



# THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

Vol. 22 — No. 1

Sept., Oct., Nov., 1968



# THE THUNDERBOLT

Official Publication  
83rd Infantry Division Association, Inc.

THE THUNDERBOLT is written by and for past members of the 83rd Infantry Division, World War II and is published at 132 Rockwood Drive, Havertown, Pa. 19083.

Editor — Larry Redmond

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**A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS****Who Have Served Us Well**

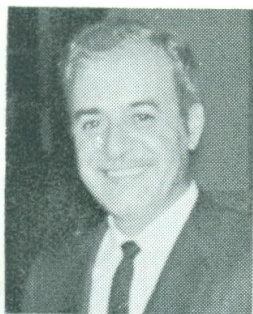
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SAMUEL KLIPPA	1965
WILLIAM M. DOTY	1966
ALBERT A. BELVEDERE	1967

## President's Corner

Vito (Bill) Palazzolo  
Co. G, 329th

Dear Buddies:

First I would like to thank each and every one of you personally, through this issue, for your confidence, in electing me President of the 83rd Infantry Division Association. As you must know, I really didn't know before hand that I was going to be elected to this Honorable Office.



I used to sit at the Banquet each year, and see the installation of Officers, and I would say to myself, "Boy, I sure would like to be up there some day. I sure would like the honor of being President". Now it has materialized. Again I say, "thanks to all of you".

At our meeting of September 15th, the Chapter voted that from now on, we of the Detroit Chapter, will now be known as the Michigan Chapter, inasmuch as that there is only one member in the Chapter that actually lives in Detroit, the balance of the members live throughout Michigan. We would like to honor all of our members from all over the State of Michigan.

We of the Michigan Chapter hope that all of you are making plans to attend the Reunion, to be held in Detroit at the Statler Hotel, August 14, 15 and 16. In the coming issues we will try to give you as much detail of our program as possible. We will welcome any and all suggestions as to what can be done to help make the Reunion better in any way.

I think that special mention is in order to the Greater Philadelphia Chapter for the very fine Reunion they gave us. Also to Al Belvedere, Lou Volpi and the other Philadelphia Chapter men and their wives who worked so hard to make this possible.

I would like to extend a personal thanks to everyone who sent me cards wishing me luck and success in my new role as National President.

A personal note to Pat and Ginny DiGiammerino. Virginia and I wish Ginny a speedy recovery from her unfortunate accident and sincerely hope that we never have such an incident at a Reunion. We sincerely hope to see you both in Detroit in August. Please let us know how you are progressing.

Since this issue will be out sometime in November, on behalf of Virginia, my family and myself, we wish you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving.

Well Buddies, I'll sign off for now, asking you not to forget to send in your dues, if you have not already done so. We could be well on the way to that 1,000 paid up membership with your help.

## Secretary's Report

Hello Buddies:

Now that the Reunion is over and we are all settled down, (this don't mean your Secretary-Treasurer), we can embark on another great year in the history of the 83rd Infantry Division Association. I am mighty proud to say that this looks as if it will be a banner year, as the dues are really pouring in. I sincerely hope that it don't stop, and I am sure that it won't, if each and every one of you



get into the act and send your dues in at once. All I ask you is that you will bear with me, if for any reason you seem to be slow in getting your membership card, you can rest assured that it is only because I am tied up on correspondence. When I arrive home from work almost every day, there is a pile of mail awaiting me. I usually open it and check for dues and also for prospective members. Believe me, I usually answer the prospective members first, because I know only too well that those of you who are already members know of the work entailed and will bear with me.

Now to change the subject for a minute or so, those of you who were fortunate enough to be able to attend this years reunion, I am sure will agree with me that this was a very terrific reunion. Although I am a member of the Greater Philadelphia Chapter, I am speaking as a member of the Association and not just of the Chapter, this was one of the greatest that we have ever had. I know that there are some of you that may be able to find fault with something or another, still on the other hand, if you didn't find fault, I am sure that it would only be because you are a deadhead and don't know

(Continued on page 17)

## Office of the Assn. Chaplain

83rd Infantry Division Assn., Inc.  
162 East Madison Street  
Greencastle, Pennsylvania  
17225

Dear Buddies of our Great  
83rd In. Div. Assn.:

With the low-ebb in patriotism I thought it might be well to relate to you the following. There is no love greater than one's love for his or her country. I hope that what I write is worthwhile and that it might prove a bit inspirational to you.



To understand our American Heritage, we must first understand our beginning.

The United States of America is the oldest Constitutional republic in the world. When it was established there was a king in France, a czar in Russia, and an Imperial Son of Heaven in Peking; yet down the entire course of nearly two hundred years since our Constitutional republic came into being, it has pointed the way for American freedom with principle and dignity.

Our Constitution is a form of limited government—limited by its own structure as a system of checks and balances — limited by the guarantees of Freedom contained in the Bill of Rights.

Our forefathers recognized freedom required a limited government to provide and insure a government instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.

In the latter part of the eighteenth century, most human beings in the world were bogged down in various political systems. These included the feudal system, the monarchical system and dictatorships. In all these systems, life, liberty, property and spiritual welfare were at the mercy of the designated ruler. At this period the American colonies were under the domination of the oppressive government of England. Then on July 4, 1776, there occurred a revolutionary political development in this New World which created the framework for a new civilization: The Declaration of Independence! This new political concept emphasized that freedom was God given, resting upon religious conviction that every individual is a child of God, and, therefore, of supreme worth. Thus, the quality referred to in

(Continued on page 22)

## A Report From Your Executive Board

Comrades, as you are aware all big corporations have an Executive Board and their functions are to see that things run smooth and the corporation's finances are maintained in the black and in order to do this each man on the board has a certain project to control within the corporation. Therefore, following are the duties of the members of the Executive Board for the coming year:

1. (MANUEL C. MARTIN) Reunion committee cooperation, financial report and controls budget etc., program guidance and assistance.
2. (ALFRED H. GRUBER) National Secretary-Treasurers functions. Annual Audit (Financial Report Control) Thunderbolt issues, Correspondence, Bonding of President, Secretary Treasurer and Reunion Chairman, Business procedures.
3. (NORMAN A. CAMPBELL) Chapter Co-ordination National dues from each Chapter member. Chapter reporter (news to Thunderbolt) Build more and strengthen present chapters.
4. (CHARLES ABDINOOR) Publicity on National level and membership increase.
5. (FRANK MC GROGAN) Committee as a whole, assist President in matters of Policy, Guidance etc.

Sincerely yours,  
Frank McGrogan  
Chairman Executive Board

## Past Reunion Chairman

My thanks to everyone who were instrumental in making the 1968 Reunion one of the most fabulous Reunions in the history of the 83rd Infantry Division Association.

It was an honor and pleasure for me to have been able to serve as your Reunion Chairman. With the Greater Philadelphia Chapter being your host Chapter, it was a pleasure to bring a happy week into the lives of our wonderful members. I hope and trust that many more will follow and that we will continue to grow stronger and closer to each other, as time goes on.

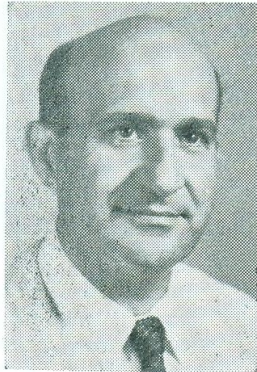
I know that our fine staff of officers for 1968-69 will work hard and sincere to bring us another wonderful Reunion in Detroit.

Good luck and God bless you all. See you in Detroit in August 1969.

# "Philadelphia Reunion The Greatest" Everyone Says "Philly, Your Beautiful"

By Dave Rosenberg  
Co. B & F, 331st

You take three magicians, like Al Belvedere, Lou Volpi and Bill Chavanne, mix them up with their respective wives,

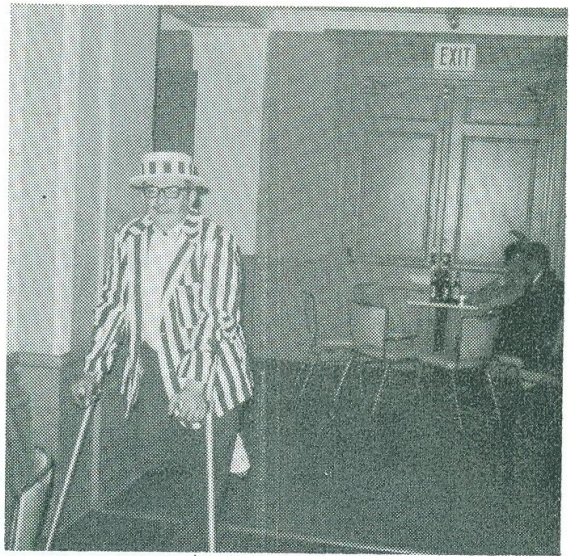


Ann Belvedere, Lucy Volpi and Bea Chavanne, and stir very well with the Greater Philadelphia Chapter, and you get a sure winning combination, and the greatest reunion ever held. When you hear from each and every "Thunderbolt" and their guests, give the host chapter acclamation and praise, you know

that you have had a sure hit. To a man, everyone had nothing but praise for these three magicians, who fashioned a reunion that will live in the memory of all who attended. We doff our hat to these three men and their wives for a reunion that had everything. It was carefully laid out; a schedule that provided pleasure and enjoyment for all. To the men of the Greater Philadelphia Chapter, and their lovely wives, we say "thank you" for a job well done.

More than ever, reunion time means more than a three-day schedule; more than ever the visitors arrived as early as Sunday, eager to meet their buddies and their wives and their children. By Wednesday evening, a vast onslaught of Thunderbolts came flocking in to the Ben Franklin Hotel. And to the early arrivals, the liquid refreshments slaked their parched throats, and soon gaiety and friendliness, good cheer were the passwords of the entire reunion.

On Thursday, August 22, the registration began in earnest. The registration desk, manned by the powerful line of Ann Belvedere, Lucy Volpi, Bea Chavanne, Mary McGrogan, Ann Rosenberg, Mary Redmond and such capable pinch-hitters like Olive Ponzio, Ruth Paulino, Carol Hoolan and Helen Ruginius. This lineup was the most powerful, expediting the registration of members, friends and their guests. This group made you feel at home, with a smile and a joke, provided the atmosphere that made everyone feel at home. Under the great efforts of Bernie Mendlesohn, the visit to the Aquar-



Reunion Chairman Lou Volpi.



Past President Al Belvedere and his wife, Ann.

ama was a smooth operation. "Bookie" Mendlesohn secured the buses, gathered the huge throng, led them to the buses, aided by Les Hauck, they gave our guests that homey treatment that is the Philly chapter's keynote. Bernie did a wonderful job and everyone was pleased and well taken care of. A wonderful job by Bernie.

In every group you must have the few men who can pitch-hit and fill in any situation. We have our hard workers. We call them the pacifiers, Sam Aiello, Frank McGrogan and Nick Taglianetti and Bill Latrenta, were the men moved into any situation Al Belvedere pointed them to occupy. They gave aid and comfort to the Hospitality Room, they shouldered the little gripes that

needed attention and performed their tasks in a splendid manner.

Thursday evening's entertainment was the beer party that topped any beer party ever held. The three magicians secured that fine entertainer, Conrad Parsons, the world's fastest banjo player and the Gaslight Gang, featuring the Flapper, Donna Lee. To secure the correct atmosphere, the beautiful girls of the Philadelphia Chapter, wore gowns as worn in the Roaring Twenties. The men attired themselves in the striped blazers and straw hats that marked the Roaring Twenties. They made a remarkable and colorful picture. The girls of the Philadelphia Chapter were beautiful, stunning, adorable and outstanding. Each and every girl deserves much praise for their efforts to bring the proper atmosphere to a great evening.

Conrad Parsons, the world's fastest banjo player, was more than a banjo player, he was master of ceremonies without a peer. He led the entire audience in song and had the entire audience participate in everything. Our own, Reggie Rugienius stepped up on the stage and played with the Gaslight Gang, playing an instrument that necessitated rare ability, and our boy Reggie outdid himself. There is only one word that describes our Flapper Donna Lee, it is Wow, Wow, Wow. That is what she was as she sang and sang. This petite miss, besides being curvacious and stunning, was a wow of a singer.

The beer party was a huge success. More than 60 cases of beer was exhausted, and believe me, that's a lot of beer. Of course, the powder rooms took a beating. There was more pee calls than three months training at Camp Atterbury. The dancing exhibited by the Thunderbolts and their guests was out of this world. There was a lot of sore dogs the next day. In fact, many of the dancers removed their sandals before the night was over. It was a great party and all who attended gave Conrad Parsons and his gang a rousing ovation at the wonderful night's end.



is not a sentiment - it is an economic necessity. ----- Charles Szemmetz



The wives of the men of Co. H, 329th and Mousie (August Furia) at Philly Reunion. Left to right at bottom, Selma Mollie, Mousie, Helen. Left to right at top, Rose, Martha. The guy holding the Guidon backwards is Heavy Miller.

