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The Octofoil, July/August/September 2009

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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The Octofoil

Jul.-Aug.-Sept.
2009

Volume LXIV, No. 3



President
Joseph Maiale

President's Message

At the July reunion in Bangor, Maine I was chosen to be president of The Ninth Infantry Division Association. I would like to thank you all for the honor you have bestowed upon me. I assure you I do not take this honor lightly and will do my best to continue the integrity of the office.

Thank you all. Stay well so we can be together at our next reunion.

Joseph Maiale, President
The Ninth Infantry Division Association

211th Board of Governors Meeting Friday, July 24, 2009 Bangor, Maine

The 211th meeting of the Board of Governors of The Ninth Infantry Division Association was called to order by President Henry Geary at 1:30 p.m.

After the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence in memory of fallen comrades, the business of the meeting began.

Board members present for the meeting were Hank Geary, Winston Campbell, Joseph Maiale, Jack Collier. Alternate members present were Paul Schumacher, Dick Stoltz and Marty Gross these making up a full quorum for the meeting to become official. Officers present were Marty Gross, 1st VP, Bill Robey, Secty-Treas., and George Brown, Judge Advocate.

Acknowledgement was made about the death of two board members in the past year, Jack Blann and Charles LiBretto. Joseph Maiale was appointed by President Geary to serve the unexpired term of two years of Jack Blann, and Winston Campbell was appointed to serve the unexpired one year term of Charles LiBretto. These appointments were made earlier in the year after the deaths of the previous board members.

First order of business was the report of the secretary-treasurer. The financial statement is on page 17 of this issue. After explanations by the treasurer and questions from the board, a motion was made by Joe Maiale and seconded by Paul Schumacher to accept the financial report. There being no further motions, this motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

Further report by the secretary-treasurer concerned the CGM Fund where we have money invested. The CGM Fund, as is the case of much of the present economy, has lost money this year. As of the close of business on 30 March 2009, Mutual Fund Holding was valued at \$22.56 per share. The association's 1,017 shares are valued at \$22,943.52. We still have our original investment of \$20,000, plus a small increase in value. With the stock market continuing its decline, it is recommended by the secretary-treasurer, on the advice of a stock broker and an attorney, that we consider cashing in our shares before we start to lose our original investment. The Board of Governors has control of this fund and I requested a vote of the board to cash in our holdings in the CGM Fund. After considerable discussion by the board, it was decided by unanimous vote to make no changes at this time. The dividends for 2008 were only \$380.36. Another statement from CGM Fund is due on 31 July 2009, so far in 2009, we have received dividends of \$101.70 which works out to 10 cents a share. I will keep a close eye on the fund and will let board members know of any changes.

The secretary made a report on the investigation for next years reunion. I had checked in with members who suggested Memphis and Nashville, Tennessee, Chicago, Illinois, and Indianapolis, Indiana. Both Memphis and Nashville did not seem particularly interested when they found out just how small our organization is. They were thinking about an organization that wanted more than 1,000 rooms and were not really interested in us. Chicago was far too expensive for our budgets, so it came down to Indianapolis. I checked with the Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) and got a very welcome response. The CVB gave my name and e-mail address to about twenty hotels and motels in the area and I heard from all of them. The CVB stated that they were very much interested in veterans reunions, and especially reunions of WWII veterans. Costs were within reason, and the Board of Governors in a unanimous vote approved holding the 2010 reunion in Indianapolis, Indiana. A full report including costs and all details will be found on page 18 of this issue.

There was some discussion about membership on the Board of Governors and the question was asked if the officers could be members of the board. In going through the bylaws,
(continued on page 3)

www.octofoil.org

Inside this issue:

<i>The Ninety's Club</i>	2
<i>Minutes 64th Bus. Mtg.</i>	
<i>Tip Of The Hat</i>	3
<i>Taps Sounded</i>	4
<i>Taps Obituaries</i>	
<i>Sick Call</i>	5
<i>Chapter/Auxiliary News</i>	6
<i>Légion d' Honneur</i>	9
<i>Memories 64th Reunion</i>	10
<i>212th Board of Gov's.</i>	17
<i>Mail Call</i>	19
<i>Octofoil Library Project</i>	21
<i>Membership Application</i>	
<i>Reunion Reservation Form</i>	22

Editor's Note: The Literary Ninth and History Road sections will appear in the next issue.

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.

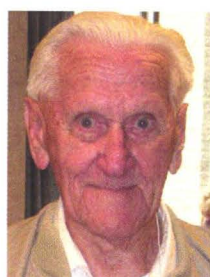
THE NINETY'S CLUB

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.

New Ninety's Club Members



Michael Belmonte (90)
Oak Park, Ill.



Charles Duling (90)
Wilmington, Del.



Francis J. Leo (91)
Barefoot Bay, Fla.



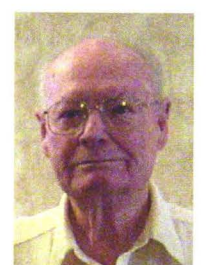
Albert Lipton (90)
Flushing, N.Y.



Chester (Mike) Mickus (95+)
Fredericksburg, Va.



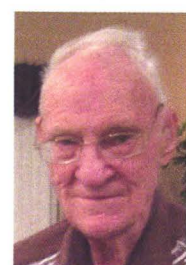
George A. Pedrick, Jr. (94)
North East, Md.



Carl Price (90)
Hickory, N.C.



Edward E. Rickert (90)
Oak Forest, Ill.



Charles Scheffel (90)
San Antonio, Tex.



Herbert Stern (90)
Houston, Tex.



William W. Tanner (90)
Union City, Tenn.



Morton H. Wolk (90)
Santa Ana, Calif.



Thelma Solar (91)
Tucson, Ariz.

Attention
Ladies!!!
You are invited
to join.

Club Members Photos Previously Published

Sabatino Agostinelli (90), Rochester, N.Y.
Rodger E. Alsgaard (94), Fort Wayne, Ind.
Gordon M. Binder, MD (90), Millbrae, Calif.
John Celler (90), Stamford, Conn.
Anthony Cheney (90), Hunter, Kans.
Wyett H. Colclasure (96), Salem, Ill.
Steven D'Angeli (91), Medford, Mass.
Emil J. DeDonato (90), Dunnellon, Fla.
Anton J. Dietrich (91), Richmond Hill, N.Y.
Gino Felicelli (90), Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.
Jackie Grgrich (91), Novinger, Mo.
Robert Griffith (92), Des Plains, Ill.
Dr. Martin Gross (91), Coconut Creek, Fla.
Joseph A. Gurli (90), Chelsea, Mass.
James F. Hart Jr. (93), Wilmington, Del.
Edward G. Janosik (91), Springfield, Mo.

Joseph B. Kash (90), Glenside, Pa.
Emil Langer (90), Hollywood, Fla.
Alton E. Le Duc (90), West Branch, Mich.
James E. Leopold (90), Chicago, Ill.
Pat J. Maisto (90), Shallotte, N.C.
Dominic J. Martello (92), Metairie, La.
Frank Meanor (91), West Boylston, Mass.
Dwight Merrill (90), Dover Foxcroft, Maine
William J. Nesta (90), Granada Hills, Calif.
Louis M. Prince (90), Cincinnati, Ohio
Joseph Rappazini (91), Ft. Walton Beach, Fla.
Clyde E. Shull (90), Upper Sandusky, Ohio
Walter Victor (91), Dawsonville, Ga.
Col. John Wessmiller (90), Chatham, Mass.
Alphonse J. Zenka (90), Brooklyn, N.Y.
Pat J. Zona (90), East Sandwich, Mass.

Missing Photos

S. Bill Buemi (90), Cleveland, Ohio
Carroll B. DeVoid (93), Williston, Vt.
Andrew Kopack (90), Nazareth, Pa.
Harold Schramm (90), New Milford, N.J.
Carl H. Hull (92), Tucson, Ariz.
Col. Ralph Williams (90), Fort Pierce, Fla.
Please send your recent photo to the editor
ASAP!!!

(211th Board of Governors...continued from page 1)

the only mention of officer on the board is the paragraph that states "The President must be a member of the board in order to be elected president." There are no restrictions on any other officer being an officer and a board member. One reason for these questions was the fact that if something happened to the president, the 1st VP could not succeed him if he was not a board member. In order to make this change we would have to change the bylaws. Proposed changes would have to be published in *The Octofoil* and voted on at the business meeting in 2010.

President Hank Geary appointed the five committee chairmen to head the committees at the business meeting on July 25, 2009. Appointed were Jack Collier, Newspaper Committee; Joe Maiale, Nominating Committee; Paul Schumacher, Miscellaneous Committee; Marty Gross, Financial Committee; and George Brown, Bylaws Committee.

There being no further business, upon a motion by Paul Schumacher and a second by Winston Campbell, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 3:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
W.G. Robey, Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes of 64th Business Meeting Saturday, July 25, 2009 Bangor, Maine

The meeting was called to order by President Hank Geary at 1:30 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance and the traditional moment of silence in remembrance of fallen comrades, the meeting proceeded.

Present were thirty-three members including seven members of the Board of Governors. A motion was made by Marty Gross and seconded by Dick Stolz to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the 2008 reunion since they had been published in *The Octofoil*. With no further motions, this motion passed unanimously.

The president then called for a thirty minute recess so the chairmen of the various committees could have their meetings from 1:45 to 2:15 p.m. After this short recess, the following reports were made to the business meeting:

Miscellaneous Committee: The committee consisted of Paul Schumacher, Chairman, Joseph Bacchieri and Russell Bellanca. The following comments deserve publication in *The Octofoil*:

- The 65th reunion to be held in Indianapolis, Indiana, sounds like a good opportunity to allow more of our membership to be able to attend.
- A side trip to the Indianapolis Art Gallery is recommended for those who have free time.
- Sons and Daughters Auxiliary are doing a great job and accomplishing a large workload, and deserve our congratulations on a job well done.
- We hope the weather cooperates for the trip to Indianapolis in July 2010.
- Compliments to the staff and planners for the wonderful tasty lobster dinner on Friday night.

No other recommendations were made, and upon a motion by Russ Bellanca and seconded by Jack Collier the vote was unanimous to accept the report of the committee.

Newspaper Committee: Chairman, Jack Collier, and members Charles Munger and William Sauers, our editor. The committee recommended the budget for *The Octofoil* be increased to \$11,000 to cover one color issue each year and not have to depend on donations. Donations will still be accepted. Motion to accept the committee report was made by Charles Munger and seconded by Bill Robey. No further motions were made. Motion was passed unanimously.

Finance Committee: Chairman, Marty Gross, and members Hank Geary and Bill Robey. The financial state of the association was

(continued next column)

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

Marvin and Barbara Levy in memory of Charlie LiBretto and Adolph Wadalavage

George A. Pedrick Jr. sustaining member donation

Linda Rzesniowiecki in memory of her father Joseph A. Rzesniowiecki

Monty McDaniel in memory of S/Sgt. Paul E. Alexander, 60th Inf., Co. G, DSC Recipient, June 14, 1944

Rosamae Mooty in memory of Pete Mooty

Dorothy Gray in memory of her husband Norris Gray

Anthony R. DeRobertis in memory of Dr. Stephen Bruno, L Co., 47th Inf. Regt.

