



THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.
WORLD WAR II

Vol. 63 Issue No. 2

Spring Issue 2008

The Carlisle Hotel
LOOKS FORWARD TO HOSTING THE
62nd ANNUAL REUNION
FOR THE
83rd INFANTRY DIVISION



Carlisle, Pennsylvania * July 30 - August 2, 2008

THE THUNDERBOLT

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1963 Manuel C. Martin*	1980 Samuel Klippa*	1997 Keith Davidson*	

*Denotes Deceased



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

ROBERT KECK

When I look at the fall issue of the Thunderbolt on the cover it makes me feel proud. Our Division was able to lay a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. This is an honor to all our Comrades who gave their lives.

Then I look on the inside of the cover and see the names of all the Descendant Members now helping to keep our 83rd Inf. Div. Assn. alive. We are blessed thank God.

We are working hard to make the next reunion in Carlisle, PA enjoyable and interesting. Some of the highlights: Visit the Gettysburg National Military Park and Museum and Military Park Cemetery; Tour Eisenhower Farm, Visit the Army Heritage and Education Center. Remember our Memorial Service plus our Grand Banquet and Dance on Sat. August 2.

We should have the registration forms returned as early as possible so we can get a head count for the buses to Gettysburg. Our goal is July 1. Could save money, no charge for parking, hotel room rates \$70.00 per night plus 8% sales tax, Harrisburg State Airport is 25 miles away. No elevators - all rooms at ground level.

Robert Keck
President 2008 Reunion

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

CHUCK ABDINOOR

Another year has passed, so on we go to the new year. Bob Keck and his committee are finalizing their program for our 62nd Reunion at Carlisle, PA.

We will be going to the Army Heritage Record Center and Museum there as well. We were there last year and they had actual letters and memorabilia from the Civil War. This will be a BIG plus for the History Buffs. This is also where the Army War College is at.

The program that they have planned also includes a tour of General Eisenhower's farm. I understand that a select few are able to tour there, and we are fortunate to be included.

On another note we have received good news that at last John Markuns has finally received permission to be our Judge Advocate, he is taking over from Paul Reed. John is a Federal Judge, and being so, is restricted in certain ways so as not to be partial in his duties. We welcome him aboard. Cliff and I met with John and we discussed the by-laws and other incidentals, and he will research same and will bring it to the body for approval at our next reunion. I want to thank Paul, for the past two years he put in.

We are also exploring another location for 2009. We have to get this site for our Executive Board meeting, and also for our next reunion. We will have more information in our next issue of the Thunderbolt.

I would also like to thank the McCouch family for their help at Arlington. Namely, Richard who served the Catholic Mass, and Ed who saved me a headache by taking care of the banquet seating. Many thanks.

Your Buddy,
Chuck Abdinoor, B & A - 330th
sgtchuck83rd@verizon.net



**Chuck Abdinoor & Manny Goodridge
61st Reunion - Arlington, VA**

FROM THE EDITOR

CLIFF WOOLDRIDGE

Snow! Wow!

Nancy and I have enough to last a couple of years. I have plowed for so many days that my truck groans every time it starts to snow again. It's two days before Spring and it is snowing now. I just don't have any place to put it all.

It's so hard to believe that we've lost Ames Miller. He was a very dedicated and hard worker for the 83rd. He and Helen did so much at Camp Atterbury. They initiated the idea of a Memorial Wall and then were instrumental in raising money for the construction of the Wall. I remember in 1984 when we had our Reunion at the Pines Ames was trying to get donations then so they could begin construction. If I ever needed information about Atterbury or personnel at the Camp, all I had to do was call Ames and he'd get right back to me with the answer.

Ames was a Board Member for 5 years. As president in 2006 Ames oversaw a fabulous reunion in Nashville, IN. and with Helen an unforgettable memorial service at Camp Atterbury for the 83rd with the bell tolling for each deceased member as their name was read by our Chaplain, Ellsworth Massie. I will really miss him, he was a real gentleman and I feel I have lost a very nice friend. Nancy

and I express our deepest sympathy to Helen and her family. We hope to see her at next year's reunion.

About a month ago I received a letter from a lawyer advising me that James "Jim" Prentice had passed away. I knew Jim had a lot of old Thunderbolts, so I called the lawyer back and asked if possible I would like to have them if Jim's family didn't want them. Two days later, he called and said they were ready to be picked up. Nancy and I went up to Claremont NH, picked up 2 boxes and brought them home.

I've spent a lot of time reading those old Thunderbolts. Excerpts from the first one will be in this issue - it is Vol. 3 No. 2 dated July-August 1949 - the reunion was held at the Wm. Penn Hotel in Pittsburgh, PA. See what the room cost was back then. The next Thunderbolt is Vol. 4 No.1-1950. Then I think I have all the remaining issues from there up.

In those days the Thunderbolts were sometimes printed 4 or 5 issues a year. What a wonderful time I'm having reading these old issues. Back in those days it was "babies" and not "obituaries" like now. Harry Lockwood wrote a lot of poetry for the Thunderbolt and I will include some of it in this issue as well as future issues.

How our membership has gone down this year. In January we had almost 400 members who still hadn't paid their 2008 dues.

I sent out reminder cards and shortly thereafter started receiving back membership payments. In one day I received 40 envelopes with dues payments. For about the next 10 days everyday I'd get some more in. After about 2 weeks I ended up with about 260 paid up members.

Also, there are 60 members who still have not paid their 2007 dues and therefore, will not be receiving Thunderbolts.

We still have 140 members who have not paid their '08 dues but I expect to get some of them back when I send out another reminder. Hopefully, there will be some who

will pay before we put this Thunderbolt in the mail.

Your Executive Board is working hard to find a place for the 2009 Reunion.

NOTE: THE AD BOOK SHEET, HOTEL REGISTRATION AND REUNION ACTIVITY SHEETS ARE INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE.

THE AD BOOK DEADLINE IS JUNE 15TH!

A belated but sincere thank you to Anne Tisdell, Mary Jean Houlahan, and Lou Gomori for their wonderful pictures from our Arlington reunion. Lou's were in our last issue and Anne and Mary Jean's in this Thunderbolt.

FROM THE HISTORIAN

LOUIS GOMORI

I received a phone call from Cliff Wooldridge on February 2, 2008 telling me that he had gotten a phone call from Kathleen telling him that her husband, Henry Venetta had passed away on January 26, 2007.

I called Kathleen and asked her for some information which I am sending to Cliff for publication in the Thunderbolt. She said that there were 1000 people there and the funeral was held at the museum. I wish I had known of his passing away, I would have attended. My belated condolence to his family and friends, may he rest in peace.



Henry L. Venetta, 55

HARTFORD - Henry L. Venetta, 55, died unexpectedly of cardiac arrest on Jan. 26 in Mayville, NY, while on a snowmobile trip. Henry graduated from Warren Western Reserve High School in 1970. He graduated from the Operating Engineers Local 66 school and, on 1983, developed L.E.C., Inc., which is a general construction company in Hubbard. The company does construction projects in Ohio, PA, West Virginia, and New York. He was a member of the operating engineers local for 37 years.

Henry was well versed in World War II history and was a collector of World War II tanks, vehicles, and memorabilia. His World War II Vehicle Museum and Learning Center in Hubbard, a 501(c)(3) corporation, established in 1998, has had visitors from all over the world.

His love was collecting World War II vehicles and memorabilia and keeping alive the memory of the men and women who sacrificed and served for freedom. His uncles Joe Martin and John Martin, who died serving in World War II, were his inspiration for the museum.

He received the Russell Booth Award, the highest award from the Historic Naval Ships Association, in 2005. In 2006, he received the highest award from the Military Vehicle Preservation Association, the Bart Vanderveen Distinguished Service Award, at their international convention in Dayton, Ohio. These awards were presented for his outstanding service and contributions for the preservation of history.

The History Channel has filmed segments at the museum, including one story, "*Honor Deferred*," honoring African-American World War II veterans who received their medal of honor awards long after serving. Another film, "*Combat Garage*" featured re-enactors and vehicle restoration. Many books have featured the museum with information and photographs. The museum receives requests from around the world for information and data on World War II vehicles and history.

Henry was active in the community, belonging, and serving in several clubs and

organizations, including the 4th Armored Division (associate life member); 83rd Division (associate life member); Military Vehicle Preservation Assoc., Buckeye Military Vehicle Collectors; Ohio Motorpool; Operating Engineers Local 66; Trumbull County Builders Assoc.; Warren Gun Club; and Western Reserve Fish and Game Club.

Henry loved to ride snowmobiles, Corvettes, quads, and World War II vehicles and tanks. His hobbies and interests also included handgun shooting, and long-range shooting.

In his quiet way he helped many people with his generosity and knowledge. At home he enjoyed feeding the deer and turkey in his backyard, and his cat, Lucky, was always a topic of conversation.

He is survived by his wife, Kathleen Zreliak (Lucik) Venetta; his parents Margaret I. and Henry J. Venetta; three daughters, Kate Hamrick, Becky Lough, and Abby Cyphert; a stepdaughter, Dawn Bond; a stepson, James P. Lucik; two sisters, Margaret Brown and Michelle Vermurlen; and one brother, Jon Venetta.

The family requests that memorial tributes be made in Henry's name to the World War II Vehicle Museum, 5959 W. Liberty St., P.O. Box 20, Hubbard, OH 44425.

CHAPTERS

BOSTON CHAPTER NEWS

AMBY TYNAN

CLEVELAND CHAPTER NEWS

BOB GROBELNY

Hi Cliff,

Feb. 5, 2008

Just a short note this time; and bad news. Bob Miller, a Cleveland Chapter member since it was organized, passed away 1-20-08.

It never got in the Cleveland paper. His neighbor called me and that's all. Did not know what funeral home he was at. Also said was that both were in the hospital very ill. He died in the hospital. Bob was in the 1st. Batt. HDQ - 330th Reg.

Stay healthy everyone!

Bob Grobelny
A Co. - 329th

DIXIE CHAPTER NEWS

ELLSWORTH MASSIE

Dixie 07 Christmas Meet

The 83rd Dixie Christmas meet is history. Memories and experiences enough to last until next year are mine to share with you.

Scattered far and wide over our land we came together once more to share our good times and blessings and to uphold those burdened with sorrow and loss of loved ones.

Old as we are we can find much to be thankful for and gain strength to go on through the days ahead looking forward to our next time together.

Our group was anxious to get started so we had 18 special folk gathered 3 days early to make sure we had a parking place and got our shopping done before the big weekend. It was truly a blessing to be in that early arriving group!

Our weather was ideal but forecasts scared some off and forced many cancellations. Roads across the mountains were closed by ice and snow. We missed each one who had to cancel and hope for better luck next year. Our precious widows really out did themselves this time. They add so much to

our celebration! They came from all over with lots of good food which we proceeded to devour like good soldiers should!

