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The Octofoil

9th Infantry Division Association

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7-1-2015

## The Octofoil, July/August/September 2015

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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# The Octofoil

July-Aug.-Sept.  
2015

Volume L, No. 3

## President's Message



I am honored to have been elected the next president of your Ninth Infantry Division Association. As the son of a veteran of the 47<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, I am the first non-veteran president which represents a change to the organization. The "torch" has passed from the honored veterans to the sons and daughters. I appreciate your support and several congratulatory cards that I received upon our return home in Colorado from the reunion in August. Also, I wish to thank our past president, Paul Schumacher, for his service, support and help.

With this change comes many new challenges to the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Each year our reunion attendance numbers are shrinking. We need to explore new and more cost effective ideas of reaching past and new members. The Board of Governors is exploring several ideas.

Because the basic structure of the organization is changing from a veteran-based group to one that is primarily composed of non-veterans, our status has changed in the eyes of the IRS. Peter Stern and Mary Cooper are exploring our non-profit status with paid professionals. Additional information on their findings will be forthcoming in the next year.

The 70<sup>th</sup> reunion at Warwick, Rhode Island was an outstanding success. Thanks to the New England Reunion Committee headed by Clare Irwin who worked tirelessly to iron out last minute issues, a wonderful, well run event was insured. Everyone experienced a renewed energy and enthusiasm for the Ninth Infantry Division Association.

Finally, Arlene Silver is working out the details for our 71<sup>st</sup> Reunion near Fort Myers, Florida during the summer of 2016. Because of the hotel schedule, the 71<sup>st</sup> reunion will be held from August 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendars, as more specific information will be forthcoming in the next Octofoil.

Have a terrific fall and a joyful holiday season.

Terry Barnhart, President  
The Ninth Infantry Division Association

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### Rhode Island had us Smilin'

The Ninth Infantry Division Association's 70<sup>th</sup> Reunion was held in Warwick, Rhode Island from July 24 to July 27, 2015. Many thanks to Clare Irwin, Chairman, and her Reunion Committee (Terry Barnhart, Paul Blann, Phil Bosko, Sandra Bosko, Gail Eisenhauer, Rick Merrill, Jane Mitchell, and Karen Olsen) for orchestrating a remarkable reunion.

On Friday evening we met in the hotel for some local New England faire. Paul Blann put together a nostalgic slide show and video of patriotic radio broadcasts from World War II. It was a wonderful evening of visiting with friends, old and new.

Saturday morning began with a surprise celebration for Only Rishel's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. After breakfast and the General Business Meeting, we boarded the buses for Worchester, Massachusetts, home of the Immaculate Conception Parish and the 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Memorial. There were cakes and memorabilia celebrating the "Old Reliables," and their beloved chaplain, Father Connors. We were invited to attend mass at the Immaculate Conception Parish celebrated by Father Riley. The group photo was taken in front of the 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Memorial. We enjoyed a catered dinner, and the entertainment was an unabridged reading of the play "March to Grace", written by Eirinn Buckley Campaniello about 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division soldiers. The play was directed by Bill Sigalis.

The Memorial Service was held on Sunday morning. Terry Barnhart served as Master of Ceremonies. Our keynote speaker was Timothy Howe, President of the Rhode Island Military Organization and Junior Commander of the Rhode Island Disabled Veterans. Camille Vella-Wilkinson, Veterans Coordinator representing The City of Warwick presented the Ninth Infantry Division with the following proclamation. "The Warwick City Council salutes the members of The Ninth Infantry

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### 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 OCTOFOIL

The official publication of The Ninth Infantry Division Association Inc.. Published four times yearly, January-March; April - June; July - September; October - December. Material for publication must be received by the publisher according to the following schedule:

December 20 for the January publication  
March 20 for the April publication  
June 20 for the July publication  
September 20 for the October publication

One year subscription fee is twenty dollars (\$20.00) and must be sent to the publisher by check or money order made payable to:

**The Ninth Infantry Division Association.**

Send payment to: **Theda Ray**  
**Publisher, The Octofoil**

The Ninth Infantry Division Association Inc. is a registered 501(c)19 Veterans' Organization of the Internal Revenue Code in a determination letter issued in January 1948. Contributions are tax deductible.

**Volume L Number 3, July, August, September 2015**

## 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.

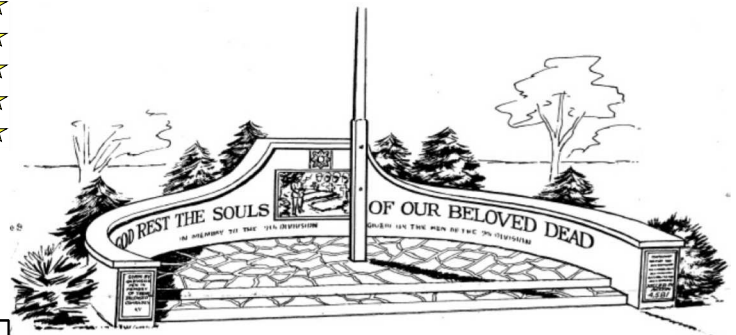
**Ann Belmonte** in memory of husband, Michael Belmonte

### Paul and Joyce Schumacher

In honor of Clare Irwin and the staff of dedicated volunteers who made the 70th annual reunion in Warwick, Rhode Island a genuine pleasure to attend. Events were executed smoothly. The Memorial Service at Immaculate Conception Parish will long be remembered for it's symbolism and sentimental value. The memorial Service on Sunday was indeed impressive and always an emotional affair for us. The Tour of Newport indicated what wealth can do. (I do not have that perception in Selmer TN.) And the opportunity to meet with families of our veterans satisfied my judgment that the care and well being of our Association is in good hands. Our grateful thanks to all who gave their time and talent to this memorable 70th annual reunion.

