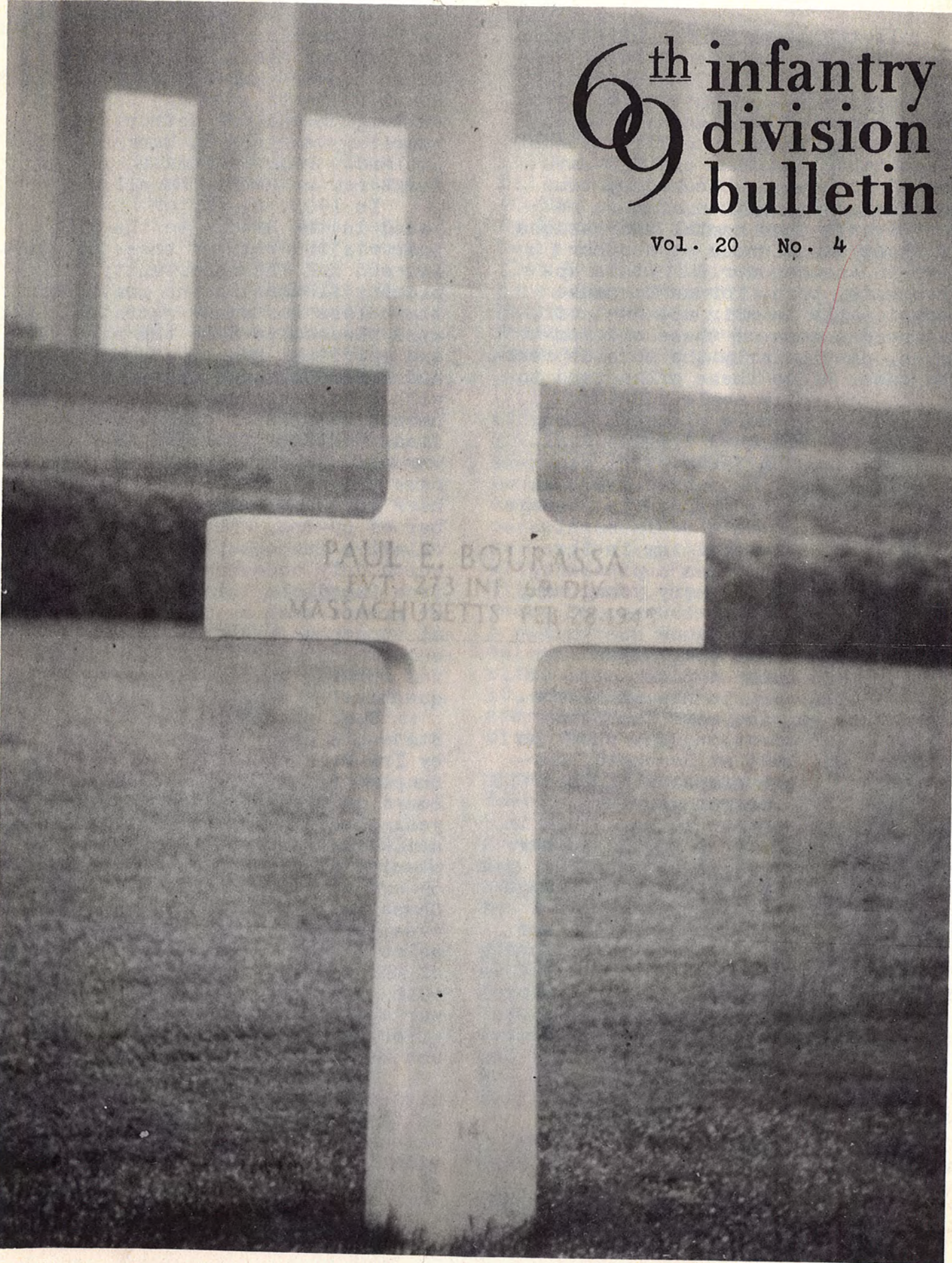


# 6<sup>th</sup> infantry division bulletin

Vol. 20 No. 4



PAUL E. BOURASSA  
PVT 273 INF 68 DIV  
MASSACHUSETTS FEB 28 1945



## THE COVER

If the stark aspect of today's cover awakens unpleasant recollections in the mind of the reader, the purpose was intentional. As we have proceeded complacently through the past 22 years in our individual directions, memories of 1945 have tended to become obscured by time and the superposition of more recent events upon mental impressions of those experiences at another time in another world. It is appropriate, then, for us to pause occasionally to stir up, dust off, and ponder some of these old memories, particularly the more depressing ones, since these often tend to be inadvertently neglected through preference for more pleasant thoughts.

