Milton Marsh, Holt Rast, Ernie Newhart, Tony San Giacomo

THE OCTOFOIL
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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.

Mario "Dewey" DiFillippo
39th A.T. Co.

Richard Nevens
F Co. 60th Inf.

Al Bravin
Hdqs. Co. 3 Bn, 47th Inf.

James Rubizzi

Francis Brusic
D Co. 47th Inf.

Thomas Rumore
9th Med 47th Inf.

Calvin Polivy

Kurt Sander
9th Recon.

George Stein
B Co. 9th Medics

Ruth King
Wife of Irving King, Co. B 39th Inf.

Joseph Brody
39th Med.

Edelbert Dow
49th Inf.

Major Gen. Norbert Hennen
60th Inf.

Paul Grimm
L or K Co. 60th Inf.

Jane Bentley
Wife of George Bentley B Co. 47th Inf.

Charles H. Pitney
84th F.A.

Herb Clark
60th Inf.

Carl Sigle
9th F.A.

Charles Vandermark
Can. Co. 39th

Helen Tobacco
Wife of Barney Tobacco, 60th Inf. Hdqs. Co.

