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The Octofoil

9th Infantry Division Association

8-1-2003

The Octofoil, August/September/October 2003

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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Recommended Citation

Ninth Infantry Division Association, "The Octofoil, August/September/October 2003" (2003). *The Octofoil*. 351.

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THE OCTOFOIL

224 North Grove Street, Valley Stream, N.Y. 11580

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Volume LVIII Number 4

Aug.-Sept.-Oct. 2003

Worcester - 2003 "Lest We Forget"

We who call ourselves the "Friends of Father Connors" shall meet again in praying for our dead on Sunday, October 19, 2003 at the ten o'clock Mass at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Grove Street, Worcester, Mass.

We will also remember in our prayers the men that wore the Octofoil, returned home with us and have now gone to their eternal reward. A service will follow the Mass at our memorial on the church grounds to honor the dead (4,581) that are listed on the Microfilm set into the wall of our memorial.

We will sponsor a luncheon at the Holiday Inn, 500 Lincoln Street, Worcester, MA 01605 at 12:30 P.M.

As our good friend Tom Boyle had always stated,

"We will have you on your way home 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 by Sept. 21st, 2003.

The phone number is 1-508-852-4000.

Reservations for the luncheon must be made payable to

"Ninth Infantry Division Association"

at a per person cost of \$20.00 and mailed to

Herbert E. Olsen

P.O. Box 845

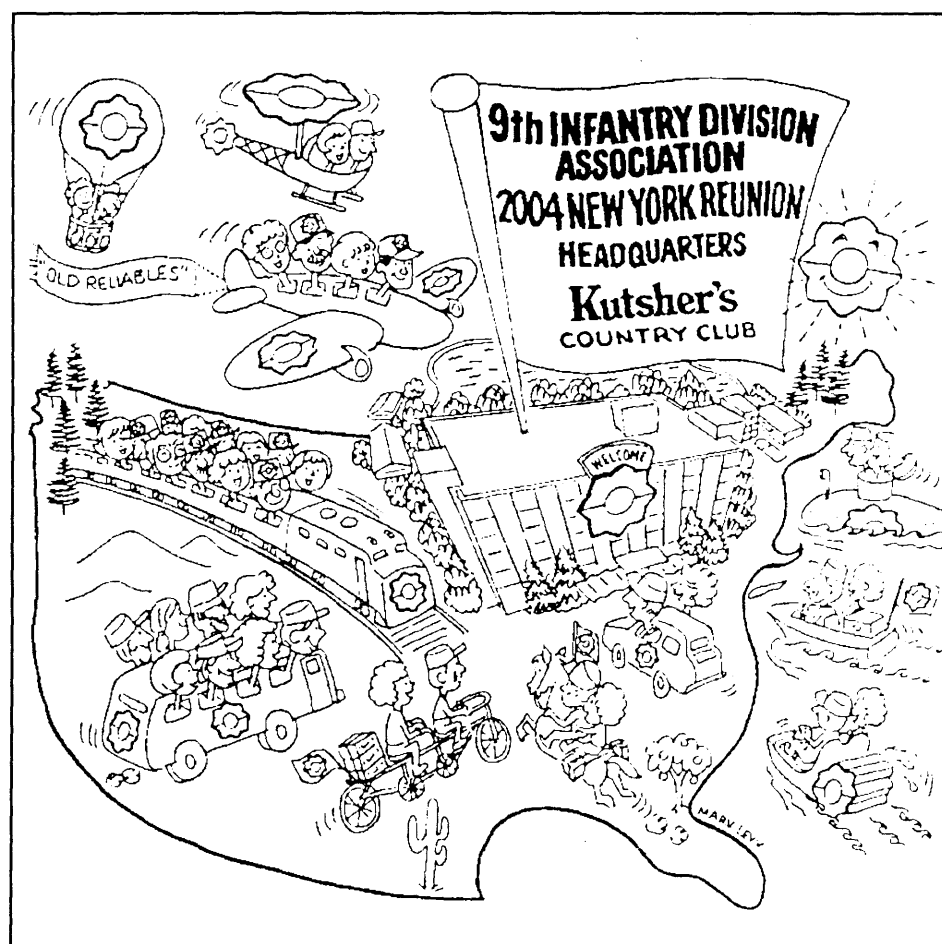
Marstons Mills, MA 02648

Should you have problems, please call 1-508-420-3320

The CP room will open Saturday afternoon, October 18th.

Tom Boyle - Fran Maher - Ron Murphy
Herb Olsen

PS:- Father Bill Champlin has replaced our friend, the late Msgr. Needham as pastor of the Church of the Immaculate Conception.



HEADQUARTERS FOR THE 59TH REUNION

**Kutsher's Country Club
Monticello, NY**

**The Catskill Mountains
will extend greetings to
The 9th Infantry Division
Association**

**MONDAY TO THURSDAY,
MAY 10 TO 13, 2004**

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 COME SPRING - the snow will have melted and Rip Van Winkle will be rocked out of his 20 year sleep as the mountains echo to the tumultuous gathering of the "Old Reliables", their ladies, and guests, as they kick back at the 9th Infantry Division Association's 59th Annual Reunion at the world famous, fabulous Kutsher's Country Club Resort Hotel, Monticello, New York.

While Rip still sleeps, the 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 attention to special diets, if you alert the staff to your needs. Look over the accompanying particulars on the next page of this Octofoil.