Few 69-ers knew Private Paul E. Bourassa, and fewer still remember him today. He joined E-273 in late January 1945 during its passage through France, as a replacement fresh from basic training in the United States. He was a pleasant, quiet, somewhat ordinary young man, with no apparent attributes or faults which would cause him to stand out from his companions. In fact, he was quite typical of a million other men in his situation. Bourassa's service with the 69th was of brief duration, cut short on February 28, 1945 at Rescheid, during the initial offensive of the division, by a German machine gun bullet which somehow selected him in preference to a considerable number of very similar G.I.'s in his immediate vicinity. His death, though unfortunate, was of no great consequence to the human race, the war effort, nor even to those companions with whom he had fought and who had known him for such a brief period of time. He would be missed chiefly by his wife, parents, and a few close friends back home.

In one respect Paul Bourassa does stand out. He is one of a number of 69-ers who gave their lives for their country and who remain, to this day, buried on foreign soil. --- And even in this respect, Paul is truly not exceptional, since the number of 69-ers in this cate-

gory is suprisingly large. From his company alone, at least three other men are known to lie at the Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery in Belgium and the Netherlands American Cemetery at Margareten, Holland. Paul is located in the first row at Henri-Chapelle.

In 1965, 69-ers who participated in the Return to the Elbe tour visited both of these cemeteries and had the opportunity of placing flowers on the graves of their less fortunate comrades. All were pleased to note the physical and spiritual beauty of both sites and the meticulous care and respect with which the American Battle Monuments Commission operates the final resting places of American war dead. However, all tour members suddenly became aware that here were the graves of a large number of 69-ers, which, because of relative inaccessibility, were favored only occasionally by visits from immediate friends or relatives, or groups such as ours. The general consensus was that something should be done to show our respect for our fallen comrades more frequently.

Upon return to the United States, a group of tour members, led by Irv Sarafan (769 Ord.) and George Shapiro (AT-272), proposed to the Board of Directors that once each year the 69th Infantry Division Association make provisions for the placing of flowers on the graves of 69-ers at Margareten and Henri-Chapelle. After considerable discussion, the date of April 25th was selected, on the basis that the date of the Link-Up represented to the 69th and its members the end of the war and the culmination of all our efforts and the sacrifice of those who were lost in the struggle.

Consequently, funds were transmitted to the European Office of the Battle Monuments Commission and an account has been established to provide for the placing, every April 25th, of one red rose on the grave of each

(Cont. Page 8 Col. 1)



# IF YOU HAVE NOT RESERV- ED FOR PITTSBURGH, DO IT NOW!.. AUG. 25, 26, & 27

An old Roman once said, "Tempus Fugit" --- he was undoubtedly referring to the coming reunion which is now no longer months away, but only a matter of days. If you have not sent in your reservation yet, **DO IT NOW!** If you miss this reunion, you'll be missing the best one yet!

In our last bulletin we gave a detailed description of all the plans in the works. --- Beer Party, Banquet, Early Bird Dinner, tours, meetings, Sub-teen and Teen Parties, etc. We don't have room here to repeat everything --- it suffices to say that the basic program remains the same, a weekend that we guarantee will keep you hopping.

As published previously the rates are as follows:

## REGISTRATION COSTS, 69TH FUNCTIONS:

Friday Night Beer Party	\$ 3.00
Saturday Night Banquet	
Adults	\$10.00
Children	\$ 8.00
Package Price, both Beer	
Party and Banquet	\$12.50
Sub-teen and Teen Parties	FREE

## ROOM ACCOMODATIONS:

Room - Single Bed, per person, per night	\$11.00
Room - Double or Twin, two persons or family occupying one room, per night	\$14.00
Family occupying two adjoining rooms, per night	\$22.00

To reserve for 69th functions, fill out the reservation form and mail per instructions.