Russell and Helen Camp sustaining member donation

Col. John Wessmiller in memory of those lost outside of Barneville

discussed and a budget for the fiscal year from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 was recommended as follows:

Budget 2009-2010

Estimated Expenses

<i>The Octofoil</i> (including color issue)	\$11,000.00
Secretary & Clerical Expenses	1,000.00
Postage, Supplies and Miscellaneous	450.00
Utilities	650.00
Contingency Fund	500.00
	<u>\$13,600.00</u>

Estimated Revenue

Membership Dues	\$ 6,000.00
Donations	5,500.00
CGM Fund Dividends	500.00
Miscellaneous Income/Sales	350.00
	<u>\$12,350.00</u>
DEFICIT	\$ 1,250.00

It is expected that the deficit will be made up partially by the surplus from the 2009 reunion and the balance from other miscellaneous income, hopefully including an increase in the dividends from CGM Fund. No further recommendations were made from the floor and on a motion by Hank Geary and seconded by Ira Moser, the financial report was unanimously accepted.

Bylaws Committee: Chairman, George Brown, and members Lawrence Kaufman and Winston Campbell. Committee recommends no change needed in bylaws and this report was accepted by unanimous vote.

Nominations Committee: Chairman, Joe Maiale, and members Winston Campbell and Lawrence Kaufman. The following members were nominated to fill the positions on the Board of Governors for those whose terms expired in 2009: Ira Moser of North Carolina; Lawrence Kaufman of Massachusetts; Albert Lipton of New York; and Charles Illsely of Colorado.

(continued on page 17)

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

Henry Endy	Frank Fazio	Jack Roberts 9th Div.-SE Asia
Julian J. Ewell 9th Div.-Vietnam	Eugene Geldhauser	Joseph A. Rzesniowiecki G Co., 47th Inf. Regt.
Albert T. Farese	Norris Gray A Btry., 60th FA Bn.	Preston W. Stillings 9th Military Police

TAPS LETTERS

Albert T. Farese

This is to notify you of Albert T. Farese passing June 14th. He really enjoyed his reunions with the group, was also disappointed he never found another member of G Company. Sincerely, Patricia Farese

Norris Gray

A Battery, 60th Field Artillery Battalion

The enclosed modest check is in memory of Norris Gray, A Btry., 60th FA Bn. who died very recently in Melbourne, Florida. (I can't remember what grade he was at the end, Sergeant or above.) He has been with NASA ever since WWII.

Please acknowledge to his widow, Dorothy.
Thanks, Lou Prince

Jack Roberts

9th Division, Southeast Asia

I wanted to let you know that we lost our beloved Jack in May and he will not be attending the reunion. John Hoyt and I will be attending.

I also wanted to make a special request. Jack was a member of the 9th Division and served in Southeast Asia and in other parts of the world supporting the American way of life and freedom for others. Is it possible to acknowledge Jack in some way at the ceremony honoring those that have fallen during the year? Jack supported John in attending the reunions and always wished there was a group of soldiers from his era that were in the 9th.

John and I look forward to seeing everyone in July.
Regards, Maurine Hoyt Roberts



Joseph A. Rzesniowiecki

G Co., 47th Infantry Regiment

I regret to inform you of the death of my father Joseph Rzesniowiecki of Queens, New York. I enclose an obituary to publish in your next newsletter. Please send a copy of the next newsletter to me. Please bill me for the publication of the obituary or tell me what would be an appropriate contribution. Thank you.

Yours truly, Linda Rzesniowiecki

Preston W. Stillings

9th Military Police

I received the Octofoil that was forwarded to my father at my home address. I am sorry to report to you that my father, Preston W. Stillings, passed away after a short illness on July 8, 2009, at the age of 94. He enjoyed receiving the Octofoil and keeping track of everyone from the 9th. Dad was an MP with the 9th in WWII and had many tales of his days with the 9th Infantry Division. He was able to attend a couple of the reunions and enjoyed meeting with old friends.

Frances S. Sanford

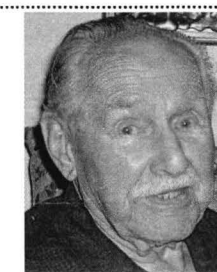
TAPS OBITUARIES



Julian J. Ewell Lt. Gen. USA (Ret.) 1916-2009

On Monday, July 27, 2009, Julian J. Ewell age 93 of Fairfax, Virginia. Born in Stillwater, Oklahoma. Graduated from the United States Military Academy-West Point Class of 1939. Jumped into Normandy before dawn June 6, 1944, with the 101st Airborne Division. Received the Distinguished Service Cross for his leadership and heroism at the Battle of Bastogne. Commanded the 9th Infantry "Manchu" Regiment of the 8th Army during the Korean War. Was the Assistant Commandant of Cadets at West Point. He commanded the 9th Infantry Division followed by command of the II Field Force, Vietnam and subsequently served as the military advisor to the Paris Peace delegation. Completed his service as Chief of Staff, NATO Southern Command at Naples, Italy.

A highly decorated veteran his honors include four Distinguished Service Medals. Two Silver Stars, a Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Air Medal, Combat Infantry Badge, two Legion of Merits, and many foreign decorations including the French Legion of Honor-Chevalier. Throughout his career Gen. Ewell was known for his leadership style, keen intellect, droll wit and devotion to his country, his men and his profession.



Eugene "Gene" Geldhauser 1915-2009

Eugene "Gene" Geldhauser of Hillside, New Jersey at the age of 93 on July 3, 2009 at Country Arch Care Center in Pittstown, New Jersey. Born in 1915 in Newark, the last survivor of the second generation of his family born in this country. All "Geldhausers" in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Florida are descendants of his cousins.

Gene taught himself electrical theory and radio repair as a teenager in the 1920's and became a certified Philco repairman. Served the U.S. Army during WWII in the 9th Infantry Division and later the 154th Armored Signal Company, where he kept the lights on and communications functioning for his group across Africa to Sicily, then on the push across Europe following D-Day. Gene was designated as "essential" and kept in the service past his term until the conclusion of the war in 1945. Upon his discharge he worked for his uncle Tommy Geldhauser's roofing company. Afterward he gained employment with the Ballantine Brewing Company where he worked his entire career, in various positions starting on bottling line, retiring early in 1970 as shipping supervisor and Teamster shop steward.

Joseph A. Rzesniowiecki G Co., 47th Inf. Regt. 1921-2009

Joseph A. Rzesniowiecki, age 88, passed away on June 28, 2009. He retired in 1985 from Credit Suisse Bank after 37 years of service. He served in the Ninth Infantry Division of the U.S. Army from September 1942 to September 1945 and was awarded the Purple Heart, Silver Star and the Bronze Star. His beloved wife Rose of 43 years predeceased him in 1997. He is survived by his daughter, her spouse and several nieces and nephews.

SICK CALL

A new section is being added to *The Octofoil* - entitled "Sick Call." If you can spare a moment to boost an ailing member's day by sending a note of encouragement or a phone call we can continue the spirit of fellowship within the association. Spouses and widows are also welcome to have their names listed. Please send the name, address and phone number of the person who is ill to the editor so we can all keep them in our thoughts and prayers. Thank you.

Jakie Grgurich had brain surgery right after the reunion. He is home and doing well. Send get well wishes to: Jakie Grgurich, 18364 Perch Rd., Novinger, MO 63559; Tel.# 660-488-6456

CHAPTER AND AUXILIARY NEWS



Emil De Donato

FLORIDA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

PLANS FOR THE 2010 FLORIDA CHAPTER REUNION: The reunion committee has been looking into several sites to hold the 2010 Florida Chapter Reunion. Marty and Rosalyn Gross gathered information for a four day cruise on the Royal Caribbean Cruise line that will leave from Ft. Lauderdale in October, 2010. The basic cost for the cruise is \$364 per person for an inside cabin and \$434 per person for outside cabin. Additional costs such as boarding fees, gratuities, one or two night lodging in the vicinity of the cruise line prior to boarding and on the return to Ft. Lauderdale will be extra. Details as to cost and itinerary will be furnished should this venue be chosen. The problem of organizing the chapter reunion is the lack of member participation due to age, sickness and deaths which hinders our efforts to bargain with the sales personnel. Other sites being considered are Kissimmee, Daytona Beach and St. Augustine. We have held reunions in all of these locations and they proved to be very enjoyable and affordable. Because we have time, will you (members, wives, guests) reading this article, contact Emil De Donato letting him know your preference of the places listed and whether you plan to attend. Your replies will greatly help the reunion committee.

NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS



Norris Gray
2001
Melbourne, Fla.

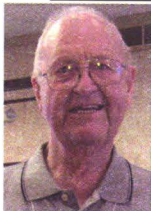
Norris Gray Dies: On July 31st, Dorothy Gray informed Emil that her husband, Norris, passed away on July 30th at the Holmes Regional Hospital in Melbourne, Fla. He suffered a severe heart attack. Norris was born in Wichita Falls, Texas on March 6, 1920. His family moved to Tampa, Florida at an early age where he attended public school and later at Brewster College. Norris joined the 9th Division in 1941 and served in Battery A, 60th Field Artillery Battalion. He was discharged from the service in 1945 and soon after, married his school sweetheart, Dorothy Marie Fuller. They have two children, Darryl Noel Gray and Dorothy Diane Marty and three grandsons. Funeral services were held in Melbourne and Emil and Audrey De Donato represented the Florida Chapter on August 8th. It was a simple but a beautiful service. From 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. over 115 friends, neighbors and former co-workers arrived to offer condolences to Dorothy and other members of her family. At 2:00 p.m. the pastor offered his condolences to the family and then opened the microphone to anyone who wished to say a few words regarding their association with Norris. Following the brief talks, the pastor gave a beautiful eulogy outlining the life of the deceased. He stated that Norris was known as "The Chief" at Cape Kennedy where Norris worked from 1950 until his retirement in 1984. Norris obtained "The Chief" title in 1964 when he joined NASA as the Safety and Rescue Officer. He became involved in the early missile development during the Orbiter design review. He later became Subsystem Manager for the Space Shuttle Program. The services ended with the unfolding and re-folding of the American flag by soldiers of the Third Infantry Division which was presented to Dorothy Gray. There was no casket, just a small box containing the deceased's ashes plus one bouquet of flowers. Dorothy told Audrey that her home was loaded with flowers from the many persons who knew Norris. Condolences may be sent to Dorothy Gray.

