



THUNDERBOLT

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THE THUNDERBOLT

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

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WILLIAM M. DOTY	1966
ALBERT A. BELVEDERE	1967
VITO C. PALAZZOLO	1968

President's Corner

By Pat Digiammerino
Ser. Bat. 323rd FA

To each and everyone, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks for having elected me President of our great Association. I am both honored and humbled by the high honor bestowed upon me. I promise to help the Association to the best of my ability.



This year is going to be a record breaker as far as membership is concerned. There is going to be an all out drive, but I'll need the help of every 83rd man.

Anyone know a buddy that doesn't belong? Talk to him, talk and talk, wear him down! I'm sure that once he has attended a meeting or reunion he'll never stay away. So sic'em!

I, personally, will present a gift to the 83rd for signing up the most members.

To members of the Detroit Chapter and their wives a hearty thank you for a wonderful time.

Many hours of hard work go into the preparing of a reunion and the Detroit Chapter reunion certainly proved that it paid off. So thanks again to Vito and his committee.

The Boston Chapter is going to be host for the 1970 reunion, here in Boston. The dates have been set for August 20, 21 and 22. The program we have planned will be a busy one with some surprises.

Gentlemen, it is with great pride that I introduce the men who will be serving with me.

1st Vice President
Nick Francullo
Lynn, Mass.

2nd Vice President
Casey Kowalec
Cleveland, Ohio
3rd Vice President
Samuel Klippa
Pittsburgh, Penn.

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Pittsburgh, Penn.
Samuel A. Klippa
Pittsburgh, Penn.

Gentlemen here we are, hoping to serve you to the best of our ability.

Past Reunion Chairman's Report

The Great State of Michigan, Detroit in particular, wishes to express to the entire Membership of the 83rd Infantry Division Association, their sincere appreciation for your attendance of "RE-UNION 23".

The calibre of men who make up this Association, along with their families and guests, is best exemplified by the appearance at our costume Beer Party, made by the representative of Hiram Walker, who felt that he had to apologize publicly, for not being able to entertain you more, and for a longer period of time.

It is indeed a compliment to all of you, when such a firm as "Hiram Walker", can say in all sincerity, "Fellows, you have set a record in consumption of our finest stock, but DAMN it, you were welcome and you will always be again".

My own personal "Thank You", to all who responded so generously to our ad book and raffle tickets, and to all of you that attended. To all of you who had some difficulty in room reservations, a special thank you for being so patient and considerate throughout your ordeal.

"You did our Association proud", Ladies and gentlemen, and in behalf of the Michigan Chapter, and the City of Detroit.

"THANK YOU"
Marion E. Muoio
Past Reunion Chairman

Secretary's Report

Hello Buddies:

Having returned from a very fine reunion, and about ready to settle down to some more serious work, I would like



to say to those of you who have had the misfortune of missing this as well as other Reunions, that you have missed just about half of your life. Believe me, if you have ever had the good fortune of attending a Reunion, you know just what I mean.

This year, the Detroit Chapter did a remarkable job in trying to make this a great reunion. They had one big obstacle in their way which we have had to face before in other cities, and that was that the hotel was undergoing a remodeling program, which caused some inconveniences but these are things that happen and we can't lay the blame on the Reunion Committee or the Chapter which sponsors the reunion. I ask any of you who were there this year and suffered any inconvenience, to just put yourself in the position of the Reunion Committee, and realize the position that they have been put in. I have said it before, and I will continue to say it, each year it becomes harder and harder to give you a Reunion that will be satisfactory to all, with the increase in the cost of living. A few years ago we could plan a good time for the nominal fee of about \$25 or \$30, but as it is now, it is almost impossible to give you a three day program for less than \$50. As it goes on, I know that it will become harder and harder for us to carry this on, but being real true 83rd men, I am sure that men like you and I would be satisfied if we only got the chance to assemble and have a few drinks together, and talk over the old times. I know that our wives and children wouldn't appreciate this as we do, but, something has to be done to help keep this Association going.

Buddies, I have said it before, and I will continue to say it, I receive mail from other associations and units, wanting to know how we can hold together as we do. Believe me, it has been hard over the years, but having the true dedicated 83rd men that we have, we will continue for many years to come. We have had our ups and downs, but thanks to the men we have had, that could come

(Continued on Page 13)

Publicity Director

Samuel Klippa

Dear Buddies:

Hope all of you are rested after the very fine reunion we had in Detroit and everything is back to normal again. Those of you who missed it, have to wait another year to get in on the fun of another good old 83rd Division reunion. Don't forget, it's Boston in 1970 so start making plans to attend now, while you have time to spare. To the boys of the Michigan Chapter, thanks fellas, for putting on a very fine show which I am sure was enjoyed by all who attended. The confusion of getting our rooms was something else but the enjoyment overshadowed that.

Right now I'd like to thank all of you that gave me your vote of confidence and put me on the Executive Board. This is an honor that I will never forget and believe me, I'll do everything I can to help make our Association the best in the country. Thanks also for selecting me as your publicity director. Filling the shoes of Vic Landis won't be an easy task but I'm going to give it a 100 per cent try and hope that everything works out to benefit the Association.

If there are any of you reading this article that can give me any kind of information or tips that will help me with getting the advertising we need to publicize the 83rd, please feel free to write to me anytime. If any of you are employed by radio or television stations, the newspapers or advertising agencies, you can be a great help with your ideas.

Now that the Detroit reunion has gone by the board, it's time to start thinking about Boston in 1970, and each and everyone of us should do his part to build this organization to the "thousand" mark which we have been trying so hard to do over these many years. It's time to send in your dues for the coming year, so do it now and get the full year of benefits from it. Don't put off until tomorrow what you can do today.

In closing I'd just like to remind you to:

Pay your dues early this year.

Do your part to help our membership drive.

Remember, it's Boston in 1970, August 20, 21 and 22.

— Just A Reminder —

PLEASE PAY DUES



Your 1970 Reunion Headquarters

Reunion Chairmans Corner

By Nick Francullo
Hq. Co. 3rd Bn. 330th Inf.

