



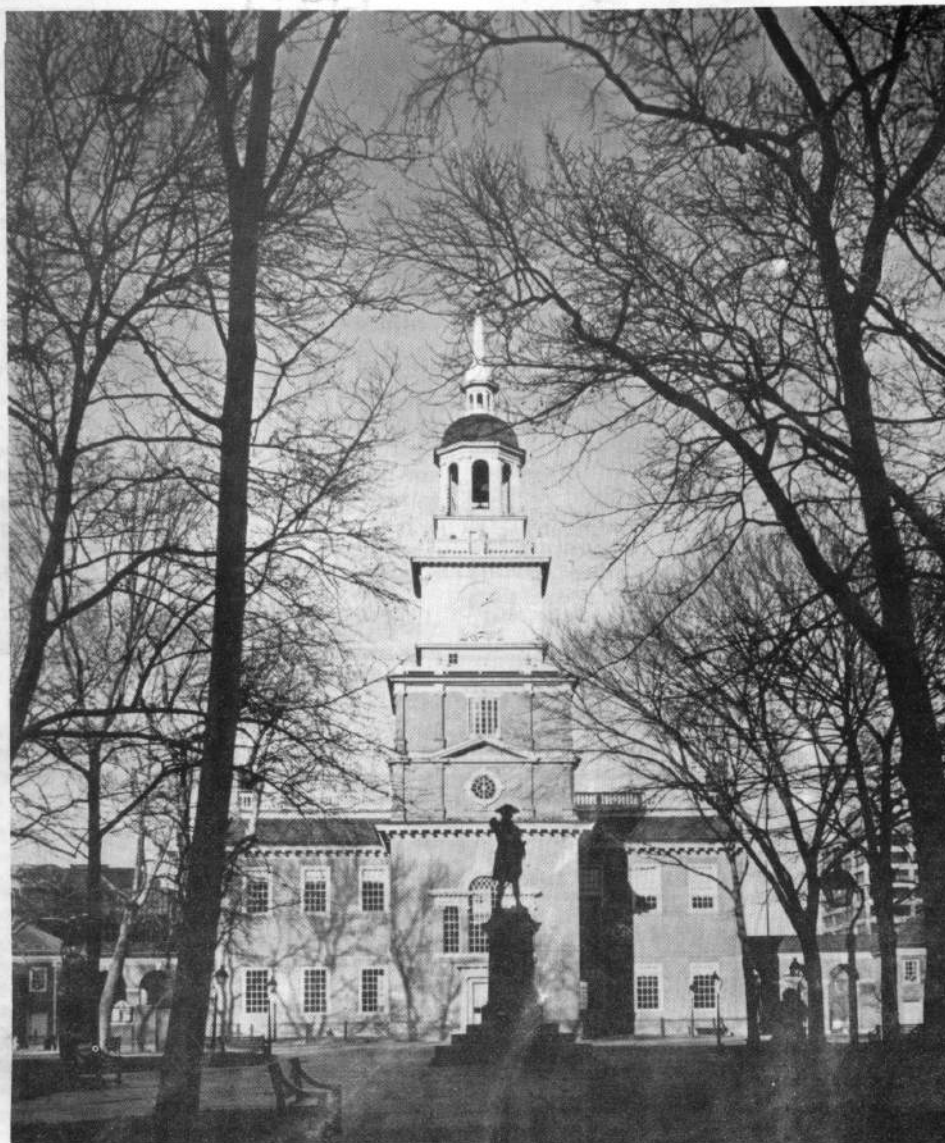
THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

VOL. 35 NO. 1

SEPT., OCT., NOV., 1979



A cherished shrine of liberty, Independence Hall in Philadelphia saw the adoption of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States. Here, also, the new nation was governed during the formative years between 1774 and 1800.

(National Park Service photo by Richard Frear)

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: 3749 Stahlheber Road, Hamilton, Ohio 45013.

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A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS WHO HAVE SERVED US WELL

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Casey Szubski 1970
Charles Altomari 1971
*Harold H. Dopp 1972
Louis J. Volpi 1973
Bernard O. Riddle 1974
Robert G. Taylor 1975
Mike Skovran 1976
Manlius Goodridge 1977
Joseph A. Macaluso 1978

Pittsburgh Chapter

Hello Buddies.

Just want to say, we in the Pittsburgh Chapter want to congratulate every member of the Louisiana Chapter and especially Joe Macaluso and Lenard Prelutsky for hosting one fine reunion. Knew it was going to be a great one too, because we were forty-five strong representing the Pittsburgh Chapter to help make it happen. There were forty-four on our plane and Sam Klippa was our Spearhead who left a few days earlier.

As our jet flew over New Orleans readying to land, we were given food for thought and moments of anxiety when our pilot announced, "Due to an uncommon situation, we are going to fly over Lake Ponchartrain to jettison fuel and lighten our load for landing, and not to be alarmed." Looked out the windows and saw all that good fuel streaming from the wing tanks and wondered just why the plane had to be made lighter. After what seemed like hundreds of gallons of fuel dumping, we headed back to the airport for a perfect landing and a feeling of happy relief as we rolled to a stop. Found out through the grapevine there was suspicion of a faulty landing gearand we'll never know for sure.

This really was a memorable reunion for past Association president Charlie Altomari because he got together with company buddy, Kermit Ramsey of Co. B 308th Engrs. from Chattanooga, Tennessee who was attending his first reunion. They haven't seen one another in 34 years, since 1945. They have already planned to meet again in Philadelphia.

Lou Kanes of B 329 met Charlie Tsunis from New York, who attended the reunion with his wife, Angel. Lou and Charlie haven't seen each other since Philly in 1955.

Francis Beerhalter and Steve Columbus took a trip to Whelling, W. Va. before the reunion to visit with Laonard Haskins of 2nd Bn. Hq. 329th. He was unable to come to this reunion because of a heart attack but, God willing, hopes to be with us in Philly. Beerhalter hasn't seen Haskins for about 5 years but Columbus and Haskins really had a grand reunion because it was their first meeting since they were both discharged.

These are kind of happenings that really make our great association worthwhile. In a sense, our ties are growing stronger as the years pass by.

I'm very sorry to report, to many of you who do not already know, the passing of Henry Golembiewski, one of the nicest men I've ever known and one of the most enthusiastic and active members of our chapter. Hank most always attended our meetings and social functions with his camera close at hand. He was our official photographer and took many of the pictures that were printed in our Thunderbolt. He also kept us all supplied with snapshots of ourselves.

Hank and wife Elena loved to travel together, especially with the 83rd. They went on all three European trips with the tour groups and made many friends along the way. In June, shortly after returning from Europe, Hank passed away. We were deeply saddened and we will all miss him. To Elena, we wish to extend condolence and want her to always feel that she too will always be thought of as part of the 83rd and our Pittsburgh Chapter.

We have had our regular monthly meeting in September and had a chance to rehash all the good things that happened in New Orleans.

New business included laying plans for our up-coming Christmas Party and Dinner Dance. Seems like just yesterday we were talking about attending the reunion - Now its plans for Christmas. Where has the summer gone?

Must rush to get this in the mail and hope it arrives to our new editor before deadline time. Til next ime, God Bless.

LARRY LEONARDY
"A" Co. 331ST.



The Hon. Mayor of MARKET DRAYTON, ENGLAND.

From left; L. Leonardi, Elena, Mayor Rhodes, Mrs. Rhodes, H. Golembiewski.

Chaplains Steeple
CHAPLAIN
John T. Piscitelli

The Day before we left for our New Orleans Reunion we were notified of the following men passing away:

Robert Walsh K. 331
Gene Nelson A. 908
Joseph Stranahan A. 331

May the Good Lord keep them always and may they always rest in Peace. Amen.

Our good friend and Chapter member, James McNabb HDQRD. 3rd BN. 331 INF. lost his lovely wife Anne Sept. 14 our Prayers are with him in his loss.

