

# 100th Anniversary

## NINETIETH DIVISION ASSOCIATION



NOTE!! ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

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# FALL 2017



President MG [R] J. Ron Sholar and wife, Linda

**Official web site:**

**www.90thdivisionassociation.org**

## President, MG [R] J. Ron Sholar's Message

### 2017-2018 Officers

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*Secretary*

TBD

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*90th Photographer*

Northfield, MI

COL [R] Arthur C. Meier, II

*Immediate Past President*

Huntsville, AL

Greetings Tough Ombre veterans, soldiers, family members and friends.

I am humbled and honored to have been elected President of the 90th Division Association and know what a rare privilege it is to lead an organization with the history and legacy of this one.

In April 2000, I joined the 90th Regional Support Command as Deputy Commander and later became Commander, not fully appreciating at the time what that would mean for the future. That assignment would become the most memorable of my service, leading to life-long and cherished relationships.

Linda and I spent almost eight years serving with the 90th RSC. During that time, Tough Ombre soldiers were posted in the US and around the world and just as they had done throughout history, they performed magnificently. It was the greatest honor of my career to lead that group of incredible soldiers.

As a result of that assignment, Linda and I also become part of the 90th Division Association. We attended our first reunion in San Antonio in 2001 and were awed by the amazing group of veterans and families who made up the association. We decided early on that we would be Tough Ombres for life and we have remained firm in that commitment attending every reunion since that first one.

The association's 99th annual reunion was held this past July in Ft Worth, TX. Thanks to Rhoda Reid and all who made it a great success. Old acquaintances were renewed and new ones were made. All were moved by being with those in the most honored in our group, our WWII veterans. It was a truly unforgettable time and one treasured by all.

Now, it's with a sense of great anticipation that we look toward the 2018 gathering in the association's centenary year. One hundred unbroken years of meeting together is a simply amazing achievement. Very few military organizations can match such a record of longevity.

The 100th anniversary reunion will be held in San Antonio, TX, a place with which the 90th has deep and historic ties. Camp Travis, a WWI Army post, was situated a few miles from downtown San Antonio and it was here that the 90th Infantry Division, composed mostly of men from Texas and Oklahoma, was born on August 25, 1917.

It is only natural that the birth place of the 90th Division would be selected for the 100th anniversary reunion but historical ties to the region are only one reason to attend. Veterans of all generations will share memories of their time with the 90th. The reunion provides enjoyment and fulfillment that comes from spending time with others who also love the 90th.

And there is San Antonio the city. Nothing says Texas like the Alamo does. Unique food and cultural experiences await attendees. The reunion will be held in the historic and beautiful Menger Hotel. Look for more information on the hotel in this newsletter and book your room now while there is good availability!

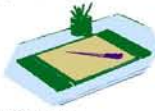
The 100th anniversary reunion will be a very special time in the history of this association. Make plans now to be part of that and you will spend the rest of your life appreciating the fact that you did.

I look forward to serving the association during this historic year and hope to see you in San Antonio.

# 100th Annual Reunion - July 27-29, 2018 - San Antonio, TX

Editor, Rhoda Reid, writes...

Dear 90th Members,



The 2017 99th Annual Reunion is history, and it was a sweet and memorable one. Only 13 WW2 veterans were able to attend. Our numbers keep going down as the years go by. THANK YOU TO THE 13 WHO CAME!!

The focus is now on the 2018 100th Annual Reunion. We encourage you to begin planning NOW to attend. Information for making a room reservation is to the right of this column - do so NOW to ensure you get a good room. Other guests will be registering for their events, so don't lose out on getting a good room because you waited until the last minute to book! You can always cancel later, if needed.

Question: Why is this newsletter only 8 pages and in black/white, no color? ANSWER? Not enough are paying dues, and that's what pays for the newsletter. I have been given "restrictions" for the first time since I began doing this newsletter in 2001!!! That means - no color, limited size, and fewer obituaries - not good! Readers, you, hold the "key" to that changing. Pay dues and contribute to the 500 Club, if you want to see more news and obits included as in the past few years.

