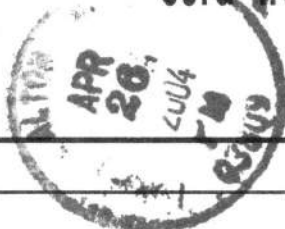




# THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II



Vol. 59 Issue No. 2

Spring Issue 2004

THE RADISSON GREEN TREE HOTEL  
LOOKS FORWARD TO HOSTING THE  
58<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL REUNION  
FOR THE  
83<sup>RD</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION



*Pittsburgh, PA, September 15 - 19, 2004*

## THE THUNDERBOLT

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138 East Side Drive, P.O. Box 406, Alton Bay, NH 03810-0406 Editor - Cliff Wooldridge

### STAFF REPORTERS

BOSTON.....Ambrose Tynan, 121 Sanborn Ave., W. Roxbury MA 02136, Tel. #617-327-3588  
CLEVELAND.....Bob Miller, 111 Hampshire Cv., Painesville, OH 44077-1381, Tel. #440-639-9277  
DIXIE.....Ellsworth Massie, 2514 Lincrest Road, Joppa, MD 21085, Tel #410-877-0682  
FLORIDA.....W. Allen Fisher, 1 Bolero SP. LKS. C.C. Village, Fort Pierce, FL 34951, Tel #772-461-3640  
MICHIGAN.....Vito Palazzolo, 20000 Lancaster St., Harper Woods, MI 48225, Tel #313-881-2364  
NEW ENGLAND.....Nick Francullo, 10 Bessom Street, Lynn, MA 01902, Tel. #781-592-9154  
NEW JERSEY.....Stan Bielen, 71 Glenwood Terr., Fords, NJ 08863, Tel. #732-225-0169  
PITTSBURGH.....Francis Beerthaler, 147 York Road, Cranberry Township, PA 16066, Tel. #724-452-2297

### ORGANIZATION OFFICERS

#### PRESIDENT

Salvatore Scicolone  
5709 Wellesley Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15206-2135  
412-441-5245

#### 1st VICE PRESIDENT

Robert G. Taylor  
1641 Grey Road  
Midland, MI 48640-9302  
989-835-6148

#### 2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Manny Epstein  
1900 Quentin Rd., Apt. E14  
Brooklyn, NY 11229-2374  
517-835-6148

#### 3rd VICE PRESIDENT

R. C. Hamilton  
115 Clark Street, P.O. Box 374  
Marion, KY 42064  
270-965-4255

#### SECRETARY-TREASURER (VACANT)

John Tisdell, Acting Secretary  
Cliff Wooldridge, Acting Treasurer

#### PUBLISHER

Cliff Wooldridge  
138 East Side Dr., P.O. Box 406  
Alton Bay, NH 03810-0406  
603-875-3649

#### JUDGE ADVOCATE

John Raikos (on Medical Leave)

William M. Minick  
Acting JudgeAdvocate

#### HISTORIAN

Louis Gomori  
309 E. Locust St.  
Butler, PA 16001-4826  
724-283-4340

#### CHAPLAIN

Frank M. Hornack  
222 Drawbridge Ct.  
Greensburg, PA 15601  
724-853-2554

### SERGEANTS-AT ARMS

Edward L. McCouch  
316 Mount Carmel Ave.  
Glenside, PA 19038-3408  
215-884-5843

Bruce E. Winchell  
12518 Scott Rd.  
Freeland, MI 48623-9532  
517-695-9502

Robert Sessions  
165 Old Stage Rd.  
Norway, ME 04268-5355  
207-743-2197

### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

B. John Prinzi, 4433 Oakley Greene, Sarasota, FL 34235-2330, Tel #941-371-0844  
Harry Kirby, Jr., 20 Pennsbury Way E., Chadds Ford, PA 19317-9302, Tel #610-388-7561  
Robert Keck, 209 S. Manor St., Montville, PA 17554-1617, Tel #717-285-5491  
John Tisdell, 319 E. Dunstable Rd., Apt. 329C, Nashua, NH 03062, Tel. #603-888-4975  
William M. Minick, 110 Angel St., Saluda, SC 29138-1002, Tel. #864-445-8509

### A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS WHO HAVE SERVED US WELL

1947 James C. Hanrahan*	1964 Julius Boyles*	1981 Michael Caprio*	1998 R. C. Hamilton
1948 Jack M. Straus	1965 Samuel Klippa*	1982 Ralph Gunderson*	1999 Pat DiGiammerino
1949 Shelly Hughes*	1966 William M. Doty*	1983 Arthur Doggett*	2000 Salvatore Scicolone
1950 Julius Ansel*	1967 Albert B. Belvedere	1984 Bernie Cove*	2001 Pat DiGiammerino
1951 Walter H. Edwards, Jr.	1968 Vito C. Palazzolo	1985 Carroll Brown	2002 Bob Taylor
1952 Leo Schneider	1969 Pat DiGiammerino	1986 John Hobbs	2003 Salvatore Scicolone
1953 Finley Heyl	1970 Casey Szubski	1987 George Fletcher	
1954 Lawrence J. Redmond*	1971 Charles Altomari*	1988 Charles Schmidt*	*Denotes Deceased
1955 Lawrence J. Redmond*	1972 Harold H. Dopp*	1989 Edward Reuss	
1956 Lt. Gen. Robert H. York*	1973 Louis J. Volpi	1990 Charles J. Lussier	
1957 Harry W. Lockwood*	1974 Bernard O. Riddle*	1991 Edgar H. Haynes	
1958 Raymond J. Voracek*	1975 Robert G. Taylor	1992 Ned Smith	
1959 Charles Abdinoor	1976 Mike Skovran	1993 Louis Sandini*	
1960 Joseph F. Minotti*	1977 Manlius Goodridge	1994 William M. Minick	
1961 Frank J. McGrogan*	1978 Joseph A. Macaluso*	1995 Casey Szubski	
1962 John W. Robinette*	1979 William J. Chavanne*	1996 Floyd Richmond	
1963 Manuel C. Martin*	1980 Samuel Klippa*	1997 Keith Davidson	

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B. JOHN PRINZI

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

SAL SCICOLONE

Gentlemen:

I hope a very happy Christmas was had by all and this issue finds everyone in the best of health.

After much planning with the Armed Forces Association, our reunion plans are coming along fine. We are hoping to have something of interest for everyone. The information for the reunion and registration forms are included in this issue of the Thunderbolt. We are now in the year 2004 and our 58th reunion at the Radisson Green Tree Hotel-Pittsburgh is fast approaching. It is later than we think. Let us all start making plans to attend our 58th reunion and meet our buddies and friends.

Send in your **Ads** for the **Ad Book**. The Ad Book is very important for the success of this reunion. Also, send in your **dues** if you have not done so.

Please pre-register and you will receive your room information without much waiting. We have a couple of fine tours planned-- The Soldiers and Sailors National Army Museum and The Gateway Dinner Cruise. Please check them out. These are tours you do not want to miss. All the information about the Reunion is in this Thunderbolt.

Stay Well,

Sal Scicolone  
National President

In the last issue of this publication, I promised to keep the membership up to date on developments that directly affect the management of your association.

It should come as no surprise that Bob Gangnath recently submitted his resignation with immediate effect, as our Secretary/Treasurer. His personal reasons for this decision were completely understood and justified. It was with regret, but much appreciation for his tenacity in the fulfillment of his responsibilities, that we accepted his resignation. Thank you, Bob, for "sticking it out as long as you did". The Executive Board joins me in wishing you and Joyce the very best for years to come.

That development has had a ripple effect. Whereas earlier Cliff Wooldridge graciously accepted the responsibility of assisting the treasurer, since we no longer have a Treasurer, Cliff has assumed the official title of "Acting Treasurer". This, of course, concurrent with performing his duties as "Publisher".

Also, I am pleased to announce that John Tisdell (L-329), who was elected to the Executive Board last September has agreed to "step up to the plate" and become the "Acting Secretary" as he continues to serve the board.

As you all know, we've been without the services of our Judge Advocate, John Raikos for well over a year. His family reports that progress is "slow". We wish we could somehow, miraculously, speed his recovery to full restoration by the use of a "fast forward button". But the reality is that we cannot. Therefore, after consulting with and receiving the understanding of Mary Raikos, John has officially been placed on "medical leave" from the Judge Advocate position. William (Meadors) Minick, long a member of the Executive Board with a history of capably "pinch hitting" when needed, has once again come through. Effective immediately, Meadors will be

the "Acting Judge Advocate" concurrent with his position on the board.

Now – for all who read this to know – I publicly wish to thank Cliff Wooldridge, John Tisdell and Meadors Minick – for their willingness to do "double duty" (albeit on a temporary basis) at this critical time in our association.

The KEYWORD above is "temporary". WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO FILL THESE POSTS PERMANENTLY. It's not fair to expect "the other guy to do it". This is NOT the army. We are much older (and definitely wiser) than we were 60 years ago. If this 83rd Association is to continue – even if it's only for a few more years – it needs a "cadre" to manage its affairs.

If anyone reading this column thinks that his time has come to step forward to help YOUR association, please get in touch with me. My address and phone number are on the cover page; my e-mail address is: [JONPRNZ@AOL.COM](mailto:JONPRNZ@AOL.COM)

Elsewhere in this issue are the Financial Statements as of the end of 2003. Kudos to Cliff Wooldridge for managing to put these together during the transition period AND while putting together two issues of THE THUNDERBOLT.

Also, in this edition are the minutes of the Executive Board and Membership meetings held at the Drawbridge Inn last September.

I urge you to study the information in this edition regarding the upcoming reunion at the Radisson Green Tree Hotel in Pittsburgh, September 15 – 19, 2004. President Sal Scicolone has been instrumental in putting together a program that promises to become an excellent 58th Annual Reunion.

Finally, as is mandated by the by-laws, your executive board will travel to Paducah, KY in May to hold its semi-annual meetings while, at the same time, inspect the premises of the Executive Inn, the site approved by the members for its 59th reunion in September, 2005. Further on this matter in the next THUNDERBOLT.

## A LATE NEWS ADDITION:

I'm sorry to report the recent passing of our beloved, longtime National Chaplain Frank M. Hornack. For years Frank, despite his physical handicaps, dedicated himself unselfishly in the performance of the duties of his office by attending each reunion. There, Frank offered a fitting invocation for our departed buddies at the Memorial Service and later asked The Almighty's blessings at the closing banquet. He will be truly missed.

On behalf of the entire Executive Board, I extend condolences and sympathies to his wife Norma and her devoted family.

## FROM THE EDITOR CLIFF WOOLDRIDGE

Writer's cramp? I think I have it!

I've just completed writing out Reminder Cards to everyone on our mailing list who has not paid their 2004 dues. To date I've received quite a few back with checks saying, "Thanks for the reminder," and indicating they had forgotten. I can understand that.

Unfortunately, those who we do not hear from will be removed from the mailing list and will not be receiving a Thunderbolt. We can't continue to send out Thunderbolts to those who do not help to pay for them.

I spoke to Tony Vaccaro the other day and asked him to send me some of his photographs taken in Europe during and after the war. He has many great pictures and I am including one in this Thunderbolt and will try to put more in future issues. Many more of his photographs are in his book, "Entering Germany 1944-1949".

Nancy and I are doing fine with doctor's appointments and all those pills we take. It's hard to make sure you don't run out of any of them. If I did forget, I wouldn't be able to run around any more.

The last couple of months I've talked to quite a few new members and some descendants. I think we will have quite a few new faces at the Reunion this year.

I've left the best news to last. My grandson Sgt. Matthew Wooldridge is home safe after 13 months in Iraq! He was in the Engineers just like his grandfather.

## CHAPTERS

### BOSTON CHAPTER NEWS

AMBY TYNAN

I had a nice phone call from Pat DiGiammerino after a year off – no meetings and poor health among all the troops. The operation and new knees were most of the problems. Meetings are starting the first part of April. It certainly will be good to see everyone again to make plans for the next Reunion.

Raffle winners (drawn at our belated holiday gathering) –

- \$100 Rose Kinik, Bridgeport, CT
  - \$ 50 Bernard Loskin, Stillwater, NY
  - \$ 50 Clifford Snyder, Saugerties, NY
  - \$ 25 Robert Sessions, Norway, ME
  - \$ 25 John Kablesch, Southernton, CT
  - \$ 25 Frank Sabine, Edison, NJ
  - \$ 25 Joe Owens, Oakwood, VA
- Best of luck to all.

A Bit of Humor:

\* Two guys discussing popular family trends on sex, marriage, and values, Stu said, "I didn't sleep with my wife before we got married, did you?" Leroy replied, "I'm not sure, what was her maiden name?"

\* Mr. Clark, I have reviewed this case very carefully," the divorce court judge said, "and decided to give your wife \$775 a week." "That's

very fair, your Honor," the husband said, "and then I'll try to send a few bucks myself."

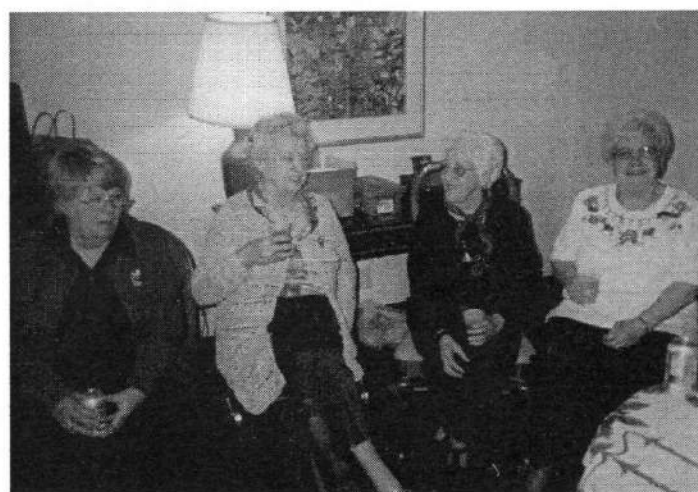
\* A doctor examined a woman, took the husband aside and said "I don't like the looks of your wife at all." "Me neither doc", said the husband. "But she's a great cook and really good with the kids."

\* An old man goes to the Wizard to ask him if he can remove a curse he has been living with for the last 49 years. The Wizard says, "Maybe but you will have to tell me the exact words that were used to put the curse on you." The old man says without hesitation. "I now pronounce you man and wife."