To reserve rooms, write to the Penn Sheraton Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pa. directly and mention that you're with the 69th.

And remember fellows, if you can't make it for the whole weekend,

drop in and spend a morning, afternoon, or evening --- but by all means, COME!

## 1968 REUNION

In our last issue we broke the news that the 1968 Reunion will take place at the Marriott Motor Inn in Philadelphia, Pa. on August 15, 16, 17, and 18th. On July 2, 1967, the Board of Directors held its scheduled meeting at the Marriott to give all the directors an opportunity to look over the hotel. It was generally agreed that the Reunion Site Committee had come through with a top-notch selection.

The hotel itself is new and modern, and has the ultimate in facilities, including a beautiful outdoor pool surrounded by a large area for general lounging, sitting, and what-have-you. Indoor facilities include a good restaurant, snack bars, meeting rooms, etc. and several beautiful banquet rooms. Two additional restaurants are located immediately next door for those who like a variety of eating places.

A secondary purpose of the Directors' meeting was to establish a local Reunion Committee to make detailed arrangements and establish a program of activities. We're pleased to state that a fine group of local members attended and this secondary objective was achieved. Now this does not mean that if you could not attend this meeting, we don't need you any more --- on the contrary, we can always use all the help we can get! So, if you live in the Philadelphia area, and if you would like to help out on the 1968 Reunion Committee, contact either of the two following Committee Co-Chairmen:

Mr. Irwin C. Fox  
The Benson - East  
Township Line Road & York St.  
Jankintown, Pa. 19046

Mr. Thomas J. Reardon  
929 Providence Road  
Springfield, Pa. 19064



# 1969 REUNION

What? Already? You bet! In our last issue we said that from now on we're going to plan in advance, and we really meant it!

Our Reunion Site Committee has been doing some preliminary work, and although nothing concrete has been done yet, the following cities are being considered for 1969: Hartford, Conn., Boston, Mass., and Washington, D. C. Right now we're only in the preliminary contact stage, so anything can happen... So, if you live in one of these areas and would like to see the Association visit your home town, write and let us know, particularly if you think you can be of some assistance in selecting a hotel or working on a local reunion committee. As a matter of fact, even if you don't live in one of these areas, write and give us your opinion anyhow.

## UNIT NEWS

### 880 F. A. BATTALION

Just before the last reunion, COL. LANDIS, the Commanding Officer of the 880th F. A. Bn., sent Loar Quickle an old roster of his battalion. Letters went out to all the old members and the following were found and responded:

#### Hq. Battery

HERBERT L. PRIEST, 15 Glenwood Ave; Silver Creek, N. Y. Wife: Mae, Children: Alan, Donald and Eliz. Step Children: Jack, Judith, Terry and Daniel. With Ford Motor Co., Buffalo for 16 years. Visited with Wm. Flowers of Butler, Ala. and Wilson B. Whitley at Albermarle, N. C. You have promised to attend this year Herb, so will see you there in Pittsburgh.

#### Sv. Battery

ALLIE BRADFORD, JR., 939 No. Highland Ave., Arlington Hgts., Ill. Wife: Ruth. Has no children. DAVID L. McGUIRE, Rt. #2, Box 17, Little Falls, Minn., Wife: Verena.

Children: Lucille, Gerald, Richard, Betty and Karen. (All married.) Sells automobiles past 15 years. ERNEST T. ROGERS, 3840 Boca Bay Dr., Dallas, Texas. 75234. Wife: Jean, and children: Chris, Karen, and Brian. Has good wife, she is good cook. Was called up during Korea war. Attended Notre Dame and is now in Advertising.

WM. A. STUMP, RR #1, Pierceton, Ind. Wife: Loretta. Children: Lorwill 23, William, Jr. 21, Marlane 19, and Joseph 17. Wm. is a Sgt. in U. S. Army.