Pages 6,7 cover the beautiful 100th year Anniversary Ceremonies of the 90th Infantry Division. Col [R] O. Findley Brewster was a key person in making this celebration so memorable. Thank you, Findley!

PLEASE READ THE NEWS FLASH ITEMS BELOW AND ALSO THE "BENEFACTORS NEEDED" COLUMN TO THE RIGHT. As of this writing, there are still only 301 who have paid dues for 2017-2018. That just is NOT enough to sustain the Association. This is the main reason your newsletter is back to black and white with this issue. There aren't sufficient \$\$ to print in color, or add more pages!!

## NEWS FLASH!



1. The 90th Executive Committee voted at the 2017 Reunion to **INCREASE** Annual dues to **\$40**, beginning with the fiscal year of **July 1, 2018** - More dues payers are desperately needed. Please check your mailing label to see if you pd.
2. 2018 Reunion Registration fee will be **INCREASED** to **\$30**. The Reunions are losing money, but the goal is still to break even.
3. AGAIN, a reminder - PLEASE!! If you no longer intend to pay dues or wish to be removed from receiving newsletters, you need to let **Rhoda Reid** know. Also, if a newsletter is coming to a deceased person, PLEASE let Rhoda know, so the name can be removed. Any address changes also need to be sent to Rhoda. The Association address is on the front page of the newsletter at the top. Here's the "broken record" message again: The Association cannot survive with the current level of people paying dues. So if you want to keep the newsletters coming, you need to pay your dues each year!!! As a reminder, we are on a FISCAL, NOT calendar year: July 1 - June 30

**YOUR 2017-2018 \$30 DUES WERE DUE JULY 1! PAY NOW!!**

# 2018 - 100th ANNUAL REUNION!

## MENGER HOTEL

**JULY 27-29, 2018 - SAN ANTONIO, TX**



**Room Rate is \$130 + 16.75% tax per night -**  
**For Reservations, call 1-800-345-9285**  
**Ask for WW2 90th Infantry Reunion**  
**CALL NOW TO GET THE BEST ROOMS!!**

**The link below will send your group to the**  
**Menger booking engine**  
**with the group information pre-populated.**

**Direct Link:**

**<https://reservations.mengerhotel.com/75799?groupID=1996958>**

## BENEFACTORS NEEDED!

**THE 90TH DIVISION ASSOCIATION NEEDS YOUR FINANCIAL HELP!**  
**WE ARE LOOKING FOR DONORS WHO WOULD BE WILLING TO HELP COVER SOME OF THE COST FOR THE 2018 100TH REUNION, AS THERE WILL BE EXTRA EXPENSES FOR THIS ONCE IN A LIFETIME MEMORABLE EVENT - 100TH ANNUAL REUNION!!**

### SPECIFIC NEEDS:

1. UNDERWRITE THE COST OF NEW LANYARDS - \$500-\$1,000
2. NEW NAME BADGES - OUR SUPPLY IS DEPLETED
3. COST OF PRINTING THE MEAL TICKETS - ABOUT \$500
4. COST OF REUNION PROGRAM BOOK - \$1,200+
5. COST OF BUSES TO TRANSPORT ATTENDEES FROM HOTEL TO FORT SAM HOUSTON AND BACK FOR SPECIAL CEREMONIES

**ANY WHO DONATE TO THESE CAUSES WILL RECEIVE MENTION IN THE 2 NEWSLETTER AND IN THE REUNION PROGRAM BOOK. 90th NEEDS YOU**



**357th** - Kriznik, John, G CO - 10/19/15 -- **Schamberger**, Mike J., D CO - 4/24/17 -- **Wrightman**, Warren [Wighty], B CO, 2nd Plt - 2016 -- **358th** - **Patrilla**, Valmah L., K CO - 12/08/15 -- **359th** - **Minutolo**, Peter P., B CO - 5/08/17 -- Thomas, Lloyd L., G CO - 12/04/15 -- **773TD Bn** - **Brandtler**, Edward - 12/19/16 --