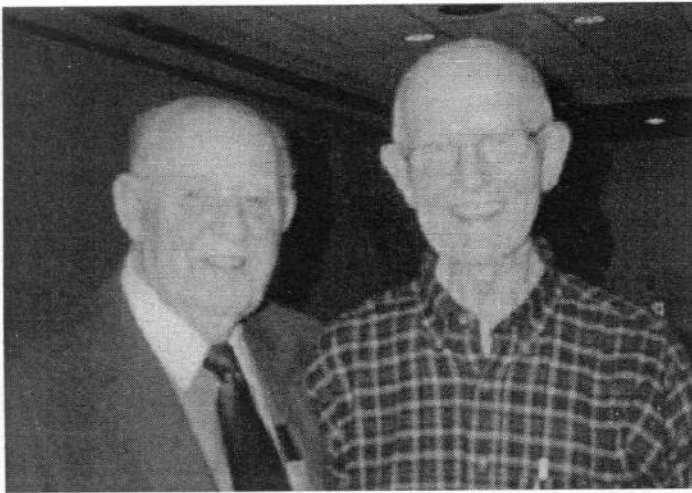
\* One from California: What did ET's mother say to him when he returned home? "Where on Earth have you been?"



Pat DiGiammerino, John Tisdell (Pres.), Charlie Lussier



Rose Young Jr., Rose Young, Livy Maynard, Rita Lussier



Charlie Lussier, Bob Gangnath –Boston Chapter

Thanks to Tony Piantedosi for keeping in touch with me. Tony has had tough times in the past year along with several deaths in his family. Tony is a true Buddy.

Porter Grinstead passed away. He was from Colora, MD and was a member of 323 Charlie Battery. His wife reported this to me. Leslie D. Taylor died last August. Leslie kept records for the men plus pictures, also educated a few of us. He was among the best. Dustin H. Starbuck, Hq. Battery 323 F.A. Bn. died last August. I had a letter from his wife Jean. Condolences to their families.

I had a recent call from Frank Wirth who is doing well in Virginia. Erwin Erhardt does very good for a man of his age. His wife Norma is doing excellent after a hip injury.

Eddie McCouch is keeping busy with his 22 plus grandchildren. Eddie certainly needs his own telephone book to keep up with them.

Charlie Lussier and Rita are doing good. Charlie's eyes have got much better. Had a talk with Fred Sylvia keeping track of 329 I Co. Chuck Abdinoor is fishing in Florida. He is going to send me some fish or fish stories.

Dallas William stays busy with Military Funerals and Volunteering at the Senior Center. Had a letter from Walter Harding and his wife down in the Sunshine State as we up North are having it real cold.

Alice Ann Costello spent the holidays with her son Joe in California. I must call her to check out everyone. My wife Nancy had a nice

talk with Norman McCormack's wife and daughter. All is well in Maine.

Cliff Wooldridge did a great job in the last issue of the Thunderbolt with the pictures of Manny Goodridge and Ellsworth (Red Legs). They looked like young men.

That's all for now,

Amby Tynan, Boston Chapter Reporter

## DIXIE CHAPTER NEWS ELLSWORTH MASSIE



Our Hostess Flo Jackson and Family with Santa

**Dixie Christmas Meeting:** I left Maryland Saturday after Thanksgiving getting ahead of a snowstorm for the Livingston's in South Carolina to visit and enjoy "The Festival of Lights" which has grown from 8000<sup>+</sup> in 1992 to 50,000<sup>+</sup> in 2002. State Route 28 is strung with lights for 1/2 mile. There are literally acres of lights and Christmas decorations. The garden, flower beds, driveway, grapevines, fig trees, pecan grove and even the tractor shed and chicken house are lit up with the festival lights. Beautiful and worth the long drive. Alas, the news is bad. Mary is unable to travel or cook and so Felix is doing everything. I can't believe the difference 10 years makes. We enjoy our visit but they are unable to come to Gatlinburg and had to cancel along with 22 other couples.

In 1992 we broke all attendance records for our banquet with 197 present. This year 2003

we had 89 present. We voted to go back next year for the 30-year celebration.

Tuesday: It's very exciting being here once more. I help Kathryn do a little shopping. It doesn't take much to please us. Must have something to do with the age or weather.

Wednesday: We're starting to fill up. Before it's over we have comrades from 12 states registered and present. Many had to cancel from weather to poor health being the reasons! No one wanted to.



**Lessie Riddle with her Daughters**

Thursday: In all there are 23 rooms cancelled. We have 9 widows and 4 widowers present. They add much to our festivities. I'd guess we have a couple new courting couples! That's what I like to see. Some take in the Christmas Shows. Reports are good. We miss each one who had to cancel and enjoy and welcome some for the very first time. Our hostess Flo Jackson along with her many helpers are doing a top notch job. No need to go out to eat. All could eat three meals a day in Hospitality Room – You name it! We have it! Ham, oyster stew, chile, roast beef, lasagna, vegetable soup, cold salads, snacks of all kinds. What more could we ask for except a few more years?

Flo's family had 11 present and threw a birthday party with cake and homemade ice cream for all. Naylor came with 11 family; Walton Singleton, brother of deceased Milton, arranged and was present with 10+ members of

that family. Jeanette McCroy is present with 11 members of her family. Hudnell reserved 6 rooms and finally wound up with 9 present after some cancelled – What a day!!! I'm still worn out 2 weeks later. It's truly a heart warming experience to be a part of this celebration each year.

Friday: The parade goes off on schedule and is beautiful to behold. We toasted ourselves by the fireplace, told old and new tales and felt 50 years younger. Captain Hill is present with 3 members of his family, his executive officer and one rifleman comprise his group. Cliff Milton and Jesse Pirkle make up his command and we need them all. The 329th is supported by our lone "Red Leg" cannonner from 322nd. The 331st Dalton and Naylor are backed up by Goodridge from 908th. Cecil Walters is in charge of 308th Combat Engineers and does a commendable job along with Walton Singleton, brother of our own Milton.



**Important Decision Time**

**Manny Goodridge Artillery - Cecil Walters Engineers**

Saturday: Preparations for the banquet are in motion. The business meeting gets underway. Reports are made. We regret the passing of some members, prepare cards for the sick and bereaved, have prayer and remembrances for all not able to be present for whatever reason.

Announced –

March 10, 11, 12 Meet Williamsburg, VA '04

June 4, 5, 6, 7 Meet Memphis, TN '04

Dec. 2, 3, 4 Meet Gatlinburg, TN '04

Meeting adjourned by President J. I. Lamb.

Banquet with drawings, fifty-fifty's, door prizes, gift exchange, music, and dancing. Good fellowship are the hallmarks of a great night.

Twenty-five couples present for dancing and music when I gave out and turned in.

No snow at our level but 1000 ft. on the mountain the road US 441 to Cherokee, NC closed with 12 inches on ground.

Let's all plan to do it again next year! It doesn't happen by itself - Be a part of it - I'll be looking for you.



**"A Battery All the Way"**

**Mike Beadles, son of deceased Jim Beadles A322, in the middle of George Lazarus and Ellsworth Massie**

**Dixie March '04 Meeting:** Time is catching up with us! We have sickness and death in our midst. We stand with those affected by the loss of family members and support each in their time of sorrow. The loss of George Naylor in a fire at his home is now known to all of us and we extend our feeling of love and concern to his family.

I arrive early since I have many loose ends to tie up. Some I get done, others must wait till next time. Let me share those figures of where we are in 2004 in our Dixie Chapter - Members, guests, descendants just keep coming until we have 47 present for the banquet. The food is top quality. Fellowship is beyond comparison. John and Virginia Cox (our hosts) cater to our every need. We shall be grateful for this and thank them for everything they have done for us over the years. Due to his health John will not be able

to host our meeting next March but John White and his wife Bobby will be hosting our 2005 March meeting. We're already looking forward to this. John is the son of Lt. Col. Wild Bill White, 83rd Infantry.



**John and Bobby White**

This year we have 5 widows present. We're grateful for each! They add much to our enjoyable meet. P.S. - They all brought goodies. Thanks.- We come from 12 states, 13 units are represented. A Bty. 322nd has twice as many new present as any other. I had (2) the others had only (1) each. It takes us 50+ years but Lazarus and Massie finally set a record!! Just wait till next year!

We note the passing of Carolyn Pirkle, one of our faithful over the years. Jesse, we're pulling for you!

Lill Benbow finally comes at midnight Friday night with her daughter and son-in-law.



**Lill Benbow & Family (widow of Bill Benbow A322)**



Lacy Satterfield (in wheel chair) and in very poor health shows up with lovely wife Melba and two lady guests. Way to go Lacy!

Sixteen elect to attend the Musical Theater and come back with glowing reports. Made me sorry I didn't go.



**R.T. Brooks and Family - 3rd Bn. Hq. 329th**

R.T. Brooks tried hard and got here with wife Betty and two sons. It is great to be with them again. This was a first time for them as a family!

Our No. 1 associate member Tom Thompson and Betty (wife) finally hit it lucky and won the 50/50. He's been a member for so long I can't remember when I first met him. It's been an enjoyable association. Music and Squirrel Hunting!



**Tom Thompson finally WINS !!!**

Jim Beedles' (a deceased fellow soldier of mine from A322) son Mike and his wife Bev came to visit with many pictures and mementoes of his dad's. I am able to help put names and

meaning to them to pass on to the next generation. I am delighted to have them for a few hours. Many visit museums and Colonial Williamsburg among them.



**Old Generation of Massies/New Generation of Beadles**



**All the Artillery wore White Hats  
Dave Lazarus (son) , Ellsworth Massie 322,  
George Lazarus 322 , John Cox 908**

A word of thanks to each one able to come and be here, also to those wanting to be here. We look forward to doing this again next year.

Our prayers are with you!!

E. Massie

## **FLORIDA CHAPTER NEWS**

No report

## GREAT PLAINS CHAPTER NEWS

No report

## KENTUCKY CHAPTER NEWS

CHESTER WILSON

2003- The Kentucky Chapter held their spring meeting on April 4th and 5th at the Signature Inn, Florence, KY. It was hosted by Manny Goodridge. Those at the meeting were – Mr. & Mrs. Al Henry, Mr. & Mrs. Mick McGowan, Mr. & Mrs. Larry Dalton, Mr. & Mrs. Earl Hoover, Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Richmond, Mrs. Ruth Riekenbaugh, Bonnie Owens, Golda Aders, and Mr. Manny Goodridge.

The Kentucky Chapter held their summer meeting at the Comfort Inn, Jackson, Ohio on June 6th and 7th. It was hosted by Earl and Bonnie Hoover. We all enjoyed the Blue Grass music played by Hershell McIntosh and Floyd Richmond.

Those at the meeting were: Mr. & Mrs. Earl Hoover, Mrs. Diane Le Master, Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Richmond, Mr. & Mrs. Hershell McIntosh, Mr. & Mrs. Larry Dalton, Mr. & Mrs. Chester Wilson, Mr. Manny Goodridge, Danny Roy Rice, Deana McIntosh.

The Kentucky Chapter held their Christmas Meeting on December 12th and 13th at the Comfort Inn, Piqua, Ohio. It was hosted by Al and Dorothy Henry.

Vice President Earl Hoover held a short business meeting – Election of officers: President Earl Hoover, Vice President Floyd Richmond, Secretary and Treasurer Manny Goodridge. And a gift exchange.

Those at the meeting were Mr. Paul Lear, Mr. & Mrs. Hayes Wilt, Mr. & Mrs. Larry Dalton, Mr. & Mrs. Earl Hoover, Mrs. Diane Le Master, Mr. & Mrs. Mick McGowan, Mr. & Mrs. Chester Wilson, Mr. & Mrs. Al Henry, Mr. & Mrs. Randy Trent, and Mr. Manny Goodridge.

The Kentucky Chapter will hold its Spring Meeting in Florence, KY hosted by Manny Goodridge.

Chester Wilson

## MICHIGAN CHAPTER NEWS

No Report

## NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

NICK FRANCULLO

Hope you all had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We in New England are still fighting the bad weather.

Received a card from Clarence Balfe of Winsted, CT and he is OK but doesn't do much driving now. Also, Jack Merrell of Stamford, CT, he is doing OK but wife Rosemary had a terrible time and is much improved now.

And the boys from my platoon - Joe Buli is doing good now several years after bypass surgery. They hope to get to Alaska to see their son Joe who will be retiring from the Air Force in a year and a half.

Bob Blout is doing OK, Wayne Turner is doing OK after his second open heart surgery and he received a cow's valve replacement and it is working great. Al Vivio is doing fine, Russell Wagner is doing fine. That's it from my boys. Ha Ha.

Talked to John and Ester Ferriera and John is having trouble with his leg but out side of that he is fine.

Received a call from the Brennans that Joe Petrucci's brother had passed away and we of the New England Chapter send out our sympathy to his family.

I spent time in the hospital in November with rectal bleeding and had to have an operation to have two polyps removed and I am doing good now.

On Jan. 12th I had to take my wife Mary to the hospital as she was not feeling well. They found out that she had a mild heart attack, but is home now and doing better.



**Joe Petrucci Buddies**



**The Macaluso Family**



**New England Chapter Gang**

What news we get now is sad news as we are all getting old. Karl Burkhard called and he was hospitalized from Oct. 15 - Nov. 19 and had nurses coming to the house twice daily since. He

had an infection which later required a femoral artery bypass to save his leg. He's doing OK now. Also, Karl told me that Michael Champy his buddy from Carmel, NY died Jan 2, 04 of Parkinson's and we of the New England Chapter send out our sympathy to the Champy family.

Everything is going OK with the Brennan's. Dot had cataract surgery on both eyes and it was very successful. She says that Jim is very good about getting the drops in and on time too.

The Petrucci's have had two deaths in the family in one month. Joe's brother died on Dec. 12th and his sister on Jan 11th. Our sympathy goes out to them.

Jeannetti and Bill McKee left for Florida after the holidays. Jeannetti had to spend a few days in the hospital with a little heart set back, but she is doing well again. That's it.