Friday, August 23, was another beautiful day. Friday dawned bright and early and so registration began early. The great crew of Philly girls, sat at the registration desk and enrolled the many members who flocked in bright and early.

Al Belvedere, National Association President, presided over a very well carefully planned business meeting from 10 to noon. Al kept his cool, and his chairmanship was excellent. Everything was carefully presented and an excellent meeting was held.

The woman folk gathered at a wig and cosmetic show that was held at the Garden Terrace of the hotel. The girls who attended were well rewarded; they learned the fine art of making the men conscious of their charm (as if we had a choice). But all the women said it was a remarkable experience and well worth attending.

At one o'clock a guided tour of the historical sites at Independence Square was very well attended. Independence Square in Philadelphia is the most historical spot in the country. The Liberty Bell ensconced at Independence Hall is the mecca for visitors from all over the world. And the Thunderbolts and their guests thoroughly enjoyed their tour of the birth place of freedom.

The visitors were led by Ed Paulino to the Independence Square. Ed marshalled our guests and was a fine host

to the marchers who made the tour.

More than 400 members and their guests were treated to the greatest extravaganza ever staged by a host chapter on Friday nite. Our magicians provided entertainment that will always live in their memories, as the superb Quaker City String Band performed with an assortment of music, skits and acts that defied all imitation. They were the last word. Attired in costumes depicting Robin Hood and his Merry Bowmen, they brought cheers and admiration from all the spectators. When Little John, Friar Tuck, Robin Hood and a small lad did their mummer strut, the crowd went wild. It was a tremendous evening of entertainment, liquid refreshments were the best, and with no stinting ever. At the conclusion of the entire string band performance, a combo of the finest of the string band personnel provided music until the wee hours of the morn. It was an evening that no one will ever forget. So again we must thank our ma-



Left to right, Ann Belvedere, Lucy Volpi and Mary Redmond.



Two members of the String Band.

gicians, Al Belvedere, Lou Volpi and Bill Chavanne for an evening we all will remember.

Saturday, August 24, also blossomed into a beautiful day. The business meeting was the best ever witnessed by the members. The slate of officers as presented by the executive board was approved and voted into office. The post of executive board member was a contest between two very capable men, Bill Doty and Al Gruber. After a spirited election Al Gruber was voted into office.

A gigantic memorial parade was held from the front of the hotel to the memorial square a distance of about seven blocks. Our parade marshall Joe Ponzio formed the men into a column of fours, and led by the police and firemen's band, away we marched. More than 200 men made the march. A firing squad of 10 Marines also paraded with our group and an impressive service was held with Larry Redmond officiating.

And then came our gala 83rd annual banquet beginning at 6:30 p.m. It was a complete sellout, with more than 650 members and guests attending. The hotel management went all out to provide a wonderful banquet. The food was excellent and enjoyed by all. The speeches after the dinner was held to a minimum and handled very well under the reins of Larry Redmond as toastmaster.

And then came the tremendous music of Charley Dee. They were the greatest. A master of ceremonies handled the introduction of songs; he sang, he cavorted



The Men of Co. H, 329 at Philly Reunion  
Front row right to left, Heavy Miller, Francis Beerhalter, Don Marconi. Center row, (Dutch) Ernest Smith, (Mousie) August Faria, Ken Seiger. Back row, Ed Cox, Art Federici.



and made everyone participate. The music played until the wee hours and everyone stayed til the end. Waltzes, polaks, cha chas, you name it, the band played on and on. It was a tremendous climax to surely the best of reunions ever held. Again we must thank those three magicians who fashioned a reunion that everyone agreed that was the greatest. So to Al Belvedere, Lou Volpi, and Bill Chavanne we tip our hat and say an excellent job. We thank you, and your lovely wives who also did a magnificent job.

Sunday morning we stayed at the exit of the hotel saying our goodbyes, and acknowledging the compliments paid by the visitors who all repeated the Philly Chapter gave us a reunion we will always remember.

We know that the Detroit Chapter will also give us a fine reunion in 1969, so make your plans to attend the Detroit reunion; we know that it too will be great. You all come.



Left to right: Clyde Moad and Bernie Mendlesohn, of the 308th Engineers, who met for the first time since Germany.

#### REUNION MEMORIES

Truly one of the moments will live with us is the moment that Ruth Paulino cried as she danced when the huge crowd gave Ed and Ruth Paulino an ovation for coming all the way from California for the reunion. We spent four days with the Paulinos and it was like old times. The Paulinos, the McGrogans and the Rosenbergs.

It was also a thrill to meet up with my old buddy Dom "Beach Head" Salierno and his lovely captivating wife Annette. After 22 years, Dom has changed but little. He has prospered, he has two handsome sons, both attending college. As "Beach Head" related the experiences we both underwent, the years apart disappeared, and it was just like our lives were being unfolded before us. Thanks to my dear wife Ann I know that the Saliernos were made to feel at home and will join us in many more reunions.

Also seated at our table on Friday was our old buddy, Charley Potzer. He came to the reunion with many pictures and write ups. We had a real bull session. It was good to see Charley again.

Most times I can control my dear wife Ann, but when it comes to reunions, she is the most. Her ready wit, her stories and jokes, her whistle that marks her apart from everyone else. Well ask the folks who witnessed her dancing with Col. Bill White, her bandering with Manny Martin, had everyone laughing the entire four days.



L. to r.—Larry Redmond, Mary Redmond and Frank McGrogan.



Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Nepple and their two children.

Into each reunion a little pathos sometimes fall. One of our favorites, and surely the favorite of everyone, Ginny DiGammerino spilled onto the dance floor and suffered a dislocated hip. This put a pall on our reunion. We do hope that Ginny will soon be on her way back home and entirely well.

This reunion was a huge success, and as we look back we realize the hard work that those three magicians, Al Belvedere, Lou Volpi and Bill Chavanne and their wives performed. I know how hard they labored. I know the many long hours they devoted in scheduling the program, and so to them we again repeat many, many thanx fo ra job well done.

A reunion is a wonderful thing. It gives one a chance to meet old friends, meet new ones and an opportunity to hold the grand bull sessions that brings old experiences to the fore. For yours truly, it meant meeting with the boys of Co. B 331st, the Palms, Buz and Carrie Palm are without a doubt the salt of this earth. They told us of their fine son, who now attends college (we remember when he came with his parents as a little boy), the Bernards, another fine couple, John Guzik, our perennial bachelor; it was great to see them again.

We were especially pleased to see Louise Latrenta having a grand time. Bill and Louise favored us by joining our table, and a better pair, we sure could not ask for. Have you ever tried to match Bill Hoolan with drink for drink? Don't do it. He has a hollow leg, and was sober as a judge through it all. Speaking about mixers, Frank



Joe and Helen Petrucci and their family. Al and Ann Tartaglia and their family at the Banquet Reunion.



Ralph Neppel (C.M.H.) and children. Rear—Ted Gleba.

McGrogan is the best. He wandered from table to table, greeting old friends, making the new arrivals feel at home. June and Joe Zens had themselves a ball at this reunion, meeting up with old acquaintances and making many more new ones. The Zens never grow old. The Piscatelli's were here and they too were enjoying the fun. Josie Piscatelli was as always smartly dressed and a pleasure to behold. The lucky ticket holders who garnered the many prizes that Bea Chavanne obtained were very pleased. We can't give Bea Chavanne too much praise for her many endeavors to make this reunion a success. She worked very hard for many months prior to the reunion, and she labored at the reunion to make things work out to perfection. I feel that her reward was the many fine compliments that fell to the Philadelphia Chapter. I do hope Bea Chavanne found a little time to enjoy the reunion because she worked real hard to give us all a fine time.

We were very, very pleased that Tony Addezzini and his charming wife Aksha were able to attend the reunion. Tony is a great 83rd man, and although beset with his business cares, was able to join us. I do know we were pleased he made it, and future reunions will be on their schedule for the future. We were also pleased to see that Bill and Lillian Murray also were among the Philly Chapter contingent. Lillian Murray, a most charming person, makes everyone feel at home. Bill Murray always was a worker for the Philly Chapter and we look forward to seeing both Bill and Lill with us in the future. Just a reminder to all, we are most thankful to Les Hauck for his pitching in with Nick Taglianetti at the door. They did a fine job.



A. A. Rugienius taking part in the Roaring Twenties party on Thursday night.



Mrs. Theodore and her Boston friends.

### The Governor's Suite

The Ben Franklin Hotel went all out to make our stay at the reunion a wonderful one. To our National President Al Belvedere, and our reunion chairman Lou Volpi they tendered the "Governor's Suite". A gigantic 4-bedroom and accompanying parlors that were large and roomy, that made a swell Philadelphia Chapter room.

When Lou "Ironside" Volpi pulled up to the hotel and asked for the "Governor's Suite" the bell boys thought that Lou was Governor Volpe of Massachusetts. Lo, you ought to see how they waited on him. One would think he was royalty. Lou Volpi was a bit downhearted when he approached the reunion date and was saddled with a wheel chair. But wheel chair or crutches, you could not keep him down. He pitched in. Made sure that all was in readiness for the reunion. In fact praise cannot be showered too much on to Al Belvedere, Lou Volpi and Bill Chavanne for their efforts to effect the greatest reunion ever held. These three magicians together

with their respective wives, labored hard for many, many months to perform the miracle they caused. A national reunion never is an easy thing to happen. There is so much work to do, so much scheduling to work out, so many people to see, so much detailing to do. Our team the three magicians, did their work well.

To The President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

From the men of the 83rd Infantry Division Association, World War II assembled at their 22nd Annual Reunion at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel, Philadelphia, Pa. by resolution duly adopted, your authority as our commander-in-chief of the armed force is approved, and we extend to you all support and wish you success. We request that you as President and commander-in-chief of the armed forces of the U.S.A. immediately take all action necessary to bring the war in Viet Nam to a successful conclusion, using any and all means available. Very truly

Lawrence J. Redmond, Sec.-Treas.  
83rd Inf. Div. Assn. Inc. W.W. II  
Havertown, Pa. 19083

\* \* \* \*

To General Dwight D. Eisenhower  
Walter Reed General Hospital  
Washington, D.C.

The members of the 83rd Infantry Division Association, World War II who served in the five major campaigns from Normandy to the Rhine, under your command, wishes to extend to you our best wishes for a speedy recovery. This Association just held its 22nd Annual Reunion in Philadelphia, and we're sorry that due to your condition, we were not able to extend a cordial invitation to you to attend it with us. Yours truly

Lawrence J. Redmond, Sec.-Treas.  
83rd Inf. Div. Assn. Inc. W.W. II  
132 Rockwood Drive  
Havertown, Pa. 19083

\* \* \* \*

This telegram was sent to Ginny DiGiammerino, who was injured at the Philadelphia Reunion. Ginny recovered enough from this incident to be able to be moved to her home.

Mrs. Ginny DiGiammerino  
Jefferson Hospital  
Philadelphia, Pa.

We the members of the 83rd Infantry Division Association and our wives wish to extend to you and your husband, congratulations on your 26th wedding anniversary. We also wish to extend our regrets that you were unable to attend the 22nd Annual Banquet of our Association, and wish you a very speedy recovery.

Lawrence J. Redmond, Sec.-Treas.

## Past President's Corner

At the risk of being repetitious, I and the Past Convention Chairman, Lou Volpi would like to thank all the Chapters for the wonderful support they gave us throughout the past year.



Thanks to the Philadelphia Chapter and their wives for the help they extended in making the Reunion a successful one. Our books show that the Reunion was a financial success, but we are not able to complete our Report

because we have a few checks still floating around. We hope to have a complete report ready within the next week or so.

After completing an enjoyable term in office, we think we came up with some good ideas which will make the future reunions a little easier. We will forward them to the Detroit Chapter for their consideration.

I would like to congratulate Vito Palazzola, the new National President and wish him luck and success for the coming year.

I hope the DiGiammerino's are settled at home and that Ginny will recuperate with a minimum amount of discomfort. We of the Philadelphia Chapter are certainly sorry she had to have her accident. Lots of luck, Ginny.

The City of Philadelphia was certainly impressed with our organization's parade. I have received quite a few letters, congratulating us on staying together since the war. Many outfits have tried this and have not been successful. I think we should all be proud of this and do our utmost to continue having reunions, even when we need CANES.

It was memorial experience, serving you as National President last year. I know that the Detroit Chapter under the leadership of Vito Palazzola will arrange our next reunion with the same enthusiasm as we did, so let's all make it a date to see each other again in their wonderful city.

Albert A. Belvedere  
Co. K - 331st Infantry

**PLEASE PAY  
YOUR DUES**

## Cleveland Chapter

Casey Szubski

Congratulations to the Philly Chapter on a fine Reunion, one that I am sure was enjoyed by all.