**A** - All WW1 90th Infantry Division Soldiers - by COL[R] Olin Findley Brewster \*\* All 90th WW2 soldiers - by Herbert Reichlin \*\* All 315 Eng. - by Alan D. Twisselman \*\* All 358/E Comrades - by Vern N. Schmidt \*\* All 358/M, 2nd Plt. Comrades - by comrade, Clarence Begole \*\* **Ansardi**, Wallace P., 357/Med - by daughter, Wanda Alcon \*\* **Arivello**, Sgt. Walter J., 357/B, 3Bn, 4th Plt. - by Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Harrod \*\* **B** - **Blank**, Arnold T., 537/AAA - by son, Timothy J. Blank \*\* **Bragg**, Eldridge, 358/L - by son, David B, Bragg \*\* **Bremer**, Ludolf, 359/L - by son, Paul C. Bremer \*\* **Bulger**, Richard A. "Doc", 358/Med Det. - by daughter, Jane C. Bulger \*\* **Burns**, Maj. Robert F., 90th/HQ - by daughter, Marie-Therese Burns \*\* **C** - **Clemens**, Frank R., 357/E 2Bn - by daughter, Patti L. Clemens Peterson \*\* **D** - **Davis**, Clarence, 358/M - by friend, Augie Ciriello \*\* **Dennis**, James, 345/FA Bn - by widow, Carlene Dennis \*\* **Dishman**, Haskell Edward, 315 Field Signal, WW1 - by son-in-law, Henry P. O'Neal \*\* **Dyke**, Clifford, 358/M - by comrade and close friend, Clarence Begole & by friend, Augie Ciriello \*\* **E** - **Engle**, Joseph, 358/Med Det. - by friend, Jane C. Bulger \*\* **F** - **Flowers**, Jim, 712/TK Bn - by friend, MG [R] David R. Bockel \*\* **Ford**, James A., 343/FA Bn - by daughter, Jan Ford \*\* **G** - **Geyer**, Roland, 357&359 - by daughter, Pam K. Geyer \*\* **H** - **Haley**, T/Sgt. William B., 357/B, 3Bn, 4th Plt. - by Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Harrod \*\* **Hall**, Raymond S., 315/Eng. - by daughter, Sue Ann Loesch \*\* **Hamilton**, LTC. Edward S., 357/HQ - by daughter, Diana Hamilton Cowell; & by friends, MG [R] David R. Bockel & MG [R] Ralph O. Doughy \*\* **Hertzog**, LTC Frank A., ARCOM - by widow, Deborah S. Hertzog \*\* **Hertzog**, Frank S., 345/FA Bn - by daughter-in-law, Deborah S. Hertzog \*\* **Hoyt**, Keen, 357/K 3Bn - by comrade in arms, Jack L. Evans \*\* **Hyde**, Marty, ARCOM - by friend, Col [R] Olin Findley Brewster \*\* **K** - **Keller**, J. B., 344/FA Bn - by son, Don Keller \*\* **Kelley**, William [Bill], 90 Signal CO - by daughter, Kandice Kelley Williamson \*\* **L** - **Lehtinen**, Sgt. Wendell E., 357/B, 3Bn, 4th Plt. [KIA France, 1944] - by Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Harrod \*\* **Lippincott, Jr.**, Lt. Wallace, 712/Tk Bn - by Vern N. Schmidt \*\* **Long**, S/Sgt George, 357/HQ. 1Bn - by daughter, Mary Long Staszewski \*\* **M** - **Martens**, Raymond, 359/L - by daughter, Kristen Martens Faller \*\* **Martin**, Alden D., 359/L, 3Bn - by son, Ronald E. Martin \*\* **McGuire, Jr.**, A. W., 357/D - by nephew, James Patrick McGuire \*\* **McKnight**, Lee Roy, 359/I - by Niece, Barbara Wells \*\* **Minutolo**, Peter Paul, 359/B, 1Bn - by widow, Virginia Minutolo \*\* **Monkelien**, James, 358/F, 2Bn - by son & daughter-in-law, Perry A. & Donna J. Monkelien \*\*