Your Buddy,

Nick Francullo, Hq. Co. 3rd Bn. 330th

## **NEW JERSEY CHAPTER NEWS**

**STAN BIELEN**

stanfranbielen@aol.com

February 6, 2004

To continue about what I wrote in the last Thunderbolt about Charlie Sihlanick being able to attend his daughter Linda's wedding (while he was in rehabilitation at a local hospital) after a series of operations. The happy news is he was there to escort her up the aisle. It was attended by some of the chapter members namely Andy Socha, Joe DePeri, Candy and Tom Dowd, and Fran and I. It was a beautiful wedding ceremony. The reception following was by far one of the most fantastic Fran and I have ever attended. The entire Chapter Members wish Linda and her husband Augie a long and happy life.

A few days ago I received a call from Bob Whitcomb telling me about Margarita Whitehead being in a very serious auto accident. I called Russell to find out about her condition and he told me it happened on December 19, 2003 and that she was recuperating at Hunterton Care

Center in Flemington, NJ and he expected her to be there for another three weeks. We wish her a speedy recovery.

I've been in touch with Frank Reichmann lately and at 93 he is real sharp. I sent him an email that I received from Hannes Eichsteiner from Ried, Austria. I had sent Hannes an email asking him to contact my friends Hans and Sonja Lettner who own the Post Hotel Bar and Restaurant in Braunau am Inn, Austria to find out if they are on the internet. He wrote me back letting me know, they are not. He sent the letter he received from Hans as an attachment and it was in German. I sent it to Frank to interpret it for me.

Those of you who were on the 1976 trip to Europe might remember when I had the guide stop over at Braunau on our way to Salzburg. For those of you that don't know, Braunau was where Adolf Hitler was born. His house is now a bank and is across the square from the Post Hotel.

Herr Eichsteiner is an historian and is looking to hear from any 83rd veteran who served on occupation duty in his area or in Lintz, Austria. You can pickup his email address on the message board on Dave Curry's website. [www.ncweb.com/~davecurry/brothers/](http://www.ncweb.com/~davecurry/brothers/)

In my last article I said I would tell you about Bill Dennis' book when I received it. That was a mistake on my part, his name is Bill Devitt and he was a platoon leader with Co. E, 330. I read the book and it was an interesting and informative story about a platoon officer's life. The book is titled "Shavetail" and I would highly recommend it. His address is 6812 Indian Hills Road, Edina, MN 55439, Tele: 952-833-1175, Email: [cwdevitt@aol.com](mailto:cwdevitt@aol.com). The soft cover is \$17.00 and includes postage and handling. **NO RAGS, I DON'T GET A COMMISSION.**

**GOOD NEWS!** The U.S. Economy has been going well since our chapter member Joe DePeri has decided to return to work. His trucking company is busy and Joe has to pitch in, no more just lazily hanging about. It's good to be the boss, he doesn't have to get up till 3:00 AM and get home at 6:00 PM.

Sam and Edith Manzi wrote in their Christmas Card that they are doing OK although

Sam has been having problems seeing when he drives at night. Hope they will be at the reunion in Pittsburgh. It is always great to be with them.

I tried to call our Association 2nd VP Manny Epstein at his Brooklyn home but he is in St. Petersburg, Florida and when I called there he was unavailable as he was at the pool swimming. I've got to switch places with him, here I am racking my brain writing this article and the 2nd VP is having a ball in the sunshine.

I met with my old army buddy Fred Klein in New Brunswick when he came up to attend an advisory meeting at Rutgers University. Fred is on the Advisory Board at seven universities through out the country. We hadn't seen each other for 35 years and I enjoyed it greatly seeing him again. I have enclosed a picture (below) of us taken at the Hyatt Regency where he was staying.



From the Christmas cards I received from the "Cookie" Seneca family he is doing quite well. We hope he and the family are planning on Pittsburgh. I know Chuck Abdinoor who was at the last reunion with his "A" Co. 330th group will be happy to have you join them there as we will be.

I have also enclosed with this article an email that "Rags" Rangnow forwarded to me. I have his permission to do so. I found it heart touching and thought all of you would find it so.

That's it for now, Stay well all you wonderful people!

Stan Bielen

Subj: **FW: To one faithful son.**  
Date: 01/31/2004 10:42:21 AM Eastern Standard Time  
From: [warren.rangnow@e-premier.com](mailto:warren.rangnow@e-premier.com)  
To: [Stanfranbielen@aol.com](mailto:Stanfranbielen@aol.com)  
*Sent from the Internet (Details)*

Hey, handsome?

Thought you might be interested in this although you probably know all this info being so smart but I have to take every opportunity to edify you.

Seriously, I try to put myself in Dave's , and so many others, shoes. Just think of this, after 60 years he's still trying to find out about the Dad he never knew. War is hell.

Old Lefty

-----Original Message-----

From: Dave Curry [mailto:[davecurry@ncweb.com](mailto:davecurry@ncweb.com)]  
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2004 11:55 PM  
To: [warren.rangnow@e-premier.com](mailto:warren.rangnow@e-premier.com)  
Subject: Re: To one faithful son.

Hi Rags--

I enjoyed watching the tape. Thanks very much for sending it. I was surprised that some of the WWII footage seemed to be in color. I'm amazed that you were able to even get movie film, let alone color film.

I mailed out a letter to you today with reimbursement for the video. You should get it early next week.

Here are some answers to your other questions. My Dad was 30 years old when he was drafted in the fall of 1943 and was 31 when he was KIA on 10 December 44. My mom is still living. She turned 91 last October, and she still lives by herself in Meadville, PA. She is in great health except for her eyesight (macular degeneration). But, she hasn't let her sight problems slow her down. She still shovels the snow in her driveway, although she did give up mowing her very large lawn a few years ago (she thought it might be too dangerous to be running around the yard with a power mower with bad eyesight).

I believe my Mom and Dad were married for about five years when he was drafted. I was a year and a half old when he was KIA, and I was the only child.

Dad went through 17 weeks basic at Camp Blanding, and I still have his "Combination Score Book" for the M1903, M1, and BAR. And with his armorer-artificer spec, I'm sure he was well trained. It is difficult to believe that some replacements never had any target practice!

I have met several vets who were in my Dad's company (F/331). The first one that I met was Bob Parsons, who became a very dear friend. Bob passed away a year ago, and I miss him. He put me touch with Larry Dalton who was the platoon leader in my Dad's second platoon. I also met Hershel Macintosh who remembered my Dad quite well. Hershell has been having some health problems, and had to have a leg amputated a few months ago. I also talked with Norman Neily, who remembered my Dad from Normandy. Another F Company vet that I met

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at Camp Atterbury was Floyd Richmond (he came into F Company after my Dad was KIA).

I have a message board on my website that helps relatives find information about their fathers who served in the 83rd Division. My friend, Debbie Holloman has been forwarding a lot of these messages along to Cliff Wooldrige and he has been printing them in the "Thunderbolt." (Debbie Holloman's uncle was Eddie Hart, who was in G Company/329th. He was killed in Germany, and a documentary video has been made about Eddie Hart's story. The video has been shown on the Public Television stations in North Carolina. It is a great video, and includes interviews with several G Company veterans.)

Its getting late, and I need to get some sleep so I can get up early tomorrow morning!

More later--all the best,

Dave Curry

>Dave,

> Well you finally rec'd tape. I'm sure you will enjoy some of the  
>"look back" to see what your Dad saw. I can't imagine many of the thoughts  
>that have gone through your mind over all these years. More questions. How  
>old was your Dad? How long was he married? How old were you? Is your Mom  
>still living? Were there any other siblings? That's enough for a whole  
>letter.

> I'll tell you this Dave. Your Dad had one of the toughest  
>assignments in the Army. He was a replacement and even the sound of that  
>word sounds negative. Replacements were anything but negative. they were  
the

>life blood of the divisions. I'll never forget the beating we were taking  
>in Normandy. In the book I tell of going up to the front right after 4th of  
>July to pick up the rifles off our dead. It was just "horrible" because the  
>bodies had been laying there for many days. they were all bloated and  
>purple. We took the rifles back and fixed them like new, and then the next  
>day my best buddy Wolf, who you will see, and we came all the way home  
>together, took the rifles back to some fields in Carentan. We gave them to  
>replacements, who not only didn't have a rifle, but they never had any  
>target practice. They were taking instructions in the field and then being  
>sent to our front the NEXT DAY! Wolf quickly summed up the situation,  
>"Rags, Our dream of getting to Berlin by Christmas suddenly seems far  
away."

> Thank heavens your Dad wasn't one of these poor chaps. Your Dad  
>was a full fledged, trained infantryman. However, that still had to be a  
>lonely situation. Your thrown into the thick of things and you don't even  
>know the name of the guys in the next foxhole. I'm assuming, knowing how  
>smart you are, that you have tried and failed to find anyone that knew your  
>Dad. The problem is it's getting so late. Our Company of 150 is now down  
to

>22 and most of them are not in good shape. At 82, I am almost the  
youngest.

>The Lt. is 6 months younger so it is very hard to find thinking vets these  
>days.

> Stan B. is a close friend of mine and he is a great guy. We  
>almost made that reunion and it was the first one we missed since 1980 when  
>I first learned we had reunions from 1946! That sure is great that you  
>attended and met the guys. I presume you have put a letter in the  
>Thunderbolt.

Sunday, February 01, 2004 America Online: Stanfran bielen

# COMPANIES

## 783RD ORDNANCE Co. RAGS RANGNOW

George Burns once said, "The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending; and have the two as close together as possible." I'm thinking that might be good advice for this column. Now if I could only think of an ending.

Ginny, when she sees me scratching my head will ask, "How's the medical report coming along?" As I thumb through the Thunderbolt I must confess it reads like a 308th medical report but I also realize this is the age we are in. With that said I'm going to be different which is what Gilman always lectured, "Boy, you are different."

It's early Feb. and you're probably reading this in May so just let me say from all the Christmas cards and telephone calls, the twenty three guys we have left from the Company, are all doing the same. We get up in the morning, with a few grunts, hopefully enjoy the sunrise and then are grateful for the rest of the day.

Yesterday I saw both my doctor and cardiologist. The Doc gave me the old "good news, band news routine". He said, "The good news is that you are not a hypochondriac." (Doc Pfeifer got it already.) My heart guy, on looking at my blood report said, "If your food tastes good spit it out." So much for doctors.

Right before Christmas, as per usual, I called a couple of the fellows we never hear from.. In so doing I ran across Bob Hammond's son's name, Steve. I've tried calling Bob and I sent a few unanswered letters. I had no trouble getting Steve who shocked me with, "Didn't you know, Dad died October a year ago?" So. I'm sorry for the belated news but let's pause and remember another good comrade who has stood his last retreat.

The four fellows I called are follows: Troy Bishop at 86 is still driving with Parkinson's. He reports that Hobart Belt died a few years back. Q. Boyett 87 had a stroke and is confused. Steve Greecher 85 will talk your head off and is still running his tractor. Don Vandermergel 84 has "Black Lung" disease but gets around on his scooter. Lastly, Harley Maxwell can no longer be found. By my count this leaves just twenty-three of us from the good old 783rd. Let's watch the sun come up tomorrow and rejoice at the good life we've been given.

Handsome Stan - that is Bielen, from the good old 331st has been talking up my book and tape to the extent that I'm thinking of putting him on the payroll. It's amazing to me how son's of the 83rd, like Dave Curry of Ohio, whose Dad died in the battle of Gey, are searching for info as well as promoting our history through the internet. A salute to all their sons, grandsons, and daughters, as well as our own men like Stan who so eagerly lends a helping hand.

In that vein, and this is no promotion gig, (I have plenty to keep me busy) but if anyone would like my 1942-45 movie of life in the 83rd plus the enactment of the Battle Of The Bulge, held each January, at Camp Indiantown Gap, PA. I'll gladly make and mail you one for \$12.00. I'll also throw in the 83rd's 50th anniversary visit of 1994. The tape will run for two hours. I'm sorry I have no more books of "Hut Two" but I have seen it on the Internet from five bucks to thirty! Ah, fame is so fleeting!

As you read this it will almost be vacation time. Again this year I'd like to remind you of the best WWII show in the nation. It will be held on June 4th, 5th, and 6th at the Reading, Pa. airport. As you walk through the gates you will truly be stepping back into 1944. This huge expanse is turned into a 1994 encampment and battlefield. Jim Swope will again honor us with an 83rd Hdqts. Tent filled with nostalgia. There are hotel and factory outlets galore in the surrounding area. Trust me, make the trip, greet some of your 83rd buddies you won't regret one minute.

Now I'm sorry to say the outlook on the Pittsburgh reunion from our standpoint is not

promising. In going over our list I have found just Hersch Weaver who is anxious and able footed to attend. So, if any of you are changing your minds please call Hersch. We will need someone to watch his step. On the other hand, by the time a man is wise enough to watch his step, he's too old to go anywhere.

Let's hear from you,  
Rags Rangnow

## Co. "A" - 330<sup>TH</sup> CHARLES ABDINOOR

Hi Buddy's,

Here I am in sunny Florida and the weather has hit in the 80's. Sorry about that for you guys up in the North. We are here till April, hope to do more surf fishing.

I called Paul Reed and we are trying to break down our 3rd Platoon Ad. It seems we are adding more names to the roster, and it is costing more to make the ad up for the book. We do not want to forget our comrades that lost their lives or the wounded. We want to always remember them out of respect. We will never forget them. That is our first priority and Paul is working on that. Hopefully to also include us survivors.

Have not heard from Cookie Senica. Earl Dunn is keeping us informed about him. Ed and Pauline Brown just missed the fire damage in California. It ended at their property line.

Walt and Pearl Pillion still have their beautiful property for sale, mountains and river are included. They will certainly miss it. They brought up all their children there. It is situated deep in the woods, beautiful scenery.

Hope to see the Prussman's in Pittsburgh. He had a fellow P.O.W. living there and would like to see him. Lee Milligan looked real good for being our oldest man. It was a pleasure to see him once again.

Got a call from our Irish mafia Amby Tynan letting me know that Mike Champy passed away. He came from my hometown but moved to Connecticut. Mike was a buddy of Spike McCartin and Karl Burkhard of H Co. 330th. We give our sympathy to Marie.

Missed a Christmas card from Ed McCouch. Hope all is well. Called up O.L. Cook who is living in an assisted living facility. I mailed him an Ad Book which he appreciated. I hope he is able to make the reunion. I am cutting my column short, so excuse me for leaving out some names.

