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The Octofoil

9th Infantry Division Association

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4-1-2008

## The Octofoil, April/May/June 2008

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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# The Octofoil

Apr.-May-Jun.  
2008.

Volume LXIII, No. 2

## 63rd ANNUAL REUNION PROGRAM

Rosen Centre Hotel  
Orlando, Florida

[www.octofoil.org](http://www.octofoil.org)

### Friday, August 22, 2008

8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.—Registration-Hospitality Room: Salon 11  
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.—Florida Chapter Hospitality Room: Suite 261  
3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.—Board of Governors meeting: Salon 7  
7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.—Reception, Pizza Party, & Dance: Salon 3 and 4

### Saturday, August 23, 2008

7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.—Breakfast: Grand E  
8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.—Registration-Hospitality Room: Salon 11  
9:00 a.m. to ??? — Florida Chapter Hospitality Room: Suite 261  
9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.—Memorial Service: Grand D  
Please be seated by 9:15 a.m.  
11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon—Group Photo: Outside by the pool  
12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m.—Ladies Auxiliary Luncheon: Salon 7  
1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.—Association Business Meeting: Salon 2  
1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.—Ladies Auxiliary Business Meeting: Salon 7  
1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.—Sons and Daughters Auxiliary Business Meeting: Salon 8  
6:15 p.m. Buses leave hotel for Medieval Times Dinner & Show  
(Dinner @ 7:00 p.m., Show @ 8:00 p.m.)  
Return to hotel approximately 10:00 p.m.

### Sunday, August 24, 2008 (Free day for church, sightseeing, golf etc., on your own)

8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.—Breakfast: Grand E  
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.—Registration-Hospitality Room: Salon 11  
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.—Florida Chapter Hospitality Room: Suite 261  
2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.—Board of Governors meeting: Salon 7  
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.—Reception with open bar and hors d' oeuvres: Grand E  
7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.—Gala Banquet: Grand E

### Monday, August 25, 2008

8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.—Breakfast: Grand E  
8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.—Hospitality Room: Salon 11  
8:00 a.m. to ??? Say goodbye, check out and head for home

Additional 3 days before and 3 days after the reunion the hotel rate is \$90.00 per room per day.

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## President's Message



President  
Emil Langer

Just a quick reminder for those who will be arriving early to the Rosen Centre Hotel, be advised that I will also arrive one day early. This will give us a chance to get together and get caught up on the latest news and any topics about the Association you would like to discuss with me.

The reunion planning is nearly complete and Bill Robey tells me that we will have around 150 people attending. This compares favorably with last year at Grand Rapids, Michigan. If you have not sent in your reservation yet, you still have time. The final payment deadline is July 1, 2008. Payments received after July 1st are subject to room availability, so come on, get those reservations in ASAP.

I hope you have good health and safe travel to our 63rd Reunion in Orlando, Florida.

See you on Thursday, August 21st.

Emil Langer, President  
The Ninth Infantry Division Association

### OUR MISSION

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.

# 63rd REUNION 2008 REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

It looks like it is about time for some final information and instructions concerning the 2008 Reunion and some other house-keeping chores for the membership.

1. In case you do not understand our membership categories, the following might help: We have 4 classes of membership: Life Membership at \$75 one time payment; Regular 3 year memberships at \$35 for three years; Regular 1 year memberships at \$15 for one year. In addition to the above, we also have an Associate Membership that is open to all descendants of our members and to others who would like to be able to receive *The Octofoil*, but are not one of our veterans who comprise the major memberships. The Associate Membership is \$25 for three years. In addition there is membership in the Ladies Auxiliary and also membership in the Sons and Daughters Auxiliary. Note: the Auxiliary memberships do not qualify for a subscription to *The Octofoil*. We operate on a Fiscal Year basis, July 1 to June 30 each year and not a calendar year. Therefore, all 1 and 3 year memberships and Associate Memberships for 3 years all expire on June 30 each year. Watch the mailing label on your Octofoil and you will see your expiration date printed just to right of your name.

2. We have not heard from almost 700 of those receiving *The Octofoil* about updating your information and bringing your dues up to date. We realize that many of these are Life Members and widows, but we still need to make sure of your membership category and also which units you or your husband served in while in the Ninth. There will be a large number of names dropped from our mailing list for this issue, if you know of anyone who does not receive this issue, tell them to contact me to bring their delinquent dues up to date. This is not an easy decision to make, but we cannot afford to continue to mail *The Octofoil* to people who are delinquent in their dues. Maybe, when some of these realize that they are not getting *The Octofoil* it will cause them to contact us and we can then tell them why.

3. Our only source of income is from the dues of the membership. When many members are delinquent, we lose money, and *The Octofoil* continues to go to them and we receive nothing in return. The Association is solvent, and we want to keep it that way. We have had several very generous members who, in the past year, have taken it on themselves to help out by sending donations to our Memorial Fund, and donations to help defray the cost of *The Octofoil*, and for other reasons. We appreciate each and every one of them. Even some of our widows, who receive *The Octofoil* automatically, have contributed to help defray the cost of *The Octofoil*. Speaking of our widows, nobody seems to know when the process started to send *The Octofoil* to our widows. This probably started when, many years ago, we had our first widow, and someone said "let's keep sending her *The Octofoil*," and the process has just snowballed from there. There has never been any formal vote taken as far as I can find out, and we now are mailing over 300 copies to our widows. All of the members that I have talked to have no objection to continuing this, but just look at the cost involved. Each issue of *The Octofoil* costs about \$2.50 per copy to print and mail, so for 300 plus widows, that adds about \$750 to the cost of each issue. We intend to keep this going as long as we can afford it, but the widows could help by making small donations to help offset some of these costs. As you know, postal rates keep going up. Each one cent increase in postage costs us about \$100 to add to the cost of *The Octofoil*. Then, when people move and do not let us know about their new addresses we get the mail back and have to re-mail it, and this costs extra. If you have a secondary address such as a winter address in Florida or elsewhere, we need to know this also so *The Octofoil*

(continued on page 10)

## OCTOFOIL LIBRARY PROJECT

The "Octofoil Library Project" is the new name for The Literary Ninth Digitizing Project which has been in the planning stages for quite some time. It is now ready for all Ninth Infantry Division Association member participation. In a nutshell, we hope to raise sufficient funds to begin the process of indexing and scanning all books, manuscripts, photos, combat records, and old issues of *The Octofoil*. The end result will be one or two Digital Video Disc's (DVD's) that contain the rich history of the 9th Infantry Division during World War II and subsequent evolution of The Ninth Infantry Division Association.

Our first step will be to focus on the 53 books and manuscripts listed in our bibliography published under the heading "The Literary Ninth" in Volume LXII, No. 4, Oct-Nov-Dec, 2007 issue of *The Octofoil*. We have estimated that to properly organize, index, and scan to DVD's all the various materials will require approximately \$10,000. To get the project off the ground Mr. Henry G. "Red" Phillips has graciously agreed to donate his materials consisting of approximately 10,700 pages. Some of you may have materials that you would like to donate for scanning to add to the history.

Why do this? It is time to ensure that future generations have access to the history in a single and convenient format. There are many descendants, historians, and people who have general interest in military history that will benefit from this endeavor. We intend to offer copies of the master DVD's free of charge to all interested parties and eventually add the contents to the Association's web site ([www.octofoil.org](http://www.octofoil.org)).

How will this happen? Mr. Roger Gudenkauf owner of Rocky Mountain Microfilm & Imaging Inc. has offered the services of his firm. Mr. Gudenkauf has the personnel and equipment to safely and accurately scan our materials and produce the DVD's. He is also giving us a significant cost break as he has become a champion of our cause.

How long will it take? We estimate that the master DVD's will take approximately one to two years to produce.

How can you help? Two ways. First, your tax deductible financial contributions are a must and most welcome. Second, if you have materials that you want to have scanned please contact any one of those listed below.

Please make your checks payable to: **The Ninth Infantry Division Association** and send to the project coordinator earmarked for the **Octofoil Library Project**.

Project Coordinator:  
William Sauers

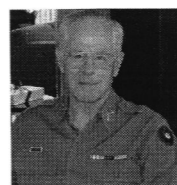
Association Historian:  
Henry G. "Red" Phillips

Assistant Coordinator:  
Terry Barnhart

SEE PROJECT UPDATE INFORMATION ON PAGE 20

## THE NINETY'S CLUB

Here's your chance to join an exclusive, much loved, respected, and one of a kind club. Membership is free!!! All you need is a birthday celebrating your achievement of ninety (90) years. Send your name and recent photo to the editor.



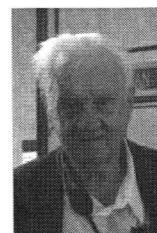
James Leopold (90)  
Chicago, IL



Dr. Martin Gross (91)  
Coconut Creek, FL



Emil Langer (90)  
Hollywood, FL



Walter Victor (91)  
Dawsonville, GA



Jackie Grgurich (91)  
Novinger, MO



Anthony Cheney (90)  
Hunter, KS

Preston W. Stillings (93), Fairhope, AL  
Pat J. Zona (90), East Sandwich, MA

## NOTICE

History Channel Information Request  
Flight 33 Productions is producing a series for the History Channel and they are looking for veterans of North Africa and Sicily to share their experiences.

Contact: [info@flight33.com](mailto:info@flight33.com)

## TIP OF THE HAT

We thank the following members and friends for remembering the Memorial Fund and our buddies who have answered their last Roll Call.