We of the Boston Chapter are all ready looking forward to our 24th annual reunion in good old Boston (Bean Town) and hope each of you are making plans now to attend. The dates are Aug. 20, 21 and 22 at the Sheraton-Boston Hotel. This is the finest and newest hotel in the city of Boston, just 3½ years old.



You can spend all day just going around this new complex. It has everything. Directly over the Massachusetts Turnpike Exit 22, the Sheraton-Boston is easy to drive to. Easy to park in, too, with plenty of completely enclosed parking spaces always free to Sheraton registered guests, and a convenient drive-in entrance. Logan International Airport is just ten minutes away, north and south stations

are even closer. Fenway Park, Boston's theater district and many historical attractions are within easy walking distance.

Special note to family men: bring them long! Your wife will love Boston's smart shops and theaters, and the children will thrill to the sight of places their history books tell about.

This new Sheraton-Boston is 29 stories of dazzling luxury. If you are tired and would like to relax, you can dive into the huge outdoor rooftop swimming pool and it will be opened from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**Make Your
Boston
Plans
Now**

"Frankly Speaking"

Dear Buddies:

Here we are back home again, after our 23rd annual reunion of the 83rd Infantry Division Association. A lot of credit should be given the members of the Michigan 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 cooperation 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 be extended to our Secretary-Treasurer for the very fine job that he did this past year, 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 to the late Victor Landis for the 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 950 paid-up members. Sam Klippa also took a big part in this. Thanks again, Sam, for a job well done.

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 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
Co. D-330th

**SEND YOUR DUES TO
THE SECRETARY
NOW !!**

Greater Boston Chapter News

Ambrose Tynan
Hdq. Btry., 323rd F.A.

Hello Buddies,

Well here we are again and another great reunion has come and gone. Thanks Detroit Chapter for a wonderful time.

We of the Boston Chapter are so proud of our Pat Di Giammerino for being elected President of the 83rd Infantry Division Association. Good luck, Pat. We will all be behind you and your new slate of officers one hundred per cent.

Well first of all Pat and Gin Di Giammerino and Mike Caprio had their first jet flight of their life and they loved it all the way to Detroit and back to Boston. We had a nice flight and as Pat said this is the only way to go.

The Boston Chapter was well represented by Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Mousie Forias, Mr. and Mrs. Tynan and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Torlagilia and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Petrucci and daughter, John Marysz, Mr. and Mrs. Francullo, Bob Hunnewell, Mr. and Mrs. Parnaro and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Bjork, and Mr. and Mrs. Biledeau, Mr. and Mrs. Wooldridge, Mr. and Mrs. Burns, Bill Doty, Mr. and Mrs. Marsh, Mr. Sylvia from New Bedford.

It was so good to see R. M. Smith, but we missed Doris. Hope to see you in Boston.

Oh yes, other missing links at Detroit was good old Mary McGrogan and Mr. and Mrs. Dave Rosenberg . . . sorry.

Say Ralph Moore! Let's hear on more good jokes and save the rest for Boston. And for Paul Diethrich, please take care of Rita, as we will need her too. As for Anthony and Josephine Theodore, we hope you enjoyed yourself too, as we did with your company; stay healthy for next year too.

On the not too happy side of our Boston group, Helen Piatedosi is recovering from a gall bladder operation. Wish you well Helen, we need you.

Also our great one, Larry Arrigo, is out of work due to playing ball with his son in the backyard. Larry missed a hot grounder and was hit on his left ankle, and has to sit it out until the swelling is gone.

James Smith, son of Dutchie and Helen Smith of Lynn, director of the Sacred Heart Parish Drop In Center, leaves Monday for five months training with the National Guard. He will serve at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky.

Philadelphia Chapter Membership Soars On & On

Dave Rosenberg, Co. "B" "F" 331st



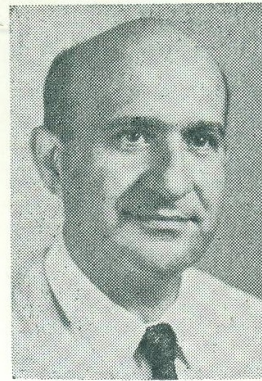
Ralph Nepple and Larry Redmond.



Pat and Ginny Di Giammerino.



Rear, left to right: Virginia Pugh, Bill Chavanne, Mary Redmond. Middle row: Bill Pugh, Larry Redmond, Lou Volpi. Front row: Al Belvedere.



It is remarkable what a new approach can do to make membership in an organization rise to new heights. One of our original magicians Bill Chavanne has concocted a mixture of hard work and real stick to it, and has caused the membership roll of the Philadelphia Chapter to soar on to new heights. Applying the personal touch, using the mail to deliver his message, Bill Chavanne, and of course his charming wife

Bea, also must be marked a plus for their efforts.

Our new meeting place has proved to be a real boon. It has provided us with a means for the men and fine women of our group to convene, to sup on the delightful meals our faithful secretary and most able chef Lou Volpi prepares, sans glory, just with the knowledge that he, Lou Volpi wants his boys and girls of the Philadelphia Chapter to meet at least once a month and enjoy each others company. The comraderie, the spirit of friendship that these meetings bring, defies comparison. Our monthly meetings have proved to be spirited. Our President Joe Gioa has inspired the men, and many ambitious plans are under way.

When one reflects on our monthly meetings, we have to give our women folk the credit for their success. It entails hard work to make each meeting a winner, and that's what our ladies are winners. They have pitched in and gone above and beyond the call of duty to make the meetings momentous events.

All of our fine ladies contribute to our success. I am convinced that there is no group of women that surpasses our ladies. They are beautiful, they have charm, they have that spirit of co-operativeness that emanates from within, and gives them the beauty that makes us so proud and glad that they belong to us alone. I won't attempt to guild the lilly and point out specific ones, but as a group our women can't be beat. God love them. We need them and with their backing the Philadelphia Chapter of the 83rd Infantry Division will always be tops.