I received a call from Erin Schwartz and Betty Haley both from California. They are cousins of Richard Hartman who was killed beside me in the Hartz Mts. in Germany. Also, along side me Johnny Whiting was killed right after Hartman, the very next instant. I was lucky indeed. After the war, Frank Burgess and I drove to Jefferson City, MO just to tell his mother how he was killed.



Johnnie Whiting, Richard Hartman, Charles Abdinoor  
Both were killed the same day.  
(Photo included as favor to Chuck)

Members of A Co., 330th, remember that terrible fire fight, especially the 3rd platoon. I can go on and on, and will do so, when I come back home, and give all the information and pictures to his family.

I also received a letter from a friend of Lou Sassand who was kind enough to send me a picture of Lou at Basic Training.

Heard from Stew Barrick. He and his grandson represented the 83rd at their annual Veterans Parade. (See photo on next page.)

I apologize if I left anyone out. Being here I have no computer so all my records are home. Sincerely hope all stay in good health and hope to see you all in Pittsburg.

Sincerely,  
Your Buddy Chuck





**ONE OF THE MORE UNIQUE** entries in Tuesday's Veterans Day Parade in Clinton was this golf cart decorated as a salute to the 83rd Infantry Division during World War II and driven by a veteran of that division, Troy Steward Barrick, shown here with his grandson, Gentry Glancy, and his faithful canine companion, Bo. The 83rd fought in the Battle of the Bulge as well as the massacre at Ottre near Bihain, Belgium on Jan. 11, 1945 where one of the most memorable photos of the war of slain comrade Private Henry I. Tannenbaum lying face-down in the snow was taken. A monument has been erected there by the Luxembourg Friends of the American Veterans Association. Steward and his wife, Nellrita, are just back from the division's reunion at Ft. Mitchell, KY in September. (CDN photo by Steve Belcher)

## Co. "D" - 331ST

**GERI GUNDERSON**

The 2003 Holidays are now past, but the cold weather seems to still be with us. The Christmas Cards are always a joy to receive, and to hear from each of you and your plans to be with family and friends through the Holidays.

The Sharps are doing great in Ohio, enjoying family get-togethers and still celebrating Frank's birthday. Congratulations Frank on the upcoming 91st! The McDermott's family was home for the Holidays, which included their son joining them from Asia.

The Hamilton's enjoyed their Holidays with children and grandchildren. R.C. is busy making plans for the 2005 Reunion. R.C.-- Bill McKee just volunteered all of Co. D to assist you in any way possible.

It is hoped that Mary Dallas is feeling much better. (I think a couple of months in the south would be just what the doctor ordered for you and Paul.) Nick and Sylvia Barbu have plans on

coming to Hilton Head and Florida in March. Frank Cancasi - You are missed at the Reunions and hope you will honor us with your presence at the upcoming Florida Chapter meeting. Harry and Barb Gravelyn are enjoying entertaining family and also their "yacht" is enjoyed by all of the great 83rd. A nice note was received from Elaine Hogan (George Odenweller's daughter). It is so good to know that our "second generation" still wants to be part of the great 83rd.

Jeannette and Bill McKee left Mass. in January for Florida. Jeanette was in the hospital in Orlando for six days. She is now doing well and enjoying the sunny weather in Pompano Beach. Bill and Jeannette and myself are leaving for Cancun on Jan. 31st for two weeks. We will be joining Ruth (Vern) Mueller.

Bill McKee had Christmas cards from the following: Peggy and Arthur Haught. Happy 91st Arthur and many more! Harvey Clements called Bill from Chicago. He is visiting schools and promoting the 83rd and the Soldiers of WWII. Russell and Helen Sparks called Bill to inquire regarding 83rd history. They were referred to Al Shrawder who has a wealth of information regarding the 83rd and Co. D. Russell also celebrated his 90th Birthday this year. The Sparks were grateful for all the information they were sent.

Bill received a nice card from David Harman. He had some health problems but is much improved. George Kolmos also wrote. We would like to hear more from you George. . . Marcella Nolte calls often and plans on being in Pittsburgh in September. This coming week, Bill, Jeanette and myself are having lunch with Jean Cove and Cathy Madonna Mann. Ken Baker will have a little further to go for the Pittsburgh Reunion. Harry Adkins sent greetings. We would like to hear from Ray Richter and any other Co. D members not included above.

William and Dorothy Sauer will be attending the dedication of the NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL, a lasting tribute to the sacrifice and achievement of the WW II generation. Many of us will be there on May 29-30 in Washington, D.C. It is too bad that the

83rd Association does not have a reserved area to be seated together. Other divisions made arrangements and several Army Reunions are also being held in Washington, D.C. at this time The Hamilton's, McKee, Sauer's, Shrawder's and Gunderson are just a few that I am aware of that have plans to attend.

Reminder: Mary and Frank Sabine and Paul and Mary Dallos are checking on the Annual Reunion Get-Together for Rest and Relaxation in a suitable location near Pittsburgh. You will hear more on this later through Al's NEWSLETTER.

It is with regret that I must report the following: I received a call from John Miklo's son that John passed away on Jan. 9th, 2004 in Deltona, Florida. He had spent the past two years in an Assisted Living Facility. A profile from Al Shrawder reveals that John was born on May 17, 1921. He was a Sgt. in the 2nd Machine Gun Platoon – Co. D 331st. He joined Co. D at Camp Atterbury, IN and was wounded on January 19, 1945 at Petite Langlier, Belgium. John was discharged on Nov. 15, 1945 at Indiantown Gap, PA. He leaves nine children plus grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Keep healthy, have a wonderful Spring, Chapter Meetings, War Memorial in Washington, and hope all will be in Pittsburgh at the September reunion.

Geri Gunderson assisted by Bill McKee

## Co. "F" - 329<sup>TH</sup> C. R. BOB WHITCOMB

OVER THE YEARS: Excerpts from  
Thunderbolts: Vol. 50, No. 3, 1995, Pg. 17  
Vol. 54, No. 2, 1999, Pg. 11  
Vol. 55, No. 1, 1999, Pg. 9  
Vol. 55, No. 3, 2000, Pg. 10  
Vol. 56, No. 3, 2001, Pg. 10  
Vol. 56, No. 3, 2001, Pg. 19-20,  
to name a few, serve to point out some of the accomplishments of this **Featured Member** of "F" Co, 329th Infantry.

In addition, the printed word within these excerpts help to understand and describe this man's integrity, character and the duty he feels toward his fellow man. These traits have always been visible both in his actions in combat and civilian pursuits.

This soldier was assigned to "F" company shortly after the breakout at St. Lo. He was never permitted to leave, as we all knew a good thing when we experienced it.

If you have gone back and reread any of the enumerated excerpts you probably figured out that this featured member is "F" Company Combat Medic – **Marshall D. "Doc" Keith**.

"Doc" would want you to remember that during all the while, he has been wonderfully supported by his partner-in-service, his wife DeLoris.

At the 57th Annual Reunion, Ft. Mitchell, KY a short composition was read one afternoon to those present in the "F" Company C.P. It since has been referred to by some who were there, as a "Tribute to Doc".

Suffice to say it has been suggested to have it put in the Thunderbolt. The thought being others within the Division who know "Doc" Keith, especially members of the Dixie Chapter, may be interested in the commentary, so here it is.

### Ode To A Combat Medic

To Company "F" a combat Medic came  
A fine young Soldier "Doc Keith" by name

Move on meet the enemy without delay  
Was the best way to help the fallen they say

So Infantry kept going as men were hit  
Knowing our Medic would take care of them quick

When a Buddy was hit and lost his stride  
up ran our "Doc" to be at his side

He administered sulfa or morphine with a knack  
These things came from a carefully stocked pack

Attending the wounded "Doc" was heard to say  
Just be calm Ole Buddy you'll be OK

A combat Medic I never was  
Company "F"'s "Doc" Keith most surely was.

By C. R. "Bob" Whitcomb August 27, 2003

### **In Remembrance**

#### **Diane LeSanto 1947-2003**

Beloved daughter, and only child of Jane and Harold Newell of Ft. Worth, Texas, passed away October 14, 2003 at the age of 56. Our sincere love and sympathy goes out to all family members and friends.

Update: January 31, 2004 my wife and I were surprised with a telephone call from Marguerite Whitehead which thrilled us greatly! She assured us she is truly on the mend. While this is wonderful news, she still has a long recovery ahead of her. For any who may not know, Marguerite was in a very bad automobile accident Dec. 16, 2003. As of Jan. 31st Marguerite was at the Hunterdon Care Center, One Leisure Ct., Flemington, NJ 08822. Since other arrangements may take place during her convalescence, cards have been directed to their residence at 107 Wertsville Rd., Ringoes, NJ 08551-1108.

Birthdays: The Big 80 past and coming up in 2004. Woe! be onto me if I'm wrong. Feb. 2nd- Margaret Hammond, July 19th- Anne Trebonyak, Sept. 19th- Billie Collins, Oct. 15th- Mildred Atchison, Oct. 21- Marie Langenkamp, If I missed any, my excuse, I never received a Data Sheet!

Congratulations: It's official, Michael Felmler of Perrysburg, OH receive the 83rd Infantry Division Association's certificate of Honorary Membership as authorized by the Executive Board, duly signed by the Board Chairman B. John Prinzi and Secretary/Treasurer Robert Gangnath.

Congratulations: Wright Cotter on being honored by your peers by being chosen as Saline County's SWCD's "Conservation Farmer of the Year". Wright received the award for outstanding achievements he has made in his lifetime, to the land, through conservation methods and practices. Lucille, his wife of 56 years, rightly so, was honored as a part of the award as noted in the presentation.

Wright and Lucille's family were present for the award ceremony at the meeting of the Soil & Water Conservation District in January 2004.

The complete publication of the award will be in Company "F" No. 1 Newsletter of 2004.

Coming Events: 58th Annual Reunion:  
The Radisson Green Tree Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA  
September 15-19, 2004

North 2004 Ashland, Ohio  
October 10-13, 2004

*Remember: Until you walk a mile in a man's shoes, you may not realize how rough the road has been.*

C.R. Bob Whitcomb  
1314 Center Lane Dr.  
Ashland, OH 44805-3403

## **453<sup>RD</sup> AAA (AW) B<sub>N</sub>.**

**FRED C. PEARSON**

Once again it's time to get out the News and Notes about our illustrious 453rd Anti Aircraft Battalion.

I've been remiss for some time in getting out my communiqué on our activities. It seems that my own activities take up so much more time since I've gotten older (and slower).

Irene is happy though, as she is getting a job done that I've been thinking about for 12 years. I'm in the process of making a room on the ground level to move the laundry from the basement. Much work for an old man. Water, gas, sewer, ceramic floor tile, etc. Then new appliances. Another month and I should be finished. Last year's project was to rebuild the solarium. That project resulted in two falls from a ladder, the only thing hurt was my ego, and a few bruises.

It seems that bad news is more prevalent than good news these days. Since my last column we have had several of our group depart this world for a better place. It has been some time since I sent in an article, so these names may be repeats: Dale Rigsby, A Btry; Frank Lawrence, B Btry; Mike Morick, B Btry; Durwood Brown; Junius Huffman, B Btry; Gordon Rush, B. Btry; Mark Bucas; and Gerald David, C Btry.

John Hoover passed away last September 13th. He was a member of B Battery. I received a phone call from his granddaughter.

Walter Cole passed away just recently. I received a nice letter from him in October. He won a shirt that I had hand done in embroidery ink. He was proud of our outfit and liked to show his pride by wearing the shirt at every instance that was possible.

Received a message from Jim Boff, who had not been in contact with the old outfit for some time. Wanting information on those from the 453rd that may attend the Memorial Day Services at the WW II Veterans' Memorial. The Wombaugh's were also wondering who may attend the services.

Since my last writing several of our widows have also passed on to be with their husbands again.

A new contact was made with Capt. John Fisher of Hq. Battery. He now lives in Redlands, California. Originally from Webster, Ohio. Frank Moore informs me that he has lost contact with Harry Gibson. No response from him or a caregiver. I have been in contact with Gerald Merkle. He was a 2nd Lt. in B Battery and was transferred out of the 453rd at Camp Davis. He sent me a change of address for Allan Woodward. Allan was a Lt. in D Battery. Another new contact is Joe Gregory Hagan, a former member of D Battery. Also, Bernard Shuemape of Millville, NJ. I don't know what battery he was assigned to. I received a nice letter from Oscar Delagarza, B Battery. Lives in Eagle Pass, TX. Said he had a stroke about three years ago and must use a walker. Still getting around but not able to make reunions.

Some of our widows did make our 2003 reunion due to the efforts of their children and grandchildren. Shortly after the reunion, one of those widows Edith Rigsby passed away. She had been suffering for some time but still tried to fight on. We do welcome all of our widows and their families to attend our reunions.

Some of the family members have sponsored our past reunions and done a great job. They came through for their parents who wanted to sponsor an event, but were just not able to do it on their own.

May of our widows write me to say they appreciate hearing about the activities of the 453rd. I try to keep the roster up to date with the widow's addresses. So if any of our members are inclined, they would appreciate a little correspondence.

An article in WW II magazine about the 331st Regiment was in the January issue, submitted by Dave Curry, son of a member of the 83rd Division who was a K.I.A. in Gey, Germany. It should be a must read. Dave's websites are also very good and should be perused.

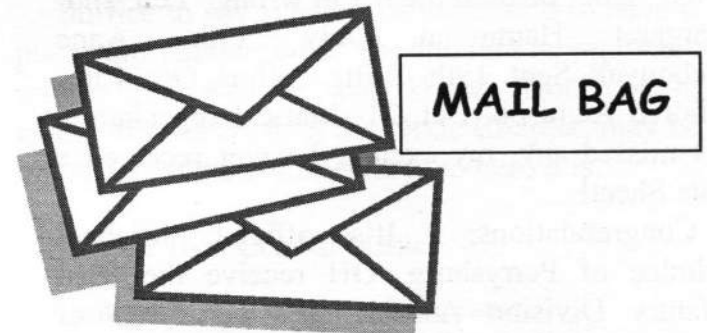
Catch the WW II Museum in Hubbard, OH while at the 83rd Reunion in Pittsburgh

Submitted by Fred C. Pearson

President and Corresponding Secretary

K8uet@lightstream.net

5704 Middle Ridge Rd., Madison, OH 44057-2838,  
440-428-3237



December 2, 2003

Dear Cliff,

I am a descendent member of the 83rd Division Association, and also have an 83rd Division website. I'm writing on behalf of Mr. Jean-Paul Pitou and the 60th Anniversary Celebration of the Invasion of Normandy. Mr. Pitou is a French historian who is studying the 83rd Division and the hedgerow battlefield around Sainteny, France. He is in the process of preparing a presentation about these battles as part of the Anniversary celebrations, and he has asked me to contact you and other members of the 83rd Division. If you could print this

information in the next issue of the "Thunderbolt" it would be greatly appreciated.