Casey Kowalec and I were most pleased to see our old Buddies from Battery "C", 322nd F.A. Tony Adelizzi, Ed Sandkuhl, Earl "Porky" Geissler, Ed Paulino and Jerome R. Zing. It was a pleasure seeing Ed's wife, Rose and meeting Tony's wife, Achshen, Porky's wife, Marge and Jerry's wife, Ruth.

I'm telling you, we'll be talking about the things we did for a long time. Needless to say, Chuck and Mary Shilanik and Chuck and Sophie Schlick were in the group, wonderful people all. These are the things that make one look forward to the next one.

Also in attendance at the Reunion from the Cleveland Chapter were Walt and Mary Meczka, Bill and Alma Herhuth, Bob and Bernice Grobelny.

I am sorry to report that Al Uridel's brother and Casey Kowalec's brother passed away since our last report. Our sympathy to both families.

We have been working a heavy schedule and Bill, John Evans and I haven't been able to attend our monthly meetings the way we would like to. We are making a drive to increase our membership, but I don't know how the response is at this time. We are also well on the way with our yearly SPIRITS DRAWING.

We missed our Post Reunion get together with the Warren Chapter at Pine Lake, but I'm hoping that by the time they have their Annual Dinner Dance, we will have eased off at work and we can make the scene.

I'm sure that our many friends, who showed such concern when my wife, Eleanore had her wallet stolen, will be happy to hear that we recovered the wallet in the mail, and apparently the credit cards were not used. Alls well that ends well.

Time is running out on the report deadline, so I'll close with fond memories of yet another fine Reunion, well done.

## Greater Pittsburgh Chapter News

August 27, 1968

Dear Buddies,

Well here we are with another reunion behind us, and I am sure those in attendance in Philly had a wonderful time.



The memorial service, one of our reunion highlights always, was one of the largest I have ever witnessed. Many thanks are in order to Bernie Mendolshen, 308th Engineers, and his committee. Also the entire Philly Chapter is to be commended for the fine reunion that was put on for the members, their

wives and children.

The Pittsburgh Chapter was very well represented as having 21 regular members in attendance, however, we surely missed Sam Klippa, Co. D, 331st. Inf. and Hank Golembeski, Co. F. 329th. Inf., as on the recommendations of their doctors advice, were told not to make the trip. Both of these fine men have been ailing the most part of this year, and we certainly wish them a speedy recovery.

Congratulations from the Pittsburgh Chapter go to Al Gruber, Co. M, 331st. In., on his recent election to the General Executive Board. We here in Pittsburgh are very confident that Al will do a fine job.

Some of the recent happenings in the last few months, were that a Chapter picnic was held on Sunday, June 30, at the Adam Hassick property, in West Newton, Pa. There were about 80 people, including wives, and children in attendance, and food was prepared by a local caterer. The day was beautiful and a grand time was had by all. Our thanks go to Adam and Mary Hassick, 308th Engrs., for their kind generosity.

News came in to us, that Gene Costanzo, returning home from the Spring dance held in Monessen, Pa., late in April, had to misfortune of being involved in an auto accident, that left his automobile with a damage of \$887, however, we were grateful that he and his wonderful wife, Yolanda, escaped serious injury.

Gertie Blasko, lovely wife of Steve Blasko, 783 Ord., and presently secretary of Pittsburgh Chapter was recently hospitalized and now is recuperating splendidly at home. Also was glad to see Margaret Rupercpt out of the hospital

and recuperating. Incidentally, Margaret was at the reunion with John, and looked real good.

Sorry to hear that Rita Dietrich, wife of Paul will soon be entering the hospital, and we all wish her well.

Joe Setticase, Co. D, 331st. Inf., one of our more active members is slowly recuperating, after a recent heart seizure.

Yolanda Costanza recently won a mixed couple bowling tournament award in Buffalo, N.Y., by bowling a single game high of 217, and a three game set of 575. We, in Pittsburgh, congratulate her and are amazed at the way this small miss, (96 lbs.), can throw a 15 lb. ball.

John Marek, Anti-tank Co., 330th, viisted with Harold Fisher, same company now living in Botkins, Ohio. Marek's son, Johnny III, became engaged to Debra Lee Hatton on May 22n, and on May 23, John's daughter Pauline, who attended many reunions as a little girl, once again had another addition to her family, with the birth of a healthy baby girl. The boys from the Pittsburgh area, send their best wishes to both of John's children and their families.

On July 20, Francine Thompson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Greer Thompson (Div. Arty.), was married to Lt. Pete McNamee, and we wish this wonderful couple health and happiness.

Francis Beerhalter, Co. H, 329th. Inf., recently elected commander of V.F.W. Post 258, Pittsburgh, Pa., and we wish Franny good luck in his new assignment.

At our July meeting, we welcomed a new member, Steve Hajdu (Div. Arty.), and we hope to see more of Steve in our coming months.

It is also good to see Ezio (Smokey) Alicandri, attending the meetings, as we miss him during the winter season for Smokey is an avid skier.

Some of our recent attendance Jack Pot winners have been Gene Costanza, \$17.25, Sam Klippa, \$10.25. Our meetings are held the first Sunday of each month, at the Brentwood V.F.W. Post on Route 51, and we urge anyone in the area to join the Chapter and foremost we are always looking for new members to join our 83rd Inf. Association, so we can soon reach that 1,000 member mark, that our late National Secretary-Treasurer, Harry Lockwood, always strived for.

So, in closing, may I wish you all the best and a year will roll by fast and once again we will all enjoy ourselves in Detroit.

Your Pittsburgh Reporter  
Charlie Altomari

## "Reunion 23" News

On behalf of all the members of the Detroit Chapter—nay—on behalf of all Thunderbolts from the State of Michigan, the Water Wonderland, I extend to the Philadelphia Chapter, a resounding "Thank You" for making Reunion 22 the greatest.

"Better It". This was the first command issued to me by our National President, Mr. Palazzolo, and in the traditional competitive spirit, your hosts for Reunion 23 will endeavor to do just that.

Beginning, being the best place to begin; let's begin with your Headquarters in 1969. The Statler Hilton is located in the heart of the Motor City, within walking distance of many fine restaurants, shops, and churches. Access to the hotel is provided for in a series of free-ways, all of which literally converge at the main entrance of the hotel.

The hotel has launched a vast remodeling program affecting most of the 200-300 outside rooms and function rooms reserved for our association and scheduled for completion in time for our reunion. Yet, despite these improvements, your rates remain moderate, ranging from about \$12 to \$18, including **Free Parking** for guests registered at the Statler.

Continuing, a three-day program has been outlined and we anticipate we can present a good solid three-day schedule in our next report. That portion of the program dealing with entertainment, however, has been discussed, but briefly. Although there are many acts, groups, and combos available, we are not certain what we can offer to entertain you in 1969. We make this statement guardedly because the Mummers String Band and the Mummers Strut will be difficult to compete with and surpass. Rest assured we will do all possible to equal it at least.

This is our progress report to date, and perhaps this should be the time to say "See you in the next issue." How-

ever, if I may editorialize, we in Detroit feel that before Reunion 23 can be successful, we should go directly to one essential ingredient, the members. Granted, the Executive Board establishes the guidelines—implemented by the Reunion Staff, to plan and prepare reunions; but, it remains for the entire membership to participate and ultimately to attend, to insure success for the Association and enjoyment for ourselves.

It is easy for all of us to be Monday quarterbacks, and point out inconveniences encountered Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The mistake often made is that these shortcomings are packed along with our belongings, to be taken home, laundered, and put away, while the Host City for your next reunion is often ignorant of the criticism, most beneficial and important to improve succeeding reunions.

Begin now. How? By taking an active part in planning your reunion. If past reunions have failed you in any way, where did they fail? How did they fail? What steps should we take to prevent these failures? What, do you believe, should be included on your program? Why? What pleased you the most in previous reunions? What displeased you the most? Feed back, that is what Detroit is after. List your criticisms, suggestions, remedies, new ideas; send them to M. E. Muoio, 6217 Jonathon, Dearborn, Mich. 48126.

Armed with this information, the Reunion Staff can catalog the debits and the credits, and concentrate on a program geared to making Reunion 23 successful, economical, and enjoyable to all.

Mr. Redmond has indicated as his goal, 1,000 paid members. I should like to expand on this objective—let's make it 1,000 paid members in 69, 1,000 plus registrants in 69, and 1,000 plus suggestions for your Reunion Chairman now.

Yours for a **Dynamic Reunion** in **Dynamic Detroit**.

M. E. Muoio  
Reunion Chairman

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## ATTENTION ALL MEN

**Look at the expiration date on your Membership Card —**

**If it does not read Aug. 1969 your dues for this year are due.**

**We would appreciate if you would send it in as soon as possible.**

**Send your remittance to Larry Redmond, Secretary-Treasurer,  
132 Rockwood Drive, Havertown, Pa. 19083.**

## A Woman's Eyeview Of The Reunion

Warren, Ohio  
Lovely women, beautiful clothes, elaborate hairdo's, handsome, well-groomed men. What more would you want!

The Warren Chapter salutes the Philadelphia Chapter for a gay and lively Roaring Twenties Party. The orchestra was really swinging and the girl singer was wonderful. As for the costumes worn by the Philadelphia Chapter, they were very authentic. If we had known of this party, we could have brought our apparel along with us. As I am sure quite a few others would have done. Why not have everybody join in the fun?

Our thanks to the Pittsburg Chapter for the hospitality shown to us. Millie and Al Gruber made everyone feel at home. Gene Costanza also was a perfect host. Charlie Altomari made sure no one went away hungry. The Italian food he brought made everyone's palate tingle. We met Margaret for the first time and we hope to see her in Detroit.

Glad to see Ralph and Tony and Mike and Kay. Missed you for a few years! Kate and Loyal Pangle were taking pictures like mad. Hope you snapped some real good ones.

The "Sing-a-Long" in Philadelphia Chapter was the beginning of the festivities. Everyone was in good voice that night. Still have the song book.

Sorry to see Lou Volpi in a wheel chair, but he didn't let any grass grow under his feet.

Missed Ted Hodum at the door greeting everyone, but we caught up with him at the Knight Cap. He was lifting a few.

Warren Chapter had their room open Friday and Saturday evenings. Poor Richard's room sure was a poor looking room. The management hadn't cleaned it after the teenagers had their affairs in it. But we had a good time anyway. Dick Kelly, Babe Gautschi, Don Schwartz and John Teringo were in charge of refreshments. They made sure that no one had an empty plate or glass. You did a good job fellows! Elmer and Faye Titus were welcome guests of our Chapter. Hope you can make a few more of them.

Charlie and Mary Schelanik and Charlie Shlick and wife were seen viewing the parade (what's the matter, Charlie, too old to march). Only kidding as I was viewing too.

Too bad one of our senior members was too pooped to make the after-hours

parties. Can't take it like he used to.

Young Joe Minotti was just in from Venezula and was welcomed by all his Warren friends. He was not at a loss for lovely young girls to dance with.

What did you do with all that booze you won, Eleanor?

Missed seeing the gentleman portraying Benjamin Franklin. He was the first one I looked for.

I could write more but have to save room for someone else in the Thunderbolt.

Just received another news item:

Joe Minotti's Cafe 83 was held up at 2:45 in the afternoon and the gunmen got \$6,000. I told you we had lots of excitement in Warren.

Charlie Altomari and wife Jo and friends paid us a visit last Sunday. We were very happy to see them. Anytime you are in Warren give us a call. Joe Minotti made a run over here to see them. We welcome all of you.

Hope you all enjoyed the Reunion and went home with some pleasant memories. So long for now.

Millie Kelly



**PLEASE  
PAY  
YOUR  
DUES  
NOW!!!**

## Chicago Chapter

William M. Doty  
Reporter

There is very little to report on the activities of the Chicago Chapter for this issue since our first meeting after the Reunion will not take place until Oct. 23, which is some time after this issue goes to press. Back in June, we had a cook-out at Jim Burton's, just before we moved to Indianapolis (and deserted us). It was a beautiful day, and everyone had a lot of fun playing baseball, pool and ping-pong, and of course,



partaking of lots of good food and drinks.

We had our election of officers for 1968-69 at our July meeting. Our new officers are: Henry Kukulski, President; Herman Koeneman, Vice-President and Treasurer; Harold Dopp, Secretary; Bill Bogacz, Chaplain.

Your reporter and several members of our Chapter were on hand at the Reunion in Philadelphia. All of us feel that Al Belvedere and Lou Volpi should be especially congratuated for giving us a very fine time while there. Of course, our thanks also to all of the Philadelphia Chapter who worked so hard to make sure we enjoyed ourselves. We, from Chicago, can appreciate the hard work that goes into putting a reunion together, having just recovered from the 1967 reunion.