Our descendant members are the stars of the occasion. I congratulate each and welcome them into our group. We now have a president, vice president, secretary-treasurer elected and installed from that group along with a couple of real live veterans to guide us during the coming year.

I look forward to a great year and believe that we have many years to come yet in which we can celebrate together and lend strength to each other well into the future.

Some came for one day, some for six days, some came alone, couples came, our hostess (a widow) Flo Jackson had **16 descendants** with her. Jeanette McCroy had 9 in her party, the Singleton kin and descendants numbered 10. We're happy to have Willie Viglione with us having lost her husband Tony only recently. Nellie Messina, our most recent widow was present. Others just as important are with us and a great time is had by all!

By Saturday night we had 80+ for our banquet. Mr. & Mrs. Santa are with us for pictures and a gift exchange. We had an auctioneer who sold items that were donated by members. It was enjoyed by all.

Many wanted to be there but sickness, old age, etc. kept them away. We missed each one and look forward to seeing them next year.

We joined in prayer for all who are unable to be with us, for those who have given their lives in service to our country and those who are deceased in the past year.

We found time to share some experiences of our war years. We were able to major on those events that bind us close together after all these years.

It's a joy to have the widow of one of our leaders in battle. The wife of Captain Hill was on hand with her descendants to celebrate. She was able to do this with several men from Co. B 329th Inf.

Sadly, I'm the only artillery present but the infantry men let me in on some of the events remembered and spoken of. I missed our group from 308 Engineers. They used to be strong but also those days are in the past.

All in all, it was a week well worth the effort put forth. I can't thank each one who came and by their very presence helped to make it worth while! Until next time, I hope to see you all at our National in '08.



Myles Poole and his Wife



*Eddie Poole and his wife
Descendant Vice-President*



*John Mantooth and his Wife
Descendant & Spouse President*

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

NICK FRANCULO

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER NEWS

STAN BIELEN

stanfran83rd@aol.com

February 4th, 2008

I just received the winter issue of the Thunderbolt Magazine two days ago and it reminded me that it's time to write the spring article. It is an ideal day to stay in as it is snowing lightly outside. Here in New Jersey the winter has been very mild so far. In December we had a few days of one to two inches of snow but not enough to use the snow blower. I had talked to Cliff Wooldridge a week ago and his problem was they have too much snow in New Hampshire that keeps him busy clearing it away.

The few phone calls that I receive from chapter members are positive and few complaints. Already Joe DePeri is making the family plans for the reunion. Charlie Sihlanick calls to let me know what goes on at the meetings in Garfield. I get a letter from Frank Reichmann telling me how he and wife Paula are doing, health wise and at 97 years old you know there are plenty of problems, most have them twenty to thirty years earlier ... I run into Mary Sabine quite often doing our shopping at Wegmans in Woodbridge. I got her to go to Atlantic City with the Fords Senior Bus for a break. Her sister Ann and Brother-in-Law Bob go with us most of the time. Her husband Frank (Co. D, 331) is homebound. We think of him often and wish him the best.

I get to see Manny Epstein and talk to him on the phone a lot. He always inquires about someone in the Chapter. He asked about Russell Whitehead and I also wondered why he missed the last reunion as he makes most of them. Russ, you got to make the next one in Carlisle. It should be a great one.



Larry Dalton and his Wife



Jessie Pirkle- GA & Cliff Melton- Ohio



*John White, Descendant - Secy-Treas.
Flo Jackson, Widow & Hostess*

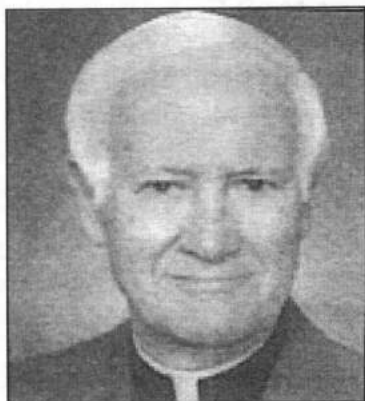
Your Reporter for Dixie,
Ellsworth Massie
A 322 & 908 F.A.

FLORIDA CHAPTER NEWS

ROBERT TAYLOR
B Co. 329TH

The passing of Fred Messina who was a member of the Jersey Chapter was felt by all who knew him. Fred was a gentleman and a dear friend. He was always available to help when there were jobs to be done. We will miss him dearly and our heartfelt sympathy goes out to his family.

A LIFE OFFERED -



Fr. Francis McCartin, OMI (NE)

I have enclosed a picture from an article that was in The Oblate World about Father Francis McCartin serving 75 years as a priest. His attachment to the 83rd being his brother Bill who was in Co. H, 330 Inf. Father McCartin attended many of our reunions and having Catholic Mass at the reunions. Just a Great Guy that has always had all the 83rd in his prayers.

I am not aware if most of you know of the upcoming film documentary "SACRIFICE" that is due for release to movie theaters and I believe television on May 30th, 2008. The film has been enlarged from the original "NORMANDY FIVE" that was about five American Soldiers that were killed in Normandy. It was shown at the opening of the new Reception Center at Omaha Beach Cemetery last June 6th, 2007. One of the five was Ken Hatcher who was in Company A, 331st Infantry, 83rd Division. It was about their life before entering the service and while in service and about those they left behind.

The additions to the movie will include memories and the life of those that were in the same Army Units that those had

perished. The producer and his company have been working on the film for five years. I won't tell you anymore but you will be surprised of who is also in the movie. I'm hoping to attend the premier of the movie in New York City on May 30th. I was also told that it will be sent to The Reception Center at Omaha Beach in Normandy and the Library of Congress Veterans History Project in Washington, DC.

That's about it for this issue - take care of yourselves and God Bless!

Stan Bielen

Stan Bielen

COMPANIES

Co. "A" - 330TH

CHARLES ABDINOOR
sgtchuck83rd@verizon.net

Hi Buddy's,

Hope all is well with all, we had a few setbacks but all is progressing satisfactorily at last. Steward Barrick had surgery again on his back, but talking to him he is in rehab. and is finally walking and will be at Carlisle. Nellrita will make sure of that. It was a pleasure to meet their son and grandson at Arlington, Va.

On the same note Pauline and Ed Brown are off again to Alaska. They volunteer their services to a Church there, and have been doing this over ten years. We also met their son who came to Arlington also. We had a full table at our banquet of A-Company members and descendants. Also were Phyllis and Earl Dunn, naturally Earl was showing his ballroom moves with Phyllis, he is quite a

ballroom dancer, and it shows on the floor (SHOW OFF).

We missed Paul Reed and Dolores, and Shorty Glasser, also missing was Walter and Pearl Pillion, we also missed our old dependable Cookie Seneca, Stan Bielen always asks about him. They had their aches and pains. I called each of them up and told them we missed them, as we did. I sent each an Ad Book. I also have some sad news, Butch Klug passed away, she was the wife of Arthur Klug who was our supply sergeant. He predeceased Butch but she faithfully came to our reunions with Shorty Glasser. Shorty had doctors appointments, as well as Walt Pillion. I hope to see them all at Carlisle. I keep in touch with them through the year.

Received a letter from Betty Haley, she and her daughter Erin were at Arlington also, and they made acquaintances with our Company for the first time. They expressed interest for Carlisle, and also mentioned some relatives in the Pennsylvania area, are interested in attending our Carlisle reunion also. We seem to be adding to our list, which is good. I hope all is well this coming year and hope to see you all at Carlisle.

Chuck Abdinoor
sgtchuck83rd@verizon.net

Co. "D" - 331ST

**BILL MCKEE
GERI GUNDERSON**

2008 is nearly three months gone and we are looking forward to 62nd Annual Reunion at the Carlisle Hotel in Carlisle Pennsylvania, on July 30-August 2.

Bill & Jeannette McKee have spent the past three months in sunny Pompano Beach, Fl., enjoying swimming, eating, playing "65", and theater. They also attended a niece's wedding in Naples and visited Jim & Dot Brennen in Venice, Fl. Bill also went "car hunting" with me Geri while here. That was an experience for all - especially the car dealer! (Personally, I would like for them to stay much longer.) Frank Cancassi has

moved back to his home town of Sagamore Hills, Ohio.

Our only regret was that we were unable to attend the 83rd. Florida Chapter Meeting in Sebring last month due to the wedding being on the same weekend. The McKee's will be returning to the cold north in another couple of weeks.

I have spoken to: R.C. & Louise Hamilton, Al Shrawder, Barbara & Harry Gravelyn, and they are looking forward to being with everyone at the Reunion. The McDermott's are doing well. Marcella Nolte calls often. Ruth Mueller is having "hip pain" but is going to Palm Springs in a couple of weeks. Harriet Lynch had a hip operation in January but is now nearly recovered. Harriett appreciated all the cards she received. The Dallas's are doing well after Paul's fall, while he was volunteering with the DAV Memorials. He now has the cast off. We are trying to talk them in to coming to Carlisle! I am still among the undecided - it is such an effort to try to get to Carlisle from south Florida.

We also have some sad news to report: Frank Sharp died on December 28, 2007. Frank was 94, lived in Lancaster, Ohio but was a former 26 year resident of Beverly Hills, Fl. He was retired from Anchor Hocking Glass Corp with 37 years of service. He served in Co. D 331st Infantry, 83rd Div. during World War II. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Dana, and daughters Patsy, Donna and son Gary. He was a great supporter of the Florida Chapter & the National also.

Co. D would like to send their sympathies to Lee Reuss in the loss of her beloved husband Ed. A Memorial tribute, also to Helen Miller, in the loss of her beloved Ames on February 27th.

Both Ed and Ames contributed so much to the great 83rd Association throughout so many years. No one can take away the fond memories of our friends, and loved ones!

Geri Gunderson

Co. "F" - 329TH
C. R. BOB WHITCOMB



Dear Members, Widows and Descendants
of the 83rd Infantry Division,

I write this letter to all of you. On February 27th I lost my best friend and the love of my life Ames H. Miller.

Fortunately, we were blessed to attend the Reunion in Washington, DC. Ames loved the 83rd very much - they were Family. My love goes out to all of you. I hope to keep in contact with my 83rd Friends.

God Bless all of you,

Helen Miller
(812) 372-5028

e-mail: amesmiller@yahoo.com

Service: Ames H. Miller

The funeral for Ames H. Miller, 88, of Central Avenue was conducted March 3 at Jewell-Rittman Family Funeral Home with the Revs. Virgil Clotfelter and Ron Voss officiating. Special remarks were given by Ruth McInerney.