Ira Moser: We were sorry to learn from Ira's wife, Faye, that Ira has been a very sick person. During the first six months of 2009, doctors have been treating Ira for a blood clot in his neck area. He went under a 4 1/2 hour surgery only to discover that it was cancer and had spread to his lymph nodes. Doctors have since

(continued next column)

prescribed treatments to stop the growth. Our prayers are for a miracle that Ira will recover from this terrible ordeal. You may contact Faye at [REDACTED]

News wanted: Please send any news, your e-mail address, changes of address, etc. to Emil De Donato, [REDACTED]



Tom Hatton
President

MICHIGAN CHAPTER

The meeting was called to order by President Tom Hatton at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 27, 2009, at the Bavarian Inn in Frankenmuth, Michigan.

The following members were in attendance:

Marilyn Martin	Tom & Carol Saunders
Tom Hatton	Susie Hatton Williams
Stella & Lynn Bowers	Mary Doering
Anne & Clyde LaBrenz	Kaye & Erik Olson
Susan Andrews	Don Sedestrom
Lucille & Hal Ladoucher	Loretta DeBell
Regina Herman	Ann & Richard Trion
Clare & Bruce Trion	

Tom Hatton thanked everyone for coming to Frankenmuth and followed with a moment of silence for our fallen comrades.

The following officers will remain in place for the following year: President: Tom Hatton; Secretary: Margaret Wisniewski; Treasurer: Tom Saunders; Historian: Floyd Hennessey.

It was moved by Lynn Bowers and seconded that we meet in May and October to avoid extremes of weather for traveling. Motion carried.

It was moved by Lynn Bowers and seconded that we make reservations at the Bavarian Inn for October 17, 2009 and May 15, 2010. Motion carried. Tom Hatton will make the reservations.

Tom Hatton talked about wanting "National" to consider sending their history and other information to Fort Benning when the organization is disbanded. This is a "National" decision.

SICK CALL

Tom Saunders has had another stroke but is doing well according to his wife, Carol. If you would like to send him a card or letter you can send it to: Carol Saunders, [REDACTED]

If anyone has news of members of the Michigan Chapter, please contact Margaret Wisniewski at [REDACTED]
Margaret Wisniewski, Secretary



Marv Levy

The most gratifying news was hearing that Joe Maiale, our chapter's secretary/treasurer was elected President of The Ninth Infantry Division Association at the 64th reunion in Bangor, Maine. We're very proud of Joe and know he will serve well in his new office for National as he always has for the New York Chapter. Congratulations to first lady Sadie.

On a sad note we were informed of the recent passing of

(continued on page 7)

CHAPTER AND AUXILIARY NEWS

(Greater New York...continued from page 6)

chapter member Joe Rzesniowiecki. Joe served with Joe Killen during the 1945 winter campaign in Germany, and Killen credits Joe of saving him and his comrades' lives during the fighting. Sgt. Rzesniowiecki assessed the situation and told Killen's unit to vacate the house that they were holed up in immediately. As they did so the house was demolished by German artillery. Whenever Killen would gratefully remind Joe of that incident at one of our meetings, Joe would humbly say, "I don't remember that."

Another 9th man who passed away was Frank Fazio who was very active with the chapter until recent years. The chapter sends heartfelt condolences to our deceased members families.

Many of our active members' reported they were keeping doctors busy during the summer. Tony Varone was recently released from the Northport VA Hospital for a phlebitis in his leg. At this writing he is home with bed-rest, attended by wife Viola. Joe Killen has a swallowing problem, but overcomes it by eating smaller and softer morsels of food. John Tschupp has leg problems and is now at VA Rehabilitation Center at Stony Brook University on Long Island. William Muldoon had cataract eye surgery and a hip replacement, and wife Joan is well after her hip surgery last year. This scribe also had cataract surgery on both eyes. Wife, Barbara was busy preparing her students for a piano recital last June. Ed Harris, having trouble with his legs visits the VA Hospital regularly in Manhattan. Chapter Prez Joe Charvat says he's feeling better since his long bout with lung cancer.

Although Al and Genevieve Zenka have had their share of medical problems they report they are holding their own. Anton Dietrich is busy with his antique cars and Charlotte reports she's OK. Esta LiBretto is well in Texas and visited her children's vacation home in Nantucket this summer. She also attended her granddaughter's wedding. Marie Quinn reports she is generally well and is busy with local Senior Citizens activities. Tony DeRobertis writes buddy Bill Muldoon, he's OK despite his poor vision.



N.Y. Chapter Members (standing): Al Zenka, Joe Charvat, Joe Maiale, Marv Levy; (seated): Anton Dietrich and Joe Killen celebrating Maiale's election to President of National, 9th Inf. Div. Assn. at a meeting at Franklin Square Library, September 18, 2009.

Photo by Barbara Levy

For New York Chapter members who are not named here we would like to hear from you. Contact this scribe below, or Joe Maiale, Secretary/Treasurer, 908 3rd Avenue, Franklin Square, NY 11010.

Remember comrades: we meet every third Friday at 1:00 p.m. at The Franklin Square Library, Franklin Square, Long Island. Hope to see you there.

Marv Levy, Recording Secretary

LADIES CORNER



Judy Goldsmith
President
Ladies Auxiliary

Here we are back home once again. Are you ready to think about our 65th? The Ladies Auxiliary want to send a special thank you to Jim and Gloria Merrill and the entire city of Bangor for their gracious hospitality, the personnel at the Ramada Inn, the restaurant people, the airport greeters to just name a few. So "THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES" we now share.

What a surprise Maine's Freedom Team Salute ambassadors presentation of certificates, letters and pins to our veterans with the name

projected on a screen. This all happened at our Friday night delicious lobster dinner. The U.S. Army Freedom Team's program writer and editor said "anyone familiar with WWII appreciate the exploits of the 9th Infantry Division." Mr. Hymel also mentioned the battles they fought from Algiers onward. We missed those who could not attend our meeting and luncheon held at the Ramada Inn. Hopefully, you will be able to join us in Indianapolis next July.

Your present officers will still be the same for the coming year. Of course we would like to change this but the "popular" vote won again.

Lavonne Blann has offered to assist Jean Geary with the necessary phone follow up calls when planning our luncheon, but remember, if you let Jean know if you plan on attending, that will be better.

Does anyone remember the year our auxiliary was formed? No one at the meeting seemed to know. If someone reading this article has that information, please let me know. We moved away from New York in 1969 and I do remember being an auxiliary member before we moved.

Our raffle was very successful. We had many donations as people arrived. Our table was so full that we had to expand to another one in order to complete our display. We thank all that donated, bought raffle tickets and helped distribute at the banquet.

Prior to the banquet we decided on our contributions, based on our treasurer's report (Jean Geary), on how our money would be donated: Mississippi VA, \$200 in memory of J.W. Baswell; TOGUS, \$200, an organization in the State of Maine in appreciation of our hosts Jim and Gloria Merrill; Michael Fraticelli, our "in resident" movie and story teller about the story of the 9th Division's soldiers and battles during WWII; The Maine Troop Greeters, \$200, in Bangor who give so much to our current service people as they pass through enroute at the airport. The greeters are there everyday at all hours. As we always try to help the association by donating towards the cost of *The Octofail*, this year we donated \$300.

If you move and do not advise our editor, William Sauers, of your new address, he will have to remove your name for any future mailings. This is very important.

More information about our Ladies Auxiliary will be in the next issue. I hope our editor can fit my entire article in this issue. This article is only a synopsis of our meeting. You have to be there to know more and enjoy our extended families.

Sincerely,

Judy Goldsmith, President
Ladies Auxiliary 9th Infantry Division Association

CHAPTER AND AUXILIARY NEWS

SONS AND DAUGHTERS AUXILIARY



Gloria and Jim Merrill
64th Annual Reunion Co-Chairs

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the veterans, for without them there would be no 9th Infantry Division reunion, their wives, friends and families for supporting them and to everyone involved in making the 64th annual reunion at the Ramada Inn-Bangor, Maine July 24-27th a success. We do not want to mention individuals because we know we would forget someone so please accept this as a generic thank you to everyone, you all play important roles. We do want to extend a special thank you to the Sons and Daughters and the Ladies Auxiliary for all their help during the weekend, we would never have been able to do this alone. We are looking forward to seeing everyone in Indianapolis in 2010.

Signed, Jim and Gloria Merrill

2010 Reunion Sons and Daughters ID Badges to Feature Photos of Your Dad!

By John Sabato

At this year's great reunion in Bangor, Maine, you may have seen myself, and several other Sons and Daughters wearing ID badges that included portrait photographs of our fathers taken in uniform in the 1940s during World War II. The badges also included the official unit crest of Dad's unit of assignment. These photo badges were the prototypes for next year's 65th reunion, and all who saw them gave positive reactions. **There will only be one 65th reunion, and we want it to be a special one for you and your family.**

If you would like your ID badge for the 2010 reunion to include a photo of your father all you have to do is send a scan of the best photo you can find of him in uniform (or at least a photo taken during that time frame if you can't find any that were taken of him in his uniform) to me at john.m.sabato@gmail.com and I will include your Dad's photo on your badge when it is printed next year.

Even if you are not sure if you will be able to attend, go ahead and send the photo just in case. The best photos would be portrait type (just head and shoulders) but I can work with whatever photo you might have if it is clear enough. If you have any questions on whether the photo you would like to use is suitable, or if you don't have the ability to scan your photo, just send your questions to me at the above email address, and I will respond promptly to assist you.

Plan now to see all your friends in Indianapolis next year - you sure don't want to miss this one!

Regards, John

Ed Note: John is also going to provide this service for all the widow's who are attending the reunion. If you have a picture of your husband available, email it to him at the above address or snail mail it to him at 117 Whipp Dr., Winchester, VA 22602. This way he can store the picture electronically and have it available for printing on your badge when you register at the reunion.

(continued next column)



Synopsis of Sons and Daughters Meeting Minutes Sunday, July 26, 2009 Bangor, Maine

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 a.m. with thirty-eight Sons and Daughters attending. More arrived as the meeting progressed.

The first order of business was a discussion about our membership. The auxiliary currently has eighty active members, significantly down from the 165 that have registered since 2005 (our charter year) in Washington D.C. A committee was formed with Arlene Silver serving as chair. The committee will attempt to contact all lapsed members and encourage them to renew their membership. The committee members and members at large reiterated the importance of service to the parent organization, remembrance, camaraderie and fellowship within the Sons and Daughters.

Tom Kohl, a member of the Board of Directors of the Maine Troop Greeters presented a short history and mission of their organization. *"The mission of the Maine Troop Greeters is to express the Nation's (and our) gratitude and appreciation to the Troops, for those going overseas for a safe return and for those returning, for a joyful homecoming and to make their (hopefully brief) stay in Bangor as comfortable and pleasant as possible."* During the reunion, many S's and D's accompanied our parents to Bangor International Airport, joining the Maine Troop Greeters to welcome troops arriving and departing the airport.



Tom Kohl, Board of Directors
The Maine Troop Greeters

William Sauers, *Octofoil Legacy* newsletter editor clarified that the S's and D's *Octofoil Legacy* consists substantially of the same material that is printed in *The Octofoil*, but with S's and D's articles and information woven in. It is our opportunity to contribute to a quarterly newsletter that acknowledges the contributions, projects/notices and concerns of the auxiliary. William requested ideas, articles and contributions for content be sent to him.