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Nick and Mary Francullo.



Larry Redmond, Nick Francullo, Vito Palazzolo, Pat Di Giammerino.



Philadelphia Chapter Men At Reunion. Left to right: Bill Chavanne, Lou Volpi, Al Belvedere, Larry Redmond and Bill Hoolan. Missing from picture - Frank McGrogan.

Past President's Letter

It just doesn't seem like a year has passed, and another reunion has gone by. I hope everyone who attended the

Detroit reunion have returned home alright, and that everyone had a real good time as we enjoyed having you.



Again, I want to thank the Michigan Chapter members and their wives for the hard work they put into this reunion to make it the success it was, and one that will long be remembered.

Also to Marion Muoio, your reunion chairman, for a great job he did in organizing and carrying out the program.

I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate the new officers for the coming year, and wish them a successful and joyous year as I did.

If we learned anything, we will surely pass on to the next president and chairmen, any and all information they need to put on a good reunion. Unfortunately this practice has not been in the past, but I intend to do my best to inform the next president, all of his duties before a reunion, so that he can best be prepared for what lies ahead.

This past year as your president will be one that I shall not forget, and I enjoyed every minute of it.

Thank you for coming,
Vito (Bill) Palazzolo
Past President



Mary and Larry Redmond.

Warren Auxiliary

Warren, Ohio
Sept. 3, 1969



Olga and John Teringo, Mike Skovran.



The Nose? drinking beer.



Dick Kelly's back, R. J. Voracek, Ann Tomazin, Charlie Tomazin.

Hi Everybody,

Another Reunion has come and gone and everybody is back home safe and sound. It was a pleasure to see all of our friends again. Although some of you could not make it this time we were still thinking of you. Hope Mary Schelanik and Mary McGrogan are in the best of health by now. We had one at the Brewery for you. It was pretty good too.

Although we had a time getting a room on Wednesday we finally got settled and in the swing of things.

The tour of the Distillery was very interesting and I understand the 83rd set a new record there. They kept those bartenders busy anyhow.

We made the last bus to the Brewery so we didn't tour the plant. We went through it the last time though. They always have the best food there and nobody has to eat lunch before going there.

I was wondering if Rita and Bob Taylor traded their bed at home for a single one. They must have had fun. Ask them about it! Sure had a big grin on their faces every morning.

It was nice to see Ralph Nepple and Bob Walsh in our Chapter room as they are very nice fellows. Bob Walsh was the first to greet us on our arrival in Detroit. He had been sunning himself in the park as they didn't seem to have enough chairs in the lobby.

Steve Kereszturi drove up with us. He is a new member and it was his first Reunion trip. He said he had a very nice time and his wife will be with him in Boston.

Our Auxiliary is back on the job again after a quiet summer. We have been selling everyday cards and Christmas cards. Also are planning our Christmas dinner dance. It will be held at the Chateau Supper Club on Dec. 13. Anyone wishing to attend will be welcome. Just let us know so we can make reservations. We always have good food and plenty of booze.

Sandy Bellay was married on August 14 at St. Peter and Paul Church and she was a beautiful bride. The reception was held at the Mahoning Country Club. Louise and George were very proud parents. I wonder if Louise has stopped crying yet?

Dick and Zora Green were seen at the 83rd Club drinking beer by the pitcher full. Sure wouldn't want to challenge Dick.

They also have a bartender out there by the name of Whit. He has the sexiest legs in town. You should see him in his shorts behind the bar.

On Labor Day we went to Valley Lake on a picnic. Dick Kelly Joe Minotti, Claude Whitman, Bob Johnson and John Shamrock found out they weren't as young as they used to be. They were Indian wrestling in the water and had sore muscles the next day.

It seems on Saturday night after the dance there was quite a lot of noise and swearing on the tenth floor. The Warren Chapter was blamed for it. The noise was coming from a room a few doors down from us and we want everyone to know that it was not our guests that were so loud.

Our next Auxiliary meeting will be held at the home of Theresa Gautschi and Dimps Minotti will bring the raffle donation. We had our August meeting at Angie Phipone's home and had a gab fest on the costume party. Especially John Teringo's costume.

Theresa and Babe had just been home a short time and had to get ready for Detroit. They had been on a tour of the western states. Pulling a trailer, too.

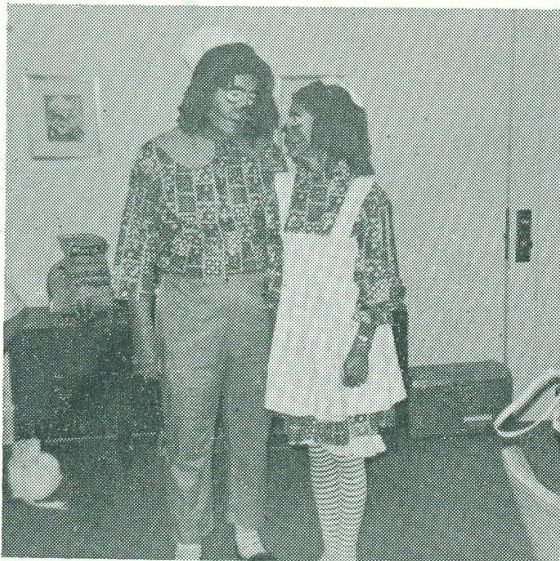
I have run out of gab so will close for now.

So long until the next issue. Hope all are in good health.

Millie Kelly

P.S. To George E. Sites - P.O. Box 1331, Nogales, Arizona 85621.

That was Dick's picture on page 11. You have a pretty good memory. Why didn't you stop in Pittsburgh on your way back from Europe? I was waiting to see that handle-bar mustache I had heard so much about. I gave your address to Jack Foundoulis. He works at Sears with me.



Kate and Loyal Pangle.



Standing, left to right: Theres Gautschi, Fay Titus, Millie Kelly, Birdie Titus, Kate Pangle, Lee Titus, Loyal Pangle. Seated: Angie Phillipone, Joe Phillipone, Dick Kelly.



