

FIGHTING 69TH INFANTRY DIVISION

★★★★ Association, Inc.



VOLUME 32 NO. 1

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER - NOVEMBER - DECEMBER

1978

"THE THREE BBB'S"
BOLTE'S BIVOUACING BASTARDS

101 STEPHEN STREET
NEW KENSINGTON, PA. 15068
412/ 335-3224

bulletin

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Harold Starry, *Chaplain* 272
William Matlach, *Scholarship* 273

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Ray Fahrner 273
Edson Stagg 273
Gilbert Sadler 273
James Henry 272

1979-1980

Charles Herring 269
John Havey 273
Jacob Stark 273
Frank See 777
William J. King 661
Denman Ayres 724
Robert Ellis 271

1980-1981

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Howard Hoover 271
Gerald Rodelli 269
Paul Shadle 271
Frank Nemeth 269
Walter Doernbach Div. Hq.
Clifford Blank 661
George Shapiro 272

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Texas Div. Hq.

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Murray Galuten, Okla. 272 Inf.

*Henry Madison, N.Y. 272 Inf.

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Harold M. Starry, Pa. 272 Inf.

Wm. R. Matlach, N.Y. 273 Inf.

Sam Woolf, N.Y. 273 Inf.

Geo. E. Phillips, Fla. 271 Inf.

Albert Carbonari, Conn. 271 Inf.

Stanley Olszewski, Conn. 273 Inf.

*Deceased



History of the Building in Winchester, England Of the Building Known Since 1897, as West Downs

In 1970, the British Parliament passed an Education Act which took the first steps towards making education free and compulsory. The Act set up School Boards to provide elementary or primary schools in districts where there were no church schools. Small fees still had to be paid for most of the children, but at that time most of the money for running and building elementary schools came from the Central Government and the Local Councils. This Act led to the foundation of a number of so-called grammar schools, to continue the education of the children beyond the elementary stage, and one such was the Winchester Modern School founded in 1880. The Chairman of the Board of Governors was Lord Northbrook, a prominent member of the banking Baring Family who had been Viceroy of India, and who lived nearby. He put up a good deal of his own money to finance the project.

The Bishop of Winchester, the Dean of Winchester Cathedral, the Headmaster of Winchester College and the Mayor of Winchester were on the Board. The salaried Headmaster was a clergyman and he had four Assistants. The school did not attract sufficient pupils, and in 1887 it transformed itself into an elementary school, catering to boys aged 8 to 13, and was renamed Westfields. This school survived for 8 years and then came to an end.

With the help from Lord Northbrook, the founder of West Downs bought the school in 1897. It has been what we call a private Preparatory School for fee-paying pupils, and what you would call a Preparatory School ever since. It has had only three Headmasters; Lionel Helbert, 1897 to 1920; Kenneth Tindall, 1920 to 1954, and now me.

It started with three or four boys, and now it has 150 pupils, mainly boarders, but there are now a few day children. There are also now a few girl boarders and day girls. It serves our major fee-paying, so-called Public Schools, to which boys go on to at the age of 13. The ones which you would have heard of would probably include Eton, Harrow and Winchester.

J. F. Cornes
Headmaster

Pittsburgh — *Someplace Special* — “A Good Reunion”

What a week we had and what a Reunion! Even the weather was with us, having warm sunny days and nice evenings for one whole week. We only had rain on Saturday evening, and that was the evening we all gathered together to enjoy our Banquet Dinner.

The week of the Reunion started on Sunday, August 13th, with a warm sunny day and many members arriving, which filled 18 rooms. Monday, the 14th, found the same 18 rooms filled and everyone having a relaxing day of swimming at the pool, and a few sociable drinks to keep things alive. Most of us ate in the dining room of the Marriott, and afterwards the Pittsburgh Committee started to prepare the registration room setup for Tuesday. Tuesday, the 15th, found activities picking up with 50 rooms being occupied. Registration began with 28 members registering. A relaxing day took place, and later three car loads of members went to the Meadowlands Race Track in the evening, and they later returned to the Marriott with nothing in their pockets, but still with their cars. They lost all the way! Another few of us (three car loads) went to the Tonidale Restaurant and enjoyed a wonderful meal. We did spend some money, but at least got our bellies filled.

Activities began to roll on Wednesday, August 16th, with 37 more members registering, and occupying 90 rooms. Swimming at the pool during the day was the last chance to relax for the rest of the week. At 6:00 P.M., 85 members boarded two busses and traveled to Three Rivers Stadium to see the Pittsburgh Pirates take the Cincinnati Reds to town, which started the Pirates on their way to a long winning streak which almost won the division race for them. Coming from 11 games behind they almost overtook the Philadelphia Phillies in the last series of the season. Led by our own Glenn Vanderlaan and his bag-

pipes, our gang took over the stadium. John Moriarty, our President, threw out the first ball to start the game. Getting back to home base late, a few parties in the rooms, the troops found the night well spent and gone.