Note: Please make checks payable to:  
**The Ninth Infantry Division Association**

Send to: **William G. Robey, Secretary-Treasurer**

Claude E. Berghorn in memory of my father **Emery W. Berghorn**  
Robert G. Lewis in memory of all members of the 9th Division living and deceased

Leo G. Hess in memory of **S/Sgt. James Crosby, 1st Squad, 1st Section, 1st Platoon, D Company, 60th Infantry**  
Robert G. Apel Sustaining Member Donation

Raymond J. Brucce in memory of **Frank Gunn & Burleigh Brewer**  
Jerome Tishler Sustaining Member Donation

Fran Schwartz in memory of my husband **Harry Schwartz**  
Peter L. Peri Sustaining Member Donation

Edward A. Tyszka in memory of **Wilfred Thorton**  
Norma C. Horan Sustaining Member Donation

Lawrence P. Vinci in memory of past & present members of **B Co., 47th Inf.**  
Elizabeth P. Rahn Sustaining Member Donation

Joseph W. Bergin in memory of **Sidney Ginsburg, F Co., 47th Inf.**  
John W. Delmore in memory of my brother **Thomas F. Delmore**  
Hq, Hq Btry, 34th F.A. Bn

Charles L. Van Der Poel in memory of **60th Inf. Regt. men**  
Hal C. Saum in memory of **Mike Pelle, Ben Kouacs, Matt Hogan**

Alice F. Haines in memory of **Walter E. Ricker**  
Marietta A. Poulson in memory of **Robert D. Poulson**

Herb Stern in memory of **John W. Miller**

Paul Schumacher in memory of his loving wife **Ellen H. Schumacher and Emma Killen**

William J. Nesta in memory of **Mary Nesta**

Linda Kennedy, Jeannie Higgins, Mary Ann Monk, Mabel and Chris Higgins in memory of **Ellen Schumacher**

Helen M. Holmes in memory of **Joseph A. Lagattuta**  
Beth Wolff in memory of **Henry Golabiecki**

Neil Aberegg in memory of **Lewis Gray and William Doty**  
Preston W. Stillings Sustaining Member Donation

**Submission of articles for the  
next issue must be received by  
September 20, 2008**

## TAPS SOUNDED

The muffled drum's sad roll has beat the soldier's last tattoo;  
No more on life's parade shall meet that brave and fallen few.  
On Fame's eternal camping—ground their silent tents are spread,  
And Glory guards, with solemn round, the bivouac of the dead.

### Ninth Infantry Division Congressional Medal of Honor Recipients

S/Sgt. Herschel F. Briles, Co. C, 899th TD Bn; Near Scherpenseel, Germany; 20 November 1944  
2nd Lieutenant John E. Butts\*, Co. E, 60th Infantry; Normandy, France; 14, 16, 23 June 1944  
T/Sgt. Peter J. Dalessandro, Co. E, 39th Infantry; Near Kalterherberg, Germany; 22 December 1944  
Sgt. William J. Nelson\*, Co. H, 60th Infantry; Djegel Dardys, NW of Sedjenane, Tunisia; 24 April 1943  
PFC Carl V. Sheridan\*, Co. K, 47th Infantry; Frenzerberg Castle, Germany; 26 November 1944  
Captain Matt L. Urban, 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry; Renouf, France; 14 June to 3 September, 1944  
\* indicates posthumously awarded

Source: U.S. Army Center of Military History

George W. Bentley Co. B., 47th Inf. Regt.	Robert W. Gleason Co. C, 47th Inf. Regt.	John W. Miller Co. F, 60th Inf. Regt.
Peter J. Cusack	John Losnes Co. L, 39th Inf. Regt.	Erv Nowlen
Isadore Geisser Btry. A, 84th F.A. Bn	Howard Ashton Louderback Jr. Co. I, 39th Inf. Regt.	John C. Tittle

## TAPS LETTERS

### George W. Bentley Co. B, 47th Inf. Regt.

With deepest sadness I am letting you know that my Dad has died. He lived through years of pain and illness...never to complain and no regrets. He lived his life with respect for everyone, cherishing the smallest kindness.

Ina Gansert, Daughter e-mail dated Jun. 3, 2008

### Peter J. Cusack

My father, Peter J. Cusack, a WWII veteran from Boston with the 9th Infantry Division has passed away in Spring Hill, Florida. He was always very active in the reunions. I don't know if this is the place to put this. Also you can stop sending him the Octofoil. If this is not the correct place you can email me. Thanks.

(posted on www.octofail.org, April 28, 2008)

### Isadore Geisser Btry. A, 84th F.A. Bn

I got a message that one of our members passed away, his name is Isadore Geisser. His wife left a message to please discontinue the Octofoil.

Joe Maiale, New York Chapter

### Robert W. Gleason Co. C, 47th Inf. Regt.

Dear friends of Bob,  
I must relay sad news. In the late afternoon of Sunday, 13 April, my father passed away from the effects of a stroke he suffered this past Thursday.

Ever the sociable man, after suffering his initial stroke about 10 years ago, he turned to you, his longtime friends and on-line pen-pals to help him find enjoyment through daily personal interactions. Please know the your friendships with him were personally appreciated and highly valued.

It must be noted the extraordinary way that he passed. I was with him just before midnight on Saturday. He stopped breathing for about forty seconds when the nurse came by. I thought that would be the end but then he resumed his life. The next morning, his labored breathing seemed to be a bit smoother and more regular. That Sunday afternoon, his room was full with

(continued next column)

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(continued next page)

my brother and his wife, Suzie, and my wife, Elisabeth, and myself. Suzie's mother in a call to Suzie had encouraged all of us to speak loudly to our father despite the appearance he was uncommunicative. For about two hours we did so, telling him everything would be alright with Vera, his wife, and us, his children. My brother and I had worked on an obituary through the afternoon. After we had arrived at a final draft, my brother read it out loud to all of us. At the conclusion of my brother's three to four minute reading, Suzie pointed to us that our father was no longer breathing.

I believe that Dad chose his time to leave once he felt we were prepared and he was comfortable that all would be alright with Vera, his wife of over sixty years, and us, his children.

On behalf of my father, my family and I thank each of you individually. Even though many of you could not personally visit with him, you took the time to be with my father through your correspondences and caring. You gave enjoyment and comradeship to him while he was here with us.

Sincerely,  
Mike Gleason

### Howard Ashton Louderback Jr. Co. I, 39th Inf. Regt.

I neglected to enclose this obituary recently. It appeared in the Trenton Times. I'm not sure whether Howard held membership in the Association, but I know he and my husband had many discussions about the Ninth Infantry Division.

Sincerely,  
Alice Haines

### John W. Miller Co. F, 60th Inf. Regt.

On April 30, 2008 my longtime friend and comrade, John Miller, passed away. He had been 88 years old. We became acquainted at Fort Bragg in the late summer of 1941. Both of us were in the original landings November 8, 1942 at Port Lyautey, French Morocco. Many years later-1992-John became the founder of the 9th Infantry Division Texas and Greater Southwest Chapter of our Association. In 1993, John became President of the Association.

Throughout his retirement, John remained active on behalf of the Association and in veterans affairs.

## TAPS LETTERS

Many of our members know that John published "Close Calls" an account of his life and his experiences throughout the war.

John was proud of his accomplishments and rightly so. We will miss his guidance and his devotion to our Association. A true friend and dedicated 9th Infantry Division soldier has left us.

Signed,  
Herb Stern, 9th Med. Bn and Div. Hq.

### Erv Nowlen

Dear Bill (Robey)

It is with great sadness that I have to tell you that the country has lost another brave soldier. My father, Erv Nowlen, passed away Saturday, April 5, 2008 after a long struggle with emphysema. Like most men of his generation he lived his life with honesty, integrity and bravely faced life's battles as something to expect, accept and work through not be defeated by. He was an exceptional husband, father and friend and will be missed by many, young and old.

I wanted to tell you how much Dad enjoyed the 62nd Reunion of the 9th Infantry Division in Grand Rapids last August. You may recall that I contacted you after Dad saw the picture and article of Carl Prince in the Grand Rapids Press talking about the reunion. Dad had worked with Carl for many years but never knew that Carl was part of the 9th as was Dad. Having not seen Carl for some time Dad wanted to come to the reunion and you graciously encouraged him to come even though he had not pre-registered. I have to tell you that we were well taken care of and made to feel very welcome. I was very honored to spend that special time with Dad and those attending. I will never forget it.

So thank you for the work and dedication you put into the reunions, they provided my father with a very special day and me with a special memory.

Sincerely,  
Christine Heeringa

### William "Bill" McClurg Halsey 34th F.A. Bn

My father, Bill Halsey, really enjoyed your publication. It is my sad duty to inform you of his death.

William "Bill" McClurg Halsey was born June 23, 1924 in Independence, Kansas. On May 12, 1943, he entered the U.S. Army, serving with the 9th Division, 34th Field Artillery. He fought the Battle of the Bulge and received the Bronze Star. He was honorably discharged October 1945.

Bill passed away with his family by his side, at St. John's Medical Center, Tulsa, Oklahoma on August 7, 2006. He is buried at Mt. Hope Cemetery, Independence, Kansas

Sincerely,  
Susan H. Arclar

### Frank J. Orban Co. C, 47th Inf. Regt.

This is to inform you to cancel sending me The Octofoil. I did enjoy looking at it, but I got to the point a lot of it is not familiar to me. My dear husband, Frank J. Orban served from 1942 to 1944. He enjoyed The Octofoil but he passed away July 16, 2000. Thank you for sending me The Octofoil. Most of his buddies were from the East an recall he was from the Midwest.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Frank Orban  
Racine, Wisconsin

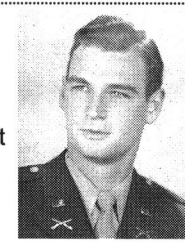
## TAPS OBITUARIES

### George Willard "Pop" Bentley 1920-2008 Co. B, 47th Inf. Regt.



Son, brother, husband, father, soldier, grandfather, role model, friend, champ and hero, just to name a few titles, are held by George Willard "Pop" Bentley, 87, who passed away Monday, June 2, 2008, at his home in Edgewater. Mr. Bentley was born October 4, 1920, in Pittsburgh, Pa., to George Willard Bentley Sr. and Ann Irene McClintock. Proudly honoring and representing his country from June 12, 1942, until June 12, 1945. Mr. Bentley served in the Army, 9th Division, 47th Infantry in World War II, later earning several decorations, including four Bronze Stars, the Purple Heart Medal, World War II Victory Medal, Combat Infantry Badge and Good Conduct Medal. Pop married his first love, Jane Ruth Adams, on June 21, 1945, in Pittsburgh. From 1948 until 2003, he lived in Conyers, Ga., where he built a home on Irvin Bridge Road with his wife and two children, Ina Claire Gansert, Edgewater, and George Willard Bentley (deceased). He retired in 1975 from Lithonia Lighting Corporation. Pops was a life member of The Purple Heart Veterans, DAV, VFW and American Legion. Pop is survived by his daughter, Ina Claire Gansert; a brother-in-law; 5 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren.