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

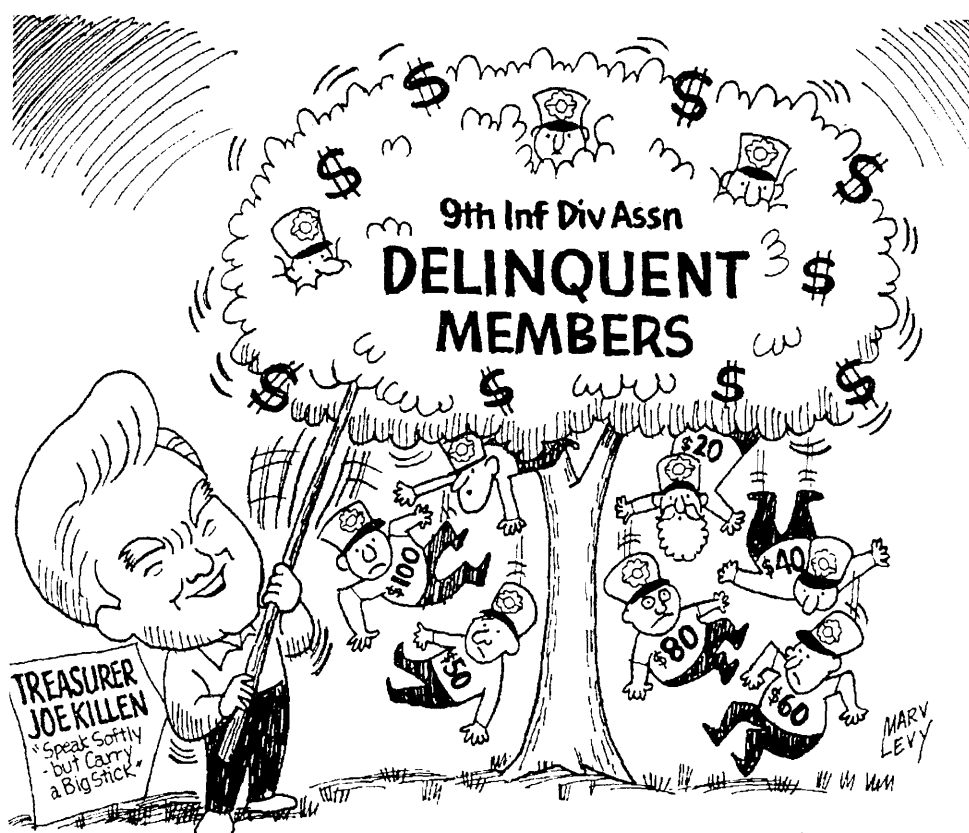
The Free Amenities Include:

- * Different all-star variety show nightly
- * Never a cover or a 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 Monday, May 10th, there will be a one-hour Welcome Party with beer, soda, pretzels and chips, and an open cash bar. We will have a lavish complimentary cocktail party with open bar and hot and cold hors d'oeuvres on Wednesday prior to our banquet.

Look for more details of "What's cooking" in the next Octofoil.



224 North Grove Street, Valley Stream, NY 11580
Editor: Joe Killen • Editor Emeritus: Dan Quinn

Bay City, MI 48706

1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 26

100

Somers Point, NJ

George H. Brown
Toano, VA

Gladstone, MI

Aug. - Sept. - Oct., 2003

Life Membership a one time fee of \$75.00

Chapter to be designated:

Philadelphia - Delaware Valley	Greater New York
Michigan	Illinois
Florida	New England
Texas and the Greater South West	New Jersey
Washington, DC and Mid-Atlantic	

224 North Grove Street, Valley Stream, NY 11580

(A photocopy of the Registration form may be used if you do not wish to cut up your Octofoil.)

9th Inf. Div. Assn. Room Reservations
May 10 to 13, 2004

Name _____ Spouse's Name _____

9th Div. Unit (Regt., Co., Btry.) _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone (Home) _____ (Bus.) _____

If Other than M/M, I will share with _____

Please state any special requests _____

Yes, I would enjoy a GOLF OUTING _____ No, I do not care to join the golfers _____

ROOM RATES PER PERSON for our 3night stay which includes 9 full meals and gratuities for both the Dining Room Staff and the Chambermaid Staff are:

ACCOMMODATIONS (Please Indicate)	SINGLE	DOUBLE	TRIPLE
_____ Marquis (Ultra Deluxe) _____	\$370.00	\$295.00	\$280.00
_____ Tower (Super Deluxe) _____	340.00	275.00	260.00
_____ 600 Section (Standard) _____	325.00	260.00	245.00

People who wish to stay ONE night only during the reunion can do so if space is available. The ROOM RATE above divided by three plus \$20 for the ONE night is the rate for this privilege.

Kutsher's will accommodate members who reside in the vicinity and wish to partake of meals with the hotel guests. Visitor Meal Rates for Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner are reasonable and all visitors must pass Kutsher's security checkpoint with Identification as requested.. For visitors who wish to attend both the Cocktail Hour and the Banquet arrangements must be made with the hotel management on a strictly CASH basis.

TRANSPORTATION and DIRECTIONS

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 on to 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 N.Y.S. Thruway North to Exit 16. Follow directions to Kutsher's as above.

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 Route 17 West to Exit 105B. Follow directions to Kutsher's as above.

From Boston and New England States: (4 1/2 hours from Boston, 3 hours from 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.

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 Syracuse: Route 81 South to Binghamton. Take Route 17 East to Exit 105B. Follow directions to Kutsher's as above.

From 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 17 West to Exit 105B. Turn left at first traffic light onto ANAWANA LAKE ROAD - three miles to Kutsher's.

From LaGuardia 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 to Route 80 West to the Garden State Parkway North to 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 Route 84 west to Binghamton Exit. Take Route 17 West to Exit 105B. Follow directions to Kutsher's as above.

Car Rentals: Major car rental agencies are located at all New York Airports and Stewart Airport. Driving time from Stewart Airport to Kutsher's is approximately 50 minutes.

TIP OF THE HAT

Remembering the Memorial Fund and their buddies who have answered their last Roll Call, we thank the following members and friends.

Mrs. Mary McCutcheon in memory of her husband Harold McCutcheon of Serv Btry, 34th F.A.

Bill Van Ryn in memory of his Dad, George M. Van Ryn of Co. G 47th Inf. KIA (6/20/44)

Mrs. AntoinetteMastrangelo in memory of her husband Peter Mastrangelo of Co. B 47th Inf.

Jack A. Collier in memory of Benny Murell, the "Fighting Medic" of the 39th Inf.

Joe Williams in memory of Walter O'Keeffe of Co. E 47th Inf., Warren Evans of Co. A 47th Inf., Robert Hulslander of Co. L 47th Inf., Henry Santos of Co. A 15th Eng.

Bill Van Ryn in memory of James E. Miller of 3rd Bn. Hq. Co. 39th Inf..

Olido (Bill) Starro in memory of Angelo Ferrara and John Dragusiak, both of Co. G 39th Inf.

George H. Brown in memory of Benny "the Bomber" Murell, medic with the AAA-O

Mrs. Rosamae N. Mooty in memory of her husband, W. H. (Bill) Mooty of Co. E 47th Inf.

Samuel D. Robinson in memory of the "Old Reliables" who have gone on before us.

John Bonkowski in memory of Eugene Korth and Albert O. Fullerton, both of the 9th Recon .

Anti - Tank Co. - 39th Inf.

