



THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

WORLD WAR II

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WARREN, OHIO

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HOLIDAY SEASON THOUGHT

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Hello, Buddies:

We are off to a good start on what appears to be another good year. Our first issue of the *Thunderbolt* has been sent out, and is a very impressive issue. This paper is a symbol of the hard work and efforts put forth by some of the members of this great Association. You too can take an active part in the growth and success of this your Association. This you can do by trying to obtain new members, and by submitting news for the *Thunderbolt*. No publication can survive without news to print, so we are appealing to you for help. The other big item is new members. I am sure that each of you have the names and addresses of former buddies, and I am sure that by your writing to them and telling them of our great Association we can obtain many new members. If you haven't the time to do letter writing, then send us the names and addresses and we will try writing to them.

We have in our great Association, five Chapters. We have room for many more, also room for more members in the Chapters that we already have. It is very hard to keep the men in these Chapters interested enough to get them to attend each meeting. Remember, fellows, when we served in the War with the 83rd Infantry Division, we were all proud of our Division, and believe me, we had reason to be. Now that we are back home, we should be proud of the mention of the 83rd Infantry Division. Let us show our pride for this great

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By DAVE ROSENBERG—F-331

This is the time of year when all "Thunderbolts" should turn their thoughts to one and all of their former 83rd Division buddies. What greater thrill is there than to hear from your old buddy. A Christmas card may be the very instrument to renew old friendly feelings. A small investment that will yield great dividends will be the seasons greeting card that you send your buddy.

This year make it a "Write Christmas". Write to your buddies. The final weeks of the year often is a stock taking season, it would do well for all to look into retrospect and sum up what each has done to make our organization a stronger and bigger group. It lies within all of us to contribute to its growth, each one of us can be an independent press relations bureau, spreading the word of our national organization and enrolling new members.

The splendid turnout at the 9th Annual Reunion in Philadelphia and the resulting enjoyable time all who attended enjoyed was a huge milestone the past year. The tremendous job performed by our President, Larry Redmond, is reflected in the new high in paid up membership. This accomplishment is matched by the superlative performance of George Cooley, our Secretary-Treasurer, who has created a looked-for news organ, our bi-monthly *Thunderbolt* paper. The masterful performance by our officers deserves praise; all should write to them commending them on their swell job.

CORRESPOND WITH YOUR BUDDY
DO YOUR BIT TODAY — WRITE

**YOUR THUNDERBOLT STAFF
WISHES FOR YOU AND YOURS
THE VERY MERRIEST CHRISTMAS
AND HAPPIEST NEW YEAR**

THUNDERBOLT

Official Publication

83rd Infantry Division Association

THE THUNDERBOLT is written by and for past members of the 83rd Infantry Division, World War II, and is published at 1459 Beechwood St., N. E., Warren, Ohio

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M. Montague, Ralph Neppel.

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Division by being an active member in the 83rd Infantry Division Association, and let us all get to work and try building up this great Association to be one of the biggest and best Associations in the country. With your help, we can do just that.

Remember, fellows, it will be Washington, D. C., for 1956. How about starting to make our Vacation plans now. Let's contact a Buddy and make a date to meet him there. The Washington Chapter of the 83rd Infantry Division Association is hard at work making plans for a bigger and better Reunion. How about showing our appreciation by attending this, our 10th ANNIVERSARY REUNION!

WASHINGTON CHAPTER NEWS

By RUSS HITE—Div. Hq.

At the October meeting of the Washington Chapter a program was outlined for the reunion in August, 1956. Extensive plans are being worked on at the present time in order that the women will have entertainment during those hours when the business meetings are being held.

During the meeting, Mel Staff, 783rd Ord., suggested that the chapter elect a new president as he felt that he should not be in two offices, both local and national, at which time Eugene Trainor, I-329, was elected president. Mel also suggested that Russ Hite, Div. Hq., remain as Secretary-Treasurer, which he did.