**M** - [con't.] - **Munson, Sr.**, Col Merton E., 344/HQ - by son, Merton E. **Munson, Jr.** \*\* **P** - **Pace**, Douglas W., 358/I - by widow, Thelma Annette **Pace** \*\* **Pelletiere, Sr.**, John M., 712/Tk Bn - by son, John M. **Pelletiere, Jr.** \*\* **Poole, Reginald M.**, 359/M - by widow, Elizabeth G. **Poole** \*\* **R** - **Reid, James R.**, Sr., 344/HQ - by widow, Rhoda S. Reid and friend, Frank M. Losito \*\* **Reisner**, Thomas Fred, 315/Med - by son, Ralph F. Reisner \*\* **Richards**, Clyde, 358/D - by son, Norm Richards \*\* **Richter**, Capt. James D., 915/FA Bn - by son, Donald D. Richter \*\* **Robertson**, William J., 359 - by son, Dennis J. Robertson \*\* **Roper**, Robert, 358/E, 2Bn - by comrade, Vern N. Schmidt \*\* **Rutherford**, Joe T., 357/G - by widow, Gerry Rutherford \*\* **S** - **Scharbauer**, Eidson, 358/D - by friend, Norm Richards \*\* **Sherfy**, Kay, 90th/HQ - by son, Dennis Sherfy \*\* **Silbert**, William C., 358/A - by widow, Elsa D. Silbert \*\* **Speese, III**, Andrew J. 357/K, 3Bn [KIA] - by son, Andrew J. Speese \*\* **Staruk**, Walter, 344/FA Bn - by widow, Catherine A. Staruk \*\* **Stenger**, Sylvester "Wes", 357/HQ - by widow, Viola L. Stenger \*\* **T** - **Twisselman**, Donald G., 315/Eng - by son, Alan D. Twisselman \*\* **W** - **Waterstrat**, Cpl. Norman, 357/K, WW1 - by nephew, Richard M. Waterstrat \*\* **Whitty**, Donald T., 537/AAA - by daughter and son-in-law, Donna J. & Perry A. Monkelien \*\* **Wickert**, Harry C., 357/E - by daughter, Wendy K. Wickert \*\* **Wigton, Jr.**, Irving, 358/E, 2Bn - by comrade, Vern N. Schmidt \*\* **Wondra**, John, 3598/A - by son, Michael J. Wondra \*\* **Y** - **Yuhasz**, Julius "Duke", 343/FA Bn - by daughter,

## New Members Added to 90th Roster!

**Infield**, Deana A. - daughter, CSM Roger Dale, RRC  
**Kissell**, Elizabeth W. - niece, Arthur F. Kueker, 357/I  
**McGuire**, James Patrick - nephew, A. W. McGuire, 357/D  
**Parker**, Barbara, 519/M Honorary  
**Sprenger**, Gabriella, ARCOM  
**Weatherly, II**, Robert Lee - son, Major Robert L. Weatherly, Sr. -Unit ?  
**Weatherly**, Chuck - son, Major Robert L. Weatherly, Sr. - Unit ?  
**Weatherly**, Dan - son, Major Robert L. Weatherly, Sr. - Unit ?

## 2017 REUNION DEMOGRAPHICS

**Total Attendance: 192**

**WW2 Veterans: 13** - Barney Baker-773/TD BN; John Day - 358/AT; Tom Ingram - 359/E; Carver McGriff - 357/M,L; Herbert Reichlin - 359/M; Tom Ridlehuber - 358/E, HQ, M; Celestino Rodriguez - 359/K; Vern Schmidt - 358/E; H. Bill Sisk - 915/ FA Bn; Stanley Spillar - 357/Med Det; Milton Staley - 359/L; Burnie Sutter - 358/M; Elmer Ward - 90th/QM

**States Represented: 26 + France [2]; Czech Republic [1]** - AL - 6; AR - 12; AZ - 1; CA - 11; GA - 2; HI - 1; IA - 1; ID - 1; IL - 6; IN - 2; KS - 7; KY - 2; LA - 1; MD - 2; MI - 1; MO - 7; NC - 1; NM - 1; NY - 2; OH - 3; OK - 6; PA - 2; TX - 96; UT - 2; VA - 2; WI - 1