In our Chapter four other member's wives have been ill in Hospitals hope to see all of them soon.

Olive Ponzio
Josephie Theodore
Clair Lima

Also my wife Josie Broke her big toe on her right foot the day before the Reunion trip - that was the end of our dancing for a while. May the Good Lord Bless us all. And may there be all good news in our next issue.

God Bless every one.

Nat'l Chaplain
John T. Piscitelli

WARREN AUXILIARY "JAZZING IT UP"
IN NEW ORLEANS



Warrens answer to the disco craze- Mike and Liz Skovran.



A couple of the Warren Ladies welcome the Mardi Gras King to cap-off the banquet night. . . L to R - Birdie Titus "The King" and Mary Cooley



"What do you mean 'shape up or ship out'?"

Since last issue news:

We held our June meeting at Paradise Lake — Good fun again, and I must add: fine food!

Ole soft-shoe George Cooley had a back problem — unable to play golf.

This gang had a pre-reunion get together at the Philipone's daughters wedding — Kate & Loyal Pangle attending from Michigan — beautiful wedding — all you could eat and drink, WOW! !

July meeting was held at Smelkos golf-picnic area — men golfing, women getting the food line ready.

August meeting at Smelkos again was the second pre-reunion get together — men golfing — the healthy vital ladies doing "OUR THING" for OUR BIG GUYS.

"WARREN HAPPENINGS":

The Caparanis's son John and wife presented big John and Helen with a Grandson, John Joshaua — the daughter of Babe and Theresa Gautschi had a Grandson, Jeremy, for Grandma and Grandpa — The Automobile Accident Theresa and Babe had while traveling to their Lake home was quite a scare for all of us here — their bruises healed nicely — who cares about a badly damaged car — we want them around for a long time. . . .

With all the enjoyable days that were available to us in New Orleans, the visit was a delightful, satisfying, relaxing experience. The advantage of such a vacation is the fact you spend the time with old and new friends — fine food and fun times — how can you beat this type of atmosphere and entertainment — the classy Banquet night presentation with the shimmering, dramatic costumes spotlighting the evening — a fantastic treat.

The sad part, getting back to our daily routines again, — our annual Post-Reunion meeting and steak fry at the home of our "DISCOBEAT KID" Mike Skovran and wife Liz (one of our New Orleans C-P Hostesses) Thank You Skovrans and Tomazins — Neat Job! ! — We all appreciate it — even though we do not always get around to telling you.

Sadly missed at this years reunion — Johnny Teringo — who entered Houston Hospital for more Heart Surgery — and now doing fine — and George Bellay who had just been released from a Hospital here shortly before reunion time — we all missed you John and George. The WARREN GROUP would like to extend a very special "THANK YOU" to all our past Officers — we are proud of them — and best of Luck to all incoming Officers in the coming year — we have the best and they certainly give their best.

. until later and still on cloud nine
MARY ANN COOLEY

NOTICE

OUR NEW ADDRESS IS:

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
3749 STAHLHEBER ROAD
HAMILTON, OHIO 45013

"THUNDERBOLT NEWS"

Hello Buddies:

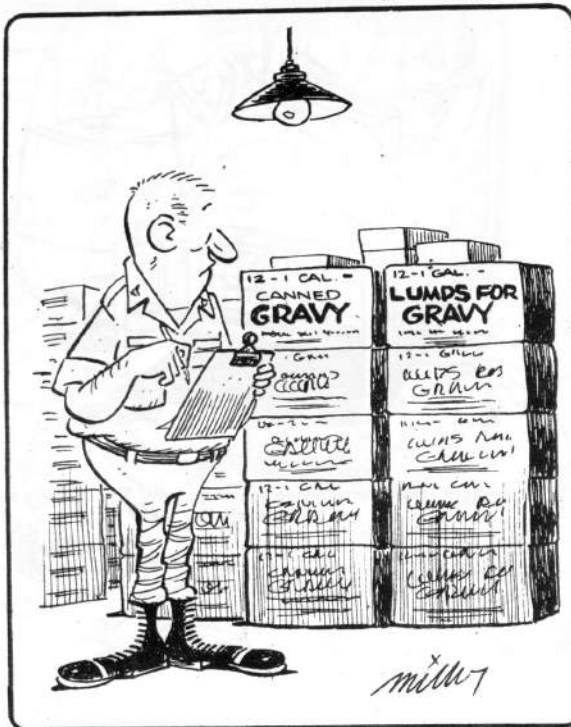
Here we are back home once again after just having attended a very fine Reunion. I think that we all owe a vote of thanks to the Reunion Committee who went all out to offer us once again a very fine reunion.

As the years go on, it gets harder and harder to put one of these Reunions on. There are many of us members who have reached the age of retirement and are living on a fixed income, so we don't have the excess money to spend. The Reunion Committee must take this into consideration and therefore try to plan a Reunion Program that can be enjoyable to all of us at a minimum of cost. Trying to keep the Registration fee down as much as possible is a rough job, and any of you who have never worked on a Reunion Committee have a lot to learn. Every year we go to a Reunion and there are always a certain few who are not satisfied. All I can say is, any of you who have complaints, try taking a Reunion to your City, and see if you can do any better.

This year we were faced with a tough job, and that was electing a new Secretary-Treasurer to succeed Sam Klippa. Knowing what the job entails, I think that we solved our problem very well. We have elected a man, whom I feel is very capable of handling the job, and with the help of each and every one of you men, will once again bring us through another successful year. Bob Derickson is a very dedicated 83rd Man, and is worthy of the Office of Secretary-Treasurer. Let us all start now to lend him our support.

As you know, next year our Reunion will be in Philadelphia, let us all start planning now to attend this our 34th Annual Reunion. Get on the ball and start that Vacation Club, so that when August comes you will have that money set aside to be at the Reunion.

Sincerely
Larry Redmond



THE 908TH. F.A. HAD A FINE TURNOUT IN NEW ORLEANS FOR THE 33RD ANNUAL REUNION

ATTENDING FROM =A= BTRY. WERE:

FRANK ADACHOWSKI	=KENSINGTON, CONN.
GRACE & MICHAEL BRICK	=BUFFALO, N.Y.
CLARICE & HOWARD CARLBOM	=STOCKTON, CAL.
AMELIA & JOHN CLEYENGER	=ELLENTON, FLA.
MARION & CHARLES DAILEY	=CLAYSVILLE, PA.
ANN & ROBERT HUGHES	=WILKES-BARRE, PA.
WILLIAM LAUGHTER	=RUTHERFORDTON, N.C.
OWEDA & FRANK MANGUM	=MODESTO, CAL.
LORAIN & FRANK PALASKY	=SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

B. BTRY.

LAVERNE & RICHARD AMMON	=CAMBRIDGE CITY, IND.
PAT & RICHARD BEVIN	=TAMPA, FLA.
BEDFORD HUNTER	=MADISON, TENN.
JAMES PRENTICE	=HARTFORD, CONN.
MICHAEL RUDY	=LOYALHANNA, PA.

C. BTRY.

SAMUEL AIELLO	=PHILA, PA.
ANN & CHARLES BONFIGLIA	=PHILA, PA.
VIRGINIA & JOHN COX	=MECHANVILLE, VA.
RUSSELL DAVY	=NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO
SALLIE & QUINTON PEASE	=GIRARD, KANSAS
ESTELLA & LEROY RENNINGER	=ROBESONIA, PA.

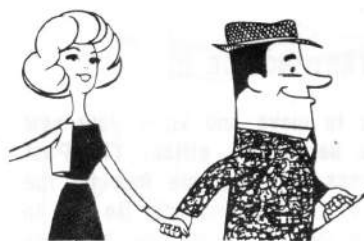
SERVICE BTRY.

