

96th Anniversary

NINETIETH DIVISION ASSOCIATION



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FALL 2013

2013-2014 President - COL [R] Jim Beesley

At right: Jim and MaryEva Beesley
Fort Worth, TX



Official web site:

www.90thdivisionassociation.org

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90th Photographer

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BG [R] James Spivey

Immediate Past President

Fort Worth, TX

President Jim Beesley: Greetings Tough 'Ombres and other members of the Association! I am deeply honored to be the President of the 90th Division Association. I served as a Tough 'Ombre from 1995 until 2009, rising from Captain to Colonel while wearing the 90th Patch. I wore that patch proudly in Bosnia and Afghanistan on two different deployments, and elsewhere around the world. I am humbled to be in the company of the men and women who have served this nation with distinction, and who now belong to this Association.

We are at a crossroads. In Fort Worth this past summer the executive board looked at and discussed the future of this organization, and where we wanted it to be 5, 10, 15 years from now. Many of us will go on to answer the final Roll Call. But the Association will live on. How it lives on will be the most important task facing the leadership and members of the Association for the next few years. Our goal should be to leave an enduring legacy for the Tough "Ombres that come after us, and for the friends and family members that also support the Association. With that in mind, I think our priorities are: To preserve and enhance the legacy of our World War Two veterans; to honor the legacy of the World War One veterans that created the Association; to engage the veterans that wore the "T-O" patch in peace and war in the past, and those that wear it now; and to reach out to the friends and family of our past and present veterans and teach them about the sacrifices made by several generations in the defense of this Republic.

So... how do we transform those priorities into action? First, we can't ever forget the dedication and heroism of those who came before us. We have to continue to honor the courage and commitment shown at St. Mihiel, the Meuse Argonne, Normandy, the Falaise Gap, Northern France, the "Bulge", Germany, Saudi Arabia, Bosnia, Afghanistan, Iraq and countless other places, some known only to the men and women who were there. We have to reach out to the thousands of veterans of the 90th ARCOM, 90th Regional Support Command and 90th Regional Readiness Command and tell them about this Association, THEIR Association! We have to connect to the 90th Sustainment Brigade Soldiers in a relevant way to gain and maintain their attention. Finally, we must continue to involve our family and friends, those who supported us and continue to support us. We can do this in a variety of ways. Our FaceBook page has helped us connect to nearly 400 people, some of whom had never heard of this Association before! We need to engage local media every time a 90th veteran does something good for their community! Spread the good word, and people will get interested. And, finally, let's make sure our reunions have something fun for all ages.

When I accepted the gavel, I had the realization that there was an unbroken line of succession from a native Texan and fellow Houstonian, Gustave Dittmar, our first President, to me. I think all of those who came before us would want this Association to prosper and grow. Now is our opportunity. I will not fail. We will not fail. We owe it to every Soldier who has ever worn the "T-O" patch. Meet me in St Louis!

96th Annual Reunion - July 31-August 3, 2014 - St. Louis, MO

Editor, Rhoda Reid, writes...

Dear 90th Members,



The 95th Annual Reunion is now history.

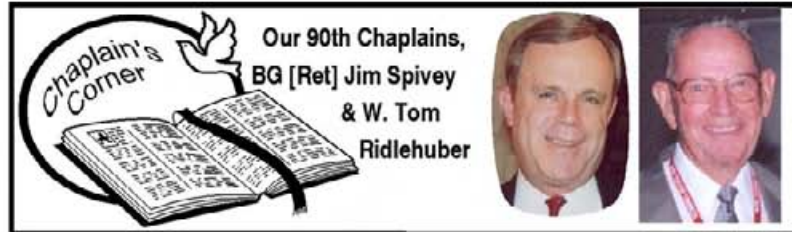
As we have come to expect, it was another marvelous gathering of the 90th Family. There were "new" faces [first timers], there were many of the "regular" faces, and sadly, many missing faces - for a number of different reasons. The saddest, of course, is for the missing faces who have left this earth. To any family members of these dear friends reading this, please know that your hero is not forgotten and will always be missed.

The attendance was the lowest it's ever been - 190, including 6 Color Guard, so we didn't make it to 200. Last year, we were right at 300, so you can see that the attendee numbers are on a downward trend. There were some who had annual family reunions or other commitments, which precluded your coming. It was another terrific & emotional reunion with a couple of "firsts": A contingent from the Sustainment Brigade was assigned to come and document the entire reunion with video & still photos. They were a delight to all of us, and we have been told that the "finished version" will be available at a later date. We also did a SKYPE on Saturday night with Milton Staley, who was not able to come due to a serious infection. He is on the road to recovery - he's a Tough 'Ombre! If you want to see photos of the reunion, visit the 90th website. Our official 90th photographer, Al Twisselman, did another magnificent job of capturing people and events with his ever present camera. Great pics!

GOOD NEWS! We have moved the dates back to our usual time, so the 96th Annual Reunion will take place [God willing] July 31 - August 3, so mark your calendars NOW! The location is **CLAYTON, MO** - a suburb close to St. Louis & 7 miles from the airport. Page 26 of this news letter has details. It's a lovely hotel in a quaint little town with lots of attractions. Information on Reunion activities will be in the Spring newsletter. We want to INCREASE the attendance, & YOU can help by planning now to attend and bring family members with you. **YOU are needed and wanted at these reunions! In 4 years, it will be our 100th!**

Now a word about dues - Ah yes, did you think I would forget??? The facts are that unless people faithfully pay dues.... and begin to contribute to the 500 Club, you will NOT be receiving informative newsletters like this one. I "pushed the envelope" by getting our Executive Sec'y. / Treas. to let me print the 28 pages for this issue - lots of good info from you all! BUT ...UNLESS more people pay dues and beyond - meaning, contribute more \$\$\$ to the 500 Club, the Association cannot support large news letters. As of this writing, our roster is at 1880 and ONLY 496 have paid dues. That is not enough to sustain a newsletter. I know not everyone can afford to contribute extra \$\$ to the 500 Club, but for those who can, the Association NEEDS your donations. FYI - NONE of the dues or 500 Club \$\$ go to reunion expenses. The reunions pay for themselves.

Finally, we ALWAYS post a notice [Pg. 3] requesting that you notify us of address changes, deaths, or request for removal from the roster.



Chaplain's Corner

Our 90th Chaplains,
BG [Ret] Jim Spivey
& W. Tom Riddlehuber



HOPE

BG [R] Chaplain Jim Spivey

An old Chinese curse says, "May you live in interesting times." This is another way of saying "may you live in *uncertain* times!" And we do so—live in quite uncertain times! What should we do? Should we view our glass as being half-full or half-empty? Our attitude is crucial because it provides momentum—positive or negative—which may determine our destiny. This is a delicate balance—things could go either way, depending on our outlook. What is needed in times such as these? **Hope!** Hope is the bridge from uncertainty and despair to faith and assurance. Hope begins at the point of our real need—when we feel deficient or alarmed. At that point of desperation, hope starts with a longing, then it becomes an aspiration, and finally it grows into an expectation. How does this work? When we face problems in trying times, our 'trials' serve a purpose. In difficulty times such as these, we yearn for something better. So, at some indefinable point, our attitude moves from negative to positive. How? In desperation—we reach out in doubt, even fear, for a lifeline. God, in his foresight and wisdom, has already thrown us the lifeline—and then He shines His light on it. We reach out and grope, then grab it in faith, and then we hold on for dear life without seeing other end. So—hope is our desperate and fragile first glimmer of faith. Hope is then fueled by growing faith. Ernil Brunner—"hope is faith holding out its hand in the dark" But, hope comes *first*. remember, "faith is substance of things **hoped** for" (Hebrews 11:1). This hope actually begins with some kind of promise—then it is nurtured by faith, which begins to believe the promise will be fulfilled. Hope, in fact, is actually several things. (1) It is something we **have**—an aspiration. (2) It is also something we **do**—we 'hope' and want the promise to be true. (3) Hope is also the **thing** we desire—the promise we want to be fulfilled. But for all this to become certain in our lives—we must also focus on (4) the **object** of hope—that which is the *source* of our hope. Yes, hope has a substantive beginning point! Ultimately God is the source of all hope—*He* is the object of hope. The first week of the Christmas season focuses on 'hope'. It reminds us that people of faith live with this kind of affirming expectation. They believe not only that God exists—but that He also loves and wants us to live in hope, with growing certainty that He fulfills His promises: that He will care for us now and guide us through all uncertainties in life; and He will provide salvation beyond this world—eternal life and a forever home with Him. In uncertain times, these things are certain for those who hope enough to believe in Him. "**Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit**" (Romans 15:13).

YOUR 2013-2014 \$30 DUES WERE DUE JULY! HAVE YOU PAID?

IF YOU HAVE PAID YOUR DUES, HAVE YOU CONTRIBUTED TO THE 500 CLUB?



CALL OF TAPS

Ehlich, Bruno, dear friend of the 90th - 06/07/13 in Australia - **Overstreet, Jr.**, LTC Charles O., ASA Cmmdr - 06/07/13; **90th - Bednar**, Vincent A., 90/HQ; **Carroll**, James, RECON; **Flori**, John J., BAND - 02/2012; **Gerdes**, Quinton D. - 09/11/02; **Lynch**, James F., RECON - 01/2006; **315 - Hall**, Raymond S., Eng. - 07/17/13; **Wedemayer**, Walter E., Eng. - 03/2013; - **345/FA Bn - Barina**, John F. - 05/05/13; **Dowell**, Donald L., HQ - 01/2013; **357 - Bergman**, Fred P., 2Bn - -3/23/11; **Huff**, Russell, G Co. - 08/26/03; **Justice**, George L., F CO. 3 Bn - 07/09/12; **Kennedy**, Wayne E., I Co.; - **358 - Barnes**, Harry G., D Co. - 01/11/09; **McCarthy**, George [Bill], F Co. - 01/20/13; **Rhodes**, William [Bill], L Co. - 08/10/13; **Thomas**, Robert L., K Co. - 09/06/11; **Traylor**, Clarence D., D Co. - 06/28/13; **359 - Beadle**, William W., I Co. - 05/03/13; **Birman**, William H., Med Det - 12/31/12; **Carlin**, John H. [Jack], I Co. - 10/14/06; **Horton**, Glen R., I Co. 3Bn - 01/17/13; **Jones**, Charles J., A Co. - 04/21/09; **Krautkremer**, Rollie, HQ 3Bn, POW; **Licea**, Jose C., H Co - 12/24/99; **Petersen**, Victor Julius, L Co. - 07/25/13; **Rourke**, Wilson D., C Co. & 315 Med - 11/2008; **Wenk**, Jay, A Co.; - **ARCOM - Stegall**, Col James W. - 04/27/12; **Unit Not Listed - Kennedy**, Clarence L. - 03/08/77

IMPORTANT NOTICE!!

PLEASE NOTIFY THE REIDS OF ANY AND ALL CHANGES!

- * If you are **NOT** receiving all the 90th Division Newsletters
- * If you **ARE** receiving, but do **NOT** want to receive Newsletters
- * If 90th Division Newsletters keep coming to a **DECEASED**,

It means the Association has **NOT BEEN NOTIFIED** of the proper changes! It upsets you & costs the Association \$\$\$ to have newsletters returned - or sent to people no longer living. **PLEASE NOTIFY US!** **DON'T wait indefinitely - as did family members of the last name on the Call of Taps list - 1977!!! - The note from a family member stated: "Thank you for the periodicals you have been sending thru the past years. I assure you he would have appreciated reading about his 90th Division. His family enjoyed them as well." BUT!! In all those years, no one ever paid dues & we were never notified!**

FRENCH LEGION OF HONOR MEDAL

If you have never applied for the French Legion of Honor Medal and wonder if you meet the requirements, please read the free standing insert that came in this newsletter. The qualifications and protocol / procedure is very specific and exact - no exceptions! Someone cannot apply for a deceased veteran, and the French Government determines whether or not you are eligible. When you read the enclosed page of information, **NOTE! THE PROCESS WILL TAKE AT LEAST 9 MONTHS BEFORE YOU RECEIVE AN ANSWER!** If your application is accepted, the French Embassy in your region will tell you what the options are for receiving the medal. If you think you qualify after reading the criteria, you are encouraged to at least apply - while you are still alive! Several of our veterans have already received this medal, and we have printed their information in several past newsletters. You won't know unless you try!

New Members Added to 90th Roster!

Bree, Paulette Basile - PA - daughter, 358/L
Bunch, H. Gary - TX - ARCOM, RSC, RRC, RRG
Geyer, Richard D. - KS - son, Tech Sgt. Roland Geyer
Gilbert, Lorna A. - TX - daughter, Harold & Fern Bergdale, 358/SV
Gilbert, Steven A., TX - grandson, Harold & Fern Bergdale, 358/SV
Greenwell, Lori L. - HI - daughter, Robert [Bpb] Thomas, 358/A
Lozinak, Joseph J., PA - son, John G. Rozina [Lozinak], Unit ?
MacSwan, Doug, CT - son, John R. Macswan, 357/AT
MacSwan, Erica, CT - granddaughter, John R. Macswan, 357/AT
Pascente, John F., CO - son, Rocco P. Pascente, 359/B
Richards, Pauline L., FL - daughter, Elmer C. Miller, 358th
Wondra, Michael J., MN - son, John W., 359/A



How to Get Your Medals

So, you want to get your well-deserved medals. Just follow these simple steps and you'll have them in no time.

You also can fill out your request online at www.vetrocs.archives.gov. It may take a little time (as long as three months in some instances), but rest assured, you will get the awards you deserve.