### Robert W. Gleason 1924-2008 Co. C, 47th Inf. Regt.



Robert W. Gleason departed this life on April 13, 2008. He was born February 2, 1924 in Roanoke, Virginia. In 1941, he graduated from William Fleming High School. After returning from military combat service as an Infantry Platoon Leader with C Co., 1st Bn., 47th Regt., 9th Infantry Div., he resumed his engineering studies at The Virginia Military Institute, graduating with the Class of 1945. For his service in the European theater, he was awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge, Bronze Star, European Theater of Operations Ribbon with two Campaign Battle Stars (Rhineland and Central European campaigns) and Distinguished Unit Citation. With the 9th Infantry, he crossed the Rhine at Remagen and, after completion of combat operations, participated in humanitarian activities after the liberation of Dachau. He then helped supervised security and support activities at the Nürnberg trials, accompanying Karl Dönitz, Rudolf Hess, his future wife, in Cannes, France during post-combat operations in France, and they were married following the war in 1947 in Roanoke, Virginia. He retired from the Army Reserves as a Major, and from the Bell System and ATT after 35 years of service. While with the Bell System, he was recalled to active military service for the Korean conflict and served in Vietnam as an ATT/Bell System contractor supporting the Defense Communications Agency. He worked with ATT in Oman and Saudi Arabia. Finally, he ended his career working as a telecommunications contractor assisting for eight years the U.S. Army

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(continued on page 6)

## TAPS OBITUARIES

(Gleason...continued from page 5)

Europe, 5th Signal Command. He is survived by Vera, his dear wife of 60 years; two sons and their families; and a half-brother and his family.



**John H. Losnes**  
1923-2008

**Co. L, 39th Inf. Regt.**

Mr. John H. Losnes, age 85, beloved husband of Helen Spacek Losnes of Orange, passed away on Thursday, June 19, 2008 at his home. He was born on January 3, 1923 in New Haven to the late Justan and Ida Johnson Losnes. Mr. Losnes was a U.S. Army veteran and served with the 9th Infantry Division at the Battle of the Bulge during WWII. He was a carpenter for many years before his retirement. In addition to his devoted wife, he leaves a brother and his wife, a sister, and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by three brothers.

**Major General Howard Ashton Louderback Jr.**  
1918-2008

**Co. I, 39th Inf. Regt.**

Major General Howard Ashton Louderback Jr., U.S. Army (Ret.), 90, died Friday (March 28, 2008) at Compassionate Care Hospice at St. Francis Medical Center, Trenton.

Born in Trenton, he resided in Lawrenceville most of life and since 1950 in the house he proudly built himself. General Louderback had distinguished careers in both the banking industry and the military. He started his career in banking in 1935 with the First Mechanics National Bank in Trenton. Later he was employed by Security National Bank and eventually Trenton Trust Bank in 1972. He retired from banking in 1984 as vice-president with The National State Bank.

He began his long career with the U.S. Army upon his enlistment in June of 1942. He attended OCS at Fort Benning, Georgia and graduated and commissioned as a Second Lieutenant, Infantry in 1943. He was assigned overseas in 1944 to Germany and France and commissioned a Captain where he commanded Co. I, 3rd Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division. He went on to graduate from Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas in 1946 and was reassigned overseas to the 9th Infantry Division and served as Company Commander. He was discharged from active duty in 1947 and joined the 78th Division as a reservist. As a reservist his assignments included Commanding Officer of the 3rd Battalion, 309th Infantry Regiment and of the 2nd Battalion, 78th Regiment, Division Commander 1st Brigade, 78th Division. His promotion to Major General was in February of 1975 and he retired in February of 1978.

Among his many awards and commendations were the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Belgian-Croix De Guerre, European Theatre Medal, World War II Victory Medal and Occupation Medals, Reserve Forces Medals, Secretary of Defense Medal, and two citations from President Reagan for service to the Nation. He became a member of the Infantry Hall of Fame at Fort Benning, Georgia in 1978.

He is survived by his wife Norma Pullen Louderback; two sons and their families; six grandchildren and their families; eight great-grandchildren; and his brother and his family; and nephews.

**Clarence G. Martens**  
1918-2007

Clarence G. Martens, 88, Rochester, Indiana died Sunday, July 1, 2007 just 19 days before his 89th birthday. He had breathing problems and was very weak. We cared for him at home until he was taken to the hospital where he died.

He was a Staff Sergeant of Company I, 47th Infantry, 9th Division. He served in North Africa, Sicily, and the European Theaters. He was awarded two Purple Hearts for being wounded in action. He also received a Silver Star on August 22, 1944, along with a Bronze Star.

He and his wife, Marjorie, missed celebrating 60 years of marriage by 36 days. They have 4 children, Murro, Marilee, Mark, and Michelle. He was a very loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather.

He really did not talk much about the war, but was very proud of the 9th Division.

We all miss him very much.

Marjorie Martens  
Rochester, Indiana



**John W. Miller**  
1919-2008

**Co. F, 60th Inf. Regt.**

John W. Miller, 88, a retired United States Army Lieutenant Colonel, passed away Wednesday, April 30, 2008. John was born September 13, 1919, in Roscoe, New York. He enlisted in the Army on January 7, 1941, where he served with honor for 26 years. Assigned to Company F, 60th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division Fort Bargg, North Carolina, John made the initial landing in North Africa, Port Lyautey and participated in six major campaigns with this front line infantry company. His major awards were: Legion of Merit Medal, Silver Star, Bronze Star, Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Combat Infantry Badge and Unit Citation. John was the first enlisted man to receive a battlefield commission in the U.S. Army resulting from his combat in World War II. John also served in combat with the 106th Division during the Battle of the Bulge in which he and his regiment were captured. On December 20, 1944 John was forced into a boxcar with other Army officers and spent nine days on a train without food or water while being transported to a prison camp. He escaped in March 1945 during the confusion created by an American task force trying to free the soldiers. Instead of leaving with the task force, which was under attack, John slipped into the woods, where he and other soldiers hid out for a few days before being discovered by German soldiers and imprisoned again. By the time he was liberated in April 1945, John had lost 40 pounds and needed to spend a month in the hospital recuperating.

John graduated from Roosevelt University in Chicago, Illinois, with a BA in Business Management and retired from the United States Army in 1967. His second career was with Champion International Papers in Arlington, Texas, from which he retired in 1983.

He is survived by his wife, Jean K. Miller; one son and his family; and several grandchildren.

(Those interested in obtaining a paperback copy of "Close Calls" can e-mail the family at: closecalls@live.com)

## TAPS OBITUARIES

**John C. Tittle Jr.**  
1925-2008



John C. Tittle Jr. passed away peacefully at his home Monday, May 19, 2008. John, nicknamed "Jack," was born October 11, 1925, in Austin, Texas. While growing up in Austin, he and his brother worked with their dad in his well drilled business. Spending much time in the country, they developed a love of hunting and fishing. John entered the United States Army in 1944 at the age of 18. He arrived in Belgium in November 1944 as an infantry soldier. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge and in eastern Germany. He received two Purple Hearts, the Bronze Star and three campaign ribbons. He received orders to attend Officers Training School, but the war ended before these orders were carried out. In 1952, he earned his master's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Texas, married Christine Smith and went to work for Convair (later named General Dynamics and Lockheed). He retired from Lockheed after 40 years service. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Christine Tittle; one son and his family; and several grandchildren.

## TAPS TRIBUTES

### "MEMORIES" JULY 1, 1981

THIRTY SIX YEARS HAVE COME AND GONE,  
SINCE THEY LIVED THEIR WARTIME STORY.  
THIRTY SIX YEARS OF MEMORIES,  
SINCE THEY BLAZED THEIR TRAIL OF GLORY.  
MEMORIES OF COMRADES THEY LEFT BEHIND,  
IN AFRICA AND FRANCE,  
MEMORIES OF BEACH-HEADS AND BURSTING SHELLS,  
IN THAT TERRIBLE GAME OF CHANCE.  
MEMORIES OF A PASS CALLED KASSERINE,  
IN THAT WINTER OF FORTY THREE,  
WHERE AS ROOKIES THEY FOUGHT AND DIED,  
THAT THEIR COUNTRY MIGHT BE FREE.  
MEMORIES OF "WESTY'S" RED LEG LADS,  
ON THAT FEBRUARY MORN,  
FROM THALAS HILLS, THEY SPIED "THE FOX",  
WHEN THE SMOKE CLEARED HE WAS GONE.  
MEMORIES OF "GERTIE" FROM OLD BIZERTE,  
AS THEY DROVE THE "HUN" TO THE SEA,  
THEN OFF AGAIN WITH BARELY A PAUSE,  
TO A PLACE CALLED SICILY.  
MEMORIES OF CHERBOURG AND "PADDY" FLINT,  
NOW THERE WAS A GRAND OLD GUY,  
MEMORIES DIMMED WITH THE PASSAGE OF TIME,  
BUT MEMORIES THAT NEVER WILL DIE.  
MEMORIES OF BELGIUM AND THE SIEGFRIED LINE,  
AS THEY CHASED OLD "JERRY" HOME,  
HOT ON HIS HEELS WITH ROUNDS OF STEEL,  
THEY MADE "DER FUEHRER" MOAN.  
(continued next column)

MEMORIES OF AACHEN AND HÜRTGEN WOOD,  
OF HEROES EMBLAZONED WITH HONORS,  
MEMORIES THERE OF A CHAPLAIN BRAVE,  
THE INTREPID FATHER CONNORS.  
MEMORIES OF THE "BULGE" AND REMAGEN BRIDGE,  
WHO COULD EVER FORGET THAT ONE,  
FIRST OVER THE RHINE AND JUST IN TIME,  
TO BEAT OUT A GUY NAMED PATTON.  
MEMORIES OF THE "RUSKIES" ON THE RIVER ELBE,  
IN APRIL OF FORTY FIVE,  
SHAKE HANDS "IVAN" OUR JOB IS DONE,  
AND THANK GOD WE'RE STILL ALIVE.

Dedicated to the men of the 9th Infantry Division, and especially to my brother, Tom Delmore of the 34th Field Artillery Battalion.

John Delmore  
Billerica, Mass.

Notes: "Red Leg"-nickname for Field Artillery soldiers  
"Westy"-Retired General William C. Westmoreland, then CO of the 34th Field Artillery Battalion  
"The Fox" - The late Field Marshal Erwin Rommel, The Desert Fox  
"Father Connors"- Rev. Edward Timothy Connors, Holy Cross College Chaplain, 9th Inf. Div.  
"Paddy" Flint-Commanding Officer, 39th Inf. Regt., killed in action Cherbourg, France, June 1944  
"Gertie"- A famous (or was she in-famous) Arab lady befriended by many 9th Div. G.I.'s

## SPOUSE TRIBUTE

**Ada Ellen Huggins Schumacher**  
6 November 1925-7 May 2008



Ada Ellen Huggins was born in Memphis, Tennessee, the first child from the marriage of Gladys North to Roy Huggins. The family lived with and among relatives until it was time for Ada Ellen to enter elementary school. Roy and Gladys and Ada Ellen moved onto some of the farm land belonging to J.B. Huggins and wife Mary Ellen, Roy's parents, in the Gravel Hill Community. It was soon that Ada Ellen entered the first grade at the Gravel Hill School under the excellent tutelage of Jo Swain, an itinerant teacher from Selmer.