Entombment was at Garland Brook Mausoleum, with military graveside rites conducted by the Indiana Army National Guard Honor Guard. Pallbearers were Lindley Neville, retired Col. Jorg Stachel, Col. Barry Richmond, Kenny Jagers, Ed Deeter and Raymond McInerney. Honorary pallbearer was Manny Goodridge. Mr. Miller died Feb. 27, 2008, at Columbus Regional Hospital.

Editors Note: Please see the special tribute to Ames elsewhere in this issue of the Thunderbolt.

E-mail to: Cliff

Feb. 2, 2008

From: Geri Gunderson

I just received this information from Stan Bielen. I hope it is helpful to you. Geri -

Its official, DD-214's are NOW Online. The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has provided the following website for veterans to gain access to their DD-214's online: <http://vetrecs.archives.gov/> This may be particularly helpful when a veteran needs a copy of his DD-214 for employment purposes. NPRC is working to make it easier for veterans with computers and Internet access to obtain copies of documents from their military files. Military veterans and the next of kin of deceased former military members may now use a new online military personnel records system to request documents. Other individuals with a need for documents must still complete the Standard Form 180, which can be downloaded from the online web site. Because the requester will be asked to supply all information essential for NPRC to process the request, delays that normally occur when NPRC has to ask veterans for additional information will be minimized. The new web-based application was designed to provide better service on these requests by eliminating the records centers mailroom and processing time. Please pass this information on to former military personnel you may know and their dependents

Cliff,

Could you put this in the next Thunderbolt. My dad passed away in November.

Chris (Heine)

(1st Vice President - Descendant Member)



**Christian Heine, 88,
honor and integrity**

By MILT KRUGMAN
COURIER TIMES

The legacy Christian C. Heine left his family was to persevere, be honorable and have integrity. "All those qualities that went with his generation - the greatest generation that kind of showed us the way," his son Gary E. of Madison, Miss., said.

"He was just a great father who was hard working and taught me that, and I was very proud of my dad - I loved him dearly," he said. "Probably the greatest thing he showed me was how to treat Mom. He treated her with honor and respect, and I think a lot of that came from the military."

Mr. Heine, a resident of Churchville for 50 years, died Nov. 19 of a heart attack. He was 88. Born in Philadelphia, he was a graduate of Northeast High School and Temple University with a major in electrical engineering. For more than 25 years he worked for Bell Telephone Co., retiring in 1980. He also worked for two years in Iran as a consultant for American Bell International.

He served with the U.S. Army 83rd Infantry Division in Europe during World War II after being drafted in April 1942. "He was in the thick of things and probably saw most of his fighting in the Battle of the Bulge," his son said.

Mr. Heine was a member of the VFW Post No. 6493, coached youth baseball and enjoyed playing golf. He also was a member of the North and Southampton Reformed Church in Churchville.

"I met him at a roller skating club," Mr. Heine's wife of 64 years, Doris S. (nee Seigle), said. "And when he came home from leave we got married, and then he went back to the Army.

"He was a wonderful husband, because he did whatever I asked him to do," she said. "He might give me a little argument, but he would do it."

For more than 15 years Mr. Heine would go to Cornwells Elementary School, where his other son, Christian C. Jr., teaches and would teach the children about the stock market. "Dad did it because he invested in stocks, and he was retired and enjoyed spending time with the fifth-graders," Christian Jr., a resident of Marlton, NJ said. "It was sheer joy to him and a wonderful experience."

His wife said that she is still having problems coming to grips with her husband's passing. "I'm still saying, 'We're going to do this' and 'We have to do that,' and there is no more "we" - it hasn't sunk in," she said.

Dear Clifford,

This is to notify you that Paul Ours of Lancaster, Ohio passed away Feb. 29, 2008.

Paul was a member of "K" Co. 331st - serving as a S/Sgt. squad leader from basic training well into combat when he was wounded in the hedgrows of Normandy.

Paul and his late wife Pauline were present at many 83rd reunions and will be missed by his many friends.

As ever,
Norm Malo

Dear Cliff:

The list of two more recent deaths:
Hq & Hq Btry - 83 Div. Arty

HAROLD W. MIKELS 8/30/16 - 12/9/07
His daughter sent me the memorial card.

CHRISTIAN C. HEINE - died 11/19/07
Chris' wife Dot called me and eventually
I procured the obituary.

Thought you'd like to have this information.

I'm planning to be in Carlisle - Dot & son,
Chris Jr. are planning to be there, too.

Sincerely,
Dick Alexander, Jr.
Hq. & Hqts. Btry, 83rd Div. Arty.



Keith Davidson

Obituary

Keith Davidson, 84, died on Wednesday, November 28, 2007 at the St. James Health Services Medical Center in St. James, MN.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, December 1, 2007 at 1 pm at the Kansas Lake Lutheran Church in rural Butterfield, MN with Randy Romsdahl officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery. A memorial service will also be held on Saturday, December 8, 2007 at 1 pm at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, MN with Pastor Julie Ebbeson officiating.

Keith Wickwire Davidson was born on December 7, 1922 to H.R. (Lefty) and Nina (Wickwire) Davidson in St. James, MN. He was raised in St. James and graduated from St. James High School. He graduated from the University of Minnesota with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and a Masters Degree in Economics. He served in the Army during World War II, in C Company 331 Regiment 83rd Thunderbolt Infantry Division

and retired as a Lt. Colonel from the Army Reserve.

On September 1, 1957 he married Charlotte Broste. They lived in Minneapolis following their marriage. Charlotte died on November 26, 1983.

On November 12, 2004 he married Elaine Romsdahl Needham. They lived in both Minneapolis and St. James following their marriage.

Keith was an Industrial Engineer with the Unisys Co. and retired in 1985. He was a member of the Sierra Club, the Nature Conservancy, Planned Parenthood of Minnesota, the Senior Republicans and the Richfield, MN VFW. His interests were politics, traveling, reading and playing tennis.

Survivors include his wife, Elaine; daughters, Mary O'Leary and Ruth Davidson and husband Mehdi Elketrussi; grandchildren, Matthew and Nadia Elketrussi; stepsons, Ron Needham, Mike (Bobbie) Needham, and Phillip (Andrea) Needham, and stepdaughters, Judy Needham, Nanette (Mike) Northrup, and Gwen (Bob) Brown.



**Thomas 'Tommy'
Edward Rothschild**

Obituary

Thomas "Tommy" Edward Rothschild, 87, died Monday, Oct. 1, 2007, in Nelbourne, Fla, with his daughter, Bonnie, and special friend, George Bough, by his side on Oct. 1st after a long illness. Tommy was born September 4,

1920, in Evansville to the late, Louis and Lillian Rothschild.

He was a lifelong resident of Evansville except for the last two years when he moved to Florida for family assistance.

Tommy was a graduate of Lockyear Business College with a degree in accounting. He was a public accountant until he retired at age 80.

He served in WWII in Company A, 331st Infantry 83rd Division. He had seventeen weeks training in Alabama, with his next stop being Normandy, France, D-Day plus 4. He fought from Normandy to Berlin being involved in the Battle of the Bulge and Hurtgen Forest. He was awarded the Silver Star, Purple Heart, and five bronze stars.

Tommy was a proud member of the VFW Post 1114 where he served on the Board of Trustees for 46 years. He also was a past commander of the Vanderburgh County Veterans Council. He also was a 32 degree Mason and long-time member of River Bend.

He was preceded in death by his wife Ethel. Tommy is survived by four children, Steve Rothschild of Tavares, Fla., Elaine Head of Apopka, Fla., Bonnie Rothschild of Melbourne, Fla., and Scott Rothschild of Longwood, Fla.; eleven grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren

Roland R. Hall
1016 Lewis St.
Brownsville, PA 15417-2238
K Co. 329th INF

Died 15 Feb -08 from complications and more. He was my AMO carrier. I was a B.A.R. MAN. We kept in connect all these years.

I am Frank P. Brown of K CO. 329th. Roland's address is above.

Yours truly,
F.P. Brown
278 Wilmington W Chester Pike
Chadds Ford, PA 19317

JUST PLAIN YOU

By Harry Lockwood

*Have you ever thought you'd like to be
someone else and yet
You wonder if the change were made
what you'd really get
Supposing you could have your choice of
starting life anew
I wonder who you'd like to be instead
of just plain you.*

*You like to be an executive with your
name painted on a door,
Or a big time politician with influence
galore
Perhaps a well known movie star making
all kinds of money,
With a home out in the suburbs that
really is a honey.*

*A general, an admiral, or even chief of
staff,
Or perhaps a funny circus clown who
makes everybody laugh
Captain an ocean liner, pilot a big airplane,
Be a well known baseball star or engi-
neer a train.*

*You're sure the grass is greener on the
other side of the street,
And you'd like to be the one involved
in some history-making feat,
Your name up there in marquee lights for
all the world to see,
Or maybe even president is what you'd
like to be.*

*But have you ever stopped to consider that
this may all be part,
Of something that was all arranged the
day life got its start
Then it was decided you had a job to do,
And could do that job much better by
being just plain you.*

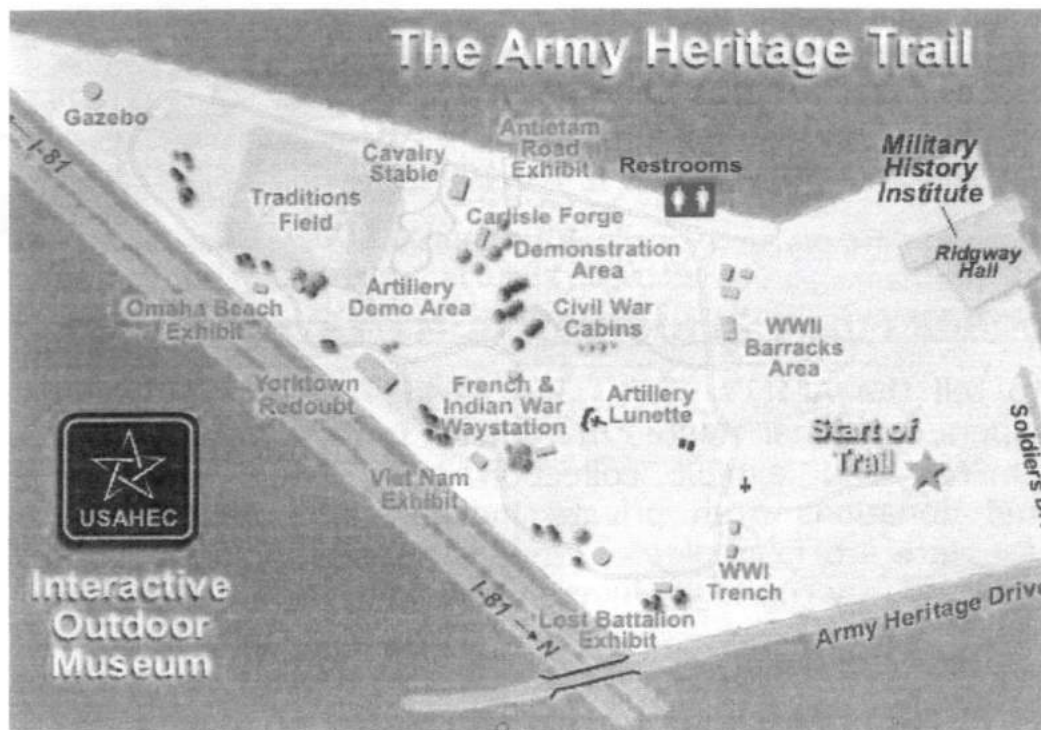
*So don't look at the other guy and envy
him a lot,
Be satisfied with who you are and with
what you've got
When all is said and all is done and your
story on earth is through,
The rich, the poor, the big, the small,
are no better off than you.*

*To wholeheartedly agree with me: that I
don't expect,
But if I may, there's one more thought
I'd like to interject
With this I know you'll all agree, because
you'll find it true,
You can be the nicest one around by
being just plain you.*

The Army Heritage and Education Center

The Army Heritage and Education Center in Carlisle is an interactive outdoor museum adjacent to one of the country's oldest outposts, the Carlisle Barracks. The center, on 56 acres, showcases and honors all who served in the Army through exhibits, displays, monuments, memorials, encampments and during education programs.

