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The Octofoil

9th Infantry Division Association

10-1-2019

The Octofoil, October/November/December 2019

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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The Octofoil

Oct-Nov-Dec
2019

Volume LIII, No. 3

President's Message

"If we don't remember, who will?"



I hope each of you have had a wonderful holiday season!

I want to share a number of areas of work for the Association. First, in order to adhere well to our new status as a 501(c)3 organization, Mary Cooper and I had a very good review from our attorney, Tina Melo. The purposes stated in our new Articles of Incorporation need to guide us. There are certain types of solicitations we can engage in and others we must avoid. As we move forward, we will need to keep in mind the guidelines/limitations if we try to obtain contributions from individuals or corporations. I have recently shared this information with the Executive Committee so they are aware of Tina's guidance.

This was the first year of sending in a tax return as a 501(c)3. Our accounting firm organized the necessary documents and, since this involved a change from our previous returns, Tina, Mary and I reviewed the information. After minor adjustments, the tax return documents were turned in to the IRS in a timely manner.

The Website Committee, assembled to move us toward establishing a new Association website, has met twice by phone. Terry Barnhart provided the group with a draft of a Request For Proposal (RFP) to review. A final version of the RFP, plus a cover letter from me, are going in mid-December to select vendors for their consideration in developing and maintaining a useful web presence for us. Bids are due January 15, 2020. The bids will be reviewed thoroughly by the Committee and additional questions may be asked before one vendor is selected. Our goal is to have a basic site up and running by May 15, 2020.

The Annual Meeting Committee has been hard at work on planning details of our 75th Annual Meeting and Reunion at Ft. Bragg/Fayetteville, N.C. Please note that the dates for this annual event are August 6 through 8, 2020 (which is a Thursday through Saturday). Please look in this edition of the Octofoil for more information on the Annual Meeting/Reunion. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Thank you.

Pete Stern, President

"Nothing could be finer than to be in Carolina"

What better place could there be to celebrate this 75th Annual Reunion of the Ninth Infantry Division Association than where it began with the 9th Infantry Division training for WWII? The Ft. Bragg Command has agreed to host the Association for a special one-day event on base. This will be only the fourth time that the Association has visited Ft. Bragg since 1962, 1982 and 1992. This will be a unique opportunity to see where the troops trained over 78-79 years ago and to give us a glimpse into troop training today. Make your plans to come experience some Southern Hospitality and visit the largest military base where the "Old Reliables" legend began.

Date

Since the base activities need to occur during a weekday, the reunion schedule has been moved up one day. We will meet **Thursday, August 6th** and conclude with our annual banquet on **Saturday night, August 8th**. Checkout will be on **Sunday, August 9th**, unless you decide to stay to enjoy the Fayetteville and North Carolina area.

Hotel

This Reunion will be held at the Clarion Hotel in Fayetteville, NC. It is conveniently located near (continued on page 3)



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OUR MISSION

This Association was 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 about 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

Effective July 1, 2018, the annual fee for membership, which includes The Octofoil, is thirty five dollars (\$35.00) and must be sent to the Membership Chairperson by check or money order made payable to:

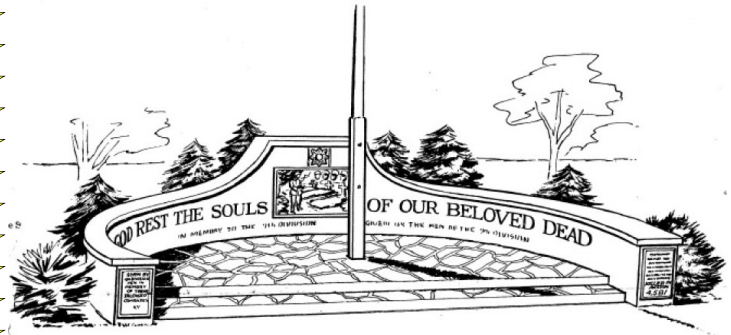
The Ninth Infantry Division Association.

Send payment to: **Clare Irwin**
Membership Chairperson

The Ninth Infantry Division Association Inc. is a registered 501(c)3 Charitable Organization of the Internal Revenue Code in a determination letter dated October 26, 2018. Contributions are tax deductible.