A brief discussion of our bylaws took place asking if any members had concerns or comments. There was a request to put our bylaws on the website for all to see and access easily. Bill Mizell made a motion to amend the bylaws to change our calendar year to July 1st to June 30th. Motion was seconded by William and all members voted unanimously to approve the change.

Phil Bosko presented an overview of the memorial service held annually at the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Worcester, Massachusetts. In 2008, a proposal was put forth at our auxiliary meeting that we pick up the cost of the wreath on an annual basis. The proposal was met with consensus and arrangements were made by Gail Eisenhower for the wreath. Gail volunteered to chair the committee for the preservation and continuity of this event for the S's and D's.

Continuing a discussion from last year's meeting regarding the placement of plaques/memorials overseas. William has approached the Board of Governors to offer assistance with the production and placement of plaques/memorials overseas. A committee was formed, chaired by Janet Schnall to investigate overseas plaques/memorials. The first project is to place a recognition plaque at the Peace Museum in Remagen. Other locations will follow over this coming year.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Clare Irwin, Secretary

Légion d' Honneur Legion of Honor

Consulate General of France

Dr. Gordon Binder
Millbrae, California
July 14, 2009
Bastille Day



Dr. Binder and Consul General of
France, Mr. Pierre-Francois Mourier.



As a young battlefield surgeon assigned to the 9th Infantry Division during World War II, he recalls the days around June 6, 1944, D-Day, when the Allies invaded Normandy, France.

In appreciation for his contribution "to the United States decisive role" in the liberation of France during World War II, the French government has awarded Binder the rank of "chevalier," or knight, of the Legion of Honor, the highest honor in France.

Binder, 90, received notice by letter from the French ambassador to the United States, followed by a rolled, formal document signed by Nicolas Sarkozy, president of France.

Binder was a freshly minted physician in 1944 when he arrived at Omaha Beach a few days after June 6. He was part of the 2nd Evacuation Hospital and had just completed basic training after graduation from University of California San Francisco medical school. Reassigned to the 1st Battalion, 47th Infantry Regiment, Dr. Binder participated in the battle of Normandy as a battalion surgeon. "I was a real greenhorn," he said. On his second night, a German tank pulled near and started firing. "It was an artillery barrage-the worst thing imaginable," he said. "People were lying there killed, wounded. It was my baptism of fire."

Binder recalled that the pace of action was constant. "Basically, I was a first-aid man," he said. "We had no anesthesia on the front lines. We gave a shot of morphine, applied sulfa drug to prevent infection and did what we could," including amputation.

"Every day you thought this might be your last day," he said.

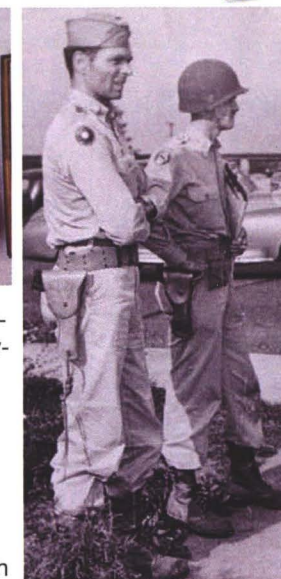
Once, a sergeant received four inches of shrapnel in his chest during an attack. "I reached in and pulled it out with my hands," he said. "Then I taped his chest so he wouldn't bleed out, gave morphine, plasma and told him, as an act of blind faith, that when he got better he should send me a note. I never thought I would hear from him again." But the man survived and sent a card.

After 11 months, with one three-day break, Binder developed hepatitis in Germany and was evacuated to England. The doctor retains sharp memories of those wartime days.

"I think about them every day," he said.

*Excerpted and reprinted by permission from:
Joan Aragone, San Mateo Times, May 25, 2009*

Louis M. Prince
Cincinnati, Ohio
July 29, 2009



The irony of Prince, 90, receiving the highest honor of the French government is that his first experience in war was fighting Frenchmen in French Morocco.

Prince fought in Sicily and in France after D-Day, but the young officer of the 60th Field Artillery Battalion saw his first action in November 1942, when American troops landed in French Morocco and fought their way across North Africa.

The enemy he first met there were the French soldiers of the Vichy government in Paris, which had cast its lot with Hitler and the Nazis; and the Vichy soldiers engaged the Americans in a three-day battle that ended in a truce.

"The Vichy government was pro-Nazi, but most of the officers and the men in the ranks didn't believe in it," said Prince.

In fact, Prince said, shortly after the truce, the same French officers they had been fighting days before threw a banquet for the Americans. Prince, who had studied French literature at Princeton, served as an interpreter for his fellow American officers.

The real fighting came weeks later in Tunisia, where Prince led an artillery convoy up a narrow mountain road. As the convoy hauled the guns and caissons toward the Nazi tank columns, the soldiers were met by a steady stream of troops, mostly British, fleeing, shouting at the Americans in the convoy: *Get out while you can! It's suicide up there!*

For three days-ending on Prince's 24th birthday-the artillery fired non-stop, despite the German dive bomber attacks and the German shelling. In the end, they had stopped the 10th Panzer Division, one of the Nazis' most feared tank units, dead in its tracks.

When Prince speaks of that night now, his voice lowers. "There were men who did not come back," he said, quietly. "They are the ones I will never forget. Never."

*Excerpted and reprinted by permission from:
Howard Wilkinson, Cincinnati Enquirer,
July 24, 2009*

Founded by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802, the National Order of the Legion of Honor is the highest honor in France. It recognizes eminent service to the French Republic. Recipients of this honor are named by decree signed by the President of the Republic.

For information contact Henry Phillips, 184 Northridge Dr. Grass Valley, CA 95945
Tel# 530-272-7268 E-mail: hgphillips@comcast.net

French Consulate General in San Francisco



MEMORIES

64th Annual Reunion

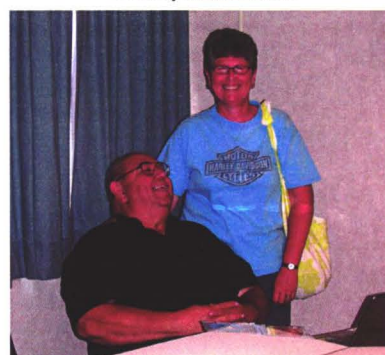
Bangor, Maine



84th Field Artillery Battalion Representatives
Alice Haines, Al Lipton, Rev. Jeannie Higgins
Photo by Amanda Goslin



Gail Eisenhower, daughter of John C. Eisenhower, K Co., 60th Inf. Regt. and Bill Robey



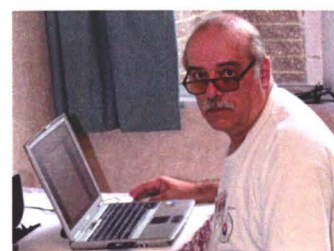
Brother and sister: Bill Mizell and Jean Parson; children of Willie Mizell, F Co., Hq. Co., 47th Inf. Regt.



Command Post
64th Annual Reunion
Bangor, Maine



Troop Greeter,
Theda Ray, right,
with new friend



John M. Sabato, Sons & Daughters Aux., printed all the registration badges.



Sandra and Phil Bosko



George Brown, A Co., 47th Inf. Regt. and Jack Collier, C Co., 47th Inf. Regt. at the Friday night Clam and Lobster Dinner



Boarding *The Patience*. The river cruise after lunch on Sunday was well attended. The ship is a replica of a 19th Century steam ferry (inset).



Clare Irwin works the registration desk. Jean Geary, Ladies Auxiliary, checks their raffle table



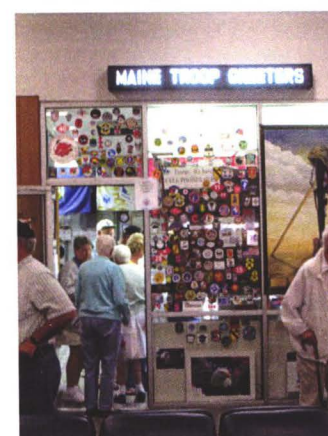
Paul Schumacher, Joseph Maiale and Karl Ballwanz waiting to welcome the troops home.



SOME STATS
7/23/09 since May 2003
4307 Flights
874,823 Troops
184 Dogs
SOME STATS



Jerry Murphy, Maine Troop Greeter and Robin Tapelt, Sons & Daughters Aux.



The Maine Troop Greeters Office
Bangor International Airport



Here they come!



Nadine Collier, far left, and Jack Collier, far right, welcome a special warrior



Richard Stoltz, right, receives his Freedom Team certificate and pin from Harry Rideout, U.S. Army Freedom Team Salute ambassador.



200 plus arrived on this flight.
Sunday, July 26, 2009



Winners!



Keith and Arlene Silver with Charles Illsely



Ready for the banquet.



64th Annual Reunion
Memorial Service
Saturday, July 26, 2008
10:00 A.M.



Memorial Message "To Remember"

Rev. Jeannie Higgins, Chaplain

Distinguished members of the 9th Infantry Division Association, family, friends and guests:

It is so good to be here once again. Each year that we are able to be together is a blessing. I attended my first 9th Infantry Division Association reunion with my dad in 1989 at The Pines in South Fallsburg, New York. It was amazing. When we were all together that year, the group would fill a football field. It is hard to believe that that has been 20 years ago. Like most sons and daughters-I'd like to think-some of my greatest memories and greatest satisfactions are mine because I took the time to take him to those reunions. I learned so much about him-my dad-that I would never have known, if I had not been with him on those occasions. I am so grateful. I count it a privilege to be here today. Though our group is smaller, we are no less grateful to be together; to share the stories that have brought this group together for this 64th reunion.

For now, in the words of Franklin D. Roosevelt, "I shall be sincere, be brief and be seated." I feel so incompetent, so unworthy to stand in the midst of such heroism and bravery, but my privilege and my purpose is to celebrate the lives of those whom we have lost in the last year. I dare not miss the opportunity to do so.

One of my best friends is a federal judge. This past March, she officiated at the Naturalization Service which is held at least annually in my home town. I was reminded again, as I sat in on that service of the price that was paid for the privilege of those who had come to take the citizenship oath. On that particular day, there were 235 persons (immigrants) who became citizens of this great country. In so doing they swore to renounce all ties and loyalties to the country of their birth and place those loyalties with the United States of America. My friend, Judge Marcia Parson, asked those who wished, to respond to this question, "What does it mean to you to become a citizen (of the United States)?" One particular woman said this, "I can drive my child, all by myself to Johnson City (a neighboring town), late on a Friday evening to watch 'Disney on Ice' (without fear of being hijacked at a red traffic light). I can take my child and be at the park at dusk, feeding the ducks, and then stroll back home (without worrying about getting home before nightfall.) I can go for an early morning run, all by myself (without having to strap the holster/gun over my shoulder). On those warm summer nights, we can run around catching fireflies late into the night (without having to get indoors by 6 p.m. and bolt the doors shut). I can go shopping at 8 p.m. when my teenager decides she just has to have a new outfit for the next day's special event; otherwise she will just die (without having to constantly look over my shoulder with the fear of being mugged). She went on to say, "Of all the immigrants there that day, everyone of us has a story, be it one of hope, prosperity, pursuit of opportunities, pursuit of freedom/security, that has spurred us to choose this wonderful land as our new home."