As part of the 60th Anniversary of the Normandy Invasion, there will be an exhibition at the Church in the town of Sainteny. (Sainteny was liberated by the 83rd Division on July 9, 1944.) The exhibition, which will be held during the weekend of June 6, 2004 and then from July 3 through July 9, 2004, will highlight the life of French civilians living in the area before, during, and after World War II. The exhibition will also include a presentation by Jean-Paul Pitou about the battlefields around Sainteny where the 83rd Division fought. Ceremonies will be held on June 5 at the stele in Sainteny. Another ceremony will be held on July 4 near the Sainteny church to honor American casualties and to remember the destruction of the Church. A ceremony will be held on the afternoon of July 9 at 1800 hours to remember the liberation of the town by the 83rd Division. Veterans attending the ceremonies will be awarded a "chest badge" with the veterans name engraved on it. Information about these and other events during the 60th Anniversary of the Normandy Invasion can be found at <http://www.normandiememoire.com/NM60Anglais/entrer.php>

Mr. Pitou and members of the committee preparing the celebrations in Sainteny are hoping that many veterans will be able to attend these events. Those planning to attend should give some advance notice of their participation to ensure that a badge will be engraved with their name. More information about applying for the badge can be found on the Normandy Invasion website.

For those planning to attend, and who do not have internet capabilities, I would be happy to send your name along to Mr. Pitou. You can contact me by phone at 440-942-5030 or by writing to me at 887 E. 331st Street, Eastlake, OH 44095-2801.

Thanks in advance for any help you can provide in publicizing these 60th Anniversary Normandy Invasion celebrations.

Best regards, Dave Curry

February 6, 2004

Dear Cliff,

I am enclosing a copy of George Naylor Jr's obituary.

George was in "F" Co. 331st and will be remembered as being very active, driving many miles to visit personally, calling via telephone or E mailing via computer, keeping in touch with his Army buddies. He was a man of kindness and compassion and will be missed by all who knew him.

His wife Carol Naylor can be reached at 3245 Old Mill Road, Chesapeake, VA 23323.

Because George was so well known by so many it would be nice to see his obituary in the Thunderbolt.

Edith Kreger

#### CHESAPEAKE, VIRGINIA

George D. Naylor, Jr., 83, died on Monday, February 2, 2004, in a Norfolk hospital.

Born in Camaquey, Cuba, George was the son of the late Effie Chastain Naylor and Rev. George D. Naylor, Sr. He was a Staff Sergeant in the Army Infantry in WWII where he received two purple hearts and is a member of the 83rd Infantry Organization. He was a graduate of Ferrum College and was retired from the Naval Shipyard Sheet Metal Shop #17. He was twice Commander of the Robert Graham Chapter #26 of the Disabled American Veterans. He received the first Citizens Award in 1978 by the Deep Creek Ruritan's Club of which he was past president and member. He was a member of the Deep Creek United Methodist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Carol Brannon Naylor; four sons, George Raymond Naylor of North Carolina; George D. Naylor III of Chesapeake; Franklin Bray Naylor of Richmond; and Gregory Allen Naylor of Chesapeake; one step-daughter, Carol Jean Carper of Charlestown, WV; one step-son, Roy Maynard, Jr. of Bunker Hill, WV; one brother, Chastain Naylor of Boling Springs, NC; two sisters, Marquerite Wilson of Bethasda, MD; Annie Lee Moore of Jacksonville, FL; nine grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

The family suggests that memorial contributions be made to the Deep Creek United Methodist Church, Chesapeake.

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**SEEKING INFORMATION ABOUT  
CLARENCE ARVIL HUNT  
Hqtrs. Co., 1st Battalion, 330th Inf.  
Amm Handler 504**

Mr. Wooldridge,

I would like to subscribe to the 83rd Inf. Magazine. Also, would you please print this note in the next issue.

I would like to contact any soldiers who served with or knew my grandfather, PFC Clarence Arvil Hunt, Headquarters Company 1st Battalion, 330th Inf., Military Occupational Specialty – Amm Handler 504.

He was wounded on July 4, 1944.

Thank you,

Matthew Hunt, 405-277-3063

19580 NE 234 St., Luther, OK 73054

\*\*\*\*\*

**SEEKING INFORMATION ABOUT  
SAMUEL A. BOWMAN  
Co. G, 331st IR**

Dear 83rd I.D. Assn.

I write to you seeking your help. I had an uncle who served with the 83rd ID, 331st IR., Co. "G" during WWII. I am searching for a veteran who remembers my uncle. He was Samuel A. Bowman. Known as Sam, Sammy, Bowman, or Runt. He was a small fellow – 5'5" at 140 lbs. He was WIA July 9, 1944 in France. He was out of action for 24 days. He returned to his outfit and fought for a year. He was discharged out of Camp Atterbury, IN on January 11, 1946. At some point, he was awarded a Bronze Star.

If you have any information to give me, I will deeply appreciate it if you would contact me. I look forward to hearing from you.

Roger Bowman, 859-239-9012

401 Latimer Hts., Danville, KY 40422

\*\*\*\*\*

**SEEKING INFORMATION ABOUT  
PVT. MAKOTO YOSHIHARA  
MEDIC, Co. E, 330th  
ASN 39167689**

Dear Mr. Wooldridge,

I am a freelance writer with Santa Maria Times (California) currently working on a story about Pvt. Makoto Yoshihara.

Pvt. Yoshihara, a medic serving with the 330th Infantry, 83rd Division, was killed during the Battle of the Bulge at Hartgen Forest in December of 1944.

Pvt. Yoshihara, an only child, grew up in Guadalupe, California, and graduated from Santa Maria High School in 1939.

I'm looking for someone who might have known this man and who would be willing to give me some information to use in my column.

Although I have contacted various government offices in hopes of them giving me information, it's very possible that various privacy laws might prevent them from helping me. Therefore, my only hope is with The Thunderbolt.

Many thanks,

Shirley Contreras, (805) 481-9559

P.O. Box 755, Grover Beach, CA 93483

Email: [shirley2@pronet.net](mailto:shirley2@pronet.net)

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**REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION ABOUT  
83RD DIVISION  
VETERANS**

submitted by Debbie Holloman  
niece of PFC Eddie Hart  
329th IR, Co. G

The following are requests for information submitted by relatives and others looking for information about an 83rd Division veteran, and in one case, an 83rd Division veteran looking for some of his buddies. If you can help, these folks would appreciate hearing from you.

We've had several reports of success stories. Family members are thrilled to learn about their

loved one's military service. So, please respond if you can help.

There are many other requests for information on the message board maintained by Dave Curry, whose father, Thomas Curry, 331st IR, Company L, was killed in action on December 10, 1944. If you have access to a computer and the internet, you should take a look at Dave's web site, which is a tribute to all those brave men who served with the 83rd Division, and the message board at [www.ncweb.com/davecurry/brothers/msgs.html](http://www.ncweb.com/davecurry/brothers/msgs.html).

- Robert Brauchler is seeking information about his uncle, **Capt. Herbert J. Brauchler, 268th F.A. Bn, who was from New York.** Capt. Brauchler was wounded in the Battle of the Bulge and died on December 27, 1944. If you knew Capt. Brauchler, please write Robert Brauchler, 6825 Tanglewood Bay Drive, #107, Orlando, FL 32821 or send him an email at [RB2366@aol.com](mailto:RB2366@aol.com).
- Maddy Edaline is seeking information about her father, **PFC George Slivka, 331st IR, Cannon Company, who was from Pennsylvania.** He landed in Normandy approximately June 13 and was a forward observer, serving through the war's end. If you knew Private Slivka, please write Maddy Edaline at 1008 Woodmere Drive, Bethlehem, PA 18017, or telephone her at 610-865-8007, or send her an email at [mce3@lehigh.edu](mailto:mce3@lehigh.edu).
- Laura Uhl seeks information about her grandfather, **PFC Ambrose Charles Westerman, 331st IR, Company H, who was from Kansas.** He was KIA in Normandy on July 12, 1944. If you could give Laura any information about her grandfather, please write her at 30 San Milano Drive, Goleta, CA 93117 or call her at 805-968-4035 or send her an email at [laurauhl2001@yahoo.com](mailto:laurauhl2001@yahoo.com).
- Clay Wildt is seeking information for his grandfather, **S/Sgt. Edward Wildt, 331st IR, Company K, who was from Indiana and is still alive and well!** S/Sgt. Wildt is

hoping to locate some of the guys he served with, in Europe in 1944 and 1945, so if you remember him, please send an email to his grandson, Clay, at [claybird@evansville.net](mailto:claybird@evansville.net) or write him at Clay Wildt, 4233 Highway 61 North, Boonville, Indiana 47601.

- Gerry Buckel and her mom seek information about her uncle and brother, **Sgt. Raymond A. Meier, 331st IR, Company G, who was killed on December 13, 1944** when he was only 19. He is buried at the Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery. **He was from Michigan.** If you could give Gerry and her mom any information about PFC Meier, please write Gerry at 6712 Willits Road, Fostoria, MI 48435 or call her at 989-795-9182 or email her at [gbuckel@tds.net](mailto:gbuckel@tds.net).
- Donald Komnick and his mom seek information about her cousin, **PFC Donald Burnsen, 331st IR, company unknown, who was from Illinois and who was killed on January 1, 1945.** If you remember PFC Burnsen and could give Donald and his mom any information, please write Donald Komnick at 495 East Third Street, Coal City, Illinois 60416 or send him an email at [papadon480@sbcglobal.net](mailto:papadon480@sbcglobal.net).
- Marshall Fairchild seeks information about his dad, **Corporal Herbert C. Fairchild,** who trained at Camp Atterbury and was assigned to **Battery C, 908th F.A. Bn.** Which was attached to the 83rd from September 1943 until the end of the war. He received a Bronze Star as a result of his actions on August 10, 1944 at Marchandais, France and was also wounded but returned to duty. If you remember Corporal Fairchild or have information about the 908th F.A. Bn. during World War II, please write Marshall Field at P.O. Box 2972, Merrifield, VA 22116-2972 or call him at 703-204-1315 or send him an email at [mf6171@cox.net](mailto:mf6171@cox.net).
- Kristin Gundlach seeks information about her grandfather, **Corporal John Noel Reuter ("Red"), 331st IR, Company C, from Wisconsin,** who was in France from

June until mid-August, 1944 when he was wounded, probably near St. Malo. If you remember Cpl. Reuter, please write Kristin Gundlach at 1010 East Gorham Street, Apt. 2, Madison, WI 53703 or email her at [swissgrinch@yahoo.com](mailto:swissgrinch@yahoo.com).

- Tom Riffe seeks information about his great-uncle, **T/Sgt. Paul B. Riffe, 329th IR, Company H, who was from Kentucky, and who was killed on December 12, 1944.** He was at Camp Breckinridge in 1943. If you remember T/Sgt. Riffe, please write Tom Riffe at 112 Karen Circle, Grayson, KY 41143 or send him an email at [TRiffe@Carter.k12.ky.us](mailto:TRiffe@Carter.k12.ky.us).
- Dick Goodman seeks information about his cousin, **Private Fred Donald Turner, 330th IR, Company F, who was from California, and who was killed around December 5, 1944 near Gey or Strass.** He was 19 at the time of his death. If you remember Private Turner, please write Dick Goodman at 14735 Yosemite Drive, Sun City, AZ 85375-5755 or call him at 623-584-9726 or send him an email at [reinsman.scw@junio.com](mailto:reinsman.scw@junio.com).
- Cynthia Craig Baird seeks information about her father, **Private MacKenzie William Craig, 331st IR, Company C, who was killed in action on or about July 20, 1944.** Letters indicate that the company “**attacked enemy troops near LaVarde, France, 3 miles south of Sainteny on 7/20/44**” and that when the Co. C regrouped, her father was not found. If you remember Pvt. Craig or the action that day, please write Cynthia at 2045 Doomar Dr., Tallahassee, FL 32308 or call her at 850-402-1497 or email her at [jorcbaire@comcast.net](mailto:jorcbaire@comcast.net).
- Shirley Contreras is a writer who seeks information about a medic who served with the **330th IR, PFC Makoto Yoshihara. PFC Yoshihara was Japanese-American and was from California. He was killed on December 22, 1944 at age 24.** If you remember Medic Yoshihara, please write Shirley Contreras at P.O. Box 755, Grover

Beach, California 93483 or call her at 805-481-9559 or email her at [shirley2@pronet.net](mailto:shirley2@pronet.net).

- Walter Wilborn’s request is very unusual. He was a German paratrooper who is seeking information about two different events that took place in the **fall of 1944.** First, late in September 1944, he met five soldiers of the **331st IR near Greveldange, Luxembourg.** He and the other German soldiers took the five Americans prisoner. Mr. Wilborn remembers that his unit had crossed the Mosell River that night and that they were south of Greveldange at the edge of a forest. He has always wondered if these guys made it home alright and wonders if any of these five guys are still around now. The second event he recalls took place about the same time, after his unit crossed a bridge at **Remich.** His unit captured an American officer’s jeep, in which he found a letter written by the officer to his bride, stating that they were just 80 miles from Paris and wondering why the Germans kept fighting. If you have any information about either of these events and would like to get in touch with Mr. Wilborn, please send him an email at [wilborn@Ms.UManitoba.CA](mailto:wilborn@Ms.UManitoba.CA) or write him at 58 Tunis Bay, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3T, 2X1, Canada.

Thanks for looking over the list and don’t forget to check out Dave Curry’s website when you get a chance: <http://www.ncweb.com/~davecurry/brothers/index.html>

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### **“Tribute to a Generation” Celebration May 27 through May 30, 2004**

The four-day “Tribute to a Generation” Celebration planned by the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC) will take place in Washington, D.C. May 27 through 30, 2004. There will also be special events and exhibits throughout the summer in Washington, D.C. honoring “The Greatest Generation”. Large



crowds are expected Memorial Day weekend, and there are reportedly no tickets left for some of the events, including the Dedication Ceremony of the National World War II Memorial on the National Mall on Saturday morning.