STEP 1: Obtain a *Standard Form 180 (SF 180)* available at www.archives.gov/research/order. Mail it to the appropriate address listed below based on your military service. Be sure to fill out the *SF 180* as completely as you can. **Service and social security numbers must be included.** If you do not have the requested information, write "NA," meaning the information is "not available."

STEP 2: Once your request has been processed, it will be forwarded to the facility from which the medals are mailed. You will receive a response showing which medals were verified for Army and Air Force veterans. For Navy, Coast Guard and Marines, you will receive a referral letter from NPRC.

STEP 3: If you experience problems with the verification process, write to the address listed for your military service. To check the status of your request, you can e-mail: mpr.status@nara.gov.

ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS

- If the REFRAD date, discharge date, retirement date or date of death in service is more than 62 years old, the record is considered "archival," and replacement medals will only be processed at the request of the living veteran, retiree or next-of-kin (children or surviving, unmarried spouse).
- With the exception of the Coast Guard, the military service departments no longer transfer records to NPRC. In some cases, NPRC may have to refer the medals request to the appropriate service department. This is especially true for Air Force. Army records are accessible by NPRC staff through DPRIS for those separated/retired 1992 or later.
- Current members of the military should contact their unit or purchase replacement medals at their clothing sales/PX.
- In most cases, only a single set of replacement medals will be issued, and generally only to the veteran and next of kin.
- Personnel whose records were lost in the 1973 fire should include a copy of the separation document (WD 53-55 and/or DD-214) with the eVetRecs signature page or SF-180.

SERVICE	WHERE TO WRITE FOR MEDALS DOCUMENTATION
ARMY	National Personnel Records Center 1 Archives Drive St. Louis, MO 63138
AIR FORCE (including Army Air Corps and Army Air Forces)	National Personnel Records Center 1 Archives Drive St. Louis, MO 63138
NAVY	Navy Personnel Command Liaison Office Room 350 1 Archives Drive St. Louis, MO 63138
MARINE CORPS	Navy Personnel Command Liaison Office Room 350 1 Archives Drive St. Louis, MO 63138
COAST GUARD	Navy Personnel Command Liaison Office Room 350 1 Archives Drive St. Louis, MO 63138

Have you paid your \$30 2013-2014 Dues???



Memorial gifts
received....



Memorial gifts
received....

A – ALL 357/K 3rd Platoon - by Murray Lifschultz ** All 90th Deceased veterans– by Roy R. Baker, W. Tom Riddlehuber & Cletus C. Swihart ** All deceased 773/TD BN - by Ward Johnson ** **Arnhold, Henry A., 359/M** – by widow, Vera D. Arnhold ** **Ansardi, Wallace P., 357/Med Det** - by daughter, Wanda A. Alcon ** **Arivello, Walter, 357/B 3Bn** - by friend, Joseph Vespasiano ** **B - Bacich, John A., 358/A** - by friends, Joy V. Bliss & Rosanne Bliss ** **Basile, Anthony, 358/L** - by daughter, Pauline Basile Bree ** **Begole, Irene [Mrs. Clarence], 358/M** – by friend, August P. Ciriello & Clifford A. Dyke ** **Bergdale, Harold G., 358/SV** - by daughter, Lorna A. Gilbert & grandson, Steven A. Gilbert ** **Bernardo, Stanley E., 358/E 2Bn** - by buddy, Vernon N. Schmidt ** **Blank, Arnold T., 537/AAA** – by son, Tim Blank ** **Boyd, Terrell, 359/AT** - by son, R. Craig Boyd ** **Bragg, Eldridge E., 358/L** – by son, David B. Bragg ** **Bulger, Richard H. [Doc], 358/Med** – by daughter, Jane C. Bulger ** **Burns, Robert F., 90th/HQ** – by daughter, Marie-Therese Burns ** **Byers, Kenneth W., 358** - by widow, Eleanor L. Byers ** **C - Cancellieri, Joseph T., 537/AAA** - by widow, Arline Cancellieri ** **Carroll, Phil, 358/K 3Bn** - by John W. Johnson ** **Clayson, Verne, 345/FA Bn** – by friend, James R. Dennis ** **Clemens, Frank R., 357/E 2Bn** – by daughter, Patti Lee [Clemens] Peterson ** **Conn, Charles, 344/HQ FA Bn** – by son, Joseph N. Conn ** **Cook, Jack , 790 ORD** - by Betty M. Peterson ** **Crenshaw, COL Leon & Marianne, 345/FA Bn** – by daughters, Sylvia C. Schneider & Linda L. Mazzucchi ** **Culver, Clifford R., 358/E** – by daughter, Jill Marie Peak ** **D - Davis, Clarence E., 358/M** - by widow, Annas K. Davis ** **DeLuca, Angelo J., 358/E 2Bn** - by brother, Frank T. DeLuca ** **Dishman, Haskell E., 315/Signal Btry, WW I** – by son-in-law, Henry P. Onesi ** **E - Ellis, COL Lester, RSC** – by COL [R] O. Findley Brewster ** **Engle, Joe, 358/M** - by friend and buddy, Charlie A. Hollenbeck ** **F - Fitzgerald, Roy, 359/F** - by comrade, Harry L. Montfort ** **Francis, Avison Wendell, 357/HQ 3Bn** - by daughter, Mary C. Francis ** **G - Gassman, Capt. William C., 90/RECON, KIA 21 Feb., 1945** - by son, William C. Gassman, Jr. ** **Geyer, Roland C., 357 & 359** - by daughter, Pam Geyer and son, Richard D. Geyer ** **Goodman, Fred, 360/Inf Brigade & HQ DET 180 Inf. Brigade, WW I** – by son, Edward Goodman ** **Gruntz, Louis G., Sr., 712/Tk Bn** – by son, Louis G. Gruntz, Jr. ** **H - Hamilton, LTC Edward S., 357/HQ** - by daughter, Diana H. Cowell & nephew, Britt T. Collins ** **Harrington, Ralph, 315/C Eng.** - by friend, Linda Saveraid ** **Henry, William John, 358/K** - by son, William John Henry, III ** **Hjelmstad, Harry, 347/A** - by friend, Rosanne Bliss ** **Hughes, Rod H., 358/F 2Bn** – by widow, Dee Hughes ** **J - Joyce, Patrick Dixon, 343/C FA Bn** - by son, Patrick J. Joyce ** **K - Kaine, Irvin [Irv], 358/F** – by friend, COL James D. Beesley ** **Kasson, Arthur T., 357/G** - by son, Arthur T. Kasson, Jr. ** **Kalwasinski, SGT Frank, 359/E** - by son, COL [R] Stanley F. (Kalwasinski) Uchman ** **Katschman, Forrest L., 358/F** - by son, Michael D. Katschman & granddaughter, Amy M. Katschman ** **Keller, Jake B., 344 FA Bn** - by son, Don Keller ** **Kelley, William J., 90 Signal** - by daughter, Kandice L. Kelley ** **Kiffe, James, 357** - by friend, Kirk E. Donskey ** **Kocour, Max G., 357/HQ** - by daughter, Michele Kocour ** **Kueker, Arthur F., 357/I** - by sister, Esther K. Wise ** **L – Lamont, Danc, 345/FA Bn** – by widow, Betty M. Lamont & friend, James R. Dennis ** **Lamun, David, 357/I 3Bn** - by buddy, Aldo A. Freda ** **Larsen, Paul E., 359/C** - by in-laws, COL [R] Susan Junker & son, COL [R] Dennis R. Birchall ** **Lockett, William L. [Bill], 790/ORD** - by widow, Loris Clifford ** **Long, George, 357/HQ 1Bn** – by daughter, Mary Long Staszewski ** **Lord, Francis E., 357/F, KIA 11-10-43** - by daughter, Louise J. Carter ** **Lovett, Claude, 357/G** – by friend, COL [R] O. Findley Brewster ** **M – Macswan, John Robertson, 357/AT** – by son, Douglas Macswan; daughter, Gail Macswan Izbicki; and granddaughter, CDT Erica Macswan ** **Martens, Raymond, 359/L** – by daughter & son-in-law, Kristen & Michael Faller ** **Martin, Alden D., 359/L 3Bn** - by son, Ronald E. Martin ** **McCharen, Edward L., 359/L 3Bn** – by niece, Dorothy [Dot] McCharen Weathersby ** **McKnight, Lee Roy, 357/I KIA** – by sister-in-law, Ann McKnight ** **Miller, Laverne W., 358/HQ** - by nephew, David W. Miller ** **Mohanna, William T., 358/G** – by widow, Shirley A. Mohanna ** **Q - Oldani, PFC Charles T., 358/G 2Bn** – by nephew, David L. Oldani ** **Overholser, Joe, 790 ORD** - by friends, Loris Clifford & Betty M. Peterson ** **P - Pace, Glen & Berdell, 359/HQ 3Bn** - by son, Terry M. Pace ** **Paepke, Carl, 359/H** - by son-in-law, Steven P. Poulsen ** **Papp, John, 358/F** - by widow, Phyllis Papp ** **Pappas, George C., 359/G** - by nephew, George S. Pappas ** **Pascente, Rocco Phillip, 359/B** - by son, John F. Pascente ** **Pemberton, Howard J., 358/M 3Bn** - by nephew, Jerry D. Wiley ** **Phillips, Milton, 357/B** - by widow, Gladys Phillips McCarty ** **R - Reed, John, 359/HQ** - by widow, Esther Beam Reed ** **Reisner, Thomas F., 315/Med** - by son, Ralph F. Reisner ** **Rhodes, William [Bill], 358/L** - by friend, David Bragg ** **Richards, Clyde, 358/D** – by son, Norm Richards ** **Richter, Capt. James D., 915/FA Bn** - by son, Donald D. Richter ** **Robertson, William J., 359th** - by son, Dennis J. Robertson ** **Rudder, MG Earl, ARCOM** - by friend, Dionel E. Aviles ** **Rutherford, Joseph T., 357/G** - by widow, Gerry Rutherford ** **S – Sherfy, Kay, 90/HQ** – by son, Dennis Sherfy ** **Singer, Wilburn, 359/AT** - by widow, Margaret L. Singer ** **Staruk, Walter E., 344/FA Bn** – by widow, Catherine A. Staruk ** **Steinmacher, John, 357/K 3Bn KIA 10 July, 1944** - by friend, Jack L. Evans ** **Stenger, Sylvester [Wes], 357/HQ** – by widow, Viola [Vi] Stenger ** **Strus, Harry A., 358/B** - by widow, [now, the late]Helen M. Strus Leroux ** **W - Welshans, Henry H., 359** - by friend, A. Norbert Verzosa ** **Whitley, John Marshall, Unit ?** - by son, Rolf M. Whitley ** **Wigton, Irving, 358/E** – by brother, Chester M. Wigton **

90th Historian, Tyler Alberts



For more than 10 years a small film company has been working to bring the WWII film of the National archives into your home. At this past 90th reunion in Fort Worth, **Combat Reels**, a WWII Archival Film company, released updated versions of their first two 90th

Division DVDs and also released a new one to boot. The first two DVDs covering Normandy (brown cover ©2005) and the Liberation of Western Europe (blue cover ©2008), have been re-released with additional footage on each of them and additional information about the footage on those DVDs. The look of the DVDs has also changed as well with the release of their newest DVD covering the 90th during the winter war and the Battle of the Bulge. With the newest release, the 90th has more than 3 hours of raw footage from the battlefields spread over the different 3 DVDS to enjoy. Over the past 8 years many persons within the Association have found images of themselves or their relative on these reels of history. Could YOU be the next one? A guiding principal at Combat Reels is that all of the faces on all of the footage that is presented belong to some family here in the U.S. They are someone's father, uncle, brother, or even grandfather. It is a unique opportunity to view all of the known footage of a particular unit in a manner that allows you to actually follow the Division's path in film and at the same time have the best chance possible to see someone you may know.

Combat Reels can be ordered through the following channels. Internet: www.combatreels.com - Mail Order: Combat Reels - P.O. Box 471792 - Fort Worth, TX 76147 - Phone: 817-886-7327

Prices: Normandy - \$29.99; Western Europe - \$19.99
Battle of the Bulge - \$24.99

Web Master, Chris Guska



It was a pleasure to see so many of you in Fort Worth for the Reunion. I very much appreciate the friendship, support

and acknowledgement that I experienced. For those who weren't there, I look forward to possibly seeing you in St. Louis in 2014.

At the reunion, an updated and re-organized Division Association web site was unveiled. The new look for the site was the result of months of nights and weekends of work in both creative concept as well as the process of bringing over the many years of content from the old site. Needless to say, it was an exciting time for me to present months of work and receive feedback on it.

The new site became active at the familiar web address of www.90thdivisionassoc.org in the week after the Reunion. New content, reunion photos, family albums and upcoming event information has been posted since the site went live.

The Company "Yardlongs" project has continued on with several new photos added. Scans of the Divisional After Action Reports have been posted to complete the set, with missing support documents located and posted.

A significant amount of documents and photos were gathered at the Reunion in Fort Worth to be posted through the fall.

Of note, a fairly complete collection 90th General Orders for 1945 is in process of being organized to be posted. I will be experimenting with Optical Character Recognition (OCR) software over the winter in an effort to make the scanned original documents easier to search for names, places and dates.

As always, please feel free to contact me with updates, corrections and things to be posted at chris@90thidpg.us

2013-2014 Dues were due July 1! Have YOU paid? 
Dues now  \$30 for 2013-2014!!

Visit the 90th website **OFTEN!**

Reunion Reflections...1

REUNION DEMOGRAPHICS - 2013

Recommendation: Visit the 90th website to view pictures of the Reunion!