**Units Represented: 315/Eng. - 3; 12th/FA HQ - 1; 343/FA - 6; 344/FA - 8; 345/FA - 1; 357th - 42; 358th - 41; 359th - 23; 773/TD Bn - 1; 519th - 1; 915/FA - 1; 121st RECON - 1; ARCOM - 23; RRC/RSC/RSG/RRG - 29; SB - 3**

12 Although small in number, it was a poignant and memorable Reunion.

# Tough Ombre Tales - News



## WW 2 Tough 'Ombres Letters

**Geuss, Sr., Gerard / 357/G** - "Thank you for doing all this work. I know because I was Sec'y/Treas. for our Legion Post #150. Take care of yourself. I was 92 in June. Still in same house I built in 1952. Worked for IBM for 35 years. Thanks again & God Bless!" [Ed.: Thank YOU, Gerard!]

**Herzberg, Arthur / 359/A** - [edited letter]: "I fell down 2 stairs and broke my hand - had 22 stitches in palm of right hand & 4 pins in knuckles. I couldn't drive, tie my shoes, button my pants, or do anything I've always taken for granted. Now, I about fully recovered and back to normal activities. - I was presented with the French Legion of Honor Medal at the American Legion Hall in Peoria, AZ - I gave a speech about my combat days. Memorial Day, I was surprised by a group from Anthem, AZ, with a brick-laying ceremony. I'm sorry to hear how many veterans have not pd dues. I hope you will be able to continue the wonderful work you & Jim have done over the years, and now you by yourself." [Ed.: thanks, Art! I remember you]



Ed.: sorry pics are so small - no space

**Minutolo, Peter Paul / 359/B 1Bn** - From his widow, Virginia: "Thank you for printing my letter [prior issue]. However, it was a little late for Peter as he passed away on 5/8/17." Sincerely, Virginia Minutolo" [Ed.:She sent his obit, which I wanted to print for readers who knew him. ALAS, not enough space]

**Ropelewski, Alois, / 359/C** - [Ed.: note from Helen Birchall, daughter of Paul Larsen, 359/C]: "I wanted to give you an update on Alois. I received 2 letters from him shortly after I sent my dues. He had fallen at home around his 95th birthday in April. He is currently at the VA Hospital in Erie, PA - not sure if he'll be able to come home. I sent him a get well card & will continue to write to him. Love, Helen" [Ed.: Thank you for your note & information.]

### Family Album Mail

**Bland, Pam, Hon 359D** - "Hope things are going well for you, especially as you swing into the busy season! Have a good summer - we will have to let the reunion go again this year, but hoping for next year's 100th! All the best."

**Bremer, Paul, Hon 359, son** - "Rhoda, Thank you for all that you do for the 90th Division Association! Paul Bremer"

**Cherrick, Lorraine, 359 Hon, daughter, P. Mindis** - "Enclosed are my due. Thank you for all you do to keep the Association intact. I hope you are still missing your beloved husband - a member of the greatest generation. Warm regards, Lorraine" [Ed.: I miss him intensely - every day - the love of my life]



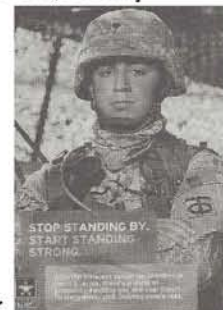
**Cowell, Diana Hamilton, 357/HQ Hon, daughter, LTC Ed Hamilton** - "Thank you for everything you do to support the 90th Assoc. Here is an update on our town's sister city with Periers, Normandy

**Cowell, [con't.]** - Because of reading about Perier's request for a sister city in the 90th newsletters, but getting no response, I decided to ask our town of Bethany Beach, DE if they would like to have a sister. The end result is that our Mayor and city Council approved the plan, and now we celebrate every July 27 as "Periers Day", which is when the 90th liberated Periers in 1944. People come from France each year - this year, Christian & Evelyne Levaufre were with us. I am very proud to have facilitated this connection." [Ed.: Good for you! I am sorry I had to edit and shorten your letter due to space limitations with this newsletter. It is a wonderful story - Thank you !]