For me, personally, it was one of the most pleasant reunions I have ever attended—not only because of the marvelous entertainment provided—but because, for the first time in over 20 years, I had the opportunity of renewing my friendship with John Piscatelli (Philadelphia). It was wonderful being able to spend a good deal of time with my old buddy, and look forward to seeing John in Detroit next year.

We returned home from the Reunion in time to be present for the Democratic National Convention. No doubt all of you saw and read the reports regarding the convention, the alleged brutality of the Chicago Police, and the commendations received by the Mayor of Chicago for the action which he took at the time. Of course, we know these things happen at all times, not only in Chicago, but all over the country. I would just like to

state, as a closing remark, that it certainly gives a person reason to think about how this country, which we fought for and which for years has stood as the outstanding example of a free country for all freedom loving people, should find itself in a position where one of the national political parties (and in this case both of them) holds its convention for the selection of men for the office of the Presidency and finds it necessary to call the armed forces to protect the delegates to such a convention. Something must be done to support the men in Congress, regardless of political affiliation, who are working for the passage of laws for law and order and gun registration, which might have some effect in deterring this outrageous conduct on the part of so many of our supposedly "good" citizens. Have you done your part in supporting these men? IF NOT, WHY NOT?



**HURRY**

**Make Your**

**Plans**

**For**

**The**

**Detroit**

**Reunion**

**In 1969**

**Now**



## Secretary's Report

(Continued from page 4)

what a good time is or should be. I think that the members of the Greater Philadelphia Chapter and their wives who worked so hard to try to make this Reunion a grand time, deserve a well earned word of praise from all of us. Believe me, I have attended a good many reunions and have enjoyed myself at all of them, so to me, every Reunion is great, but, although this is the third time that the Greater Philadelphia Chapter has conducted a reunion, I am afraid that I do sort of have to lean to them. I would like to personally congratulate our Past President Al Belvedere, our Past Reunion Chairman, Lou Volpi and the Greater Philadelphia Bill Chavanne for a great job well done. The job done by these men could not have reached its full accomplishment were it not for the help that they received from the other Greater Philadelphia Chapter men and also the assistance given by our very wonderful wives, who are more dedicated to the 83rd Infantry Division Association than some of the men who served with us. Having seen the hard work done by the wives at reunions over the year, and seeing the real true dedication shown by these women, I am more sure that this Association should reconsider and activate a womens auxiliary. I am sure that were it not for some of these wives, their husbands would never attend a reunion. I know only too well that I myself feel like a real true dedicated 83rd man, but were it not for the push that I get from my wife, I would be like many more of you, sitting in the sidelines.

I am happy to report that at the Reunion this year we had about 400 members who paid their dues. This really gets us off to a good start. Along with this I had almost 100 paid up members prior to reunion. At the present time we are just short of the 500 paid up members. You may be one of the unpaid. If so, please mail me a check or money order today and be sure to en-

close your name and address as well as your unit, so that I can credit it to the proper unit.

Well Buddies, this being the start of a new year in the history of our Association, I appeal to each and evryone of you to get behind the Association and do your part to help make it grow, and continue to be strong and continue to be the envy of all Veterans Organizations. I only wish that you were in the same position as I am, receiving letters from other organizations, asking questions as to how we are able to stay so strong, and continue to grow like we do. I also receive a lot of mail inquiring about the publicity that we get. To those of you who are inactive members of this Association, you have to to but meet the man responsible for this, none other than the real "Mr. 83rd", Victor E. Landis, Co. F, 329th Infantry. Vic has gotten over a million dollars worth of publicity, with no expense to the Association except to replace the postage stamps that he uses. I sincerely hope that each and evryone of you at some time or another have the honor and privilege of meeting in person the man who in my opinion is the most responsible at the present time for the success of this Association.

I could go on and on and on. Believe me, I am sure that there is no man in this Association who wants any more than I do to see this Association grow. As a closing remark, I would like to ask all of you to get on the bandwagon, and take an active part in the Association and make an earnest effort to help obtain membership, even if it is only your own. If you wish to be a real Buddy and enroll a former Buddy of yours, send his name and address and we will take care of it. I am sure that al lof you have some particular Buddy that you think enough of to present him with a paid up membership.

Start planning now for Detroit in 1969.

Yours truly,  
Larry Redmond  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Co. H, 330th

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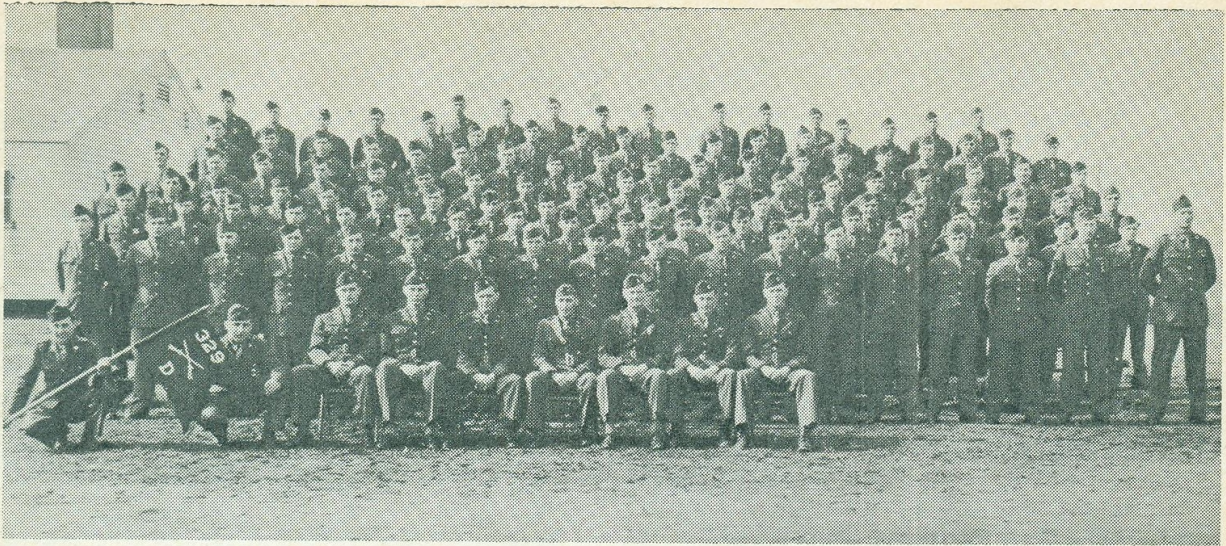


Photo of Co. D, 329th.

Anyone wishing copies, contact Ezio Alicandri, 441 Parker Street, Pittsburgh, Pa.

## Co. G 331 Reports

By Lee Titus

The 1968 Reunion is now past history and after three or four weeks of rest most of us are ready and eagerly looking forward to Detroit in "69".

As usual Co. G was well represented. For those of you who were unable to attend, you missed seeing the following people:

John and Olga Teringo, Loyal and Kate Pangle, Joe and Angie Phillipone, Ed and Dot Walsh, Babe and Theresa Gautschi, Ralph and Toni Guarneiri, Mike and Kay Mizerock, Lee and Birdie Titus, Bob Piette, Gene Costanzo, Don Schwartz, Al Suess, Elmer Mace, Mort Gaynor, Bill Bogacz and Harold Ladley.

Most of us arrived at the Reunion on Wednesday and started off in good style at Co. G "cold beer" headquarters "The Knight Cap" Tavern near the hotel and later joined a big party in the Lou Volpi suite. Incidentally the owners of "The Knight Cap" asked me to relay a standing invitation to Loyal Pangle anytime he is in Philly. They recognize his artistic talents in renovating dead pictures with live fruit. Of course, they don't know that Loyal's assistant, Joe Minotti, showed him where to place the cherries. (Mina and Joe Macaluso would have really enjoyed watching this).

Ralph Guarneiri was in great form this year and conducted his "Sing Along with Ralph" programs each night and didn't lose his voice once.

Most of us waited for the band to

play a waltz or Minuet before rushing to the dance floor to prove to our wives that we were still active and agile, however, after watching John Teringo and Kay Mizerock twisting all over the place, I think we had better throw away the "Geritol" and look around for some Pep pills.

Bill Bogacz made the mistake of donating a half gallon of booze to our table at the banquet and setting it in front of Mike Mizerock. Mike never stood guard while in the Army, but he guarded that bottle until it was empty.

Bob Piette remains as our only bachelor now that Ed Murphy has joined the marital ranks, however, Bob has a special nurse he visits once a year in San Francisco, maybe he's getting tired of being a loner.

Once again we want to extend our thanks to the Warren Chapter for their wonderful hospitality at the Reunion. Each year Babe Gautschi and Dick Kelly go all out in providing ice, glasses and food for those midnight snacks.

The 1969 Reunion will be held in Detroit and since Loyal Pangle is part of the Detroit Chapter hosting the reunion, let's make a determined effort to meet him there. We would sure like to see some of the old gang who have missed recent reunions try to attend so, we make a special plea to, Wheeler, Flanary, Bush, Anderson, Vecchione, Bruce, Speakman, Corder, Kuzma, Rung, Rutstein, Baird and those of you who have never been to one—make plans now—pay your dues and meet us in Detroit.

## Detroit Chapter News

Congratulations Philly — a job well done!!! I was unable to attend this year's reunion but I am informed by our members that were in attendance that I missed a good one. This makes our job in hosting next year's reunion that much harder. We want the Detroit Reunion to be bigger and better so we've got a long rough road ahead of us to beat this year's celebration. The chapter membership has accepted this challenge willingly and has put the wheels into motion. Over the past couple of months we've met at four different member's homes. In October our meeting will be at Bruce Winchell's home. We socialize quite a bit at these get-togethers and a lot of BS is shot around but we also conduct the necessary business at hand. Our chapter doings, of course, are geared to the reunion. A great association reunion in 1969 is our chapter's ultimate goal.

At the last meeting we elected the following officers:

President, Loyal Pangle, Flushing, Michigan.

Vice President, Edward Zerucha, Detroit, Michigan.

Secretary, Nick Barbu, Dearborn, Michigan.

Treasurer, Jack Daugherty, Romulus, Michigan.

Our national officers, Bill Palazzolo and Marion Muoio, have their hands full with the duties of their offices and we are not adding to their burden by expecting them to accept a chapter office. We made many chapter level decisions. We have set our Chapter dues at one dollar per month or ten dollars per year. Every Thunderbolt in our area, or any association member at large, wishing to do so, is cordially invited to join our chapter. Drop me a line at 19041 Snow Road, Dearborn, Michigan 48124 and I'll be happy to forward further details. We tackled the chronic problem of money makers for the coming year. We'll be needing financial assistance to put on this reunion. You'll be hearing more from us on this matter in the future. We are making more efforts to contact every Thunderbolt in our area. To give you some idea of how far some of our members travel to meetings—Loyal Pangle and his wife travel about 120 miles round trip and the Bruce Winchell's go about 200 miles from Freeland, Michigan. For this reason, most of our meetings are held on Sunday. Also, because of the tremendous spirit shown by these two members

and other "outside of Detroit" members we are giving serious consideration to changing our chapter name. We are contacting the national association to determine the necessary steps to be taken to change our name to "The Michigan Chapter". In justice to these "outside of Detroit" members, we hope our request meets with a favorable response.

Marion Muoio is reporting elsewhere in this Thunderbolt regarding progress on reunion plans. At the chapter level, we reiterate this pledge. We want the 1969 Association Reunion to be the best one ever. We want every Thunderbolt to have a good time in Detroit and to go home with fond memories of a wonderful three days. This is our pledge. This we will do!!!

By the time this Thunderbolt reaches you, two of our hardest working members will have reached the ripe old age of 30—again. Someone told me that Jack Daugherty and Bill Palazzolo celebrated their 50th birthdays recently. I'm more inclined to believe 39.

Nick Barbu  
Detroit Chapter

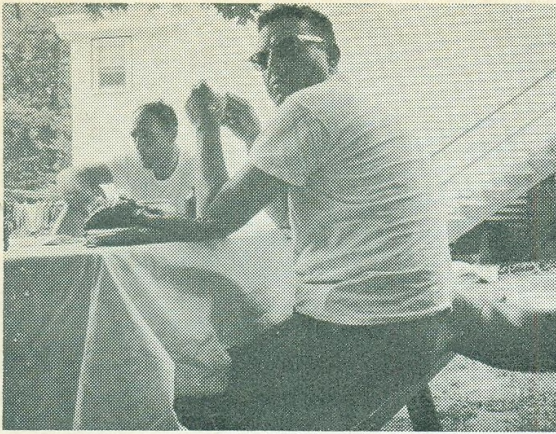
## Co. F. 329th News And Side Lights

By Vic Landis

Nothing much to rave about, as F Co. really let down this year. For the past 10 years we have been first or second in paid up members and attendance at the reunion. Just three years ago, we set an all time record of 50 paid up members for one unit. I think we had 14 paid up members this year and our lowest attendance ever. We had fellows from Philly who never dropped in to say hello. Two of them were Bill Hutton and Pete Kostamite. Seems rather odd.