TOTAL REGISTERED ATTENDEES: 184 + 6 Color Guard = 190

FIRST TIMERS: 42

FAMILIES WITH 4 OR MORE: 11

Chalmeton, Herve [Hon - France] - 4

Geyer/Richardson [358/HQ Hon - 6

Gibson, Thurman [357/G] - 6

Hertzog, Frank A. [345/FA] - 6

Kennedy, Clyde [915/FA] - 6

Poulsen, Steven [Paepke, 359/H] - 4

Reid, James., Sr. [344/FA Bn - 6

Ridlehuber, W. Tom [358/E - 5

Schmidt, Vern & Glenn [358/E & 42nd] - 9

Sholar, MG [R] J. Ron [RRC] - 4

Sutter, Burnett "Burnie" [358/M] - 8

TOTAL number of WW II veterans - 23

Batinich, Mitch, 358/E

Cohen, Alvin, 359/M

Day, John J., Jr., 358/AT

Dennis, James, 345/FABn

Espinosa, Miguel, 357/A

Freda, Aldo, 357/I

Gibson, Thurman, 357/G

Ingram, J. Tom., 359/F

Kennedy, Clyde, 915/FABn

Losito, Frank, 357/HQ & L

McGriff, E. Carver, 357/M

Reid, James R., Sr., 344/FABn

Ridlehuber, W. Tom, 358/HQ,L,M

Sanderson, Kenneth, 343/FABn

Schmidt, Glenn, 42nd A-242

Schmidt, Vernon, 359/E

Sisk, Herbert "Bill", 915/FABn

Smith, Leroy, 359/C

Spillar, Stanley, 357/Med

Stamatis, Peter, 357/F

Sutter, Burnett, 358/M

Talbott, Clifford, 345/HQ

Thomas, Robert, 358/A

A highlight this year was that a contingent from the Sustainment Brigade was assigned to attend our reunion & document the entire 4 days with video & still photographs. An edited version has been promised to us for availability to our members at a date not yet determined. Reids have a copy of the un-cut.

UNIT DEMOGRAPHICS

[includes friends and family members - includes Color Guard]

TOTAL 90th VETERANS: WW II - 23 -- ARCOM, RRC, SB: 21 COMBINED TOTAL: 44

315/Eng & Med - 3 [0 vets]

343 - 6 2 Vets]

344 - 6 [1 Vet]

345 - 6 [2 vets]

357 - 33 [6 Vets]

358 - 45 [5 Vets]

359 - 18 [3 Vets]

712/TK Bn - 1 [0 Vets]

790/ORD - 1 [0 vets]

915 - 6 [2 Vets]

ARCOM - 21 - [9 Vets]

RRC/RSC/RSG - 13 [8 Vets]

411/Eng BDE 2 [1 vet]

SB - 13 [11 Active]

42/A-242 - 5 [1 vet]

General Honorary - 12

STATE DEMOGRAPHICS: 25 STATES

AL - 3

FL - 2

IN - 2

MI - 5

OH - 5

FRANCE - 7

AR - 18

HI - 2

KS - 5

MN - 3

OK - 4

S.WALES / UK - 2

CA - 10

IA - 1

KY - 2

MO - 4

PA - 4

CO - 9

ID - 3

LA - 3

NJ - 8

TX - 74

CT - 2

IL - 6

MA - 1

NY - 4

VA - 1

As always, it was a wonderful reunion with some nusual and interesting "happenings" during the 4 days. Wish there was space to tell some of the great stories. Get ready for 2014!

Normandy, France

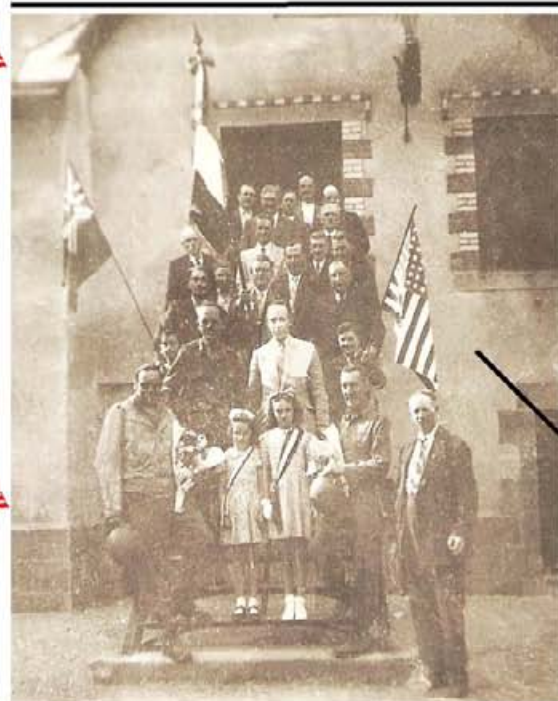
From our FRENCH 90th HISTORIANS, Henri Levaufre & son, Christian Levaufre - THANK YOU!

December 12, 2012: From Henri Levaufre:

"This picture I took at 5:00 pm today, 45 minutes ago – You better call Nasa they made good landing in Periers. Was it scheduled?"



From Christian Levaufre - Dear Jim and Rhoda, My spies told me that the reunion had been a great one as usual. All those who attended a previous one know that there is no mystery in this success, you made it happen. When working at the Utah Beach museum last June, I was given a picture by a lady telling me that the soldiers on it were part of the 90th and that it had been taken on the stairs of the city hall at Chailland on August 1944. The lady wanted to know if we were able to identify any of them. I checked with my father and found that Chailland had been liberated on August 6th by the 359th Inf. regiment. May be the guys on the picture were one of the battalion commanders ou deputy commanders: Bacon, Leroy Pond for the 1st Battalion, Don Gorton or Dull for the 2nd, John F Smith for the 3rd ? When I was 20, I stayed with John Smith in Dallas. JQ Lynd had brought me there but I was unable to recognize him. I had sent the picture to Norm Richards asking him to display it during the time of the reunion in case somebody would recognize someone, but it did not work. So I thought that you could perhaps include it in your next newsletter or send it to Chris to put it in the new website. Does it sound OK with you? Our love from France Christian



From Christian Levaufre - Just wanted to thank you for sending me your last newsletter that I found in the mail box when coming home. Evelyne and I had left home on early May with our camper. We have spent 3 weeks at Germany visiting German and US friends there, then we headed to Normandy. We stayed there all June as I worked during that time in the museum at Utah-Beach. If still some veterans regularly show up with their relatives (like Frank MOORE in the picture on right), I saw nobody from the 90th (except a widow that I sent to Périers). I wore my TO pin everyday on my suit so that the ones related to the 90th can come to me. You should be leaving in a few days to Fort Worth and the time of the reunion. As you know we won't be there but Evelyne and I will have a strong thought for all of you. I hope we can make it next year, when you know them please let me know what are the dates and location for 2014. Our love from France Christian





From Jean Pascal Speck, President, Moselle River 44 Association, h - "Hello Rhoda , It's good you have got these pictures taken at Horizon Hotel, July 6th. It was a wonderful souvenir for me, my wife and daughter. I had a rare moment to listen the Senator telling us what he experienced in the shuttle Columbus in 1986! Senator Bill Nelson is wearing a blue shirt, his wife is Grace Nelson at the right, is in black. The US ambassador Mandell is wearing an orange polo, and his wife, Julie, is standing between the Senator and my wife, Anne Marie. Good wishes! Jean Pascal & Anne Marie"



Anne Marie, Bill Nelson, John Pascal Speck



"I'm sending you some photos from our time with Senator Bill Nelson from Florida, who came to visit Thionville (at L'Horizon) and Lorraine at the beginning of July of this year, with the American Ambassador to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Robert A. Mandell, along with their wives : Julie and Grace. - (Following his nomination by President Barack Obama and confirmation by the U.S. Senate, Robert A. Mandell was sworn in as the 21st Ambassador of the United States of America to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg on October 25, 2011, in Washington, DC.) - It was a great honor for me and my wife Anne Marie and also my daughter Caroline to have welcomed them to L'Horizon for a convivial meal. We also had the opportunity to introduce them to the association MOSELLE RIVIER 1944, and by means of photos and television reports to share with them our enthusiasm at the time of the commemorations of 2004 and 10. The senator was greatly interested in this and he also wished us a successful commemoration coming up in November 2014. This day of American remembrance in Lorraine included a visit to the American Cemetery at St. Avold to pay homage to the brave soldiers of 1944 and 1945. Then, the group, including the Ambassador, went to Veckring to visit the Maginot Line Fort of HACKENBERG where a guide explained to them about the battles fought by the 90th to capture the Fort. Some Americans are aware of the fact that Senator Nelson is known as the second member of Congress to have traveled on the space shuttle Columbia, in a flight from January 12-18, 1986, on flight STC-61-C as a payload specialist."





TOUGH 'OMBRES TALES

News from veterans of the 90th Division



Ed.: This section contains letters received from veterans only. "Family Album" has letters from family members.

THE TOUGH 'OMBRES COMBAT TEAM
UTAH BEACH TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA

357TH INF REGT	343RD FA BN	315TH ENGR BN	90TH QM CO
358TH INF REGT	344TH FA BN	607TH TD BN	790TH ORD CO
359TH INF REGT	915TH FA BN	315TH MED BN	DIV BAND
712TH TK BN	345TH FA BN	90TH SIG CO	30TH MP FLT
773RD TD BN	537TH AABN	90TH RCN TP	HQS & HQS COS

IN 5 CAMPAIGNS AND 318 DAYS OF BATTLE, MARKED BY GREAT COST OF PRECIOUS LIVES AND EXTRAORDINARY VALOR, THE TOUGH 'OMBRES ACCOMPLISHED EVERY MISSION. SHOULDER TO SHOULDER WITH AMERICAN, FRENCH AND OTHER ALLIED UNITS, THEY LIBERATED EUROPE AND MADE A BETTER WORLD.

315/ENG

Raymond S. Hall

OBITUARY

January 14, 1922 - July 17, 2013

Raymond S. Hall, 91, of California, Mo., passed away on Wednesday, July 17, 2013, at St. Mary's Hospital in Jefferson City, Mo. He was born January 14, 1922, in Moniteau County, the son of Beuford and Edna Cornelia Rohrbach Hall, both of whom preceded him in death. He was united in marriage on February 14, 1960, in Jamestown, Mo., to Mildred M. Schoenthal, who survives at the home. Raymond was a lifelong farmer. He was a active member of the Pilot Grove Baptist Church. He was a delegate of the local MFA board for 65 years and also the MFA Oil state board of directors for 26 years. He was on the board of Tipton Latham Bank for 35 years and was involved in numerous other local organizations. Raymond was an Army, WWII veteran where he served with the 90th Infantry Division Combat Engineers. He stormed Utah Beach on June 8, 1944, and fought in 5 major battles, including the Battle of the Bulge. At the end of the war he was near Prague, Czechoslovakia. He was a 1941 graduate of Latham High School. Raymond is survived by one daughter, Sue Ann Loesch and husband Bill of Jefferson City, Mo.; one grandson, Nicholas Loesch of Jefferson City, Mo. Funeral services will be held on Friday, July 19, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. at Bowlin-Cantriel Funeral Services. Officiating will be Floyd Leimkiller. Burial with full military honors will be in the California City Cemetery. Visitation will be on Thursday, July 18, 2013, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to California Nutrition Center c/o the funeral home or IBMA, c/o Ezzard & Lisa Ayson PO Box 912, 103 Masonic Park RD. Marietta, OH. 45750. Arrangements are under the direction of Bowlin-Cantriel Funeral Services, California, Mo.



Hall

Thank you also for your prayers. We need them!

357th

Geuss, Sr., Gerard, G CO - NY - "Thank you for all the work you are doing now, and in the past. Not too many OLD TIMERS' left. I turned 88 on June 21. Stay healthy and God Bless. Gerard A. Geuss" [Ed.: Jim was 88 1/09]

Mayhall, Van R., C CO - LA - "Dear James, I have always respected the T/O Division, & I have always enjoyed when I got any kind of information about the division. I have always to read some of the information about Gen. 'Wild Bill' Weaver who was the acting Division Commander when the 90th broke out from the beach head. Any stories flowing around?? I would like to see them. General Weaver got me into the 90th, and he took me with him when he left to go to the 8th Infantry

344/FA Bn

Balliett, Theodore - NY - "Dear Jim, My memory might be failing a little as I am now 90 years old. However, I believe you are the soldier who was wounded by a shell blast in a barn at St. Lo - as I and my companion were also there. We were 'loaned out' by A Battery as forward observers. Never did get to see you, but remember that incident. That was when General McNair was killed. Theodore Balliett" [Ed.: Jim says it wasn't him in that incident. He was wounded while on the top floor of the Hotel Thionville at the Crossing of the Moselle. He doesn't know who was the man you are talking about, but if you check the morning reports on the 90th website, you may be able to find out - if you know the day this took place.]

McGregor, Clem C. - TX - "Dear James, I have intended to write and also send my dues. I am sorry I could not make the meeting in Ft. Worth. We had planned for years to take a cruise. After 71 years of marriage, we made it to Alaska with Dr. David Jeremiah. It conflicted with the meeting in Ft. Worth. It is good to receive the newsletter. Maybe we can make the next reunion. We love you and pray for your work. God Bless. Clem" [Ed.: 71 years of marriage! Now THAT is HUGE! Congratulations to you and Elsie!

Division. Yours Truly, Col [R] Van B. Mayhall 5-22-13" [Ed.: Any readers out there have any stories of General Weaver to tell?? Let the Reids know, or simply send in a story for inclusion in the newsletter and/or to be passed on to Van. Thanks]

Kenyon, Robert [Bob], CN Co - CA - Bob sent this picture of him and his pal, TRIXIE, relaxing at home - Thanks, Bob!