**Deuer, John, Hon 315/Eng, son, "Duke"** - "Hey Rhoda! Thanks for all you do! Sincerely, John & Karen P.S. Give 'em hell about the dues! LOL!"

**Jedele, Helen, widow, 357/F** - "Dear friend Rhoda, I plan to send a letter in near future. I hope you are doing OK. You're in my thoughts often. You became a very special friend, and I miss not being able to go to Reunions any more. Have a good time this year. Helen" [Ed.: I miss you too, Helen!]

**Kelley, Patty, widow 90th/Signal William** - "This picture was in the July 2 Arizona Republic newspaper, & I was happy and surprised to see the T/O Patch on his sleeve. I knew I had to share it with you. With T/O pride Patty Kelley" [Ed.: sorry the quality is so poor - don't know if you can even see the T/O patch, because I had to downsize the picture so much - space limitations!]



**Pace, Annette, widow 358/I, Douglas** - "Thank you for all you do for the 90th Div. & keeping members informed. I won't be able to attend the 99th Reunion due to health. So sorry Jim will not be there to help you. I know you miss him as I miss Doug. You are in my prayers." [Thanks!]

**Rutherford, Gerry, widow, 3657/G** - "Rhoda, Thinking of you - have a great summer. My eyes don't do so well anymore. Hugs and prayers, Gerry - PS Enjoyed reading of Hill 122. My husband, J. T., was wounded there"

**Spangler, Margaret, widow, 358/HQ James** - "James & I were born & raised in Beckly, WV. We moved to Cleveland, OH after marriage and raised 2 boys there. Jim had 3 other brothers that were in WW2. All 4 of them had health problems after they got home. Jim made Corporal and was awarded many medals, including the Bronze Star and Silver Star. He was in Normandy on his 18th birthday & was in the war to 11/11/45. He passed away 07/13/2013. He always liked your magazine to see if he could find someone he was in service with. Yours truly, Margaret Spangler"



**Waterstrat, Dick, nephew, Cpl. Norman**

**WW 1, 357/K** - [Ed.: 2 notes from Dick, but room to print only 1] "What a wonderful surprise it was to receive my long-awaited 90th newsletter and learn that you are still continuing the same editorial policies which you & Jim put together many years ago. It's a splendid memorial to the men who answered their country's call by the thousands when they were really needed. I love to read about them and see that they are enjoying a well-deserved retirement. I hope that a way can be found to continue this publication." [Ed.: My sincerest apologies to all readers and letter writers for having to cramp this up so much.. It makes me very sad - you all deserve better. Your notes are priceless!]

2017-2018 Dues were due July 1! Have YOU paid? Send check TODAY + extra for 500 Club





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



Special Report: This page and the next are of the 100 Year ceremonies that took place at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas on August 25.

Left: Color Guard in WW1 uniforms.

Right: Col [R] O. Findley Brewster and Vern Schmidt 90th WW2. Photos by 90th Division Association photographer, Al Twisselman, son, the late WW2 90th soldier Donald G. Twisselman, 315/Eng.



**FORT SAM HOUSTON, TX-**The year is 1917. It's approximately three years after the onset of World War I, also known as the "Great War." Most of the world's economic, great powers are already involved in a taxing warfare in terms of money and loss of lives-both civilian and military. However, on **April 6, 1917**, the U.S. ended its non-intervention policy, and Congress declared war on Germany entering into the Great War after the breach of international law through unrestricted submarine warfare, the publicized Zimmerman Telegram and the sinking of several U.S. merchant ships.

With a small military force, the Selective Service Act allowed the U.S. government to increase its force through manning of the Army. Over 4 million men and women from the U.S. served in the armed forces. Not only did the manning forever change the Army, so did the structure with the inception of divisions. One of those divisions was the 90th Infantry Division.