Ann Tomazin, Liz Skovran, Tony and Ralph Guarrier, Olga Teringo, Angie and Joe Phillipone.



Ralph Nepple and friend.

Warren Chapter

Joe Minotti, 324th FA

Dear Buddies:

Another year, another Reunion, another great time, another fine job done by another great crew. Many thanks to the Detroit Chapter for a job well done. Every year we seem to worry about the next year's crew, of how things will turn out, and we always come out smelling like roses. So, we do have many dedicated 83rd members. There are always a few of the old timers that seem to think the new officers are not capable of holding the line, and as it turns out, they do an excellent job.

Congratulations to all newly elected officers, and best of luck to you all. It takes a lot of co-operation by all concerned to make things go, and petty personal gripes has no place in the officers ranks.

I guess the crew can still hold their liquor. From all reports I have heard, the 83rd set quite a record at the Hiram Walker Distillery on Thursday afternoon, and also at the Stroh's Brewery on Friday afternoon. I do know that in the short time I was at the brewery, I heard the bartender tap five barrels of beer, and if you think that this is not a lot, you should tend bar sometime and go through five barrels of beer in one day. I do believe that the Association as well as the Detroit Chapter should send the distillery and the brewery a special note of thank you, for a job well done. I for one will send a personal note to both groups, and when the salesmen come in, thank them personally.

The Warren Chapter has not had an affair since the reunion, but we do have a couple set up. In September, we will have a surprise affair, and in October, a steak fry at Charlie's Tomazin's home. This affair we always look forward to.

As usual, the children of the 83rd members are active in school sports.

John Terringo's daughter is a cheerleader.

Mike Skovran's son is on the Howland Junior High team.

Charlie Tomazin's son is also on the Junior High team.

Dick Kelly's son is a leading candidate for the freshman team in high school.

Steve Keyesturis's son is out for the Little League.

Everyone of these boys played baseball for one league or another all summer.

George (Cheese) Belly had a wedding; his daughter was married on August 24.

I still think that the close area Chapters should try to have some kind of a get-together this winter. With these, I

mean Pittsburgh, Warren, Cleveland and Detroit. These four chapters are within a 200-mile area. If any of these chapters have any ideas on this, let's have some correspondence on it. We could set up a half way point, or travel to each chapter area for the weekend. This could set up a nice four period program. Will look forward to some word from the other chapters.

Jersey Chapter News

Hi Buddies!

Well another reunion has passed and I hope everyone had a swell time. I know it's hard pleasing everyone but these guys and their wives and friends do their best with whatever they have.

My wife and I had a swell time, as we always do at the reunions, meeting friends that we see only once a year and then correspond by mail the rest of the year. Anyone can have a good time if they make up their mind to do so and not look at the mistakes that are made. Believe me, it's not an easy job running a reunion. As President. Vito Palozzola said, he had asked for any suggestions from anyone and only received one answer. I know I opened my mouth at the meeting in Detroit and from the many that I talked to after, they seemed to feel the same way. The first item was having something for the teenagers to do. The second, having something for the wives to do, while the men are at the meetings. I know some men feel that the wives and children shouldn't be there, but believe me I wouldn't have it any other way. I look at the 83rd group as one big family, who always make you feel at home, so please let's keep it that way.

If you have any ideas, just send them to the Boston group and I know if it can be done, it will. I know I have some and I'm going to send them so how about you?

Let's really get on the ball and start working for the Boston reunion and make it one of the best! Give them the help that is much needed. Hope you all had a swell time in Detroit. We did.

Yours truly,
Jim Bowie
330th Co. B

PLEASE

PAY

YOUR

DUES

NOW!!!

Secretary's Report

(Continued from Page 5)

to the rescue when the chips were down, we have been able to struggle, and fight back. This year we struck an all-time high, we hit the record peak of 950 paid up members. We fell short of our 1,000 members that we have tried for over the years, but with the help of you the active members we may reach it this year.

Buddies, I have said before, and I will continue to say, "this is your Association", the success or failure of it depends solely on you the members. Please for the good of the Association, become an active member. If you are unable to attend a Reunion, do your part by sending in your dues, we have a lot of men on our mailing list who are and have been unpaid members. We decided at a meeting two years ago that we would carry the unpaids on the roster for three years, to many of you, this is your last year if you don't pay up your dues. I am sure that each and everyone of you can afford the small sum of \$5 to help this Association going. To those of you who have never had the honor and privilege of attending a reunion, can't possibly begin to realize what this Association means to all of us. Along with sending in your dues, on the back cover of the "THUNDERBOLT" you will see the membership application, please fill this out and send it with your check or money order. Be sure to put your unit on it, so that I know where to credit you on our roster, also be sure to put your correct address and zip code.

I have asked in the past and continue to ask you to send me anything that you have that seems newsworthy, we will publish it if at all possible, if for any reason you have sent me something that you wanted published, and it wasn't, please bear with me, there are times when we are limited for space. I have been requested to do closer editing to the paper, and cut down on the extra lines of material I have been publishing, but I thought it only fair to publish your letters as you sent them to me. Last year we reached a goal of 950 paid up

members; this year I sincerely hope that we can do even better than that. With your help we can. I receive complaints from time to time from men in regards to receiving their "THUNDERBOLT", believe me, if you don't get it, I am sorry. I have tried checking the stencil files, but with about 2,700 names and addresses it is very easy to slip up on someone. Please bear with me, if you have any criticism, please let me know, if you have any suggestive help that you can give us, send it also. Let us all get on the bandwagon, and help make this a bigger and better Association. Let us all stand ready to lend any support necessary to the boys in Boston. I ask each and everyone of you to please let me know if you have missed an issue, or if you move, please send me the change of address. Another problem that I have is that when you send in your dues, the unit is not written. In our files we have several names and addresses, but no units, so I am unable to credit your membership to your particular unit.