REMEMBER!
Mark your Calendars!
JULY 31 - AUG. 3, 2014
96th (!!!) Annual Reunion
Clayton, MO



358th

Cooper, Andrew, I CO - AL - 7/9/13 "Greetings to Jim and Rhoda. Thank you for the good work you are doing in keeping the 90th going. I'm 93 but still alive, thank God. Health will not permit me to attend annual reunions. Give my regards to those who are still able to attend. I am unable to drive a car. Keep up the good work. Sincerely, Andrew and Agnes - we celebrated our 69th wedding anniversary this year! [Ed.: CONGRATULATIONS! Not many people reach that milestone!]

Petty, Darrell, G CO - WY - "Dear Jim & Rhoda, Find enclosed my dear wife's funeral info, as I thought you might like to know who she was & a little about her. The house seems quite empty at times, but Sandra & I are just taking it day by day. She misses her mom terribly at times, I know, & so do I. I had her here at home in a hospital bed till she was called Home, and every minute was precious. I know she is in a far better place now & without any pains or difficulty breathing, and that gives me comfort to know that. She had to work so hard to breathe at all the last several months. But she was a fighter to the end. Also, I've enclosed a check for 2 years with the rest for the 500 Club. I don't want the newsletters to stop, OK? I told you of John Warner's death. I don't seem to remember if I told you his unit number or not. He was a forward observer for the artillery and was attached to the 358th 2nd Bn. His unit was 344th Field Artillery, B Battery." [Ed.: yes, John was a friend & comrade of Jim's.] "Also enclosed find a letter from a citizen thanking us and the 90th & the U.S., + a certificate from The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg again thanking us for their liberation. I was presented with these at a friend's house at supper here in Thermopolis [unexpectedly]. These are copies of the originals. The coin has the big T/O and the 90th Div. on one side with the country of Luxembourg on the other side. Real pretty!. I also enclosed a copy of the song Malcom Frasier & I made up over Vouin Straus, Germany in 1945. Vern Schmidt thought I should send it to you, so here it is. It can be just recited or sung to the tune of the Wabash Cannon Ball. I will try to keep you informed of Elza Coffey's status. They have given him 3-6 months to live. Take care and God bless you both and all of the old Tough 'Ombres. Darrell Petty P.S. If possible, I would be at the reunions, but due to my own health problems and caring for my daughter, Sandra, it's not possible. But my thoughts and prayers will always be with you." [Ed.: I couldn't print all that Darrell sent, but these are good! Thanks, Darrell - I remember you well from the reunions! Wodrs to Wabash Cannon Ball are on "Soldier's Story 1"]



Darrell and Carneta Jean Petty in younger days!

Carneta Jean Petty

Carneta Jean Petty, 87, died Thursday, April 12, 2012, at her Thermopolis residence after a period of failing health.

Born Aug. 8, 1924, in Wisbech, St. Marys, England, she was the daughter of Ernest and Maud (Dawson) Worthing. She attended school in Leicester, England, and at the age of 12, went to work as an apprentice in a grocery store, later becoming manageress. During World War II, she was a volunteer with the Red Cross.

She came to America in 1946. On Aug. 11, 1953, she married Darrell Duane Petty in Lusk. A year later, she became an American citizen.

In Newcastle, she was employed at Modern Cleaners, not only as an employee but also as a seamstress.

She enjoyed knitting, quilting, home canning, gardening and hunting, and enjoyed attending the Black Powder Rendezvous. As a seamstress, she clothed her family.

She was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and its Relief Society and the VFW Auxiliary.

Survivors include her husband of 58 years of Thermopolis; sons, Russell (Ella) Petty of Sioux Falls, S.D., Dale (Barbara) Petty of Douglas and Scott Petty of Gillette; daughters, Deborah Petty of Gillette and Sandra Petty of Thermopolis; 12 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; and brothers, Don (Jan), Terry (Anne) and Jimmy Worthing, all of England.

Carneta was preceded in death by her parents; and brother, Ted.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, April 18 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Newcastle.

Bishop Greg James officiated and Wayne Erickson read the eulogy. Burial was at the Black Hills National Cemetery in Sturgis, S.D.

Mortimore Funeral Home assisted with arrangements in Thermopolis.

Carneta Jean - 85th Birthday



place called Milton Gardens and raised vegetables and pigs for the war effort. Pig pens [stys] needed to be cleaned. The gov't. assigned a German POW to work details. Hans was about 21 & was from a sunken submarine. He was an aspiring opera singer. Jean could reach a high "C". They lightened their unpleasant task by singing opera back and forth while cleaning the pig stys. Hans was a hard working man who required no shotgun supervision on his shift. At times, there were 3 stationed POWs

who were less hard working and not as trustworthy, requiring the family shotgun to be close at hand. At the end of the war, Hans returned to Germany where he had a girlfriend named Rosa. American Military bases contracted with Jean's father to pick up waste garbage for the pigs. Jean wore a pair of red bib overalls. She got a lot of razzing from the G. I.s - until they saw her hefting 1/2 cans of wet oatmeal. She then gained their respect. At times, extra gifts were included in these regular pick-ups from the military kitchens - things like a can of spam when meat was so hard to come by." [Ed.: Carneta's Eulogy was fascinating but 3 full pages, so we could not include it. Look for Darrell's song in the "Remember When" section of this newsletter. Thank you, Darrell, for all the information. I really enjoyed reading it.]

Have YOU paid your \$30 Dues for '13-'14???

Have you contributed extra \$\$ to the 500 Club???

Without extra donations to the 500 Club, the Association cannot afford to print

10 comprehensive newsletters - Every \$ helps!

A Story about Carneta Jean
"During the war, when Jean came home from work, she had to ride the "milk train" that made many stops, & she had to walk about 2 miles home & would not get there until early morning. Then she helped wherever needed. Jean's father ran a



358th [con't.]

Pace, Douglas, I CO - TX - [written by Annette] - 6/28/13 "Dear Rhoda, We just received our newsletter, which we both enjoy, and noticed our '13-'14 dues were not paid. Enclosed is our check. I made reservations in November for the reunion but had to cancel. I fell in January and broke three vertebra in my upper back, just below the neck. I will not be out of my brace before August 1st. Since I do most of the driving and have not driven since January, we will be unable to be there. Sorry we won't be able to enjoy all the stories. Thank you for all you do. Annette Pace* [Ed.: we missed you!]

Rhodes, William [Bill], 358/L - CA - {Information & pictures sent by Vern Schmidt, 358/E - Thank you so much, Vern! Bill is finally HOME in Heaven!}

OBITUARY

William (Bill) C. Rhodes was born in Butte, Montana in 1918 and passed into eternal peace on August 10, 2013 at his home in Salinas, CA.

He is survived by his wife, Margo, children Richard of Missoula, MT, Shari Grover of Morgan Hill, CA., and Valerie Meeks of Palo Alto, CA., 7 Grandchildren, and 4 Great Grandchildren.

He was a teacher in Redwood City, CA. And served on the City Council there and also served as Mayor.

Bill served in the 90th Division as a rifleman in L. Co. 358 after landing at Utah Beach on June 15, 1944. He was wounded three times and awarded the Purple Heart and also awarded the Silver Star.

His memorial service was held at San Joaquin Valley National Cemetery on August 21, 2013 with full military honors. He was our "Hero". He will be missed.



Pictures from "Mini" 90th Reunions at Bill's House in California



At Bill Rhodes house - 2005: - All are 90th WW II veterans - Left - Right: Bill Rhodes, 358/L; John Tamagni, 344/FA; Joe Triano, 358/A; Walt Walker, 358/A; Vern Schmidt, 358/E - Only Walt Walker & Vern Schmidt are alive now

More from Bill Rhodes house



Back row - standing L - R: Mayor of Salinas, CA; Vern Schmidt, 358/E; Art Herzberg, 359/A; Glen Schmidt, 42nd A/242 & POW; Bruno Ehlich, 90th friend from Australia -- Front Row - seated L - R - Walt Walker, 358/A; John Tamagni, 344/FA; Joe Triano, 358/A; Bob Thomas, 358/A; Bill Silbert, 358/A; Bill Rhodes, 358/L [Bruno, John, Joe, Bill Silbert & Bill Rhodes all deceased]



In Bill Rhodes kitchen - L - R: Bruno Ehlich; Elsa Silbert, wife of Bill Silbert; Bob Thomas; Bill Rhodes; Norm Richards

[Ed.: [Rhoda] - Thank you, Vern, for getting all this to me for the newsletter. I never had the honor of meeting Bill Rhodes, but I feel like I know him for several reasons. He would call me from time to time, and we would have the BEST chats! He was a devoted Christian, and we often talked of Heaven and what it would be like for him when it came his time to go. He was an avid poet, and long-time readers of this newsletter surely remember the many poems of his I put in the newsletter. In my last few conversations with him, he knew his time was coming soon - our final chat was only a few weeks before God called him HOME. I grieve for my loss - I shall miss those calls and opportunities to talk. He was always a blessing to me. But I rejoice in knowing I shall see him again in Heaven one day - face-to-face! Many will miss his calls, as he was a wonderful "crusader" for the 90th, making phone calls all over the country to different veterans. Rest In Peace, my friend. I look forward to the day when we do meet for real.]

2013-2014 Dues were due July 11 Have YOU paid? Send check TODAY + extra for 500 Club



358TH [CONT.]

Traylor, Clarence Drennan, 358/I - AL - OBITUARY - December 20, 1924 - June 28, 2013 - Survivors include his wife of 66 years, Frances B. Traylor; 1 son, Larry Traylor and wife, Nancy of Rainesville, AL; 1 daughter, Tricia Shankles and husband, Kendall of Fort Payne, AL; 5 grandchildren: Kim [Ronald] Curtis; Julie [Jordan] May; Eric Shankles; Melissa [Caine] Buff; & Amanda [Nathan] Williams; 4 Great-grandchildren: Anthonie Curtis; Justin Goff; Abigail May & Emelyn Buff; and several nieces and nephews. Pall bearers: Grandsons - Preceded in death by his parents, 8 brothers and 5 sisters. **Visitation** - Rainesville Funeral Home, Saturday, June 29th from 5pm-8pm; Sunday, June 30 from 2pm-4pm - **Services** - Rainesville Funeral Home Chapel Sunday, June 30 at 4pm - **Interment** - Mountain View Memory Gardens following service.

NOTE FROM HIS WIDOW, FRANCES: "He was in the Army from his 20th birthday, Dec. 20, 1944 until the war ended & fought in the Battle of the Bulge. He stayed in Germany about 18 months after the war ended. He was a wonderful man of God. We married three weeks past my 15th birthday after dating for a little over a year. He was employed by Mitchell Oil Company for over 35 years. After 2 heart surgeries of 10 bypasses, he retired in 1989. He was home bound after that and had to give up church going the last 7 or 8 years of his life. But he still loved his church and prayed daily for it. He also read his Bible daily. He had an ongoing heart attack on Sunday, June 23 and was in the hospital until he died on Friday, June 28, 2013. Thank you. Frances Traylor"

Waters, Dewitt, 358/H 3Bn - NC - "James Reid - I wanted to thank you for publishing my article with my name and phone # again in the spring, 2013 newsletter. I have not heard from anyone yet, but maybe there are a few of us left. Thank you. John Dewitt Waters" [Ed.: Actually, Jim doesn't have any involvement in the newsletter. It is Rhoda, Jim's wife, who does it all]

359th

Petersen, Victor Julius, L CO - MN



Victor's grandson, Terry Paul: "Thank you for the kind words you said to me & the story you told me of my grandfather. I told my family that same story, & it brought a smile to their faces. The interesting thing about my grandfather is that he never had piano lessons. He learned by listening & taught himself to play. Here is the pamphlet from his funeral. I am going to do whatever I can to make it to the 2014 reunion in St. Louis, so I can personally thank you. God bless. Terry Paul" [Ed.: Thank YOU, Terry!]

Victor Julius Petersen, age 93 of Isanti, Minnesota.
Proud World War II Veteran.

Victor is survived by children, Joel (Susan), Cheryl (Larry) Mercer, Terry (Elaine), Bruce (Bonnie), Laurel (Jim) Helt, and Christopher; son-in-law, Ron Paul; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren; nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Victor was preceded in death by wife, Thelma; daughter, Victory Paul; brothers, Carl and Hen.

Petersen, Victor [con't]. - Ed.: I first met Victor at the 2005 Corpus Christi reunion. He drove all the way from Isanti, MN! He came every year after that. I remember he played the piano in Pittsburgh in 2007, & folks gathered to hear him. He "created a stir" at the 2008 reunion in Irving, TX when he began to play. A crowd gathered around him, and from then on...we always wanted to have a piano available so Victor could play. He played mostly the old hymns of the faith - beautifully, and with a wonderful touch. He was SPECIAL! We all loved him. We missed him these last 2 years & now I know why. See you in

Birman, William H., MED DET - MI

William Howard Birman

HASTINGS, MI - William Howard Birman, age 87 of Hastings, passed away Monday, December 31, 2012 surrounded by his family, after a nearly four year battle with leukemia.

Howard was born April 1, 1925, in Maple Grove Township to his parents John Harold and Lorena Pearl (Reed) Birman. Howard attended Durfee School through the eighth grade.

In 1943, he joined the World War II effort in the Army as a medic. He was assigned to the European front where he saw action at Normandy Beach on D-Day before being wounded in the Battle of the Bulge in February 1945. Howard was awarded a purple heart with oak clusters for his service. Later, he was honorably discharged due to his injuries and returned for six months of rehabilitation in Indianapolis, IN before returning home.