As a part of the Celebration, there will be a four-day National World War II Reunion held under a very large open-air tent on the National Mall from 3rd Street to 7th Street, NW, between the Smithsonian Institution's Air and Space Museum and the National Gallery of Art, on May 27 through May 30, from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Reunion is being presented by the ABMC and the Smithsonian Institution Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage. Activities of the Reunion include performance pavilions presenting music from the WWII era, a "wartime stories tent," a military equipment display, and family activities.

If you have not already done so, all 83rd Div. veterans should register in the World War II Registry of Remembrance. (Family members and friends may also register loved ones.) Visit the web site, [www.wwiimemorial.com](http://www.wwiimemorial.com), for more information about the National World War II Memorial and the "Tribute to a Generation" Celebration and to register in the Registry of Remembrance. There is also information about the four-day National World War II Reunion at the web site [www.folklife.si.edu](http://www.folklife.si.edu). For more information about the special events and exhibits in Washington, D.C. throughout the summer of 2004, visit this web site: [www.washington.org/americancelebrates](http://www.washington.org/americancelebrates)

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Following letter sent to me from Karl Burkhard for the Thunderbolt.... Nick Francullo

Dear Nick and Mary, Jan. 8, 2004  
Ingrid and I wish you and yours a very healthy, Happy New Year.

Marie Champey called us and gave us the very sad news that Mike Champey after fighting pneumonia had lost the battle and died Jan. 2.

Marie also had pneumonia. Mike had a form of Parkinsons for several years. He would have been 85 this month. They would have celebrated their 63rd anniversary Jan. 18.

Marie isn't making any thing – a small family memorial get-together. Our family will miss him. Marie has been a wonderful wife and partner.

Our very best, Karl and Ingrid.

**Mike Champey**

"H" Company's Mortar Platoon's Medic!

Mickey wasn't big and husky but he had heart. He didn't carry a weapon, only his medical aid kit. His helmet had a well-defined Red Cross painted on it. He was assigned to Lt. Robert Lyons; Sgt. Harry Dorsey, Driver; Radio Sgt Charley Nevius and me. I was by accident assigned to the group because the platoon Instrument Corporal had a million dollar wound during the 83rd's baptism of fire July 4, 1944. Bob Lyons thought a guy who was fluent in German and handy with a bazooka could replace and learn to be Instrument CPL.

Mike, Charley and I got to know each other much more closely than was usual. When the enemy had figured out where we were shooting from, we became their target. "Medic!" was often the dreaded call and Mike would say a quick "Hail Mary" and answer while tree bursts and bedlam reigned.

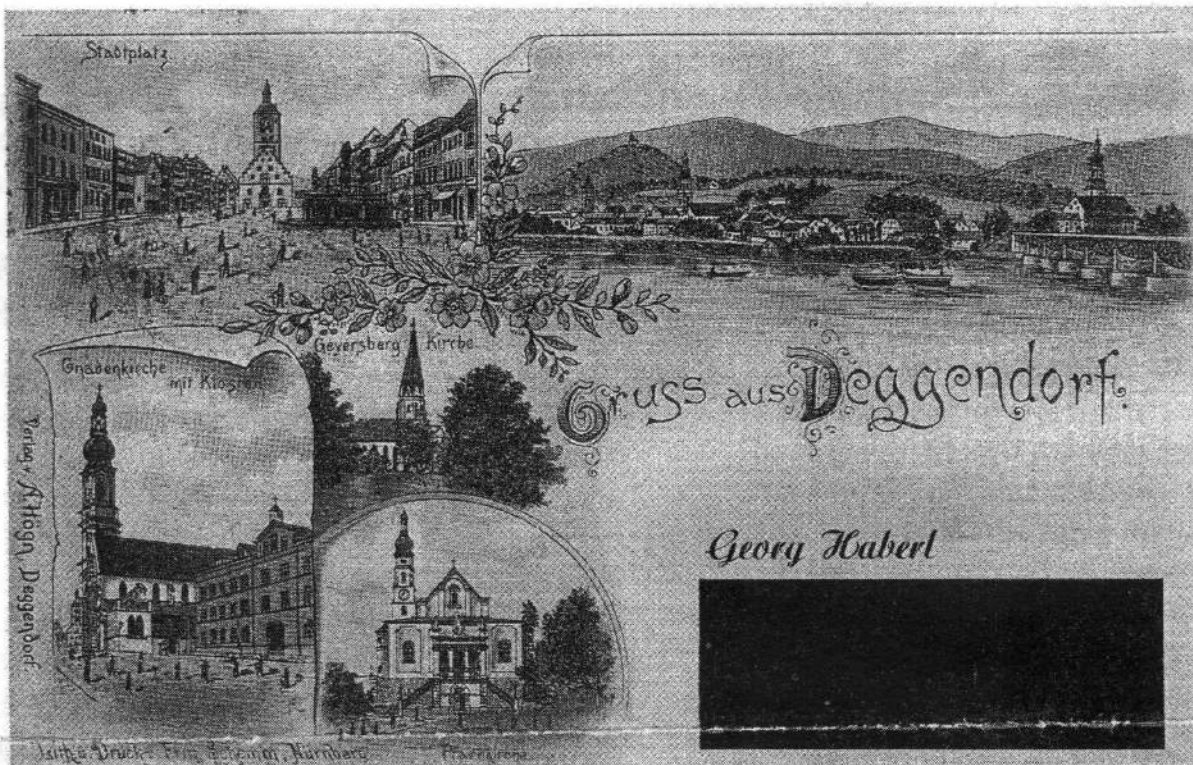
Somehow the three of us buddies were very lucky or else survived. Mike often said, 'If I'm going to get it, I'd rather be carrying this aid kit than a rifle.'

I remember the stubborn battle before we took St. Malo. There were wounded Germans and Americans all over the plateau. The Germans raised the white flag. All fighting came to a halt. We picked up GI's along with theirs.

When the casualties from both sides were aboard American ambulances, the white flag came down. The burp of machine guns resumed, the mortars burst all over, Mike dissolved in tears, "How can human beings be so stupid?"

I'll never forget my Buddy.

Karl



~~Caracul Straße 27, 94469 Deggendorf, Tel. 0991/28190~~  
Hilzstr. 23, D-94469 Deggendorf, Tel. 0991/28190 Fax. 0991/2709825 E-mail: habfri@t-online.de

Mr.  
Pat D. DiGiammerino  
83rd Infantry Div. Assoc.  
36 East Border Road  
Malden, MA 02148  
USA

Deggendorf, Nov. 18. 2003

83<sup>rd</sup> Inf.

Dear Pat,

I have still an idea:

into the "Thunderbolt" from Aug. 14. 1945 is to read, that an Hungarian Show was on tour for the 83<sup>rd</sup> Div. with the vocalist "Sari Barabas".

I'm well known with Sari Barabas. she has now an age of 93 years and live near the town Munich.

Could you also publish into the next issue of the "Thunderbolt", if anyone has maybe photos about those Show with Sari Barabas into his photograph album.

I would be very interest to get hard-copies. I'll show her these photos.

As young boy I always listened to the AFN-Munich. It was a new and fantastic music for us.


Do you know, in which US.-Archives is to find about the AFN?

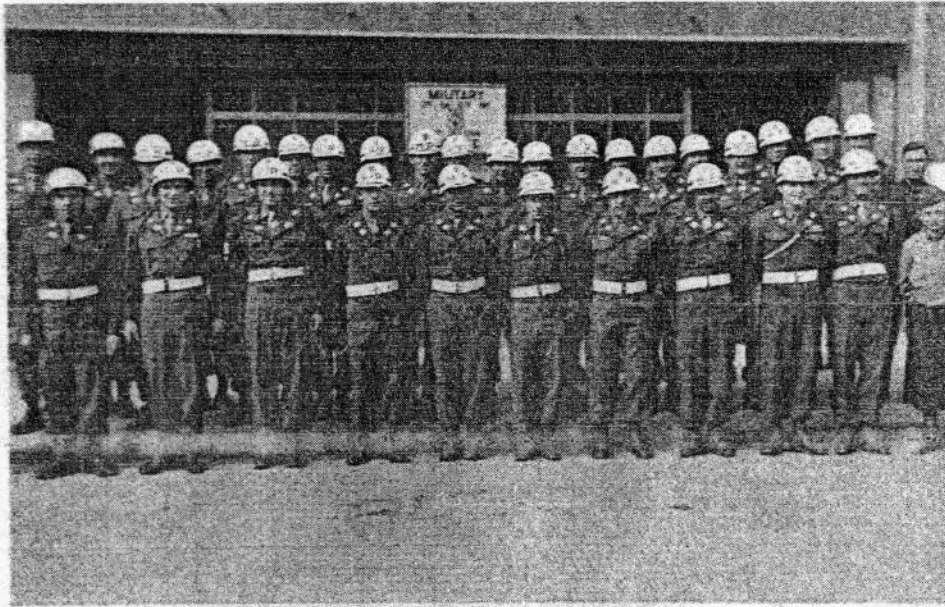
I enclose also two MP-Photos, which were in Deggendorf. But I cannot identify the unit.

Can you help? Maybe you know the sign of the helmet?

Thanks again for your help.

Best regards

  
Georg Haberl



2018  
Haberl  
Miltzstraße 23  
D-94469 Deggendorf  
Germany



Deggendorf - Donau - Marktplatz mit Rathaus

February 1, 2004

Dear Mr. Wooldridge,

I hope that you can publish the attached list of names and the picture in a future issue of the Thunderbolt under Requests For Information About 83rd Division Veterans.

Thanks for your assistance and the great work you do.

Sincerely,

Sandy Vaughn  
792 Vault Mine Ct.  
Green Valley, AZ 85614-6206  
520-648-0748

**329th Co. A      Richard (Dick) Budke on Right**



**Pfc Richard H. Budke**  
**Covington, KY**  
**Co. A 329<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment**

The following names were handwritten in my father's "329 Buckshot Infantry Regiment" book. If you recognize any names, please contact me, Sandy Vaughn, 792 Vault Mine Ct. Green Valley, AZ 85614, 520-648-0748 or email me at shv719@yahoo.com.

Allbright, Jack G	Loraine, TX	
Alisup, Max E	Terre Haute, IN	
Blackwell, William G	Warren, AR	
Boetcher, Stanley	8264 Junis St	Utica, MI
Bower, Edgar F Pfc	35846865 Co. A 329 Inf. APO 83	
Carnahan, Harry F	408 ½ Longfellow St	Vandergrift, PA
Chase, William E	731 S 103 <sup>rd</sup> St	Milwaukee, WI
Cheney, Robert D	1400 N 11 St.	Beaver Falls, PA
Claudis, Raymond D	R2	Lyerly, GA
Cleaver, Milford	Route 1	Carlisle, KY
Cone, Raymond W	107 Gage St	Cincinnati, OH
Cooper, Raymond F	634 Keystone Ave	Colwyn, PA
Demott, Joe	202 6 Ave	Brooklyn, NY
Dukes, Charles P	1113 Mapel St	Niles, MI
Enziy, Leo	2729 Glenwood	Youngstown, OH
Erickson, Chester F	138 Elder St	Cumberland, MD
Fox, Paul J	2320 8 <sup>th</sup> Ave	Altoona, PA
Franklin, James W	Allman, AL	
Gafney, EJ Jr	804 East 40 St	Brooklyn, NY
Gill, Walter F	3910 N Octavia Ave	Chicago, IL
Gogel, Paul	121 Florida St	Dorchester, MA
Gooley, Robert	50 Glen St	Athol, MA
2000 Roster	1220 Petersham Rd	Athol, MA 01331-9343
Gray, John J Jr	RR6	Cynthiana, KY
Gregorio, Pat	79 North Margin St	Boston, MA
Hammond, Nathan	RT 1 Box 36	Webb, West Virginia or Clifford, KY
Hastings, W	116 Laurel Hill Ave	Providence 9 RI
Heckler, Raymond P	939 Liberty St	Allentown, PA
Hickey, Raymond M	421 Elm St	Norwood, RI
Hock, EL	Ste Rt 1	Baird, TX
Johnson, Arlis S Jr	Rt 4	Bristol, TX
Lavoie, Raymond N	1992 South Minn	Fall River, MA
Lockard, Donald P	2111 4 <sup>th</sup> Ave	Altoona, PA
Lloyd, Hazen C Jr	Ellsworth/Bentleyville, PA	944-R-12
2000 Roster	347 Princeton Ave	Palmerton, PA 18071
Mugni, Adam J	35 Plant St	New Haven, CT
Natangela, Nozi	86 Dyant St	Quincey, MA
New, Clarence F y3	USS Alshaina	
Oneill, Joseph F	6521 Allman St W	Philadelphia, 42 PA
Pemer, James	83 E Delas St	St. Paul, MN
Player, George	121 Scott St	Beaufort, SC Phone 71-L
Roschwitski, Walter	613 S 2 <sup>nd</sup> St	Philadelphia, PA
Sabine, Stephen R	308 Grave St	Perth Amboy, NJ
Smith, William H	118 New St	Cranford, NJ
Suttles, James	205 Spruce St	Gaffney, SC
Webb, George	Box 71	Brassburg, AL
Wildensteiner, Conrad	1712-25 St SE	Washington 20 DC

## **DOCUMENTARY ABOUT 83<sup>rd</sup> SOLDIER WILL AIR ON PUBLIC TELEVISION STATIONS IN MAY**

The documentary, *Thank You, Eddie Hart*, about a soldier in the 83<sup>rd</sup> Division, has been chosen for national broadcast by American Public Television. Look for it on your local public television station in May 2004. The story is about PFC Eddie Hart, 329<sup>th</sup> Regiment, 2nd Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon, Company G, who was killed in Barby, Germany on April 12, 1945, the day before the 83<sup>rd</sup> Division established the first permanent bridgehead across the Elbe River.