Ada Ellen's high school years were spent at Ramer High School from which she graduated in the spring of 1943. At some point in her youth she became an accomplished pianist. Ada Ellen was something of a venturesome character. She enrolled as a Cadet Nurse in the Navy's Nurse Corp and began training at the Methodist Hospital School of Nursing in 1943.

Because WW II was concluded before she was released from her commitment to the Navy and graduated as a Registered Nurse. But a larger more profound event was soon to enter her uncomplicated life. Around February 1946 Ada Ellen met Paul Schumacher, an Army veteran returning from Europe, perhaps the first full blooded Yankee that she had the good fortune to encounter, one evening off campus. The chance meeting that evening blossomed into a friendship full of exciting challenges and surprises in their 62 plus years of courtship and marriage.

On June 23, 1948 in a small Baptist Church near the Army Base Hospital she became Ellen H. Schumacher, a name she adopted for life. She moved to Hampton, Virginia when she married Paul. Three years later they moved to Beavercreek, Ohio where they lived for 31 years; and now they have lived in the Gravel Hill Community for 26 years. They consider Tennessee their home state. Ellen and Paul have three children and four grandchildren. For years too numerous to list, Ellen and some girl scout and cub scout leaders were continuously trekking young girls and boys into their basement in Ohio for training. A large girl scout camp in southern Ohio always recruited Ellen for its First Aid requirements. Ellen was active in the choir and as a pianist, Sunday School teacher and faithful member of the Women's Guild at Hawker United Church of Christ in Beavercreek, Ohio.

Once their children departed the nest, Ellen practiced nursing at the church's retirement home, a large complex that had apartments and skilled nursing care units. With Paul's retirement in 1981, they began planning to relocate to the Gravel Hill Community. They made the move at the end of April 1982. Ellen was employed by the McNairy County General Hospital until her retirement in 1990. Then she began devoting time to the Ramer Cumberland Presbyterian Church ladies and their quilting bees, teaching her Sunday School class and playing the piano and organ for church services.

Ellen enjoyed traveling throughout the USA and in Europe. Most of all, she cherished the friendships she made with veterans and their families who attended the 9th Infantry Division Association Reunions each year. She loved the Corinth Theatre Arts, Inc., including the theatre performances, the members, the patrons, staff, actors and actresses, the children and the awards ceremonies. She was also chosen to participate in the nationwide study of Women's Health problems by Harvard University. Her thoughts were that the program tracked a group of women (all nurses) for 50 years and now as much is known about women's heart problems as there is known about men's heart health. She loved her baby children and doted on them as they grew into manhood and womanhood. Ellen has a brother Don and family and Paul has a sister Doris and brother Jack (deceased) with families they see and contact frequently. Ellen was the steady illuminated beacon that guided them through the storms and the quiet times of their years together. Her presence will be missed by all of their family and friends.

Paul W. J. Schumacher

## CHAPTER AND AUXILIARY NEWS



Jack Blann  
President,  
Texas Chapter

### TEXAS AND THE GREATER SOUTHWEST CHAPTER

John W. Miller (Co. F, 60th Inf.) passed away April 30, 2008. John was the founder of our Chapter and a Past President of our National Association. Dr. W.M. Lynch (Co. H, 47th Inf.) officiated at the services. Internment with full military honors was at the Dallas/Fort Worth National Cemetery.

John enlisted as a Private at Fort Bragg and made the initial landing at Port Lyautey. After Sicily, he rotated to the States where he received a battlefield commission and was assigned to the 106th Inf. Div. He was captured, imprisoned and escaped only to be re-captured.

He later served in Germany, France, Panama, and was an early trainer in Vietnam. He retired from the Pentagon as a Lt. Colonel.

Charles Illisley (Co. G, 60th Inf.) and his wife Barbara attended their first chapter meeting in November, 2007. We learned at our April 3-4, 2008 meeting that Barbara had passed away in December. Charles' first wife had also died of cancer and his 19 year old son too had passed on from cancer.

At the November, 2007 meeting, John Miller and Herb Stern recounted their experiences of landing in North Africa.

Responding to our invitation of all sons and daughters to attend the chapter meetings, we welcomed Ron Burrus from Gainesville, Texas. Ron is the grandson of William E. Adams (15th Engineers). Ron brought films from the National Archives showing the 9th Inf. Div. in action in Normandy. There were footnotes but no sound with the film clips.

At the business meeting President Jack Blann encouraged members to advise the chapter of illnesses of members and spouses. The National will probably consider the placement of a plaque at the site of the Remagen Bridge.

Attending the November meeting were M/M Jack Blann, Sam Burns and Anita Beyer, Charles Illisley, M/M Herb Stern, and Gordon Schneider, guests Mary Blann Cooper and Ron Burrus.

Our next chapter meeting will be November 6-7, 2008 in the Bluebonnet Lodge at Summers Mill, Texas.

Gordon A. Schneider, Secretary

### FLORIDA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

2008 Reunion: This is your last notice that you will receive to attend the 2008 Florida Chapter Reunion which will be held during the 63rd annual reunion of the 9th Infantry Division Association on August 22, 23 & 24. Use the room reservation ORDER FORM that is in the back of this Octofoil and send it together with your check payable to the "63rd Reunion 2008" and mail it to William G. Robey, Reunion Chairman, 1005 Elkhart Street, Oxon Hill, MD 20745-2118. The Florida Chapter will have their Men's Business and Women's Auxiliary meetings sometime during the 3 days. Check the bulletin board or contact Emil De Donato for the time and room number of these meetings. Please make every effort to attend this reunion. The Rosen Center Hotel, located on 9840 International Drive in Orlando is an exclusive hotel for our reunion. You will enjoy all the many hotel amenities.

### NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

Col. Ralph Williams and his wife Liz spent two weeks on beautiful Marco Island where they had a wonderful time enjoying the clear blue waters, white sandy beaches, good restaurants and many interesting places to visit. Ralph stated that they had a wonderful time and that they are looking forward to re-visit Marco Island next year. Marco Island is located approximately 31 miles

(continued next column)

south of Naples. Take U.S. 41 South to SR 92 to bridge crossing into the island.

Ike & Faye Moser sent an e-mail stating that they enjoy traveling. They attended a Big Band weekend in Asheville, N.C. featuring the Glen Miller Orchestra. They went to the outer bank beaches several times to escape the hot weather. They also enjoy taking day trips offered by various organizations. The magazine "American in World War II" featured a story on Ike when he and Company L, 47th Infantry entered a small village in Belgium during the push towards Germany. They were greeted as liberators. Ike and his buddies had plenty of cognac to drink, tasted some good Belgium food and danced with some of Belgium's beauties.

Snowbirds Eddie & Ruth Gray left for their New Jersey Shore home on May 17th with a target date to return to their St. Petersburg home on September 1st. They expressed their regrets that they cannot attend the National Reunion in August. Ruth and Eddie took a 14 day cruise in March to the Southern Caribbean Island where they met interesting people and had a great time. On the downside...Ed gained over 5 pounds. On April 3rd, Eddie celebrated his 90th birthday with a surprise luncheon party attended by members of his family and 38 members of the Power Squadron Club of which Ed is a member. They enjoyed food, drinks and a power point presentation made from past years photos provided by his wife Ruth. Our congratulations on your 90th birthday...may you enjoy many more years of health and good living.

LeRoy & Erika Miller who live at [REDACTED] are having a rough time health wise. Erika suffered a stroke several years ago and is presently doctoring at home. LeRoy is doing a little better coping with several ailments. He lost his driver's license when he totaled his van in a freak accident but fortunately was not seriously injured. They would appreciate hearing from any Florida member. LeRoy & Erika can be reached by phone at [REDACTED]

### TAPS SOUNDED

George Bentley: an e-mail from his daughter Ina stated that her dad, George Bentley, passed away on June 2, 2008 after a long illness. George served in Co B, 47th Infantry and was wounded several times. Those of you who attended the 2007 Florida Chapter Reunion in Kissimmee, will recall all the little wooden "Jump One Peg at a Time Until Only One Peg is Left" game that he made and took over 25 games to the reunion to give away to our members. Condolences may be sent to Ina Claire at [REDACTED]

Dues Reminder: Please check your Florida Membership Card. If the expiration date is April 1, 2008, you need to make out a check for either one year at \$5.00, three years at \$13.00 or life membership at \$50.00. Make checks payable to: "FL Chapt, 9th Inf Div Assn" and send to Emil De Donato, Treas., [REDACTED]

E-mail Addresses Wanted: We now have only 7 e-mail addresses listed in my computer. They are: Ed Gray, Norris Gray, Marty Gross, Ira Moser, Chuck Van Der Poel, Ralph Williams and Emil De Donato. Surely there must be more. If you are on the Internet, please send me an e-mail at [REDACTED] so that we may include them on our next roster.

Emil J. De Donato, Treasurer & Public Relations Officer

## CHAPTER AND AUXILIARY NEWS

### GREATER NEW YORK CHAPTER

The NY Chapter met at its usual command post in the Franklin Square library, Franklin Square, NY on Friday, April 18, 2008. Five members attended the meeting: Joe Charvat, Anton Dietrich, Ed Harris, Joe Killen and Adolph Wadalavage. (Killen took note of the meeting which this scribe has culled for this report since I was not able to attend.)

At 1:30 p.m. Prez Charvat opened the meeting with members in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Chaplain Killen gave the convocation and a moment of silence was observed for our deceased buddies, POWs and MIAs. Meeting was halted temporarily so that members could have a lunch of hot pizza. Half-hour later, meeting convened with the reading of the March 14th minutes. Treasurer/Secretary Joe Maiale was still away in Florida, thus no Financial Report. Discussion followed regarding our upcoming annual Memorial Service at the VA National Cemetery in May. There was no further business discussion so members chatted about their experiences in Fort Bragg before December 7, 1941. Meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

### Annual Memorial Service

On Saturday, May 17, Armed Forces Day, we met in the parking lot at the VA National Cemetery in Farmingdale, L.I., NY for our annual Memorial Service to remember our buddies who perished in World War II, and those who have since left us. We were joined by the new cemetery director William E. Rhoades and his wife Debby. Members and spouses attending were: Anton/Charlotte Dietrich, Joe Killen, Marv/Barbara Levy, Joe/Sadie Maiale, William Muldoon, John Tschupp, Tony/Viola Varone, Adolph Wadalavage and Al Zenka (Genevieve was not up to attending.) Because of members health concerns this was the first time we did not march with our flags and Octofoil wreath proudly held high from the parking lot down the Boulevard of Flags to the speaker's rostrum. We went in a procession of cars.