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

Send to: **Mary Cooper**



### Friends of Father Connors Fund

The Friends of Father Connors Fund would like to thank the following new donors for their generous contributions:

**Jackie Armstrong**

**Harold and Lucille Ladouceur**

**Paul Schumacher**

**Joyce Schumacher**

The current balance in the FFCF is \$259.61  
Continued contributions for maintenance and lighting expenses would be greatly appreciated.

If you would like to donate please make your check payable to: **The Ninth Infantry Division Association.** Please note in the memo section of the check "FFCF" and send to :

**Mary Cooper,**

**"Lest We Forget"**  
**The Ninth Infantry Division Association Memorial Service**  
**Immaculate Conception Parish**  
**353 Grove Street**  
**Worcester, Massachusetts 01605**  
**Sunday, October 18, 2015 10:00 A.M.**

On Sunday, October 18, 2015, the 71st annual Memorial Mass and wreath laying ceremony will be held at the Immaculate Conception Parish in Worcester, MA. This year's service marks another milestone in a long line of continuous Mass celebrations started by Father Edward T. Connors. Father Walter J. Riley, Pastor, will celebrate the Mass and conduct the memorial service.

If you plan to attend, please contact Gail Eisenhower at [REDACTED] to make lunch reservations for after the service. Hotel reservations should be made on your own if you plan to stay overnight.

A comprehensive Treasurer's Report from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 appears on page 11 in this issue. The following report provides the balance in all sub-accounts as of Sept. 30, 2015.

General Fund	\$27,211.70
Octofoil	\$8,069.26
Octofoil Library Project	\$589.59
Memorial Fund	\$3,705.00
FFCF	\$259.61
Reunion Ins. Balance	\$5,000.00
Reunion 2013	\$1,685.63
Reunion 2014	\$4,279.71
Reunion 2015	\$1,882.08
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$53,682.58</b>

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Cooper, Treasurer

### THE NINETY'S CLUB

Here's your chance to join an exclusive, much respected, one of a kind club. Membership is free! All it takes is a birthday, celebrating your achievement of 90 years. Send your name and recent photo to Jane Mitchell, Editor.

### New Ninety's Club Members



**Russell Bellanca**  
A Co., 60th Inf. Regt.  
Rochester NY



**Howard Beach**  
9th Reccn. Troop  
La Mirada CA

### MAIL CALL

### MAIL CALL

### MAIL CALL

August 17, 2015

Department of Veterans Affairs  
Medical Center  
830 Chalkstone Avenue  
Providence, RI 02908-4799

Dear Ms. Cooper and Members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association:

Please accept my sincere thanks on behalf of our hospitalized and out-patient Veterans for the generous donation of \$500 you gifted to us in July. We are very grateful to be the recipients of this gift, for which the Providence VA Medical Center was selected as part of your 2015 Reunion held 24-27 July 2015 at the Crowne Plaza in Warwick, Rhode Island.

The donation was presented to us by Clare Irwin, who related to us the tradition of your ongoing gatherings across the U.S.A. Your commitment to recognize Veterans at Medical Centers nationwide while remembering and honoring those whom you know personally from the Ninth Infantry Division is exemplary and shows deep commitment to those who sacrificed so much for the freedoms we enjoy today. We wish you many more annual gatherings of camaraderie to come.

It is the generosity and thoughtfulness of caring organizations such as the Ninth Infantry Division Association that provides many of the supplementary items, activities and services that would not otherwise be available to our Veterans.

Thank you once again. The donation was most welcome.

Sincerely,  
Donna Russillo  
Chief, Voluntary Service

Re: Tip of the Hat for Michael Belmonte

Mary,

Enclosed is a check for the Ninth Infantry Division in memory of Michael Belmonte. Mike died on July 21, 2015, at the age of 95.

Mike served his country with the Ninth from 1941-1945. He was a regular attendee of the annual National reunions, as well as an active member of his local Illinois Chapter, until his health began to fail. He served several times as an officer of the National Board of Governors as well as various positions with the Illinois Chapter.

We are proud of Mike's service for his country, and his association with the Ninth Infantry Division Association.

Thank you for accepting this donation in honor of Mike.