Due to Jim Fowler's illness, he and Trudy could not attend. They have made it all the way from Okla. City, Okla. for years. We wish Jim God speed for his recovery.

Lou Gaybrant was there for the first time in years and it was great to see the guy. Ed Zerucha old faithful was in attendance and George, Becky Kittrell along with their daughter Brenda Gaye and two of her little girl friends, were my special guests in the Landis suite. John Varley our first cook paid us a brief visit and that about sums us up. Will get on all their tails. That's it.



After the ball — game that is — Nick Francullo and Larry Arrigo.



First row—Nancy Tynan, Ann Tartaglia. Second row — Gin DiGiammerino, Fran Arrigo, Mary Francullo. At a cookout in Pat and Gin DiGiammerino's place.



Nick and Mary Francullo and daughter Helena and new husband Hubert Walsh.

## Note of Thanks

To All Members of the  
83rd Infantry Division:

We are taking advantage of the Thunderbolt to send a special thank you, to a group of wonderful people. We know we will never be able to personally thank all of you and we will never find words adequate enough, to express exactly how we feel.

To all of you, our heartfelt thanks, for your prayers, your gifts, your cards, and especially, your friendship.

Sincerely,  
Pat & Ginny DiGiammerino

## Greater Boston Chapter

Hello Buddies:

Well here we are again and one of the biggest reunions have come to an end. Our hats off to the Philadelphia Chapter for a job well done.



There are more to come, bigger and better, so let's plan for next year and be sure and tell a buddy to make the next one.

First of all the Boston Chapter would like to take its hat off to the new Thunderbolt officers for the coming year. Good luck boys! We are also proud to say that Pat DiGiammerino was elected second Vice President of our National Association. Good luck Pat!

I had a great surprise at the reunion when I was tapped on the shoulder by an old buddy, whom I haven't seen since 1946. Old Harry Barret of Indianapolis, Ind. It was wonderful to see you again Harry, and hope to see more of you.

One of the saddest moments of the reunion came on Friday night, when we were all having a ball, and our finest Boston girl, fell on the dance floor and fractured her hip. Gin DiGiammerino is now home, but it will be some time before she will be jumping again. We of the Boston Chapter would like to say thanks from the bottom of our hearts, for all who were so concerned about our girl, Gin. Thanks again.

I would like to say to any of you that never attended a reunion, not to worry about being left out, because it will never happen.

On Wednesday, we met a couple Doris and R. N. Smith from Reidsville, N. C.

who had never attended a reunion before. This was their first one and they didn't know anyone, but leave it to Mary and Gin. We introduced ourselves and took the Smiths' under our wing and showed them a good time. Thus through the 83rd reunions we have met another wonderful couple. We are keeping in touch and R. N. and Doris, we hope to see you again.

Now I have been kept guessing long enough and still can't figure out who it can be. I have received a postcard from Clarksburg, West Va. V.A. Hospital. He was to have sent me two more clues and I haven't received them yet. He is employed there, and knows I'm a showhound, but for the life of me, I can't figure out who he is. He reads the Thunderbolt, so let me know who you are old buddy and I will write to you.

As always, Boston was well represented in Philly and we all had a ball.

When Ann and Al Tartaglia and Helen and Joe Petrucci and families made the reunion, I think they blew the roof off the Ben Franklin Hotel. They were hot from the first day to the end. Also Mousie and Helen and Duchie Smith, who had a great time with all their buddies. Helen and Duchie have been on the go for some time. Their son James had been campaigning for State Representative in Lynn and their house has been jumping.

It was nice to see John Marysz back with the Boston Boys and also glad to have Arthur DelPadre with us. We are very sorry to hear about Mary, A. DelPadre's wife and pray that everything will be okay.

Yes Vera, we took care of Mike while he was away from home. It was hard, but we did it, and that means he can go again next year. Ha, Ha!!!

Well, I have just taken another step in life, on Saturday, Sept. 14, 1968, when I walked my daughter Helena, down the aisle. It was a wonderful day and I gained a son. He is Hubert Walsh and is District Credit Supervisor, Midwestern Region, for the Eastman Kodak Company. They will live in Broadview, Illinois.

We want to thank Mike and Vera of Providence, R.I. for a wonderful time we had at their house. It rained, but didn't dampen our spirits or our appetites. The steaks were so-oo delicious as was everything else.

We topped it off by having another cook-out at Larry and Fran Arrigo's in Norwood, on the following day. After these two days of wining and dining, we should all join Weight Watchers. That weekend proved the ladies are the better Bocci players and Gin

DiGiammerino the champ "Mora" player.

Kathy Tynan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose Tynan, graduated from Bryant and Stratton Junior College of Boston with honors and has transferred to Husson College in Bangor, Maine where she is majoring in Business Education.

Sincerely,  
Nick Francullo



"No comment". Al Tartaglia, Nick Francullo, Amby Tynan.



Pat DiGiammerino's yard. Boys measuring for closest point.



On Pat and Gin DiGiammerino's patio. Waiting for the chow.

## Signal Musings

Another Reunion, another year begins for the "old division". As I did not make it to the Philly Reunion I have to



rely on the report of Clayton Thomas who was there. He got to talk to only two members of Signal and they were Bruce Winchell and John Sterling. Bruce and Jean you made it all the way to Yellowstone and on to Philly the "Amwayway". You two are true blue with the 83rd! John Sterling is now a Warrant

Officer with a reserve unit according to Clayt Thomas, you never stated that before, John.

Clayt stated that there were two other members from Signal there at one time or another as he ran across the names of James Erisman and Frank Kehler. Believe it or not he looked and couldn't find either one of you two—Frank or Jim. How about a word from you two guys; Jim I haven't heard from you for a long time?

All told I suspect that you had a great time at the Reunion Clayt along with Arlene. Wonder what her opinion is of our Association? I think they're a great bunch of people—wives and children inclusive. Boston in 1969—hold on to Tony Gonsalves! Clayt I'll get the info you requested to you, at least that which I have and I want to express my deepest appreciation for your long (LONG) informative letter. Your enthusiasm is much appreciated — I repeat that you should be writing this column rather than I. How about it?

Don Hinz

### Office of the Assn. Chaplain

(Continued from page 5)

the Declaration of Independence means that the life of any man created is just as sacred as the life of any other.

The signers of this great document were a cross-section of Revolutionary America; some were rich, others were poor. Some were scholars and educated persons, others were just barely literate. Some were old, others very young. They had little in common—except a passionate love for their country. If each of us would take time to know something about those patriots as human beings, to gain some knowledge of their great hopes and aspirations, their fears and their dangers, we would better comprehend what a rebirth of pa-

triotism would mean to this twentieth century America. Who were these men?

It may be that most of us are inclined to think of the men who signed the Declaration of Independence as persons whose lives began and ended in those few seconds it took for each to affix his signature to the document. The moment of signing was so solemn, so majestic, that it blinds us to the more worldly events of those men's living. They were not giants or supermen. They were simply loving Americans, even as you and I.

Patriotism today, no less than in the year 1776, requires of us complete devotion and dedication to the task of maintaining individual freedom within a voluntary society and within a personal enterprise economy. It requires each of us the same noble sentiment that has served as a common motive for patriots of every generation: love of America, love of the American way of life, and love for the men and women who shared the burdens and sufferings and the deaths that went into the making of our nation.

To you comrades, let me say: Your minds are a slate to be written upon. What is written there determines if our American Heritage will be preserved for generations yet unborn. Be prepared to take sides for patriotism through a well-rounded knowledge of the past in order to have the groundwork for attacking the problems of the present and the future. We have placed a premium on mediocrity and conformity. The result has been we have not progressed as we should. Don't be afraid, or ashamed to excell. To be average simply means, you are not as bad as the worst, but certainly not as good as the best. Don't be satisfied with the slipshod and shoddy, because they seem to be average, and acceptable. You will rise to positions of power and respect by your own efforts; or you will sink; as you waste your substance, idle away your time and go from mansion to gutter. No order can protect you from yourself. And finally, don't be ashamed to be known as a flag waver. The flag is the symbol of our land. Why should we not be proud of our flag and of the men who gave birth to the freedom for which it stands.

Remember the richness of our American Heritage and receive the spirit displayed by Patrick Henry when he unselfishly cried, "Give me liberty, or give me death." For survival and success in the years that lie ahead we will draw heavily on our reserve of patriotism; and we had better make certain that such a reserve exists.

William O. Shuman, Chaplain

## The Greater Philadelphia Chapter President

Bill Chavanne  
308th Engineers

Hi Everyone:

Thank goodness! Peace and quiet are the order of the day with the Greater Philadelphia Chapter. The long awaited Reunion is over and we can take it easy for a while. It has a year of hard work for everyone, to try and make this Reunion the best and a successful one. I really think that we have done both.

I would like to say thanks to two wonderful men, our National President, Al Belvedere and Lou Volpi, the Reunion Chairman for the 1968 Reunion. When the word "teamwork" is said, I don't think that these two men can be topped. They worked together and made any big problem seem as though it was nothing to worry about. Also to the lovely women of our Chapter, a heartfelt "THANK YOU" for the long hours and hard work that they put in to help make the Reunion the ball that it was. I can't forget Al Belvedere, Lucy Volpi, Mary Redbond, Mary McGrogan, Ann Rosenberg, and last but not least of all my wife, Bea Chavanne. The teamwork of the ladies was something to see, and very hard to beat. I don't know why they did it, but these gals of ours would work up to the last minute and then dash up to their rooms to dress for the evening and come to the Crystal Ballroom looking as fresh as a "daisy".

Last of all, but not least of all, was the work done by the "Young Folks" of our members. To pretty Linda Volpi, daughter of Lou and Lucy Volpi, Al and John Belvedere, the handsome sons of Al and Ann Belvedere and Susan Comly (John's lovely friend) all I can say is "Thanks". As to the men of our Greater Philadelphia Chapter, I can't think of anything to say that has not already been said and known to everyone, that without their cooperation and work, this Reunion could not have been the success that it was.

The only dark spot of our get together was the accident to Ginny DiGiammerino of the Boston Chapter. We hope it is not too long until she is back on her feet, and ready to get back on the dance floor and pick up where she left off.

All I can say now is "SEE YOU IN DETROIT" in 1969.

Thank you and God bless you all.

**DUES IS DUE**

## Jersey Chapter

Hi Buddies,

Well, another reunion has passed and a good time was had by all.

The Philly crowd sure worked hard to put over this affair and deserve a big hand. I knew Lop Volpi would be sitting down on the job and he was all the time. Just a joke, Lou, you did a swell job.

I was sure surprised getting that cup, it wasn't necessary. Anything I do for the Association is a pleasure for me and I like doing it.

I had both my brother and his wife at the reunion and they said they have never been with a group that gets together and has the fun we do, and hope they can make Detroit next year.

I don't know if Larry sent any of you fellows a letter of good luck, like he sent me. It reads, make (20) copies and send them to friends who you wish good luck and do it before four days or you will receive bad luck. Well, I did what it said. (2) days later my car was stolen. I got it back, but lost \$150 worth of tools and my spare tire, also. One of the fellows I sent a copy to lost his job two weeks later, another fellow smashed his car, another one who's last kid got married about six months ago was planning to do a lot of traveling with his wife, now he finds she is pregnant again after 21 years.

The only guy I didn't send me to was Stan Bielen and three weeks later he won \$3,000 on stocks and Larry said he was my friend! I guess this is just the way it goes, did you have any luck, Larry?

Stan Bielen is going to show us slides he took on his trip to Europe last month, at our next meeting. Since he won that money he sure gets around.

Hope all you guys had a good time at the reunion. I know the next one in Detroit should be swell, as there is a lot to see, in and around Detroit. I still think there should be more activities planned for the teenagers while the grown-ups are together. It's not too easy to relax and have a good time and still worry about what the kids are doing. I know a lot more would come to the reunions if there was more for the kids to do.

Well, I think I've talked enough now, so I'll shut up for a while.

Hope this finds everyone in the best of health.

Yours truly,  
Jim Bowie  
330th Company B

## Warren Chapter News

Joe Minotti

Hello Buddies:

Our deepest sympathy to Pat DiGiamerino's wife Ginny, from the Warren Chapter, for her misfortune at the Reunion. We all hope that she is well on the road to recovery.

All in all, it seems as if everyone had a great time at this year's affair. It started out with a bang on Wednesday night. I showed the friendly atmosphere that was the theme throughout the week. Old friends to be greeted again, and new ones to be met. None of the old gang seemed to have lost any of their capacity for holding the liquid refreshments.