The day was beautiful with blue sky and small puffy clouds. A slight breeze fluttered the flags and tugged at the Octofoil wreath on its spindly legs, but the Old Reliable held its ground in front of the podium. Mr. Rhoades opened the proceedings addressing the 9th men for their service and sacrifice to our country. The Star Spangled Banner anthem was played over the loud-speaker and 2nd Vice President Anton Dietrich led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. (Due to a fall a couple of days before the service, Prez Joe Charvat could not attend because of a broken collar bone.) Chaplain Killen gave the convocation. Poignant addresses were given by Levy, Maiale and Varone to honor our deceased 9thmen. The service closed with recorded Taps and the group was dismissed. We regrouped in the community room for a short meeting and then proceeded to the nearby Spartan Restaurant for lunch.

Our next and final meeting before the summer hiatus will be on Friday, June 20, 2008 at the same command post in the Franklin Square Library. For all our ill members and families who have not been able to join us, we wish you all better health and quick recovery. Our condolences to Mrs. Geisser and family on the passing of Isidore, husband and 9th man, on February 19, 2008.

NY Chapter reminder—don't forget to pay your dues for 2008: \$15 for one year, \$35 for 3 years and \$75 for Lifetime Membership. Make checks payable to: The Ninth Infantry Division Association (note NY Chapter on check) and send to: William G. Robey, Secretary-Treasurer, 1005 Elkhart Street, Oxon Hill, MD 20745-2118

Marv Levy, Recording Secretary.

### LADIES CORNER

Here we are almost at reunion time once again. Your officers are still planning events that hopefully you will enjoy, especially at our annual luncheon. You have sent your check of \$24.00 to Jean Geary, right? You also included your \$5.00 dues for the coming year, right? Please remember payment must be made to:

9th Division Ladies Auxiliary. In case you plan on doing this now, Jean Geary's address is: 1305 E. Livingston St., Allentown, PA 18109.

The hotel requires an exact count for the luncheon no later than August 9th. Please bring your membership card with you in order to update it.

Again, I would like to address those of you that have not joined the Ladies Auxiliary in the past years. The Association that your husband pays dues to is relying on the auxiliary in many ways to help defray some of their costs during the year. So, why not be a part of this organization yourself? If you attend our luncheon meeting at the reunion, you will find just how helpful we ladies can also be to Veterans Hospitals in our country. At the luncheon, we exchange gifts, our "Pollyanna" which is part of the fun. This should be wrapped but with no name of the giver.

Please remember, our raffle will be held the night of the banquet. Our display table will be set up with as many gifts received. Members will be asked to help out to sell the raffle tickets during the reunion as usual.

We do need items to display and raffle off. This is our only fund raiser. Here is a thought, sometimes we receive gifts that we do not need from others. A perfect solution, bring it for our raffle.

I received a letter from Paul Schumacher sadly informing us of his wife, Ellen's passing. Ellie was the auxiliary Chaplain and a member for many years. Yes, we will miss her.

Willy and I will be arriving at the hotel on Wednesday, August 20th.

Guess we will be part of the welcoming committee.

See you in Orlando!

Sincerely,

Judy Goldsmith, President

Ladies Auxiliary, 9th Infantry Division Association

### SONS AND DAUGHTERS AUXILIARY

Sons and Daughters will be well represented at the upcoming reunion based on the approximate count of 150 people attending.

John Sabato will host a dance after the reception/ pizza party on Friday, August 22nd. He needs CD's that he can play for the dance so please bring them with you and we'll dance the night away.

(Secty-Treas Report...continued from page 2)  
can be sent to the proper address.

4. Now that the housekeeping chores are covered, let's get to the reunion. As of this writing on June 15, 2008, we have 75 rooms reserved, at the hotel and approximately 150 people attending. We have several people who live in the Orlando area who will not be staying at the hotel but are coming in for the events of the reunion. **WE ABSOLUTELY MUST KNOW IN ADVANCE IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO COME TO SOME OF THE REUNION EVENTS. WE HAVE TO GIVE GUARANTEES TO THE HOTEL FOR THE PIZZA PARTY AND FOR THE BANQUET, AND WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ACCEPT LAST MINUTE WALKINS FOR THESE EVENTS.** Make sure that you register and pay for the events you want to attend before July 15, 2008. Any later than that, we will not be able to accept, but will try to work something out on an individual case basis. The program for the reunion is elsewhere in this issue, and it will also be published in the program booklet we will give to each person registering at the registration desk. As we have in previous years, the package price paid for the reunion covers almost everything. The only extra cost this year is for the group photo to be taken on Saturday morning. There will be a charge of \$20 per copy for this photo. As you register for the reunion you will be asked if you want a photo, and you will have to pay for it at that time. You will be given a receipt and can redeem that for your photo on Saturday evening or all day Sunday. This picture will be taken immediately after the Memorial Service on Saturday and will be taken outdoors by the swimming pool.

5. Saturday will be a long and busy day. From breakfast to the Memorial Service to group photo, then lunch on your own, then business meeting, ladies auxiliary luncheon, sons and daughter auxiliary meeting, then charter buses leaving the hotel at 6:30 p.m. for the dinner theater. We must leave the hotel on time so that we get to the theater with time to get our tickets and get to our seats for the show. Our 2nd Vice President, Jack Blann, will again act as master of ceremonies for the Memorial Service. We ask that you be in the room for the service and seated by 9:15 a.m., so that the service can start at 9:30 and be over in plenty of time to have the group photo taken right away. Further instructions about where to board the buses for the dinner theater will be given at the registration desk.

6. Sunday will be an easy day. Nothing special is scheduled for Sunday morning in case you want to go to church or just sleep later after the big Saturday. Remember, breakfast is included on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, in the room shown in the program. Sunday afternoon there is a Board of Governors meeting, and then on Sunday evening, the big event of the reunion. There will be a one hour open bar reception from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., followed by the banquet. Drinks will be free for the hour of the reception, and the bar will remain open after 7:00 p.m. but will be on a cash basis to you would have to pay for your own drinks after that. As has been happening in the past, the dinner will be the scene of several raffles, give-a-ways, and other events so that no one will dare fall asleep after eating a big meal. You might miss something important if you are sleepy. This year we have some special birthdays to celebrate, and we can always come up with something to keep everybody interested in what is going on.

7. On page 16 there is an article about some postage stamps that I have been able to produce. I have a computer program in which

I can enter logos, insignias, etc., and then print on postage stamps. Some of you may already have seen the one I use that have the Association logo on them. In addition to that one, I now can produce stamps that have the insignia of the 39th Infantry, 47th Infantry, and the 60th Infantry. I intend to offer these for sale through *The Octofoil*, and have not worked out the cost yet until I see if there is enough interest in them to proceed further. These stamps are printed 24 to a sheet, with an additional cost to print the sheets. As in most cases, the more sheets we have printed the less cost per sheet. More later, probably at the reunion, on this subject.

8. In addition to all of the above, please remember that we have to schedule the reunion for 2009 at this reunion in Orlando. We have had an offer to have one in the New England area, which we have not visited for many years; another offer of having our reunion on a Caribbean Cruise Ship, which would be different; and a third offer for Nashville, Tennessee area. If any members have other suggestions, please put them in writing and send to me so I can bring them up at the Board of Governors meetings in Orlando.

Bill Robey, Reunion Chairman  
National Secretary-Treasurer

#### MAIL CALL

#### MAIL CALL

Stanley J. Turowski

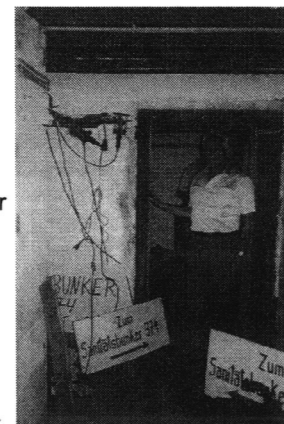
I am writing to you about the picture of the Co. K men on page 11 of *The Octofoil* (Jan.-Feb.-Mar., 2008, Vol. LXIII, No. 1). Soldier number 5 in the photo is Harold Juneman of Brooklyn, New York. I believe that number 2 was one of the cooks for K Co. After Cherbourg fell, we had a three day break. We bivouacked at Les Pieux and that is where the picture was taken. We had a nice break. We had a softball game-enlisted men against officers. Naturally, the enlisted men won the game! But all good things must come to an end and our orders were to move out on July 4th. We headed south to Carentan for more combat in the Hedgrow country.

I am enclosing some pictures that were sent to me from Ron Van Rijt who is from Holland. He is very interested in the Battle of the Hurtgen Forest. Ron is writing a book about the battle and interviewed both Germans and Americans who fought there. He has guided modern-day soldiers through the forest. Many of the German soldiers he has guided through the forest are soldiers we fought against.

So long and stay healthy,  
Stanley J. Turowski  
Co. K, 60th Inf. Regt.



Color Guard-63rd Reunion  
Memorial Service  
LTC John R. Bennett USA (Ret)  
Senior Army Instructor  
Winter Springs High School



Former German soldier in a bunker



Stanley J. Turowski  
19 years old  
Camp Wheeler, GA



Soldiers from 30th Medical Brigade, Heidelberg, Germany and 1st Armored Division, Wiesbaden, Germany

#### MAIL CALL

Henry G. Phillips

The adjacent photo of an 81mm mortar crew in action is from the book "History of the 47th Infantry Regiment" by David Gillespie. It could be mortar men of D, H, or M Companies, all Heavy Weapons companies of the 47th. I would like to know which company is pictured. Please contact me ASAP.

"Red" Phillips

PS: I have been informed by Lou Prince that Mr. André Hamel author of "1939-1945 in Hague-South" passed away on May 5, 2008 at his home in Normandy, France. The man had a great love for the 9th based upon his witness of its action in his country in 1944.

Frank Fidler

I would like to hear from any ex-members of my old outfit: Hq. Company, 1st Battalion, 39th Infantry. I joined this unit on December 29, 1944 at Elsenborn, Belgium.

Sincerely,  
Frank Fidler

James D. Brown

I would appreciate it if anyone was in K Co., 60th Inf. Regt. on April 4, 1945, and if they remember those that went missing. Please contact me. Thank you.

Preston W. Stillings

I was a witness to several air battles from the time we arrived in Winchester until the war ended. Some details remain. I worked at night with the Bobbies when a German airplane came over Britain. The spot lights had it in sight until it left or was shot down. At Utah Beach the air was full of aircraft from both sides, anti-aircraft probably shot at both of them. From then on until the war ended both sides were active. I watched the battle over St. Lo with 7x50 field glasses that the German's had left behind. I saw a B-17 on fire, I could see the fire but no one bailed out that I saw. This might answer why some bombs fell on our troops.