The Washington Chapter and their families sincerely wish that the Holidays may bring to all the "Thunderbolts" and their families every happiness, with a full measure of all the good things you desire and deserve.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear George:

Sign me up. Sorry it has taken me so long to get with it. I enjoy the *Thunderbolt* very much; its terrific. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,
Jim McGuffie
Btry C, 324 FA Bn.

* * *

Gentlemen:

I was one of the first members of the Thunderbolt 83rd Infantry Division Association back some nine years ago and sent in my dues for about two years. That was the last I ever heard until reading your announcement in the Legion Magazine regarding Convention.

Would like to hear from some of my old buddies in Co. G 330. Address is P.O. Box 444, Evanston, Illinois.

Very truly yours,
Walter J. Hughes

* * *

Dear George:

Congratulations on your excellent Post-Reunion issue of the *Thunderbolt*. I almost got another hangover just looking at pictures of everybody holding their glasses of Joy Juice.

You may be interested to know that the 1st Division Reunion, held in Chicago one week later than our own, had an attendance of approximately 500 men at their main Convention event. This is about the same that attended our Philadelphia meeting.

This comparison is interesting because the "Big Red I" has been in continuous service since WW I, including WW II and Korean War action. Their Association is rightly considered the "Pappy" of Division Associations. Their illustrative war-time services and peace-time activities have won them well-earned honors and publicity. Incidentally, they estimate that over 200,000 men have worn the "Big Red I" patch. We had about 30,000 during WW II.

George, it is to the everlasting credit of Larry Redmond and yourself that the 83rd Division Association made such great strides last year. Please be assured that your membership is behind you 100% in your drive for "1,000" dues paying members this year. If everybody that paid dues last year, renews and gets only "1" Buddy to sign up, we'll have it made.

Thanks again for your efforts in our behalf.

Cordially yours,
Leo Schneider
331 Inf., 1st BN HQ.
Executive Committee

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is my application for membership in the Association and check for \$4.00.

It was through Paul J. Reed, Jr., (330th Inf.), attorney of Baltimore, Md., that I received a copy of the "Thunderbolt" containing the application form.

If possible, I would like very much to be sent any back numbers of the "Thunderbolt" at my expense.

I was with the 83rd Div. from 1942 to July 1945.

Congratulations on your excellent magazine and worthwhile organization.

Cordially yours,
James J. Kelly
101 Broad Street
Elizabeth, N. J.

BUDDIES IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE

Dear Mr. Cooley:

I am writing you in hopes you can help me. I was with the 1st Battalion Aid Station in the 330th Infantry Regiment and would like to get in touch with a Sgt. Waters or the Doctor in charge of this outfit. This is very important to me for pension purposes. I would appreciate hearing from anybody that was with the aid station, especially between March 1st and 13th, 1944, when I went to the hospital, in regard to the whereabouts of the aid station doctor or Sgt. Waters.

Thanking you very much for any cooperation or help you can give me, I remain,
Very truly yours,

Carl M. Zimanek, 342 McDonald Street,
Oconto, Wisconsin.

CLEVELAND CHAPTER NEWS

By JOE BELOCK—329

The Cleveland Chapter and their families wish to extend their best wishes for a Very Merry Christmas and the Happiest of New Years to all our 83rd buddies and their families.

November is our party month, and all who attended our last affair had their fill of real delicious food prepared by Casey Kawalic, C-322 FA. Casey is one fellow who deserves a pat on the back. He studied meat cutting and selling for many nights while working regular day hours, and now, with the help of his wife, is the proud operator of his own business.

Our annual raffle was again a tremendous success. This effort by our members brought out smiles when the financial report was read at the last meeting.

Bob Grobelny, A-329, wishes to inform his buddies who attended the past reunion and missed seeing him that with his wife and daughter he visited Hub Taylor, A-329,

in Raleigh, N. C., and then motored up to see Mel Magee, A-329, in Richmond, Va.

Here in Cleveland, when we need a haircut we go to see our buddy Al Uridel, C-329, to do the job. Al started the hard way too and is now well established and doing okay.