JOYCE & MALCOM BAKER	=WHITMIRE, S.C.
MARTHA & FRANK DESTEFANI	=NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO
AVALON & MANNY GOODRIDGE	=LUDLOW, KY.
ELAINE & WALTER PICKETT	=TEXAS CITY, TEXAS
JOHN RUPRECHT	=PITTSBURGH, PA.

HDQ. BTRY.

MILLIE & ROBERT KELLY	=WARREN, OHIO
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SUBMITTED BY
MICHAEL BRICK



WE'RE MOVING

OUR NEW

ADDRESS IS..



Our Ladies turnout after Memorial Service — L to R - Front - F. Titus, A. Tomazin, M. Cooley, M. Kelly, H. Caparanis. Back - T. Gautschi, B. Titus, E. Skovran, A. Philipone



All set for the big boat ride: G & M Cooley; L. Titus; M. Kelly B. Titus & R. Kelly

VERY IMPORTANT NOTICE !!!

When you move, or plan to move and know your new address in advance, please notify this office. The Post Office has Change of Address kits that are free for the asking. This is a sure way of keeping informed. Do this in advance and avoid a lot of problems. We will not have the "Address Change Requested" on our THUNDERBOLTS or Stationery anymore as it turned out to be very costly to us.

It's up to you to keep us informed and to keep our address files up to date. Notify your Post Office to forward your mail to your new address.

DO YOUR SHARE TO HELP US GROW,
SIGN UP A BUDDY TODAY.
KEEP UP TO DATE ON ALL THE NEWS
IN THE THUNDERBOLT.



"We've been taking turns giving you the needle, Sir . . . don't want one guy to have all the fun!!"

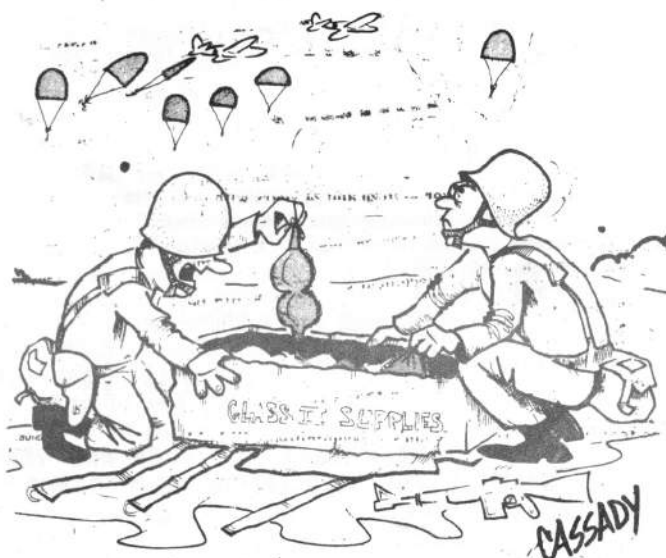


WARREN, OHIO & NEW JERSEY

L to R. Stan Belehe, Tomasic-Gooschi, Lee Titus & Winner John Capernas



Earl Lindsey



"Just what do you suppose this means?"

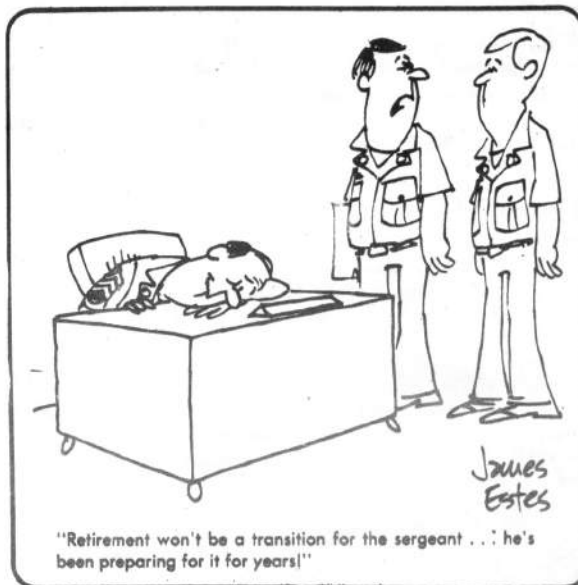
Phillie Chapter News
John T. Piscitelli
Reporter

Hello Buddies,

Our Chapter members and wives are finally settling down to a normal life. After our Plane trip and celebrations in New Orleans. Our Thanks to Frank McGrogan for our Plane and Travel Arrangements. A Job well done. Credos to Al Belevre for Chapter Room Arrangements for Greater Boston and our Phillie Chapters.

Bless all our wives of The Chapters of Beantown and Scapple City for the great Job they always do to help their men. Lets face it, without our women to help us, our affairs would not be as good as they are. And Hats off to Joe Macalusco for a wonderful time — Joe and a small Group of men did a great Job considering the situation. New Orleans is a great city — and old city, and very enjoyable. With Basin St. Bourbon St. Jackson Square, St. Charles, St. Trolley's. Best of all was being with our Buddies and their families that's what our Thunderbolt outfit is all about comradeship — We of Phillie had about 24 or 25 couples at the Reunion. We were glad to see them there. Well Thunderbolts, we're now into our second month of our 1979-80 fiscal year. August 1980 will be here soon. We hope to see all at our Marriot Inn. We're now getting ready for our annual Banquet at our Supply Center. The Date Sat. Nov. 3, 1979. Anyone interested in joining us. Contact our officers or Chapter Members. Tickets are \$16.00 per person. See you all in August, God willing.

John T. Piscitelli
C-323-F.A. Bn.



"Retirement won't be a transition for the sergeant . . . he's been preparing for it for years!"

The photo below is one that was taken in front of the home where Shakespeare was born in Stratford-on-Avon in England. It was quite a picturesque town which all of us enjoyed visiting. The whole tour was one that we will never forget. Most of us are planning another visit next year.



"Spike McCartin" on left, Samuel Klippa center, and our Doctor, Bernard Epstein on the right.

Doc Epstein is in Medical Supplies and helped all of whether we had colds, the skitters or anything else. He was handy to have on the tour.

The tour next year will be called "Operation V.E. Day" and promises to be a greater success. Those of you that are interested should drop me a line now to get on the mailing list for the final information. The group will be limited in size again.

Samuel Klippa
"D" 331st Inf.

My wife and I planned to be in New Orleans, but the latter part of March, I had a heart attack and we couldn't travel. Just celebrated my 60th Birthday on July 5. Can't return to work and have to retire. Hope everyone had a wonderful time in New Orleans.

Wm. (Bill) Schneider

Well, I finally pulled the pin and retired. Thirty years was enough. With my pension and Social Security, things are going to be pretty good for me and my wife.

Sure enjoyed reading Father McCartin's "Love Affair" in the last issue. When you read something like that, and and think back over the years, and see some of the things that are going on in the country today, like the Judge in Skokie, Illinois that gave those Nazi's permission to march in a Parade, no guts, and a coward hiding behind the 1st Amendment. I had five brothers serve around the world in World War II. My mother would turn over in her grave if she knew her children weren't saluting the Flag in school. I get into some great arguments with these overeducated nuts and don't intend to let-up either.

Wish you the very best of luck in your retirement.

Leo Varley
"M" 329th Inf.

Charles Parker of A.T. 331st Infantry has updated me on all his Buddies and I must say that he has done a great job of it. Many new names have been added and many lost

ones corrected. If there was one man in each Company or Battalion that would take it upon himself to do the same, we would continue to grow. It's always nice to see a new face at the Reunions or to hear from that long lost Buddy. Get out the pen and paper and start writing.

Samuel Klippa
"D" 331st Inf.

We had a pleasant surprise in Florida this year, Father McCartin came to Brooksville for a Retreat. It was great to have someone we knew and we enjoyed it very much.

Violet Banasik
A.T. 331st Inf.

I am sorry to be sending in my husband's Dues so late because I was hospitalized and not feeling up to par.

Mrs. Robert P. Allard
"M" 329th Inf.