One time A. J. Wadalavage and I worked near each other. One of our planes was shot down. The pilot bailed out, but the parachute caught on the tail of the plane. The German turned and strafed the road I was working on. I moved. During the Battle of the Bulge I saw at low level two 109's chasing a P-47. I don't know the outcome of that. There were many battles over Remagen area until the 190 showed up. The P-38 was our fastest aircraft, but he could not catch that jet.

I have moved again, I am now in assisted living at Homestead Village.

As ever,  
Preston Stillings, MP  
(continued next column)

#### MAIL CALL

Comrade:

I failed to mention in my earlier letter, I purchased a DVD from Starcrest of California. The company has several related companies. Mine came from Traditions, Hometown Center, Good Hope, CA 92599-4000. Toll free number 800-833-8617-Customer Service. The DVD had four disc's. One on Africa, one on Europe and two on the Pacific. Contents are from U.S. Army film. The voice and comments sound like General Eisenhower. It is a item worth having. The route is the same as the Ninth's.

As ever,  
Preston Stillings, MP

PS: Title is "Great Campaigns of World War II"

#### SEEKING INFORMATION

Edsel K. Croan

Does anyone have any information as to such things as Combat Badges, Bronze Stars, promotions being sent back to higher headquarters while Company F was on the line guarding Hofan, Germany? I need dates.

Frank J. Schepis

My dad, Frank J. Schepis Jr., was with the 9th Div. Quartermaster Company from inception at Fort Bragg, NC, Sept. 1940 until returning to the US in June 1945 after discharge.

Unfortunately, he passed away June 12, 2007, but was always interested and proud to be one of the Old Reliables and wore his 9th Inf. Cap, used his 9th Inf. coffee mug and fondly talked to anyone interested in the doings of an infantry division during WWII. He cherished his "Eight Stars To Victory" book.

I'm writing to ask if you would mention his name during your "roll-call" of those not with us anymore and also, if you would please e-mail or mail me a copy of those attending (WWII vets and/or their off-spring) so that if anyone remembers him I can possibly keep in contact, as I have fond memories of those folks dad talked of with reverence.

Thank you very much and have a wonderful reunion in Orlando (my dad resided in Pompano Beach and although he was frail toward the end, he did manage to meet up with his Army buddies from time to time).

Kind Regards,  
Frank J. Schepis

#### SEEKING INFORMATION

Jim Street

I was assigned with B Battery, 60th Field Artillery, 9th Division in Augsburg, Germany from June 1946 until December 1946. The unit inactivated and I was transferred to the 9th Signal Company until February 1947 when it also was inactivated. If you know of anyone that was assigned to either of these units I would appreciate you giving them my e-mail address and my home phone number (405) 733-5041. Thanks very much for your help.

Jim Street

#### SEEKING INFORMATION

Dale "Bud" Sherburne

Want to hear from anybody who served with D Co., 60th Inf. in Heilbronn, Germany from 1953 to 1956.

Phil Dubina

Enclosed is my check for dues, also is a copy of the letter from General Bradley that was read and given to us before we left for home at war's end. I thought that this would be nice for The Octofoil for the Division troops to remember in case they lost their letter. Thanks.

Phil Dubina, with the 9th, 15th Engineer, 19 Feb. 1941 to 24 June 1945

HEADQUARTERS NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION  
A.P.O. #7

15 May 1945

## MEMORANDUM:

TO : All Organizations, 9th Infantry Division and Attached Units.

1. The letter that follows will be a source of gratification to each member of the 9th Infantry Division, in its recognition that the outstanding combat record of the division has been personally appreciated by General Bradley.
2. This letter will be read to all personnel at an early formation:

TWELFTHIRTY GROUP  
Office of the Commanding General  
A.P.O. #7  
U.S. Army

10 May 1945

## "Troops of the Ninth Infantry Division"

This May 9th that passed was too big a part of your life to crowd it with recollections. It belongs to you and the world as the day on which the German war was ended. However, May 9th has a greater meaning for men of the First and Ninth Infantry Divisions. In recalling the day in future years, you can remember with great pride that it marked the first, but the second unconditional surrender of an enemy you fought valorously for thirty long months.

From the waddies of El Guettar where the First and Ninth Divisions fought shoulder to shoulder against crack elements of the Afrika Korps to the final surrender of German forces to the American Second Corps on May 9, 1945, the Tunisian campaign was an epoch, fashioned largely in the bravery, skill and achievements of your two divisions.

American troops advancing through the minefields of the Sedjenane and on the road to Matour, gave our Nation its first great land victory of the war, and the world its first great unconditional surrender of large-scale German forces.

Since then I have followed your red numeral of the First Division and your tricolored insignia of the Ninth across the sands of Sicily, past the defenses of Troina, over the beaches of Normandy and through the hedgerows to Cherbourg. Side by side, your two divisions have fought the German army 700 miles across the Continent to the inevitable and final defeat of the German nation.

The American Army is studded with splendid divisions. But rarely have two teamed so expertly; never have two divisions fought longer and harder with greater skill or courage.

Sometimes you may have felt forgotten. Sometimes you may have felt, as fighting soldiers do, the endlessness of our long road to Germany. Now that you're here, however, and now that many of you are ready to go home, I want you to know the gratitude of your Nation.

And as your commander, I want to share with the millions of your friends and champions throughout the Army, their pride in your unsurpassed and monumental achievements.

Signed: G. M. Bradley  
General, U. S. Army,  
Commanding Division

(If you would like a copy of the above letter please contact the Editor).

Ronald MacArthur Hirst

Enclosed is the requested completed "Membership Update Form." As to my life membership I fear I can not verify it. I was never issued a life membership card. I only remember it was in the 1970's time frame when we resided in Annandale, Virginia. At that time I made the decision I would live some time and thus paid for life membership in all organizations I belonged to-what a nest egg that saved me over the intervening years. My original membership dates from the founding in Ingolstadt, Germany in 1945.

(continued next column)

As to your comment about not hearing from members outside of the US. My last letter, addressed to Joseph P. Killen, is dated 6 September 2006. It is 2 typed pages and included a copy of Agnès Lelion's "Sillons de vie Gréville-Hague 1939-1944 et demain..." Not true, I did not include the pamphlet, with its 118 pages; I only extracted that part which dealt with the 9th's liberation of that area in June-July 1944. This letter never made *The Octofoil*.

Of major interest to 9th men was the section in the pamphlet dealing with the visit Robert Alberter in 1998 and the memorial ceremony held for Dominick Padua, who was KIA 30 June 1944 in that area. Should mention that a ceremony is held for Dominick every 30th of July.

In that letter I also sent the addresses where any interested 9th man could order a copy of the pamphlet. Also makes mention of John Popp and William Rabbas, if they are still with us.

True, I am no longer a regular contributor. Not seeing mention of the above letter in *The Octofoil* rather turned me off. I won't fail you or the Association in the future even if but to say I'm still here.

At the moment I am quite involved in assisting preparations for the coming 60th anniversary of the Berlin Airlift which was born in Wiesbaden on 26 June 1948. Assistance being offered to the Steuben-Schurz Society, the US Consulate in Frankfurt, The City Archives here in Wiesbaden, the US Army Garrison on Wiesbaden Airfield (from which the first airlift planes took off) and various elementary/high school students doing projects for the 60th anniversary.

If any of your members remember Mort Stussman, the 60th Historian. I helped him write the regiment's history, "Follow Thru" in Manching, Germany-across the Danube River from Ingolstadt-before my return home in September 1945.

With all best wishes to the Ninth family  
Ronald MacArthur Hirst, Hq. 2nd Bn., 60th Regt.

Monty McDaniel

I thought *The Octofoil* readers might enjoy reading about Jack Thomas and his becoming a recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross.

PFC Jack Thomas was one of 10 African American soldiers put in for the Medal of Honor because no black soldier's had received one during WWII even though more than 1 million fought in WWII. His recommendation was one of three turned down when Bill Clinton awarded 7 African American soldier's the MOH. You can read about his exploits if you type on Google Elliot Converse Jack Thomas. There is a Google book that if you scroll down to pages 83-84 will tell the dates and what he did to earn the DSC. Hope you find this of interest because the 9th Division came close to getting another MOH recipient for WWII.

Sincerely,  
Monty McDaniel

(Mail Call...continued on page 19)

## A WARNING FROM THE WOODS

BY MARK J. REARDON

Third of a 3-part series

continued from Jan.-Feb.-Mar., 2008 issue

At 1730 hours, a German bearing a white flag approached B Company and requested a brief cease-fire while his unit prepared to surrender. Dunlap sent the man back with a message that he would hold his fire for five minutes. When the German emissary did not reappear within the stated time, B Company resumed its advance, only to run into a torrent of small-arms fire. It was now almost dark, and the enemy seemed to be on all sides. Fearing that his exhausted company was losing its cohesion, Dunlap ordered his men to fall back a short distance and dig in.

Facing four enemy battalions at Raffelsbrand, the 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry, was experiencing its own difficulties. Just before dawn, a surprise German attack seized a pillbox occupied by C Company. Although the seven GIs inside were able to escape, a counterattack by 30 men was unable to regain the position. Three Sherman tanks, and two infantry companies eventually arrived to lend a hand, but even with those reinforcements, a heavy crossfire from several machine guns prevented the Americans from making any progress. One of the tanks was hit by an anti-tank rocket that wounded several men and forced the crew to evacuate the vehicle. A daring German soldier then ran out to the tank and drove it behind a nearby pillbox before the Americans could react. With this, the Americans lost all momentum, and at 1730 hours they began to fall back, suffering heavy casualties from enemy artillery and mortar fire.



COURTESY OF KURT KAERES

An 89th Infantry Division mortar crew prepares for the next attack. The German soldiers defending the woods were badly outnumbered and often just as young as their opponents. Field Marshal Walter Model, however, had the advantage of terrain and the ignorance of American army and corps commanders about what conditions at the front were actually like.

That evening Wegelein went to Schmidt's headquarters to protest orders for a renewed advance on the morning of October 14, stating that communications to his battalions and companies were so poor there was risk that all units might not receive a regimental order. Schmidt replied that he would accuse Wegelein of cowardice if he did not resume his attacks.

Determined to show that he was no coward, Wegelein spent a busy night personally delivering the orders to his units. He still had more visits to make as the sun rose on the 14th. At 0800 hours, however, the colonel was shot and killed by a sergeant from the U.S., 39th Infantry, and his regimental adjutant was captured moments later.