Bob Uher, A-329, was recently promoted to State Dispatcher at Standard Oil of Ohio. Congratulations, Bob.

R. J. Voracek, Hq-324 FA, who already owns a grocery and meat market has added a catering service to take up any spare time that he may have.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

TO OUR

THUNDERBOLT BUDDIES

FROM

THE PITTSBURGH CHAPTER

WARREN CHAPTER NEWS

By MIKE SKOVAN—Hq-331

The following note was received from the women of the Warren Chapter Auxiliary:

"Hi, Everybody:

"The Women's Auxiliary of the Warren Chapter were eager beavers again on Sunday, November 13. The occasion was a ham dinner which was open to the public. Wish all of you could have been there to partake of the delicious food. These women are pretty good cooks and there were no complaints as to the quantity or quality of the dinner.

"Only one amusing thing happened in the course of the afternoon. It seems that one of our young ladies, who is usually light on her feet, tripped on the stairs with a whole arm full of dishes. Need I say more? Too bad there was no camera near by.

"The following women helped make the affair a huge success: Christine Minotti, Clarabelle Pankovich, Elizabeth Skovan, Mary Ann Cooley, Mildred Kelly.

"The women are planning a spaghetti dinner in the near future and sincerely invite all Thunderbolts and their families. Watch for the place and date in the next *Thunderbolt*. How about it, Pittsburgh and Cleveland?

"Be seeing you, Millie Kelly, Publicity."

The Warren Chapter sends a hearty handshake to all our 83rd buddies and their families across the miles and wishes all of you the Merriest of Christmases and a truly prosperous and happy New Year.

PHILADELPHIA SCRAPPLE

By DAVE ROSENBERG—F-331

On November 11, 1955, the Philadelphia Chapter celebrated Veterans' Day with a "bang-up" social gathering at the Howard McCall American Legion Post Home. This affair was well attended and extremely enjoyable. Walt Sammler, 308 Engr., past president of the chapter officiated and did things up to a turn. The decorations were quite appropriate; the bunting and festive arrangements would do credit to Elsa Maxwell. This Walt of ours is a real gone party thrower. George Kirk, Med-329, magnanimously shared his prize, a quart of mule parings, with one and all. John (Curly) Meyers, A-323, acted as photographer deluxe and snapped many a good picture of the revelers. Ed Paulino, C-322 FA, not to be outdone, donated some fire-water and this added fuel helped one and all to let their hair down. The McGrogans, Mary and Frank, D-330, acted as hostess and host and saw to it that all in attendance mixed and joined in the fun. There were many wives present, and out of the party the seed was planted that will lead to the formation of a ladies' auxiliary group. When awards are made for attendance a special award will be given to Mike Jarmoska, B-908 FA, although Mike lives in far off Reading, Pa., nothing keeps him away. In fact, Mike makes a day of it; he is the first to arrive and last to leave, and often takes a room in a near-by hotel so he can stay late. Such wonderful spirit deserves praise and notice. Frank Kemery, Hq-331, is another hard working Philly Thunderbolt, and is continuing the fine work that he displayed at the past reunion. His good suggestions at each meeting bear fruit and are worth listening to. Joe Zurad, E-329, is another Thunderbolt who willingly "volunteers" his services for the good of our chapter. Joe will play an active part in the second annual banquet and do his usual good job. George Kirk, Med-329, who possesses the enviable record of not missing a single meeting of the Quakertown Chapter, was unanimously voted into office of Secretary of the Philadelphia Chapter. George has no peers when it comes to volunteering his services and has demonstrated his capacity to serve well in the past. We are most proud of our new secretary. Al Boucher, C-308 Med, unofficial "Mess Sergeant" of the chapter, sure can rustle up good grub in a hurry. His ability with a skillet is shown at each meeting and his hot-dogs can't be beat. Of course, Al has to share his plaudits with his son, "Junior", our mascot. Junior serves up the "puppies" that Dad prepares. Speaking of "volunteers", Walt Sammler never fails to pitch in and do his bit for the boys. 'Tis a shame, but some dame is missing the chance of a lifetime in not snaring Phila-

delphia Chapter's most eligible bachelor. Prez Frank McGrogan has "arrived"—in style with a shiny new Oldsmobile. Frank is very proud of his new "bus" and doesn't hesitate a minute to use it as a cab to bring boys to the monthly meetings.