The Military History Institute in Ridgeway Hall, houses some exhibits and more than 11 million items - rare books, periodicals, photographs, diaries, letters, memoirs, military publications and manuals, maps and oral histories. The Military History Institute has the world's largest collection of Civil War photographs, and claims one of the largest military history libraries in the world. It is open 9 a.m.-4:45 p.m. weekdays, closed weekends and all federal holidays.



The Army Heritage Trail

The Army Heritage Trail is an outdoor history and thematic learning opportunity for visitors to explore the U.S. Army through three-dimensional displays and artifacts. The one-mile-long trail features interpretive exhibits about the French Indiana War, the Federal period, the American Civil War, World War I, World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam War and the modern era.

The trail features representative personalities from U.S. Army history, some of whose historic materials can be found in AHEC's collections. The Army Heritage Trail is the focal point for an annual series of historical interpretive events that are free and open to the public. The trail itself is open to the public daily year-round for walking, running, biking and other passive recreational activities.

WHAT'S IN YOUR ATTIC?

Every year at yard sales, flea markets, and community trash collections, our Nation's Army heritage is lost to history. That old uniform, photograph, letter, book, audio-visual recording, or diary in your attic or basement may be the last link to a piece of the Army's heritage.

Many of the items currently in the collection of The **Army Heritage and Education Center** came from attics just like yours and are now available to inspire all that view them. So, turn on the light and see what is in your attic!

Please contact us if you feel that you have an item that would be of interest to the Center's collection at (717) 245-3094.



DONOR GUIDE TO HISTORICAL MATERIALS NEEDED

In order to tell the Army's story, one soldier at a time, we need your personal papers and other related materials. In fact, most additions to our unique research and exhibit collection have been acquired through unconditional donations from private individuals, especially by veterans themselves. Here are examples of what is needed for the Military History Institute and the Army Heritage Museum to tell the Army's story.

MATERIALS OF PRIME INTEREST TO THE MILITARY HISTORY INSTITUTE

- Memoirs or diaries of military service (published, typed, handwritten, or electronic)
- Camp, unit, and veteran association newspapers and periodicals
- Unit histories (published or not) and organizational documents and publications
- Books about the Army or military history, especially land warfare
- Army manuals, brochures, and other official documents and publications
- Military maps and charts (preferably annotated or directly related to personal experience)
- Photographs taken during service (prints, negatives, slides or digitals)
- Motion pictures, videos, or audio recordings of service experiences
- Other printed matter or images depicting personal military experience of Army history

MATERIALS OF PRIME INTEREST TO THE ARMY HERITAGE MUSEUM

- Field uniforms, accessories and other personal equipment
- Service-related weapons (firearms, knives, or swords) and their equipment
- Souvenirs collected by soldiers, including materials of allies and enemies
- Items related to Army education and training
- Original artwork related to Army service, including sketches, cartoons, or carvings
- Veteran recognition material (ribbons, camp medals, historic original art, etc.)
- Selected unit insignia and shoulder patches
- Other objects that directly relate to the experiences of soldiers and Army civilians

Materials Generally Not Accepted

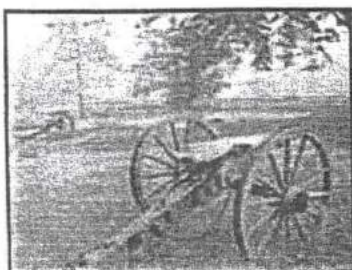
- **NO** videos or digitals of commercial motion pictures
- **NO** commercial magazines & newspapers (except personal unit-related articles)
- **NO** commercial prints or other reproductions of original art
- **NO** personal wall-hanging trophies, plaques, or parting gifts unless exceptionally significant
- **NO** official personnel or medical files requiring complete privacy protection
- **NO** Nazi political flags (unless actually captured and documented)
- **NO** Class A or Dress Service Uniforms, WWII to present (unless part of a larger collection)
- **NO** live ammunition or ordnance

* * * * *

GETTYSBURG TOUR – REUNION – FRIDAY AUG. 1ST



The Extraordinary Story of the Battle of Gettysburg



Today, you can visit this pivotal place in American history which is now a 5,733 acre National Park. The courage and valor of the men on both sides who fought and died for their cause on the fields surrounding this little country town of Gettysburg are remembered



and endowed in the spirit of freedom of human kind. Your visit will not only inspire but taking time to pause, will rekindle the flame of liberty and mans unquenchable thirst for individual freedom. Picture left: The Battlefield as it appears today. Picture right: Sunset behind a Battlefield monument.

**83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
62nd ANNUAL REUNION
JULY 30 – AUGUST 2, 2008
CARLISLE HOTEL – CARLISLE, PA**

Wednesday, July 30

12:00pm - 5:00pm Reunion Registration Open – **Rear Lobby**
 1:00pm - 3:00pm Executive Board Meeting – **Board Room**
 2:00pm - 8:00pm Hospitality Room Open – **Franklin Ball Room**

Thursday, July 31

7:00am - 9:30am Buffet Breakfast – pay as you go
 9:00am - 1:30pm Reunion Registration Open – **Rear Lobby**
 10:00am - 11:00am **GENERAL SESSIONS MEETING – Franklin Ball Room**
 10:00am - 1:00pm Optional Family Member/Ladies Tour/Shopping

THE ARMY HERITAGE CENTER (AHEC)

2:30pm Buses (2) Pick up at hotel for AHEC
 Return and pick up again

3:00pm - 6:00pm **83rd Div. Program** at the AHEC WWII buildings on the Trail,
 featuring items from the collection that pertain to the division.
 Tour the Trail and spend time visiting the building.

6:00pm - 7:00pm **BBQ Dinner** on the AHEC grounds
 (Chicken, pork sandwiches, slaw, chips, dessert, beer,
 sodas and water)

7:15pm - 8:30pm **Tony Vaccaro Photo Exhibit and Presentation at AHEC**
 8:30pm Buses return visitors to Hotel
**Buses will be available to return guests to the hotel after dinner
 if they do not wish to stay for the Vaccaro event.*

2:00pm - 8:00pm Hospitality Room Open – **Franklin Ballroom**

Friday, August 1

7:00am - 8:30am Buffet Breakfast – pay as you go
 7:00am - 9:00am Reunion Registration Open – **Rear Lobby**

GETTYSBURG TRIP

8:00am - 9:00am Depart from Hotel Carlisle to Gettysburg
 10:00am - 12:00pm Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Cemetery Tour
 12:00pm - Buffet Lunch
 1:00pm - 3:30pm Tour Gettysburg Battlefield
 3:30pm - 4:30pm Tour Eisenhower Farm
 5:15pm - Arrive back at the Hotel Carlisle
 5:30pm - Dinner on your own
 2:00pm - 8:00pm Hospitality Room Open – **Franklin Ball Room**

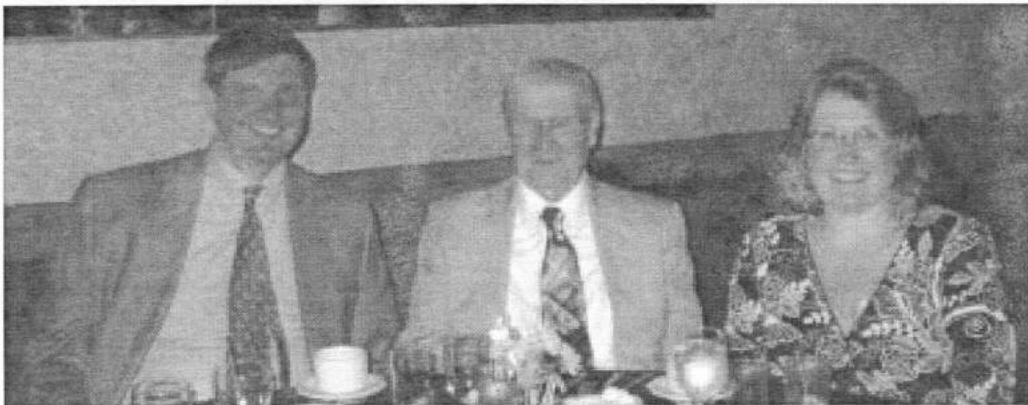
Saturday, August 2

7:00am - 9:30am Breakfast Buffet – pay as you go
9:00am - 9:50am Executive Board Meeting in **Board Room**
10:00am - 12:00pm **GENERAL SESSIONS MEETING – Windsor Ball Room**
10:00am - Optional Family Member Tour/Shopping
12:00pm - 1:50pm Lunch – on your own
2:00pm - 3:00pm **MEMORIAL SERVICE – Windsor Ball Room**
3:00pm - Catholic Mass – **Windsor Ball Room**
3:00pm - 5:00pm Hospitality Room open
6:00pm - Cash Bar Open - **Grand Ballroom**
7:00pm - **BANQUET**

Sunday, August 3

7:00am - 9:30am Breakfast on your own
11:00am Check out
Farewells & Departures

(Above Subject to Change)
Handicapped Buses will be Provided



Our New Judge Advocate - John Markuns
Son of Francis Markuns, G Co., 329th (Ctr)
Anne Marie Arsenault, Francis' daughter



First Timers – Arlington, VA - 2007
Delmer and Zedra Combs, F Co. 329th

THUNDERBOLT

VOL. 3, NO. 2

WASHINGTON, D. C.