Finally, this new citizen said, "fellow Americans, there are so many things that this country has to offer, that if you have not lived on the other side, you do not even think about. Opportunities to dream and have the ability to make your dreams come true; freedom..."

These are some of the same reasons that the brave men and women of the U.S. Army, the "Old Reliabilities" of the 9th Infantry Division fought in WW II. Not only did they defend our freedom, but they believed-you believed that every man, woman and child in every land deserves that same freedom. It is for that reason that brave men and women still go off to war.

I read with great interest one grandson's story (Mark Primmer) about his D-Day participation this past year at the American Cemetery in Colleville-sur-Mer in France. Whatever circumstances figured in to his being there, his primary interest grew from his love of his step grandfather, Everett Tapp, of the 9th Infantry Division. He writes, "There I was, sitting alone, with some 8,000 others on a sunny June 6 afternoon...watching and listening to four heads of state pay tribute to the sacrifices of soldiers who 65 years ago charged into the teeth of writhing German fire on the beaches code named Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword. Oh, how I wish Grampie could have been there with me."

Mark represented not only his Grampie, but the Sons and Daughters of the 9th Infantry Division Association. If you read his story in the July edition of the *Octofail Legacy*, he made a sign for use in photos which read, "Honoring the sacrifices of the men of the 9th Infantry Division-from the Sons and Daughter Auxiliary." In the hour before the

(continued next column)

ceremony began, Mark writes, "it (the cemetery) is a place like no other. A solemn peace exists there. Perched on the cliffs of Normandy beaches, overlooking the English Channel, it is a green park filled with white crosses and Mogen Davids commemorating the lives of 9,387 of our military dead, most of whom lost their lives in the D-Day landings and ensuing operations."

Today, we remember those in that cemetery and those whose bodies lie in cemeteries literally around the world who gave their live in service to God, to country, to family and to a future generations who will enjoy freedoms made possible by their willingness to stand up for and contribute in great measure to the freedom of the world.

These times of remembrance are so important. My own personal experience of standing at the grave of an uncle who gave his life (at 18 years of age) in the Normandy invasion and lies in rest in a cemetery in the Brittany region of France will remain as one of the richest memories of my life. The Superintendent of that cemetery who gratefully and appreciatively took time for a fallen soldier rubbed sand into the otherwise pure white marker so that his name would be prominently shown, took the time to place an American flag on his grave, and then played taps for this one solitary soldier, my uncle. Then, when my own father (Walter E. Ricker) died, a year and half ago, in another time and another place, once again the memories of life well lived, a man well loved was saluted and laid to rest. And again a grateful nation remembered and gave thanks.

When we come to that final resting place for our loved ones-comrades, husbands, fathers, grandfathers, a grateful nation continues to recall the names, the lives, the countless contributions for the cause of freedom for which they fought. These magnificent temples we call our bodies are only temporary. It is only our bodies that are interred. These bodies only house the souls of an amazing creation called a human being. They are only temporary. We have this one earthly life which is a gift. Each day we decide what and how we shall live to bring glory and honor to our Creator. Today we choose to give thanks to God for the lives, the contributions, the gifts and the blessings of this life.

Oh were it possible to call the names of each member of the "Old Reliabilities" and in the calling of their names, stop to remember all that each name represents and the memories we have of each of them, there would not be enough time. But we will remember. To remember means to "bring back to mind; to be careful not to forget; to call something back to mind."

We may not be able to call the names of all 9th Infantrymen who have died in the past year, but we shall call the name and bring back to mind the lives of those whom we have known.

They were writers, farmers, church members, decorated soldiers, engineers, insurance representatives, watchmen, members of civic and charitable organizations, coal miners, cooks, tire salesmen, manager of general stores. These men were called kind, generous, humble, men of integrity. They had interests and hobbies like most people. They were leaders and they were followers. To us, they were our comrades, husbands, fathers, grandfathers, friends. They were in many ways, ordinary men made extraordinary by the lives they lived. They are the mighty men of the great 9th Infantry Division.

In calling of their names, we remember-we bring to mind the lives and choices and amazing stories of their lives. These are the names of those men whom we've known and loved:

David C. Atkinson
Richard Bandou
Paul J. Callahan, Sr.
Richard B. Kann, Sr.
Edward J. Morkys
David M. Pinkney
Robert Wertz
Leo C. Williamson
Cletis Winningham
John W. "J.W." Baswell
Joseph J. Joyce
Hal Saum
Robert G. Lewis
Harry Odom

Norman C. Johnson
Nicholas Nichols
Gilbert E. Gricoskie
Edward P. Langham
Martin A. Niveth
Leonard L. Tomassone
Adolph Wadalavage
Willard W. Weaver
Jack R. Blann
Ray Haire
Donald V. Hyde
Charles A. LiBretto
George Bastedo

(continued on page 13)

(Memorial Message...continued from page 12)

And we remember the women who were the wives of 9th Infantrymen who have died this past year. In some cases, they gave to the men of the 9th Infantry the reason to hope, to count each day during that war, to want to come home and have a home and a family. To these amazing women who worked alongside and prayed for their husbands, who were the father of their children-to these wives of these great soldiers, we also say thanks and call to mind their lives and all that they accomplished and contributed to in the building of a nation:

Leona M. Price (wife of Carl W. Price)
Kathryn S. Johnson (wife of Charles "Hoss" Johnson)
Agnes Speers (wife of Ralton M. Speers)
Margaret H. Ricker (wife of Walter E. Ricker; mother of
9th Infantry Division Association Chaplain, Rev. Jeannie Higgins)

Let us pray:

Creator God we give thanks for these great men and women whom you have shared with us. For all that they have given to us to make us who we are, for that of them that lives and grows in us and for that in your love that will never end, we give you thanks. Draw those of us who remain in this life closer to one another, make us faithful to serve one another, and give us to know your peace-the only peace that will last and is eternal, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.



Prisoner of War Pledge of Allegiance

I pledge allegiance to the flag...

I am an American, I was a Prisoner of War, I have served my country. I need no one to tell me what allegiance I owe to my flag, to my country, to my home.

of the United States of America...

This is my country, I have fought for it, I have been imprisoned for it, and many have died for it.

and to the Republic for which it stands...

This flag stands for me, for love of my country, for love of my family, for love of my friends. I did not forsake it when I was starved, when I was beaten, or when some were killed.

one nation under God, indivisible...

I am one man, I have one country, America. I worship one God. Under God I was captured, under God I was saved, under God I have no fear.

with liberty and justice for all...

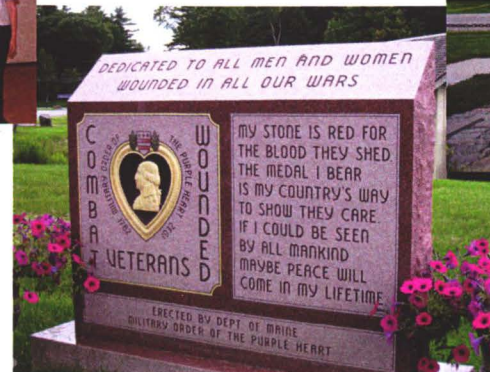
My allegiance is to Liberty, to Justice. My flag represents the best of myself, my effort, my home, my country. I will pledge allegiance to the flag. I will pledge under the love of God. It is my right, my privilege, my duty. I have earned it. Tell me not how! I have given you much. I am an Ex-Prisoner of War. Take nothing more from me.

I pledge allegiance to the flag of my country!

If you would like a copy of the Prisoner of War Pledge of Allegiance contact the editor.



L to r: Piper, Taps player,
Color Guard



Purple Heart Memorial



John M. Sabato, Master of Ceremonies, invites President Henry Geary to lead the recitation of the Prisoner of War Pledge of Allegiance during the memorial service. Participating left to right are Willy (Snuffy) Goldsmith, John, President Geary, Jack Collier, Joseph Maiale, Russell Bellanca and Winston Campbell.



Inscription reads:
4,914 BANGOR CITIZENS
SERVED OUR COUNTRY
IN WORLD WAR II
110 LOST THEIR LIVES
THE BANGOR PUBLIC LIBRARY DISPLAYS EACH DAY THE
HISTORY OF A BANGOR VETERAN KILLED DURING THAT WAR



Dr. Marty Gross offered the closing prayer

Perspective on Casualty Numbers

By Dr. Marty Gross

To the best of my recollection, every time I hear the casualty number 4,851, I cringe. The number should be over 6,000.

The Ninth Division was not involved in the landing in North Africa. The 47th combat team and the 60th combat team were the Western Task Force. The 39th combat team were the Eastern Task Force. All casualties were attributed to the task force.

After the landing the 39th combat team became part of the British First Army. We were on British rations. Ugh! The 3rd Battalion of the 39th was at Souk Arass when Rommel attacked at Kasserine Pass. The 3rd Battalion was called out at 4:00 in the morning and rushed to a defensive position and was immediately overrun by Rommel's tanks. M-1 rifles without artillery support are not much good against German tanks. A lot of men were killed, wounded or captured. There was no front line and a good number of the men managed to escape and find their way back to Souk Arass. Casualties were attributed to the British First Army.

Divarty of the Ninth Division made a forced march from Morocco where they landed over a thousand miles, over horrible roads, and got there in time to stop Rommel and force them to retreat. They were unattached and I do not know who the casualties were attributed to.

The Ninth Division finally assembled and got into combat at El Guettar, minus the 60th combat team, which was detached and sent to fight with the First Division. They had many casualties all attributed to the First Division.

All wounded men evacuated to a hospital were no longer part of the Ninth Division. If they died in the hospital they are on the roster of the hospital.

The Ninth Division, "Old Reliabilities," were constantly sending combat teams to other units who needed us. The 39th combat team landed at D-Day with the Third Division in Sicily and fought with them for several weeks before joining the rest of the Ninth Division in central Sicily. All casualties were attributed to the Third Division. They also landed on Utah Beach in Normandy on D-Day with the Fourth Division and fought with them until they rejoined the Ninth and captured Cherbourg. All casualties were attributed to the Fourth Division.

Many times during combat in Belgium, France and Germany, combat teams were borrowed from the "Old Reliabilities" to help them achieve their objective.

Now you can see why the figures are erroneous and nowhere near the truth.