Charles K. Doble, Jr.
John Doble



My father, the late **Charles K. Doble Jr.**, served in the 39th Infantry of the 9th Division where, among other things, he played gui-

photo was taken. In trying to reconstruct events at the end of the war, my guess is that the photo was taken at the work camp at Nordhausen in the Harz Mountains, and that the Nazis murdered these people just before retreating from the rapidly advancing US forces. Could you please publish this photograph in your paper and help me learn more about it or about my father?



Nordhausen K.L. April 1945

tar in the band. He died in 1992. Not long ago, my brother and I were going through his things when we found a negative, which I subsequently had developed and have enclosed.

As you can see, it is a photo of dead bodies , suggesting these people were killed shortly before the

My Dad was awarded a Bronze Star Medal and a Purple Heart Medal, among many other medals and decorations, and I want to make sure that his grandchildren and great-grandchildren know about the sacrifices he made for freedom and his country.

Sincerely, John Doble

Ladies Corner

Ladies Aux. President Jean Geary has consented to allow us to make use of her space in this issue. She will return with her usual column in the next issue.

On behalf of the members, Thank you , Jean, for sharing.

“WHAT’S COOKING ON THE BACK BURNER”

A look at up coming issues

An award winning article about our Artillery charging to Thala, written by Robert C. Baldrige of the 34th Field.

An article about life in the 15th Engineers in North Africa, written by Charlie Hoffman of Co. B - 15th Eng.

An article about life as a rifleman and a combat medic (the same man qualifies to wear both badges) in Chester H. Jordan’s Co. K - 47th Inf. The man who writes is Dr. George Nicklin.

Information about the 60th Anniversary Celebration planned for Normandy by the citizens of France.

Information on how to obtain your Army records without worrying about the big fire in St. Louis, thanks to Ronald M.A. Hirst.

An article about the 15th Engineers working in a mine field while in Sicily, as told by Charlie Hoffman.

An article on our “favorites” Bill Mauldin and Ernie Pyle, written by George H. Brown.

Photographs to remember our past, some happy and some sad, and some more recent of our happy reunion days.

Chapter reports, and articles from the K and M Company scribes, if we are lucky.

A listing of where and when we held every one of the 59 reunions submitted by the Illinois Chapter, as soon as I correct some of the locations given in error.

Our interesting news, notes and letters, by the score from our buddies all across our beautiful country.

However, if your dues are not paid, you will not get to see how it all turns out. “It’s time to decorate the mahogany.” That’s Irish for pay up your debts.



M. Russel Bassel, being decorated by General Craig in Belgium on November 5, 1944.

TAPS SOUNDED

O Lord support us all the day long
Until the shadows lengthen and our work is done
Then in Thy Holy Mercy grant us a safe lodging
And a Holy Rest and Peace at last...

TAPS SOUNDED

Vernon Johnson
Co. H - 47th Inf.

Gaetano (Tom) Muscato
Co. L - 47th Inf.

Mrs. Helen Langer
sister-in-law of Emil Langer

Clyde E. DeLong
9th Inf. Div.

M. Russel Bassel
Co. A - 15th Eng. Bn.

Muriel Gray, widow of
Lewis H. Gray
Hq. Btry. - 60th F.A

Newton Fields
Hq. Btry - 84th F. A.

Melvin O. Jaggi
Btry A - 60th F. A.

Jerry F. Strnad
9th Inf. Div.

Alfred R. (Fred) Brollini
Co. M - 60th Inf.

Stephen L. Vasko
39th Inf

Helen Sarnocinski, wife of
Ed Sarnocinski
Co. B - 47th Inf.

POTSHOTS AND OTHER OBSERVATIONS From THE DUGOUT

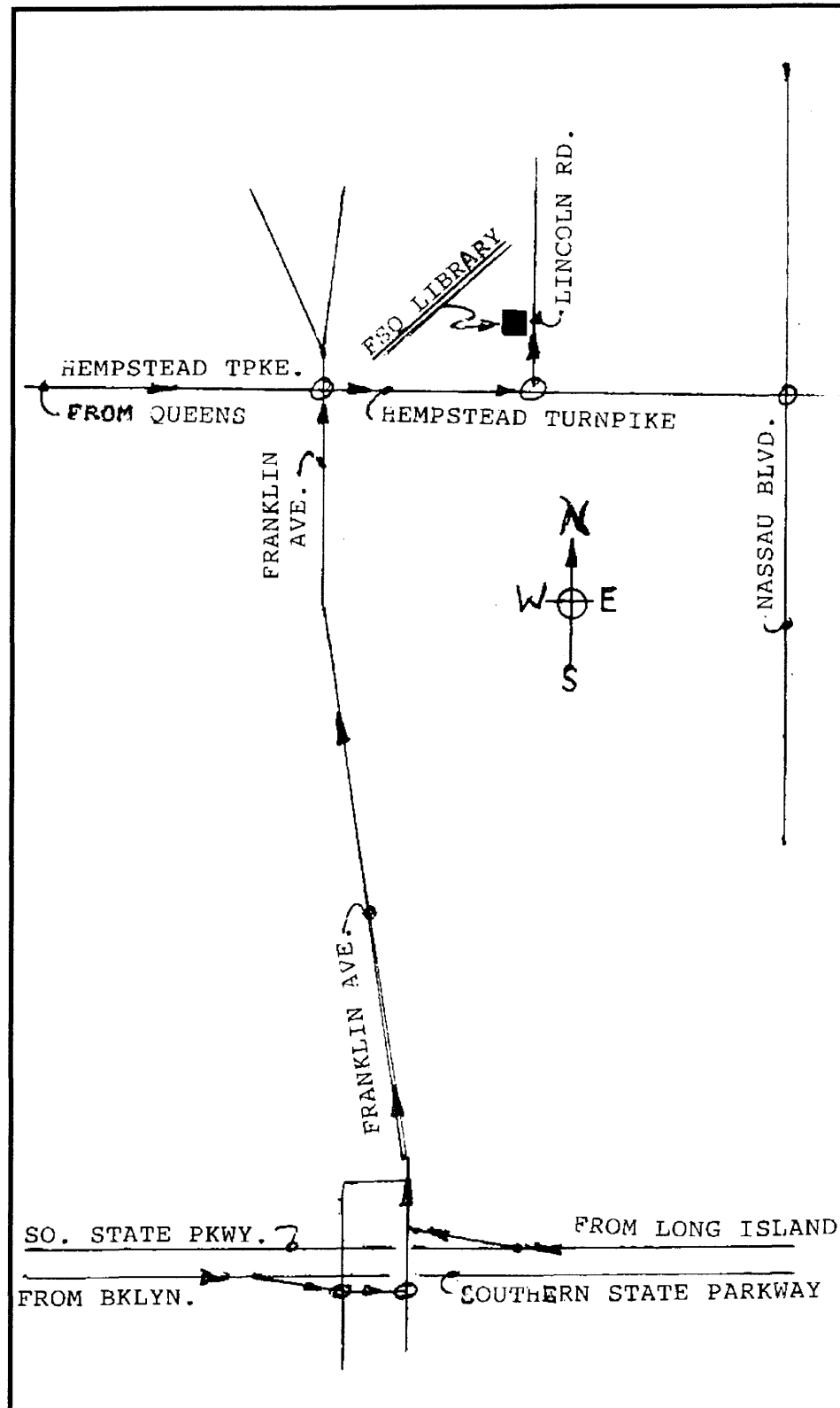
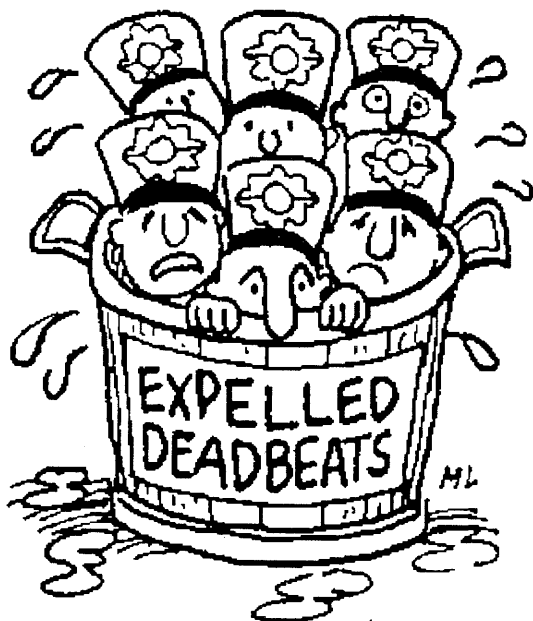
It is no secret that our Association is in a financial bind trying to make ends meet while we stagger along this road to our final destiny, whenever that might take place. Everybody enjoys the Octofoil; the members enjoy reading it for the news of their buddies; but, the printer and the USPS enjoy it the most because they will be paid for producing and mailing the Octofoil.