Volume LIII, No. 3

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Friends of Father Conner Fund

At the 2019 Pittsburgh Reunion, Susan Armstrong, daughter of John W. and Jackie Armstrong, offered a challenge to the Association. If members of the Association would donate \$750 to the FFCF, she would match that donation, with her portion going to The Octofoil fund. Members stepped up and exceeded that challenge! Those who donated are listed below:

Terry Barnhart

Sandra Bosko

Don and Judy Browne

Mary Cooper

John Delmore

(in memory of Thomas Delmore, WWII, F.A., 7 Battlestars)

Mack and Mary Kay Darr

Gail Eisenhower

Fred Harke

Nona Hutchins

Linda Jorden (in memory of Nadine Collier)

Jane Mitchell

Theda Ray

Bill Stringer

TIP OF THE HAT FUND

There were no donations to the Tip of the Hat Fund this quarter. The balance in this fund, which is to remember our buddies who have answered their last Roll Call, is \$6,360.00.

The Friends of Father Connors Fund would like to thank these new donors for their generous contributions.

The current balance in the FFCF is \$4,504.95
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
"Tip of the Hat" and mail to:

Mary Cooper, [REDACTED]

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, [REDACTED]

The Ninth Infantry Division Association would like to thank the following member for her generous donation to
The Octofoil fund:

Susan Armstrong

In honor of John W. Armstrong

(continued from page 1)

I-95 and is approximately 15 miles from Ft. Bragg. A special room rate of \$102 per room has been negotiated which includes a hot breakfast buffet for everyone in each booked room. There are also microwaves and mini fridges in every room along with in-room coffee. (See reunion application for specific registration details.)

Transportation

Two regional airports and rail service are available in the Ft. Bragg area. Nearby Fayetteville Regional airport is served by both Delta and American Airlines. Several Amtrak routes also serve Fayetteville. The Clarion has a complimentary hotel shuttle to these local transportation venues. Raleigh-Durham Airport offers more air carriers, but is approximately 60 miles away. There is no complimentary shuttle service to and from this airport.

Welcome Dinner

Registration will be open all day on Thursday. The Board will hold the first of several meetings in the afternoon. That evening there will be a Welcome Dinner that will give you a taste of North Carolina cuisine that will have your mouth watering.

Fort Bragg

After breakfast on Friday morning, the group will be transported to Fort Bragg for the Memorial Service on the parade grounds at the 9th Infantry Division monument which was dedicated in 1982. Plans include a new plaque dedication to commemorate this 75th Reunion and a group picture. Lunch will be provided at two of the mess halls where we will join the training airborne troops followed by two interesting 45-60 minute on-base tours of training facilities. (Tours will include airborne training including parachute packing and use of an attendee hands-on weapons training simulator.) Transportation will be provided back to the hotel for those who are not interested or unable to participate in the tours. Afterwards, the tour group will be transported to the Airborne & Special Operations Museum located in Fayetteville to enjoy a private tour and an Italian Buffet Dinner. It will be a full day of wonderful, unique experiences which can be shared when we return to the hotel and chill out in the Hospitality Suite.

Saturday

Saturday will be enjoyed in the hotel as we conduct the business of the Association and have a time for a "Show and Tell" which has become a favorite for attendees. Bring an interesting item or story to share and discuss with all. There will be a new video interview with 100-year-old Herb Stern, one of our WWII veterans who trained at Ft. Bragg in 1941-42. You will find his memory of this time remarkable!

Of course, the reunion would not be complete without our traditional Banquet that will include a delicious meal, good fellowship, an exciting raffle and wonderful entertainment.

More details about additional "after-reunion activities" will be included in the next **Octofoil**. So please, meet new friends and reunite with those who share this common bond as we continue to remember those who have given so much for our freedom. **Registration for this reunion is \$300 per person which includes all scheduled events. Lodging fees are not included. A deposit of \$100 per person is due by April 1, with the remainder due by June 1.** (See reunion application.)

We ask that you complete your registration by the due dates to facilitate a smooth planning process for the Reunion Committee. We hope to see you in beautiful North Carolina as we return to relive and create special memories of times past and present.



Annual Ninth Infantry Division Association Reunion

75th Annual Reunion
Clarion Fayetteville I-95
1944 Cedar Creek Rd, Fayetteville, NC 28312
August 6-9, 2020

Name: _____

Number in Party _____

The following names and contact information will be printed in the Reunion Program.