Lobster and Clam Bake



L to r: Malinda Rabideau, Albert Lipton, Marty Gross, Rosalyn Gross, Janet Schnall, Bill Schnall and Zachary Rabideau



L to r: Traci Walters, Kathy Ryan, Ervin Walters, Lillian Walters, Beverly Arten, Thomas Walters and Todd Walters



Alice Haines and Amanda Goslin



Helen Mizell and Lavonne Blann



Jackie Grgurich and Leo Fatlan

Ira and Faye Moser enjoy the river cruise



L to r: Stephen Aberegg, Neil Aberegg and Joanne Truit Sheedy



L to r: Judy Rishel, Only Rishel, Marilyn Martin and Linda Jorden



Banquet reception with open bar.



L to r: Janet Brown, Linda Collier and Bette Blann Prochaska



JoAnn Bryant and Glenda Baswell



Paul Blann and Phil Bosko



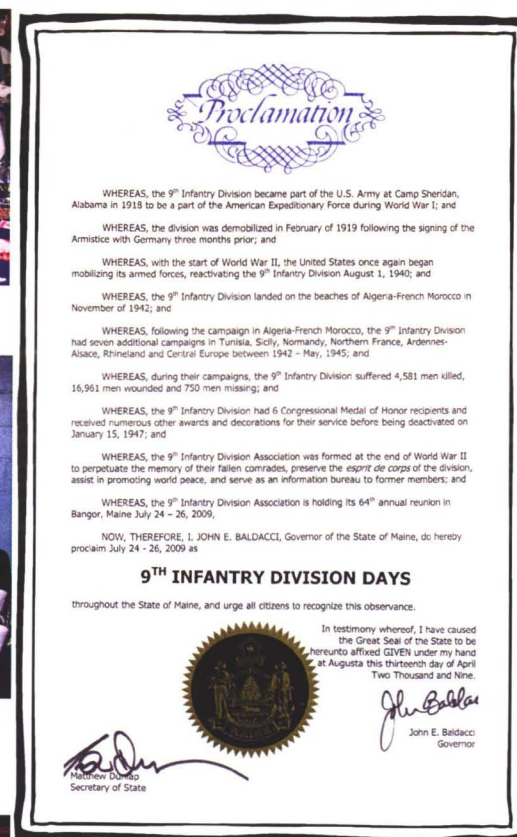
L to r: John Hoyt, Herbert Olson and Maurine Hoyt Roberts



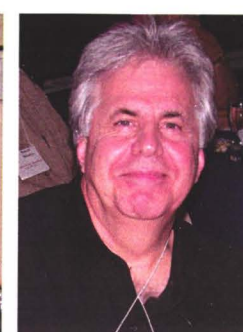
Russell Bellanca, right, receiving his certificate and pin.



Richard and Betty Jo Stoltz



Carolyn Duguay Black Bear Medical donated the use of two wheelchairs.



Michael Fraticelli 9th Infantry Division documentary filmmaker



L to r: Charles Duling, Theda Ray, Clarence Ray, Marlynn Ray, Jane Mitchel



Joyce and Charles Munger



Stanley and Bernice Kazdoy



Winston Campbell and Charles Scheffel



Judy and Willy "Snuffy" Goldsmith



JoAnn Best, Karl Ballwanz Jr. and Tim Heller



Kathy Tapelt and John Rowe



Past President Henry "Hank" and Jean Geary



Sadie and President Joseph Maiale



Judy and Only Rishel



Glenda and John Baswell



Terry Barnhart, Kim and Roger Przbylski



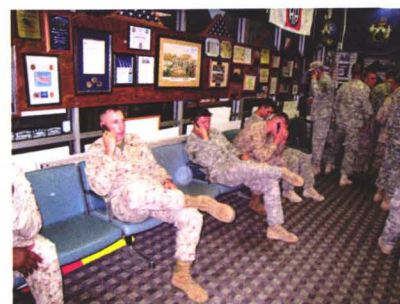
Mary Blann Cooper, Lavonne Blann and Bette Blann Prochaska



The bar is open!



L to r: Lee Scheffel, Mack and Mary Kay Darr, Winston Campbell



Calling home! Cell phones are provided by The Maine Troop Greeters



(Minutes of 64th Business...continued from page 3)

In addition to board members, the committee nominated George Brown to serve as 2nd Vice President to replace Jack Blann, and his formal election will take place at the next board meeting. No further nominations from the floor were made and nominations were closed. A motion by Winston Campbell to accept the nominations and seconded by Bill Robey. The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

William Sauers asked to speak for a few minutes. He spoke about the need to establish memorials/plaques in recognition of The Ninth Infantry Division overseas. He recommended it was time for a plaque to be erected at the Peace Museum in Remagen. He showed pictures of the present plaques erected by the 9th Armored Division, 78th Infantry Division and the 99th Infantry Division. He indicated that the Sons and Daughters Auxiliary stand ready to take the lead on the project to erect the subject plaque. The Sons and Daughters will discuss the plan at their business meeting on Sunday morning. Members present agreed to support their project and asked that the plaque list all the units of the division. Sauers will report back to the Board of Governors meeting on Sunday afternoon.

At the lobster dinner on Friday night, the Department of the Army had several people from their Freedom Team Salute unit with us. They conducted a ceremony and all association members present were presented with a Freedom Team Certificate and a U.S. Army lapel pin. The Freedom Team Salute is sponsored and financed by the Department of the Army. The certificates were signed by the Secretary of the Army and the Four Star Chief of Staff of the Army. All in all, quite an honor for all of our members. The rest of our membership will receive these certificates by mail sometime after this reunion.

There being no further business brought before this meeting, a motion to adjourn was made by Bill Robey and seconded by Marty Gross. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

W.G. Robey, Secretary-Treasurer

212th Board of Governors Meeting Sunday, July 26, 2009 Bangor, Maine

The 212th meeting of the Board of Governors of The Ninth Infantry Division Association was called to order by President Hank Geary at 1:30 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance and the traditional moment of silence in memory of fallen comrades, the business of the meeting began.

Present for the meeting were board members Jack Collier, Winston Campbell, Lawrence Kaufman, Charles Illsely, Joseph Maiale, Albert Lipton, Ira Moser and George Brown, Judge Advocate.

The first order of business was the election of a new president. Jack Collier nominated Joseph Maiale of New York, and was seconded by Hank Geary. No further nominations were offered and the nominations were closed. Joseph Maiale was elected unanimously by the Board of Governors. He then took over the meeting from outgoing President Hank Geary.

President Maiale thanked Hank Geary for his work as president and then called for any new business to come before the meeting. No new business was brought up and then the election for the rest of the officers took place. Motion was made by Jack Collier and seconded by Charles Illsely to re-elect all the current officers for another term. No further nominations were offered, the nominations were closed and the current officers were elected unanimously for the term from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010. George Brown was elected 2nd VP after being nominated at the business meeting on July 25th. Officers for the next year are Marty Gross, 1st VP; George Brown, 2nd VP and Judge Advocate; Domenic Fiore, 3rd VP; and Bill Robey, Secretary-Treasurer.

(continued next column)

Secretary-Treasurer Report To the 64th General Meeting General Fund Activity Fiscal Year 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009

CASH ON HAND (National Account) 1 June 2008 \$9,838.09

REVENUE

Membership Dues	\$3,225.00
Donations-Memorial Fund	1,540.00
Donations-Octofoil Costs	1,280.00
Donations-Octofoil Library Project	4,105.00
CGM Fund Dividends	380.36
Sales (Decals & Maps)	181.00
Special Postage Stamps	
Costs	\$459.10
Sales	<u>399.00</u>
2008 Reunion Surplus	(60.10)
	<u>737.65</u>

Total Revenue \$11,388.91

OPERATING EXPENSES

Postage, Supplies, Miscellaneous	\$ 864.44
(Incl. Past Pres. Plaque, Ladies Aux. Dues, etc)	
The Octofoil-4 issues & Editor Expenses	10,308.84
Secretary-Treasurer Expenses	310.00
Utilities	<u>450.00</u>

Total Operating Expenses \$11,915.28

Expenses Exceeding Revenue (526.37)

ADDENDUM

CASH ON HAND (National Account) 30 June 2009 \$9,301.72

Account balance includes following:	
Certificate of Deposit-Octofoil Library Project,	\$3,500.00
Certificate of Deposit-Memorial Funds,	2,000.00
Cash in National Account	<u>3,801.72</u>

Both Certificates of Deposit mature on 15 September 2009

There was a question for Lawrence Kaufman about allowing the 1st VP to succeed to the presidency instead of electing someone new every year. Several members were discussing this proposal and the general attitude was that since we had been using this system for more than 50 years, there seemed to be no need to change something that had worked that long. So the suggestion died for want of support. To change this system would require a change in the bylaws and that cannot be done until the proposal is published in *The Octofoil* and voted on next year.

William Sauers again asked to speak to follow up on Sons and Daughters Auxiliary meeting. Sauers reported that the Sons and Daughters Auxiliary enthusiastically support some type of plaque at the Peace Museum in Remagen. They formed a "Memorials/Plaques Committee" with Janet Schnall as chair to design and ultimately install a recognition plaque at the museum. In addition, the committee is going to investigate installing memorials/plaques at the Hürtgen Forest Museum, the Normandy Museum and other overseas locations as appropriate. Sauers asked for financial support, if needed, and President Maiale promised him the association would support the auxiliary in this project.

(continued on page 18)

(212th Board of Governors...continued from page 16)

The last item on the agenda was a discussion about the 2010 reunion. This will be our 65th reunion and the board thinks that something special should be done to commemorate this event. Many organizations never reach this anniversary.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Hank Geary and seconded by Jack Collier to adjourn the meeting. There being no further motions, this motion was passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Bill Robey, Secretary-Treasurer

Secretary-Treasurer Report
64th Reunion 2009
Bangor, Maine

The final report on the 64th reunion will have to wait until the next issue of *The Octofoil*. I have not received the final statements from four of our suppliers and so cannot make a financial report at this time. We should show a small surplus. All in all the reunion was a success. We had sixty-four rooms used at the hotel with a total of 128 people attending. There were a few who did not stay at the hotel and just attended some of the events, but this happens almost every year.

One of the surprises was on Sunday, when a man appeared at the hotel and looked me up to tell me that he was the son of one of our early members. Charles Tingley, Jr., is a resident of Bangor and I knew his father for many years. Charles Tingley, Sr., served as editor of *The Octofoil* and also as national secretary for several years. He was one of the original members of the Washington, D.C. Chapter. I invited his son to come to the banquet on Sunday night and he accepted and later told me he really enjoyed himself. More in the next issue about the reunion.

Bill Robey, Secretary-Treasurer

U.S. Army Freedom Team Salute Staff



L to r: Sharon and Harry Rideout, U.S. Army Freedom Team Salute ambassadors; Lindsey Brothers, Administrator; Kevin Hymel, Program Manager.



Bill Robey, right, receiving his certificate and pin.



Joseph Bacchiere, left, receiving his certificate and pin.



Dwight Merrill, left, receiving his certificate and pin as son, Richard, looks on.



Stanley Kazdoy, right, receiving his certificate and pin.