In January of this year when I took over the mailing list, I weeded out 80 members who were more than ten years behind in their dues. As of June 9, 2003 there remains 283 members on our mailing list who have not paid dues for four (4) years or more. There are another 305 names that are between one year and three years in arrears. That is a staggering 58.5% of our dues paying "Proud to be a Ninth man?" members. True, some of those delinquent members may have answered their last roll call; but, not the entire 588 of them..

By way of a history lesson, the entire front page of the February 1949 Octofoil was given over by Editor Paul Plunkett to Secretary/ Treasurer Charlie O. Tingley to make a plea for the members to pay their dues. President Don Clarke added an editorial along those same lines. Here in 2003 one doesn't have to be a "Rocket Scientist" to realize that as our members are taken "Home", our financial base shrinks correspondingly. There is no question that we survivors

must be willing to carry a heavier burden. I have conferred with the President and some members of the Board. The solution was to go along with this issue of the Octofoil and the next. Once we are into 2004 the mailing list will be only for the paid up members.

If you are delinquent and alive and make no attempt to contact this office you will be dropped from the list. If you have a financial problem, that can be addressed, but we must be told. During the "shooting war", 11% of the Army (that was us) took 75% of the hits. During this "money war", we can't have 58% stand around to watch the 42% carry the load. Everybody must do their share, or else we're out of business. No rose colored glasses. Mr. Nice-Guy left town.



Directions to the Franklin Square Library

By Public Transport: Take the "F" subway line to 179th Street. Take the "Hempstead" bus which runs along Hempstead turnpike. Get off the bus at Claffin Blvd., Franklin Square (Silver Star Diner) Cross the Turnpike to Lincoln Road.

From Suffolk County and South East Nassau County : Use the Southern State Parkway to Exit 16N (Franklin Avenue) and proceed North approx. 2.5 miles to Hempstead Turnpike. Right turn off Franklin Ave. onto Hempstead Turnpike. At the fourth traffic signal (0.4 mile) Left turn onto Lincoln Road, and enter the parking lot which is directly across the road from the Library.

From Brooklyn and South West Queens County: Use the Southern State Parkway to Exit 15S (Corona Ave.) Proceed straight across Corona Ave. on

the Service road to Franklin Ave and Left turn onto Franklin Ave. and follow the directions given above.

From North East Nassau County: Use any access road that will intersect with Nassau Blvd. Follow Nassau Blvd. south to Hempstead Turnpike. Right turn onto Hempstead Turnpike. Approx. 0.5 mile to Lincoln Road. Right turn on Lincoln.

From Northern Queens, and Floral Park: Use Tulip Ave. East onto New Hyde Park Road South, Left turn onto Hempstead Turnpike and proceed 0.4 mile to Lincoln Road. Left turn onto Lincoln Road and enter the parking lot.

For Any Questions or Problems : Call one of the four telephone numbers listed on page 5 and we will be happy to be of assistance.

**Are You Up To Date
With Your Dues?**

GREATER NEW YORK AREA CHAPTER

The Greater NY Chapter hopes all Ninthmen, everywhere, and their loved ones had a healthy and happy summer. Since the chapter did not have a meeting during the summer hiatus, this scribe has little to report. As NY chapter members probably know by now, the September Friar Tuck mini-reunion has been canceled. Our first fall meeting will be on **Friday, October 17, 2003** at the **Franklin Square Library on Lincoln Road**, just North of **Hempstead Turnpike in Franklin Square, Long Island**, between 1 and 4 PM. Refreshments will be served. We hope many New York area members will attend. For travel details call either Joe Killen at [REDACTED], Joe Maiale [REDACTED], Al Zenka [REDACTED], or Marv Levy [REDACTED]. (Look for a map and travel directions in this issue on page 4)

In the meantime, **NY Chapter** members should check their **dues** obligations—especially those who have been delinquent. Remember . . . it's \$10 for one year, \$25 for 3 years and \$75 for Lifetime membership. Make checks payable to NY Area Chapter, 9th Inf. Div. Assn. and send to Al Zenka, Secretary/Treasurer, [REDACTED].