Name	Address	Telephone #	E-Mail Address

Please indicate if you are a 9th Infantry Division Veteran. If so, specify if you are:

WWII: _____ Vietnam: _____ Regiment: _____ Battalion: _____ Company: _____ Ft. Lewis, WA _____

Banquet meal choice: _____ Prime Rib (Slow Roasted with Natural Jus)
_____ Chicken Marsala with Portabella Mushrooms
_____ Vegetarian: Wild Mushroom Orzo Risotto with Sun-dried Tomatoes,
Shaved Parmigiana, Sweet Peas, Grilled Asparagus

Please make checks payable to Ninth Infantry Division Association (write 2020 Reunion on memo line). A \$100 per person deposit is due by April 1, balance of \$200 per person by June 1, 2020.

Please submit this registration form and deposit to:

Judy Rishel, _____

Any questions about registration, please contact Judy _____

To make your room reservations at the discounted rate of \$102, please contact the hotel directly at **910-323-1600** and reference the **Ninth Infantry Division Association**. Please specify if you need a handicapped room. Check-in time is 3:00PM and check-out time is 11:00AM. The cut-off date for making reservations at the special rate is: **July 7, 2020**. **Any reservations made after this date will be subject to availability and at the hotel regular rate.**



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

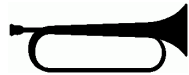
Source: U.S. Army Center of Military History

Vietnam War

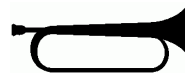
SGT Sammy L. Davis, Battery C, 2nd Battalion, 4th Artillery; West of Cai Lay; 18 November 1967
SP4 Edward A. Devore, Jr.*, Company B, 4th Battalion, 39th Infantry; Near Saigon; 17 March 1968
PFC James W. Fous*, Company E, 4th Battalion, 47th Infantry; Kien Hoa Province; 14 May 1968
SSG Don J. Jenkins, 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

Howard Louis Beach
9th Recon Troop



Clyde W. LaBrenz
G Co. 47th Inf. Reg.



Lazar "Sonny" Kay
F Co. 39th Inf. Reg.

TAPS OBITUARIES

Howard Louis Beach 9th Recon Troop

Howard was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and at the age of 93, he passed away in Fullerton, California. Howard is survived by his wife, Florence Ann Beach, children, Mary Patricia Borowski, Joan Marie Beach, Mary Catherine Stanley, Gregg Joseph Beach and Steven Howard Beach, eleven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Clyde W. LaBrenz 1923-2019 G Company, 47th Infantry Regiment

Clyde W. LaBrenz, aged 96 of Grand Rapids, passed away peacefully on Saturday, December 21, 2019, while in the company of family. Clyde was a kind, loving, and dedicated husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, and friend, known for his sense of humor and easygoing personality, and he will be greatly missed.

Clyde was born on August 31, 1923, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, to Walter and Martina [Sporte] LaBrenz. Along with his parents, he is preceded in death by his brothers, Jim and Robert LaBrenz.

He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Anna [Hailfinger] and their three children, Tom (Shari) LaBrenz, Karen (Gary) Frost, and Marcia LaBrenz; six grandchildren; three great-

TAPS OBITUARIES

grandchildren; & many cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

Clyde honorably served his country during World War II in the U.S. Army. Sent overseas in September 1944, he landed at Omaha Beach in France, where his unit was sent to join the Ninth Infantry Division in the Battle of the Hurtgen Forest on the Belgium-Germany border. Clyde continued his service throughout the war and helped to rebuild bridges in Germany after the official end of World War II. In later years, Clyde and Anna joined the Michigan Chapter of the Ninth Infantry Division and attended many gatherings and events, making close friendships with many of the other veterans. One of the many gifts that Clyde gave to his children and grandchildren was his openness and generosity in sharing his experiences in World War II as a young man.

Clyde and Anna were longtime members of St. John's United Church of Christ in Grand Rapids. They were married at St. John's on September 18, 1948. For many years, Clyde volunteered with the United Church Outreach Ministry, working at a pantry in the basement of a local church to support the needs of low-income families in the community by distributing clothing to people in need.

Clyde was very devoted to his family and taught by example in an honest, unassuming way. His family and friends will have many happy memories of his generous, calm, tolerant nature, and his ability to find humor in everyday life. He was a special man who will be greatly missed but he will be remembered fondly by all who knew him and will be forever in our hearts.



**Captain Lazar "Sonny" Kay
F Company, 39th Infantry Regiment**



Captain Lazar "Sonny" Kay passed away Thursday, April 4, 2019.