JULY-AUGUST 1949

Lt. General McLain To Be Guest Speaker

Lieutenant General Raymond S. McLain, Commanding General of the XIX Corps in Europe during World War II, will be the guest speaker at the 83rd third annual banquet in Pittsburgh on August 6. General McLain is now the Chief of Information with the Department of the Army at the Pentagon in Washington, D. C.

The General was born near St. Rose, Washington County in Kentucky. From a private in the infantry with the Oklahoma National Guard, he has come up through all of the ranks to become a Lieutenant General.

His first taste of World War II action came as Artillery Commander of the 45th Division in its amphibious operations against Sicily, July 10, 1943. In three successive days' fighting, he led elements of the 45th to capture its three principal objectives, for which he was

(Continued on page 4)

Eastern States Vets Meet In New York

What originally started as a New York Chapter has now grown into an Eastern States Chapter. The knowledge that there were no active chapters in the States of Connecticut, New Jersey and Pennsylvania prompted the New York Chapter to invite all Thunderbolts within travelling distance to attend its meetings. We reproduce, in part, information which appeared in its last bulletin:

"Enthusiasm for an idea and the spirit of comradeship brought together over 70 members of the 83rd Division on January 8, at the 77th Division Clubhouse in New York City. The newest, and so far as we know, the largest chapter (Editor's note—this is the largest chapter) of former Thunderbolts was organized as the Eastern States Chapter. Most of its activities and meetings will be centered in New York City.

The major objective of the day

(Continued on page 4)

Convention Guest



Lt. General Raymond S. McLain

Thunderbolts Plan Third Annual Reunion In Pittsburgh, August 5th and 6th, 1949

HOTEL WILLIAM PENN CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS

Plans for the 1949 Thunderbolts' Third Annual Reunion to be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on August 5 and 6 (Please note—the 5th and 6th of August and not the 12th and 13th as previously selected and announced) at the Hotel William Penn are almost complete according to recent information received from the committee of that city.

William Appleton, 331st Inf, 1105 Reddour St., Pittsburgh, Pa., chairman of the 1949 Smoky City

Committee, has made the necessary arrangements with the convention bureau, the city officials and hotel representatives. Headquarters for the convention will be located in the William Penn and all of the main reunion activities will take place there. The Hotel William Penn is now accepting room reservations. For these, simply clip the reserve accommodation block appearing in this issue of Thunderbolt, checking the desired type of room you will need, and forward it to Mr. Thomas F. Troy, General Manager, Hotel William Penn, Pittsburgh 30, Pa.

Lieutenant General Raymond S. McLain, Chief of Information of the Army, will be the guest speaker at the banquet. Major General Robert C. Macon, our commanding general in Europe, is also planning to attend.

A \$10.00 registration fee has been set per person to furnish you with tickets of admission to the Stag Bull Session and Floor Show (for men only, hum!) on Friday night, a scenic bus tour of the city of Pittsburgh, the Banquet and

(Continued on page 4)

ROOM RESERVATION

THIRD ANNUAL REUNION

WILLIAM PENN HOTEL PITTSBURGH, PENNA.

If you plan to attend the 83rd Infantry Division Third Annual Reunion in Pittsburgh on August 5 and 6 use this room reservation block below to assure you and your friends of the necessary accommodations. Do it now. Forward to: Mr. Thomas F. Troy, General Manager, Hotel William Penn, Pittsburgh 30, Pa.

PLEASE RESERVE ACCOMMODATIONS AS CHECKED

Name..... (Please Print)

Address..... City..... State.....

Date arriving..... am pm Date departing..... am pm

ROOM AND BATH 4.50 5.00 5.75 6.25 7.50
SINGLE—PER DAY 4.75 5.25 6.00 7.00

DOUBLE BEDROOM—BATH 6.75 7.25 7.75 8.25 8.75 10.00
TWO PERSONS—PER DAY 7.00 7.50 8.00 8.50 9.00

TWIN BEDROOM—BATH 7.75 8.25 9.00 11.00 12.00 13.00
TWO PERSONS—PER DAY

SUITES: PARLOR 15.00 18.00 22.00
BEDROOM—BATH 16.00 20.00 27.00 Large suites, two bedrooms subject to confirmation.
17.00

Third person in room \$2.50 additional Reservations assigned at next available rate when indicated rate not obtainable.

CUT OUT AND MAIL

IT'S FIGURES, IF YOU'RE INTERESTED

According to Lieutenant General Levin H. Campbell, Jr., Chief of Ordnance, United States Army from 1942-46, war materiel was manufactured in the United States during World War II (1940-1945) in the following quantities:—

Rounds of artillery ammunition.....	900,681,530
Helmet.....	22,996,269
Rifles and carbines.....	12,234,608
Machine guns and mounts.....	3,283,837
Pistols and revolvers.....	2,827,708
Submachine guns.....	2,026,798
Light and medium trucks.....	1,380,925
Units of artillery.....	755,380
Bazookas.....	476,628
Heavy trucks.....	145,454
Tanks.....	85,933









FROM THE ARCHIVIST
RUDY ZAMULA

FLAGS FOR SAINTENY

AS PART OF THE CELEBRATION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WW II, THE PEOPLE OF SAINTENY INVITED TWO BUS LOADS OF 83RD VETERANS TO A RECEPTION AND CHAMPAGNE LUNCH. THE MAYOR PRESENTED EACH OF THE 83RD VETERANS PRESENT WITH A HANDSOME COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL WITH THE 83RD LOGO AND THE FIGURE OF A GI ON IT. AT OUR 2007 REUNION IN ARLINGTON, VA, JEAN PAUL PITOU, REPRESENTING SAINTENY, PRESENTED AN ADDITIONAL 12 MEDALS. HE ALSO SENT ME A PHOTO OF A CEREMONY IN SAINTENY AND THEY ALREADY HAVE THE STARS & STRIPES.

I PROPOSE THAT THE 83RD ASSOCIATION RECIPROCATATE BY PRESENTING U.S. STATE FLAGS REPRESENTING THE HOME STATES OF OUR VETERANS TO A REPRESENTATIVE OF SAINTENY AT OUR 2008 REUNION IN CARLISLE, PA. THE FLAGS WOULD BE DISPLAYED IN CITY HALL OR SIMILAR PUBLIC BUILDING. WE COULD DO A FEW STATES EACH YEAR AT THE REUNIONS. I THINK IT WOULD BE VERY EFFECTIVE IF THEY HUNG THE FLAGS VERTICALLY, AS IN THE KENNEDY CENTER HALL OF STATES – YOU GET TO SEE THE WHOLE FLAG.

I HAVE IDENTIFIED THREE COMPANIES THAT MAKE THESE 3 X 5 FOOT NYLON FLAGS, AND THE PRICE RANGES BETWEEN \$35 AND \$50. I WILL BE HAPPY TO DONATE THE MARYLAND STATE FLAG. I WILL ALSO TAKE CARE OF THE CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE MAYOR OF SAINTENY.

WE ALREADY HAVE DONATIONS OF FLAGS FOR OKLAHOMA, NEW HAMPSHIRE, MASSACHUSETTS, MARYLAND, AND KENTUCKY.

IN ORDER TO NEGATE THE POSSIBILITY OF DUPLICATE FLAGS, WE ARE ASKING FOR DONATIONS FOR THE REMAINING FLAGS AND THE ASSOCIATION WILL THEN PURCHASE THE FLAGS.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION, PLEASE FILL OUT THE SLIP BELOW, INCLUDE IT WITH YOUR DONATION (CHECKS PAYABLE TO 83RD INF. DIV. ASSN), AND MAIL TO:

**83RD INFANTRY DIV. ASSOCIATION
P. O. Box 406, ALTON BAY, NH 03810-0406**

FLAGS FOR SAINTENY - DONATION

NAME _____ STATE _____ UNIT _____

MESSAGE TO PEOPLE OF SAINTENY (OPTIONAL) _____

**83rd INFANTRY DIV. ASSN. REUNION
ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM**

Listed below are all registration, activity and meal costs for the reunion. Please enter how many people will be participating in each event and total the amount. Send that amount payable to 83RD INFANTRY DIV. ASSN. in the form of a check or money order (no credit cards or phone reservations accepted.) All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before **July 1, 2008**. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis.

We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing to:

Questions? Call 603-875-3649	83rd Infantry Div. Assn. P.O. Box 406 Alton Bay, NH 03810	Price Per Person	# of People	Total
<u>REGISTRATION PACKAGE</u>				
Registration Fee includes Saturday Night Banquet and Band, & Hospitality Room Expenses		\$55 per Person	#	\$
Please select your entrée for the SATURDAY BANQUET:				
Prime Rib of Beef			#	
Chicken Oscar			#	
THURSDAY: 83rd DIVISION PROGRAM - The Army Heritage Center (AHEC) Tour Army Heritage Trail, Visit Bldgs, BBQ Dinner & Drinks Tony Vaccaro Photo Exhibit Presentation		\$25 per Person	#	\$
FRIDAY: GETTYSBURG – Depart Carlisle via bus to Gettysburg National Park Museum & Cemetery Tour - Buffet Lunch - Tour Battlefield, Tour Eisenhower Farm		\$50 per Person	#	\$
Total Amount Payable to: <u>83rd Infantry Div. Assn.</u>				\$

PLEASE PRINT:

NAME (for name tags) _____

UNIT (example: B Co; 329th Inf) _____

SPOUSE NAME _____

GUEST NAMES (for name tags) _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY, ST, ZIP _____ PH. # _____

ARE YOU CONFINED TO A WHEELCHAIR? _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT _____ PH. # _____

ARRIVAL DATE _____ DEPARTURE DATE _____ ARE YOU STAYING AT THE HOTEL? YES _____ NO _____

IF FLYING: AIRLINE _____ FLIGHT NO. _____ ARRIVAL DAY _____ ARRIVAL TIME _____

OFFICE USE ONLY					
Chk #	Amt	Date	1	2	Tag
Beef	Chicken	Spl Menu	Thurs-AHEC		Fri-Gettysburg

RESERVATION REQUEST FORM

HOTEL CARLISLE & EMBERS CONVENTION CENTER

1700 Harrisburg Pike, Carlisle, PA 17015

717-243-1717 * 800-692-7315

See virtual tour at www.hotelcarlisle.com

When calling refer to- 83rd Infantry Division Association

Check-in Time: 3 PM

Check-out Time: 11 AM

Name _____ Phone _____

E-mail _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____

PLEASE RESERVE _____ (# of rooms) FOR _____ (# of people per room)

RATES: \$ 75.95 per night Regular Room including all taxes

REUNION DATES: Wednesday July 30, 2008, Thursday July 31,
Friday August 1, and Saturday August 2, 2008

PLEASE CHECK TYPE OF ACCOMMODATIONS REQUESTED:

- _____ Regular Room - 1 King
- _____ Regular Room - 2 Double
- _____ Fully Ambulatory Wheelchair Room Required

PAYMENT TYPE:

_____ Visa _____ Master Card _____ Discover _____ American Express
_____ Check _____ Money Order

(Check or Money Order Payable to: Hotel Carlisle & Embers Conv. Ctr.)