Howard married wife Betty (Coleman) on March 19, 1948 at the Pilgrim Holiness Church in Hastings. He worked for Central Electric in Battle Creek as an electrician before starting work at the Hastings Furniture factory. In 1964, he and his family moved to the Coleman family farm on Quimby Road in Rutland Township to start a family farming and chicken egg producing business. After many years of hard work, the farm was sold in 1979 and he and Betty moved into Hastings.

Howard used his many mechanical and woodworking talents to help family and friends throughout the years. He was a handyman extraordinaire.

Howard was preceded in death by his parents; bro-



thers, John Harold Birman Jr., Walter Birman, and Robert (Bob) Birman; and sister Marie Hutchings. He was also preceded in death by great-grandchild, Seth Rainwater.

Howard is survived by his wife of 64 years, Betty; children, David (Mary) Birman of Hastings, Sharon (Bob) Rainwater of Marshall, Ron Birman of Hastings, and Steve (Lori) Birman of Canton; 12 grandchildren and 29 great-grandchildren; sisters-in-law, Violet Birman of Florida and Geri Birman of Pennsylvania.

Howard was a great provider for his family, and took special care to spoil his grandchildren. He will be greatly missed by all.

Funeral services were held Thursday, January 3, 2013 at Lauer Family Funeral Home-Wren Chapel in Hastings. Burial was in Fuller Cemetery.

Anyone wishing to make a donation in his memory may do so by donating to Barry Community Hospice.

Please share a memory with William's family at www.lauerfh.com.



Heaven, Victor! Rhoda

Licea, Jose C., H CO - TX

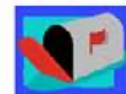


LICEA

Jose C. Licea, 80, died December 24, 1999 in San Antonio. He was born December 4, 1919 in San Antonio. **Mr. Licea was a veteran of WWII, during which he served in the Normandy invasion, in the Rhineland and Central Europe. He was a recipient of the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with three bronze service stars and a bronze arrowhead, Good Conduct Medal, Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster and the Combat Infantryman Badge.** Survivors include his wife of 52 years, Maria Campos Licea; daughters and sons-in-law, Rachel Licea Gonzalez and Lorenzo, Rebecca Licea Valadez and Joe, Isabel Licea, Belinda Licea-Pruett and Allan, Theresa Licea Alconzo and Joe; brothers, Jesse Licea, Donato Licea; sisters, Maria Saucedo, Adela Acosta; five grandchildren, Alejandro, Marisa, Emilio, Gabriel, Sarah; and several nieces and nephews. A Rosary will be recited Monday at 7:00 P.M. at Roy Akers Funeral Chapels. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 9:00 A.M., Tuesday, December 28, 1999 at St. Henry's Catholic Church. Interment will follow at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Salvation Army.

2013-2014 Dues Reminder!

Check your mailing label to see if you need to pay for 2013-2014. If NOT paid, you owe \$30, which is the new dues payment. Don't delay-pay today!



359th [con't.]

Cranfield, Olen, L CO, 1st Platoon, 1st Squad - OK - "Proud to have served our country, the best in the world - would do so again if possible! Thanks and good luck to all veterans, and especially the 90th Division vets. Thanks, guys! Olen Cranfield" [Ed.: Thank you for your note!]

Pace, Terry, [son, Glen Pace, HQ CO, 3Bn] - OK - 7/1/13 - "Here are my '13-'14 dues. We had hoped to make the reunion this year, but work and family events conflict. Hopefully, we will make the next one. It's been a long time since I have attended. I took my dad to the 50th Anniversary of the ending of WW II in 1995 in San Antonio. My mom was ill, and so I took dad while my brother stayed with mom. That was my last reunion. My dad and mom made the one in 1993 in Louisville, KY as their last together. Mom [Berdell Pace] passed in 2008 after dad [Glen Pace] passed in 2002. I try to keep our 90th dues paid and hope to make a reunion again soon. I made a half dozen or so over the years with dad and mom and always enjoyed and appreciated all the 90th Division Association does to honor our vets. Have a great reunion. Thanks. Terry Pace" [Ed.: Apologies to readers because I mistakenly put Terry's letter in the veterans' section instead of the Family Album section. I usually put the Family Album together first, and as you will see, I finished a page with what I thought was the last letter. So Terry, consider yourself honored to be included in the veterans section! :)]

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO OUR DEAR FRIEND OF THE 90TH, BRUNO EHLICH, WRITTEN BY VERN SCHMIDT WHO GAVE THIS REMEMBRANCE AT THE FORT WORTH REUNION ON SATURDAY NIGHT

A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE AND FRIENDSHIP OF BRUNO EHLICH - by friend, Vern Schmidt. 358/E

Saying "goodbye" to an Association member is difficult. Bruno Ehllich, our Hitler Youth kid from WW II, left his earthly home on June 7, 2013 for his Eternal Home after a lengthy battle with cancer. To some here today, you may not be familiar with Bruno as his story with the 90th began as a 9 year old boy on April 24, 1945 in the woods near Leuchtenberg, Germany. Bruno's life was filled with tragedy, excitement, and anticipation as WW II brought his family from Austria to Germany, and his father became a tank commander on the Russian Front. With the closing of public schools in 1945, Bruno became a Hitler Youth Soldier at 9 years of age as a crew member of an anti-tank gun which resulted in his capture by A Co. 357th Regiment, 90th Division in Leuchtenberg on April 24, 1945.

Years after completing his education, he moved to Australia and retired as a Sgt. in the Royal Australian Air Force. His service during the Vietnam ERA resulted in his contact with Agent Orange which eventually brought about a 20 year battle with cancer.

Our first acquaintance with Bruno was a result of his search on the internet in 2002 as he was trying to find his liberators from WW II. This led him to Glenn and Vern Schmidt in the USA. Vern remembered the village of Leuchtenberg from occupational duties with the 90th. A lasting relationship resulted from many hours of phone calls, and the 90th Division became a household word for Bruno.

Bruno attended our 90th Division reunion in 2005 at Corpus Christi, TX where he thanked the "Tough 'Ombres" for his liberation which changed the destiny of his life. His many stories in the 90th newsletter always ended with a "Thank You."

In 2008, Norm Richards, Chuck Griffith, Vern Schmidt and son, Chris, met Bruno in Leuchtenberg where he showed us the street corner where a Tough 'Ombre from A Co, 357th set him and his family free from a nightmare of terror that lasted 5 years.

If Bruno were standing at this podium today, his closing remarks would be: "God Bless the 90th Division with all its heroes and those who never came home, & to those who sacrificed their lives for my freedom and the freedom of my country. I thank you from the bottom of my heart. Bruno Ehllich"

Many of us who knew this man realized that his view as a young boy, that this war brought undue tragedy, sorrow, and death to millions due to an idea from an ill crazed mind of a man named Adolf Hitler. Bruno's story "Born On the Wrong Side of the Fence" describes in some 100+ pages the sufferings of his family and friends during his adolescent years. We, who knew him well, will always cherish his unwavering love for the 90th.

[Ed.: Bruno was an extraordinary man, and those of us who had the honor of meeting him have been greatly blessed by his courage and unwavering faith in his Savior, Jesus Christ, as he fought so valiantly against the cancer that ravaged his body for so many years. Because of his faith, we know that indeed, he is now with his Savior in Heaven, and we shall see him again some day. But while we are still here on earth, we will always miss him & the many contributions of friendship through sending stories to us. You are truly free now, Bruno - no pain, no sickness, no more struggles, no more death. You are whole again and Home at last!]

WHAT IS THE 500 CLUB?

Any \$ amount above \$30 dues that you designate for 500 Club

Why Is It Important?

It helps to sustain the 90th Division Association

What is the money used for?

It helps pay for the newsletter & helps compensate for those who cannot afford the \$30 dues. It is NOT used for Reunions.



Letters From Family Members of 90th Veterans

This section offers news from 90th widows, children, grandchildren, relatives and friends

The Widows Write...

Arnhold, Vera R., [Henry, 359/M]- MO - "I hope to keep paying the dues. Henry passed away 13 years ago June 19th. The donation to the 500 Club is also a memorial for Henry. I enjoy reading the newsletter, and I know he would enjoy it also. Thank you for your time and effort you put into the newsletter. Sincerely, Vera D. Arnhold" [Ed.: THANK YOU! for continuing to pay dues!]

Birman, Betty, [William H., 359/Med Det] - MI - "I'm sending this obituary for my husband. We sure all miss him so much. He was such a good provider & such a good worker. He helped all the family so much. We knew the day was coming, but it is so hard to accept. Thank you. Betty" [Ed.: William's name is on page 3 "Call of Taps", and his obituary is in T/O Tales with other 359th]

Gerdes, LaVerne, [Quinton, 345/FA Bn] - CO - "I'm enclosing a check for Quinton Gerdes, my late husband, who was a member of the 345th Field Artillery in WW2. He passed away on September 11, 2002 - a year after the tragedy. Thank you for sending the 90th Division mailing. We attended the last reunion at Fort Worth in 1999. God Bless you. Thank You. LaVerna"

Horton, Esther, [Glen R., 359/ 3Bn] - SD - "Dear People, Received the newsletter, and we enjoyed it very much. But I am sorry to write to you that my husband passed away Jan. 17, 2013. He was with the 359th I Company. He took training at Camp Berkeley; Fort Sill; Trenton, NJ; & then New York. I followed him through his training camps, then on to New York where he shipped out and landed on Utah Beach where they lost so many of their men. The Battle of the Bude was bad too. He thanked God he got home alive. In our younger days, we did sponsor a 90th reunion in Sioux Falls, SD in 1970, with the help of some friends. I will not be sending money for '13-'14, so you can remove Glen's name from the list. All for now. Esther Horton"

Glenn, Sharon [Benjamin H., 357/AT] - NY - "Dear James & Rhoda Reid, Thank you for your newsletter. I enjoy it very much - and miss my husband very much. Thanks again. Sharon R. Glenn"

Hughes, Dee [Rod H., 358/F 2/ Bn] - OH - "Dear Jim & Rhoda, Enclosed is a check for 2013-2014 dues + a memorial for my late husband, Rod H. The newsletter was great! It was good to see Irma Madis - in her article. I am saddened to hear of the passing of her husband, Arthur in 2011 - They were great hosts to me and my cousins when we visited in September, 2007 for a retrace of my husband's tour of duty in France during WW II. You two do an excellent job for the Association - hope everyone is fine and in good health. Respectfully, Mrs. Rod H. [Dee] Hughes. P.S. Also saddened to hear of all the WW II veterans that are passing each day - God Bless them all."

Jedele, Helen [Lorin, 357/F] - MI - "To my Dear Friends, I don't know how to tell you, but the time has probably come - In October, 2012, I had a mini-stroke. a little damage to my eyes and arthritis is taking much control of my body & walking ability. But I'm very thankful to my God - I can still live alone, drive locally, and am not confined to a wheel chair. I'm so very blessed to have a good mind with so many precious memories of all the 90th Reunions I have been privileged to attend since 2000 and see all the great friends I have made. These are memories no one can take from me. I Received your great newsletter a couple days ago. I always look forward to reading EVERY word. You are so

very talented, and I will enjoy reading each newsletter as long as they are sent and I can comprehend. I'm privileged to drive within a radius of 50 miles & to my church every Sunday. These are blessings from my great God. I hope many are able to attend the reunion this year. We have to hang on tight as the world sinks into the stench and mire of Obama Care & his gay marriages, abortions, etc. - Sodom & Gomorrah. God's blessings to both of you. You are **VERY** special people, my dear ones. Love always, Helen Jedele" "Thought you might like this [picture & invitation] - all my family were in church with me that Sunday - unbelievable surprise! It made me very happy. They all worked to provide a nice meal to] over 100 guests. My BD is 12-14-22.



I shall **ALWAYS** treasure your friendship. Helen Jedele" [Ed.:My dearest Helen! I was crushed when I read your note that you would not be at the reunion. You have been such a special, precious friend for so many years that it hurts my heart not to be able to see you any more on this earth. Your authentic faith in Christ, your contagious humor, your love of people and the desire to please God have blessed me so many times. You are a treasure to me, and what makes the pain of not seeing you bearable is the confidence and assurance we have that someday we will be re-united in Heaven for all eternity. Awesome!! I love you, Helen! Rhoda]

Krautkremer, Millie [Rollie, 359/HQ 3Bn POW] - MN - "Thank you for the years we've enjoyed receiving the 90th Division Association newsletters. My husband was a proud Tough 'Ombre who fought on Normandy Beach; was captured at the Moselle River crossing, and was a German POW till May 9, 1945. He has the Purple Heart. He's now deceased. Please discontinue his membership. Thank you. Millie Krautkremer" [Ed.: His name is in Call of Taps - yet another of our brave Tough 'Ombres is no longer with us.]

Myers, Barbara [Albert, 343/FA Bn] - WY - From Barbara's daughter, Cindy: "A note to let you know that my mother, Barbara Myers, wife of Albert Myers & a member of your group, has entered the nursing home in Lander, WY. She loved the reunions, so hopefully, some of you remember her. Her address is 376 Graham Road - Lander, WY 8252-9203" [Ed.: Why not send her a note!]

Staruk, Catherine [Walter, 344/FA Bn] - FL - "Dear Rhoda & Jim, Sorry this is a bit late. Your newsletter, received June 28, was, as usual, the best. I am fine and hope you both are also. I enjoyed the pictures of Jim and the story & poetry. Also noted that Lillian Johnson, Merle's wife, is still with us and will drop her a note. I wanted to make the reunion this year - it won't happen. My grandson [one of them] is flying home from Hawaii for 2 weeks and is coming in to Orlando instead of Boston to help me drive to Massachusetts. I still think I could do it myself. That will be August 2. I am going through [con't. next pg.]