Well Buddies, this is the first issue for this year. Please don't hesitate to write me if there is anything that you wish to have published. I can't promise each and everyone that I will get their letter in, but I will try my best. The deadline for the next issue will be November 15, 1969. Not having the pleasure of meeting each and everyone of you in person, being the true dedicated 83rd man that I am, I feel as if I know each and everyone of you personally.

Now that the 1969 Reunion has come and gone, start planning today to attend next year's reunion. It will be held in Boston, Massachusetts the third week in August. The full information will be printed in future issues. Remember, if you are not a paid up member, dues are due now. To those of you who have been receiving the "THUNDERBOLT" without having paid your dues, time is running out. This will be your last year. Be a real 83rd man, send in your dues at once.

Yours truly,
Larry Redmond
Secretary-Treasurer

ATTENTION ALL MEN

Look at the expiration date on your Membership Card —

If it does not read Aug. 1970 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.**

Greater Indianapolis Chapter

330th Regiment

Hi Buddies,

Well I hope all who attended the Reunion at Detroit had a safe return trip home. No doubt the Detroit Boys come up with a program that was enjoyed by all who were present for the event. And while on the subject of reunions, right now I would like to Thank the Boys at Detroit for being the Host to the Past Reunion, enough can't be said for you Detroit Boys, so Thanks Again for Carrying the Load for this Past Reunion.

Things around Hoosierland has been happening. The National Drag Races have just wound up so that rave has been settled until another year.

My youngest daughter Cathy was married to a young man from Buffalo, New York this past May. Well we had them home with us for this past Labor Day holiday. We have been doing so many things over the holidays that we are all slightly shop worn.

We are very sorry to hear about the illness of young John Soroko. I have had the report that young John (Doug) has been in the hospital for surgery on two different occasions; we are hoping that John (Doug) will soon be well again.

The Clarence Hockensmiths have moved to Indianapolis. They formerly lived at New Whiteland, Indiana. Welcome Clarence and Betty and nice to have you so much closer to our Chapter area.

I had a telephone call from "Ol" Lou Myers the other day. Sure glad to hear from you, Lou. Don't wait so long to join us at our meetings and festivities. Some of the other guys that I would like to write more about but I never see them to pick up any gossip from them. They are Frank Pope, Kenny Baird, Wilfred Zander, "Ol" Joseph Lowry, Walter Edwards Jr. We have had Jim Burton, his wife and kiddo's at our Summer picnic and we were real happy to have them. So Jim our door is wide open for you and your family, so please come to our gatherings any time you can.

I must apologize to our Chapter for not getting to the press on time for the last Thunderbolt edition and right now I'm hoping this one makes the deadline.

Good Luck to All You Nice People of the 83rd Division Association.

Matthew F. Brumbach
7144 Lockwood Lane
Staff Reporter

Hello Buddies:

Having returned from a tremendous Reunion, we are now settling down for another great year. I am happy to say that the 330th was well represented both in paid up membership for the year and also in attendance at the Reunion.

I sincerely hope that you of the 330th will start a campaign amongst your Buddies and help us strike an all time high in paid up membership. I am sure that each and everyone of you have names and addresss of a former buddy or buddies that you could contact and tell him or them of our Association. The growth in membership can be helped trmendously by you the members if you give your support to it.

This year we did not hold our Unit Luncheons; we sincerely hope that starting next year we can go back to these Unit Luncheons. At these luncheons, it gives a better chance to get our own group together and along with our wives have a little social.

Let us all sit down and check our membership cards and see if we have current card, if not, please send a check or money order today in the amount of \$5 for your dues. If you are paid up and still wish to support the 330th Regimental Unit as well as the Association, why not send in dues for that particular Buddy that has always been so close to you. Maybe he is one of the many that do not know of this Association, by becoming a member and receiving his "THUNDERBOLT" he can't help but know about it. Remember, Christmas is coming, given him a membership as a Christmas gift.

Sincerely,
Larry Redmond, Co. H
330th

Make Your

Plans

Now

For

The

1970

Reunion

Aug. 20, 21, 22

Fall River Chapter Chatter

By Manny Martin, F-329th

There is no need for me to tell you, just how very much Adeline and I hated to miss our first reunion in many years, not being able to visit with our many friends that we looked forward to seeing each year. We did miss all of you very much, and are eagerly looking forward to seeing you in Boston next year.



We were delighted to have as our guests, the week after the reunion, Larry and Mary Redmond, who drove from Philly, and spent a day with us at our little ocean hideaway, in little Compton. Not having been able to attend the Executive Board meeting in May, nor the reunion, made it seem like ages and ages since we last saw these grand people. You were a sight for sore kids; I only wish you could have spent more time with us.

As I enter my tenth consecutive year as one of your national officers, I approach it with mixed emotions. Sorry yes, that I will no longer be part of the working force, yet a little happy that I can attend reunions without worrying about the time element in making meetings. More on this in a later issue.

As Chairman of your Board this year, I would like to welcome our new board members, Sam Klippa; your new president, Pat DiGiammerino, and all of the new slate of officers elected with them. Certainly these two men have been loyal members of long standing and are most deserving of the honor you bestowed upon them. I look forward to a great year for the Association.

I have just been informed today, of the death of Ann Telles, beloved wife of Tony Telles, who served in Co. F-330th. Ann was a lovely girl, not only in appearance but inwardly as well. She was one of the more popular members of the Fall River Chapter, and shall be sadly missed by all of us. To Tony and all of Ann's family, I extend on behalf of every chapter member, the sincerest heartfelt sympathies that are capable of being conveyed. Ann had been ill for some time and during Adeline's confinement at the hospital for her vein literature, I would wheel her down in a wheel chair, to Ann's room, each day to visit with Ann. This plucky girl looked forward to Adeline's visit and though in pain, many days, always had time to see us. God be with you Ann.

Norm Bowers is home again from the hospital. We do hope that the wheels turn and keep this great guy away from hospitals for a long time to come.