The documentary features interviews with several members of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Division: Dick Coyle of Port Washington, New York; Paul Willis of Canton, North Carolina; John Cupina of Binghamton, New York, Dr. Marshall Keith of Blounts Creek, North Carolina; and Lafayette Smith of Kinston, North Carolina. Many other 83<sup>rd</sup> Division veterans and their families contributed support, information and photographs, including Norbert Berndt, Bill Hutton, Bob Whitcomb, Lou Gomori, Bill Nickell, Jack Straus, Ted Szalczewski, Victor Terzano, John Prinzi and the 83<sup>rd</sup> Division Association Executive Board, Jenny Littlepage Wilkinson, daughter of Lt. Arthur Littlepage, and Charlotte Sharpe Daly, daughter of Lt. Col. Granville Sharpe. Their help is recognized in the credits.

Eddie was buried at the Netherlands American Cemetery in Margraten. A young Dutch girl, Betty Vrancken, adopted his grave in 1946. Since then, either Betty

or her brother, Johan, has visited Eddie's grave several times a year – for over 58 years. A young girl's decision in 1946 to show her appreciation to the Americans for her liberation from the Nazis evolved into the Vrancken family's lifelong commitment to an American soldier the family never knew.

Eddie's niece, Debbie Holloman, who helped with the research, contacted many 83<sup>rd</sup> Division veterans and members of their families. Brenda Hughes and her production company, Wet Bird Productions, have worked tirelessly to see that the film is distributed to a national audience. There is a web site, [www.thankyoueddiehart.com](http://www.thankyoueddiehart.com), where you can go for more information. VHS tapes and DVDs are also available for sale. The DVD version includes extra scenes showing the family's visit to a farm near Eckelrade where some 329<sup>th</sup> IR soldiers stayed in February and March 1945. To order, you can call 1-888-703-5033.

The individual public television stations across the country will choose various dates and time slots to air *Thank You, Eddie Hart* so be sure to check your local listings for the specific date(s) and time(s) the documentary will be shown on your local public television station in May. It is anticipated that many stations will air it near Memorial Day Weekend to coincide with our nation's "Tribute to a Generation" Celebration since the National World War II Memorial will be dedicated on Memorial Day Weekend. (See related story about the Celebration, the National World War II Memorial, and the Registry of Remembrance.)

DER GENERALKONSUL  
DER BUNDESREPUBLIK DEUTSCHLAND  
THE CONSUL GENERAL  
OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY  
Gz.: PROT 705.20

New York, den 2. Februar 2004

-ck

Mr. Tony Vaccaro  
5-36 47th Avenue  
Long Island City, NY 11101

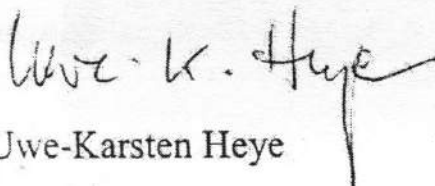
Dear Mr. Vaccaro,

It is a great pleasure for me to inform you that the President of the Federal Republic of Germany, Dr. Johannes Rau, has bestowed upon you the Knight's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany. I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to you concerning this honor.

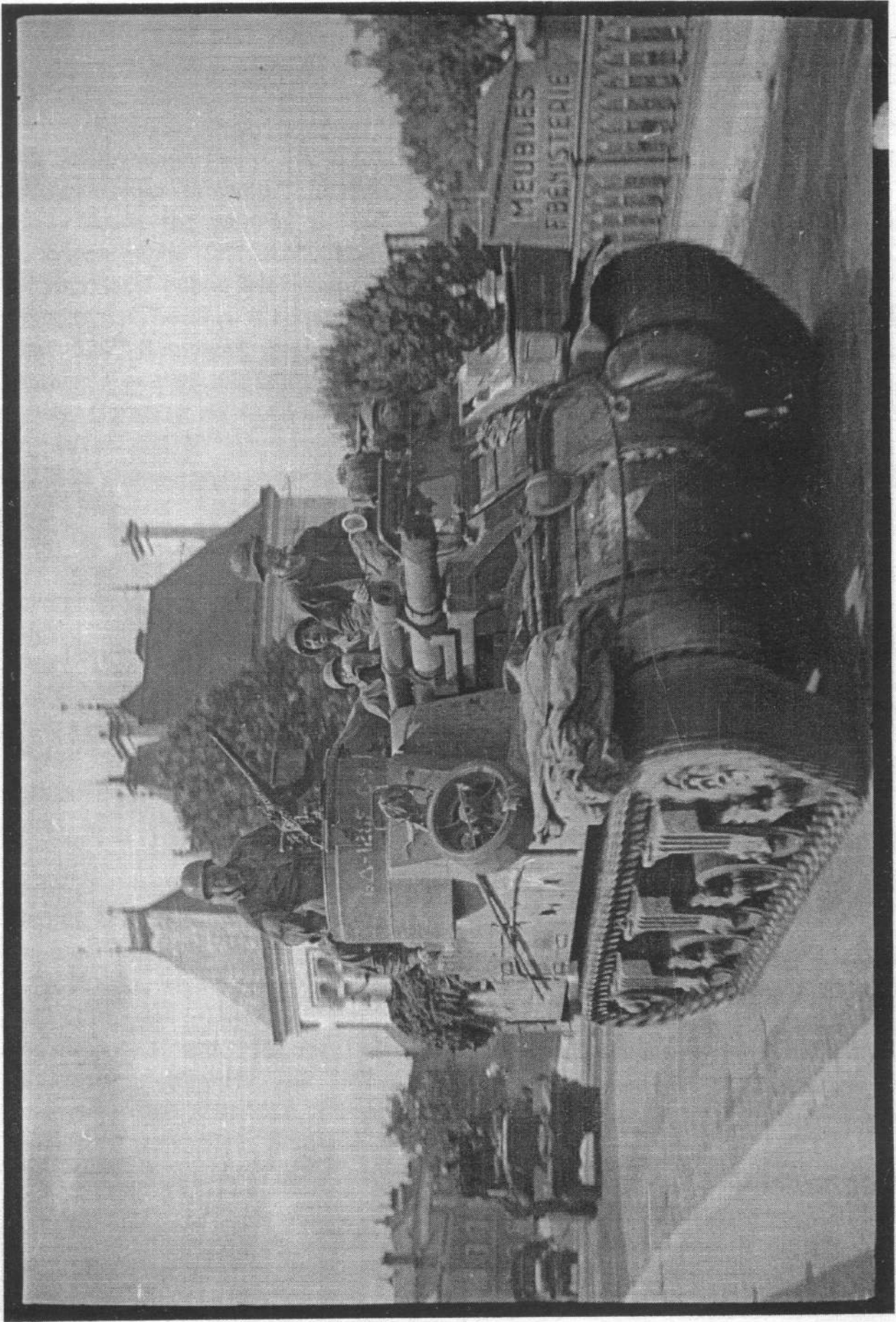
The decoration could be presented to you at a small reception at my residence (740 Park Avenue/71st St., Apt. 12 A, New York) at a date which is agreeable to you.

Please contact my office to set up a date for the presentation (tel.: 212 610 9712).

Yours very sincerely,



Uwe-Karsten Heye



After Brittany Patton 'cross Europe - August 1944 - on way to Luxembourg  
Photography by Tony Vaccaro





# THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

Louis Gomori  
309 E. Locust Street  
Butler, PA 16001-4826  
(724) 283 - 4340

February 4, 2004

Cliff Wooldridge, Editor - Publisher "Thunderbolt"  
83rd Infantry Division Association, Inc.  
East Side Drive, P. O. Box 406  
Alton Bay, NH 03810 - 0406

Dear Mr. Wooldridge :

Please put this in the Historians Corner :

Today I received a phone call from Mr. Chris McNamee, Senator Arlen Specter's Legislative Assistant. He stated that he was informed by the Army Military Awards Branch that they have completed research on the material I had sent to Senator Arlen Specter's Office and Mr. McNamee sent the material (notebooks) to the Army Military Awards Branch for consideration of awarding the 83rd ID and Support Units the Presidential Unit Citation. A lot of this material was acquired from my trips to Germany such as the required casualties on both sides, American and German etc.

The Awards Committee will consider the Award now for approval or rejection in about two Months. I am very confident that this will be approved as the material was very complete. Perhaps it is taking longer than usual as the 83rds accomplishments are hard to believe and they had to verify it. Also remember - when I mention the 83rd ID, I also mean the Support Units. It would now be great if it was approved and presented at the reunion in Pittsburgh.

Through the generosity of F.J. McDonald of 24 Mel Mara Dr., Oxon Hill, MD, 20745 and Mr. Manny Epstein of 1900 Quentin Rd., Apt E 14, Brooklyn, N.Y., I have received a lot of past issue Thunderbolts that I will now send to Fred Pearson of 5704 Middle Ridge Rd., Madison, Ohio. He indicated that he will put these on a

CD for anybody that would like one. As this takes time and material, I would assume that there would be a slight charge.

I have been going through these Thunderbolt magazines and Xeroxing items of interest for use in the future. I will document the dates of these issues and the ones I have and have the list published in the Thunderbolt.

I would like to extend my condolences to all of the Veterans Familys and Friends of loved ones that had passed away. Survivors are getting less and less and if something isn't done soon, the 83rd Infantry Division Association, Inc. will also pass away and be History.

We need to let the Descendant and Honorary Members to take over and fill the positions of the Officers of the Association. I'm not sure about how much longer I can keep up - I have slowed down considerably due to the Flu and the virus. I get over it and then it zaps me again. Think about it.

And remember *We were the best of the best - Like it or not*

Sincerely,

*Louis Gomori*

Louis Gomori - (Lou)

\*\*\*\*\*



"Boot Camp" - Tony Vaccaro in behind the Sgt. on the left - November 1943

## 83<sup>rd</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

### Minutes of Board Meetings at Drawbridge Inn, September 4,5,6, 2003

(NOTE: for the sake of brevity and clarity, precise meeting dates, times and sequences may have been scrambled - only substantive matters are here being reported).

1. The first of a series of meetings was called to order by Chm William Minick at 9:00 AM with a prayer, followed by recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
2. A roll call by Secretary Robert Gangnath confirmed the existence of a quorum with the following members present: President Robert Taylor, 1<sup>st</sup> VP Carroll Brown, Secretary/Treasurer Robert Gangnath, Acting Judge Advocate Sal Scicolone, Board Chairman Minick, Vice-Chairman John Prinzi, and board members Cliff Wooldridge and Robert Keck.
3. Minutes of the Board Meetings in May '03 had been distributed and published in the summer (issue No 3) of THE THUNDERBOLT. No changes were requested.
4. Financial reports to July 31, 2003 were distributed by Mr. Gangnath. They reflect dues receipts of \$8,393 plus a sundry \$45; expenses of \$13,439, the net of which when coupled to the 12/31/02 closing balance of \$17,510 resulted in a cash balance of \$12,509 at July 31,2003.
5. General discussions took place on various topics: possible candidates for the executive board including the use of women or other descendant members; problem having an incapacitated Judge Advocate; consideration of the probability of dissolving the National Association – its best and most practical procedures, including legal etc. Nothing definitive was concluded.
6. Subject was changed to in depth discussions to finalize a slate of candidates for all the Officers positions to be voted on by the members at the General Meeting. In this regard, Mr. Prinzi suggested the creation of a new officer position, "Publisher". He explained that this is a position that is vital to the existence of the association and requires the services of a full time, qualified individual. With the unanimous agreement of the board, this was approved. (*The needed by-law change will appear later in these minutes*).
7. After much discussion, the following slate of officer candidates was chosen for presentation to the membership:  
  
President - Salvatore Scicolone; 1<sup>st</sup> VP – Robert G. Taylor; 2<sup>nd</sup> VP – Manny Epstein; 3<sup>rd</sup> VP – R. C. Hamilton; Publisher – Clifton Wooldridge; Secretary/Treasurer – Robert Gangnath; Judge Advocate – John Raikos (pending appointment of a future replacement); Historian – Louis Gomori; Chaplin – Frank Hornack; Sergeants at Arms (3) – Edward McCouch, Bruce Winchell, Robert Sessions.
8. Regarding the Executive Board candidates, retiring Board Chairman William Minick agreed to accept a position on the board technically replacing C. Wooldridge but prefers to be placed in the last slot so as to NOT be rotated up to the Chairmanship in two years. This condition was accepted. Concurrently Mr. Minick agreed to temporarily carry on as "Acting Judge

Advocate" should an occasion arise for such a role). That left one board position still open for which it was decided to seek a nomination from the floor at the member's general meeting.

9. The preferred dates for the 2004 reunion at the Radisson Green Tree, Pittsburgh werestated as September 8 thru 12 or 15 thru 19. Prinzi made a motion favoring the latter week (Sep 15/19); it was seconded by Taylor and carried unanimously.

10. Discussions turned to the 2005 reunion site. Mr. Minick, having recently visited it, proposed a site in the Virginia Beach area, citing prices and other conditions that appeared to be reasonable. He was asked to make the proposal to the membership on Saturday for their approval.

11. Bob Gangnath announced that he is having problems fulfilling the duties of secretary/treasurer. Prinzi suggested that splitting the two offices might be helpful but Gangnath thought not. Instead Gangnath suggested that Wooldridge, because he lives the closest to him, might be in the best position to assist him. After some discussions, there was a general consensus by those present that SOMETHING INDEED had to be done before long to bring the functions of these important offices up to par. However nothing conclusive was decided.

12. Vice-Chairman Prinzi brought up the need for changes in the existing by-laws. Specifically, for now, he proposed changes (and reasons) in Articles V, VIII and XII. In depth discussions followed, after which it was unanimously agreed by a vote to amend specific sections of those articles to read as follows:

#### ARTICLE V

Section 1 shall include, as an elected officer, a position entitled "PUBLISHER" whose primary responsibility will be the publication the THUNDERBOLT. (*This acknowledges the importance of that function as the primary communication vehicle of this association*) The PUBLISHER shall serve as a member of the Executive Board along with the President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer and Judge Advocate.

Section 3(g) is deleted. (In order to permit a retiring president to seek a position on the executive board).

#### ARTICLE VIII

Section 1. The **voting members** of the Executive Board shall consist of the five (5) elected members of the Executive Board, plus the President, the Secretary/Treasurer, Judge Advocate and Publisher. The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President shall be a non-voting member of the Executive Board except at such meetings at which the President is absent. In such cases, the 1<sup>st</sup> V.P., assuming the duties of the President (Article VII), may vote.

#### ARTICLE XII

A member wishing to propose a change to these by-laws must:

- (a) Submit it to all members in written form not less than thirty (30) days prior to The annual meeting.