Sincerely,  
Ann M. Belmonte (widow)



## 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.

*Bivouac of the Dead by Theodore O'Hare - 1847*

### 9th Infantry Division Medal of Honor Recipients World War II

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  
\* Posthumous award

Source: U.S. Army Center of Military History

### Vietnam War

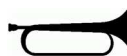
SGT Sammy L. Davis, Battery C, 2nd Battalion, 4th Artillery; West of Cai Lay; 18 November 1967  
SP4 Edward A. Devore, Jr.\*, Company B, 4th Battalion, 39th Infantry; Near Saigon; 17 March 1968  
PFC James W. Fous\*, Company E, 4th Battalion, 47th Infantry; Kien Hoa Province; 14 May 1968  
SSG Don J. Jenkins, Company A, 2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry; Kien Phong Province; 6 January 1969  
SGT Leonard B. Keller, Company A, 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry; Ap Bac Zone; 2 May 1967  
SP4 Thomas J. Kinsman, Company B, 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry; Near Vinh Long; 6 February 1968  
SP4 George C. Lang, Company A, 4th Battalion, 47th Infantry; Kien Hoa Province; 22 February 1969  
PFC David P. Nash\*, Company B, 2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry; Giao Duc District; 29 December 1968  
SP5 Clarence E. Sasser, Headquarters Co., 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry; Ding Tuong Province; 10 January 1968  
SP4 Raymond R. Wright, Company A, 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry; Ap Bac Zone; 2 May 1967  
\* Posthumous award

Sources: A Short History of the 9th Infantry Division and  
[www.homeofheroes.com](http://www.homeofheroes.com)

Joseph W. Bergin  
F Co. 47th Inf. Regt.

Rosalyn "Roz" Gross  
Wife of Dr. Marty Gross

Michael Belmonte  
A Btry. 60th FA Bn.



#### TAPS OBITUARIES

#### TAPS OBITUARIES



#### Joseph W. Bergin F Company, 47th Infantry Regiment

Joseph W. Bergin, 90, beloved father and grandfather, passed away peacefully at home, on July 30, 2015. He is now at peace, reunited with his wife Isabel, who passed away in 2014, and his son Dennis, who was lost at sea in 1986.

Joe grew up in Boston, and enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1942. He served until 1945 with the 9th Infantry Division, seeing action in North Africa, Italy, Belgium, France, and Germany. He was a recipient of the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. In 2010, he was awarded the French Legion of Honor Medal, for his service in the liberation of France.

He was a 1949 graduate of the College of the Holy Cross and that same year, he married Isabel (Kelleher). He served as a Special Agent with the FBI for a few years, before returning to Boston to manage the family business, Bergin Liquors. In the 1970's, he began to sell real estate, first in Needham MA and until this summer, in the New London NH area.

Joe was an avid model railroader, and enthusiastically shared his railroad displays with others. He was an excellent skier, and he enjoyed taking his family on ski trips in New Hampshire and Vermont. He was a skilled golfer, who played right up until this past spring. He was a long time member of the Needham Gold Club in Massachusetts, as well as the Eastman Gold Links in NH.

He was a wonderfully generous man and for the past years, spent many hours volunteering at the New London Hospital.

Joe is survived by his daughter Sheila (Goss) and husband Duncan of Stowe, VT. And his son Patrick, of Salt Lake City. He

felt immense pride and joy in his 2 grandchildren, Corinne and Connor.

A funeral Mass was celebrated at Our Lady of Fatima Church in New London, NH. Burial was at the NH State Veterans Cemetery in Boscawen.



*Rosalyn's obituary appeared in the previous issue of The Octofoil. However, it was not the article that her husband, Dr. Martin Gross, had written specifically for inclusion in The Octofoil. The editors apologize to Dr. Gross and his daughter, Janet Schnall.*

#### Rosalyn "Roz" Gross Wife of Dr. Martin M. Gross

Rosalyn "Roz" Gross, adored wife of Dr. Marty Gross, Purple Heart WWII veteran, 9th Infantry Division, 15th Engineers, passed away on September 13, 2014. So lucky to find each other late in life, Roz and Marty shared true wedded bliss for over 11 years, cruising, traveling and holding hands. Roz moved from New York to Florida in the 1940's and owned and operated the Essex House, Marseilles and South Seas Hotels in Miami Beach with her former husband, Robert Weiss. Roz was an incredible mother, wife, grandmother, and friend, and she opened her heart and home to all she met. While married to Martin, Roz became active in The Ninth Infantry Division Association, enthusiastically attending every annual reunion, as well as serving as President of the Ladies Auxiliary for its last 2 years, 2010-2012. She will be truly missed.



## TAPS OBITUARIES

**Michael Belmonte**  
**1919-2015**  
**A Btry, 60th FA Bn.**

Michael Belmonte, born October 27, 1919, died July 21, 2015. Mike served his country proudly as part of the Ninth Infantry Division, 60th Field Artillery, from November 1941– September 1945. he was an active member of the Association and a regular attendee of the National and local Illinois Chapter reunions and meetings for many years until his health began to fail. After living with Alzheimers for many years, Mike passed away peacefully in his sleep at the age of 95. Mike was buried at Queen of Heavens Cemetery in Westchester, Illinois with military honors. Mike is survived by his wife, Ann Belmonte, his children, Luann McCarrell, Michael (Mary) Belmonte and Linda (Jeff) Shafer, and his grandchildren, Daren, Lauren, Mark, Gina, Jake and Luke. He was a wonderful man who loved his family and his comrades. Thank you all for your years of support and friendship.