We all had to get up Thursday morning, and 51 of our members loaded a bus, leaving the Marriott followed by five car loads at noon, and traveling to the Fisher Body Plant in West Mifflin. Here the gang found out how our General Motors car parts are manufactured. Thursday, the 17th, also found 73 members registering and 248 rooms being filled. At 6:00 P.M., 246 members boarded 5 busses, traveled to the wharf, and boarded the Party Liner which took us on a cruise of the three rivers of Pittsburgh, traveling up the Allegheny, down the mighty Ohio, and back up the Monongahela before docking. The food was good, the dancing enjoyable, socializing was tremendous, and after all it was a beautifully clear night in Pittsburgh — with a full moon overhead and earlier in the evening we had witnessed one of the best sunsets we have ever seen in our city. The evening was well spent, and really the Early Bird Cruise made our Reunion in Pittsburgh.

Friday was our bad day, but it was the 18th — not Friday the 13th. First of all we had to cancel our tour to Fallingwaters, as only 5 members had signed up for the all day trip, and it would have been far too costly for us to get a bus for 5 people. Sorry about that, as you really missed something by not going to Fallingwaters, plus a nice ride through the country and mountains of Pennsylvania, with a stop at Ohiopyle to see the falls and take some pictures. A fine restaurant was also chosen for a nice dinner lunch. Friday found 57 more registering, and our big day for rooms — we used 320 rooms. The Chuck Herring Golf Tournament did take place, beginning at 9:00 A.M. It was a great success and was held at the Montour Country Club with committee member Milton Lutes working along with Chuck to come up with a good show. First place went to Neil Shields and second place to Walt Holmlin. Low putts went to Chalmer Pearson, high putts to Al Zelenty, and two good sportsmen awards went to Bill Stevenson and Milton Lutes. Friday wasn't over yet, and we did have another small problem which was caused by three members who showed me how very small some people can be. I didn't think we had them in the 69th, but we do have a couple. Our Beer Party Chuck Wagon Buffet went off well, with that one exception of the three members, who didn't like the food and ended up by being served in the Marriott dining room. Thirty-four other members joined them after they kicked up the fuss. One hundred-seventy of us did enjoy the food and buffet — with plenty to eat. When the beer started to flow around 8:30 P.M., all was forgotten and the gang had a real ball. About this time we were joined by other members of Division Headquarters who had their own dinner out at the Tonidale, which is a custom of that group each year. Our surprise for the Beer Party was having a group of Pittsburgh Chapter Barbershoppers in, and put on a program for us. Afterwards the group, some 50 strong, stayed, drank beer with us, and had a Sing Along which lasted into the early hours. It was one of our best Beer Party Nights in many a year.

Saturday, August 19th, was our closing day for a **Good Reunion Week**. We only had 30 more members register with 290 rooms being occupied. This meant that some of our members had returned home Saturday and were not with us for the Banquet. Working conditions and having to get home for Monday was probably the reason for some leaving. Thirty-five states were represented at this year's Reunion, coming from Florida, Texas, California and the New England area, to name only a few of the areas represented throughout our great nation, who came to Pittsburgh.

We started the morning off with coffee, tea and rolls at 9:00 A.M. Our Business Meetings, one for the ladies and one for the men, started promptly at 10:00 A.M. After lunch and a little relaxing time, one of our better Memorial Services took

Dues — 1978 - 1979

Dues for the current year are due. The calendar year runs from August of 1978 to August of 1979. By this time you should have received your first dues notice for the current year. If you have paid your dues at the Reunion in Pittsburgh, ignore the two dues notices you will receive. If you pay your dues on the first notice, ignore the second one which will be mailed in January or February 1979.

Don't let the dues notice envelopes go to waste. When you send in your dues, write us an interesting letter about yourself or some experiences which will make for good reading in one of our Bulletins. We do want to hear from you as we are one great family of 69th members.

If you have any addresses of Buddies, please send us a list of them, as we may not have them in our records and it would be nice to have all the ones we can get.

We know many 69th Buddies are not on our Roster — and by you sending in any you have helps us a great deal.

1979 Reunion

The 1979 Annual Reunion will be held in Boston, Mass. I can pass the following information along to you, with more news coming in future issues of the Bulletin.

Place — Park Plaza Hotel, Boston, Mass.

Dates — August 12 to 19, 1979

Room Rates — Will be published in the next Bulletin

Program — Will be published in the next issue with all the rates, for Early Bird, Beer Party, Banquet, etc.

place at the flag pole in front of the Marriot. Our own Glenn Vanderlann played a big part in this program. The honor guards from the 305th M.P. Company, Oakdale, Pennsylvania, consisting of George Thompson, Walter Tillman and Raymond Reed were just perfect as the committee did a bang-up job in putting together this ceremony in front of the big "69th Wreath."