NORMAN C. BOGER, R. #2 Box 215, Hartselle, Ala. Wife: Wilma. Children: Norma, James, and Randy.

#### A Battery

MARVIN A. BARBER, Rte. #2, Bainbridge, Ga., Wife: Bessie, Children: Marva-Gay and David. Is engaged in farming peanuts and corn and raises cattle and hogs.

FRANKLIN H. ZAVODSKY, 429 Morgan St., Oberlin, Ohio. Wife: Carol. Children: Robin and Barbara. Both are wonderful children.

#### B Battery

HOWARD WITSON THOMPSON, 6235 South 40th St., Omaha, Nebr. Wife: Agnes. Children: Gary 14, and Judy 11.

Howard is a show salesman, is a widower. Works for Bucks Shoe Store in Omaha. Would like Corp. Ernest Jackson's address.

LEANDER J. MEYER, 774 Cottonwood Dr., Monroeville, Pa. 15146. Wife: Betty. Children: Barbara and Thomas. Moved from St. Marys, Pa. in 1966 to Pittsburgh. Is a service manager for General Aniline & Film Corp.

LOUIS G. FEHNER, 307 E. Irwin St., Bad Axe, Mich. Wife: Bernice.

Children: Louis III, Barbara Jean, and Charles Edward. Louis III is in Marine Corps in Calif. Barbara attending Bs. College and Charles is in high school. Louis manages a Pure Oil Station.

HAROLD C. DUDGEON, 503 Olive, Hannibal, Mo. Wife: Jo Ann. Children: Danny 23, Sue 19, Christy 17, and

(Cont. Page 6 Col. 1)



RESERVATION FOR ALL REUNION FUNCTIONS AUGUST 25, 26 and 27, 1967

Please, at your earliest convenience, fill in this form and mail to:  
Earl E. Witzleb, Jr., 803 Everglade Ave., Greenock Heights, McKeesport,  
Pennsylvania 15135

-----  
Please note:

Your hotel room reservations should be sent directly to the Penn-Sheraton Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania specifying 69th Division special rate: \$11.00 single, \$14.00 family in one room and \$22.00 family with connecting rooms.

-----  
(I) (We) will arrive August 25( ) 26( ) 27( ), before August 25( ).  
There will be in our party ( ) adults, ( ) pre-teens, ( ) teens.

-----  
Registration costs: Beer Party, \$3.00; Banquet \$10.00 (adults),  
\$8.00 (children).

Package price, both Beer Party and Banquet, \$12.50.

Sub-teen and Teen parties are FREE.

DO NOT ENCLOSE ANY MONEY WITH THIS ADVANCE RESERVATION. All money  
will be collected when you register upon arrival.

-----  
At the Beer Party we will have \_\_\_\_\_ adults. At the Banquet we will  
have \_\_\_\_\_ adults, \_\_\_\_\_ children.

Separate Sight Seeing trips, free of charge, are planned for Friday  
and Saturday afternoons. If you are interested, please indicate the  
number in your party that will participate. Friday ( ), Saturday ( ),  
Both days ( ).

An hour's boat trip of Pittsburgh's three rivers, is planned Saturday  
afternoon after the sight seeing trip at a cost of \$1.00 per adult  
and 75¢ per child. Please indicate the number of adults ( ) and  
children ( ) you will have taking the boat ride.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Unit Designation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_



## UNIT NEWS (Cont. from P. 4):

Kenny 12. Oldest daughter married.  
ROBERT A. WILLIAMS, 1308 W. 20th St.,  
St. Lorain, O. Wife: Irene. Chil-  
dren: David 16, Donald 14, Paulette  
17, and Annette 11. Works for  
Lorain Telephone Co. Interested in  
Boy Scouts.

### C Battery

JOHN G. YARMEL, 603 Mercer Ave.,  
Kingston, Pa. Wife: Elizabeth.  
Children: John, Jr., and Matthew,  
who are 13 and 10 respectively. Has  
been a letter carrier for 21 years.  
WILLIAM I. KUNKLIN, Box 242, Union-  
town, Ala. Wife: Frances Ellen.  
Children: William, James Walter,  
Frances, and Eugene. Daughter is  
married and oldest son is married  
and has one son.