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

I authorize the Hotel Carlisle to charge my account for one night's deposit and all applicable taxes.

Signature _____ Daytime Phone _____

***ROOMS BLOCKED FOR YOUR GROUP WILL BE RELEASED JUNE 30, 2008.
TO RECEIVE THE GROUP PRICE YOU MUST REGISTER BEFORE THEN.***

Reservations will continue to be accepted after this date based on availability.
Forty-eight (48) hours cancellation required.

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN TO:

Hotel Carlisle & Embers Convention Center
1700 Harrisburg Pike, Carlisle, PA 17015
Tel. (717) 243-1717 (800) 692-7315 Fax: (717) 243-6648

To The 83rd Infantry Division, WW II In Memory of Ames Miller

Another buddy has left us. Another soldier has gone home.

I wasn't expecting the e-mail I read this past February to have such heartbreaking news and for a moment, I really did not want to believe what I was reading. "The time came this afternoon" Helen wrote, "to say goodbye to Ames. Ames left around 4:34PM. I hate to give him so."

At the age of 88, Ames Miller passed away February 27th after facing more medical battles than he could possibly win. The oratory at his funeral reflected the life he had lived - as a Christian, a loving husband to Helen, a father, son, friend, - and through all of this, a man who was deeply patriotic. Indiana's Army National Guard Honor Guard stood at attention during his services, a fitting tribute to one who not only honorably served his country in WW II, but tirelessly devoted his time and skills at Camp Atterbury where, chief among his contributions, he and Helen initiated the concept and completion of the Veteran's Memorial Wall.

When I first began expressing hope that the 60th reunion of the 83rd could be held in Nashville, Ames and Helen were the first to encourage me. Having only been with them socially at 83rd reunions, as planning for the 60th commenced I soon became aware of the kind and thorough manner in which Ames approached anything. He wanted everyone to be accommodated, feted, entertained and recognized to the best of our ability, and for this event to be a memorable milestone. After seeing that we both shared this same vision, Ames and Helen began planning the magnificent memorial services at Camp Atterbury while graciously entrusting me with planning the actual reunion site activities. Through countless meetings, phone calls and e-mails to discuss the details of the reunion, I was so impressed by his sharp observations and invaluable suggestions. I always felt that as your president at the time, Ames could have insisted that the reunion be held in Columbus, but he saw the greater possibilities of a "small town" atmosphere and could not have been more supportive.

To those who served in World War II, you'll recognize the sort of fellow Ames was in the tributes, among others, that he received: The Good Conduct Medal, the Purple Heart, and the American Defense Service Ribbon. What occurred to justify those accolades I do not know - his service was something we barely discussed. True to form, Ames was always more interested in talking about what was being done to recognize, uplift, or extol others, and in making sure that the legacies of WW II soldiers, in particular those of the 83rd, were preserved for future generations.

After the funeral I wrote to Cliff and Nancy expressing my sadness, but also my acute awareness that as the years march on, God is calling so many of our honored and our brave to rest. We can never thank you enough for braving the icy winds of war so we could be free; we can never memorialize enough those who died for this same cause. What we all can do, even as you read this, is vow to contact a veteran or active serviceman, their widow or their family and remind them once again that each sacrifice will never be forgotten - just as Ames always did.

In my years of association with the 83rd, I have heard the bell toll for so many of your buddies who have passed away and it breaks my heart to know that come this July, I will hear it toll for Ames. But he is at peace now, and as we gather once again this summer in friendship and remembrance, I know that Ames will only be rejoicing as the sound of his bell echoes in heaven.

In your prayers, please take a moment to remember Ames, his loving wife, Helen, and their family. May God bless each and every one of us in our earthly walk, and as always I pray, may the path we follow be of His will and not our own. Ames has followed His path; his battle scars are healed and his suffering has ended. This wonderful old soldier is home.

Georgeanna Slaybaugh

Ames H. Miller

July 29, 1919 – February 27, 2008

Ames H. Miller, 88, of Central Avenue, Columbus, IN 47201 died Wednesday, February 27, 2008 at Columbus Regional Hospital.

Ames was a WWII Army veteran in the 83rd Infantry Division receiving the Good Conduct Medal, Purple Heart and American Defense Service Ribbon. Ames and his wife Helen were instrumental in starting the Veterans Memorial Wall at Camp Atterbury.



He was previously employed by Wilson Motors, retiring in 1985 and was employed at Senior Products, retiring in 2006.

Mr. Miller was born July 29, 1919 in Brownlee, Neb. the son of Jay Edward and Katherine Barbara Krueger Miller. Ames married Helen L. Davis Oct. 11, 1958. Survivors include his wife; children Harry Richard (Beth) Miller, James Dale (Donna) Miller and Barbara (Russell) Hobbs, all of Columbus and Edward (Khin) Miller of Seabeck, Washington; a sister, Katherine Simonson of Mullen, Neb.; a sister-in-law, Louise Helen Miller of North Platte, Neb.; six grandchildren, several great-grandchildren and several great-great-grandchildren.

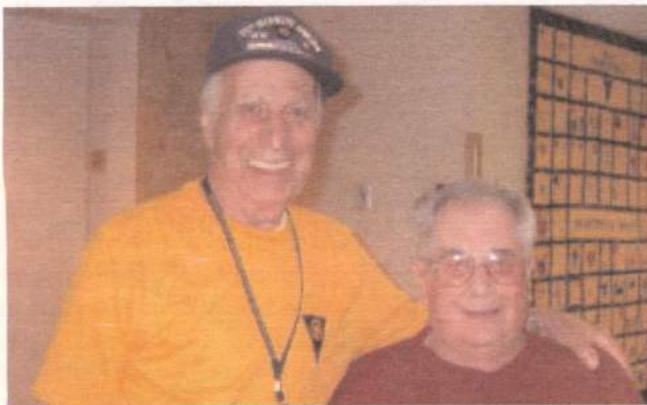
Funeral: March 3, 2008 at Jewell-Rittman Funeral Home with the Rev. Virgil Clotfelter officiating. Burial: Garland Brook Cemetery Mausoleum. Memorials may be made to-Garden City Church of Christ, 3245 Jonesville Rd, Columbus, IN 47201



Ames and Helen with son and family
83rd Inf. Div. 61st Reunion – Arlington, VA



Camp Atterbury Memorial Dedication - 1992



Ames with Chuck Abdinoor
61st Reunion - Arlington VA - 2007



Ames - "Bus Coordinator" and more
Indianapolis Reunion - August 1997

Editor's note: There is a beautiful Video Tribute to Ames on the internet until May 2nd. It is a collection of photos presented by friends & family. You may view it at – www.jewellrittman.com (Click on Obituaries then go to the Alphabetical Listing, click on "M" then on "Ames H. Miller")



OMAHA - AMES PUSHING JOHN DAY



MEMORIAL POOL CAMP ATTERBURY - 8/97



CAMP ATTERBURY MEMORIAL- G 329TH



83RD PLAQUE CHAPEL #1 - GENERAL GIBBS, AMES, AND COL. (RET) JORG STACHEL



ATTERBURY - AUG 1997



14TH CAVALRY



CAMP ATTERBURY 2006



**CAMP
ATTERBURY**



From the Assistant Historian

Dave Curry

Over the past few years, I have been fortunate to gather a pretty good size collection of 83rd Division photographs. Most of them were sent to me by children of 83rd vets. Most of them are group photos of squads, platoons, and small groups of "buddies." In many cases the identities of all the GIs in the photos are unknown. However, I do have a few photos where just about everyone is identified. I am including some of the more interesting pictures in this issue. If anyone recognizes someone they know in the photos, please get in touch with me.

I am sorry that I can't reproduce the pictures much larger than they are shown here, as I am limited by the amount of space on a magazine page. If anyone would like a larger copy of any of the photos here let me know. I can provide the pictures in a larger size. Also, if you are looking for photos of your outfit, I can search through my computer files to see if I have anything. If you have a computer, I can send the pictures attached to an email. Otherwise, I can make a copy of photos on my printer and mail them to you. Also, if you have photos that you can send me, I would like to hear from you.



These are some of the original officers in the Second Battalion/331st Infantry when it landed in Normandy. Front row, left to right, are Lt. Flahaven, Battalion Motor Officer; Lt. Story, Battalion S-4; Capt. Macaluso, CO of G Company; Lt. Col. McDonald, Battalion Commander at the end of the war; Maj. Laliberte, Battalion Executive Officer; Capt. Fleming, Field Artillery Liaison; Lt. Cebula, E Company platoon leader. In the back row, left to right, are Lt. Pepper, ammo platoon; Capt. Waters, Battalion S-3; Capt. Patterson, Adjutant Battalion S-1; Capt. Mitchell, CO of F Company; Capt. Cryst, Battalion Surgeon; Lt.

Boldizar, Executive Officer of H Company; and Lt. Clopton, H Company platoon leader. Photo was sent to me by Elizabeth Faber Brusa, daughter of Lt. Col. James F. Faber, who was the commanding officer of the Second Battalion/331st Infantry when the 83rd Division landed in Normandy near the end of June 1944. Faber was killed in action in Normandy.

Here is a picture of Colonel Foster, CO of the 330th IR. This photo and a couple of others were sent to me by Harold Simms, a 330th Veteran. They are the only pictures I have seen of Colonel Foster, and I am assuming that others in the photos are members of his staff. If you recognize anyone in this picture, please contact me. I don't know very much about Colonel Foster. The little bit of information that I have been able to find on the internet says that he became the CO of the 22nd Infantry, 4th Infantry Division on June 26, 1944. He then shows up as the CO of the 330th Infantry on July 13, 1944. If anyone has additional information about Colonel Foster, please get in touch.



Here is a photo of members of B Company, 330th IR in the Ardennes. Unfortunately, due to some computer crashes over the years, I have lost track of any other info about this picture, other than it was sent to me by someone named DeSantis. I am guessing it is a platoon group photo.



C



This picture was sent to me by Maddy Eadline, who is looking for information about her father, George Slivka, who was a forward observer in the 331st Infantry. He was with the 331st when they landed in Normandy. She doesn't know the names of those in this picture, and is hoping that someone might be able to identify them.



Ed Holt sent me this picture of officers in the 329th Infantry Headquarters staff. Ed was the S-3 of the 329th in Normandy. In the bottom row, left to right, are Captain Bunch, Assistant S-3; 329th Chaplain (name not provided); Captain Callahan, S-2; Ed Holt; Colonel Crabill; Colonel Brown; Major Kohler, S-4; Major Mauldin, Surgeon; Captain Bagley, S-1. Most of the back row is unidentified, except for Lt. Raikor, second from left.