The Philly crew did a great job, and we from Warren send our thanks for all the thoughtfulness shown at all times. It seems that all who attended the previous Reunion in Philly were looking for another storm, but it was a different type of storm, a storm of heat. It was one of the hottest four days that I have ever attended at a reunion.

Have a number of inquiries about the photographs that were taken. It would be better if the Philly Chapter checked the photographers out and a little note of explanation in the next "THUNDERBOLT".

In the local news, the Warren Chapter started the new year with renewed effort. It seems that after a successful Reunion, interest in local affairs seem to build up. Plans are now on for our Annual Steak cookout, with Babe Gautschi and Joe Nuzzi in charge. Then the Ladies annual Xmas Party for the men and the yearly Children's Xmas Party are now being planned and dates are all set, with John Teringo and Lee Titus in charge of the Xmas affairs.

The 83rd boys of Warren, are again showing their athletic abilities. Taking after the true athletic ability of the 83rd men, John Teringo's son, Teddy, is the starting guard on a great high school on the west side of Warren. Doing a fine job, undefeated the first three games. Yours truly also has some interest in the team. A nephew of mine is also on the starting defensive team. Doing a nice job. Both boys have lots of desire. Dick Kelly's son, Richard, 14 years old, starting at one of our local Junior High School football teams. Loves the game. Mike Skovran's son, Dennis, is a starter for our Howland Junior High School football team. Charlie Tomazin's son, Chuck, although just in the 8th grade is also out for

football at Howland Junior High School. He should be a good one. Also loves to make contact in the game. We all missed Chuck Sr. at the Reunion. He was in the hospital at the time due to a gall bladder operation, but seems to be well on the road to recovery. I know that he was probably aching to be there with us. Joe Nuzzi has another fine son that is on the Harding High School fine Marching Band. This is one of the state's finest high school marching bands. Joe now has three sons in this band. We are all quite proud of these boys, and it is the greatest pleasure to go to these games and see these boys play. I believe that the mothers of these boys play harder and are more exhausted after the games than the boys are.

The dates for our Annual Xmas Party is December 14 at the Chateau Supper Club. For a fine evening of dancing and good food, anybody from our surrounding chapters who care to join us at this affair, we extend a most cordial welcome for them to attend. Even if you decide to come at the last minute, there will always be room for you. The childrens Xmas Party will be held on December 22 at the Cafe "83". Santa Claus will be there to pass out the gifts to the children and the adults.

We would like to welcome Steve Kereszturi to our fold. He has lived in our area and has finally decided to join us. We know that he will be a good member and we hope he will enjoy all our fine affairs as much as we do. Also plans to start attending reunions. Good to have you with us Steve.

Starting with this issue of the "THUNDERBOLT", I think that it would be a good idea if the names of the next five reunion sites are published each time. This would be a constant reminder to all. Especially the dates already set for the Detroit Reunion.

Now that the news is all in a little criticism of the Philadelphia Chapter.

It has been passed as a rule that there would be no individual awards presented at the banquet, because of the extra time it involves. And at this affair, many of the people left the room and went to the bar and were getting quite a load. Also it has been a practice of the past reunions that no tables will be reserved for anyone. This proved to be a bad thing at this reunion, because of the number of people that were there and could not get a seat until more tables were set up. So in the future, let us try to remember these things, so that nobody will get angry at the Association.



Charley Russ and wife missed the Reunion because his daughter was quite ill, and we are glad to hear that she is on the road to recovery real good.

Yours truly and wife were quite happy and pleased to have our son drop in at the reunion. He surprised us by coming home from Venezuela. He is now back there, and as always, was good to have him home for a little while.

I always knew Lou Volpi had a way of getting out of things, and he did it up great for this one. It is great to see that you have such good members to step in when the emergency arrives, and take over and do such an excellent job. This is the kind of people who keep this thing going so well over the years.

Hope to have our complete slate of new officers for the coming year in the next issue of the "THUNDERBOLT".

## Last Minute News From The Secretary

We have about 50 of the ash trays that we had advertised in the Reunion last year. I sincerely hope that you will give this some consideration and place orders for them so that we can get rid of the stock on hand. The cost is \$5 per plate. I am sure that there are many of you wives that would like to give your husband something different for Christmas. Why not purchase one of these trays. You will have to really see them to appreciate them.

I also wish to remind you of your National Dues. Remember, the due is only \$5 a year, payable to the 83rd Infantry Division Association, Inc. Be sure to state your name, address, ZIP Code and also your unit. The last page in this "THUNDERBOLT" has an application; if you are a paid up member, why not be a Buddy and send in dues for that particular Buddy that you thought so much about in the service. He may be one of the unfortunates that is not on our mailing list and is unaware of our great Association.

Another thing to remember is that the Reunion this year will be in Detroit, Michigan, the following year in Boston, Massachusetts and the following year which will be the SILVER ANNIVERSARY of our Association, will be held in Cleveland, Ohio. Rumors have it that after the Cleveland Reunion, we may travel to Pittsburgh. We sincerely hope so.

Before I make my closing remarks, I would like to say that I feel mighty proud of the boys from the Greater

Philadelphia Chapter for the tremendous time they showed us. I have attended reunions for about 15 years, and I must admit that this was about the best ever. I know that there are some of you who will criticize, but I can assure you that any of the men who has helped to put on a reunion are only more than willing to admit that it is a terrific job, it involves a lot of man hours and hard work. Before we make any remarks of criticisms, let us stop and analyze the situation, and see if we could have done any better.

I received quite a surprise the other day when I came home from work and started to check my mail, and there in it was the package, as I read it I found it to be from Chester Gould. I quickly opened it and there was the picture of Dick Tracy, wearing a wrist radio with the 83rd insignia on it. I am sure that all of you are familiar with one of the greatest comic strips, Dick Tracy, by Chester Gould. I was very surprised one day when I received a letter in the mail from a former 83rd man, only to learn that he was an assistant to Chester Gould in his comic strip. He is a former 308th Engineer and now is a paid up member of our Association.

Well buddies, remember, as I have mentioned many times before, if there is a buddy that you wish to locate, contact me and I will do my best to help you. Right now I have about a dozen men from Co. H, 330th which is the company that I served with, that I would like to locate. I have written to them and they have either moved, or God forbid, are deceased.

At the Reunion this year I learned from a member there that the former 330th Catholic Chaplain, Father Lundy, has died. I am trying to check further on this, and anyone in California that can check for me, please do so. The last known address that I had for him was 220 N. Broadway, Los Angeles, California.

This will be all for now. If there is anything that I have forgotten, please let me know and I will try to include it in the next issue.

Sincerely,  
Larry Redmond  
Secretary-Treasurer

— Just A Reminder —  
**DUES ARE NOW DUE**  
**PLEASE SEND IT IN**

## Miss Patricia Gilbert Now Mrs. J. L. Woody

Miss Patricia Lee Gilbert became the bride of Jon Lynn Woody at 7 p.m. Saturday in St. John's Episcopal Church with the Rev. Benjamin Tinsley officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William M. Gilbert of 1405 Rochelle Drive, and the bridegroom is the son of Mrs. Della Woody of 209 N. 20th St.

For her wedding the former Miss Gilbert chose a princess style gown of silk organza with a scoop neckline and rose point lace appliqued panels at the front and the back. She wore a cathedral length veil and carried a white orchid with white roses and ivy atop a white prayer book.

Miss Barbara Crowley of Louisville, Ky., was maid of honor for her cousin. Her A-line dress of yellow linen had daisies at the neckline and top of the back panel. She wore a chaplet of daisies and ivy and carried a bouquet of daisies and ivy.

Other attendants, dressed like the maid of honor, were Miss Joan Gregory, Miss Janet Rycraft, and Miss Gayle Veith, the bride's niece. Jody Mitchell, the bridegroom's cousin, was flower girl wearing a dress of white organdy over yellow trimmed with daisies. She carried a basket of daisies and her headpiece matched the other attendants'. Michael Heath was ring bearer.

The bridegroom asked James A. Hayden to be best man and ushers were Charles Rehwinkel of Monitor, Gene F. Gregory, and William L. Crowley of Louisville, Ky., the bride's cousin.

The bride was graduated from Jefferson High School and is employed by Purdue University. The bridegroom also was graduated from Jefferson High School and is employed by Culligan Water Conditioning Co.

Following a reception in the church parish house the couple left for a wedding trip to Philadelphia, Pa. After Aug. 25 they will be at home at 1217½ Union Street.

Patricia, a real 83rd trooper, daughter of William M. (Mickey) Gilbert, Co. H, 330th, spent her honeymoon attending the 83rd Division Reunion in Philadelphia.

**PLEASE  
PAY  
YOUR  
DUES  
NOW!!!**

## Fall River Chapter Chatter

By Manny Martin—F-329th

This year's reunion at Philadelphia was a well planned and well organized reunion, not to mention, that it was also



one of the most enjoyable ones that I have attended. Adeline and I had a real smashing time, and wish to extend our most grateful thanks to Al and Ann Belvedere, Lou & Lucy Volpi, and the entire Philly gang for making our stay a most memorable and enjoyable one.

Most members that attended, have no idea how increasingly difficult it is becoming to put on a reunion of this magnitude, without raising the registration fee to what it really should be, with the costs climbing each succeeding year. An eternal debt of gratitude is owed Al, Lou and the entire Philadelphia Chapter for the effort and hard work that went into making this one of the finest reunions ever. Thanks again, ladies and gentlemen of Philly. Thou Swell.

To Vito Palazullo, our newly elected President, the fine slate of officers elected to serve with him, and Al Gruber, our newly elected member of the Executive Board, I say welcome. If there are any questions, or if there is any assistance that I can give you, please feel free to call upon me, for we are all interested in primarily the good of our wonderful association, and how we can improve it.

The Executive Board, members of the association and I in particular, will miss my old C.O. John Raikos whose tenure on the board expired this year, John was one of the hardest workers ever to serve on the executive board, a sincere dedicated 83rd Division man, who travelled great distances at considerable cost to himself, to attend our every board meeting, and always put the best interests of the association above all else. John will be missed tremendously not only by your reporter, but by every member of this association that realizes just how much valuable time he gave up, to perform his duties as well as he did.

To correct some false impressions, let old Manny Martin clue some of you, contrary to the beliefs of some of our members, your Executive Board is not

composed of a band of monsters, but has from the very inception of this organization, been served by wonderful people, whose only thought has been to further what is good for this association, and to be assured that this organization does not sink into oblivion as so many of this type has done. In any organization, controls are a necessary evil, for without them we would have disappeared from the scene on two or three occasions in the past. All board members serve at a cost of two or three hundred dollars per year to themselves, much time is spent in correspondence with one another, not to mention the fact that while most of you are enjoying yourselves at reunion, your board is usually meeting to iron out problems that come up at reunions. The board does not dictate to any reunion committee, we advise and watch over expenditures, to be certain, that never shall the wonderful feeling of comradeship that we have built up over these many years, come to an abrupt end, because some reunion committee spends more money than we can afford. I hope that this has cleared the air somewhat, for some of you that had different thoughts about your board.

On Saturday night, September 7, a large crowd trooped aboard the Motor Ship Yankee, for our annual moonlight sail and dance, the night was just letter perfect, with a full moon and a real calm sea. We sailed from 8 p.m. till 1 a.m. with the vast crowd hating to see it come to an end. Large quantities of liquid and good, and the enticing music of Bebe's Musical Tops, all contributed to making this a remarkable success again this year.

Tony Telles wife Ann, was hospitalized for a little surgery. We are most happy to report that she is back to normal and her usual happy self again.

Our good friend Chief Norman Bowers had a bad bout of illness for a few months, but he has recovered remarkably well and is getting to be his old jovial self again.

To our many friends that asked, we are asking Larry Redmond to print the latest photo of our little daughter, if he has the space in this issue of Thunderbolt.

Let me close my column by saying, how very much as always, Adeline and I enjoyed seeing our very many good friends at reunion and that we look forward to this with such anticipation each year. God bless you and your's.

**DUES IS DUE**



**KAREN ANN MARTIN**

This is a photo of the lovely little daughter of our own Adeline and Manny Martin, a real Junior Miss 83rd. We the members of this Association are equally as proud of Karen Ann as are her parents. We are equally proud of all the children of our members, and as years are passing us by, we can truthfully say that we are proud of the grandchildren of which many of us can brag about.