He is survived by his loving wife of 22 years, Anna Kay; children, Jonathan Kay (Jane) of Marlboro, N.J., Lauren Hochrad (Howard) of Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., Quentin McNutt of Charlotte, Branden G. McNutt (Tina) of Lincolnton; two granddaughters, Marissa Kaeser (Kevin), Chloe Grosberg (Daniel); two grandsons, Jesse Weber, Brandon C. McNutt; three great grandchildren, Dylan and Eli Grosberg, Finn Kaeser; special niece, Karen Wolfe (Charlie) of Weddington; great niece, Stephanie DiPaulo (George) and their children; great-nephew, Michael Levin (Taya) and their children; special friends, Ned Parnell, Mike Martin, Dr. Mike Thomann; and a score of other close friends and neighbors.

He served in the 9th Infantry Division in World War II, as a combat infantryman, and was decorated three times with the Bronze Star Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, as well as the Purple Heart Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Distinguished Unit

Badge with one Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Service Medal with five Bronze Stars.

He lived life to the fullest, was an offshore power boat racer, and once held the record for highest offshore speed which is noted in the Guinness Book of Records. Sonny was also USCG licensed.

After many other business ventures, Sonny owned a 51' motor/sailing yacht and cruised the Caribbean for approximately three years. He was Executive VP of CRP/Automotive Hose, a division of Radiator Specialty Company of Charlotte. Retiring from this, he became a BOAT/US captain, rescuing and raising sunken boats on Lake Norman. After and during BOAT/US he chartered the 51' "Saltshaker", along with pontoon boats, ski boats, and jet skis. He finally retired from the boat business and just tried to slow down and enjoy life.

He was a great man, and will be truly missed by many friends and family.

His wish was to be cremated with no service. Donations may be made to the Gordon Hospice House in Statesville.

MAIL CALL

The following letter was received from Tammany McDonald, Executive Director, Quilts of Valor Foundation's National Headquarters in Winterset, Iowa:

I would like to thank you for your gift of \$400 to the foundation.

Because of the support of generous donors like yourself, Quilts of Valor reported awards of over 200,000 Quilts of Valor. Your donation enables our dedicated volunteers to continue the mission to cover service members and veterans touched by war with a comfortable and healing Quilt of Valor. We recently received this note from an award recipient:

"You need to understand what my Quilt of Valor means to me. Let me tell you some of my story. Before I received my Quilt of Valor, I had nightmares almost every night. I had to take medication, and I do not like to take meds. I received my Quilt of Valor and started sleeping with that. I no longer have nightmares, and I no longer take medication to sleep. What you do matters a lot. Signed: T.W. (Iraq/Afghanistan)".

This is why we do what we do.

I hope you receive our outstanding online newsletter "QOVF Threads" each month. *Threads* is a great way to keep up with what the QOVF community is doing to further the foundation's mission of comforting and honoring those who serve. If you do not currently receive *Threads*, just go to the QOVF website, www.QOVF.org where you will find a drop-down box under "About QOVF." In *Threads*, you'll read heartwarming stories about quilts awarded and opportunities for involvement with Quilts of Valor, whether you are a quilter or not.

I cannot thank you enough for your generous donation. It is sincerely appreciated.

Tammany McDaniel
Executive Director



IN THE LAST 75 YEARS...

This is the second of four articles preceding the 75th Reunion by Terry Barnhart that will trace the history of the Ninth Infantry Division Association as reported through the Octofoil newsletters. The newsletters from 1947-2006 can be viewed online at: holycross.edu/archives-and-special-collections/college-holy-cross-special-collections-digital-collection.

The Early Years of the Association

After the successful formation and adoption of the by-laws and constitution of the Association on June 19, 1945, it was reported to have over 10,000 registered members and some \$90,268.56 in the treasury at the end of 1945. (Initial membership registration was \$10 plus one dollar yearly dues.) Interest remained strong for the next several years with five large, successful reunions in New York City; Columbus, Ohio; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and Chicago, Illinois. The first reunion hosted over 1200 people!

Several regional associate veteran groups were started around the country which held more frequent local meetings, picnics and other social gatherings throughout the year. There were 12 groups listed in 1960 including one in Europe. The wives also started an auxiliary group early which met at the national reunions until 2008.

Membership waned to about 1500 dues-paying members in the 1950's and the reunions became smaller as 9th veterans got married, started families and found careers. There were several *Octofoil* articles, urging the men of the 9th to renew their memberships and encouraged them to make the national reunions a family vacation.