Congratulations to Dr. Martin and Rosalyn Gross on their recent marriage. See you in October

Marv Levy, Co. A 60th Inf



Hq. Btry. - 84th F. A. **Rev. Jeannie Higgins**

Asbury United Methodist Church
201 South Main Street
Greeneville, TN 37743

I am one of the children of a 9th Infantry soldier, **Walter E. Ricker**. I have enjoyed attending so many of the reunions and getting to know the wonderful men and their families who have been a part of these reunions.

One of those dearly beloved soldiers whom I had the privilege of getting to know was **Newton Fields**. Of course, my Dad had a long history with Newton, but my sisters and I had the privilege of knowing him for only a few short years. Newton was severely wounded in WWII having lost an arm and a hand on the other arm, but he was a brave and independent and courageous man. We loved him dearly.

Just recently, I discovered that he had died sometime this past year. I am so very sorry we did not know it. I had tried to call him before the last reunion, but had no idea he had already died.

My Dad, my sisters and I just wanted the 9th Infantry Division men and their families to know of Newton's death and say a prayer of thanksgiving for him and the life he lived.

Thanks for the good work you do in continuing to publish **The Octofoil**. It is a great way for the 9th Infantry families to stay connected.

Sincerely,
Rev. Jeannie Higgins

Hq. Co. & Co. A - 15th Eng. Bn.

Elizabeth Bassel Graham



I am grateful that you sent a copy of the **Octofoil** to my address but I am saddened to have to inform you of the death of my father, **M. Russel Bassel**, last year on July 16, 2002. Following the death of my mother, Dorothy L. Bassel, at age 90 on February 28, 2002, my father moved near my house in Evanston, Illinois. Although in fair health given his 91 years, he died after a short illness in July. He was as kind and intelligent as ever until his death but missed my mother terribly after 54 years together.

They met in Twyford, England while my father was preparing for the Normandy invasion and were married in New Jersey on July 3, 1947. My sister arranged a beautiful memorial service for both of my parents at St. Mary's Anglican Church in Twyford in September 2002. Thirteen of my parent's children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and spouses made the trip to England and over 25 of my mother's family from England attended the service and lovely gathering afterwards. We visited places where my parents had spent time, including Winchester, the banks of the River Itchen and Arlesford.

My father's time in the 15th Engineers left a permanent imprint on him. I feel sure that he would wish me to let you all know

of his death and to communicate to you how deeply he valued his fellow Engineers. I am enclosing for your publication copies of photos, just a few of the many he carefully kept from this time. One is of my father being decorated by General Craig in Belgium on November 5, 1944. Another was taken in Germany in February 1945. He also kept copies of his correspondence during the war, his maps of Germany and his history of the 9th

Division.

If any of your readers have any recollections of my father that they would be willing to share, I would be most pleased to have them and would pass the same along to my brother in Texas and my sister in California. Again, thank you for attempting to reach my father.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Bassel Graham



TEXAS/GREATER SW CHAPTER

Subject: "2004 Dedication Ceremonies of the National World War II Memorial"

Dear Members of the 9th Infantry Division Association:

Some of you may have received newsletter of the World War II Memorial Society.

The American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC) has targeted Saturday, May 29th, 2004 as the date to dedicate the National World War II Memorial.

The Memorial which has been under construction will be the newest addition to the National Mall in Washington, D.C. The dedication date coincides with Memorial Day Weekend 2004.

In the event that any of you and your families plan to attend the ceremonies you should be able to get details from the ABMC. Their address is P.O. Box 96766, Washington, D.C. 20090-6766.

Toll free phone number is 800-639-4992. Your local newspapers may not carry this information until the spring of 2004. The Octofoil brings you the event information now so that you may make plans early to attend the ceremonies.

Herb Stern, Texas
Greater SW Chapter

MAIL CALL

9th Medics

Pete Radichio

Another nasty day in the sunny South, terrible. Well, the reunion is behind us and we are looking for the 59th at Kutsher's up in the Monticello Mountains. Let's hope the weather is OK as we will be a year older.

I have an article that Margie read in the local paper about the General Frank who was in charge of the Armed Forces in Iraqi and Margie said he's our 9th Division Speaker of the Year for the 59th reunion. I am suggesting that we have this great man for our Reunion next year. Please look into it as I am a die-hard 9th man from day one. I think that this is a great suggestion.

I was very happy to make the reunion this year and I hope to make many more. I have to credit everyone who participated in making it great. The wine rushed to my head; first glass of wine in years. I believe we had a pretty good crowd and every one enjoyed themselves. Thanks Perna, for a job well done.

I called a few people that live upstate and I told them that the next reunion is in their backyard. Here's hoping we have a good turnout. My niece was my nurse and she gave me tender, loving care. I hadn't seen my nephew for 40 years or more. It was really a great family reunion.

The Colonel did an excellent job with the colors and the singers performed well. The guys and gals look great at their tender age. Keep up the good work. To all of my friends, keep coming. Every year gets better. And it was nice to see John Bonkowski and his wife, Rose back again after a short spell being away from us. Making this letter short, I'm going to call it quits. There isn't much more I can write other than Cheerio and God bless you all. Love and kisses.

(Pete's Letter # 2)

About myself not the greatest but I will survive after all. I am up in years and you still have to catch up to me. It's better that you chase and stay young.

Enclosed you will find Jennie's letter, that's Matt Urban's wife and it will bring you up to date about Matt's Memorial in Buffalo. It will hopefully be on Memorial Day. I hope the Lord allows me to live that long so Margie and I can make the dedication.

If I was able I would run another reunion in Pigeon Forge, a great place. I missed this year but if all goes well this year is not over yet. Just a reminder to get Zenka by the ear and

tell him that I want to return to being a member of the New York Chapter. Via con Dios.

**Mrs. Jennie Urban's
Letter to Pete**

Just heard that Buffalo is trying to have their Memorial finished and dedicated next Memorial Day, 2004. I'll keep everyone informed.

Our good friend, Ben Murell of the Ninth passed away. Daughter Jennifer visited him at the Nursing home in April. The 19th of May was his funeral Mass at the church he attended. Jennifer attended the funeral. I am sure Matt and the rest of Ben's buddies up there were there to welcome him. A Heavenly Reunion.