The Greater Philadelphia Chapter of the 83rd Infantry Division Association is launching a campaign to increase its local membership. This is an appeal to all *Thunderbolt* readers to please cooperate. Frank Kemery, Hq-331, is embarking on an energetic program to secure the maximum return and enrollment in the Philadelphia area for the Philadelphia Chapter. Armed with a roster of men who served with the 83rd Division, Frank is sending out a questionnaire to one and all. Please be courteous enough to answer when you receive yours. A self-addressed envelope will be enclosed for your convenience. This is a mammoth task that Frank has undertaken, and it merits your cooperation. We of the Philadelphia Chapter want all in this area to join and partake in all of our activities. Our meetings are most interesting and the more taking part will reflect in the growth of our National organization.

In 1956 the Philadelphia Chapter expects to be the largest group to attend the 10th Annual Reunion in Washington. We want to assist President Larry Redmond and Secretary-Treasurer George Cooley in boosting the national membership to an all-time high.

This gigantic campaign can well be copied by the other chapters. To make our National Association a strong outfit, *Pitch In And Fight!*

The Second Annual Banquet of the Greater Philadelphia Chapter will be held on February 24, 1956. This gala affair will be held at Palumbos Restaurant. The management of this nationally known nite club is going all out to make this affair one that will be well remembered. An outstanding stage show is being especially readied for this event. Famous personalities of the entertainment world will vie to make the night a memorable one. The tariff will be quite reasonable—a charge of only \$5.00 which will cover everything, a full course dinner with a drink, stage show and five hours of continuous music. All "Thunderbolts" from near and far are cordially invited. Make your reservations with Frank McGrogan, 7236 Battersby Street, Philadelphia 29, Pa.

**BEST WISHES FOR A
MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR
FROM
YOUR EXECUTIVE BOARD**



SITE OF 1956 CONVENTION
HOTEL WILLARD
AUGUST 16 - 17 - 18

IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO MAKE PLANS TO
MEET YOUR BUDDY IN WASHINGTON THIS YEAR

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
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CHRISTMAS — 1955

By HARRY LOCKWOOD—329

The leaves have fallen off the trees and frost is in the air;
Evidence of the Holiday season will soon be everywhere.
The birds that travel south each year have gone their merry way,
And, the best part of that is, they have no fare to pay.

They get away from winter's cold, and snow and sleet and ice,
They pick up friends along the way to where the weather's nice,
From West Virginia, Tennessee and, of course, from Caroline,
And from other places down below the Mason-Dixon line.

From California, Minnesota and Indiana, too,
And from many other places, though I've mentioned just a few.
But of course there is one drawback, and this I say with reason,
They miss the pomp and splendor of our Christmas holiday season.

The tinsel and the colored lights, the white icicled trees,
The blanket of new fallen snow piled in drifts by the breeze,
The decorated windows and doorways throughout the town,
The sound of happy laughter as the kids go'round and 'round.

The jingle of the sleigh bells and the skaters on the pond,
The Christmas songs and carols of which we're all so fond,
The presents piled around the tree and, of course, the mistletoe,
The visit with the old folks and all the friends you know.

You yourself can add to this what Christmas means to you,
Your thoughts and your opinions and, of course, your ideas too,
But whichever way your thoughts may lie, remember, as you pray
For peace on earth and good will toward men, that Christ was born again.

And now from the staff of the THUNDERBOLT, their wives and families, too,
A healthy, happy, hearty holiday is extended to all of you.
And along with the true friendship of your buddies of the past
Is a toast for continued fellowship for as long as time will last.