Eight Stars to Victory became available for purchase at \$3.50 in 1947. The Association invested over \$56,000 to have the history published. Unfortunately, no one thought to have the book copyrighted and a private publisher started reprinting the book for profit several years later that did not benefit the Association.

In 1951, *The Octofoil* stated that the Association was the best financed military association and nationally recognized organization in the country out of 106 military associations. General Manton S. Eddie, the 9th Infantry Division commander until March 1945, was credited with early insight into the success of the Association. With the exception of Chicago, Columbus and Detroit, the annual reunions were held at eastern cities through 1961. The 1962 reunion was held at Ft. Bragg as the membership fondly remembered their time there.

It is interesting to note that 9th members known as the "5th Platoon" (first black combat soldiers that were inserted in several 9th Infantry Division units) were not encouraged to become Association members. A couple letters from 5th Platoon men were published in an early *Octofoil* that said that they did not feel welcomed. This oversight probably reflected the still prevalent racial segregation in some areas of the country in the late 1940's and 1950's.

A scholarship fund was started in 1961 by the Association with priority given to the children of 9th men lost during WWII. The first recipient was Albert Stidman.

Early in the formation of the Association, two men played pre-

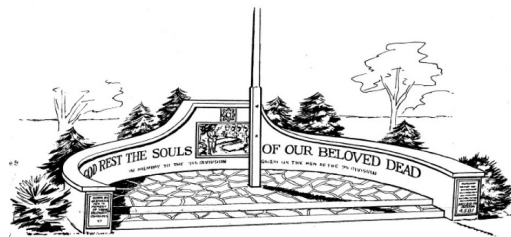
dominant roles for many years in promoting and coordinating the Association. Daniel Quinn served as the National Secretary and Paul Plunkett was *The Octofoil* editor. *The Octofoil* was initially published monthly which was later reduced to fewer annual issues. Considerable information was published such as membership lists and reunion attendees with their addresses. Gold Star parents' letters were printed looking for information about their loved ones' death along with Association members looking for their comrades.

Two other men, Father Edward T. Connors and General William Westmoreland, were often written about in the 1950's - 60's. Father Connors was a graduate of College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA and beloved chaplain of the 9th Infantry Division. He was awarded a Silver Star for gallantry in finding and rescuing a young soldier at night who would not leave his dead brother from the center of a live mine field. Father Connors jeep's name during the war was called "Connor's Coffee Shop" that circulated the battlefields offering comfort to the soldiers.

Father Connors first started holding a Memorial Mass in 1946 while he was the priest at two parishes, St. Mary's Church in North Grafton, MA and St. Peter's Church in Worcester, MA. Some three hundred 9th Division men from all units were in attendance every year along with their family and friends. In 1952, Father Connors started holding the Memorial Mass at the Immaculate Conception Church in Worcester, MA which continues today. The mass and ceremony grew to a two-day event with over 1,000 people in attendance. On November 11, 1962 a memorial was dedicated to the "boys" of Father Connors, a list of the 4581 soldiers lost during WWII was included. Later, the Vietnam War casualties were added to the memorial.

General William Westmoreland was a 1936 graduate of West Point and a career Army officer. He served in the 47th Infantry Regiment Headquarters Company, then Chief of Staff for the 9th Infantry Division and was one of the original founders of the Association. He was elected National President in 1956. Later he became the commander of American Forces in South Vietnam, Superintendent of West Point and finally the Army Chief of Staff. While not documented, it is believed that he was instrumental in having the 9th Infantry Division reactivated for this war. Later, this became a major membership issue which threatened the existence of the Association.

In summary, the Association started out strong with early large membership with encouragement of top officers just after the war and a healthy dues structure. This enabled the association to establish an active and well-read newsletter, underwrite a comprehensive history book, establishment of numerous regional affiliated groups and formation of an auxiliary women's group. Several strong Association members and national officers lead the Association during the drop of membership, but encouraged an active member base to uphold the organization goals and to remember the lost men of the 9th Infantry Division through a large, annual Memorial Mass and dedicated a memorial monument in Worcester, MA.



The next issue will discuss the dedication of the 1982 Ft. Bragg Monument, the difficult issue of membership following the Vietnam War, and the evolution of the Association into the 1990's and beyond.



THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
74TH ANNUAL REUNION
PITTSBURGH, PA AUGUST 3, 2019

2019 Hurtgen Conference



Rudi Porsche, Paul Schmuckner, Jack Dauner



Mercedes and Marcel Museum



2019



Memorial Service



Worcester MA



RELIEF FROM C RATIONS by Ernie Pyle

(Clipped from a Long Island Newspaper by Gail Eisenhower's Grandmother)

In Normandy (by wireless). One day while we were up on the Cherbourg Peninsula I decided all of a sudden that I couldn't face C rations that evening. And Bob Capa, the photographer, said he never could face C rations in the first place so we laid a plan. We got a friendly mess sergeant to drum us up some cans of Vienna sausage, some sugar canned peas and what not, and we put them in a pasteboard box. Then we walked around a couple of hedge rows to our motor pool and dug up Pvt. Lawrence Wedley Cogan from the comfortable lair he had prepared for himself in an oat field. Pvt. Cogan drives a command car for the G-2 section of the 9th Infantry Division. When we can catch him not driving the G-2 we can talk him into driving us somewhere. So we piled in and directed chauffeur Cogan to set out for the nearby village of Les Pieux. When we got there, Capa, who speaks eight languages – and as his friends say, "None of them well" – went into a restaurant to make his investigations. Pretty soon he came to the car and motioned. So Cogan parked the car behind a building, we took our box of canned stuff, and in we went.

It was a typical French village restaurant with low ceilings and floors that sagged, and it consisted of four or five rooms. It was crammed with French people, for we had only just taken Les Pieux and not many Americans had found the place yet. The woman who ran the place took us to a long table. Pvt. Cogan was dirty with the grease and dust of his job and went off to wash before eating again in a civilized fashion. The cosmopolitan Capa made a deal, and we traded our rations for the café's regular dinner, in order not to take anything away from the French. We had expected to pay the full price anyhow, but when the bill came they charged us only for the cooking and wouldn't take a bit more. The restaurant had no small tables, but one long one in each room. Consequently we were seated with French people. They seemed eager to be friendly and pretty soon we were in the thick of conversation, and occasionally he would relay the gist of it to Cogan and me, the hicks. The

people told us about the German occupation, but they didn't have much bad to say about the Germans. Then we talked of the French underground, which had just been coming out in the open in the previous few days. Throughout our dinner, Pvt. Cogan, in his soiled coveralls, listened and beamed and ate and took in eagerly the words he couldn't understand and the scene so new and strange to him. One middle-aged French woman made over him because he looked so young. Cogan isn't bashful, but he couldn't talk French so he just grinned. Pvt. Cogan joined the army at 17. He was overseas before he was 18 and he is only 19 now. His home is at Alexandria, Virginia. He is one of the nicest human beings you ever met. No matter what you ask him to do or what time of night it is, or in what weather you take him out, he does it good-naturedly and without the silent surliness of some drivers. Furthermore, he's an excellent driver, and he always has a box of rations in his car. When we left the restaurant he was all a-bubble and said over and over again that he had the best time that evening he had ever had in the army. Imagine him, he said, seeing foreign stuff like this as young as he is.

Next day the international trio, Capa, Cogan and Pyle, went out again. But this time it was a different. This was a trip I've been writing about the last several days, when we went into Cherbourg with an attacking infantry company of the 9th Division. When we got to our forward battalion command post, we got out of the car and told Cogan to go back about a mile and wait for us as it was too dangerous to wait up there. And do you know what Cogan did: looked at us almost pleading and said "Would you let me go with you?" We said "of course" if he wanted to. Cogan jumped out of the car like a jumping jack, buckled on two big belts of ammunition, grabbed his rifle, and was ready to go. He stayed with us clear through that afternoon. When Capa went farthest forward to get his pictures of surrendering Germans, Cogan hopped along behind him with his loaded rifle, as though to protect him. Now and then I would notice his face, and instead of being afraid he was as pleased as a child at a state fair. Of course, what he did will seem asinine to any combat soldier who would give a fortune to keep out of combat instead of seeking it. Yet the willingness to do anything that is asked of you, and the eagerness to experience things that aren't asked of you make a real trooper. When we got to camp that night, Capa said: "That Cogan, he's one of the finest soldiers I've ever met in this army." Righto.