65th Annual Reunion
July 30, 31, and August 1, 2010
Indianapolis, Indiana

I have been working with the Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) and have arrived at an agreement with the Crowne Plaza Hotel at Indianapolis Airport to serve as our headquarters for the 65th reunion.

On page 22 of this issue you will find a reservation form with the costs per person listed. The same form we have been using for the past few years and we are going to use the same system again for this reunion. Costs for this reunion are a little bit higher because of the Indiana state tax system. They charge a 16% sales and room tax, which is higher than we have had to pay anywhere else. We do not enjoy a tax exemption in Indiana, so we have to allow for and pay the taxes. All prices quoted in the reservation form and in this article include all applicable taxes and service charges where necessary. This year the costs are: Single room, \$570 per person; Double room, \$440 per person; Triple room, \$385 per person; Quad room, \$370 per person. These costs included 3 nights hotel room, Friday night pizza party, breakfast on Saturday, Sunday and Monday, dinner theater and bus transportation on Saturday night, and the reception and banquet on Sunday. If anyone wants to come in early or stay after the reunion, the room cost for the extra nights, including taxes, is \$107 per night. Indicate on your reservation form your exact arrival and departure dates and the costs for the additional nights will be added when you receive your receipt for your deposit.

The hotel is about a mile from the Indianapolis Airport and they provide free shuttle service to and from the airport. There are about 65 flights per day into Indianapolis.

The basic schedule will be the same as last year; Friday, July 30 is registration day with a Board of Governors meeting that afternoon and that night the traditional pizza party reception. Saturday, July 31, starts with a scheduled breakfast for the whole group, followed by the memorial service. John Sabato did such a great job with the memorial service in Bangor that we have asked him to do the same here for this one. After the memorial service we will have the group photo taken, then lunch on your own. Saturday afternoon the general business meeting for the association and the Ladies Auxiliary luncheon and meeting will take place. Saturday night we are going to a dinner theater called "Beef and Boards" to see a musical comedy. Charter buses will again take us to the theater and return. Sunday, August 1, breakfast again for the whole group. After breakfast the Sons and Daughters Auxiliary will have their business meeting and then later in the afternoon there will be another Board of Governors meeting. Sunday evening will be our gala banquet.

When you make your reservations remember to make your check or money order payable to **65th Reunion 2010**. Also, be sure to get your reservations in before the deadline on the reservation form. **MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**, as it is always easier to cancel a reservation than it is to make one at the last minute. If anyone has any questions, call me at my toll free number listed on the reservations form. I would much rather answer questions in advance than try to straighten out mistakes later.

Bill Robey, Reunion Chairman

MAIL CALL

Ronald MacArthur Hirst
Mathildenstrasse 4
D-65189 Wiesbaden
Germany

(The following letter was sent to *The Octofoil* for publication)
Monceau-Imbrechies, July 21st, 2009

Dear Mr. MacArthur,

I received your letter some time ago and would like to apologize for the long time I took to answer you.

Last year, I sent you a regular mail with a lot of documents and I never received any reply. I am not sure you ever received that mail. I also wanted to send you a little book in English showing various pictures of occupation in our country. This booklet was printed for the 60th anniversary of our Liberation. However, as I had no news from you, I didn't send it. I was scared that you might never receive it.

I just finished writing a book on our Liberation. It will be printed on August 25th, 2009. On February 8th, we welcomed Louis Colwart's nieces. He was killed on February 8th, 1944 in our village. They were accompanied by the copilot's cousin. The copilot had been killed in Chimay on April 22nd, 1944 by SS. We then received a letter from Ross Kahler's brothers. The three men were in the Susan Ruth. Ross was the Radio man. He has also been killed in the crash on Feb. 8th.

On August 22nd, we organize a memory day; we will first unveil a memorial in honor of a Resistance member killed as a martyr by the SS on August 12th, 1944. Then, we will lay flowers on a memorial in Beauwez where the 39th AAA-O liberated the village on September 2nd, 1944 at 3 o'clock p.m. The third ceremony will take place in memory of Canadian prisoners who were caught in Dieppe and came through Momigies on August 29th, 1942.

Flowers will then be laid in memory of the first US Heroes who were killed in action on Imbrechies crest during the Liberation on September 2nd at 11:15. These GI had crossed the Belgian border at 9:07 Belgian time (=11:07 US time).

On September 2nd, the local administration will organize a ceremony in Cendron/Forge-Philippe where the 60th US Regiment crossed the border. They then will lay flowers on Monchau-Imbrechies" battlefield before going to Chimay.

I hope that this time, you will receive my letter. I never managed to find the names of the other US Heroes killed on September 2nd, 1944, in Monceau-Imbrechies.

Kind regards,
Paul Delahaye
Chairman Amicale Fondation Belgo-Américaine

Lisa Froug-Hirano

A remarkable thing happened after my letter to *The Octofoil* was published in the April-May-June issue regarding the honorable men of Company B, 60th.

After years of locating as many survivors as I could, a member of Company B I had not known about not only wrote me a letter but also sent me a copy of his memoir, *Blood and Candles: The Story of a World War II Infantryman* written in 2002. Mr. Edward Richardson of Maine included in his book his horrible experiences on that fateful day of December 12, 1944 of which I wrote in my letter. Fortunately, he survived to become a distinguished and highly regarded attorney and environmentalist, but he never forgot those who did not and his recall of that day is heart-breakingly sad.

Thank you to dear Mr. Richardson for responding and for his gift. I've not had any recent contact with Harry Marciniak, Allen Saltzman or Finley Carpenter but they were also part of this (continued next column)

MAIL CALL

group of men who are so special in my heart.
Once again dear vets of the 9th ID, thank you, thank you, thank you.
Signed, Lisa

Warren A. Robinson

In the last issue of *The Octofoil* I wrote seeking information on Paul A. Bridges.

The reason for my request was, at the end of the conflict in Europe, I received my orders to ship home from Company B, 47th Regiment. On departing, Paul A. Bridges also a member of Company B, handed me a New Testament with his name written in it. It was an act of friendship and I'm sure Paul wanted me to have a safe journey home. Years slipped by and on discovering the New Testament and a snapshot of our Company B group one day, I felt I should return them to Paul and thank him for his kindness.

I wrote

to *The Octofoil* with my request and Monty McDaniel, who had lost an uncle in the 60th Regiment, read my request and researched and found Paul living in South Carolina. Monty contacted me and gave me Paul's address and phone number. I contacted the family and was told that Paul was having some health problems but was sure he would be grateful to see the snapshot and the New Testament.

I received a message of thanks from Paul's daughter after receiving the package, she informed me that Paul and his wife were happy and thrilled to see them after all these years.

Thanks again to *The Octofoil* and Monty McDaniel.
Signed, Warren A. Robinson



Right to left: Paul A. Bridges, Warren A. Robinson, unknown, Edward A. Custer
Seated: unknown

SEEKING INFORMATION

Monty McDaniel

I have two requests for information. First, I would like to know if any member of the association knew if Keene (Slick) Wilson, Co. K, 60th Inf. was put in for the Distinguished Service Cross? I was wondering if it might be a similar situation as Matt Urban where he was put in for the Medal of Honor award, but did not receive it until years later due to lost paperwork. Any information regarding Major Wilson would be most appreciated.

Secondly, does anyone remember Joseph P. Perehinec and his actions for his award of the Distinguished Service Cross? S/Sgt. Perehinec served in Co. K, 47th Inf. and was awarded the DSC on 25 November 1944. Again, any information would be most appreciated.

Signed, Monty McDaniel

Anthony R. DeRobertis

I became a company runner when Pvt. Dubiel, a company runner, a Canadian who enlisted in the U.S. Army, was killed by a mortar in the hedgerows. I am in touch with "L" Company buddies Charles Hiller, William Muldoon, Oreste Russo, Clarence Ray, Henry Geary, Richard Stoltz. I wish to have my article in the Octofoil Mail Call. This is a true story and I remember it very well. I also went with Father De Laura to pray and remove a dog tag from our dead soldier. I am happy that some of us are still alive. I spoke with Henry Geary this morning. He told me they had a good reunion.

Thank you, Signed Anthony R. DeRobertis
P.S. An article by Lt. Silliman was in the Saturday Evening Post in the years about 1945 or 1946. I read it and he had the wrong name for the runner. I was the runner, he wrote Creach name who was a platoon runner. This is about the attack of Schevenhuetten.

Ed. Note: Mr. DeRobertis' story follows as requested.

I started from Utah beach. Next, I went to Cherbourg, Saint Lo, Hürtgen Forest, Battle of the Bulge and then the Remagen Bridge crossing. Finally, we made contact with the Russians at the Elbe River. Company L of the 47th Regiment, 3rd Battalion was put on trucks and moved to Freising near Dachau where we did occupation duty.

On September 24, 1944, we crossed the Siegfried Line. I remember because it was my 21st birthday. We entered Schevenhuetten unopposed. We were on a main road and as a company runner I carried the "511" portable radio with Sgt. Evers and I also carried the walkie talkies. Platoon runner, Private Harris and I slept in a building that looked like a corner bar. The rest of the company headquarters moved to a house closer to our front line. It was about 7:00 a.m. A mortar shell came into the building. We were being attacked. We took off and ran to company headquarters. Lt. Silliman of the weapons and mortars platoon along with Sgt. Wesley and Sgt. John Chilick and his men, repelled the attack.

Lt. Lester said I was to contact Colonel Clayman. He told me not to use the walkie talkie or the main road and I should go up the hill. I was running as fast as I could and the bullets were just missing me. I could hear them whizzing past my ears. I ran down the hill to where the Burgermeister had his office. I told Colonel Clayman that Lt. Lester wanted to know what to do next. Colonel Clayman, while holding a hand grenade, said he wanted to first blow open the safe. He blew it open and nothing was in it. He said to tell Lt. Lester to do nothing. I went back to company headquarters and told Lt. Lester what the Colonel had said.

I heard that my buddy, Sgt. LoRusso got killed and Lt. Silliman was wounded. We killed about two truck loads of Germans. I watched them load the trucks a few days after the attack. We sent out night patrols to bring in a German soldier. We never got one. I slept under the kitchen table with platoon runner Hagen. The non-commissioned officers would play cards on the kitchen table at night. The platoon sergeants would also be there. They talked about battle field commissions. Sgt. DeGrass and Sgt. Mangan were to be made Lieutenants. Lieutenants Frazer and Lester were to get medals along with First Sgt. Eddie Houschild. I heard all this talk while I was under the table.

As the company runner, I had to go to some platoons and give them the new sign and countersign. Some platoon runners gave the sign and countersign to their Sergeants. I took my sign and countersign to the mortars and weapons platoon. This was at night. One night, First Sergeant Eddie Houschild told me to go the battalion headquarters and the battalion runner was

(continued next column)

to stay with him. I was to use his foxhole. I asked Battalion Commander Tanner where his runner's foxhole was located. It was dark and I could not find it. I ended up sleeping above ground that night. The next morning I discovered that the foxhole was hit by a mortar shell and nothing was left of it. I saw the battalion runner and told him how lucky we were. We left Schevenhuetten in November through Bovenburg Farm. We took many prisoners and Lt. Lester lost a leg at the farm.