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**Make Your  
Plans  
For  
The  
Detroit  
Reunion  
In 1969  
Now**

## Frankly Speaking

Here we are back again, after our 22nd Annual Reunion of the 83rd Infantry Division Association. A lot of



credit should be given the members of the Philadelphia Chapter for offering us such a fine affair. I would like to at this time express my sincere thanks to all the men that attended, for the wonderful co-operation they showed the officers at this year's reunion. The members who attended all

acted like a group of grown men at the meetings. The meetings were held in a very orderly manner, and we accomplished a lot without any bickering or arguing. A vote of thanks should also be extended to our Secretary-Treasurer, Larry Redmond, for the very fine job that he did and also for the very fine Treasurer's Report that he gave at the reunion. While we are giving pats on the back, I think that a well deserved one should be given Vic Landis for the superb job he did as our National Publicity man. Vic has gotten publicity for our Association from coast to coast and from this our membership has increased to a little over 800 paid-up members.

How about getting a new member? Each of us must have the name and address of a buddy. Try to sell him on becoming a member, or better still, how about a gift membership? This can be done by sending his name and address along with a check in the amount of \$5.00 and his membership card will be sent to him with your compliments.

I would like to make a personal appeal to each of you to put forth a little effort and try getting some new members. Remember, if we each get one new member this year, we can once again double our membership and make another step up that long ladder of success.

Sincerely yours,  
Frank McGrogan

## Chapter News

I am sorry to report that once again we are unable to bring any good news from the Miami Valley Chapter. I was in hopes that I would be able to report that the Miami Valley Chapter is once again re-activated and getting back on the active chapter list. I sincerely hope that some one in the Miami Valley Chapter area will read this and take the bull by the horns and whip the Chapter back in shape again. I know that there are a few men in this area who would like to see such a thing happen. They are just a little reluctant to try doing it. Come on Miami Valley men, show the Association that your Chapter is composed of real 83rd Division men, men who never say die, nor ever give up.

\* \* \* \*

To the boys in the Dixie Chapter area, as this "THUNDERBOLT" goes to press, I am at a loss for news from the Dixie Chapter. I know that "you all" down there are dying a hard death, seeing your great Chapter laying dormant like it is. What the Chapter needs is a shot in the arm, something to stimulate them and get them back to being the great Chapter that they once were.

A few years back, the Dixie Chapter conducted a Reunion, one that will remain in the minds of the members for many years to come. The Dixie Chapter, being relatively a new chapter, took on the great burden of running a reunion. To those of you who never were active in the running of a reunion, you have a lot to learn. This is no easy job; it entails a lot of hard work and planning in order to give the members their full monies worth. Our hats are off to you the members of the Dixie Chapter for the job you did in showing us a great reunion, and we sincerely hope that in the not too distant future, that we can have the pleasure of being back down there with you again. We are looking forward to that real Southern Hospitality.

Those interested in trying to reorganize your Chapter, contact Dick Riddle in Saluda, South Carolina, or contact National Headquarters.

Larry Redmond

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## ATTENTION ALL MEN

Look at the expiration date on your Membership Card —

If it does not read Aug. 1969 your dues for this year are due.

We would appreciate if you would send it in as soon as possible.

Send your remittance to Larry Redmond, Secretary-Treasurer,  
132 Rockwood Drive, Havertown, Pa. 19083.

## Baltimore-Washington Area

Hello Buddies:

We in the Baltimore Washington area have for the past couple of years been trying to re-activate the old Washington Chapter, even if we have to have it re-chartered as the Baltimore-Washington Chapter. There are enough men from these areas to be able to re-organize, and for what could be one of the largest, if not the largest Chapter in the Association.

While the Washington Chapter was active, a Reunion was put on there that at the time was one of the finest Reunions the Association had. This was made possible by the hard work of a few of the members of this Chapter. The Association was mighty proud of the Washington Chapter for what they had done, and are still proud of them. The only hope of the National Association is that the men from the Baltimore-Washington area, ban together once again to re-organize and help the Association grow.

I am sure that there are a number of you men who live in Virginia, who would be only too glad to join a joint Chapter there, and help get things going again. For those who are interested from the Washington Virginia area, contact Ray Young, 1928 Pimmet Drive, Falls Church, Virginia. Telephone 893-7783 and from the Baltimore area, contact Karl Friedman, 3802 College Road, Randallstown, Maryland. Telephone 655-6190.

I know that there may be some of you who have had personal grievances over the years, let us forget this, remembers, this is not an organization composed of a certain few, but an organization composed of men who served with the 83rd Infantry Division in World War II. Let us get back in the fold and start up an active Chapter once again.

Norm Campbell  
330th Infantry



is not a sentiment - it is an economic necessity. ----- Charles Szemmetz

## Letters to the Editor

7604 Granite Avenue  
Orangeville, Calif. 95662

Dear Mr. Redmond:

My husband has asked me to write as he has not had time. First, enclosed please find a check for \$5 for his dues in the Association. Would another sticker be available? He put the one on his pickup and wants one for the car.

My husband has wondered about some of the men of Company I. Over the years some of the names and locations have become hazy but as follows:

1. Captain Smith
2. Delbert Snow
3. ? Hendricks, (Iowa)
4. Robert Baker, (Kansas City, Missouri) last heard from in 1948.

This is pretty scant of information, but would appreciate any news available. Most of the letters in the "THUNDERBOLT" are from the East Coast. Are we all alone out here?

Smitty is a Construction foreman for Hart Construction and is working on a highway out of Los Bonos and only gets home on weekends. He would appreciate hearing from anyone in Co. "I".

I would like to also inquire about the book, "See It Through", and also the Division book. Some kind friend borrowed his Division book and never returned it, this was about 20 years ago. His "See It Through" has just about been worn ragged by the three older kids, showing it to their friends. I have never heard them ask the question, "What did you do in the war Daddy"? They just look at the book, and know.

Well, this is enough for now, and again, any information is appreciated.

Sincerely  
Mrs. William E. Smith

Ed. Note: To the men of Co. I, any of you who remember Bill Smith from your Company, please drop him a line and let him know that you are still around. To Bill and Mrs. Smith, your editor tries to acknowledge any letters that appear to have some human interest in them, no matter where they come from. You in California are by far, not the forgotten people. As for the Division book, I have tried to obtain information but have been unsuccessful. Anyone knowing how copies can be obtained, we would appreciate it.

— Just A Reminder —  
**DUES ARE NOW DUE**  
**PLEASE SEND IT IN**

## Greater Indianapolis Chapter 83rd Infantry Division (Thunderbolts)

Greetings to all you Thunderbolts:

Due to circumstances yours truly did not get to the 22nd Annual Reunion, but one of our chapter members and cohort gave us a briefing on the Philadelphia Reunion. This gentleman is no other than John D. Raikos. John reported that the Philly chapter went all out to show the people who attended the reunion a swell time, and that their chapter came up with a program that was well planned and interesting.

I know that all the people that attended the reunion appreciated the efforts put forth by the Philly chapter, I think most of the members and their families now realize that to come up with a successful reunion, that plans must be well in advance of the actual reunion date and believe you me some of the host chapter guys come up short on sleep at times. No doubt the Philly chapter labored hard and long to get together a program that was interesting and enjoyable to all who attended. Philly chapter we of the Indianapolis chapter SALUTE YOU for a job way above the average.

Our Indianapolis chapter held a meeting to elect new officers for 1969. This meeting was held at the residence of Ned and Geni Smith. The new officers are President John Robinette, First VP Clarence Hockensmith, Secretary Ned Smith, Treasurer Matt Brumbach. The newly elected officers will retain their offices until August 1, 1969.

We in our chapter were real glad to see Clarence and Betty Hockensmith well and around again. They both look real spry now.

Our members and their wives who attended the meeting of the election of officers were John and Marge Robinette, John and Dorothy Soroko, Clarence and Betty Hockensmith, Matt and Judy Brumbach.

Our last meeting was held at the Ernie Pyle VFW Post. This was a business meeting along with a steak dinner that followed the meeting. The steaks were real delicious and the service was swell and for all of this credit goes to none other than John W. Walker. John made all the arrangements for the food and the table service. Things worked out real good and thanks again to John and his firends at the Ernie Pyle VFW Post.

Our members and guest for the steak dinner was John and Dorothy Soroko, John and Marge Robinette, John Walk-

er, Ned B. Smith and Matt Brumbach. We also enjoyed the hospitality of the Ernie Pyle Post.

Well, now that summer has gone and soon will come the cold and the snow and our chapter will be making plans for our annual Christmas dinner and party, time and place will be announced later.

Now that the smoke has cleared and the Ben Franklin Hotel has cleared out the last guest I certainly hope that those that attended made it back to their homes safe and sound. There's always a lot to talk about after the reunion is over. Some of the happenings at these reunions are never forgotten. Evidently our 83rd Association is one of the larger groups in existence. I think we who belong are overly proud to be members. There are numerous persons that work real hard to make our association what it is. There are persons who are singled out that put us over the big hump. Some of these men are such as Vic Landis with his widespread news coverage of all our reunions. There is Larry Redmond the guy that gets the word out to all the people and keeps the books balanced. The men that comprise the executive board are vital to our association. The Chaplains, and for each Reunion the President and his local chapter are the work horses to see that everything is all complete for a big get together. Mind you the way the people I have named are not listed in precedence but are listed as just a group of people that help out a lot, in short there are a lot of people on the team.

Since the 22nd annual reunion is now history, we can settle back and think about the next reunion (Detroit, I believe). It sure would be nice to be able to attend them all but sometimes that is a little difficult, but the ones that come within our reach are really enjoyed. Hope I can see some of you in the Detroit city next year.

So long and we of the Indianapolis chapter extend our best wishes and the best of luck to all Thunderbolts and their families.

Matthew F. Brumbach  
7144 Lockwood Lane  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46217  
Staff Reporter

**PLEASE  
PAY  
YOUR  
DUES  
NOW!!!**

## Obituaries

HAMMOND, INDIANA  
THE TIMES  
Sunday, August 18, 1968  
SUTTINGER

Elmer L. Suttinger, age 62, of 123 37th Ave. - Apt. 4, Griffith, Indiana 46319, passed away at St. Catherine Hospital, Friday, August 16, 1968, after a lingering illness. Survived by wife, Murna; one son, Leonard of Highland; two brothers, Charles of Calumet City, Illinois, and Harry of Knox, Indiana; one sister, Mrs. Hazel Lewis of Ashland, Illinois. Five nephews. Funeral services will be Tuesday, August 20, at 11 a.m. from the Fagen Funeral Gardens, 2828 Highway Ave., with the Rev. G. Allen Jennex of the Calvary Baptist Church, officiating. Burial at Ridge Lawn Cemetery in Gary.

Ed. Note: Elmer Suttinger served with the 83rd Infantry Division in World War II, at the present time I am unable to ascertain in which unit he served. He was also active in the American Legion in East Chicago, Indiana.

\* \* \* \*

We of the 83rd Infantry Division Association wish to pay our respects to Anna T. Knorr, mother of Ralph Knorr, Co. E, 329th.

Mrs. Knorr passed to her eternal reward on June 12, 1967. We all extend our sincere sympathies to her son, who saw service with us in the 83rd Infantry Division in World War II.

\* \* \* \*

Dear Mr. Redmond:

This is to inform you that George C. Walters, known while serving with the 83rd Infantry Division of the U.S. Army as P.F.C. George C. Walters, 33378603, died December 14, 1967.

Yours truly,  
Edith Walters Rushik

Ed. Note: In checking through my rosters, I am sorry to say that I am unable to locate this name in our rosters. We of the 83rd Infantry Division Association wish to extend our sincere condolences to his family.

\* \* \* \*

Raymond Conway — 406 Old County Road, Rockland, Maine. Deceased Oct. 5, 1964.

Daniel Sudac—47 Bradley Ave., Branford, Conn. Deceased Feb. 8, 1967.

Thomas Lonergan—9 Bellingham St., Revere, Mass. Deceased July 1968.

Ed. Note: Anyone knowing of the death of a former 83rd man. Please send it to us for publication, no matter how long after.

## Letters to the Editor

Larry Redmond  
132 Rockwood Drive  
Havertown, Pa.

Dear Sir:

I just received a newspaper clipping from my family in Pa.

I was with the 83rd Inf. Division, Bernard W. Moyer, 13093620. I do not know at this time where any of the members may be.

Yoy may reach me at this address.

Bernard W. Moyer  
P. O. Box 253  
Sparks, Nevada 89431

E. Note. Once again I am receiving mail from a man who does not stipulate the unit that he served with. It is possible that we have names and addresses of his buddies.

\* \* \* \*

Mr. Larry Redmond

Dear Sir:

I had a pleasant surprise last month. Mr. and Mrs. Samuel W. Rissmiller and family dropped in to see my wife and I. We had a very nice time talking over old times. I hadn't seen him since I left my outfit in Germany to come home.

We had a lobster dinner. Their children had quite a time watching the lobsters swim around before they were caught.

Will close for now. Enclosed find my dues for this year.

Mr. Albion C. Sinnett  
66 West Street  
Portland, Maine 04102  
Btry. C, 908th F.A.

\* \* \* \*

August 23, 1968

Mr. Larry Redmond  
132 Rockwood Drive  
Havertown, Pa.