(continued next column)

The fighting sputtered on and off for two more days, but it was clear that both sides were too exhausted to achieve significant results. At a cost of 4,410 casualties, the Americans succeeded in pushing their front line an average of 3,500 yards to the east. Nonbattle losses (sickness, injury, etc.) for American units totaled nearly 1,000. The toll for the defenders was also high—approximately 2,000 killed or wounded and 1,308 prisoners.



NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Relieved to have survived what they called the *Schlacht im Hürtgenwald*, German soldiers are escorted to the rear by GIs. During the fight for the forest, the *Wehrmacht* suffered 12,000 casualties killed, wounded and captured. American losses were far worse.

After breaking of the offensive, Collins made the questionable claim that the sacrifices of Craig's men had drawn off German units that could have been thrown into the battle for Aachen. Although it is true that 19 German infantry and engineer battalions opposed six American infantry battalions, many of the defending units were much smaller than their counterparts. In any case, though the Hürtgen fighting might have prevented some German units from being sent to Aachen, their redeployment would not have altered that city's eventual fate.

More important, given the experience of the 9th Division during the opening phase of the battle, the larger question is why senior American leader such as Generals Courtney Hodges, Omar Bradley and Dwight D. Eisenhower chose in November 1944 to send division after division into the dark and foreboding woods right until the start of the German Ardennes offensive that December. By the time major combat operations in the area finally ceased, six U.S. divisions had been fed into the meat grinder and some 33,000 soldiers had become casualties without achieving a breach in the Siegfried Line.

According to the U.S. Army's official history, "The real winner appeared to be the vast, undulating blackish-green sea that virtually negated American superiority in air, artillery, and armor to reduce warfare to its lowest common denominator." Given the terrible cost, it seems clear that Maj. Gen. James Gavin might have been more correct when he said, "For us the Hürtgen was one of the most costly, most unproductive, and most ill-advised battles that our army has ever fought." □

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## The Literary Ninth

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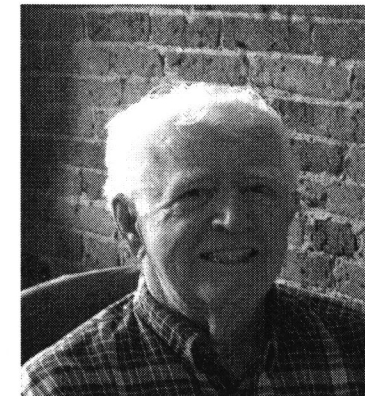
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### Book Reviews

By Henry G. "Red" Phillips



**Barnett, Edwin C.** (son of T/Sgt. Joe M. Barnett, F Co., 39th Inf.). Green Banana Stories: Recollections of a World War II Infantry Platoon Sergeant. Loose-leaf MS biography of an unusual "Iron Man" of his regiment who survived its eight campaigns without a break, frequently serving in the dual capacity of platoon leader as well as its sergeant, and winning the DSC along the way. The book is beautifully written and complete with many details of the "Big Picture." It is also an interesting study of relationships, such as that of the platoon sergeant with the platoon leader. The senior Barnett saw it all from the torpedoing of his battalion's transport on its way to invade North Africa, to fighting the vaunted *Afrika Korps* at El Guettar, Tunisia, the veteran *Hermann Goering Division* at Troina, Sicily and the ubiquitous *Panzer Lehr Division* in Normandy. This is a great tribute of a gifted son to an adored Dad, yet it is bona fide history in the best sense. We wish Edwin Barnett every success in finding a publisher.

(continued next column)

**Biddle, George** (Deceased, War Artist) Artist At War: Tunisia-Sicily-Italy. He was attached to the 60th RCT during its envelopment of enemy opposition to the 9th Div.'s Troina-Randazzo attack in Sicily, 5-13 August 1943. Biddle was one of the few individuals who admired the 60th's CO, Col. Frederick J. de Rohan. Perhaps it was their mutual interest in art or their both being World War I veterans, that brought them close. The 60th advanced through the rough, heavily wooded terrain by night marches; during the day they laid doggo under the forest cover keeping their advance secret from the enemy. At Floresta the 60th Inf. Regt. successfully intercepted the road extending from Highway 120 to the coast this covering the 9th Div.'s flank as it approached Randazzo. After the Sicilian Campaign, the 9th rested on the beach near Cefalu while Biddle moved to mainland Italy. There he attached himself to the 3rd Inf. Div. battalion of Lt. Col. John J. Toffey, recently XO of the 39th Inf. Regt. who had led the 39th for its first days at Troina while attached to the 1st Inf. Div. No doubt disappointed by the advent of the colorful Col. "Paddy" Flint as the regiment's CO, Toffey asked for a transfer to the 3rd Inf. Div. which had been his father's outfit in WWI. General Eddy was sorry to part with this excellent infantry leader, but concluded that it was probably the best move considering the circumstances. Biddle and Toffey hit it off at once. The artist greatly admired the young officer, recording this in his memoir.

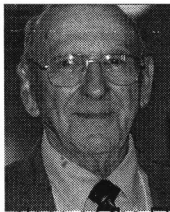
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**Forman, Sidney** (S/Sgt. Hq. Co., 2nd Bn., 39th Inf. Regt.) War and Sex in World War II from "D" Day To Victory. Published by Xlibris Corp., Philadelphia, PA, 2000. Copies available through Amazon Books. A major distraction to 39th veterans will be Forman's use of fictional names for unit personnel, for example; 2nd Bn. CO, Frank Gunn is called "Colonel Cannon" and "Paddy" Flint is "Colonel Burke." The author, a Boston youngster, was drafted soon after his 18th birthday and dubs himself here as "Russell Norton." Trained as a communicator, he ends up in the radio section of the battalion's communication platoon more often packing an SCR 300, trailing behind Lt. Col. Gunn, so that he could talk to his commander or his companies. Forman witnessed much combat and recorded it carefully.

Forman probably took the *non de plume* route in order not to embarrass former friends with his strange itinerary of sexual escapades. His excellent descriptions of the country sides passed through, from England, through France, Belgium and even timey Luxembourg, are embellished with precise descriptions of his encounters with female nationals along the way. The proverbial sailor with the girl in every port had nothing on our hero.

Contact: Mr. Sidney Forman



### The Summer of 1945 in Germany

By T/Sgt. Paul Schumacher  
Co. C, 39th Inf. Regt.

Come early June 1945, about a month after hostilities had ended in Europe, we found our selves preparing to move from our stopping place on the Elbe River near Desseau to Bavaria. Some of our troops who had accumulated enough points for discharge from the service were preparing to return to the USA and a few had already made the move to ports where ships were docked and soon on their way to the USA.

It is appropriate to cite specifically one soldier who survived 3 months of combat and was sent home early: PFC Horace Rice of West Virginia; 36 years old with a wife and two teenage daughters. I often wonder with these credentials why he was sent to a combat unit.

The unfortunate ones-I and my platoon members-made the move to Mering, Germany, a small town a few miles south of Augsburg to establish checkpoints to control the flow of exiled Germans returning to their homes. Why slow down the returning natives? Because there was hardly any food and housing in their homeland at that time.

From May 1945 until December 1945 I was privileged to be the platoon sergeant for PFC Virgil Langlotz (Missouri); PFC David Prue (Vermont); Sgt. Ivan Tank (Chicago); PFC Robert Garrigus (Ohio); PFC John Melchior (Ohio); PFC Ruffin (North Carolina); a platoon of 12 persons.

We as a group of young soldiers decided early-on to make the best of our assignments in our post-war days by finding ways to help the Germans we encounter on a daily basis to begin a difficult and laborious recovery.

When our breakfast, lunch and supper containers of hot food were delivered, several children lined up and PFC David Prue saw to it that each child received a portion of the leftover food and drink. No child was ever sent away without at least a few bites of food.

We were housed in the hotel by the train station in Mering. About mid-June 1945, word was given to me that Mr. Joseph Dilger, who operated the only bakery shop in Mering, wanted to speak with the Commanding Officer. About 3:00 p.m. that day I visited Mr. Dilger, in the best non-fluent German dialogue that I could muster, informed him that our officer, Lt. Pruitt, had returned to the USA; that I was the ranking non-commissioned officer of the group in Mering and how could I be of assistance?

Mr. Dilger informed me that he had cousins in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and he wanted them informed that he and his family had survived the terrible war.

I took his information, wrote to his relatives and received letters from them to him while we were stationed in Mering. Mr. Dilger and his wife were gracious and grateful for the help and I developed a long-lasting friendship with them. Ellen and I corresponded with all of them and visited both Pittsburgh and Mering several times between 1970 and 2000.

Some troops manned the outpost daily through August 1945. Others in pairs, walked the roads and paths around Mering looking for anyone who might need some help with a medical problem, security, stray or lost animals, etc.

Virgil Langlotz and I were on a narrow isolated road about 1.5 miles south of Mering when we spotted a person in a field cutting wheat with a scythe-and-cradle, an instrument attached to a scythe for harvesting grain. As we got near, we found a young girl, 17 years old, the only survivor in her family, harvesting the wheat. When asked if she needed help she smiled with tears in her eyes. We estimated she had about 3 acres yet to harvest.

(continued next column)

### HISTORY ROAD

Virgil said he knew how to use a scythe but not a cradle. At home in Indiana, I had used a scythe-and-cradle to cut grain along fences and in corners that the McCormack Reaper had missed. I also had bound up bundles of wheat and oats when the twine broke and we both had experience shocking wheat and oats.

Back at our quarters we found other soldiers from Ohio, Illinois, Kentucky, and North Carolina with farm experience. We even taught David Prue from a big city how to do farm work.

The next day we arrived at her farm with help after finding three scythes-and-cradles in her neighborhood barns. Two days later, the wheat was cut, shocked and made ready for threshing.

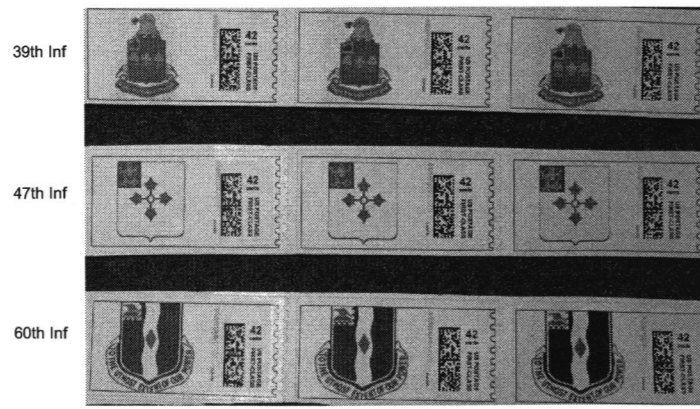
I like to think we made lasting friendships with these people by being helpful to them in their time of profound and unprecedented need. Fraternization with the enemy was no longer a critical issue for us to deal with.