My husband returned to the hospital for more surgery. It will be a few days before we learn about the outcome. This was his fourth time. We would love to attend the Reunions, but you can see there is no way. Hope all of you had a nice time at the Reunion in New Orleans.

Mrs. Ellsworth Lumpkin
"C" 308th Medics

Thanks very much for the information about the E.T.O. Tour. My sister is feeling just fine now and we want to thank you for the good wishes to her. I had surgery in June and am doing fine. This is why I can't make New Orleans.

Sorry to see you leave as Secretary-Treasurer.

John Sullivan
1 Bn. Hq. 329th Inf.

Here are two names that were omitted from the last THUNDERBOLT: Steve Ferko of 1817 Keystone Drive and Alvis Waldrep of 1309 S. Holly Ave. in Cleveland, TX. I also left out two of our Deceased.

Samuel Klippa

Camp Atterbury was on Indianapolis T.V. Two more of the old buildings were destroyed by fire, one of them was in use by the Job Corps. The Indian National Guard still uses the South Woods area and the Air National Guard uses that area for gunnery practice. Will try to get you some photos of the Camp this Summer.

Carlos A. Crouse
3 Bn. Hq. 331st Inf.

The 643rd T.D. Battalion will hold their 34th Annual Reunion at the Chiefs Club of the U. S. Naval Base in Newport, Rhode Island on the 5th, 6th and 7th of October. For details, write to: Royal J. Little at 107 Hope St., Providence, RI 02903.

The 643rd was with the 83rd from the Rhine River to the other side of the Elbe. They helped to establish the Truman Bridge with us. They would be glad to hear from any 83rds. All 83rds are Welcome to the Reunion.

Russell J. Littlefield
643rd T.D. Bn.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ALL DUES AND NEWS PERTAINING TO THE ASSOCIATION, BE FORWARDED TO THE NEW ADDRESS TO PREVENT DELAYS.

**Robert Derickson
3749 Stahleber Road
Hamilton, Ohio 45013**

REPORT FROM THE LOUISIANA CHAPTER

We of the Louisiana Chapter are now able to relax a little, our work on the reunion is not yet complete, only the final details of paying a couple of bills remains to be done. The financial report of the reunion will be sent to the Thunderbolt for the next edition.

We feel a great sign of relief, because we feel that all the planning and all the work that went into the reunion, was worth it. From the number of letters received since the reunion we feel that the majority of those attending did have a good time and enjoyed themselves the week they spent in New Orleans.

Now that it is over, we realized that we could have improved in some areas. It was our feelings from the start that we would not be able to satisfy all of those that would attend, but we hoped that in some way even those people were pleased when they left the reunion. According to preliminary figures there were 308 members that registered, and a total of 615 persons overall with members, wives and guests. The disheartening part of it all, is that some of our members that attend still only pay their dues and pay nothing toward the registration fees, these are few in number, but somehow these individuals always manage to be in each of the functions. I was told that this has happened with past reunion, but I did not realize it until it happened in New Orleans. It is my hope in the future that these individual members will see fit to pay the registration fees and join the crowd in having a great time at the reunions.

We in the Louisiana Chapter have a lot of individuals and companies to thank for their contributions. First, we want to thank each of those that contributed toward our AD Program. The money received from the ads takes care of many of incidental expenses that must be met. We realize that most of the contributors are members of the association, without this help the registration fees for a reunion would be much higher than the \$65.00 per couple. I hope that each individual that did contribute received a copy of the Program. A number of people have written asking for copies, I will mail those out within a week. I will have a few extra copies.

The companies in Louisiana that donated the items for the gift bags have all received a letter of thanks. We did receive some donations of beer, and liquor for the Hospitality Room. This was a big help. With the activities that we had planned, we felt that we had the Hospitality Room opened whenever it was possible. In the short time that it was open, you would not believe the beer and liquor that was consumed.

Last, but not least the members of the Louisiana Chapter that worked to put the reunion on deserve a special thanks. Our regular members that attended most of the meeting played a big part in the success of the reunion. We had a couple that came in from Mississippi to help us, Rufe Lamon and his wife Frances that worked as hard as anyone I have ever seen, a special thanks to them.

There were a number of items donated, that must be recognized. The Audio and Visual equipment together with the operators was by courtesy of Leonard Prelutsky. The Carnival Ball and those that participated was by courtesy of the Pegaus Organization and their Captain, Karl Smith. For his time and efforts donated, Laurence Armand, who was up at the early hours of the morning, to make sure all the money was accounted for.

Myself and the other members of the Louisiana Chapter are looking forward to the 34th Annual Reunion in Philadelphia in 1980. Our hats off to the groups in Philly, and if you need any help, let us know, we are experienced in putting on a reunion. We may say that we are ole pros now.

Joe Macaluso

THE PRESIDENTS SPOT

We finally made it. My wife and I had been talking about a trip to New Orleans for years and the 33rd Annual Reunion of the 83rd Inf. Div. Assn. got us there. I want to thank Joe Macaluso and the New Orleans Chapter for a fine Reunion and the chance to visit a city that is rich in the History of the making of this Country! Now, it is the Philadelphia Chapter's turn to go to work!!

I want to Thank the members for electing me to the Office of National President for this 34th Reunion. I sincerely hope that your confidence in me will be realized!! I know that the fine Staff that has been elected to serve with me will give their help at the drop of a hat, and all members of the Staff have been involved in previous Reunions of their own. Therefore, they have a good Background of the requirements for the making of a successful and happy Reunion. So guys, when I need help, you'll hear me yell!! Your Reunion Chairman, Sam Aiello and myself chased around the Philadelphia area for about a year to find a suitable site. We received many letters and brochures from Hotels and Motels across the State. Sam and I sat down and made comparison lists of all the information we had. After checking the number of available rooms, projected room rates, the price of food, Banquet facilities etc, we choose the Marriott Motel at City Line Ave & Monument Rd on the outskirts of Phila. A map will be provided in a future Thunderbolt showing the Main Access roads leading to the Marriott. The dates for your 1980 Philadelphia Reunion are August 21, 22 and 23rd.

Most of the program for the 1980 Reunion was partially complete at the past Reunion, but we had a couple of fuzzy corners to clear up and round off. I know we can't possibly complete them in time for this issue of the Thunderbolt. So, I welcome you to a wonderful time. Welcome to the 34th Annual Reunion of the 83rd Inf. Div Assn. Your Reunion Site this year will surpass every other previous Reunion site - So, make your commitment now. See you all in Philadelphia in August, 1980 at the Marriott. We'll have Luxury rooms, 1200 free parking places, Airport Limousine, Indoor Pool and Outdoor Pool, Raquet Ball Courts and a whole lot more.

Don't forget everyone, keep August 21, 22 and 23rd open for a Fabulous Reunion. Until then,

I remain,
Bill Chavanne - Pres.



"Don't you salute an officer when you see one?"

Hello Buddies!

Here we go again - making plans for 1980 and the Philly Reunion. As far as I am concerned, N. Orleans was too damned hot, and so am speaking for myself when I say I didn't enjoy myself. There are other things that I didn't enjoy there, but what the hell, I'm getting old and crotchety so I don't blame anyone, the guys there did their level best.

We were well represented from Cleve-Chapter, 11 members present plus the wives, some members attending expected more men from their respective units to be there.

We are meeting the third Sunday of Sept. at Hank & Phyllis Giersz's cottage at Lake Milton in Youngstown. This is a combined meeting & picnic, which we have during the summer months. In October, Casey Kowalec has plans for an outing at their home, where if weather permits, we can have a steak & corn roast to close out the summer, then our meetings will be indoors until Spring rolls around again.

Wonder how many of our guys will become Grandparents this Spring. The Czech's came up with twins that have them giving us the razzberries. Grobelny's have 5 now, the kids are working overtime, even the Meczka's became proud Grandparents. Herhuths have a gang, man I can't keep up with all these new kids. Walt & Mary are the newest grandparents, and are they ever happy, hope you have about six more Walt & Mary.