LOUIS F. HOEHING, 819 North Street,  
Jim Thorpe, Pa. Wife: Jean, and  
daughter, Kathleen. Is a Draftsman  
in Allentown, Pa.

WAYNE L. MURPHY, 80 Maple La., Mans-  
field, O. 44906. Wife: Jayne.  
Children: Kathy 12 and Shelly 7.  
His brother Cliff Eley also of C.  
Bat. lives at 6243 Walmott Dr.,  
Huntington, W. Va.

RAY MILLS, 1309 Old Orchard Rd.,  
Vincennes, Ind. Wife: Peggy. Chil-  
dren: Hope, Fad, and Van...14, 13  
and 11 respectively. Ray is Foot-  
ball and Track coach of Lincoln  
High School, Vincennes. He was very  
happy to receive the letter regard-  
ing reunion. Would like to hear  
more from Geo. Landis and others in  
880th. Could not attend reunion be-  
cause of coaching duties this time  
of year.

JOSEPH CHAS. DAMATO, Wife: Dorothy.  
Children: Richard 24 and Ellen 17.

WAYNARD A. BOWLING, 3811 Dickinson  
Ave., Dickinson, Texas.

### Battery Unknown

EDWARD JAMES ZAIDELL, 14040 Dixie  
Redford Township, Mich. 48239.  
Wife: Gene. Children: Cathleen 14,  
Christopher 6½. Is presently Adm.  
& Program Co-ordinator for sales  
and service training director,

Marketing staff, central office of  
Dearborn, Mich., Ford Motor.  
CRISPIN CLEMENTE PEREZ, Rte #3, Box  
52, Omaha, Nebr. 68123. Employed  
by a Cattle Feeder Testing Co.  
BERT FEJES, 1222 Packer St., Mc-  
keesport, Pa. 15132. Wife: Annette.  
Children: Rose Marie 23, Bert 17,  
and baby Marcia is 7 years old.  
Rose Marie married and owns own  
home. Bert is a senior in high  
school and hopes to enter college.  
Bert works for U. S. Steel and is a  
Millwright. Come for sure in Pitts-  
burgh, ..Bert.

WALTER GENTRY BREWER, 17 2nd Ave.,  
Thomasville, N. C. Wife: Ruby, and  
daughter Pamela 19.

### ENGINE EARS

by Walt Goeben

Another reunion is drawing  
closer, - closer then we realize.  
We hope your plans are made to at-  
tend; and if not already made, we  
hope this will remind you to form  
your plans to be in Pittsburgh on  
August 25th to 27th, with your bud-  
dies and friends.

George Roup is on the committee  
in Pittsburgh and is doing a terrific  
job of looking out for the Engineers'  
interest, so let's not let his hard  
work be for naught.

We are planning a brunch or  
lunch for Sunday. George Roup is  
going to set up the plans for this.  
Please drop him a note letting him  
know if you'll be able to attend so  
he'll have an idea of how many res-  
ervations he should make. We are  
planning to have a photographer  
there.

Address your note to:

George J. Roup  
8 Bennett Pl.

Pittsburgh, Pa. 15208

John Pontieri has received many  
letters from buddies of "B" Company  
saying they will make the reunion -  
Arthur Lindstrom, Frank Nemeth,  
Harold Thomas, James Sears, Dan Evers,  
Dale Highfield, Leo McGillevy, Stu  
McGregar, James Riley, Bot Ritchie,  
Anthony Fox, and quite a few others.  
So, come on down to Pittsburgh and  
meet your buddies, for the time of

(Cont. Page 8 Col. 2)



# BRANCH NEWS

## CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA

The Central Pennsylvania Branch held its mid-winter dinner meeting on Saturday night, January 21 at Schindler's, near Harrisburg, with 30 persons present.

On June 24th, from noon to dusk, they had their second annual family outing and picnic for 69-ers and guests at Pinchot Park, York County. 25 people were in attendance. Activities included boating, fishing, swimming, girl watching, games, cards, hiking, and reminiscing.