**Fast forward 100 years.** -- Several Soldiers and civilians gathered **Aug. 25** for Fort Sam Houston's WWI Centennial Ceremony honoring the 90th ID inside the historic Quadrangle here for an outdoor ceremony. As this year marked the national commemoration for the 100th anniversary of U.S. entry into WWI, military bases across the U.S. are celebrating their storied unit's involvement and accomplishments in ceremonies. And, Fort Sam Houston is no different. "I'm so honored to be able to witness this ceremony; it was very humbling and emotional to witness the unfurling of the division's colors," said **Jeanie Travis, daughter of retired Maj. Gen Robert H. Travis, the last commanding general of the 90th ID.** "I grew up respecting the Army because it was a part of my everyday life as a small child. And when I read the history of the division, his [her father's] stories come back to me." For Travis, her father's commitment to the Army and the country has become a major part of her family's heritage. **Travis** said after doing some research she realized that not only was this the 100th anniversary of WWI but this was also the 100th anniversary of the 90th ID.

**Travis** wasn't the only direct connection to the 90th ID. -- "This is exciting and a real honor for me to represent my division," said retired **Master Sgt. Vernon Schmidt**, one of the last surviving members of the 90th ID's WWII veterans who is 91 years old. "Today, there were a lot of good things said about the 90th [during the ceremony], and I'm so proud that I have just a little part of serving in the 90th in combat; it's just a thrill to be here."

During the ceremony after the 90th ID colors were uncased and unfurled, **Schmidt** walked up to the division's colors and placed a streamer on it to signify one of the many achievements held by that unit during WWI. "I feel blessed today; this has been a real neat occasion for me," **said Schmidt**, with red-watery eyes.

The uncasing and commemoration ceremony occurred 100-years to the day that the 90th Division activated at Camp Travis, what is now Fort Sam Houston. Although Fort Sam Houston's inception pre-dates WWI era, Camp Travis was acquired during the war as a mobilization camp for units deploying in support of the war. "The 90th Infantry Division was actually organized here at Camp Travis and was later integrated into Fort Sam Houston after the war, in a way, part of Fort Sam Houston is 100 years old this year," said **Jacqueline Davis**, director of the Fort Sam Houston Museum. "So, and having the commemoration at Fort Sam Houston makes sense because this is the unit's origin." The unit was even given the nickname the "Alamo Division" because of its proximity to San Antonio's historic landmark. However, that wasn't the only nickname the unit received. They were affectionately dubbed "Tough 'Ombres" loosely based on the letters in their unit patch. "The patch has a 'T' and 'O,' which stands for Texas and Oklahoma because majority of the men that formed the division came from those two states. However, over the years, they were dubbed the "Tough 'Ombres," which signified their Hispanic lineage and their revered fighting abilities," **said Davis**.

After the ceremony, all guest were invited to attend the reception inside the Fort Sam Houston Museum. **Davis**, who has been working with the museum for over 25 years, described the special displays at the museum that was erected in honor of the 90th ID's involvement in WWI. "We've had several family members donate to the museum, so [the museum] has several artifacts from the 90th ID WWI Soldiers. I am most excited about the patches worn by the division's Soldiers because of the handiwork it took to create [the patches], which were sewn directly on to the uniform," **said Davis**, as she pointed to the WWI uniform with the 90th patch sewn-on the sleeve.

Although the 90th ID was inactivated, its lineage is carried by the 90th Sustainment Brigade, a reserve unit headquartered in Little Rock, Arkansas. **5**



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



**Editor's note:** All photographs on this and the preceding page are by 90th Division Association Photographer, Alan D. Twisselmann, son of 90th WW2 deceased veteran, Donald G. Twisselmann, 315/ Engineers. A special thank you to Alan for providing these photographs for use in this Newsletter. AI also sent a copy of the official narrative on the previous page.



**Above:** Retired Master Sgt. Vernon Schmidt, a 91-year-old surviving member of the 90th Infantry Division's from WWII, places a streamer on the 90th ID's flag during the Fort Sam Houston's WWI Centennial Ceremony honoring the 90th ID inside the historic Quadrangle at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. The uncasing and commemoration ceremony occurred 100-years to the day that the 90th Division activated at Camp Travis, what is now Fort Sam Houston.