Bill & Alma Herhuth flew to the Reunion so they could be with the gang, they are permanently settling in Florida. At the time that this is being written, hurricane David is tearing Florida up, man, they can have that.

We of the Cleve. Chapt. wish a speedy recovery to Geo. Bellay & John Teringo, they are having their problems. John underwent by passes for the second time in Texas. Geo. Ballay is a buddy from my outfit & I fervently hope & pray that George doesn't have too much of a problem. Thats about it for now you "T Bolts" and stay nice.

*Al Uridel
Ch. Co. 329*

A SHORT NOTE FROM THE PUBLICITY DIRECTOR CORNER

Congratulations to Joe Macaluso, for another successful reunion. It was well attended (600, I believe) and many had come down for a week. It was good to see the old gang again, along with some new faces. I don't want to go into details, as many others will by writing about the reunion, but the Saturday night prime-rib dinner and the surprise show after, was really something, along with Lou Volpi's giving away \$6000.00 to members of the '120' club really wound up a successful reunion. About my only complaint was having to do battle with another army having a reunion in our hotel, the "bugs" in my room.

I did appreciate everyone inquiring as to my wife "Teddy" Estella's health. She certainly missed not coming to the reunion, but the Good Lord willing, will be in Philly in '80. We wish to thank the "girls" for dropping a card after arriving home, as it was deeply appreciated by us both.

"Jim" Prentice

Dear Buddies:

I, Sam Aiello, am most appreciative and honored by my selection by the National Association to act as the First Vice-President and Reunion Chairman for 1979-80. I am most eager and have initiated proceedings that will insure that the 1980 Reunion at the Philadelphia Marriott will be a huge success.

The entire Greater Philadelphia Chapter of the 83rd Infantry Division Association has pledged me that I will enjoy the cooperation of all — with the endorsement we all can look forward to a reunion that will leave its mark of full enjoyment to all.

My Buddy, Bill Chavanne, National Association President, and I again want to thank all of our Buddies for our election to our present office. We assure you — we shall not fail, but deliver a 1980 reunion that will be hard to cap.

Please, Buddies, make it your definite committment to join us at the Hotel Marriott for the Philadelphia Reunion, August 21, 22, 23, 1980.

Sam Aiello
Reunion Chairman
Co. "C" 908 FA

G COMPANY 331st Infantry

I am real pleased to make this report to the men of G Co 331st. We had one of our better years. We had 40 paid up members for the past years and had 15 men attend the reunion in New Orleans. For those attending, Titus, Pangle, Phillipone, Macaluso, Constanzo, Gaynor, Sears, Tuttle, Schwartz, Bogacz, Kontoulas, Baird, Plette, Suess, and Walsh. What a turn out. It is always good to see the fellows that served with our unit. It was a first time for a number of them and we only hope that they will find time to be with us in the future.

There are many more of you that are members and did not attend, make plans for next year, the reunion will be in Philadelphia. We should be able to bring a few of the fellows in that area. I am sorry that I did not have more time to spend with the G Co. boys, but I was warned that the top job required a lot of work and that I would have to deal on the Association level. It was a great experience for me and I only hope that I was able to contribute something to the Division Association.

I had a number of cards from fellows that were not able to be with us. For one, John Teringo, he had a choice to make and after receiving a letter a few days ago, I know he made the right decision. John we are looking forward to seeing you next year, take care of yourself. Flanary, Wiggenhauer, Vollmer thought they could be with us, but at the last minute they had to change plans.

We had 27 members who contributed to the ad that was printed for the reunion. We will probably call on you again next year for a contribution. I did not have a chance to talk with the G Co. men at the reunion, but I know that Beau Titus and I will have a newsletter out to each member we have on the mailing list in order to keep you abreast of the men that served with G Company.

I know that we decided in Pittsburgh to have our company reunion at the same time as the Division Association. If any of you feel that we could have a G Company meeting in addition to the Division reunion, I am sure we can arrange something. Keep the letters and cards flowing to me and we will be able to get together again. It is always good to get with your buddies.

Capt Mac

WARREN OHIO CHAPTER NEWS

With the 33rd Reunion behind us the foot weary troops and lady-aides of the Chapter are all safely home again and in not too bad shape — in fact shifting into high gear for the Fall and Winter Bacchanalian Encounter of the 83rd kind — beginning with the annual cause celebre at the home of the buoyant Skovran's, Mike and Liz. Just before the New Orleans confluence we had our usual picnic-golf outings one of which featured a 207 yard Hole-in-One by Chuckie Tomazin, handsome son of Ann and Chapter Prez Charlie — while we are on golf, how about our own "CAP" Caparanis teeing off on the THUNDERBOLT TROPHY and then returning home to Spearhead his Local foursome to a First Place Team Trophy in the Walter Hagen Cancer Society Tournament — **WAY TO GO CAP! AND GOOD LUCK IN THE STATE TOURNEY.**

A squad of the local members were marshaled at the Sheratin Hopkins Airport Hotel the day before Embarkation to New Orleans and led on by Caps Bourbon and R. Jays Beer we held a pre-reunion Pot Valiant Party — Some of you early arrivals there may have noticed the "ROAD-MAP-EYEBALLS" when you greeted us in the lobby — Marge Voracek had us rolling in the aisle with stories about R J's ESCAPADES — we were greeted at the Airport by Lee and Birdie Titus and Loyal and Kate Pangle — The Pilot took one look and relagated the whole group to the rear of the plane (only kidding — they were very happy to fly us to our Dear Thunderbolt Friends) nice to see all again and especially the boys from Company "G" (MACS CREW) — Don Schwartz sez "KEEP THE LETTERS AND CARDS COMING" — we sure did enjoy New Orleans and the reunion — and a great big tip of the old helmet liner to Joe Macaluso and his Chapter who gave us a taste of southern hospitality (notwithstanding the gift yours truly received from Mina Macaluso — **WHAT WAS IT? A POLISH ALARM CLOCK, WHAT ELSE !!!**) Lee Titus and I got stuck (?) With a work detail of manning the Chapter C-P and missed some of the sights, especially the Trolley Ride, Beau and I are planning a special trip back just to do that.

"WINNERS AND LOSERS"

HEY! How about the foursome from Warren walking off with the big winnings from the Banquet Nite Raffle held by the Philly Chapter! The gregarious guy collecting all the loot was our own Johnny Shamrock — we call him the Ice Man — Congratulations Group! ! Meanwhile on the other side of the inauspicious coin some of us went to the "NITE-AT-THE-RACES" and bought hay and oats and a saddle or two for the hapless nags down at Rivertown LA. — Mary Ann and I spent the last weekend of August as guests of Lee and Birdie Titus at a post-reunion get together with the guys 'N gals of Lake Paradise — the morning coffee was great after a night of carousing — Hey Piette, did Beau always snore that loud? — as of this date line your Reporter picked up "CHEEZE" Bellay and we paid a visit to Johnny Teringo — under the guidance of "NURSE" Olga John is doing very well — really amazing how soon the Houston Connection got this personable Guy back on his feet (theres a rumor going around about John trying out for Football) — — — — Say, if any of you Thunderbolts are contemplating a near future visit to this area — write to Mike Skovran and he will send you Dates of our up-coming doings — be glad to have you — — — — Now lets prepare for Philly — — — —

God Bless — — — —

GEORGE COOLEY SR.
"A-322-FA"

Mrs. Cooley and I had dinner with Johnny Teringo recently and John asked us to thank all for the good wishes, cards and especially the prayers for his speedy recovery from surgery and he welcomes the Thunderbolt members to write whenever you can.

And congratulations to Mina Macaluso who was the big winner of the Warren Chapter raffle. (she should be able to buy a whole bunch of Polish alarm clocks with the loot)



Bill Herhu, Casey Zubski



Casey Zubski (Cleveland), Veto Palozzolo (Mich.)