I personally believe they all should have had more good years on this earth to make-up for the hell years of war. They all are going too soon. The government should be doing much more for the veteran's well being. Most of the veteran's deaths are in some way attributed to the war and combat. I'll stop here about that, I could first-hand write a book about that subject.

Weather here finally improved, warm days and cool nights. Take care, Pete and my best wishes to you and Margie. Sincerely, Jennie Urban.

9th Q. M. Co.

Floyd Hennessey

It is my honorable duty to be present at a funeral for a departed comrade from the 39th Inf. of the 9th Inf. Division. He was from the Toledo, Ohio area. This fellow did not belong to the Association as his wife said. He was quite well known in Toledo for his ethnic Hungarian background. Why these people didn't know of the Association is something I don't know.

I presented his wife with an Octofoil pin and she was so pleased. She said that she had never seen a pin like it. She also said that he talked of the 9th Division all of the time. I told her that we had reunions every year since 1946 and they didn't know of them.

I sure hope that people know of me when I'm gone. I'll close until the next time. God bless all of our comrades.

(Excerpt from the Obituary column of the Toledo, Ohio Blade.)

Stephen L. Vasko, 79, of West Toledo, passed away Sunday, August 3, 2003 under the care of Hospice at St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center. He was born on June 26, 1924. He was a WW II Veteran, serving with the 9th Infantry Division, 39th Infantry. He helped with relocating displaced peo-

ple, because he was fluent in 3 languages. Steve was a member of the V. F. W. Post 4906. After the war, he worked at Autolite in the 40's; he then worked at Comte Construction, where he retired. He was a former member of St. Stephen's Church and proud of his Hungarian heritage. Surviving is his loving wife of 54 years, Agnes; his son Gregory, his daughter, Carol, and four grandchildren. Internment in Calvary Cemetery.

9th RECON

John Bonkowski

The last Octofoil came about the time that Bob Hope passed away and it brought back memories of a long time ago, the Summer of '45 in Ingolstadt, Germany. The great entertainer came with his show during our Occupation to celebrate the Division's Fifth Anniversary. We had a Jeep driver in our Recon Troop who happened to be Bing Crosby's jockey in civilian life. "Red" Howell was no stranger to Bob Hope so when the show went on, most of the Recon sat up front with him. It didn't take long for Bob Hope to spot him, then Bob pointed his finger and announced, "There is Bing Crosby's jockey, "Red" Howell left behind again." It brought a lot of laughs and some celebrating later in town at The Notorious Red Cross Club. I'm sure that many remember that place which was one of our stops during the ETO trip 25 years later.

After we left Ingolstadt on Labor Day we moved to Wasserburg on the Inn River, half way between Munich and Salzburg, Austria. The Recon took over an empty hospital and a little down the road was an old German Cavalry stable. It was a dream come true for "Red" Howell to be put in charge of that stable and looking after the seven fine horses that were left behind. We had the privilege of taking one of them for a ride on many occasions. Despite his 60 points, "Red" was still there when I left for home in February of '46. We lost touch but I often wonder what happened to that fine Recon buddy, T/5 Robert E. Howell from Covington, KY.

The Octofoil informed us that we lost two more Recon buddies, Eugene Korth and Albert O. Fullerton. Our group is getting smaller which wasn't that big to begin with. Our condolences go out to their widows, Delphine and Jeanne and we are enclosing our humble donation to the Memorial Fund in their memory.

Since our last letter to the Octofoil, Rose and I enjoyed a fine Michigan Chapter Picnic at Art and Mary Doering's very nice place in Alto, MI

just east of Grand Rapids, a 150 miles from home. A week later on August 16 we attended our grandson's wedding in Easton, PA. We arrived a couple of days early and stayed at the Hampton Inn in a real nice old town of Stroudsburg. Upon our arrival we learned of the great power black-out that extended all the way to Michigan. However that corner of PA. was not effected and we were very lucky with the weather also. The 14 days of rain in the area stopped a day before we arrived. Again we lucked out when a heavy down-pour came on the day of the wedding but it stayed just west of us. Everything turned out just beautiful and we were grateful. The entire trip was enjoyable and our son did the driving.

When we got home from that Eastern trip there were six messages on the answering machine and half of them were from our Recon buddy, "Cappy" Capobianco. I couldn't return his calls because I didn't have his phone number, so I decided to send him a note. Would you believe that as I completed the last sentence the phone rang and it was him. We had a nice chat and now I have his phone number. As any Recon man knows, "Cappy" more than anyone else kept our group together. First he arranged those "Nomad" Reunions for a number of years, then he worked on having them join the Association. We hit the peak at the Pines Convention in 1989 and it was great to see so many that we haven't seen since the war. Now time is taking it's toll and we are losing too many of them, but there are stories to be told as long as there are any of us left.

Our reservations are in and now we are looking forward to the Memorial Week-end in Worcester, MA, God willing. Rose and I are planning on visiting some of our cousins in a Convalescent Home along the way. We share many memories of happier times.

Till we meet again, our very best wishes to all.

Sincerely, John and Rose Bonkowski.

Co. B - 47th Inf.

Mrs. Antoinette Mastrangelo

Thank you for the "Octofoils" that I have received since my beloved husband, **Peter Mastrangelo**, expired 8 years ago. I am sending the enclosed check in memory of his buddies.

I try to do whatever I can for all the Veterans that deserve so much in their fight so this country can always be free. Thank you and God bless.

MAIL CALL

Co. G - 47th Inf.

Bill Van Ryn
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Please accept this check in memory of my Dad, **Pfc. George M. Van Ryn**, who was killed on June 20, 1944 in Normandy, France and is buried in the American Military Cemetery over there. The check is for a Lifetime Associate Membership, plus use the remainder for whatever.

This is in memory of my **Dad** and a special friend, **James E. Miller** of the **Hq. Company, 3rd Bn - 39th Inf**, who I met in 1996 after I returned from visiting my Father's grave in France.

Co. C - 47th Inf.

Jack Collier
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I did send in my check in June. This is the Hotel Info you will need. Your last Octofoil was great. I am sure glad that **Chester H Jordan** is still kicking. He sure calls a spade a spade. Hang in there Chester. In an Octofoil that I missed Chester wrote an article about the change of Command in the 47th Regt. Assn. and I heard that he referred to me as the PFC from MO.

This was held in Fort Benning, maybe in 2001. I did have a great time there, a lot of good old friends were there. I can't help it that I know so many of the good old boys.