*Bottom row left to right
 Capt. Bunch, Asst S-3 - Chaplain - Capt. Callahan S-2 - Ed Holt
 Lt. Brown - Major Kohler S-4 - Major Mauldin Surgeon - Capt. Bagley S-1
 Back row left to right - Chaplain - Lt. Raikor - Lt. ...
 7 7 7 7*



Here is a photo of the third platoon, L Company, 331st Infantry. The picture was sent to me by Greg Chipps. His father, Richard E. Chipps was 1st Sergeant of L Company, 331st Infantry Regiment. Chipps served with the 83rd from Camp Atterbury to the end of the war. Greg also sent me a photo of the second platoon, which I don't have room for in this article.



Tony Taragowski sent me this picture of her father, Maurice "Mory" Candido, New Haven, CT (third from right), who served proudly with C Battery, 323rd Field Artillery, 83rd Infantry Division throughout Europe. Tony says that her father boxed in the service, and she has a trophy that he won in 1944 for the "heavy weight" division of the 83rd Infantry. Tony says that her father had a wonderful longtime friend, Dominic Christoforo from Euclid, Ohio (not in picture) that passed away several years ago, but other than Dominic she hasn't been in touch with her father's

Printed: 3-20-02 Bucklew Candido - Teacher - M. Candido

many Army buddies. "I hope for those of you who recognize a loved one, you will find this picture as enjoyable as I did. Also, if anyone should recognize where it may have been taken, or if anyone knew my dad, please write to me because I would love to hear from you." Tony's email address is Taragowski@aol.com.

This last picture is of officers in the 324th Field Artillery. It appears to have been taken at Camp Atterbury. I have lost track of who sent me this picture, and I do not know the names of any of the officers in this photo. If you recognize anyone in this photo, please let me know.



Well that's about it for this time. Take care, and stay well.
 Dave Curry
 440-942-5030
 email: davecurry@ncweb.com

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

by Gary Wallace, Descendant

HISTORY OVERLOOKED: UNSUNG ARMY DIVISION SEEKS RECOGNITION FOR FIGHTING TO WITHIN 40 MILES OF BERLIN IN WWII'S WANING DAYS

83rd Infantry Finds In National Archives Recommendation for Citation They Never Received

WASHINGTON, D.C., AUGUST 13, 2007 – They were known as the Ohio and, later, the Thunderbolt Division. In the waning months of the European Theater during World War II, the men of the U.S. Army's 83rd Infantry Division and several supporting units pulled off one of the most incredible and overlooked feats in the annals of that well-documented war.

Positioned north of Germany's Ruhr River industrial complex at the close of March, 1945, the 83rd received orders originally intended for the 8th Armored Division. They were to turn east from the Ruhr and race toward Berlin. In a span of only 13 days, the Thunderbolts fought their way across 280 miles of northern Germany as unit after unit within the 83rd leap-frogged and flanked one another to continuously press the attack east. Commandeering anything with wheels or hooves to move infantry at a break-neck pace, the rolling menagerie of "organic transportation" was dubbed by one reporter in news accounts as "the rag-tag circus."

The spectacular sweep across northern Germany proved to be one of the most rapid movements of troops in military history. The 83rd not only set new infantry speed records, but surpassed those of the best Allied armor units. Along the way, they liberated 42,000 U.S. and Allied prisoners of war.

On April 13, 1945, the 83rd arrived at the west bank of Germany's Elbe River, the boundary where the Allied Supreme Commander, U.S. General Dwight Eisenhower, had ordered all Western allied armies to halt. But the U.S. Army's XIXth Corps commander, Major General Raymond S. McLain, wanted to prevent the enemy from using the Elbe as a natural boundary to re-organize and counter-attack. The 83rd and its support units were ordered to cross the Elbe and into territory assigned to the Soviet Red Army, and to prepare to advance east/northeast (in the direction toward Berlin). In a bitterly contested, house-to-house fight – the subject of the book *The Last Battle* by Cornelius Ryan, author of *The Longest Day* and *A Bridge Too Far* – the 83rd secured a bridgehead on the Elbe's west bank at Barby, Germany. Over the course of the next several days, they defended it from several vicious, Nazi counter-attacks. The 83rd pressed the fighting east to within 40 miles southwest of Berlin, and on April 30, the 113th Cavalry Group of the 83rd Division made contact with Russian troops at Apollonsdorf. Orders finally caught up with the 83rd juggernaut to return to the Elbe bridgehead. The only American incursion into the Eastern European Theater ground to a halt and, on May 6, 1945, turned back to the Elbe, crossing territory gained at the cost of over 1,000 American casualties.

The incredible drive to the Elbe bridgehead, and its defense, earned Division members 289 Bronze Stars, 132 Silver Stars, 1 Distinguished Service Cross and 1 Legion of Merit, but ironically no Presidential Unit Citation.

Since 1996, the 83rd Division Association's historian, 82-year-old Lou Gomori of Butler, PA, has

researched and documented the fighting at the Elbe River and points eastward and, in 2003, began his attempt to secure some lasting recognition for fallen comrades and to set the record straight: "I started researching this after watching the last episode of a series on TV, when the narrator stated: The Western Allies will stop on the west bank of the Elbe River; the eastern side will be left for the Russians."

Gomori submitted an application for a Unit Citation two years ago to the Defense Department's Military Awards Branch, through the sponsorship of his U.S. Senator, Arlen Specter. It wasn't until earlier this year that he learned that his application had been rejected.

Then, after 62 years, some unexpected evidence surfaced to bolster Gomori's case. Association President Rudolf Zamula, 83, Potomac, MD, is a contractor at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA II) in College Park, MD. On his own time, he would sift through some of the 176 boxes of crumbling and yellowed after-action reports that record the Division's battlefield exploits. This spring, he found a copy of the original letter from Ninth Army Commander Lt. General W.H. Simpson recommending the Division for the Presidential Unit Citation for its lightning assault across northern Germany and the Elbe to within the outskirts of Berlin. Included in the recommendation were the comments of Army Lt. General Raymond S. McLain:

"The advance of the XIXth Corps across Germany was an operation, the speed of which, has seldom, if ever, been equaled. The original planning contemplated the use of two armored divisions abreast, each to be backed up by one infantry division. Because of the necessity of compressing the Ruhr pocket, the 8th Armored Division was unavailable, so the 83rd Infantry Division was ... given the whole mission. The performance of the (83rd) Division in keeping up with the 2nd Armored Division on its left was magnificent and played an important role not only in broadening the Corps spearhead, but also in protecting the exceedingly long exposed Corps right flank...The speed and dispatch with which the Division moved was of particular importance in the crossing of the Elbe, making possible the crossing of the river on a broad front and the exploitation of the successful bridgehead. This was of the greatest importance because the enemy resisted the crossings fiercely as shown by the fact that father north...the enemy was able to throw back the crossing attempt (of the 2nd Armored)."

"After over 60 years, we finally had proof that our commanders had indeed recognized what we had achieved in that campaign," said Zamula. "As to why the recommendation was never acted upon is probably lost to history."

Gomori believes publicity about the Elbe crossing, back in April, 1945, was downplayed because of the political sensitivities of an American army crossing into territory assigned to the Soviet Red Army. The recently discovered document gives Gomori new hope that the Military Awards Unit will take a second look at a new application he intends to file soon, seeking a Presidential Unit Citation. The division also seeks a sixth battle star for being the only American military outfit to fight in the Eastern European Theater, the boundary of which was -- the Elbe River. Previous battle stars were awarded the 83rd for its role in the Normandy, Brittany, Ardennes (Battle of the Bulge), Rhineland, and Central Europe campaigns.

Zamula is not optimistic despite the new-found proof that supports their claim. There have been only a couple of rare examples when the military has gone back to commemorate a unit. Despite

Gomori having accumulated eyewitness accounts from German newspapers and German military veterans of the ferocity of the battles along the Elbe, the general perception today may be that the Division was merely fighting the last remnants of a German army that was already defeated. Or it may simply be the public has no desire to re-visit a little-known episode in a story outshone by more dramatic turning points in the European theater, such as D-Day, Anzio, and the Battle of the Bulge.

The veterans of the 83rd Division, which was headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, and de-activated only a few years ago, know time is not on their side. When the Association holds its annual Division reunion in Arlington, VA, on August 22-26, about 300 veterans and their families are expected to attend. Despite advancing age that prohibits travel by many of its members, the group isn't calling its reunion in DC its last. In fact, plans are already being made for their 2008 reunion in Carlisle, PA.

"My dream is to stage in Carlisle next year a re-enactment of the Rag Tag Circus convoy as I experienced it," said Zamula.

ABOUT THE 83rd DIVISION: The 83rd Division has its roots in Ohio, where most of its soldiers were from when the division was organized for World War I. The Division's insignia remains a graphic layout of the letters O-H-I-O. The Division engaged in 270 days of combat and ranks ninth among all Army divisions in the number of casualties suffered during World War II with 3,850 killed and 15,013 wounded in action. The Division was best known for rapidly being uprooted in the days immediately before Christmas, 1944, at the close of the Hurtgen Forest campaign in Germany, to race back into Belgium to become part of the spearhead that blunted the German offensive known as the "bulge" in the Ardennes Forest. It then assisted the 3rd Armored Division in bisecting the St. Vith-Houffalize Highway to block the easterly retreat of the German Army.

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The 83rd Infantry Division Association is a non-profit organization, now based in Alton Bay, NH, dedicated to honoring the men who served in the division during World War II. The organization has 680 members. Known as the Thunderbolt Division, the 83rd Infantry was first deployed in World War I and was deactivated after World War II. The company's insignia, a graphic representation of the word O-H-I-O, reflects the home state from where the Division's original ranks were raised.

CONTACT:

Louis Gomori
Division Historian
724-283-4340
lou83rd@zoominternet.net

or

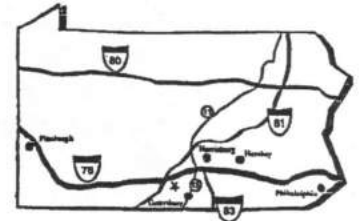
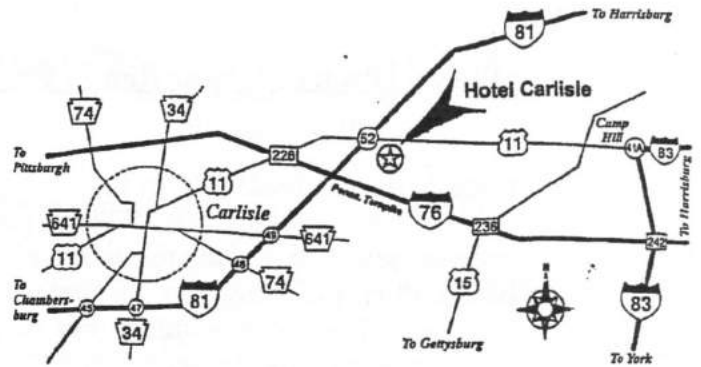
Rudy Zamula
Division President
301-299-2578
zamulare@att.net

HOTEL CARLISLE

1700 Harrisburg Pike
Carlisle, PA 17015

717-243-1717
800-692-7315

DIRECTIONS



Allentown - 78 West to 81 South, Exit 52, Route 11 North,
Hotel ¼ mile on right, Distance: 80 miles - Time: 2 hrs.