Mario Muoio Driver (Mich), Tommy Muoio (Mich), Lawrence Armand (La.), Earl Lindsey (Cleveland).

323rd F.A. Bn. Report

The men from the 323rd had a wonderful time at the reunion in New Orleans. Dave Nellies, Al Covi, Alvis Waldrep, Romeo Maynard, Bill Shaner, Dallas Williams and myself from Hq. Battery; John Piscitelli, Bill Doty and Joe Gioia from Charlie Battery and Pat DiGiammerino from Service. I believe a good time was had by all.

Dallas Williams now lives in Portland, Oregon and is a close friend of Jack Knight. Both these boys are doing well and keep in contact with me along with James "Buck" Taylor from California.

Orlo Hoover sent me a few pictures of John Turkett and himself that were taken when he visited South Carolina this year. Thanks Orlo for saying hello to John and Don Willis.

I visited Victor Bravman in the Norwood Hospital on August 12th. Victor had just had an emergency gall-bladder operation. I called him after returning from the reunion and he is home and doing fine.

I have been talking to Tom Papile and John Medieros recently. They are both doing fine. We are going to get together in the next few months.

Last June I went up to Maine to attend Norman and Anita McCormacks Anniversary Party. Their daughter Robin put on a real surprise party for them in Hartland, Maine. Nancy and I had a marvelous weekend with them.

John Piscitelli did an excellent job with the Memorial Service for our buddies. John does a lot of work making arrangements for this event every year. The 323rd can be proud of John.

Bill Doty retired this year as Judge Advocate. However, he will still remain very active in the Windy City. Bill has done a fine job as President, Member Exec. Board, and as Judge Advocate.

Joe Gioia also from the 323rd has done so much for the 83rd but stays in the background. A Tip of the Irishman's Hat to Joe for the good work he has done for us.

Well gang, I guess I better call it a day and sign off for now.

AMBY TYNAN
Reporter 323rd



Installation of Mike Caprio as Commander of the Howard Rogers Post No. 25 — American Legion.
Senior Vice Commander Pickett, State Commander Mike Capio.
State Sergeant at Arms Merrill. Installation 12/9/79



83rd Room at 36 E. Border Rd. Malden. Larry Arrigo, Bob Hunnewell, Romeo Maynard, Hy Goodman

BOSTON CHAPTER REPORT

Many thanks to Joe Macoluso and the men from the Louisiana Chapter for putting on a very successful reunion. Joe was still working long after the reunion was over. I hope he is now resting up after all the hard work.

The Boston Chapter, as our President Romeo Maynard told most of you at the 33rd Annual Reunion, has had a very successful year. We in Boston are proud of our outfit more than ever this past year and the attendance at the meetings has been great.

Paul Gunderson has recovered from a heart attack. His wife Dottie has done a fine job nursing him back to health. Paul made it to the reunion. Also he never missed a Boston Chapter meeting during his illness.

Fran Arrigo, wife of Larry, went under a gall-bladder operation just before reunion. Fran has been doing fine.

Pat and Ginny DiGiammerino's son David graduated from Salem State College and was awarded a two year scholarship to Kent State University in Ohio.

Mike Caprio showed the Boston gang an excellent restaurant named Smilies in Louisiana. Mike has connections every place we go, I found out that the Boston gang did not stick to their diets Mike.

It was certainly nice to see Vitie Atkocius our Boston Delegate from Washington D.C. at the reunion.

Many of us from Boston will be attending the Phillie Chapters Party the first week in November. This Phillie time we look forward to every year for the time of our lives.

Since the last issue Joe Stranahan passed away. Joe was a member of Company A 331st. Luvien Elie's wife Mollie died in August. The Boston Chapter want to express our deepest sympathy to both these families.

Bill Donahue, 908 FA, retired from the Wellesley, Mass. Fire Dept. Bill was Chief of that Dept. for several years. The men are paying tribute to him on Sept. 29th. Jim Prentice is coming up from Hartford, Conn. to attend it along with myself.

I met with Tony Piantedosi today. We had quite a chat talking about the 83rds and the recent reunion.

Boston Chapter has a meeting coming up in September at Pat DiGiammerino's house.

This is all for now.

AMBY TYNAN
Boston Chapter Reporter

YOUR NEW SECRETARY-TREASURER REPORT

First I would like to say thanks to all of you who had the confidence and faith in me to try and fill the shoes of Sam Klippa, a man who had done a great job in this position. I will do my best to come up to your expectations. I want to thank Sam for taking the time to deliver the equipment and materials needed to continue the duties that are required of this job, and for spending time with me to try and explain it all to me. Just bear with me and the job will get done.

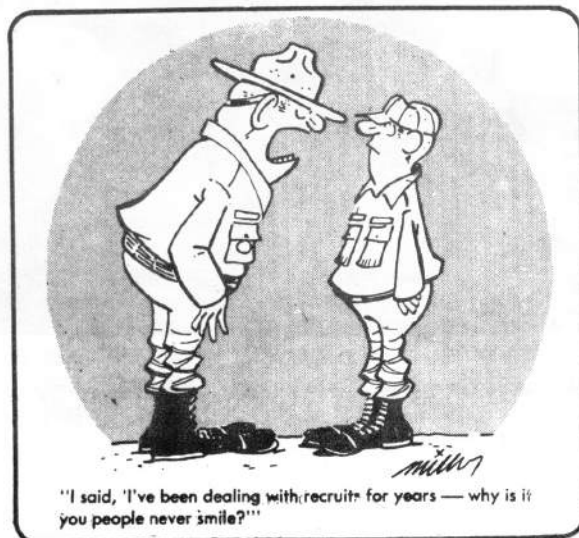
This will be a new challenge for me and I will try to do my best to fulfill the position. A great big thanks to all of you who have written to me wishing me well, and offering to help in any way you can. To those of you who have made requests, they will be filled as soon as I can get to them. The spirit in this organization is overwhelming. Anyone can see why the 83rd Infantry Division Association has grown to be recognized nation wide. Let's keep up the good work, and keep the Association growing. We will then always be known as a great division of the World War II.

To any of you who have never attended a reunion you are really missing something. I would like to encourage you to start making plans to attend the next reunion to be held in Philadelphia. I know from my own experience that you will enjoy it. Once you attend a reunion you can't help but start thinking about the next one and seeing all your friends. There are no strangers at any 83rd reunion. Come on to Philadelphia and we will be happy to meet you and help show you a good time. Remember we have all been through a time in our lives that we can never forget.

We must thank all the wives and families that play a big part in this organization. At this time I am happy to say that my wife, Pearl, is recovering at home from a very serious illness. We wish to thank all of you for your cards to her. We sincerely hope a speedy recovery to anyone else who has been ill that we do not know of at this time.

Remember all of you who have not at this time paid your dues of \$6.00 for 1980, this will be the last issue of the Thunderbolt you will receive. Please don't let us down. What could you buy for \$6.00 that will bring you as many memories as this membership, will do?

Pearl and I wish all of you a happy holiday season. Let me hear from any of you. Will try to get all mail answered.



"REUNION CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

By: Sam Aiello Co. "C" 908 FA

Men, our 34th Reunion in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania should be the greatest and best ever! We have so much on our side we just can't miss. The natural attractions, the lurement of "The City of Brotherly Love", among the many other attractions should make every Thunderbolt want to come and bring your wife and grand kids. There is something here and more of it for everyone. The Hotel Marriott management is going all out to make our stay at their hotel tops.

The room rates have been pared down within the reach of all. A special wing of the hotel has been set aside for our use and our comfort. All this for per day for singles and per day double occupancy. Extra persons in the room will be charged each.

For our convenience, the entire bathing facilities of the hotel are free. The huge outdoor swimming pools can be our play grounds, with it's chairs and umbrellas and atmosphere of privacy. There is also an indoor pool.