Albert Feder

Enclosed is my check covering a renewed membership. I served proudly with B Co., 47th Regiment from Normandy through meeting the Russians at the Mulde River.

My association with the likes of Bob Hamilton, Ben Rienzi, and Larry Vinc, who I still keep in touch with, were memorable. Of course many of my comrades are no longer with us.

Any who remember me are welcome to get in touch. Note: if there is anyway I can order another 9th Division cap. Would appreciate your letting me know.

Signed, Albert Feder

(Ed Note: You can contact Jean Geary, Tel. #610-432-1557 for a replacement cap)

Alice Haines

Dear Bill Robey,
I am finally home from Maine and have dealt with the mail, the laundry and the yard/garden, in that order! I'm sure you've heard from others telling you what a great event the reunion was and I want to add my thanks for all the effort you and the Merrill's put into making it a success. You handed out a lot of thanks at the banquet and I'm not sure you received the accolades that were due you!

I also want to thank you for the special attention you gave my granddaughter and her husband. Despite turning several shades of red, I know they were pleased. I'm not sure what Amanda expected when she agreed to go with me, but she enjoyed it all. I spent a couple of days with them before heading south to Portland and catching up with my other relatives.

I am in the process of sorting out all the other papers I plan to send out to Bill Sauers. My kids have indicated what they want to keep and the rest I will donate to the library project.

I hope you are enjoying the rest of summer!

Sincerely, Alice Haines

OCTOFOIL LIBRARY PROJECT

The library project is happy to report that at the end of August we had banked \$6745 toward our original goal of \$10,000. We are grateful for the continued and enthusiastic support of the veterans and family members of the association for this project. In Phase One we have scanned 16,510 images at a cost of \$4266.16. This includes not only the per image charge, but the necessary postage/shipping charges for the materials to and from Rocky Mountain Microfilm & Imaging, Inc. in Denver, Colorado. Our balance of \$2478.84 will allow Phase II scanning to begin soon. Several people brought their materials to the reunion to personally donate. Others promised to send their materials shortly. Upon returning from the reunion we have received several boxes and envelopes of materials. These are currently being recorded and cataloged in our master record. Please keep those financial and materials donations coming. As you can see from the list of New Materials Donors below we have a lot more scanning to do. We thank you again for your generosity.

Make you checks payable to: The Ninth Infantry Division Association earmarked for the Octofoil Library Project. Send to the project coordinator.

Project Coordinator
William Sauers

Association Historian
Henry G. "Red" Phillips

Assistant Coordinator
Terry Barnhart

NOTE: Donated materials will be returned upon request. Send materials to the Project or Assistant Coordinators.

Missing-Damaged Octofoil's

We've almost done it! Several of you have responded to our request for missing and/or damaged Octofoil's. Special thanks go to Mr. S. Bill Buemi, Mrs. Marianne Doyle McKinney and family, and Mr. Emil De Donato for supplying those replacement copies. We just need a few more to make a complete file from Vol. 1, Issue 1, May 1946 to the present.

Vol.	No.	Date	Remarks
3	8	August, 1948	Missing
9	2	February, 1954	Missing
11	1	January, 1957	Missing
11	6	July, 1957	Missing
6	11	November, 1951	Damaged
21	6	May-June, 1967	Damaged
28	3	May-June, 1973	Damaged

New Monetary Donors

Mr. Kenneth S. Jenks, Westbury, New York
Mr. Morton H. Wolk, Santa Ana, California
Anonymous
Ms. Joyce Schumacher, Columbus, Ohio
Lee Scheffel, Seaside, California
Sons & Daughters Auxiliary, 64th Reunion
Mrs. Alice F. Haines, Trenton, New Jersey

New Materials Donors

Mr. Kenneth S. Jenks, Westbury, New York, has contributed division Records regarding observation aircraft charged to the 34th Field Artillery Battalion.
Mr. Morton H. Wolk, Santa Ana, California, has contributed photos, pamphlets, letters, maps, news articles and combat records.
Mr. S. Bill Buemi, Cleveland, Ohio, has contributed old Octofoil's and Fort Bragg newspapers.
Messrs. Donald Crass and Torry Crass, Overland Park, Kansas, have contributed several personal memoirs from members of Co. F, 60th Infantry Regiment.
Mrs. Avis Story, Ronan, Montana, has contributed three books.
Mrs. Only Rishel, Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania has contributed news magazine article and photos.
Mr. Herbert Stern, Houston, Texas, has contributed several envelopes of photos, news articles, books, liberated German medals and documents, magazines, combat records, maps and association history.
Mrs. Lavonne Blann and family, Houston, Texas, have contributed old Octofoil's, books, association and Texas Chapter history, letters, combat diaries, rosters and a personal memoir.
Mr. John Sabato, Winchester, Virginia, has contributed a pristine book "Mission Accomplished: The Story of the Campaign of the VII Corps United States Army in the War Against Germany, 1944-1945."
Mrs. Alice F. Haines, Trenton, New Jersey, has contributed photos, news articles, brochures and letters.
Mr. Charles Munger, Englewood, Florida, has contributed pamphlets, newspaper and magazine articles, letters, rosters and combat records, photos and books.
Mrs. Arlene Silver, Fort Myers, Florida, has contributed newspaper articles, maps, old newspapers and pocket guides.
Mrs. Marianne Doyle McKinney, Mr. Loren L. Doyle and Major (Ret.) Eric M. Doyle, Charleston, Illinois, have contributed old Octofoil's in memory of Loren L. Doyle, Headquarters Battery, 26th Field Artillery Battalion.
Mr. Emil DeDonato, Dullellon, Florida, has contributed old Octofoil's.
Ms. Gail Eisenhauer, Hamden, Connecticut, has contributed a book about the 60th Infantry and newspaper articles.

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

65th ANNUAL REUNION
FRIDAY TO SUNDAY — JULY 30, 31 and AUGUST 1, 2010
CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL
2501 SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL ROAD
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46241

Make payments by CHECK OR MONEY ORDER payable to: 65th Reunion 2010. 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 April 1, 2010. Final payment **MUST BE MADE BY JUNE 15, 2010**. Reservations made after June 15, 2010 will be subject to room availability. If final payment is not made by June 15, 2010, then deposit will be refunded and reservation cancelled. All reservations **MUST BE MADE** with this form. **DO NOT CALL THE HOTEL DIRECT[LY]**. 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
570.00

DOUBLE
440.00

TRIPLE
385.00

QUAD
370.00

Hotel will give us the same special rate (\$107.00 per room per day) for 3 days before and 3 days after our reunion for those who want to stay longer in Indianapolis. 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.

Officers and Board of Governors
2009-2010

Officers

Joseph Maiale, President- _____

Martin Gross, 1st V.P.- _____

George Brown, 2nd V.P.- _____

Domenick Fiore, 3rd V.P.- _____

William Robey, Secty-Treas- _____

George Brown, Jdg. Adv.- _____

Terms Expiring 2010

Thomas Saunders, _____

Winston Campbell, _____

Thomas Hatton, _____

Emil Langer, _____

Henry Geary, _____

Terms Expiring 2011

Joseph Maiale, _____

Jack Collier, _____

Terms Expiring 2012

Ira Moser, _____

Lawrence Kaufman, _____

Albert Lipton, _____

Charles Illsely, _____

Appointed Officials

Rev. Jeannie Higgins, Chaplain _____

William Sauers, Octofoil Editor, _____

Henry G. "Red" Phillips, Association Historian _____

Officers
The Ninth Infantry Division Association



President
Joseph Maiale



1st Vice President
Martin Gross



2nd Vice President
George Brown



3rd Vice President
Domenick Fiore



Secretary-Treasurer
William Robey



Judge Advocate
George Brown

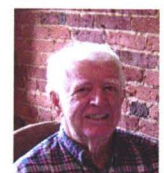
Appointed Officials



Chaplain
Rev. Jeannie Higgins



Octofoil Editor
William Sauers



Association Historian
Henry G. "Red" Phillips

"Lest We Forget"
Worcester Memorial Service
Sunday, 10:00 a.m., October 25, 2009
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.



A short memorial service with laying of the Ninth Infantry Division Association wreath will follow the Mass.

Gail Eisenhower will be organizing a brunch following the service at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. If you would like to attend the brunch please call her at _____ Hotel reservations are on you own.



9th Infantry Division
64th Annual Reunion
Bangor, Maine July 25-26, 2009

Extra Reunion Photos Available
Send \$20.00, cash or check to: William Robey, 1005 Elkhart St., Oxon Hill, MD 20745-2118
Make checks payable to: The Ninth Infantry Division Association

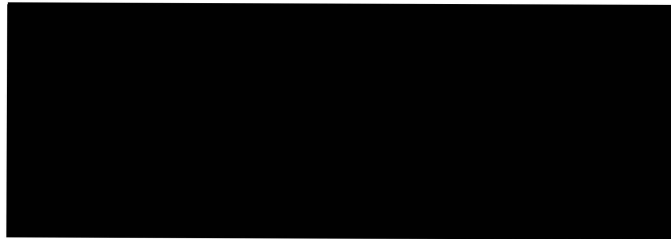


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Editor's Note

The last issue of your newsletter did not have the expiration date of your membership printed on the mailing label due to a printing error. Please check your label on this issue. If it indicates "EXP Jun 2009" or earlier, you must renew your membership. Send your renewal dues to William Robey. Please make the check or money order payable to: The Ninth Infantry Division Association. You must be a member in good standing on or before the next publication cycle beginning **December 20, 2009**, to continue receiving the newsletter.

Expired Membership?
Exp Jun 2009

Your continued cooperation and timeliness submitting all letters, photos, chapter reports, articles and so on to the editor on or before **December 20, 2009** is appreciated.

Please notify the editor of address changes to ensure timely and accurate delivery of your newsletter.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

A new series is scheduled to begin airing Sunday, November 15th on the History Channel by Lou Reda Productions, Inc. Captain Charles Scheffel served with the 1st Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment tells his story in five of the episodes.

"*The Greatest Generation in Color: WW II HD*, a ten part series premiering in 2009 will offer one of the most visually astonishing World War II experiences ever seen on television. *WW II HD* will draw from over 3,000 hours of archival color footage, unearthed from archives and private collections scattered across the globe, and restored to pristine condition through advanced HD technology. The series will follow the experiences of nine men as their personal journeys cross-connect with one another throughout the war. Their own words, found in unpublished diaries and journals, will be delivered with emotional impact by some of Hollywood's top talents, helping to recreate the war's events not as detached historical facts, but rather as profound experience on the level of a great Hollywood epic."

Currently Charlie is in the following episodes:

- #1, Sunday, November 15th
- #2, Monday, November 16th
- #4, Sunday, November 22nd
- #5, Monday, November 23rd
- #6, Tuesday, November 24th

Be sure to check your local listing for show times.