I was very saddened to see **Benny Murell's** name in the TAPS list. Although I had seen Benny a lot of times at the Reunions before 1980, it was there that we got to really know each other. He was a great little guy. Enclosed is a check for the Memorial Fund in Benny's name.

Take care of yourself, I'm looking forward to **Kutsher's**.

Co. B - 15th Eng. Bn.

Albert "Allie" Ferrante
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

The Lancaster Pennsylvania 2003 reunion was interesting and fun. I am sure it was rewarding to Al Perna and his associates to know that their efforts were well enjoyed.

Margie and I are looking forward to enjoying **Kutsher's** and the company of our friends. Our last trip there was a great time. A good choice in our waning years.

Along with the many others, I wish to extend my appreciation to Dan and Marie for the dedication and wonderful years they supplied to our association.

I also extend appreciation and thanks to Joe Killen for stepping in and so ably carrying on the abundant duties of secretary and treasurer. Again Joe thanks and good luck.

Co. F - 60th Inf.

George Arnold
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Took your advice and reset my biological clock. Enclosed check covers me until January. Sorry for the mix up.

My wife and I attended the last reunion at Monticello and plan to attend the one in May 2004. My very best to you.

Hq. Co. 2nd Bn. - 60th Inf.

Charles W. Duling
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I'll be 84 in two weeks (ed. Aug. 1st /2nd) and have been making it to reunions as often as I can. Had a great time in Lancaster seeing you and Dan Quinn and others including new friends.

I'm looking forward to next year in Monticello, NY. Keep active is my motto. Enclosed find my dues for the next three years and a little extra. Yours truly.

No Unit Listed on Record

Allen Sperling
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Could you put me in contact with the New Jersey Chapter of the 9th Inf. Div.

I just realized that I have not received mail from them in quite a while.

I have been a Life Member of the Association for a number of years and yes— I just woke up to the fact that the New Jersey Chapter has lost me. Many Thanks, your comrade, Allen.

(Editor's note: Like you, we haven't heard from the N.J. Chapter for a while either. Let us try

Mr. Frank W. Haines, Jr.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Hq. Co. 1st Bn. - 60th Inf.

Mrs. Julia Klimasz
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

After all these years I recently became a member of the Ladies Auxiliary, 9th Infantry Division Assn. It was sheer negligence to wait so long. I do know how much I enjoy the Octofoil even though my beloved husband, Anthony Klimasz is no longer here to share it with me. I can't begin to tell you how very proud he was to have served in the 9th Inf. Division from January 1941 through to his discharge in August 1945. The dates will indicate his participation in the many combat zones. After his return home he proudly displayed

the Octofoil patch when an occasion arose. His demise 11 years ago was a chapter in my life most difficult to accept. However, I live with the beautiful memories of our marriage of 50 years. Enclosed please find my check in his memory. Respectfully,

9th Q.M. Co.

Trevor E. Jones
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Many thanks for being so quick with a copy of the Octofoil. Not having it is like driving blind. Unless things change, we will once again make our reservations to attend the next reunion, and hope that nothing crops up to interfere.

A couple of years ago the V. A., with their Ultra Sound and CAT Scan, discovered an aneurysm on the main aorta to my heart (about 2.5 Cm away). The Chief Surgeon from Yale, New Haven came to the VA and did the five hour operation and kept me in the hospital for thirteen days. Some of my "nether" organs are just now beginning to work the way they are supposed to

I have had a number of skin cancers removed from my back and chest. Last Fall I felt a soft spot on the left side of my neck, a biopsy showed that it was cancer, not the skin kind. Last Winter I had a program of radiation treatment at Yale New Haven. (The West Haven VA does not have the facilities for radiation treatment.) All the Chemo was done at VA.

Next they found that my left kidney wasn't working. That involved a catheter going into my back, down through the kidney and into the bladder. This was all out patient, and lasted for months. Now things are looking better.

It was sad to read so many names in the TAPS column. Jake Nailor was an old buddy from way back. It's easy to see why the Association can't stay in the financial niche as it once did. I am enclosing a donation to the Association in memory of Jake and all the other comrades who have gone ahead to prepare the final bivouac. PS: May wants me to extend her best regards.

Co. F - 60th Inf.

Donald E. Crass
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

(This letter was written in February 2003)

Just a few lines from an old soldier caring about all of the buddies of the 9th Division. I've been doing fine but slowing down quite a bit.

I keep busy making trips into the basement to feed a big animal some would call a furnace. This gives me exercise plus heat which feels good at this time of the year.

I received a card from the Battery Press of Nashville, TN that they have printed 600 copies of "Eight Stars to Victory" and I have been asked by quite a few people where they could get the book. Could you please put the card that I received in the

next issue of the Octofoil.

My granddaughter has helped me with my history from 1919 to 2003, it includes my service to my country from July 1941 to August 1945. I hope to have it available some time this year.

BATTERY PRESS

The Battery Press is pleased to announce a special 600 copy limited edition reprint for **Eight Stars to Victory, A History of the Veteran Ninth U.S. Infantry Division**. Originally published in 1948, this history traces the 9th Division from activation in August 1940 through training in North Carolina to combat in North Africa in November 1942. There are chapters on Tunisia, Sicily, invasion training in England, and operations in France, Belgium, and Germany. **Eight Stars to Victory** has 408 pages, 172 photos, and 36 maps in an 8" by 10" hardcover format. Due to the small number of copies printed, **Eight Stars to Victory** retails for \$69.95 plus \$4 shipping. To order, send a check, money order, or credit card details (name on the card, card number, expiration date) to the address below We accept Visa or Mastercard. You can also make credit card orders by phone or internet. The book is available for shipping now.

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Co. I - 60th Inf.

Charles L. VanDerPoel
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I just received a post card from the Battery Press announcing the reprint of our history book, **Eight Stars to Victory**. I purchased one and I find that it is a good replacement for the original 1948 book. I also wonder where and how did the Battery Press get hold of my name to send me a card.



REUNION ROUND-UP

Greetings to everyone, and in particular, those of you who attended our reunion this past April in Lancaster, PA. Thanks to you, it was a rousing success. My wife and I have been receiving many wonderful compliments from our 9th Infantry members and their families. It takes months of preparation to put it all together, but it came and went so fast, it feels like a dream. It really was a labor of love.