For the kids, we can have free use of the indoor play room, also the huge lobby is ours and everthing else for our comfort and enjoyment has been arranged with hotel management.

To those desiring to stay longer than the three days, the hotel will provide the same low rates. The next Thunderbolt will carry the reservation cards so get your reservations in as early as possible as our reunion comes in the heart of the vacation season and unless you make reservations it its possible that you will be disappointed upon arrival and perhaps have to billet elsewhere and pay a lot more.

Bathing, swimming, sunbathing, golf, horse racing etc., also tennis can be yours so make this reunion a real vacation. Join us in the Big City ——— we know you'll be glad you came.

Remember, the dates — Thursday, Friday and Saturday August 21, 22, 23, 1980. Refer all questions to Sam Aiello, 1128 Durfor Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19148.

Sam Aiello



Romeo Maynard — Pres. of The Greater Boston Chapter and Amby Tynan, Jim Prentice, Norm McCormack — Down from Maine.

"FRANKLY SPEAKING"

To all the men of Company "D" 330th, you are all aware we just held our 33rd Annual Reunion at New Orleans, La., and as usual it was a grand time had by all who attended. We must take our hats off to the Louisiana Chapter for all their hospitality, especially, our Past President, Joe Macaluso and his lovely wife, Mena and all the other members and their wives, they certainly worked hard to show us a good time.

"Dog Company" had a very poor attendance this year. We only had seven men there, namely, Felix Marra, Johnnie Ball, Bemis Mickel, Frank Jackson, Lacy Satterfield, Clif Toup and yours truly.

I thought for sure I was going to see the men who wrote and told me they would be there. Gene Fritts, Malcom O'Malley, Claude Dodd, Jim Di Antonio, Paul Vitantonio, Howard Scriener - to all you guys who missed this reunion - start making plans for next year here in the Big City of Philadelphia, Pa.

Well, men, this is about all I have for this time around. I will try to give you more news in the next issue and if you have not sent in your dues as yet, please make sure you do or otherwise you will not receive your Thunderbolt which come out four (4) times a year with good news in it.

Since this is the last issue before the Holidays, we here at our house, wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year. Let me hear from you real soon!!!

Frank McGrogan
Company "D" 330th

P.S. I was so busy getting my article together I forgot to congratulate our new Secretary-Treasurer, Bob Derickson. Good Luck, Bob!



Warren Chapter makes Joe Macaluso "Captain — Admiral of Riverboat fleet." Making award Warren Chapter Prez. Chuck Tomazin.



The Memorial Service — 100% turnout by the Warren, Ohio Chapter and their ladies.



The golf trophy winner "Cap" with proud wife Helen as Babe Gautschi looks on.



Warren Men & C-P Guests: L to R kneeling: J. Shamrock; C. Tomazin; E. Titus; B. Gautschi & R. Kelly; REAR: L. Pangle; M. Gayner; R. Voracek; L. Titus; G. Cooley; W. Bogatch.

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

Hi Buddies.

Again I start my colum with sad news.

On August 12th we lost a real buddy. Bob Walsh died from a heart attack. He had a operation on his foot which caused an infection that couldnt be stopped.

Bob was a real 83rd man never miss a reunion and was always talking about his 83rd buddies and all the other Military units he belonged to. We will miss him very much as will his sisters and brothers who thought the world of Bob.

On behalf of the Jersey Chapter and myself I would like to thank the Garfield V.F.W. Post 2867 for one of the best services I have ever seen. When the taps were blown it went right through you. Congratulations fellows for a job well done.

I am sorry I was not able to attend the reunion in New Orleans but at this time I was a little short on cash and last week I apid the last of my doctors bill. Yesterday I got the good news form Lucy Volpe and my buddie Stan Bielen that I had won the \$1,000 prize at the reunion. God surely takes care of you when you need him. If you havent tried him give him a chance, he wont let you down if you have the faith.

For the ones that Stan told that I went to Hawaii it was just a joke, I sent him a card that I brought back from there four years ago. I fooled him but not his wife she looked at the post mark and saw it came from New Jersey.

Next month we have 10 couples going to Myrtle Beach and I know we'll have a good time down their with the southern hospitality they always show us.

My First Sergeant has had his share of trouble. His kids were sick and then he lost his wife had|now he isnt feeling well. Keep fighting Fred and dont give up we need you around and we hope to see you at the reunion in Philly.

Lou Volpe is going to run the 120 chance again this year so lets get behind him and make this one a real success so he will be able to do the things he wanted to do with this last one. You know if you dont take a chance their is no way you can win. His idea is great and it can help all the Chapters at reunion time.

Congratulations to our new secretary Bob Derickson. We wish him all the luck in the world and hope he does as well as the secretaries before him. Its a tough job with very little thanks.

I missed seeing all my buddies and their wives this year but come next year we'll see each other again. Hope you all had a nice summer and that this winter will be a mild one for us all.

Take care and enjoy yourself everyday, remember its later than we think and the days go by fast.

God Bless you all.

Jim Bowie
Co. B-330

REMINDERS:

ANY NEWS WANTED TO BE PLACED IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE THUNDERBOLT MUST BE IN MY HOME BY DECEMBER 10.

REMEMBER THIS IS THE LAST ISSUE OF THE THUNDERBOLT YOU WILL RECEIVE IF WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR DUES OF \$6.00. GET YOURS IN AND REMIND YOUR FRIENDS.



Ladies Aux. of The Greater Boston Chapter



Very pleased to have Ralph G. Neppel to attend the Reunion in New Orleans.



"I know you're disappointed dad, but try to understand. I had to go awol. They were gonna cut my hair."

DECEASED

Another one of the 83rd's most devoted members passed away on the 28th of June, 1979. Henry "Hank" Golembiewski of "F" 329th Infantry, went to the hospital 24 hours after returning home from the E.T.O. Tour, remained there for 18 days, returned home and suffered a severe heart attack and never came out of it.

Hank was a good Buddy of mine and we always went to the Pittsburgh Chapter meetings together, other affairs also. He lived to be with his 83rd Buddies and always looked forward to the Reunions, Meetings, Picnics etc. The 83rd was a big part of Hanks life.

He was the beloved husband of Elena Santucci; brother of Mrs. Andrew Zuchowski and Mrs. Frank Leja. Hank was 70 years old, one of our older members, but he sure didn't look his age. While in the hospital, he bragged about the fact that he got his trip in and that was all that counted. It was the highlight of his life. Rest in Peace, Hank.

Samuel Klippa

Salvatore Capone, better known to his Buddies as: Al Capone, passed away on the 11th of November, 1978. Axel Nasman learned this from Al's wife. Salvatore was a member of "E" 329th Infantry.

It is with deepest sorrow that I must notify you of the passing of Edward C. Bain of "G" 329th Infantry, on March 8, 1979, after a very long illness. With heartfelt thanks to the Michigan Chapter for their show of sympathy.

Mrs. Edward C. Bain
Livonia, MI

My wife passed away suddenly on March 27, 1979 and I have previous commitments in August and can't make the Reunion. Hope to see all of you next year.

Robert C. McClelland
.5. 329th Inf.

Received my husband's Membership Card in the mail today. I have written to a couple fellows to let them know that my husband, M.E. Nelson had passed away on the 13th of June, 1979. Gene had his first stroke nine years ago and our last Reunion was in Chicago. We enjoyed it. Last November he had another stroke which made life very difficult for him. He spent many hours talking about his friends in the Service and I read the THUNDERBOLT to him and he always remembered many of the names in the book.

Thank you for several years of the THUNDERBOLT. He enjoyed the book and his membership very much. My regards to all of Gene's friends in the 83rd.

Mrs. Elaine Nelson
"A" 908 F.A.