69-ers interested in joining a swell gang for a wonderful time should contact the president of the branch:

Charles W. Brown  
3908 Greenwood Blvd.  
Harrisburg, Pa.

## COOK-OUT AT PENNINGTON, N. J.

On May 21, the Loar Quickles entertained a group of 69-ers from the New York - New Jersey area. The afternoon featured a cook-out of magnificent proportions together with other activities involving the use of a basketball, horseshoes, skate boards, and assorted glassware. After giving all the listed implements a fair trial, it was generally agreed that the group was most adept with the last.



Those shown in the photo: flat on his back is Sammy Woolf (F-273); first row, sitting (?), left to right, are Murray Zyne (Div. Hq.), Joe Star (G-271), Sol Rosenblitt (H-271), and George Phillips (G-271); still standing, left to right, are Bill Matlach (E-273), Nick Urbano (C-879), Loar Quickle (G-271), Cy Baron (Med.-Div. Hq.), Col. Ed Leary (Div. Hq.), and Vince Henry (1st Bn. Hq. 272). Mesdames Woolf, Zyne, Star, Rosenblitt, Phillips, Matlach, Quickle, Baron, Leary, and Henry were also present, but in no condition to be photographed.

## OBITUARIES

EDWARD W. LADWIG (M-272) - passed away Nov. 9, 1966 of a coronary at Peoria, Ill. Ed was a light truck driver in his outfit and has been a paraplegic since being injured in Germany on Mar. 9, 1945. He was with the 69th from Oct. 26, 1942 until wounded. During the past two years Ed spent considerable time as a patient at Hines Veterans Hospital near Chicago. He leaves his wife, Jean, and two small sons, Mark 10, and Michael 2. Mrs. Ladwig's address: Mrs. Jean Ladwig, Hanna City, Ill. 61536.

GLENN A. BIGLER - passed away of double pneumonia on March 8, 1967. His mother writes that he had retired from Fort Bragg, N. C. and was living in Los Angeles, Calif. Her address is: Mrs. W. R. Bigler, Rt. 8, Box 340N, Tulsa, Okla. 74126.

JOHN McNICHOLAS (H-272) - passed away on June 13, 1967. Oskar Fendler writes that he and Harold McMahon and several others of H Co. drove over to see John's wife, Norah, and the children. Her address is: Mrs. Norah McNicholas, 3 Belair Terrace, New City, N. Y.

JAMES J. BURFORD (H-273) of Jackson, Ga.

GEORGE FISCHER (H-273) of Woodlyn, Pa.



JOHN S. W. R. SPURRIER (H-273) of  
Frederick, Md.

EDWARD J. ROEDER (H-273) of Baltimore  
Md.

The last four names were forwarded to us by Jake Stark of H-273 as not having been previously published. Dates of death are not known. For further information, contact Jake: Jake Stark, 691 Dunkle Street, Enhaut, Steelton, Pa. 17092.

THE COVER (Cont. from P. 2):

69-er buried at Henri-Chapelle and Margareten, beginning April 25, 1966. The cost is approximately \$40.00 per year, which pays for the flowers --- placing of the flowers is performed by ABMC personnel at no charge. We call upon 69-ers everywhere to observe a moment of silence and contemplation on each April 25th to coincide with the ceremonies taking place at Margareten and Henri-Chapelle.

UNIT NEWS (Cont. from P. 6):

your life. I know you will have a wonderful time.

O. K., "H & S", "A", & "C" lets get lots of letters to George Roup.

I just got a letter from Jim and Marge Eibling saying they will be there. I know this news will make everyone very happy. See you all in Pittsburgh.

MAILING ADDRESSES

President: Harold M. Starry  
150 Glendale St.  
Carlisle, Pa.

Treasurer: Fighting 69th Infantry  
Division Association  
Box 193  
Roselle Park, N.J. 07204

Membership: Clarence Marshall  
345 Sixth Ave.  
New Kensington, Pa.

Bulletin: William Matlach  
19 Barberry Road  
West Islip, N.Y.

**FIGHTING 69TH INFANTRY DIVISION**  
**★★★★ *Association, Inc.***

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