- (b) Submit the proposed amendment to the Executive Board on or before the first regularly scheduled Board meeting at the annual reunion for its consideration, vote and presentation to the membership at the next General meeting.

In either method (a) or (b), an approval majority vote of three-fourth (3/4) of the members present at the General Meeting will be required to adopt the proposal

*(End of by law changes)*

13. John Prinzi announced that the documentary video presentation entitled "The Eddie Hart Story" – a KIA 83<sup>rd</sup> infantryman -, will be aired throughout North Carolina on Veteran's Day, this year. The producer attended our reunion last year at Myrtle Beach and interviewed some of our members.

14. J. Prinzi announced that he recently wrote a letter to our Commander-in-Chief, George W. Bush advising him of our upcoming 57<sup>th</sup> reunion. On the eve of his departure to the Drawbridge Inn, Prinzi received a faxed congratulatory letter for the 83<sup>rd</sup> veterans signed by the President. *(John Prinzi read the message to the members and guests at the closing banquet as a part of his address upon assuming the post of Board Chairman. Copies were inserted in the last issue of the THUNDERBOLT).*

15 The board was reminded that it is remiss in not having yet provided a CERTIFICATE OF HONARARY membership to Henry Vanetta. This had, in 2000, been proposed by Historian Lou Gomori and approved.

16. At his request, Charles R. Whitcomb, (F-329<sup>th</sup>) was permitted to address the executive board. He proposed that a Michel Felmlee, by reason of his activities ought to be considered for membership to our association as an Associate Member. Michael Felmlee is active as a leader of a group of "living historians" who have "adopted" the 83<sup>rd</sup> Division whom they feature at military exhibits, shows, memorials and the like. These enactments are dedicated to the memory of the achievements and sacrifices of our division during WW II. On this basis, it was proposed that Mr. Felmlee be awarded an Honorary Membership in our association. The proposal was unanimously passed.

17. Mr. R. C. Hamilton (D – 331<sup>st</sup>) was also permitted to speak to the board. Hamilton made a presentation about his hosting the 2005 reunion at the Executive Inn in Paducah, KY. He stated that he and a couple of members from the Kentucky Chapter would handle all of the details required for putting on the reunion. He was given permission by the board to present his case for Paducah to the membership for their vote to decide between it and Mr. Miniick's Virginia Beach *(item 8)*.

18. There was a short discussion about considering a proposal being suggested by John Hudnall (3rdBN HQ- 329<sup>th</sup>) to host the 2005 reunion at Myrtle Beach. Members were not enthused about that site so soon after being there in 2002. Hence the matter was dropped.

Prepared on behalf of Robert Gangnath, Sect/Treas

by B. John Prinzi, November 8, 2003 (with gratitude to Robert Taylor for his assistance)

# 83<sup>RD</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

## Minutes of the General Membership Meeting at Drawbridge Inn, September 6, 2003

*(The sequence of these items may be scrambled)*

1 The meeting was called to order by President Robert Taylor. Chaplin Frank Hornack led the opening prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by the entire membership.

2 President Taylor addressed the membership, welcoming all to this, the 57<sup>th</sup> Reunion. He asked for a minute of silence in memory of Joe Macaluso and announced that today's Memorial Services would be conducted by Board Member Robert Keck.

3 Robert Gangnath reported on the financial position of the association at July 31, 2003. He stated that the cash on hand was \$12,509.

4. Gangnath then asked for and received verbal reports from those chapters who had a representative in attendance. *(Note: while these verbal reports were appreciated, there was a recommendation made at a recent past reunion that Chapter reps please have a brief written report prepared for submission to the Secretary. It would greatly facilitate matters for all.)*

5. Vice-Chairman John Prinzi spoke about the Radisson Hotel Green Tree, Pittsburgh, Pa., as the site which the board, after its first hand inspection, approved as the 2004 reunion location. Some specifics (room rate \$69, the dates - September 15/19, major and recent renovations, etc) were revealed after which, it was approved for the '04 reunion by the membership.

5. Chairman Minick made a comprehensive and interesting presentation proposing the 2005 reunion be held in the Virginia Beach locale.

R. C. Hamilton (D -331<sup>st</sup>) also made an interesting proposal recommending a reunion be held at the Executive Inn in Paducah, Ky. in September 2005.

By a show of hands, the members favored the Paducah site for the '05 reunion.

6. Vice-President Prinzi spoke in brief about the by-law amendments made by the executive board in their recent sessions regarding Articles V and VIII- stating the need to establish the Office of the Publisher and its consequential impact on the make up of the Executive Board; thus the need for these changes. Also, he cited the changes to Article XII stating that this does not alter the intent of the provisions but were merely clarifies its language.

7. Election of Officers for 2003/4. The following slate of candidates who had been nominated by the nominating committee and approved by the Executive Board were presented to the membership:

President – Salvatore Scicolone

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Manny Epstein

Secty/Treasurer – Robert Gangnath

Judge Advocate – John Raikos

Chaplain – Frank Hornack

Sergeants-at-Arms: Edward McCouch; Bruce Winchell; Robert Sessions

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Robert Taylor

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President – R. C. Hamilton

Publisher – Cliff Wooldridge

Historian – Louis Gomori

8. President Taylor asked for nominations from the floor for a regular 5 year term position on the Executive Board. Fred Sylvia (I – 329<sup>th</sup>) nominated John Tisdell (L-329<sup>th</sup>). who was then duly seconded by two other members. There were no other nominees proposed and thus John Tisdell was elected to the Executive Board by the membership.

9. With these changes in the Executive Board, its make-up for the 2003/04 year was announced:

B. John Prinzi – Chairman  
Harry Kirby, Jr. – Vice Chairman  
Robert Keck  
John Tisdell  
William M. Minick

10. Robert Keck made an announcement regarding the afternoon's Memorial Services, seeking a couple of volunteers for the open slots in the proceedings.

11 John Prinzi announced that a Catholic Mass had been arranged for 3:30 PM that afternoon.

12 President Taylor adjourned the meeting.

Prepared on behalf of Robert Gangnath, Secty/Treas.  
by B. John Prinzi, November 8, 2003



Wales - 1944

Photograph by Tony Vaccaro

83<sup>RD</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION INC.  
REUNION AD BOOK STATEMENT  
OCTOBER 1, 2003

Ad Income		\$7,557.40
Expenses		
Printing	\$3,550.00	
Postage	724.00	
Mailing Ad Books	33.97	
2100 Letters	120.00	
Mailing Labels	60.00	
2500 Gold Envelopes #10	200.00	
2500 Reg. Return Envelopes	180.00	
Fold, Insert, Seal & Label	<u>155.00</u>	
	\$5,031.57	<u>\$5,031.57</u>
Net Balance		\$2,525.83

83<sup>RD</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION INC.  
INCOME STATEMENT  
DECEMBER 31, 2003

Brought Forward from December 31, 2002		\$17,510.00
Income Received:		
Dues	15,013.00	
Ad Book Revenue	2,525.83	
Armed Forces	1,064.73	
No. KY Convention Ctr.	500.00	
Misc. Income	<u>90.00</u>	
	19,193.56	
Total Income		<u>19,193.56</u>
Total Balance and Income		36,703.56
Disbursements		
Postage/Shipping	1,495.73	
Office Supplies	684.91	
Secretarial Services	653.00	
Office Equipment	365.99	
Computer Consulting	200.00	
Secretary Stipend	3,595.00	
Executive Board Expenses	2,414.30	
Printing	12,939.02	
Reunion Expenses	847.15	
Bank Charges	115.00	
Misc.	<u>373.76</u>	
	23,683.86	
Total Disbursements		<u>23,683.86</u>
Net Balance December 31, 2003		13,019.70



## Deceased List

*Our sympathy goes out to all the families of these veterans. We will miss all of them.*

<u>Name</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Reported By</u>
Aller, John	F Co., 331st	John Tisdell
Anderson, Charles A.	F Co., 329th	Wife Emma
Bevin, Richard J., Sr.	B Co., 908th	David Bevin, Brother
Boisseau, David J.	908th F.A.	Pat DiGiammerino
Brown, Durwood	453rd, A.A.A.	Fred Pearson
Buyas, Mark	453rd A.A.A.	Fred Pearson
Cenate, Robert S.	D Co., 331st	Pat DiGiammerino
Champy, Michael	H Co., 330th, MED	Karl Burkhard
Colbourne, Chester	Hq., 308th ENGR.	Wife Evelyn
Cole, Walter	453rd A.A.A.	Fred Pearson
Comins, Richard C.	M Co., 329th	Pat DiGiammerino
David, Gerald	C Co., 453rd A.A.A.	Fred Pearson
Davis, Clyde Rex	Hq. M.P.	Wife & James Rollie Cook
Deliman, Edward	E Co., 331st	Wife Margaret
Fisher, Walter	A Co., 453rd A.A.A.	Fred Pearson
Ford, Alex	I Co., 331st	Wife, Stan Bielen
Fowler, Fred	Hq., 331st	Sister, Stan Bielen
Grinstead, Porter	C Co.323rd F.A.	Wife, Amby Tynan
Haas, William B.	Serv., 323rd F.A.	Pat DiGiammerino
Hackett, John F.	83rd Inf. Div.	Pat DiGiammerino
Hammond, Robert	783rd Ordnance	Rags Rangnow
Harrington, Joseph	B 324th F.A.	Daughter Marsha
Hoover, John	B Co., 453rd A.A.A.	Granddaughter to Fred Pearson
Huffman, Junius	B Co., 453rd A.A.A.	Fred Pearson
Jachna, Walter P.	F.A.	August Farias
Lawrence, Frank	B Co., 453rd A.A.A.	Pat DiGiammerino, Fred Pearson
Marchese, Louis J., Sr.	Hq. 329th	Wife Rose
McQueen, Herbert	E Co., 330th	Geri Gunderson
Miklos, John	D Co., 331st	Geri Gunderson
Morick, Mike	B Co., 453rd A.A.A.	Fred Pearson
Moser, William "Bill"	Hq. 308th ENGR.	Nash A. Gough
Naylor, George D., Jr.	F Co., 331st	Edith Kreger & Ellsworth Massie
Nowak, Edward	C Co., 323rd F.A.	Evelyn M. Desh
O'Hara, Harvey L.	Hq. Btry. Div. Arty.	Wife Vernile
Palmer, James H.	C Co., 331st	John Daum
Phillips, Frank	C Co., 308th ENGR.	Pat DiGiammerino
Rasmussen, Robert C.	453rd A.A.A.	Pat DiGiammerino
Roberts, C. Sheldon		John S. Governor, Jr.
Roberts, Calvin S.	K Co., 330th	Ellsworth Massie, John Governor Jr.
Rowe, Everett	D Co., 331st	Al Shrawder
Rush, Gordon	B Co., 453rd A.A.A.	Fred Pearson
Rutko, Edward J.	L Co., 329th	Pat DiGiammerino
Senger, Richard A.	C Co., 308th ENGR.	Wife Mary
Soucy, Florent J.	G Co., 330th	John Tisdell
Starbuck, Dustin H.	Hq. 323rd F.A.	Wife, Amby Tynan
Tatham, Alan N.	Hq. Btry. Div. Arty.	Wife Mary, John Daum
Taylor, Leslie D.	Hq. Btry. 323rd F.A.	Ed McCouch, Amby Tynan
Tetlak, Edward J.	C Co., 908th F.A.	Wife Dorothy, Ed McCouch, Charles Stine
Trzeciak, Henry V.	D Co., 331st	Daughter Laura & Al Shrawder
Weidner, Stanley L.	B Co., 331st	John Daum



**58th ANNUAL REUNION  
OF 83RD INFANTRY DIVISION  
SEPTEMBER 15 - 18, 2004**

**SEND ADS IN EARLY!**

**PLEASE SELECT SIZE OF AD**

<b>FULL PAGE @</b>	<b>HALF PAGE @</b>	<b>THIRD PAGE @</b>	<b>QUARTER PAGE @</b>
<b>\$80.00</b>	<b>\$45.00</b>	<b>\$30.00</b>	<b>\$24.00</b>

**BOOSTER ADS are \$5.00**

Make check payable and send to:

**83rd Infantry Division Assn. Reunion  
Cliff Wooldridge  
East Side Drive, P.O. Box 406  
Alton Bay, NH 03810-0406**

**URGENT - ACT NOW**

Please mail your checks for the Ad Book as soon as possible. As you know, this money is needed to help pay for some expenses for our 58th reunion.

**DEADLINE - August 1, 2004**

**PLEASE Type or Print Ad Clearly and State Size of Ad**

## **83<sup>RD</sup> SHIRTS, JACKETS AND CAPS**

Anyone interested in additional information may write or call  
Vito C. Palazzolo, 20000 Lancaster St., Harper Woods, MI 48225  
313-881-2364

Vito will send you an application form.

## **83<sup>rd</sup> Reunion will be held at the**

**Radisson Green Tree Hotel**

**101 Radisson Drive**

**Pittsburgh, PA 15205**

**Dates are:**

**September 15-19, 2004**

**\$25.00 Dues are due**

**NOW**

**For the year 2004**

## **THUNDERBOLT DEADLINES**

Deadline for **ALL** articles to be  
published in the Thunderbolt must be at this office by  
October 10, February 10, and May 10

Cliff Wooldridge

138 East Side Drive, P.O. Box 406

Alton Bay, NH 03810-0406

**83<sup>rd</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**138 East Side Drive, P.O. Box 406**  
**Alton Bay, NH 03810-0406**



**“Change Service Requested” 1**

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**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

RENEWAL \_\_\_ NEW \_\_\_

NAME (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_ Regiment \_\_\_\_\_ 83rd Division

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE ENCLOSE A CHECK OR MONEY ORDER FOR  
\$25.00 (YEARLY MEMBERSHIP DUES)**

**Payable to and mail to:**

**83RD INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION  
138 East Side Drive, P.O. Box 406  
Alton Bay, NH 03810-0406**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Descendant Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Name

Name of 83rd Division Member \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT**

When you move and change your address, **PLEASE** send your change of address. It does no good to mail you a Thunderbolt at your old address. **The Post Office WILL NOT** forward this magazine. It will just go to waste. With the cost of printing and postage-this is very costly to the Association to have even one go to waste. Send your address change to the Association Office and not to someone else. Thank you for your cooperation. **Send old and new address.**