Charles Parker Of A.T. 331 has updated me on the following members who have passed away over the years:

Dennis K. Bethke on November 1, 1975; Chester A. Couch on August 11, 1977; Oliver Farrow in 1968; Lawrence Evans

with date unknown, Lawrence F. Millsap, Elmer Parker, James Shrewberry and Peter Strifler.

The wife of Paul Armbrust wrote to Coen E. Welling of "H" 329th that her husband passed away on the 22nd of June 1979. He suffered a stroke. He was not in our files.

I am writing to you in regards to my father, Teddy Bednarski. He passed away on the 9th of August, 1979 after a long illness. After the loss of our mother on the 28th of April, his heart was broken. Cause of death was heart failure. He left behind four children and we'll always remember the stories he would tell about the 83rd, the men he fought with and cared for.

Thank you for reuniting my Dad with the 83rd so that he could find his other friends addresses and have fellowship with them. He so enjoyed receiving your letters. Thank you. (Teddy Bednarski was the First Sergeant of "D" 331.)

Mrs. George Briggs
(Daughter of Teddy)

Robert T. Walsh of Nutley, NJ, one of our regulars at all the Reunions, for many years, passed away after surgery which caused an infection because he had sugar. We learned of his death at the Reunion and it certainly came as a real shock to all of us. He was a member of "K" 331.

*The guns of war are silent now,
The beaches quiet and still,
But memories of the war time pass
Forget we never will.*

*The waves wash in upon the beach
Where brave men fought and bled,
And seem to say a requiem
To our immortal dead.*

*The countries that were conquered then
Today once more are free,
And people who were too enslaved
Now know their liberty.*

*The countrysides are peaceful now,
Some marked with crosses white,
Of gallant men who gave their all
And fell amidst the fight.*

*This day will be remembered
And live in memory;
D-Day when free men struck the blow
For shining liberty.*

by Harold F. Mobn
Valley Forge Freedom Foundation
Award for Patriotic Poetry

The poem was written for the 35th Anniversary of D-Day, June 6, 1979. I didn't have room for it in the last issue because of the lack of space. In the future the Paid-up Roster will be omitted and given only to those that request it for use to benefit the Association.

PAST SECRETARY-TREASURER REPORT

This is the toughest column for me to write, because it has to do with finalizing my official duties in running the affairs of the Association the Secretarial and the Treasurer duties, plus Editor and all the other things that go along with the job. In all sincerity, I already miss the job even though there is much to do before I can say it is finished. Everything was going along just fine in the very beginning, but then there were those who couldn't stand the fact that we were financially sound and well on our way to that free Reunion I was working for.

If it wasn't for the fact that the stress was hurting my health and causing many problems at home, I'd stay on the job for as long as you would have me. I really enjoyed the work, it wasn't hard as many of you might think, and as I said many times before, I'll miss it. Wish it could have lasted forever, but it just wasn't meant to be.

Here is the speech I had written for the Banquet at the Reunion and just wasn't up to reading it at the time.

"Finally, no more worries about coming before you wonderful 83rds and guests, your wonderful wives and children. Each year, this is the toughest part of my job and I guess I'll never get used to making speeches of any kind. The work of running the Association has been a great pleasure and honor for me and I want to thank each and everyone of you for your cooperation and assistance in making my four years the best in the History of this great Organization. I appreciate all that you have done to help me and my only wish is that you will help my successor, so that he can continue to make us prosper.

A lot of you deserve a personal THANK YOU for the assistance you gave me when you corresponded with your Buddies and brought them into the Association. We are today, in my opinion, the very best of the World War II Units still enjoying the pleasures of each others company at the Reunions each year and through our THUNDERBOLT. Let's keep on enjoying the pleasures for many more years because as one of our Writers always says: "It's later than we think." Keep that in mind.

My successor needs your help, especially in his first year, because it will be most difficult to get started in his new position. We've got ourselves a good man for the job because he has proven his ability when he assisted in putting on the Cincinnati Reunion. I, and I'm sure all of you want to wish him every success.

CONGRATULATIONS! We're with you all the way, Bob.

Congratulations are in order for all our new Officers and the Old Timers who give so much of their time (and money) so that our Association can keep on progressing and you can sit back and enjoy yourselves. Compliment them on a "Job well done", don't degrade them. Everything they do is for your benefit. They are making the sacrifices.

We're going to miss Bill Doty very much because he has provided us with more legal services than most of you can realize. In my book, he was TOPS and I'm sure he will be around when we need him. I hate to see you go, Bill.

Andy McKenna is replacing Bill Doty and I'm sure that he will see that all goes well in the future. He has a darned good Assistant in Bill Doty.

Pat DiGiammerino is leaving us after serving five years on the Executive Board, two of those years as Chairman, and Lou Volpi now has the reins. Next year Lou will be leaving and devote more time to that hard labor of building a town in West Virginia.

My only hope is that all our future problems are minor ones and can be taken care of easily. Please don't gripe until you check out your complaint first.

Next year, for the first time in fifteen years, I'll be sitting out there amongst you and enjoying your freindsbip much more. It's going to feel good. Once again, THANK YOU and God Bless all of you. Good Night."

The above was quite long and I don't think I could have made it with the way I felt that night. I like writing much more than I do making speeches.

Samuel Klippa
Past Sec'y. Treas.

LEFTOVERS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Couldn't make the Reunion again, but certainly hope that someday I can. Was sorry to hear that you are now retiring for good. We really enjoyed your wonderful work.

Lowell Claxton
"E" 330th Inf.

Am thankful I can still send in my Dues. Wish I could attend one of the Reunions because I haven't been to one since Columbus in the early Fifties. Am retired from the Post Office because of "Open Heart Surgery." Must spend the humid weather in the woods where the air is cleaner.

I am proud to have six children all of whom spent time in the Service, including one daughter who is still at Scott A.F.B. in Illinois. Have a son in Korea and along with my daughter, he is making a career of it. My youngest son is in the 83rd Division Reserves.

Wishing the best to all 83rd. Think of all the good and bad times and all those that never made it back to the U.S.

I was First Cook in "I" 329th Infantry.

Frederick D. Kibbey

We couldn't make New Orleans for two reasons: 1. The gas shortage. 2. My wife fell on the ice last January and is just now getting around with the help of a cane. Hope you all had a good time as we were thinking of you.

Charles Balmer
"M" 330th Inf.

On the "Operation Friendly Invasion" tour this year, while I was in Sainteny, France, to present the Plaque honoring the men of the 331st Infantry, a lady came up to me and said in a loud voice that I destroyed her home in the War. She also said: "I don't mind and I love you for it because I am now living in freedom." She appreciated all that we had done for her and her neighbors. We did some real celebrating afterwards but didn't have enough time to really get acquainted with all those wonderful people.

Her home has the arrow over the roof. She also showed me a photo of her home in rubble.



Le Bourg (Côté gauche)

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KEEP UP TO DATE ON ALL THE NEWS IN THE THUNDERBOLT.

The Executive Board has approved, and the Membership has agreed that we shall purchase Identification Badges individually and they will be of the type I wore at the Reunion in New Orleans. They will be black and gold with our Division Patch on the left side as per the drawing I have sketched.

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	YOUR CITY _____
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As soon as all the figures and details are in, I'll publish it in the next THUNDERBOLT and will accept orders or have you order them on your own. These are permanent and can be used for other affairs you attend. Right now the Logo cost is \$50.00 and the pins are about \$3.50. Final price may be less.

It's never too early to get your ADS in for the next Program Book, so get it over with early by filling out the form below and mail it to Reunion Headquarters.

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REUNION IN 1980 WILL BE IN PHILADELPHIA, PA ON AUGUST 21, 22 AND 23RD. THIS IS THE THIRD WEEKEND AND IF THERE IS A CHANGE, IT WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT ISSUE. START MAKING YOUR PLANS NOW TO ATTEND THE 34TH ANNUAL REUNION. YOU STILL ARE ABLE TO PUT IN FOR YOUR VACATIONS TO COINCIDE WITH THE REUNION.