Baltimore: 70 West to 15 North to 76 West; Exit 226, Route 11 North,
Hotel 2 miles on right: Distance: 82 miles - Time: 2 hrs

Erie - 79 South to 76 East; Exit 226, Route 11 North,
Hotel 2 miles on right, Distance: 290 miles - Time: 6 hrs

Frederick MD or Gettysburg - 15 North to 76 West; Exit 226, Route 11 North,
Hotel 2 miles on right, Distance: 50 miles - Time: 1 hour

Hagerstown MD - 81 North; Exit 52A, Hotel ¼ mile on right,
Distance: 56 miles - Time: 1¼ hrs

Lancaster - 283 North to 76 West; Exit 226, Route 11 North, Hotel 2 miles on right,
Distance 40 miles - Time: 1 hour

New York City - 78 West to 81 South; Exit 52, Route 11 North, Hotel ¼ mile on right
Distance: 185 miles - Time: 3 hours

Philadelphia - 76 West; Exit 226, Route 11 North, Hotel 2 miles on right
Distance: 95 miles - Time 2 hours

Pittsburgh - 76 East; Exit 226, Route 11 North, Hotel 2 miles on right,
Distance: 195 miles - Time 4 ½ hours

Scranton - 81 South, Exit 52, Turn left onto 11 North, Hotel ¼ mile on right,
Distance: 140 miles - Time 2 ½ hours

State College - 22/322 South to 11/15 South to 81 South; Exit 52, Turn Left onto
Route 11 North, Hotel ¼ mile on right, Distance: 100 miles - Time: 2 hours

Washington - 270 West to 15 North to 76 West; Exit 226, Route 11 North,
Hotel 2 miles on right, Distance: 125 miles - Time: 2 ½ hours

York - 83 North to 76 West; Exit 226, Route 11 North, Hotel 2 miles on right
Distance: 50 miles - Time: 1 hour

Military History of Oscar Robert Freesen, Jr.

I was born on 09/02/1925 to Oscar Robert, Sr. and Opal Mae Haus Freesen, on a farm south of Bluffs, Illinois. In 1927 my parents moved to Kersey, Colorado near Greeley. I attended school in Kersey through the 6th grade and then my parents moved back to rural Bluffs, Illinois to farm. For the next two years I attended Campbell Hallow School, a one room school in our community (my father also attended this school through eighth grade and later served on the school board). After eighth grade graduation I completed four years of high school in Bluffs, Illinois and graduated in the spring of 1943. Shortly after that I was drafted and inducted at Ft. Sheridan, Illinois. Soon after I was sent to Camp Stewart, Georgia for six weeks of basic training. I applied for clerical school at Camp Stewart, after completing clerical school I was shipped off to Ft. Bliss, Texas for anti-aircraft training. Several weeks later I was sent to Virginia Beach, Virginia for a brief time before being reassigned for six more weeks of basic training at Camp Maxey, near Paris, Texas. I enjoyed a two week furlough at home in Illinois and then received my orders to report to New York to board the Queen Elizabeth troop carrier. We shipped out early in January 1945 to Europe, arriving in Glasgow, Scotland. We then took a train to the English Channel and crossed over to LaHarve, France and then boarded Forty-n-Eight Railroad cars bound for Belgium. We joined up with the 83rd Infantry Division as replacement soldiers. I was assigned to Company K, 331st. Regiment. All of this was during the Battle of the Bulge; I stayed with this unit as they headed for Berlin. While Company K was in Hamm, Germany on April 2, 1945 I was wounded. I was shot in the leg and was grazed in the face by three bullets from an automatic grease gun. I was sent by ambulance to a hospital in Nancy, France and was there until the end of the war. I joined up with my unit and was soon sent back to the United States by way of a Liberty ship out of LaHarve, France. We arrived back in New York and I was sent to Ft. Sheridan, Illinois for discharge.

DECORATIONS AND CITATIONS:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER RIBBON W/3 BRONZE BATTLE STARS, GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL, PURPLE HEART, MEDAL GO 25 HQ 105TH EVAC HOSP 3 APR 45, WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL, 1 OVERSEAS SERVICE BAR

P.S. Anyone who served in any of the above mentioned areas please feel free to contact me.

Bob Freesen
1572 Liberty Road
Jacksonville, IL 62650
HM: 217-243-1026
CELL: 217-473-6777

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>
Adkins, Harry	D Co., 331st	Al Shrawder
Davidson, Keith	C Co., 331st	Wife Elaine
Dennis, Roger	HQ 322nd FA	Wife
Guzek, Ted	A Co., 331st	Manny Epstein
Hall, Roland R.	K Co., 329th	F. P. Brown
Hall, Tommy	D Co., 331st	Al Shrawder
Heine, Christian	HQ & HQ Btry	Son Chris & Richard Alexander Jr.
Howell, John	Service Co., 329th	Arthur R. Wagner
Mikels, Harold	HQ & HQ Btry	Daughter, Richard Alexander Jr.
Miller, Ames	G Co., 329th	Helen his wife, Manny Epstein
Miller, Bob	HQ, 330th	Bob Grobelny
Ours, Paul	K Co., 331st	Manny Epstein
Rothchild, Thomas	A Co., 331st	Al Shrawder

83rd Memorial Service - 61st Reunion - Arlington, VA



**Glenn Wible
Singing "My Buddy"**



Ellsworth Massie - Chaplain



Wreath Ceremony

A Report From Larry Redmond, 330

Chapter Coordinator.

In behalf of the members of your executive committee of the 83rd Infantry Division Association, I would like to extend my sincere



thanks to you, the chapter members and also to those of you, not affiliated with a chapter, for the wonderful help and co-operation you have given the officers, of our great association, this year.

As many of you know, we got off to a bad start, with a paid-up membership of about 200, the lowest it had been in five years. This put quite a financial burden on our treasury, what with the cost of printing stationery, of various types, five scheduled issues of Thunderbolt and postage costs, we were working under extreme difficulty, but after a little negotiating here and there we finally got things rolling and I think that, from here on in, we can expect only the best results, this, of course, being due to the response of all who were asked to do their part.

After a few months of rough going, we are now on the upgrade, our membership is well over 400 and growing rapidly. Our Buddy campaign is doing well and the results are beyond our expectations. Quite a number of you have sent in a year's dues for an old buddy, making him a member of our association, and, quite often, he never would have become a member otherwise, or he had not heard of the association. Those of you who have not participated in the buddy campaign, think it over, and, if you can see your way clear, send in a

(Continued on Page 14)



Top, left to right, Steve Benson, Ed. Zerucha, Tommy Linn, Bill Palazzolo, Nick Barbu, Nick Boyd, Santa Claus, Marion Murio and Don Spano.

Detroit Chapter News

By Bill Palazzolo—G-329

The Detroit Chapter held its Christmas party on December 20 and I must say it was a huge success and everyone attending had a wonderful time.



The kids had a ball getting presents from Santa Claus and watching the antics of a very pleasant and funny clown.

The ladies also received gifts and a far away expression could be seen on many of their faces, reminiscent of the time that they too sat on Santa's knee and thinking in retrospect of a never to be forgotten era, so long ago.

Our "Spirits" drawing was held on the same day, the results of which you will find in a report submitted by our capable and hard-working raffles chairman, Ed Zerucha.

We had quite a nice turnout and following is a list of those who attended, and, receiving no complaints so far, must have enjoyed themselves: the regular members, who were accompanied by their lovely wives were Steven Benson, E-331; Nick Barbu, D-331; Orlen "Nick" Boyd, E-331; Thomas Linn, QM; Marion Muoio, C-308 Eng.; Bill Ferguson, F-329; Ernie Schmidt, 1st Bn., 331; Dom Spano, G-331; Ed Zerucha, F-329; Bill Palazzolo, G-329 and Ed Bucholtz, E-329. Our guests and buddies who also brought their lovely wives included John Daugherty, L-329; Don Allan, I-329; Bill Wosiniak, 308 Eng.; Ray Nantau, E-329 and John Salatrik, I-330.

You will notice in the pictures accompanying this article, that the Detroit Chapter is sporting their new shirts and caps, which were custom made by me, Bill Palazzolo, at home. Anyone interested in getting shirts and/or caps, please contact me at 20000 Lancaster, Harpers Woods 36, Michigan. Shirts are \$6, caps are \$2. To the other chapters who already have shirts and would like caps, let me know your desire; black band and gold crown or gold band and black crown.

If everyone would get his own cap, at least, it would save the association the expense of getting the cheap ones for the reunion and would look so much more uniform.

Mr. and Mrs. (Major) Bill Ferguson are proud to announce that they have moved into their new home at 10020 Mercedes, Detroit 89, Mich., and for those of you who may want to congratulate them, their phone number is KE 2-1071.

Dear Mr. Wooldridge,

I am writing to you to let the 83rd know my grandfather, Quinto DeAntoni, is well and doing great. My grandmother who passed away in 1998, used to accompany my grandfather to the reunions and my mother has gone with him in the past but now my grandfather turned 90 in July and traveling by plane is no longer an option, so that's why you haven't seen him recently.

He is still living in Belmont, California. He has 1 daughter, 3 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren and 1 expected in April. He now drives a motorized scooter to go to the store and around the neighborhood. He loves to cook for everyone with the vegetables he's grown in his garden and cleans and maintains his own home. He also loves telling his experiences in WWII.



It's amazing on how much WWII has made an impression on the lives of everyone who were involved. We read the stories off the war but to be told of them with such passion by those who were there, is much better than reading them in books. You made history! Hopefully, we can pass his stories down through our generations.

My grandfather was in the 63rd and came to the 83rd in December. He went overseas with the 83rd and came home on November 29, 1945, Thanksgiving Day. Arrived at 9:30 pm in California. By the way, he was wondering, did the 83rd receive the presidential citation and what other citations has the 83rd received?

It was a pleasure talking to you on the phone. I hope this catches everyone up on my grandfather. I know that he would love to still attend the reunions to see everyone but traveling so far is riskier now and we need more stories to be told!

With many blessings for all our soldiers then and now,

Annette DeBastiani
Granddaughter of Quinto (Tony) DeAntoni



**62nd ANNUAL REUNION
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