Our chapter president, Romeo Maynard, has also had his bit of tough luck with health; spent a few weeks in the hospital, but is now at home. He sincerely wish that he enjoys finer health than he has in the past couple of years.

After many years of hard work, building their drug store into one of the finest in this area, Adelard and Loretta Larue, with their children, were at last able to take a whole week off, and journey into Canada for a long needed and deserved vacation. We couldn't have been happier for anyone than we were for these two wonderful people. Pete dropped me a card saying that they had stopped at the same hotel they had stayed at for their honeymoon. Well Pete, unless an elevator dropped with you on it, or you have stayed off of the gin and tonic, everything should be O.K.

That wraps it up for this issue. To all Thunderbolts and their families, all of the best and God bless.

The Battle of the Bugle - 25 Years Later - The 99th Returns

It is not often that a trip to Europe is scheduled for a December departure. But December 1969 is a little different to members of the 99th Infantry Division Association — veterans of The Battle of the Bulge, the great military action in which U.S. forces were ever engaged.

On December 3rd, veterans of the famed 99th and their families will leave New York for a two-week visit to Europe, climaxed by ceremonies in the Ardennes in which both German and U.S. veterans of that action will participate. Highlighting the ceremonies December 12, 13 and 14, will be the participation by political and military leaders of both countries, including Ambassador John Eisenhower whose latest book, *The Bitter Woods*, features this action. Joining in a common rededication of understanding, German and American veterans will share in the greatest moment of mutual respect and recognition that this epic battle has yet been given.

All veterans of The Battle of the Bulge are invited to join the 99th in their return pilgrimage. In addition to the special ceremonies in Belgium, visits to Paris, London, Brussels and Ireland are scheduled. Special low rates are being provided. Details can be obtained by writing to the 99th Division Association, c/o Galaxy Tours, Inc., 954 Public Ledger Building, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106.

Cleveland Chapter Report

Congratulations to the Detroit Chapter on a fine reunion. They had their problems with the conditions at the hotel. This of course was not their fault nor could the hotel management really be blamed as they explained at our meeting the problem was created by labor disputes which delayed their remodeling schedule. I hope that all that had complaints were satisfied as I know the hotel did all in their power to take care of all complaints. We wouldn't be 83rd if we let a little inconvenience bother us. The reunion itself was well organized and that is the big thing. Once again Detroit, thank you for a good time.

As you know the last report was submitted by my buddy, Casey Kowalec, as the family and I were in Colorado on vacation and I thank him for this. On our trip we stopped in St. Louis, Mo. and I contacted my old buddy and motor sergeant of "C" Btry., 322 FA, Anthony Konarz. His address is 1208 Mead Drive, St. Louis, Mo. 63134. I was hoping he would be in Detroit but he had plans made and did not make it. I signed him up in the Association and he should now be getting the Thunderbolt so that he will have news in advance of future reunions. Tony, in Detroit we had Casey Kowalec, Jerome R. Zingg, Anthony Adellizzi, Allen Wandrie, Wayne "Ed" Sandkuhl and myself, so you can see quite a few of the boys of "C" Btry. were there. We'll be looking for you in Boston next year, or at least in Cleveland in 1971.

We also had a fair representation from the Cleveland Chapter what with Walt and Mary Meczka, Bill and Alma Herhuth, Bob and Bernie Grobelny, Bob and Joanne Uher, Casey and Laura Kowalec, Domonic Christopher, Ted and Stella Gurgol, Ray and Marge Voracek, Eleanor and I.

Now that Summer is over we will once again resume our meetings on the third Sunday of the month, starting September at Walt Meczka's home. We'll be looking for a good turnout.

Congratulations to the outgoing officers on a job well done what with 970 paid up members they came close to that magic number. They did a job.

Congratulations to the incoming officers. They have large shoes to fill but they are all capable men and I'm sure they will do their utmost to better the past year; we'll all be behind you.

At our business meeting it was suggested that two members in each chapter be designated as official contacts for any information that may be necessary to be passed on to the rest of the members as soon as possible. In keeping with this I submit the names of Walt Meczka, 4952 East 111 St., Garfield

Heights, Ohio 44125 (phone 883-2171), and Al Uridel, 3784 East 54th St., Cleveland, Ohio 44105 (phone DI. 1-4339). Hereafter if there is anything to be transmitted between chapters it will be best to contact these men. All chapters should do the same.

Time is now for this initial report so I close with fond memories of another reunion and looking forward to the next. Au Revoir.

Casey Szubski

Chicago Chapter

William Doty

This report finds your reporter recuperating from the reunion held in Detroit. The Chicago Chapter, and as many of you know many of our members were present, greatly appreciated and enjoyed the wonderful times provided by the Michigan Chapter during August.



So far as the Chicago news is concerned itself, since the Chicago Chapter has no meetings during the months of August or September, there is a

lack of information or news to report at that time.

All those who were present at the reunion will recall that the installation party and the first meeting of the Chicago Chapter will be held at the Como Inn in Chicago on Friday, October 17, 1969. At that time we invited, and hopefully look forward to our national secretary and treasurer being present as our installing officer. We also invited all members who might be in the Chicago area to attend our installation party. At this time we extend the same invitation to any and all members of the 83rd Division who read this in the Thunderbolt and who are in the vicinity of Chicago on October 17 to join us.

We would also like to state that our officers for the year 1969-70 are:

President: Herman F. Koeneman, 908 Hernandez, Arlington Heights, Illinois
Phone: (312) CL 5-49925

Vice President: Harold H. Dopp, 75 So. Cumberland Parkway, Des Plaines, Illinois.
Phone: (312) 827-4652

Treasurer: Anthony Novak

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

Making History

Norm Campbell

Having put 3,200 miles on our car to get back and forth the Detroit, we thought you might be interested in our reactions and hear us say it was another successful reunion.

We traveled initially to Charles City, Iowa, to see the Paul Garthwaies, 300 Kelly Street. Paul is the Postmaster and runs a very large and successful Gift Shop. Theirs is a beautiful old home, tastefully furnished, and do they know how to entertain! They let us get to bed early the first night, but the second was like the tornado which hit Charles City a year ago. The destruction through the main part of town is still very much in evidence.