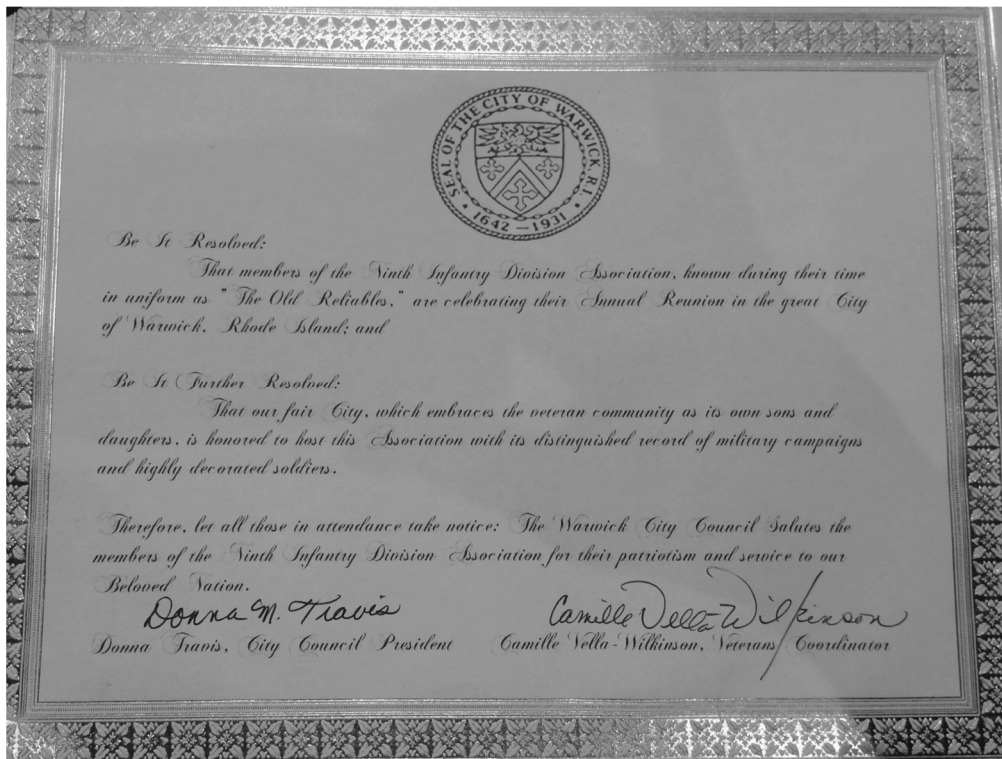
(continued from page 1)

Division Association for their patriotism and service to our beloved Nation." We were again privileged to listen to our own talented members. Mary Kay Darr sang "Amazing Grace", "The Star Spangled Banner" and "God Bless America" and Pete Stern played his fabulous rendition of "Taps."

Terry Barnhart, incoming Association President, welcomed everyone to the Sunday evening banquet. During the cocktail hour, Bob Fabiano and the Barbershop Quartet entertained us. The highlight (and huge surprise) of the evening was a presentation by Maureen Hulsart from the Quilts of Valor Foundation. Each veteran in attendance was presented with a beautiful handmade quilt and pillow sham. They were each called forward by their rank, and a brief narrative of their service was read. Do I dare say, there was not a dry eye in the house! Robin Tapelt then reminded us of soldiers whose fate remains unknown by presenting the "Missing Man Table."

On Monday some attendees said goodbye until next year. Others spent the day touring beautiful Newport, Rhode Island.

We are excited about our 2016 reunion in Florida and hope to have some details in the next Octofoil.



Proclamation presented by the City of Warwick







Group Photo at the 9th Infantry Division Memorial at the Immaculate Conception Parish



Left:  
Phil Bosko, Eirinn  
Buckley Cam-  
paniello and Bill  
Sigalis (author &  
director of "March  
to Grace")

Right:  
Terry Barnhart  
and Father Riley



Right: Clare  
Irwin (ctr),  
Reunion Chair-  
person, Phil  
Bosko and Gail  
Eisenhauer,  
Committee  
members





BANQUET



Presentation to Veterans from Maureen Hulsart representing the Quilts of Valor Foundation



Jack Dauner



Russ Bellanca



Willy Goldsmith



Clarence Ray



Paul Schumacher

Joyce Schumacher displaying a raffle item handcrafted by her father, Paul Schumacher



Missing Man Table



Bob Fabiano and the Barbershop Quartet



## MEMORIAL SERVICE



City of Warwick Fire Department



Marilyn Martin and Only Rishel



Terry Barnhart, Master of Ceremonies



Jackie Armstrong with daughter, Susan



Clarence Ray, Russ Bellanca, Camille Vella-Wilkinson, Veterans Coordinator for the City of Warwick, Paul Schumacher, Jack Dauner and Timothy Howe, featured speaker



Clarence Ray with his wife, Marlynn and daughters, Theda Ray and Jane Mitchell



Above: Cake at the Immaculate Conception Parish dinner

Below: three generations of the Baswell family are represented- Glenda Baswell, son, Edd, daughter Sally and her three daughters. Paul and Joyce Schumacher are also pictured.

## WOOSTER, MASSACHUSETTS



Above: Karen Olsen, Gail Eisenhauer and Mary Lovell

Below center: Pete Stern, Robin and Kathy Tapelt

Below: Mary Cooper, Helen and Russ Bellanca, Helen Mizell, Lavonne Blann, Paul Blann, Billy Mizell





**221<sup>st</sup> Board of Governors Meeting  
Friday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
Crowne Plaza Hotel at the Crossings  
Warwick, Rhode Island**

The 221<sup>st</sup> Board of Governors meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by President Paul Schumacher. The Pledge of Allegiance was followed by a moment of reverent silence in memory of all those lost in battle and those that we have lost since then. A special tribute was offered to the fallen in the Hürtgen Forest, the Battle of the Bulge, at Remagen, and at Henri-Chapelle.