Many members came from far distances. It was great to see so many states represented at this year's reunion. Morton Wolk and John Badura and family, along with Snuffy and Judy Goldsmith, who always make our reunions, were in from California. We weren't used to seeing Jack Blann from Texas walking with a cane, but he was there along with his wife, Lavonne and his daughter, Mary. If all goes well, we'll put the cane up for auction at the next reunion. Pete and Margie Radichio came up from Florida and we know it was difficult for them to make the trip but their determination won out. Pete's niece is a private nurse and she looked after her uncle. (Pete's niece has a son in Baghdad. Please remember him in your prayers.)

Acknowledgements to John Bonkowski and his wife Rose, and to Dan and Marie Quinn whose daughter drove them and made it possible for them to attend. We wish you all well.

We would like to thank George H. Brown, our outgoing President, for his service and contributions during the past year. We elected Elmer Wagner as our new President. We wish him well during his coming term in office.

Many people gave their time and effort to this reunion and I would like to acknowledge some of them. First of all, I would like to thank Charlie and Esther LiBretto Besides making trips to Lancaster to help make arrangements with the Host Hotel and the Rainbow Theatre beforehand, Charlie and Esther gave out hats with the "NBC" logo (compliments of their son) while working diligently at the registration table giving out the envelopes and helping people get acclimated. Three cheers for Bob DeSandy and Al Zenka who did a marvelous job assigning seats for the banquet dinner. It was a challenge keeping everything straight with everyone wanting to change tables so they could

sit with their friends. Bob and Al rose to the occasion and did a bang up job. Much appreciation to Al Zarnowski, Chet's son, who gave out complimentary books and calendars. Al also put together a movie about the 9th that was very well attended.

A very special thank you to Mary Blann, Jack's daughter, whom you saw assisting at the registration table. Mary has been organizing the sons and daughters of the 9th Infantry Division for the past few years so that they may attend these reunions and continue this honored tradition. At the banquet, there were at least 30 sons, daughters and grandchildren in attendance and they gathered for a wonderful group picture that was taken by our photographer, Walter Victor. Mary is doing a marvelous job and she certainly deserves our support and admiration. John Sabato, Jr. is lending Mary a hand in organizing our second and third generations. John always chips in wherever he can. Thank you, John, for the work that you did at the reception desk.

What can I say about the Ladies' Auxiliary! They always make a tremendous contribution to our reunion and this year was no exception. Their fund raising was a success. A special thanks to all that donated gifts, many of them hand made by our talented 9th family, for the raffle. Jean Geary did a wonderful job. Thanks, Jean, for all your hard work and dedication.

The Memorial Service was dignified and beautiful, and one, I'm sure we won't soon forget. There wasn't a dry eye in the house. Two sons of our fallen comrades were in attendance. Tom Menafee and Lorenzo Palmer honored us by carrying the Octofoil wreath to the podium. They lost their dads before they had gotten to know them. Their fathers gave their lives two weeks apart in February 1945 at the Roer River and at the Roer Dams. Marilyn Martin and Connie Koneski placed flowers on the wreath in honor of their husbands, Billie Martin and Ed Koneski, who both passed away this year. Ed's family was well represented at the service. His son, Barry and daughter-in-law Rene, and granddaughter Rachael came and we thank them all for attending. Colonel John Rawley and Lt. Col. Jon Scott made a posthumous presentation of the Purple

Heart Medal to Lorenzo Palmer, on behalf of his father, Clayton Palmer. John arranged the drum roll, the playing of Taps, and the call to colors. The choir was wonderful and the color guard walked tall and straight - reminding us all of days gone by. The Memorial Service was certainly the highlight of our reunion.

I owe a debt of gratitude to my cousin, Col. John Rawley for his active participation in this Memorial Service. His admiration, dedication and tireless efforts in support of our World War II veterans, and in particular, our 9th Infantry Division, are remarkable. If I have failed to mention anyone who helped make this reunion such a success, I humbly apologize.

Financial details of the reunion will be forthcoming. However, we did not make a huge profit for our 9th Infantry Division Association as we have done in the past. This time around that was impossible due to so many cancellations and money needing to be returned. On some of these cancellations the money had already been spent in prepayments to the Rainbow Theatre and the hotel. In addition, printed programs and nametags were paid in advance. We did not request or receive any money from the Association treasury, so we will remain in the black. However, we are in the black only by the "skin of our teeth". At a later date I will submit a more detailed financial accounting.

Next year our reunion will be held at Kutsher's Country Club in the Catskills. Joe Killen is the committee chairman and I offer my services to you, Joe, for any help that I can give you. We hope for a good turnout next year. (The details are on page TWO of this Octofoil.) On a personal note, I really enjoyed talking to so many of you on the telephone. If you would like to talk to me, please feel free to call me anytime at my home (215) 467-2159. I would love to hear from you.

Last but not least, I wish to thank my wife, Felice, for her love and support. I give her a big kiss for all the work she did assisting me throughout the year with this reunion. She put together the Memorial Service, organizing the program, arranging for the Octofoil floral piece, picking the music, and contacting all of the participants.

I remain your loyal buddy,
Al Perna.

9th Recon Troop

Nicholas ("Cappy") Capobianco

Good luck with your being elected Sec'y & Treas. of the Assn. Enclosed you will find my check for the next three years. I hope I'm not being overly optimistic as I was with the 9th Recon from 1941 thru 1945 but I'm sure I have some good luck left.

I'm sad to report the death of a very good member of the troop who liked everyone, and in return everyone liked him. He will always be remembered as the "Will Rogers" of the troop. He always said, "He never met a man he didn't like." Albert O. Fullerton, may he rest in peace.

Most of us cannot make as many reunions as we would like, but enjoy reading about it in the Octofoil.

Co. B - 47th Inf.

Ed Sarnocinski

This note is to inform the many of her friends of the 9th Division that Helen passed away August 16th, 2003. She is at peace now. Thank you.

My new address (due to 9/11) is above. Same dwelling, just the number has changed.

Bttry. A - 60th F. A.

Richard M. Jaggi

I'm enclosing an obituary of my father, **Melvin O. Jaggi**, 84 of Verona, WI, passed away July 1, 2003 peacefully at home surrounded by his family. His wife, Leona, preceded him in death in 1983. He is survived by 3 children, 3 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren.

Melvin served in the U. S. Army with A Battery, 60th Field Artillery, of the 9th Infantry Division. He was a member of the VFW Post 8653 and American Legion Post 385.

The VFW Madison Post conducted military services. Burial was in the Verona Cemetery.

Sincerely, Richard M. Jaggi.

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