Dear Larry:

I was a member of the 83rd Infantry Division serving with the 331st Regiment, Co. F, 2nd Battalion from July to December 1944.

I found a notice to the Editor in our morning newspaper written by Victor E. Landis to contact you as national secretary.

I will not be able to make a reunion in August of this year but would like to be put on roll of your association and look forward to making the next one.

Sincerely,  
Robert L. Parsons  
4 Expressway Park Dr.  
Nashville, Tenn. 37210

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Larry:

Enclosed is a check for my dues. I am sorry that I was unable to make the Reunion this year. I had back surgery in June and was unable to travel. I am looking forward to seeing everyone next year.

Sincerely,  
William S. Nickell  
Co. F, 329th

Ed. Note: I am sure that everyone wishes Bill the best of health and a speedy recovery so that he can be with us once again. Bill was sadly missed by all of us at the Reunion.

\* \* \* \*

Dear Larry:

Sorry that I'm late with the dues this year, but here they are anyway. Hope you had a good time at the convention, and no doubt were elected to office again. Think you are doing a fine job with the organization.

Lots of luck  
Herbert Jeske  
2246 N. 61st  
Milwaukee, Wis.  
Co. C, 330th

\* \* \* \*

Grand Switch, Ky.  
August 15, 1968

To Larry Redmond:

I entered the Army in Nov. 1942 and was assigned to the 83rd Infantry at Camp Atterbury, Indiana and trained with the Reconnaissance Platoon of Hqs. and Hqs. Co. of the 330th Inf. until June of 1943 at which time I was badly hurt in a Jeep wreck along with Sgt. Auhry Taylor. I was a hospital patient at Atterbury and Fort Benjamin Harrison for 11 months and then transferred to Camp Grubber, Okla. and later on discharged from the service. I have had surgery three times due to my military service and at present time, I am an out-patient from the V.A. Hospital in Louisville, Ky., 100 percent disabled at this time.

I lost track of the Division during the action in the E.T.C. and I would like very much to get in touch with some of my company buddies. I am sending a list of some of the names of my company at that time.

Sincerely,  
James W. Hafley  
Gravel Switch, Kentucky  
40328

Ed. Note: This is one of the main purposes of our Association, to help keep men in touch with their former buddies. I sincerely hope that some of you will remember him and let him know that you still remember him. It is a big help to a disabled veteran to know that he is not a forgotten man.

Dear Sir:

I was in 83rd Division, was in 330th Regimental Headquarters, would like to know about convention, if it hasn't already been.

Robert H. Steele  
1354 Merry Lane N.E.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30329

\* \* \* \*

My husband was in the 83rd, S/Sgt. William G. Fowler, 33768119, Co. E, 331st Inf., 83rd Div. Service date Feb. 12, 1944 to Dec. 17, 1945.

Mrs. W. G. Fowler  
953 W. Water Street  
Bellefonte, Pa. 16823

\* \* \* \*

Woodstock, Ill.  
August 30, 1968

Larry Redmond  
(83rd Inf. Div. Association)  
132 Rockwood Drive  
Havertown, Pa.  
Hello Larry:

In our little Woodstock, Illinois SENTINEL, I saw the news item that the 83rd Infantry Division Association was seeking "lost troops" . . . and I am one of them.

I was promoted to Captain CE at separation because of efficiency ratings, but during World War II, joined the 83rd while on Tennessee maneuvers along with three other Engineer 2nd Lts. just out of Fort Belvoir, Virginia and remained with the Division through all 5 European campaigns.

My assignment was Adjutant with the 308th Combat Bn. and was a 1st Lt. during the combat months.

I still have contact only with my former Sgt.-Major McClellan (now a Major in the RA), but six months ago, did run into our Engineer Battalion Commander at the N.W. RR commuter tation in Chicago. It was Lt. Col. Roy T. Dodge, who is now a Brig. General and Chief of the Army Corps of Engineers at 5th Army, Fort Sheridan. However, I have lost contact with him, and feel he has been reassigned.

A professional artist even before WW II, I am now working with Chester Gould on the comic strip, "Dick Tracy".

So please put my name on your mailing list, and if dues are required, let me know.

A self-addressed envelope is enclosed.

Cordially,  
Richard E. Fletcher  
P. O. Box 4011  
Woodstock, Illinois 60098

— Just A Reminder —  
**DUES ARE NOW DUE**  
**PLEASE SEND IT IN**



## Letters to the Editor

Rt. 2, Box 286  
California, Maryland  
August 15, 1968

Mr. Lawrence J. Redmond  
Secretary-Treasurer  
83rd Inf. Div. Asso.

Dear Larry:

Thank you for your letter of July 10 and also for the one of August, received today.

I held off answering the July 10 letter in hopes that conditions might change, but now I must tell you with great regret that I cannot make it to the reunion this year.

My longing to see old comrades was greatly heightened when I learned that you were leaving the post of Secretary-Treasurer, by an even greater desire to join them in thanks to you for the wonderful task you have accomplished in this office and to thank all officers and other members of the Association.

I am afraid that sometimes too many of us, including myself, have failed to fully appreciate the great amount of work required and accomplished by the officers of our organization. Perhaps too, all of us have not realized the full value of our organization, not only to our 83rd Division Association, but also to the foundational of our nation. Ours is one of the groups that help build and maintain a high patriotic "Love of Country" that stimulates the readiness of our fellow countrymen to again defend our nation's high ideals whenever it becomes necessary. Each of us has a part in such contributions to our country and maintaining the splendid work of the 83rd Infantry Division Association is important to that end.

I accept with pride, the 83rd Infantry Division Association card number "83", formerly borne by you, Larry Redmond, who has done so much in advancing the 83rd Infantry Division Association.

Thank you Larry, we will miss you in your present office very much.

Please do come down and visit me when you can. I look forward to it with much pleasure.

Let me say again that I am very sorry that I cannot attend the Reunion.

With warm regards.

Sincerely,  
Robert C. Macon  
M.G. U.S.A. Ret.

Ed. Note: Having given serious thought to retiring from the office of Secretary-Treasurer, upon receipt of this letter, which sparked me into trying at least for another year. I am happy to say that I am still in the office and will try to carry out the duties of it to the

best of my ability. Were it not for the continued support that I receive from you members, I would have no desire to carry on.

\* \* \* \*

Galax, Virginia  
August 20, 1968

TO THE MEMBERS  
OF THE 83rd DIVISION:

As the oldest member of the Division, I would like to extend greetings and my congratulations, that you lived from Omaha Beach to the Elbe River.

George Cox of the 308th Engineers, offered my transportation to the Reunion, but I am too old and deaf now to attend.

Have a drink for me.

Sincerely,  
Buchshot Crabill  
Ex-Colonel, 329th Inf.

Ed. Note: Those who served under Buckshot Crabill and those of who, although we did not serve under him, but still command the respect for a great man such as he was, we are sorry that he was unable to be with us. We sincerely hope that he will be with us at a Reunion in the near future.

\* \* \* \*

Mr. Larry Redmond  
Hq. 83rd Division Association  
132 Rockwood Drive  
Havertown, Pa.

Dear Sir:

This is in reply to your letter of June 1968.

I have written a story about the operations of the 329th Infantry from its organization at Camp Atterbury, Indiana in June 1942 until its last review by General Patton before going back to the States. I commanded it the entire time.

I think this book would be of interest to the ex-members of the 329th Infantry, and possibly to members of other 83rd Division units. They were in the same campaign.

This book is called the "Rag-Tag Circus" and is now in the throes of publication by Vantage Press, 120 West 31st Street, New York, N.Y. 10001. If the books comes out before the reunion, I would like to advertise it in your program. If you would care to handle copies at your receiving desk, I think I can get a considerable price reduction from the publishers.

I doubt that I will be able to attend the reunion as my health severely restricts my physical activities. My address after July 23rd will be c/o M. R. Crabill, 106 Oak Street, Galax, Virginia.

Sincerely yours,  
E. B. Crabill  
Ex-C.O. 329th Infantry



The above picture shows some of the men of 1st Bn. Hqs. 330th. One of the men shown in the photo is the late Frank Rose. The other men in the photo are Blake, Dafforne, Barton, Diemer, Ragsdale, Rath and Nordbloom. This photo was made possible by Robert (Nosey) Nordbloom.

## A Report From Your National Publicity Director

By Vic Landis F. 329.

First, I want to give a tip of the Landis beret to the Greater Philadelphia Chapter for the greatest reunion ever staged in our 22nd year of operation. Also to give them my heartfelt thanks for the great honor given me and the beautiful golden plaque they awarded me, as 83rd man of the year. When Larry Redmond presented me with the silver engraved cup as "Mr. 83rd of 1968" and followed with the plaque, he was throwing curves at me and caught me with my words down. I don't believe the inscription on the plaque was read. So, the inscription was as follows:

"Greater Philadelphia Chapter 83rd Inf. Div. Assn. Man of the Year Award. Presented to Victor E. Landis in Appreciation and Recognition of His Long Term Devotion and Outstanding Service to Further the Growth of Our Organization".

No greater honor could have been bestowed on me and I accepted the plaque with deep humility. I have held the office of National Publicity Director for 10 years and will continue to do so, as long as I am able. May God bless all of the 83rd.

**SEND YOUR DUES TO  
THE SECRETARY  
NOW**

## Boston Chapter Sports News

### 83rd DIVISION LOSES TO CITIZENS CLUB

The Italian-American Citizens Club of Malden recently scored a 16-10 win over the 83rd Infantry Division softball team in a game played at Pine Banks Park.

Bill Maher was the starting and winning pitcher for the IAAC nine, with Mitch Francillo getting the loss. The local team is managed by Richie Gaetani.

Other members of the winning team are: Jim Maher, Ed Giantiasso, Sonny DiBenedetto, Bill Mulcahy, Bob Gaetani, Norm Barnes, Richard Babberi and Frank Cabano.

Pat DiGiammerino of Malden, Mass., is catcher and manager for the Veterans team.

Other starters, who in many instances were relieved by their own sons, were: Mike Caprio, and Al Tataglia of Rhode Island, Ernest Smith, Al Camaro and Nick Francullo of Lynn, Chuck Abdnor of Dracut, Larry Arrigo of Norwood and Ambrose Tynan of Brookline.



**MAKE YOUR PLANS  
NOW TO ATTEND  
THE  
ANNUAL REUNION**

## Company "M" 329th

By Ken Seiger

We are started towards another year in the "THUNDERBOLT" Association and I am hoping that in Reunions yet to come, that we can increase our group to many more than we had in Philly.

I want to thank all of you for coming to my home town, it sure felt good to see you all again.

I know that we all enjoyed ourselves, and so did our wives, so I would like to see us all together again, along with many more of the guys that were with us, in the near future.

Watch for this column in each "THUNDERBOLT".



Ann and Al Belvedere celebrating their 25th Wedding Anniversary.

## 330th Regimental Unit

Hello Buddies:

Well here we are once again, starting another year in the history of the 83rd Infantry Division Association. As we begin the 23rd year of the Association, we call upon each and every one of you who served with the 330th Regiment, to get behind the Association and help make it a bigger and better Organization.

Back over the years, we have been proud of the 330th Regimental Unit for the support that they have shown the Association. We have had a very fine representation in paid up membership. I am sure that this year once again we will give the 329th and the 331st a run for their money.

As I go back through the records of paid and unpaid members, it is surprising to see the number of men who at one time or another were a paid up member, but have fallen by the wayside. We have for the past two years carried men on the mailing list, paid or unpaid. This is being unfair to the paid up members. I ask you of the 330th who are among this group to send in your dues today, show the other members of the Association that the 330th is still a one hundred percent unit.

The final accounting of paid up memberships in the 330th unit showed Co. H the top unit with 25 paid up members, tied for second with 20 paid up members each were Co. D and Co. F. Now that we are on the start of a new year, let us start a campaign for membership, and see which company will be tops in paid up membership this year.

Larry Redmond  
Co. H, 330th

### ATTENTION ALL MEN

Look at the expiration date on your Membership Card —  
If it does not read Aug. 1969 your dues for this year are due.

We would appreciate if you would send it in as soon as possible.

Send your remittance to Larry Redmond, Secretary-Treasurer,  
132 Rockwood Drive, Havertown, Pa. 19083.

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

132 ROCKWOOD DRIVE  
HAVERTOWN, PA. 19083

Non-Profit Org.  
U. S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 310  
Upper Darby, Pa.

Return Requested

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

NAME (please print) .....

ADDRESS .....

CITY, OR TOWN, AND STATE ..... ZIP CODE .....

CO. .... REGT OR BN. ....

I have been honorably discharged from Army Service..... or I am still on active duty..... Enclosed check or money order (\$5.00) payable to:

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

132 Rockwood Drive

Havertown, Pa. 19083

DATE ..... SIGNATURE .....