Board of Governors members present: Terry Barnhart, Glenda Baswell, Philip Bosko, Mary Cooper, Mary Kay Darr, Gail Eisenhauer, Clare Irwin, Jane Mitchell, Clarence Ray, Theda Ray, Judy Rishel and Joyce Schumacher. Pete Stern and Jack Dauner were also in attendance.

President Schumacher called for a motion to dispense with the reading of the 219<sup>th</sup> Board of Governors meeting. This motion was seconded and passed with all in favor.

**Treasurer's Report**

Mary Cooper distributed and reviewed details on the income and expense reports and the Financial Report for Reunion 2015 for the fiscal year beginning on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 and ending on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Account balances for a portion of July in the new fiscal year (July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 through June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016) were made available as well. Mary reported that the Association's finances are healthy with the current (7-21-15) balance of all accounts totaling \$55,668.58.

A second item from the Treasurer requested comments about where to donate and how much to donate while in the host city/state during reunions. Philip Bosko suggested a cap of \$500.00 dollars and Terry Barnhart suggested the Providence VA. After taking comments from the floor, the following motion was made:

MOTION: A donation in the amount of \$500.00 will be made to the local Providence veteran's hospital. This motion was seconded and passed with all in favor.

The additional question of which sub-account the local donation should be drawn from was posed. It is hoped that a protocol can be established by determining which sub account the donation is made from as well as what Association funds (income other than donations) should be deposited into the sub-account.

MOTION: All proceeds from the raffle sales will be moved into the Tip of the Hat Fund. This motion was seconded and passed with all in favor.

**2015 Reunion Report**

Clare Irwin, 2015 Reunion Chair reported that the total registration number for this year's reunion was 51. It is expected that there will be a profit after all expenses have been paid.

**Octofoil Report**

Publisher/Editor Theda Ray informed the Board of Governors that there are currently 130 subscriptions for the Octofoil, published 4 times per subscription year. There is a healthy balance of just under \$7,100.00 in the Octofoil sub-account.

Theda questioned the number of veterans or other individuals that are currently not up to date with their Octofoil subscription dues and as a result are not receiving information about the annual reunion. She suggested reaching out to the general membership with a postcard mailing to inform individuals of the location and date of the upcoming reunion. It is hoped that this would also boost the number of Octofoil subscriptions by including information and prompts to renew or establish a yearly newsletter subscription.

The following motion was made by Mary Cooper:

MOTION: A notice will be mailed out to the general membership containing information of the location and date of the upcoming annual reunion.

This motion was seconded and passed with all in favor.

Editor/Publisher Jane Mitchell stated that there has been an increase in the submission of articles for the Octofoil this past year. Jane took a moment to thank the veterans and other individuals that have been contributing the articles for publication.

**President's Report**

President Paul Schumacher announced that the 2016 Reunion will be in Fort Myers, Florida. Arlene Silver is the 2016 Reunion Chair.

The President also reminded those present that the election of Officers will be held during this year's reunion and the next election of Board of Governors will be held in 2016. At that time, staggered 3-year terms will resume and each year moving forward, 1/3 of the current Board members will be replaced. In addition, the number of individuals serving as a BOG will begin to be reduced to 11 as specified in the by-laws.

**New Business – Mary Cooper and Pete Stern**

Pete reported that our partnership with Mize Houser and Company has been very positive. The Company interacts directly with our Treasurer and we have received good value for the amount that we have paid them over the past year. Working with Mize Houser has set the ground work to make sure that the Association continues to grow using accepted accounting methods and operating procedures.

Pete and Mary recommend that the Association begin to review options regarding our non-profit tax status. As a first step, Pete offered the name of a professional resource to assist us in identifying what our options may be. Although there would be a cost to

this, the professional advice would facilitate a thorough investigation of our options and demonstrate that we are proceeding with due diligence. In addition, it would also enhance coordination and collaboration between our working committees regarding the Association's working documents. It is expected that this investigative process will take some time but the effort will provide answers to all of our questions.

Terry Barnhart offered the following motion:

MOTION: Based upon the research that has been gathered so far, we should move forward to explore the possibilities of changing to another non-profit status.

This motion was seconded and passed with all in favor.

With no further business on the agenda, a motion to adjourn was made at 5:25 p.m.  
The motion was seconded and passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Clare Irwin, Secretary

---

**Minutes of the 70<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting  
Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
Crowne Plaza Hotel at the Crossings  
Warwick, Rhode Island**

This meeting was called to order by President Paul Schumacher at 10:30 a.m. The President led a moment of reverent silence to remember the soldiers that lost their lives during battle and all of the veterans, relatives and friends that have departed since then. A special tribute was offered to the fallen in the Hürtgen Forest, the Battle of the Bulge, at Remagen and at Henri-Chapelle. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

A motion was made to dispense with the reading of the minutes of 69<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting in Houston, TX. This motion was seconded and passed with all in favor.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Mary Cooper distributed a copy of the Financial Report for Reunion 2015 to all members present. The report is presented on page 11. The Treasurer summarized her report, reminding membership that our fiscal year runs from July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Mary informed the membership that the Board of Governors voted to donate \$500.00 to the local Providence VA Hospital. This money will be taken from the TOTH (Tip Of The Hat) fund, which, through a vote by the Board of Governors, has been designated as the account where the proceeds from reunion raffle will be placed. Previously, proceeds from the raffle were put into the General Fund, but from this point on, it is hoped that this protocol will allow for better tracking of our donations.