Above: Vern [in red T/O hat] and Vi Schmodt; Col [R] O. Findley & Anne Brewster Brewster.

Vern and Vi Schmidt - beautiful picture!

Below Col [R] O. Findley Brewseter in center of picture - Findley was a key person in putting the 100th year commemoration together.



Vern Schmidt in his red T/O hat!

**Below:** Vern and Vi Schmidt with soldiers wearing WW 1 uniforms in honor of the commemorations.





**CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL - IT WILL TELL YOU IF YOUR 2017-2018 DUES ARE PAID OR NOT PAID!!**



**Remember!!**

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



Current roster: 1159 - ONLY 301 PAID so far for 2017-2018! - DUES WERE DUE JULY 1!



**NINETIETH ASSOCIATION**

**7-1-2017- 6-30-2018 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Dues Payment [\$30] \_\_\_\_\_  
 [For overseas residents only] \*International [\$40] \_\_\_\_\_  
 500 Club Donation \_\_\_\_\_  
 Memorial \_\_\_\_\_

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

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
                                 Unit \_\_\_\_\_ Reg \_\_\_\_\_ BN \_\_\_\_\_ CO \_\_\_\_\_ ARCOM \_\_\_\_\_ RRC \_\_\_\_\_ Total \_\_\_\_\_  
 Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

The 90th Div. Assoc. is a 1.501 (c)(19)-1 War Veterans Organization - 500 Club \$\$ are tax deductible.

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



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

Phone (630) 789-0204 FAX (630) 789-0499 e-mail: reids90thDivisionAssoc@comcast.net

PLEASE!  
Do NOT  
STAPLE YOUR  
CHECKS TO  
THE FORM!

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT THE 2018 REUNION!**

**GOOD NEWS /BAD NEWS! THE 90<sup>TH</sup> RESERVED BLOCK OF ROOMS  
WAS SOLD OUT AFTER THE NEWSLETTER WAS PRINTED.**

**RIGHT NOW, WE CANNOT RESERVE ADDITIONAL ROOMS  
BECAUSE OF A CITY-WIDE CONVENTION THE SAME WEEKEND.  
IF YOU WANT TO COME TO THE REUNION, HERE IS WHAT YOU NEED TO DO:  
CALL **MONIKA VEGA DIRECTLY AT THE MENGER HOTEL: 210-293-3413****

**GIVE HER THE DATES YOU WANT. YOUR NAME WILL BE PUT ON A WAIT LIST – 1ST COME, 1ST SERVED**

**ALSO: WE WERE ABLE TO GET A SMALL NUMBER OF “COZY QUEEN” ROOMS AT THEIR  
SISTER HOTEL, THE CROCKETT, ACROSS THE STREET, AT **\$140+TAX PER NIGHT** –  
AVAILABLE THURSDAY-SATURDAY ONLY – THAT’S 1 QUEEN BED PER ROOM  
IF YOU WANT ONE OF THOSE, MONIKA VEGA WILL MAKE THE RESERVATION.  
THE CUT-OFF DATE FOR THE CROCKETT TO HOLD THE ROOMS: JUNE 25**

**IMPORTANT! IF YOU NEED TO CANCEL YOUR RESERVATION, YOU MUST CALL  
MONIKA AT 210-293-3413, IN ORDER FOR THE 90<sup>TH</sup> TO KEEP THOSE ROOMS FOR THE WAIT LIST!**

**THE BUREAU, WHICH HAS BOOKED HOTEL SPACE FOR THE CONVENTION,  
HAS A CUTOFF DATE OF JUNE 28. IF THEY RELEASE ANY ROOMS AT THE MENGER,  
MONIKA WILL CONTACT THOSE ON THE 90<sup>TH</sup> WAIT LIST.**

**ANY QUESTIONS NEED TO BE DIRECTED TO: RHODA REID  
PLEASE USE THIS EMAIL: [reids90thdivisionassoc@comcast.net](mailto:reids90thdivisionassoc@comcast.net)  
IF YOU CALL 630-789-0204, YOU NEED TO LEAVE A MESSAGE.**