Staruk, Catherine [con't.] - "all my collections of 90th paper; French trips, war souvenirs. Not only can I not take them with me when I go, but I will have no room when I get up north [and I am being pressured by my family!]. The ice and snow don't seem that romantic anymore. I am enclosing a copy of a poem I wrote [a poet I am not]. Walter was standing [we let him be alone for a few minutes]. He talked a lot about it as we waited for him to turn back to us. I would like to know if Jim remembers it this way. He was always so happy that those who had field glasses passed them around. So much for now. Love you, Cathy Staruk" [Ed.: I remember Walter & Catherine so well from reunions many years ago, and I was very disappointed when Catherine couldn't make the reunion this year as I was so looking forward to seeing her again! Below is the poem she wrote for Walter - it was included in the Reunion Book this year]

CINQUANTENAIRE

By Catherine Staruk, 1994

For my husband, Walter, and the men of the 344th BA Bn
90th Infantry Division who debarqued on Utah Beach, France
D+2, WW II

Leaden skies spew cold rain,
Gray fog curtains brush waves of dark Channel water
Spindrift blows onto Utah Beach sand.
The tall man in trench coat and army cap stares seaward,
And Remembers.

Eyes pierce the fog, ships appear, shells toss water high,
His ship, young men, field glasses, watching, waiting,
Dark and daylight, hope and despair,
And the order comes.
He Remembers.

Down the ramp, guns, jeeps, men,
Into the water, onto the beach, keep moving,
Through the dunes, a jeep, a leg, a burning shoe,
No time to stop,
He Remembers.

Ste. Mere Eglise, Perriers, Hill 122, Monte Castro, Chambois,
Foxholes, bodies, Valley of Death, Metz, Battle of the Bulge,
Patton, fallen comrades, Saar, Moselle, Rhine, Czechoslovakia.
Fifty years of tears mingle with cold rain and salt spray
As he Remembers.

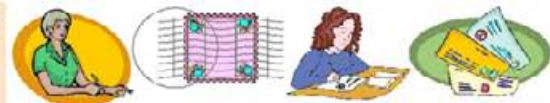


Birchall, Helen [daughter, Paul Larsen, 359/C] - WA - "Dear Jim & Rhoda, This letter is about a year late in coming! But time flies, and before you know it, another reunion is just around the corner! I'm writing this to give you a very belated thank you for your warm hospitality shown to me at the 2012 reunion. What an incredible experience. Both my husband [Larry] and I were hesitant, but we couldn't have felt more welcome. Unfortunately, we won't be able to make it this year, but am hoping it is continued to be held there at the DFW Marriott. The staff was wonderful, and the food was delicious. I barely touched on my Dad's service records, so I need to come back for that and also to "rub elbows" with friends, family, and veterans of the 90th. Things are good out here in Washington. Larry is up in Canada fly fishing, and then we leave for a week's vacation to South Carolina with 3 other couples to celebrate our 60th birthday. Thank you two again for all you do. It is truly appreciated. Hope you are both well and doing good. Love, Helen [Larsen] Birchall" [Ed. We missed you this year, Helen, and so hope to see you at another reunion. Sadly, we won't be at the DFW Marriott in 2014 - St. Louis was voted in as the destination. BUT... we will be back in TX the following year, God willing. Your parents, Paul & Alice were such a gift to the 90th - your Mom was a hoot, and she kept us all laughing most of the time! I didn't get to visit with you as much as I wanted either!]

Bulger, Jane C. [daughter, Richard "Doc" Bulger, 358/Med Det] - PA - "Dear Rhoda & Jim, I hope this finds you both well and enjoying life! Once again - thank you for all your efforts for the 90th. You deserve much praise! The Division has a very special place in my heart as do you both. Fondly, Jane"

Geyer, Richard D., son, Roland C. Geyer, 359] - KS - "Dear Mr. Reid, My father, Roland Car. Geyer, was a Tech Sergeant in the 90th during WW II. He was the first one off of his landing craft, & it immediately sank up to the top of the hood. He is now deceased [18 October, 2006], but he was proud of his service, although he talked very little about it. My sister, Sherry [Geyer] Richardson, attended the last reunion [2012] and was deeply moved by it. She lives in the Dallas area, and she and I and our spouses will attend this year. Enclosed is my membership application and a check. My wife and I are looking forward to attending this year. Thanks for your efforts. Best, Richard D. Geyer" [Ed.: Indeed, all of you came this year, and it was a delight to visit a bit with all of you. We are delighted you joined us and hope we see you next year also!]

Guerra, Janice, [daughter, Helen Strus Leroux, 358/B] - MN - "Dear Rhoda, I SO enjoyed talking with you the other day. As usual, your graciousness just "filled me up", and I couldn't stop smiling when I got off the phone. [That's a switch!] Here's the obituary for my beautiful mom, and the program for the mass. I was so pleased that everything was perfect, from the flowers, to the lunch afterwards with all the family and friends there. I'm sending one more picture of mom that I took one morning a couple of years ago when she was having her breakfast. It was just a quick picture that I took because she looked to cute with her hair in a pony tail. Now that she is gone, it is a treasure I'm grateful I was able to capture forever. I hope you all have a wonderful time down in Texas. I wish I could go. I took walks this week outside, so I'm on the way back! Well, take care, God Bless you & Jim. I always smile when I think of you. Janice" [Ed.: Janice, you are an inspiration! I'm so glad you sent the obit and program for your mom - also, the picture with her hair in a pony tail. I will always remember how cute you had her fixed up when you brought her to her one and only reunion in Bloomington, MN, 2011 You had her hair in a pony tail with a beautiful flower hair accessory in her hair - your care, love, and attention to her was so evident, and you blessed me as you did all those who sat with you at dinner. You have many memories now to cherish, as I know you do. She was blessed to have such a loving and devoted daughter.] [obit on next page]



Guerra, Janice [con't.] - Obit of Helen Strus Leroux -

In Loving Memory



Helen Marie Leroux

December 10, 1917 ~ March 20, 2013

**Loving Mom, Grandma, Sister
Great-Grandma, Aunt and Friend**

Age 95 of Centerville. Passed away March 20, 2013. Preceded in death by 6 infant brothers; parents, Theodore and Emma Peloquin; sister, Marie Eggum; brother, Philip Peloquin; first husband, Harry A. Strus (killed in action in France during WWII); second husband of 43 years, Ervin D. Leroux; and beloved daughter, Claire Leroux. Survived by son, Harry T. (Rosemary) Strus; daughter, Janice Guerra; grandsons, Ken and Eric Strus; granddaughter, Mary Litke; 5 great-grandchildren; sisters, Theresa Loney and Darlene Herkenhoff; sister-in-law, Rosemarie Peloquin; niece, Lenora Strus-Brown; nephews, Tom (Jean) and Leo (Martha) Strus; many other nieces, nephews, family and friends. Mass of Christian Burial at 11AM on Tuesday, March 26, 2013 at St. Genevieve Catholic Church, 7087 Goiffon Rd., Centerville. Visitation 9AM until the time of Mass at church on Tuesday. Interment St. John the Baptist Cemetery, Hugo.

Kocour, Michelle, [daughter, Max Kocour, 357/HQ] - AZ - "I always seem to think I have paid one year in advance, but I end up being late! I am very sorry. Thank you for placing Claude Lovett's obit in the newsletter. He fought with my father, and I did not know he had passed. Regards, Michelle Kocour" [Ed: Michelle, you are always prompt in paying dues and so conscientious - wish all our members were as careful! You always remember to pay - thanks!]

Licea, Isabel C. [daughter, Jose C. Licea, 359/H] - TX - "I am so sorry to inform you that my dad, Jose C. Licea, passed away December 24, 1999, 10 days after his 80th birthday. My father was a very proud WW II Purple Heart Disabled Veteran. He always talked to me and my 4 sisters about the war, events that happened to him, and of his fellow colleagues. Sad thing about this is my father developed PTSD, but was never diagnosed with same - only that of having a drinking problem. Aside from having this illness, my father was a very responsible husband, father, grandfather, and person. In remembrance of my father, Jose C. Licea, I am sending a check for the 13 years dues were not paid, due to his passing. Many 'Blessings! Proud daughter of a WW II veteran, Isabel, C. Licea" [Ed.: Thank you, Isabel - you are the only one who has ever paid for this many years of past dues, and the Association is most grateful. The obit you send is in the T/O Tales Section of this newsletter with other 359 news and information. Sounds like he was blessed to have YOU as his daughter!]

Loesch, Sue Ann [daughter, Raymond Hall, 315/Eng] - MO - 07/20 - "I

wanted to let you know Dad passed away Wednesday morning, July 17. The funeral was Friday, July 19. He had been in hospital almost a week, and they were going to send him home with Hospice. He did pretty well until about a month ago, but I could tell he was losing ground. He wasn't in pain the last few days. He was mostly in and out of sleep. Bill & I were with him Wednesday morning, and he wouldn't wake up. He finally came to a little, and we gave him a drink of water. He went back to sleep again, and Bill and I were going to leave for a little while. I leaned over and said, "I love you", and he heard me and answered, "I love you too". Those were the last words he spoke. He died about 30 minutes later. My heart is broken, but it is bearable because I know I'll see him again someday in Heaven. My Mom is doing OK. Her Alzheimer's is almost a blessing. Sometimes she remembers he's gone and cries, but other times she thinks he's outside and remembers how much he loved to be outdoors; so she is more peaceful than when she had to see him spend his time in his recliner because he couldn't get out and do things anymore. Nicholas does fine and then he'll think about Grandpa and be sad. He was sobbing after he went to bed the other night, and I felt so bad for him. The good thing is, Nicholas keeps thinking about all the people Grandpa is seeing in Heaven, like Jesus, Noah, and Daniel. This morning we decided to keep busy, and when we told Nicholas our plans, he said, "This will be the best day ever, well, until we see Grandpa in Heaven, then that will be the best day ever." He and Bill are definitely helping me along! I know how much Dad cared about you guys and his 90th friends. The hardest part for me was at the cemetery when they played TAPS - because of all the memories from the Army reunions. We won't be there this year. I don't think I could handle it. But next year, our goal is to come and be with all of you again. Take care and keep us in your prayers. Love, Sue Ann" [Ed.: We received this note as we were driving to Fort Worth for the reunion, & it was a heart-breaker. I read Sue Ann's note to the group at the Memorial Breakfast prior to reading the list of TAPS names. Even as I typed this into the newsletter, my tears came again. But Sue Ann and family have the same assurance I have in knowing that because of accepting Christ & his death & resurrection as atonement for our sins, we WILL meet again in Heaven one day. I do not know how people get through the loss of loved ones without this assurance, because without it, there is no hope and no comfort. We missed you and your family, Sue Ann, but our prayers were and are with you. We hope to see you in 2014 in St. Louis, God willing. Much love to you from us, Rhoda P. S. - Raymond Hall's Obituary is printed on the first page of T/O Tales]

Lozinak, Joseph [son, John Rosina, Unit ? KIA 12 Nov., 1944] - PA - "Dear Jim, My dad is buried in Lorraine, France. He completed special training courses and graduated the 16th day of March, 1944, at New Cumberland, PA. He was killed 12 November, 1944 crossing the Moselle River. His grave plot is Row 14 - grave 21 - Stavold [Moselle] France. Thank you for everything. Sincerely, Joseph Lozinak - his service # was 33-615-463" [Ed. Joseph is a new member of the 90th, and we welcome him to our 90th Division Association]

Martsch, Shirlee [daughter, Russell Huff, 357/G] - ID - "Dear 90th Division Association, Recently I received information about your upcoming reunion. I need to inform you that my precious father passed away August 26, 2003. My father, Russell Huff, was very proud of having served his country and we were extremely proud of him for his dedication and bravery. Thanks to all of you for your service. Sincerely, Shirlee Martsch." [Ed.: thank you for the notice]



McKnight, Ann S. [sister-in-law, T/Sgt Lee R. McKnight, 359/I] - OK -

"Dear James & Rhoda, I am so sad and sorry to inform you I lost my beloved Chuck McKnight March 5, 2013. I am sending in our dues as I know he would want me to do that, and dues for my Uncle, Clifford Boyles. The rest of my check I want to go in memory of Chuck's brother, T/Sgt Lee R. McKnight, 359/I. We had hoped to go to the reunion this year, but as you can see --- can't do that. I loved him so much, and he was such a wonderful gentleman! He was the best thing that could have happened to me after I lost my first husband. My family loved him and made him happy. We are Barbara Wells-Kime's relatives. I loved the contact I had with you and the 90th Division reunions when we were able to go. Now Chuck is with Jesus. God bless you all! Ann" [Ed.: Ann, I was so sad to get your note - I remember you and Chuck very well, and was really looking forward to seeing you this year at the reunion....but Jesus had other plans for Chuck, didn't He? One of the hard parts is that we don't understand why it had to happen, and that's where our faith is tested. It gives me comfort to know that Chuck is with Jesus, and that you are resting in this assurance. We missed Barbara and Graham this year too, but we knew they couldn't be with us. I hope and pray you, Barbara and Graham will be able to join us next year. God bless!]

Pascente, John F. [son, Rocco Phillip Pascente, 359/B] - CO - "Hope I completed my membership application properly. My father served in WW II with the 90th Division, 359th B Company. Unfortunately, he died when I was 11 years old. I have been piecing information together to know his service to our country. I have his Purple Heart, European-African-Middle East Campaign Ribbon with 4 Bronze Stars. Thanks. John Pascente" [Ed.: John is another of our new members, and we are delighted to welcome him to the 90th Division Family. If anyone has information on John's father, let us know so we can put you in touch with him as I am sure he would appreciate it.]