#### **New Business**

Pete Stern reviewed the successful FY 2015 collaboration with Mize Houser and Company. The firm provides portions of our accounting process and communicates regularly with our Treasurer, who in turn provides them with details regarding income, expenses and other relevant information on an on-going basis. This partnership continues to move us forward on the road to good fiscal health and accountability.

Pete reported that the Association needs to begin to explore options regarding our non-profit tax status. He explained that the Board Of Governors voted to move forward and explore how to best transition to a different non-profit status. Accompanying this exploration, there will be accounting, legal and filing fees as well as preparing for internal changes within our Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws. The process may take a year or two but it is important that the exploration of all of the possibilities be thorough and complete.

Membership commented on the possible benefits of a new non-profit status and whether or not there is need to change.

Mary Cooper invites comments and questions from membership during this exploration period.

#### **Octofoil**

Theda Ray, Octofoil Publisher, reminded membership to renew their newsletter subscriptions. Dues are \$20.00 for the subscription year beginning on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 and running through June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016. There are 4 newsletters per subscription year.

#### **President's Report**

President Schumacher announced the standing committees and chairperson assignments, requesting that each committee meet to discuss their work. Reports will be given at the next Board of Governors meeting scheduled for Sunday July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 8:00 a.m.

- |  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. Nominating Committee:                 | Gail Eisenhauer             |
| 2. Finance (and Business)                | Mary Cooper                 |
| 3. The Octofoil                          | Theda Ray and Jane Mitchell |
| 4. By-Laws                               | Theda Ray                   |
| 5. Reunions 2017 & 2018 (time and place) | Jack Dauner                 |
| 6. Fr. Connors Memorial & Archives       | Clare Irwin                 |
| 7. To Improve the Association            | Judy Rishel                 |



The President reminded the membership that the election of officers will take place at the next Board of Governors meeting, scheduled for Sunday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 8:00 a.m.

President Schumacher also reported that elections for the Board of Governors are scheduled to take place in 2016 at the site of the next reunion. At that time, we will resume the practice of electing members to the Board of Governors on a staggered schedule. To implement this action, elections replacing a fraction (approximately 1/3) of the current Board with new members will take place on a yearly basis, beginning with the 2016 reunion.

President Schumacher announced that the 2016 Reunion will be in Fort Myers, Florida. Arlene Silver is the Reunion Chair.

With no further business on the agenda, a motion to adjourn was made at 11:15 a.m. The motion was seconded and passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Clare Irwin, National Secretary

## FINANCIAL REPORT FOR REUNION 2015

Balance as of July 1, 2014 through June 30th, 2015

Account #1 - General	\$ 27,131.77
Account #2 - Octofoil	\$ 7,091.38
Account #3 - OLP (Octofoil Library Project)	\$ 589.59
Account #4 - TOTH (Memorial Fund)	\$ 2,860.00
Account #5 - FFCF (Friends of Father Connor Fund)	\$ 221.94
Account #6 - Reunion	\$ 20,615.34
Insurance Balance -	\$5,000.00
2013 Reunion -	\$1,685.63
2014 Reunion -	\$4,279.71
2015 Reunion -	\$9,650.00

**TOTAL OF ALL ACCOUNTS AS OF JUNE 30, 2015** **\$ 58,510.02**

Balance as of July 1, 2015 through July 21, 2015

Account #1 - General	\$ 27,391.47
Account #2 - Octofoil	\$ 7,379.26
Account #3 - OLP (Octofoil Library Project)	\$ 589.59
Account #4 - TOTH (Memorial Fund)	\$ 2,960.00
Account #5 - FFCF (Friends of Father Connor Fund)	\$ 436.94
Account #6 - Reunion	\$ 16,911.32
Insurance Balance -	\$5,000.00
2013 Reunion -	\$1,685.63
2014 Reunion -	\$4,279.71
2015 Reunion -	\$5,945.98

**TOTAL OF ALL ACCOUNTS AS OF JULY 21, 2015** **\$ 55,668.58**



**222<sup>nd</sup> Board of Governors Meeting  
Sunday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
Crowne Plaza Hotel at the Crossings  
Warwick, Rhode Island**

President Paul Schumacher called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

The President led a moment of reverent silence, remembering the soldiers that lost their lives during battle and all of the veterans, relatives and friends that have passed since then. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

A motion was made to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the 220<sup>th</sup> Board of Governors meeting in Houston, TX. This motion was seconded and passed with all in favor.

Board members present: Terry Barnhart, Mary Cooper, Philip Bosko, Mary Cooper, Mary Kay Darr, Gail Eisenhauer, Clare Irwin, Jane Mitchell, Clarence Ray, Theda Ray, Judy Rishel and Joyce Schumacher. Jack Dauner was also in attendance.

Committee reports were presented by chairpersons.

Nominating Committee - Gail Eisenhauer

Gail identified the individuals nominated to fill the following positions:

President: Terry Barnhart

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Glenda Baswell

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Jack Dauner

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President: Paul Schumacher

Treasurer: Mary Cooper

Secretary: Clare Irwin

Judge Advocate: John Sabato

Finance – Mary Cooper

Mary briefly reviewed our financial status and the new business presented to the Association membership, Officers, and Board of Governors during the meetings this year. She will move forward with the investigative exploration as voted on and approved.