**Submission of articles for the  
next issue must be received by  
September 20, 2008**

### UNIT INSIGNIA STAMPS

Here's your chance to proudly display your unit insignia with these special order stamps. 24 stamps to a sheet with your choice of postage. Cost is \$15.00 per sheet. Other unit insignia available are: 15th Engineers Bn, 9th MP, and 9th Medical Detachment. Artillery units are not available at the present time, however, if you have a good color copy of your unit's insignia send it to Bill Robey.

Make checks payable to: William G. Robey  
Send your order to: William G. Robey  
1005 Elkhart Street  
Oxon Hill, MD 20745-2118



### MEMBERSHIP UPDATE FORM

ALL MEMBERS, WIDOWS, DECENDANTS, AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS WHO RECEIVE *THE OCTOFOIL*  
PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN  
**ASAP!!!!**

Return to: William G. Robey, Secretary-Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP CARD NO. \_\_\_\_\_

DUES LAST PAID \_\_\_\_\_

YEAR

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ 9-Digit Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Numbers: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_

(Work) \_\_\_\_\_

(Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you prefer to receive *The Octofoil* by e-mail instead of by U.S. Mail?

YES \*\* ☐ NO ☐

\*\* Pictures and graphics are in color, view OR print your own color copy

### 9th DIVISION UNIT IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION

Battery: \_\_\_\_\_ Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Regiment: \_\_\_\_\_ Platoon: \_\_\_\_\_

Other 9th Division Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

### ALTERNATE MAILING ADDRESS

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ 9-Digit Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

### 9th DIVISION MEMBER AFFILIATION INFORMATION (This section only for Widows, Ladies Aux., Descendants, and Associate's)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Battalion: \_\_\_\_\_ Battery: \_\_\_\_\_ Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Platoon: \_\_\_\_\_ Regiment: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Check One: Living ☐ Deceased ☐ KIA/DOW ☐ MIA ☐

Additional Information/Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Photocopy as needed

Photocopy as needed

Photocopy as needed

Photocopy as needed

# THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Make checks payable to : The Ninth Infantry Division Association, Inc.  
Send to: William G. Robey, Secretary-Treasurer

Enclosed please find dues for:

Name: Address:

City: State: 9-Digit Zip Code:

Phone No.: E-mail:

I was a member of:

Battery: Company: Regiment: Other 9th Unit:

I wish to sign-up for the following: (circle one or more)

Life Membership: a one time fee of \$75.00 Three Year Member: \$35.00 Regular Annual Member per year: \$15.00

Ladies Auxiliary Member per year: \$5.00 Associate Member — Octofoil Subscription Only: 3 years \$25.00

I wish to make a donation to the following: (circle one or more and fill in the amount)

Sustaining Member: \$ Memorial Donation: \$ In Memory Of:

I wish to purchase the following: YES or NO (circle one)

Ninth Infantry Division Association Decals: 2 for \$1.00 TOTAL AMOUNT DUE:

Chapter to be designated: (circle one)

Greater New York Michigan Florida Texas and the Greater Southwest NONE

## 63rd ANNUAL REUNION FRIDAY TO SUNDAY — AUGUST 22, 23 and 24, 2008 ROSEN CENTRE HOTEL 9840 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE ORLANDO, FLORIDA 32819-8122

Make payments by CHECK OR MONEY ORDER payable to: 63rd Reunion 2008. Mail the below completed Room Reservation Form with the payment to: William G. Robey, Reunion Chairman

Deposits of \$150.00 per person must be made by May 15, 2008. Final payment **MUST BE MADE BY JULY 1, 2008**. Reservations made after July 1, 2008 will be subject to room availability. If final payment is not made by July 1, 2008, then deposit will be refunded. All reservations **MUST BE MADE** with this form. **DO NOT CALL THE HOTEL DIRECTLY**. For more information, call Bill Robey, toll free at 1-866-229-2377, pin #3322.

### ROOM RESERVATION FORM

Arrival Date: Departure Date:

Name: Spouse/Guest:

Address: 9th Div. Unit:

City: State: 9-Digit Zip Code:

Home Phone: Cell/Work Phone: E-mail:

If other than M/M, I will share with:

Special Requests: (Handicap Room, special diet, etc.)

ROOM RATES PER PERSON for our 3 night stay, which includes rooms, reception party, banquet, 3 breakfasts including gratuities for these events only and Saturday night entertainment.

Accommodations — Please circle below: These prices are **PER PERSON**

**SINGLE**  
549.00

**DOUBLE**  
408.00

**TRIPLE**  
359.00

**QUAD**  
336.00

Hotel will give us the same special rate for 3 days before and 3 days after our reunion for those who want to stay longer in Orlando. Please indicate on the form if you wish extra days. Cost will be added to above. The costs for meals, etc., will be figured separately for those who only want to attend functions and not stay at the hotel. Check with Bill Robey at above phone number for these costs.

★★★★★ 18 ★★★★★

ASSNMEM/REU FORM REV 3/2008

## Officers and Board of Governors August 2007-2008

### Officers

Emil Langer, President-

Martin Gross, 1st V.P.-

Jack Blann, 2nd V.P.-

Domenick Fiore, 3rd V.P.-

William Robey, Secty-Treas-

George Brown, Jdg. Adv.-

### Board Members-Terms Expiring 2008

Joseph Maiale,

Lawrence Kaufman,

Herbert Stern,

Robert Desandy,

### Terms Expiring 2009

Leo Hope,

Richard Irwin,

Ralph Williams,

Robert Lewis,

### Terms Expiring 2010

Thomas Saunders,

Charles LiBretto,

Thomas Hatton,

Emil Langer,

Henry Geary,

### Appointed Officials

Rev. Jeannie Higgins, Chaplain,

William Sauers, Octofoil Editor,

Henry G. "Red" Phillips, Association Historian

## Officers The Ninth Infantry Division Association



President  
Emil Langer



1st Vice President  
Martin Gross



2nd Vice President  
Jack Blann



3rd Vice President  
Domenick Fiore



Secretary-Treasurer  
William Robey



Judge Advocate  
George Brown

### Appointed Officials



Chaplain  
Rev. Jeannie Higgins



Octofoil Editor  
William Sauers



Association Historian  
Henry G. "Red" Phillips

### MAIL CALL

#### Paul Schumacher

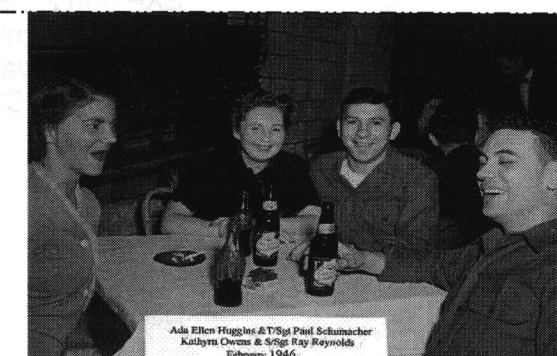
It saddens me to report that my wife Ellen passed away on 7 May 2008. On 23 June 2008 we would have celebrated 60 years of a great and enjoyable partnership together.

The photo was of our first meeting together in February 1946 after I returned from Europe. Kathryn Owens introduced us and I was thrilled when the photographer in the restaurant said "please move a little closer together for the photo". I was thrilled indeed, but mostly I was smitten by her southern charm. Our courtship and marriage spanned 62 years. I'll not get over the loss of her very soon; perhaps never.

(continued next column)

### MAIL CALL

### MAIL CALL



See you in Orlando, Sincerely, Paul Schumacher

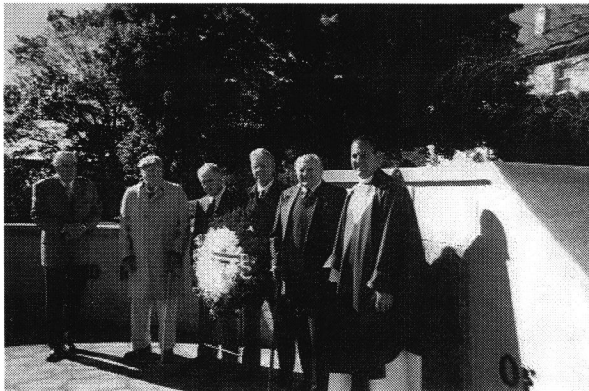
★★★★★ 19 ★★★★★

**"Lest We Forget"**  
**Worcester Memorial Service**  
**Sunday, 10:00 a.m., October 26, 2008**  
**Friends of Father Connors**

Mass in remembrance of all the men who wore the Octofoil; both the 4,581 who fell on the field of battle and those who returned home and have since gone to their eternal reward will be held at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, 353 Grove Street, Worcester, Massachusetts, Phone # 508-754-8419.

Your are responsible for your own hotel reservations. Some attendees last year stayed at the Crowne Plaza Worcester-Downtown, 10 Lincoln Square, Worcester, Mass. 01608. To make a reservation call 877-227-6963.

Gail Eisenhower will be organizing a luncheon following the service. If you would like to attend the luncheon please call her at 203-248-1495



9th Infantry Division Representatives  
Sunday, October 28, 2007

**OCTOFOIL LIBRARY PROJECT UPDATE**

The project team would like to thank the following for their monetary and materials contributions:

**Monetary Donors:**

Mr. Stanley J. Turowski, Dearborn Heights, Michigan  
Ms. Lisa Froug-Hirano, Honolulu, Hawaii  
Ms. Gail Eisenhower, Hamden, Connecticut in memory of John Losnes

**Materials Donors:**

Mr. Domenick Fiore Jr. has contributed combat records for the 376th AAA-AW Battalion.

Ms. Beth Wolff, Cheektowaga, New York has contributed some of her grandfather's (Henry Golabiecki) back issues of The Octofoil.

Mr. John Clouser, Gladstone, Michigan has contributed his entire collection of back issues of The Octofoil.

Mr. Claude Berghorn, Lakewood, Colorado has combat records for the 26th F.A. Battalion.

Ms. Lisa Froug-Hirano, Honolulu, Hawaii has contributed out-of-print books with photos of the 9th in action and combat records.

**NOTE:** Donated materials will be returned to you upon request.

We are requesting copies of "The Long March", "El Guettar:Crucible of Leadership", and " Remagen: Springboard To Victory" to be sent in for scanning. These books will be returned upon request. Thank you.



**THE OCTOFOIL**  
**2960 West 234th Street**  
**Torrance, CA 90505-4104**

Return Service Requested

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