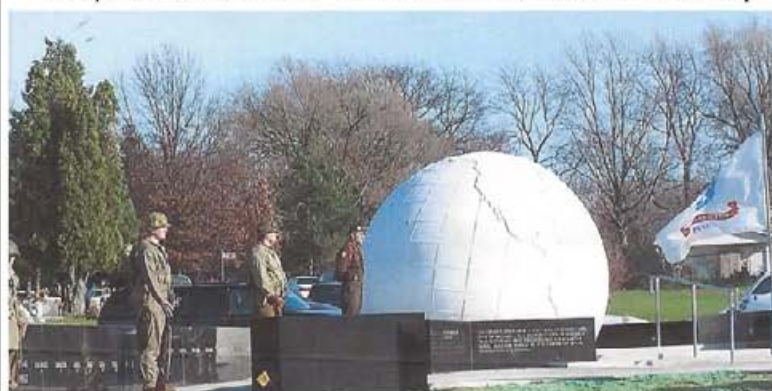
Wondra, Michael [son, John W. Wondra, 359/A] - MN - "My father, John W. Wondra, is a 90th Infantry Division veteran. I am trying to learn more about his serving with the 90th. Due to some dementia, he is not able to tell me much besides that he served with the 90th. If there are any records of which brigade he was with, etc., I would appreciate hearing about it. Thank you. Michael Wondra" [Ed.: Michael is also a new member - Welcome! I would suggest you contact our Assistant Historian, Norm Richards as he has copies of all the morning reports. I understand they are also posted on the 90th Division website: www.90thdivisionassociation.org - If you have his discharge papers and/or serial number, our Historian, Tyler Alberts could also be of help to you. Contact information for them: [Norm](mailto:nrichards2@juno.com) - 636-244-4697; email: nrichards2@juno.com - [Tyler](mailto:tyler) - Home: 817-886-6027; cell: 817-908-9173 - email: historian.90thdiv@yahoo.com - If any reader has any information about Michael's father, contact the Reids so they can put you in touch with him. We hope you get some answers, Michael@]

Bree, Paulette Basile [daughter ? name?, 358/L] - PA - "Dear Mr. Reid, My dad was a member of the 90th Division, 358 Regiment, L Company. He very much wanted to attend one of the D-Day ceremonies before he died but was not able to do so. I would like to honor him by attending this year for the 70th anniversary. I hope you will allow me to join the 90th Division Association to honor my wonderful, loving father. I have many photos that I would be willing to scan and send to you via email if you are interested. Thank you for your consideration. Paulette Basile Bree" [Ed.: Paulette is a new member, and we sent her an email with information.]

2 Widow's letters that missed the Widows' Section

VANNATTA, Ruth, 344/FA Bn - SD - "Dear Jim and Rhoda, I've enjoyed belonging to the 90th Association. However, after much thought, I will no longer send money for dues, so please remove my name from the roster. A very SPECIAL THANK YOU to Rhoda for the historical newsletter. To you, Jim, for all the work you have done to keep the Association up and viable. Again, a very special THANK YOU! Ruth E. Vannatta" [Ed.: Thank you, Ruth]

Harris, Shirley, Story Editor, WW II Illinois Veterans Memorial at Springfield [widow, Walter C., 359/A 1st Plt] - IL - "Dear Rhoda, Here's my check for dues + 500 Club. My husband was Walter C. Harris, a WW II 90th Division & Korean War veteran. He served in the ETO for two years and for 27 months in the PTO during the Korean War. Walter & I were/are committee members of the WW II Illinois Veterans Memorial from the year 2000-until the present. Walter died 23 Sept., 2008. I have been collecting Illinois WW II veterans' stories since the Memorial was dedicated 4 Dec., 2004. The website is: www.ww2il.com - Several hundred Illinois veterans stories are reprinted there. At the Illinois WW II Memorial in Springfield, IL is a VETERANS PLAZA where families donate for engraved bricks to be placed at the Memorial in honor of their loved ones. Presently, there are about 3000 bricks on the PLAZA. During WW II, Illinois men and women in uniform numbered 987,000 from our state alone. Some 16 million Americans served during WW II. If possible, would you please print the website of the WW II Illinois Veterans Memorial in the Newsletter? There are many stories that still need to be told. I would greatly appreciate it. Thank you for all past kindnesses. Shirley Harris, Story Editor, WW II Illinois Veterans Memorial at Springfield [IL]" [Ed.: Illinois readers! This is a great opportunity to have your story recorded for posterity, so if you have not sent your story to WW II Illinois Veterans Memorial previously, NOW is the time to do so. Once again, here is the website: www.ww2il.com - If you need further information, contact the Reids: phone - 630-789-0204 or email: reids90thdivisionassoc@comcast.net]



The WW II Illinois Veterans Memorial at Springfield, IL. Dedicated 4 Dec. 2004 in honor of 987,000 veterans from IL who served our country in WW II

HERE'S A WAY TO HELP YOUR 90TH DIVISION ASSOCIATION!

If you have paid ONLY your \$30 annual dues, but have never sent any additional \$\$ to the 500 Club, now is your opportunity to do so. There is no minimum [or maximum] amount required. It's any amount above the \$30 dues. This helps pay for the newsletter



90th Members Out & About - & In the news!



Schulz, COL [R] Robert H., 358/E 2Bn - CO - [sent in by his son, Robert H. Schulz, Jr.] - "Dear Jim: Enclosed is a check for my father's '13-'14 dues. I recently received the Spring 2013 Association Newsletter which I have shared with my father. He just celebrated his 97th birthday at an assisted-living facility in Colorado Springs, CO. While he is no longer able to attend your annual meetings, I know he has done so in the past and enjoyed the camaraderie of his fellow 'Tough 'Ombres'. While my father's health continues to amaze us, no one lives forever, and after reading a number of the obituaries in the current newsletter, I thought I would share the attached article for possible inclusion in a future publication. My father was 28 at the time of the Normandy Invasion, so I was thinking there are probably some younger soldiers still alive that served with him, and might be interested in connecting with him. Anyone wishing to do so should do so through me at the this address: Robert H. Schulz, Jr. - 5290 N. Lariat Drive - CastleRock, CO 80108 - While the article was published in the local Roswell, New Mexico paper several years ago, the information related to his military service is correct. As I indicated earlier, he now resides in Colorado Springs. Thanks so much for what your organization continues to do for the men and women who so gallantly served our country. Sincerely, Robert H. Schulz, Jr. [720-530-2924]" [Ed.: THANK YOU for sending this - there are several 358/E veterans who still attend reunions. Maybe one of them will remember your dad. I hope he enjoys this page.]

Colonel Robert H. Schulz, USA (Ret.)

ROSWELL DAILY RECORD

By LTC Joe Posz, USA (Ret)
'55 SC

Colonel Robert H. Schulz served as commandant of cadets at NMMI from 1969 to 1971.

In WWII, Captain Schulz participated in the Normandy invasion. He went ashore at "Utah Beach" on D+2 as the company commander of the heavy weapons company of the 2nd Battalion, 358th Infantry, with the 90th Tough 'Ombres Division.

Attacking from the beachhead, the 358th pushed through the treacherous hedgerows and fought the battle of Pont l'Albe on 10-12 June 1944 and the battle

of Golleville-Urville on 17 June 1944. During this period, a bullet penetrated Schulz's helmet, but failed to harm him.

Moving steadily south down the West Coast of the Cotentin Peninsula, the 358th was heavily engaged in the hedgerows. Casualties were heavy, and Captain Schulz, the senior-surviving officer, found himself in command of the 2nd Battalion. In the vicinity of La Haye-du-Puits, he led a highly successful bayonet charge against the Germans, which was instrumental in maintaining the forward movement and momentum of the battalion. For this action, he was awarded the Silver Star.

During the battle for the Falaise Gap

on 17 August 1944, the 2nd Battalion was held up by a German Tiger tank concealed in a barn. The tank rolled out frequently to fire its 88mm gun with devastating effects. Schulz, again in command of the battalion and having lost the heavy weapons commander, led a rocket launcher team into close proximity of the barn to get an effective shot from the Bazooka. The untrained gunner was unsure of himself, and Schulz seized the exposed tank, and destroyed it. This action earned Schulz, now a major, the Distinguished Service Cross.

With the fast-moving Third Army, the 90th Division participated in General Patton's classic move to destroy the Ger-

man salient in the Ardennes forest. The actions of Major Schulz during the "Battle of the Bulge" were recognized by an award of the Belgian Croix de Guerre.

Colonel Schulz retired from the United States Army in 1969. His decorations include the Distinguished Service Cross, the Distinguished Service Medal, the Silver Star, two Bronze Stars, the Legion of Merit, and the French and Belgian Croix de Guerre.

Following his service as commandant of cadets at NMMI, Colonel Schulz taught economics at Eastern New Mexico University-Roswell from 1972 until 1982. He lives in retirement in Roswell.



Mark your Calendars Now!

96th Annual Reunion!

July 31 - August 3, 2014

Clayton, MO

[Suburb of St. Louis]



90th Members Out & About - & In the news! - 2



Busterud, John, 357/HQ - CA - "My wife, Anne, and I recently toured Normandy again, this time with David & Julie Eisenhower and others. I gave David a copy of my book, 'Below the Salt', which he found very interesting and then touted several times in his talks."



Anne Busterud, David Eisenhower, John Busterud, Julie Eisenhower - taken after one of David's talks



David Eisenhower & John Busterud at the American Military Cemetery in Coleville



We stopped on way home from France to see grandson Tom Busterud graduate from West Point! Quite a thing to see. Here is my son John swearing him in as a 2d Lt. John Busterud

John wrote: "The d-day monument on Omaha Beach is right next to the d-Day museum. We were there as part of our Celtic Lands tour. We were joined on tour with David Eisenhower who then gave several talks on the Normandy landings and the breakout from Normandy; the activation of the Third Army; the drive toward Coutance; and the closing of the Falaise Gap." [Ed.: John wrote the book, "Below The Salt" about the Merkers Salt Mine, which the 90th Division captured. John was a participant in that action.. If you haven't read the book and would like to obtain a copy, contact the Reids who will put you in touch with John. It is a fascinating book & very much a part of the 90th Infantry's history.]



This picture of John and Anne is at the Omaha Beach WW2 Monument



Vote of thanks

France remembers a soldier's service



Dewitt Wells: "You don't think about what's ahead. You do what you have to do."

Wells, Dewitt, 359/K NC



Wells received the French Legion of Honor medal Monday in Charlotte.

Decorated veteran of WWII awarded French Legion of Honor

BY MELISSA HALL
Winston-Salem Journal

Dewitt Wells of Winston-Salem felt his feet freeze in the bitter cold of the Battle of the Bulge and walked across France after the D-Day invasion of Normandy.

For his service, he has been awarded the French Legion of Honor by Denis Bardet, the French consul general to the Southeast United States.

Wells, 88, was one of six World War II veterans inducted Monday into the Le-

gion of Honor in Charlotte.

He was drafted into the Army in October 1943 and did his basic training at Camp Butner in North Carolina. He was part of the 90th Infantry Division known for engaging in some of the fiercest fighting in Europe. The division shipped out to England and went to France in June 1944.

"I didn't like France in '44," Wells said. "I had a trip across France, but I had to walk."

He said he can't describe the scene at **MEDAL, Page A7**



ANDREW DYE/JOURNAL

The Legion of Honor is France's highest civilian honor.

2 Medal From Page A1

Utah Beach as he waded ashore from the landing craft. Utah Beach was the code name given for the westernmost flank of the D-Day invasion of Normandy along its beaches.

"You don't think about what's ahead," he said. "You do what you have to do."

Wells said the first thing he learned in France was keep your head down.

"My number just didn't come up on a bullet, thank the Lord," he said.

Wells also fought in the Battle of the Bulge in December 1944 and January 1945. His feet froze, and he lost all of his toenails, though they eventually grew back. He was taken to a hospital in Paris, then returned to the U.S. to finish his recuperation.

Wells said he heard about the Legion of Honor award and contacted the French consulate about it. They requested that he

3 send them a copy of his discharge papers, and in January they invited him to take part in Monday's award ceremony.

"I talked with the other veterans and met the mayor," he said.

The Legion of Honor was created more than 200 years ago by Emperor Napoleon the First and is France's highest civilian honor. American soldiers who fought in France during World War II are eligible for the honor.

June Findlay, a friend of Wells, was invited to the ceremony. She said that when Wells was presented the medal, he thanked Bardet and told him, "I'll never do it again."

"Dewitt's an amazing man," Findlay said. "He's always sharing his faith and love of his family."

Findlay and Wells met during the Triad Flight of Honor when World War II veterans

4

were flown to Washington, D.C., to see the World War II memorial. She's a flight attendant and volunteered to help on the flights.

"We walked all over Washington looking at the memorials," she said. "I'm proud to have the honor of walking with those heroes."

Originally from Poughkeepsie, N.Y., Wells and his family relocated to Kernersville in 1971. He remembered North Carolina from his basic training and decided to come back. "My wife and I got tired of shoveling snow," he said.

In addition to receiving the French honor, Wells was previously awarded the Bronze Star, the American Campaign Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, and the Victory Medal.

The other inductees were George Poulakos and Clyde Polk of Charlotte, David Gordon of Cary, and John Harmon of Saluda, S.C. One inductee, Frank Pruitt of Spartanburg, died recently, and his family accepted his medal. Induction into the French Legion of Honor gives the veterans the rank of Knight.

mhall@wsjournal.com
(336) 727-7308



Schmidt, Vern. 358/E - CA - visits Germany
Article is scanned in as sent - page 1 of 2

Story and picture from German newspaper "Kneinanrung" July 21, 2012, translated by Heather Kurpjuhn from Muenstermaifeld, Germany.