Treasurer's Report

Balance in all sub-accounts as of December 1, 2019

<u>Account</u>	<u>Balance</u>
General	17,197.74
Octofoil	9,676.07
Library Project	587.29
Memorial Fund	6,360.00
F.F.C.F.	4,504.95
Reunion Insurance Fund	5,000.00
2015 Reunion	3,062.49
2016 Reunion	2,591.86
2017 Reunion	4,406.78
2018 Reunion	76.44
2019 Reunion	-934.11
2020 Reunion	-500.00
Vets Travel Fund	4,670.99

TOTAL **56,700.50**

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Cooper, Treasurer



EXPENSES AND NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)-INCOME TAX BASIS
FROM 7/01/19 TO 9/30/19
Prepared by Mize Houser and Co. P.A.

	CURRENT QUARTER	YEAR TO DATE
REVENUE		
General Fund Income	\$ 730	\$730
Octofoil Funds Income	1,020	1,020
Memorial Fund Income	1,151	1,151
FFCF Donation Income	15	15
73rd-2018 Reunion Income	300	300
74th-2019 Reunion Income	<u>6,837</u>	<u>6,837</u>
TOTAL REVENUE	<u>\$10,053</u>	<u>\$10,053</u>
EXPENSES		
Postage Expenses	\$ 262	\$ 262
Printing and Copies	395	395
Entertainment Expense	300	300
Accounting Expense	875	875
Food/Catering Expense	8,911	8,911
Memorial Services	265	265
Miscellaneous	108	108
Donations	800	800
Veterans Travel Expense	<u>878</u>	<u>878</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$12,794</u>	<u>\$12,794</u>
NET SURPLUS	<u>(2,741)</u>	<u>(2,741)</u>

STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES & EQUITY-INCOME TAX BASIS 9/30/19

CURRENT ASSETS

General Fund Cash	\$18,429
Octofoil Subscription Cash	9,338
Octofoil Library Project Cash	587
Memorial Fund Cash	6,360
FFCF Cash	3,835
Veterans Travel Fund	4,671
Reunion Insurance Funds	5,000
70th—2015 Reunion Cash	3,062
71st—2016 Reunion Cash	2,592
72nd—2017 Reunion Cash	4,407
73rd—2018 Reunion Cash	76
74th—2019 Reunion Cash	<u>(934)</u>
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	<u>\$57,423</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$57,423</u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted Net Assets-Beg.	\$60,164
Current Surplus (Deficit)	<u>(\$2741)</u>

TOTAL NET ASSETS **\$57,423**

TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS **\$57,423**



**Officers and Board of Governors
2019-2020**

Officers

Peter Stern, President
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Dennis Bonkowski, Vice President
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

JoAnn Bryant, Secretary
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Mary Cooper, Treasurer
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Board of Governors

Terms Expiring 2020

Terry Barnhart
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Glenda Baswell
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Charles Bonney
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Mary Cooper
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Mary Kay Darr
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Clare Irwin, Membership Chairperson
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Judy Rishel
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Terms Expiring 2021

Dennis Bonkowski
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

JoAnn Bryant
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Joyce Schumacher
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Peter Stern
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Terms Expiring 2022

Linda Jorden
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Theda Ray
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Janet Schnall
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Advisors to the Board of Governors 2019-2020

Jack Dauner
Clarence Ray
Paul Schumacher



**The Ninth Infantry Division Association
Membership Application**

July 1, 2019 thru June 30, 2020

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

9-DIGIT ZIP CODE _____ PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

**Regular Annual Membership Fee Includes
The Octofoil Newsletter**

Amount Paid

Regular Annual Member (\$35.00 per year) _____

(9th Infantry Division WWII Veterans and 9th Infantry Division Vietnam War Veterans serving in combat or peace time, Widows, Spouses, Lineal Descendants, and any other party interested in the history or the values of The Ninth Infantry Division)

Foreign Country Renewals (\$45.00 per year) _____

Total Amount Paid _____

CHECK ✓ MEMBERSHIP STATUS:

Veteran _____

Veteran Date of Birth _____

Veteran Spouse or Widow _____

Lineal Descendant _____

Other _____

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

Send to: Clare Irwin, Membership Chairperson

Rev. April 2019

Publishers/Editors The Octofoil

Jane Mitchell [Redacted] [Redacted]	Theda Ray [Redacted] [Redacted]
[Redacted] [Redacted]	[Redacted] [Redacted]



THE OCTOFOIL

**1040 Hickory Ln
Indiana, PA 15701-2438**

Return Service Requested



**Herbert Stern
D Company
9th Med Bn**

**Congratulations to Herbert Stern from the
Ninth Infantry Division Association. Herb is
the second member in our 100's Club !**