After a 200-mile drive back to Madison, Wisconsin, I tried to play 18 holes of golf and wish I hadn't.

Utter exhaustion kept us in Madison an extra night, and made us late for the reunion. I apologize and will hereafter try to make it on time. Madison is a unique and clean city built mostly between two large lakes. It is the home of the University of Wisconsin, with a wintertime student population of about 32,000. Hippie types were very much in evidence, even now. My friend in Madison is a retired Army man and the Deputy Director of the Wisconsin Historical Society. He related the story of a young man and his father who were visiting in his home. The young man proceeded to degrade the Army, the country, and everything else in sight. His behavior moved my friend to show the young man to the door. His father followed and will not return. It is exciting to know that there are still strong people in these United States who believe. Incidentally, my friend's son had just received a Bronze Star for rescuing his wounded Sergeant under fire.

We were extremely impressed by the number of people flying "Old Glory" throughout the Midwest as compared to the East. It was very noticeable and a heartwarming feeling.

After spending Sunday evening with more friends near Detroit, we were off to Canada. If you get the opportunity to visit London and Stratford, Ontario, do so. The annual Shakespearian Festival runs from June through October in Stratford. It is a most worthwhile town with two playhouses operating simultaneously. We even found a free ferry the next day before spending the night out over the water of the St. Lawrence near the 1,000 Islands area. The scenery was truly beautiful. The next

morning, we drove back into the United States to see more friends near Syracuse, New York.

While tooling down Interstate 81, Marion noticed signs saying the Interstate ended at Minersville, Pennsylvania. Do you know who lives there? The Rugieniuses, Helen and Reggie. We thought we couldn't be entertained any better than we had been, but we were, and no one had to do the dishes. We took a trip to the one tourist attraction in that part of the country—a coal mine, which proved to be most interesting. On the way home, they asked us to stop at their favorite spot for a drink. Marion was smarted out as usual, but I had a two-day's growth of beard, shorts and a sport shirt. Never mind, no one will notice—and they didn't. We left six hours later! We couldn't have driven 10 feet so we stayed the night. We had additional pleasures in that Helen and Reggie's son Michael was home from Navy duty in Newfoundland and Helen's parents live next door. They are delightful people, but I'll never forgive them for making us drink Scotch the morning after a night like the Rugieniuses put us through. Give Minersville a wide berth unless you have a strong constitution—it was wonderful. Incidentally, Reggie's feet are mending, and he did have pneumonia in the hospital. They are coming to visit us the first week in October, so there may be more floods in Virginia about that time.

Our main point in all this is our basic reason for attending reunions. How else could we ever meet such truly wonderful people as we have since World War II? During the unpleasantness of war one has such a small circle of friends. There is no chance to become acquainted with the distaff side, so reunions are the only answer. One other reason that warms our hearts and excites us is to see many of our present friends who have been so successful through hard work in this magnificent country of ours.

Obituaries

GLENWOOD GINGERICH, 331st, was killed in an auto accident along with his wife and granddaughter in July 1969 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

EMORY H. BRUCE, Co. G, 331st, died August 20, 1969 of a pulmonary hemorrhage, 28 hours after admittance to hospital.

**SEND YOUR DUES TO
THE SECRETARY
NOW !!**

Philadelphia Chapter Membership Soars On & On

(Continued from Page 8)

Memories, memories, the passing time I must confess has dulled my recollections, but as I read "The Bitter Woods" authored by John S. Eisenhower, a thorough story of the Ardennes campaign, I wonder, how the hell did we live through it. There is but two mentions of the 83rd Division in the entire book. One relates the capture of 10,000 Germans by Lt. Sam Magill in the Loire Valley Forey. The other states, "It took the 83rd two days to break into and clear the village of Behain, etc. In this operation the 83rd Division lost more than 1,000 men, a high figure, but not excessive in view of the nature of the resistance, the terrain and the bitter cold." And so I look back and remember the days of the Bulge, and thank the dear Lord for keeping an eye on me. The town of Behain I'll always remember. I was with Capt. Macaluso and a few of the George Company men, including Sgt. Titus, pinned in a small farm house when the Jerries counter attacked with tanks and a company of men. I can still see in my mind's eye the white suited Heinies. I can vividly picture the "type-writers" (the machine guns) on the tanks playing their deadly tune at the farm house. Capt. Mac kept his cool, he tried to dispatch a runner to give word of the counter attack. The poor runner was killed, the minute he ran from the farm house. In the meantime from the farm house we had a field day. The attacking Heinies were picked off as they approached. Still it looked bad in the farm house. But lo and behold three of our anti-tank destroyers loomed into sight and they fired their cannons and knocked out the German tanks and many of the attacking Germans.

All who lived through the Bulge will always remember the cold, the snow, the forced marches, the favorite cry of General Mason, "One more cross road". The sight of the burnt out tiger tanks. The frozen feet, the sleepless nights. The Heinie machine gunners who somehow had clear field of fire at the cross roads throughout the damned woods. The snipers in their white suits perched in the snowy trees. How can I forget Sgt. Shoemaker leading the third platoon of F Co. 331st through the fields on Jan. 6, only to become sitting ducks for the waiting white suited Heinies. In the third platoon, led by Lt. Drucker, we had about 20 replacements who just joined us no more than two days before they were wiped out. I can remember how after night had fallen, Sgt. Shoemaker played dead and escaped and told us of the massacre, the Germans shooting the

wounded and all prisoners. And so in the books that are written all that is mentioned is 1,000 men were lost. I guess we all agree that war is hell.

The following letter is a note I sent my dear wife Ann by V mail more than 24 years ago. I do hope that all will accept this message in the spirit it was written. It was censored by 1st Lt. Mann so it can't be all that bad. So again share my experience and forgive.