„Vernon Schmidt returns to his young days

Remembrance – An American veteran visits the former war battlefield in our region

Muenstermaifeld/Region – Vernon Schmidt, an American, whose name might be of German origin has recently paid a visit to our region. 67 years ago he has been here as well – under very different circumstances. Back then he belonged to the soldiers of the 90th American division, which helped to bring down Hitler-Germany. Now the 87 year old veteran went back to see the former battle places of his youth time. Also the Mayfield, Hatzenport, Alken and Pfaffenheck were part of this tour. Thorsten Kurpjuhn is an enthusiastic mountain biker. One day and more or less by coincidence he finds a book about the fightings at the end of the second world war in the Moselle region and realizes that he already has bypassed many of the historic places with his bike. As he has all this geographic knowledge about these places he starts to dig into the history of these past events. And again coincidence comes along. Via Facebook he meets the American author Aaron Elson. Elson wrote several books also about the last days of the German Wehrmacht (Army), where German troops fought some last desperate battles with their American foes.

Battlefield in the book

Also our region is mentioned: Hatzenport, Loeff, Alken and Buchholz. Elson tells Kurpjuhn that he knows somebody who fought as a young American soldier in the battle of Pfaffenheck – Vernon Schmidt. He crossed the Moselle back then at Hatzenport and advanced to Pfaffenheck where heavy fighting commenced. And this Schmidt has been to Germany with his wife and his son Christofer to revisit the old battlefields.

The 87 year old visited also Thorsten Kurpjuhn. Both were introduced to each other by Aaron Elson. For the Munstermayfelder (Kurpjuhn) the common visit to Hatzenport, Alken and Paffenheck has been an exciting experience like a time travel into old war times.

“Vernon Schmidt is 87 years old and a very likable man from Fresno/California” says Kurpjuhn. He shows pictures to him from Hatzenport dating 1945. Schmidt feels welcomed in Germany. When he started his tour in Habscheid / Eifel he has been heartily welcomed as well. Hatzenport he had already seen. There he once crossed the Moselle in a “storm boat”. Now he was keen to see remaining foxholes in the forest and the cemetery in Paffenheck. They go up to the Schafberg (Sheep Hill) overlooking Alken. Here you can still see numerous foxholes. There has been heavy fighting as mountain troops counterattacked and dug in in the crest of the hill. Here or on one of the hills in the vicinity also Vernon once dug in’ reports Kurpjuhn. The American stands in front of the foxholes and is emotionally touched. Immediately he remembers how hard it was to dig into this soil with all the tree roots. Then they proceed to the cemetery. Here they walk slowly between the graves. KIA on March 15th 1945 is the engraving on so many of the gravestones.

Advance into the Hunsrueck mountains

Vernon Schmidt remembers this day very well. It was the day when he and his comrades advanced into the Hunsrueck. Then he stops. A German soldier grave is there – it says Schmidt – a namesake. He lost his life in the terrible battle.



67 years ago the sound of heavy artillery erupted in the Mosell valley

Back then, 1945, the lovely Moselle valley was roaring with the sound of heavy gun and machine gun fire. Vernon Schmidt – just 20 years old – fought here with his 90th Division. Between Loefer and Hatzenport he did an assault crossing over the Moselle.

Kurpjuhn had investigated the history before the visit of Schmidt. According to the reports Schmidt's division broke through the Westwall in the spring of 1945 as part of Patton's XII. Corps. After a few days he reached Mayen and also Muenstermaifeld and the Moselle banks. Now the order was to cross the Moselle and advance south to encircle the German Army Group G in the so called Rhine-Moselle triangle. The Germans were aware of the danger and stationed parts of the 6.SS Mountain Division in the area Alken-Brodenbach-Paffenheck. This division still showed a strong fighting spirit. On March 14th the American attack commenced. They built bridgeheads at Hatzenport and Loefer and secured the hill masses south. However the Germans fought bitterly back especially at Bucholz and Pfaffenheck. Pfaffenheck changed its owner 4 times before the remaining Germans retreated 2 days later. 'Around 300 soldiers of both sides paid with their lives. 5 US tanks were destroyed at Paffenheck' reports Kurpjuhn.

Vordereifel & Maifeld

NR. 168 · SAMSTAG, 21. JULI 2011



Vernon Schmidt (Mitte), sein Sohn Christopher (rechts) und Thorsten Kurpjuhn schauen sich am Schaffsberg eine Karte an, anhand der sie die Orte der umpfandlungen nachvollziehen können.

Fotos: Pri

Remember When...3

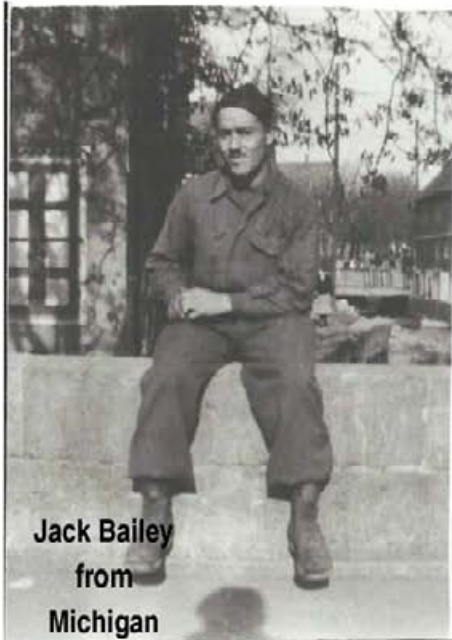
Sparks, Marla Schambach, daughter, Howard Raymond Schambach, Recon Troop, 106th Cavalry - 9050 River Path Road - Lewisville, NC 27023-9735 - 336-945-4598 - "Dear

Mr. Reid, My father was Howard Raymond Schambach. He was a member of the 90th Infantry Division, Recon Troop, 106th Cavalry. According to the last information on his uniform, he was a Technician Fifth Grade. He was from Fort Mitchell, KY [near Covington] and was sent to Europe shortly before or after D-Day. He died August 1, 2007. Since that time, we have found pictures of men from his unit, but sadly only two have names on them - Jack Bailey [Michigan] and George [Pinky] Brehms [Iowa, we think], and even for those, we do not have addresses. Enclosed are

copies of the pictures. We would love to send the originals to families of these men if we were able to. We would appreciate it if you could post this information and pictures in your newsletter and/or at your next reunion, along with my contact information. Thank you for your help. Sincerely, Marla Schambach Sparks - 9050 River Path Road - Lewisville, NC 27023-9735 - email: sprkssw@msn.com - phone: 336-945-4598" [Ed.: more pictures on the next page]

WE CAN... WE WILL... WE MUST!

BUY U.S. WAR SAVINGS BONDS & STAMPS NOW



Jack Bailey from Michigan



This looks like it is also Jack Bailey



Ed.: These 2 pictures also appear to be the same man



This looks like it is also Jack Bailey

Below: He was identified as George "Pinky" Brehms



Ed.: Looks like Jack Bailey on the left and the one on the right looks like it is George "Pinky" Brehms



Remember When...4

WE CAN... WE WILL... WE MUST!

Franklin D. Roosevelt

BUY U.S. WAR SAVINGS BONDS & STAMPS NOW



second page of pictures from Marla Schambach Sparks - Ed.: If you look carefully, it appears that we have more pictures of Jack Bailey and George "Pinky" Brehms

Ed.: The copies that Marla sent have been sent on to Tyler Alberts for the 90th Museum.



Ed.: These four pictures look like they are all George "Pinky" Brehms



Ed.: These 4 pictures also appear to be of the same man



Ed.: The picture at left, and the one at right COULD be the same men, but it is hard to tell for sure. Hopefully, there will be someone reading this who recognizes a face or two! Thank you, Marla for sending these pictures!



SPECIAL SEGMENT 90TH SOLDIER'S STORY...1

Ed.: This segment contains more lengthy stories of individual 90th Veterans.

Shockley, James A., 359/I - MD - [Ed.: the following story came in the mail about 2 days before we left to drive to the Fort Worth Reunion. When I read Jim's story, I KNEW it NEEDED to be read at the reunion. As it turned out, for the Saturday Combined Unit Lunches, President Jim Spivey had planned to read President Ronald Reagan's D-Day speech from that 40th anniversary event Jim refers to in his story. The story to follow was a perfect fit with this, and as President Spivey read it, you could hear a pin drop. The only other sounds were those that come when one is reduced to tears. This will "rip your heart out", but it is stories like this one that need to be told - over and over and over again, so that we REMEMBER THE PRICE OF FREEDOM. My heart-felt thanks goes to Jim Shockly for sharing this story. Please pass this on to everyone you know. It needs to be heard and read.]

7-11-13 - "Greetings: I am sending my dues for '13-'14 and am enclosing a short note -- on June 6, 1984, a large group of 90th Division veterans and their wives made a trip to France for the 40th Anniversary of D-Day. We heard Reagan's wonderful speech at the Beach Ceremony. Afterward, we visited the Cemetery in back of the beaches - it is beautiful! It is a place of respect and awe. At the head of the column in front of us was a tall white column engraved with the names of the soldiers buried there, -- to my great surprise, at the top of the column was the name SGT. VIRGIL TEBBE - 90th Infantry Division, and my thoughts went back to 1944 in the hedgerows of Normandy. It was about July 1st. We were fighting our way to Hill 122, and Sgt. Tebbe was in front of me. There was another Sgt. with him - I think it was Sgt. Akers -- the 'strongest man' in 359/I Co. Through the thin cover of trees and vines was a clearing and a farm house with a stone fence in front. There was a Howitzer firing to the right of us at another group of men from the 359th. The hedgerow in front of us was waist high and both Sgts. climbed over it. Just as they got over, I noticed the noise of the trajectory and the sound ---- **ominous** --- Instead of going to the right front, it seemed to be coming at us!! I ducked down behind the mass of trees & the hedgerow as it hit right on the other side and on the two men who had just climbed over the hedgerow! ----- Smoke and vegetation came down on me as I got up to see the other side. -----

Sgt. Tebbe was calling "MAMA!" very quietly, and Sgt Akers was trying to find his face with his strong right hand ----- his face was gone!!

.....I turned away in horror!! ----- So died 2 of the 359th, Co's

VERY BEST.

James A. Shockley

I CO, 3rd Battalion, 359th Inf. Rgt."

*The Price of Freedom is NOT Free!
The Cost is VERY High.....*

Words written by Darrell D. Petty & Malcom Frasier [358/G] in Germany, 1945 & set to the tune of "The Wabash Cannonball"

From the prairie lands of Texas
To a place called P.O.E*
We took our war maneuvers
With the 90th Infantry
Then we crossed the great Atlantic
To the well known Dough Boys tune
In England we paused and trained
For the Bloody sixth of June
Then we crossed the English Channel
To the beaches of Utah
Through smoke and bullets we went ashore
To beat the Heinies to the draw
Though our casualties were heavy
At the break out at St. Lo
The blood that was shed for the Forts of Mets**
All history books will show
And the Dough Boys well remember
Von Runstead's counter blow
It was in mid December
In the winter's bitter snow
The name of the Ardennes
Brings back memories by-gone
And let us not forget St. With,
Malmady and Bastogne
From the camouflaged positions
Along the Siegfried Line
We crossed the Moselle,
Saar and Ruhr
And the sacred River Rhine
Now machine gun tanks and 88s
No longer wait their ken
Since they've taken Okinawa
And we've occupied Berlin
Now the bloody war is over
And we'll stand at God's right hand
With our earthly life behind us
We will pass the Judgment Stand
And let us hope the Great Commander
Says you've done your job quite well
And let us stay in Heaven
For we've pulled one stretch in Hell

*P.O.E. - Point of Embarkation; **Forts of Mets - the Maginot Line in France never taken in battle in over a thousand years

CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL - IT WILL TELL YOU IF YOUR 2013-2014 DUES ARE PAID OR NOT PAID!!



Remember!!

The 90th operates on a FISCAL year - July 1 - June 30

Current roster: 1880 - 496 PAID..so far - Have YOU paid?



NINETIETH ASSOCIATION

**7-1-2013 - 6-30-2014 Dues & 500 Club Payment Form
REMINDER! DUES ARE \$30! - INT'L: \$40**

Name _____
 [First] [Middle] [Last]
Street Address _____ Unit or Apt. # _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ - _____
Phone () _____ - _____ FAX () _____ - _____ e-mail _____
90th Veteran _____ Unit/Regt _____ BN _____ CO _____ ARCOM _____ RSC _____ RRC _____ RRG _____ SB _____
If 90th Veteran: Married [spouse's name] _____ Widowed _____ 90th Widow _____ Other _____
Relationship to 90th Veteran & Veteran's name _____

The Fiscal year of the 90th Div. Assoc. is from July 1 - June 30 - Dues are due July 1

Dues Payment [\$30] _____
 [For overseas residents only] *International [\$40] _____
500 Club Donation _____
In Memory of _____ Other _____ Memorial _____
 Unit _____ Reg _____ BN _____ CO _____ ARCOM _____ RRC _____ Total _____
Relationship _____

The 90th Div. Assoc. is a 1.501 (c)(19)-I War Veterans Organization - 500 Club SS are tax deductible.

Make checks or money orders payable to: 90th Division Association

**Mail to: James R. Reid, Executive Secretary/Treasurer
17 Lake Shore Drive - Lake Hinsdale Village
Willowbrook, IL 60527-2221**



**PLEASE!
Do NOT
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CHECKS TO
THE FORM!**

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