The Octofoil – Theda Ray and Jane Mitchell

Theda asked whether the use of payment options or incentives would increase the number of individuals subscribing to The Octofoil, with the direct benefit of increasing membership numbers. Various payment options were discussed to determine the viability of each but no decision was reached. Jane offered to gather subscription data to facilitate further discussion on this matter. Clare Irwin will collaborate by organizing and providing membership statistics for the informational report.

Clare offered that to preserve current and future issues of The Octofoil, we should consider providing a perpetual, no charge subscription to The College of the Holy Cross. This is the physical location where the Association's archives are now located.

The following motion was made by Clare Irwin:

MOTION: The Association will provide an Octofoil subscription without charge to The College of the Holy Cross.

This motion was seconded and passed with all in favor.

By-Laws – Theda Ray

Report to follow at a later date.

Reunions 2017 and 2018 - Jack Dauner

Report to follow at a later date.

Father Connors Memorial & Archives - Clare Irwin

Mark Savolis, Head of Archives and Special Collections at The College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA has received the Association's archives and is continuing the process of cataloging the items. At some point in the near future, the College will seek a transfer of ownership of the archives. Terry Barnhart and Clare Irwin will support and work with Mark, as needed, while our collection is organized and catalogued on the shelves of the archives room and referenced on the college website. Since the collection will be kept at The College of the Holy Cross in perpetuity, it is expected that contact with the College will continue indefinitely.

To Improve the Association – Judy Rishel

Judy brought forward two ideas for the improvement of the Association.

The first emphasizes the importance of recognizing the end of the generation that founded this Association. How can we celebrate these individuals after they are gone? Judy proposed that the timeline of a 5-year plan would allow plenty of time to gather information, plan the celebration and then bring it to fruition.

The second idea was to explore the potential of moving to electronic payments for membership and Octofoil subscription fees. This concept generated questions about internet security, electronic funds transfer fees, personal preferences regarding access/banking on the internet, the reliability of the USPS and the labor involved in setting up and reconciling electronic payments on the income/expense worksheets.

The Board of Governors recommended that both of the ideas presented by Judy should be researched for further discussion and planning.

## Elections - Paul Schumacher

President Schumacher identified the individuals and positions forwarded by the Nominations Committee as follows, Terry Barnhart: President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Glenda Baswell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Jack Dauner, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President: Paul Schumacher, Treasurer: Mary Cooper, Secretary: Clare Irwin, and Judge Advocate: John Sabato. Additional nominations were then requested from the floor. No further nominations were forwarded and President Schumacher closed the nominations by unanimous consent. Mary Kay Darr made the following motion:

MOTION: The Board of Governors vote and approve the above nominations by acclamation. This motion was seconded and passed with all in favor.

With no further business on the agenda, a motion to adjourn was made at 9:45 a.m. The motion was seconded and passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Clare Irwin, National Secretary

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*The following article was written by Yuri Beckers and is reprinted with his permission. Part 1 was published in the Jan-Feb-Mar 2015 issue. Yuri is a friend of The Ninth Infantry Division Association and has a keen interest in the history of the 9th Infantry Division.*

## **COMBAT UNIFORMS** **Uniforms Worn by the 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Men** (Part 2)

### Equipment & Headgear

M36 Pistol Belt - Made from heavy cotton webbing this belt featured several rows of eyelets to attach equipment with wire hooks. On the front was a large snap fastener to secure the 1911 Magazine Pouch. The material of the buckles varied from brass to steel. Like all webbing equipment it was produced in various shades of Khaki and later in shades of OD. Meant to be worn by Officers carrying a 1911 Colt or rifleman with a M1 Carbine or SMG (Sub Machine Gun) gunners with a M1 Thompson or M3 Grease Gun.

Belt, Cartridge, Cal.30 Dismounted, M23 - Made like the Pistol Belt from heavy webbing and canvas. It had ten pouches, 5 on each side closed with LTD's (Lift the dot fasteners). Each pouch could hold 2 1903 stripper clips or 1 Garand Clip enlboc. It also featured eyelets to attach equipment with wire hooks and suspenders. Issued to rifleman carrying the 1903 Springfield or M1 Garand. Also known as the "Garand Belt".

Pouch, First Aid Packet, M42 - Small webbing pouch closed with a LTD for carrying the Carlisle dressing in its OD or red colored tin box. Due to shortage of material, the tin box was later replaced by a cardboard container. The first aid kit also contained the sulfa powder. Each soldier carried one.

Cover, Canteen, Dismounted M10 - Made from Khaki canvas. The inside was lined with wool for insulation. It was attached by a wire hook, which was located on the back of the cover to either the pistol belt or the Garand Belt. To secure the canteen in the cover it featured two flaps extending from the back to the front to the LTD fasteners on the front. The Canteen itself was made from either Aluminum or Stainless Steel. It could hold one quart of wa-

ter. The early models had an Aluminum cap while the latter had caps made from plastic. These caps were secured to the Canteen with a small chain. The Cup had the same shape like the Canteen body except that it was a little bit larger so the Canteen could fit into it. The Cup had a fold-able handle. It could hold three cups (24.oz). Cups like Canteens underwent several modifications and were produced from various materials throughout the war.