Belgium Feb 23, 1945

Dear Wife Ann:

How are you? I hope you are O.K. I have a revelation to make. Yesterday I went on pass to the big evil city. A confession is good for the soul so here goes. For the first time since I left home I did it. Not that I can honestly say I never looked for it, but this time I found the spot and I couldn't resist. I was walking down the street and out of this building I saw some GIs going in and coming out shortly looking pleased and relieved. Then one fellow came out and I asked him how he liked it? He told me it was his first one since the states, and that it was the best he's had and that it was the best thing a man could get. So I confess I didn't need much coaxing and I weakened and I went in. A beautiful girl at the ground floor with a knowing look on her face sort of read my mind and motioned me to follow her. I admit I was nervous and bashful. She led me upstairs. Another madame upstairs took my money. She was like all Belgians all business. She led me to a small cubicle of a room. It was clean and neat. In the corner was a cot. She got everything ready. I took another look and an exultant feeling of joy ran through me. Now that I had decided to do it; everything was turning out better than I had hoped. I took another look and liked what I saw. Not wanting to waste time, I stripped, and as I stripped I could picture the heavenly bliss I would fall into. Naked I waited no longer. It looked so inviting I literally jumped and fell in. Oh what a sensation. It was heavenly. I just laid and laid. When I grew weak, I just lay quiet, letting the sensation play all over me. It was without doubt the best I've had since I left home. It was just right. I really enjoyed it.

O.K. dear now you can relax; it is only a description of a delightful "tub" bath I had in a public bath house that had cabinet tubs. The pass lasted eight hours and the only thing I enjoyed was the opportunity to take a tub. I had little money, and most of the time I wallowed about the city. It isn't much different from our own town, large and quite modern. That's about all dear; everything is O.K.

Love, Dave

Dave Rosenberg (I am not a baby boy.)

Letter to the Editor Dept.

"The time has come the Walrus said to speak of many things" . . . paying of dues . . . remembering lost and old comrades . . . and just plain reminiscing!

It was 3 July 1944; we were to attack on the 4th of July . . . it was to be our first introduction to the war . . . tomorrow was our hour of truth! The place was just outside of Carentan . . . It was here that I first saw Colonel Crabill! A man that must have had many problems and worries appeared to be calm, cool and confident. He saw to it that others felt as he did by word and deed. I remember he didn't look like the C.O. I had pictured, what with his leggings up around his knees . . . and he was much shorter than 'Big' John Wayne, but he had the 'horsepower' within which makes the difference among men.

That 4th of July will be remembered by quite a few of us even today I'm sure . . . it started off with a bang . . . a Corps "Serenade" as nearly as I can recall . . . enough noise from 500 guns to wake up Churchill, but the Krauts had read our history books too and we didn't get too far that day. It was on this day that I saw a dead soldier from the 329th Regiment . . . rifle still in his fist . . . his age was about 17 or 18 . . . blond hair, but what was so strange was he had a U.S. War Bond in his breast pocket (I was looking for ammo if you are wondering what I was doing in his pockets) and I thought: "Here's a kid . . . probably enlisted since he was so young; bought War Bonds; fought for his country and died for his country! What more can mortal man do? Here it's been 25 years since that happened and I remember it like it was yesterday!"

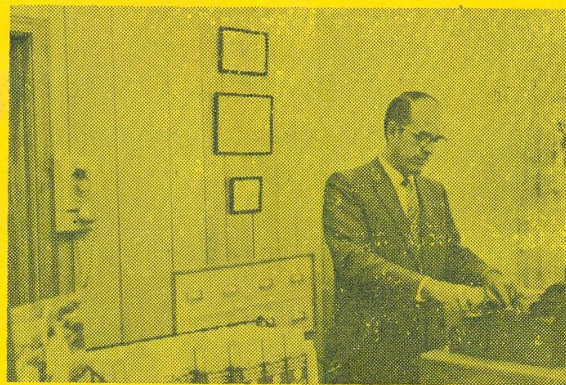
And then I remember in August 1944 . . . in Angers one day I bumped into my old basic training Sergeant from Camp Robinson, Ark., 1942 . . . Tech. Sgt. Coco . . . Co. C, 130th Regt. (a replacement from the depot). He was the guy that taught me my trade . . . a Texan from Texarkana. A tough but fair little guy that when he chewed you out he spit out the buttons one at a time! I often wondered if he made it!

There was the time at ST. MALO . . . the big end run to Luxemburg! But you all remember that . . .

Some folks might call those the good old days! I wouldn't! Just the old days . . . I wouldn't take a million bucks for the experience, but I wouldn't go through it all again for two million bucks!

And neither would you . . . So here's my dues which gives me a license to reminisce once a year!

Bob Plummer
Co. A, 802d TD Bn.
(Attached to 2d Bn., 329th Regt.)



At The Cash Drawer As Usual.

Sirs:

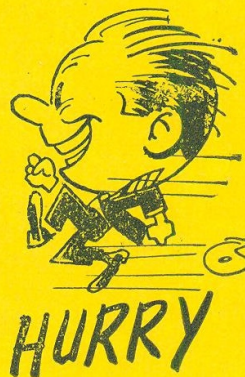
I understand you have been looking for me. I was a member in good standing until "66"; then all correspondence quit. I received no "THUNDERBOLT", no letters, no nothing. Lee Roy McManaway saw my name on the missing list and called me.

I am interested, although I've only attended one Reunion, (Indianapolis in "63"). Since I'm in the retail shoe business, our busy season starts right at our Reunion time and I can't leave it.

Please catch me up to date, and send me a bill for dues. Harry Lockwood came by here and I understand from McManaway it was shortly before he passed away. He was a grand fellow. How did you lose my name and address?

Sincerely,
Milton McMahan
Co. D, 308th Med. Bn.

Ed. Note: Milton, I don't know how your stencil ever got out of the file. I am only sorry that you didn't write a letter of inquiry sooner.



**SEND YOUR DUES TO
THE SECRETARY
NOW !!**

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

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HAVERTOWN, PA. 19083

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908 FA

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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