M43 Entrenchment Tool & Cover - Prior to WW2 most G.I's carried the M10 Entrenching Tool. It had a metal shovel and a wood handle shaft resembling a t, thus the nickname "T-shovel". A shortened version was available. The cover was made from cotton canvas and was attached to the M24 Haversack or Belt with a wire hook.

M10 Entrenchment Tool & Cover - The M10 Entrenching Tool saw service throughout the whole war. The more common Entrenching Tool was the M43. It had a wood handle and a folding blade. It could be used as shovel or pick axe. The Cover was made from cotton webbing and featured a flap that was closed with an LTD fastener. It had a wire hook on the back to attach the cover carrying the shovel to either the belt, M28 Haversack, M44/45 Pack and the late version of the M36 Musette Bag.

M28 Haversack - Made from cotton canvas in Khaki and OD. A backpack like sbe folded into a pocket when not needed.

M-1 Steel Helmet - A steel helmet is designed to protect the user from flying fragments of exploded ordnance. By extending further down the sides and back of the wearer's head and neck, the M-1 was a big improvement over the M-1917A1 helmet. The M1917 model was considered suitable for protecting the top of the head. By removing its brim, by adding sidepieces and earpiece, and by incorporating the suspension system into a separate inner liner, the World War II "Army helmet" came into being. The Army M1 steel helmet was standardized on 30 April 1941 and was approved on 9 June 1941. It was of two-piece design with an outer steel shell and a separate inner liner containing the suspension system. The steel outer helmet had a tructure. It had shoulder straps and straps to be fastened on the Belt with hooks. It also had two straps on the back to attach to the Belt. It was designed to hold: Shelter half, Poncho, Blanket, personal articles. It had an extra pouch for the Meat can. The flap had two eyelets on the front of the flap to attach the M10 or M43 Entrenching Tool. It also had two eyelets on the side of the main body to attach the Bayonet. The Haversack was impracti-



was often left undone (or buckled on the back of the helmet) with the unfounded idea that the force of an explosion could catch the helmet cause injury from the jerk of the chinstrap. Although the interior suspension system of the liner was adjustable and would keep the helmet on the soldier's head even without the chin strap, there were times when an unstrapped soldier would have to hold his helmet on by hand. Commanders had to order the men to fasten their chinstraps at all times. The helmets were painted with standard matte finish olive drab paint with shredded cork or sawdust grit mixed in to reduce glare, giving a bumpy finish. Unit insignia and/or individual rank often were painted or glued to both the shell and the liner. Medics had conspicuous Red Cross symbols on their helmets while the Military Police wore white helmets with MP stenciled on or OD helmets with a white stripe and MP letters. Other special services or units had their own colors and markings. Even chromed helmets were used for ceremonial units and parades. Cotton cord camouflage netting was frequently attached to the helmet to hold materials (leaves, branches) that help break up its outline. Helmet nets were issued or made in the unit from large camouflage nets. The Army did not have a standard issue helmet net until the M-1944 helmet net that appeared in Europe in December 1944 or January 1945. The USMC camouflage helmet cover, first worn at Tarawa in late 1943, was made of herringbone twill material printed with a reversible green to brown pattern designed for use in tropical environments. The M-1 was a popular helmet, worn by all services worldwide from early WW II through Korea and Vietnam, until its replacement in the mid-1980s by the PASGT Kevlar Helmet. Approximately 22 million of the steel helmet shells were manufactured during World War II, along with 33 million helmet liners. In addition to its mission as head protection, the M-1 steel helmet was used for boiling water to make coffee, for cooking and shaving, as an entrenching tool, to bail water from a landing craft, as a hammer, or even as a toilet!



**Officers and Board of Governors  
2015-2016**

**Officers**

Terry Barnhart, President	
Glenda Baswell, 1st Vice President	
Jack Dauner, 2nd Vice President	
Paul Schumacher, 3rd Vice President	
John Sabato, Judge Advocate	
Clare Irwin, Secretary	
Mary Cooper, Treasurer	

**Board of Governors**

**Terms Expiring 2016**

Terry Barnhart	
Glenda Baswell	
Philip Bosko	
Mary Cooper	
Gail Eisenhower	
Clare Irwin	
Jane Mitchell	
Clarence Ray	
Theda Ray	
Judy Rishel	
Maureen Hoyt Roberts	
John Sabato	
William Sauers	
Janet Schnall	
Joyce Schumacher	

**Term Expiring 2017**

Mary Kay Darr	
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**Publishers/Editors The Octofoil**

Jane Mitchell	Theda Ray



**THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**  
Membership year July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

9-DIGIT ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Fee:** **Amount Due**

Regular Annual Member (\$15.00 per year) \_\_\_\_\_  
*(9th Infantry Division WWII Veterans, Widows, Spouses,  
Lineal Descendants, 9th Infantry Division Vietnam War Veterans)*

Associate Member (\$10.00 per year) \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Friends, Historians, General Public, et al.)*

**TOTAL AMOUNT DUE** \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: **The Ninth Infantry Division Association**

Send to: CLARE IRWIN, SECRETARY

Rev June 2013

# The Octofoil

## Subscription Form

Annual subscription fee: \$20.00  
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## **For the 71st Annual Reunion**

### **August 5-8, 2016**

### **Ft. Myers, FL 33907**