After a Cocktail Hour, the Banquet Dinner of Top Sirloin of Beef, started the closing evening of fellowship for all members including wives, friends, and some older children. After a few speeches, dancing began at 9:30 P.M., and kept the crowd moving with all types of songs and music being played. The group called "Fire" played for us. There were five members in the group, all Seniors at Moon Area High School, and they really did a bang-up job. When Donna, the cute lovely vocalist sang "God Be With Us Till We Meet Again," and then the group played "Good Night, Sweetheart," it brought an end to a "Wonderful 1978 Pittsburgh Reunion."

The committee from Pittsburgh acted like true soldiers in performing their jobs perfectly, and keeping the Reunion moving like a clock for one solid week. My many thanks, and thanks again to a top rated committee of men and wives who worked

hard and listened to orders from me, Earl Witzleb, Jr., a PFC. We did have some appreciated help from Bob Ellis, Victor Woo, Lottie and Chuck Herring, and many others, along with our own Bob Silberg who represented the "69th" in singing the last song of the evening at Friday's Beer Party with the Barbershoppers. He is one also, you know. (A Barbershopper - that is). We had our Memorial Service on local TV with our fellows going through the service twice, since the TV station was late in arriving, and we further got two great writeups in the Pittsburgh papers, one with Victor Woo taking the spotlight and the other our President, John Moriarty. By the way, we did have 334 attend the Reunion Banquet on Saturday, and some 369 members and wives attending the Reunion. Not everyone registered and we did not count the children, so an exact count could not be made.

Yes, it's all over now, and we did have a "Good 1978 Reunion" in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

P.S. — Canada was also represented at our Reunion this year. The Stevensons joined us for the first time this year. Mrs. Stevenson is General Reinhardt's daughter.

Meeting of Officers and Board of Directors August 18, 1978, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

President John J. Moriarty called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.

Present: *Vice President*, Bob Myers, *Treasurer*, Earl Witzleb, *Secretary*, Chet Yastrzemski, Edson Stagg, William Lilien, George Shapiro, Tony Keller, Clarence Marshall, Bob Ellis, Keith Curtis, Fred Avery, Bill Beswick, Bill King, Jake Stark, Howard Hoover, Loar Quickle, Walter Doernbach, Frank See, Bill Matlach, Stan Olszewski, Harold Starry, Ray Fahrner, James Henry, Bill Foster and Walter Holmlin.

Bill Beswick gave a speech prior to the meeting in the best interest of the Association.

Moment of silence for departed members: Especially for Past Presidents, Lester Milich and Hy Goldstein, and Past Secretary, Bob Ober.

Reading of annual meeting of regular membership held at Mountain Shadows, Scottsdale, Arizona. Motion was made and seconded that minutes be accepted as read. So carried.

Reading of Board of Directors meeting held in Stamford, Conn. Motion made and seconded that minutes be accepted as read. So carried.

Communications: Letter from the 29th Infantry Division inviting our members to their **Reunion**, for those having served in the 29th. It was reported that Past President Al Carbonari not able to attend due to illness. Col. Ingraham sends his regrets in not attending. Past President, Sam Woolf, now in the hospital for surgery.

Chuck Herring brought up the subject on our Constitution and By-Laws — as to whether we are adhering to them and that they should be updated. He suggested that copies be provided to the membership. A committee to be chosen to work on the By-Laws.

Earl Witzleb submitted the Treasurer's Report.

Tony Keller, Auditor, verified report. Motion made and seconded, with many thanks to Earl for a job well done. So carried, with applause.

Clarence Marshall gave report on membership. Clarence stated our former Roster was 4685, and now totals 4726, or an increase of 41 new members.

Bill Matlach stated that the Scholarship Committee met in May, and that each winner shall receive a total of \$600.00 or \$150.00 per year. There will be five winners this year, and

recipients to be announced by Bill. It was stated that copies of the workings of the committee shall be provided for each Director explaining the details of awarding the Scholarships.

1979 Reunion Sites: Stan Olszewski gave details on a Reunion to be held at the Boston Park Plaza, Boston, Mass. Harold Starry reported on Harrisburg, Pa.

1980 Reunion Sites: Suggested areas mentioned were: Richmond, Va., New Orleans, La., Harrisburg, Pa., and Wilmington, N.C.

Old Business: None.

New Business: George Shapiro gave a speech that we should all be aware of future events of the Association, and what results it may bring for the future. George is to contact Sherm Lawrence on the By-Laws and other legal matters, and to have Sherm refer matters to President Moriarty.

Stan Olszewski presented report of the Nominating Committee and proposed the present slate for re-election.

President John Moriarty
Vice President Bob Myers
Treasurer Earl Witzleb
Secretary Chet Yastrzemski
Scholarship Bill Matlach
Chaplain Harold Starry
Membership Clarence Marshall
Auditor Tony Keller
Chairman of the Board Loar Quickle
Directors for 1980 - 1981:

Kenneth Steinel	Frank Nemeth
Howard Hoover	Walter Doernbach
Gerry Rodelli	Cliff Blank
Paul Shadle	George Shapiro

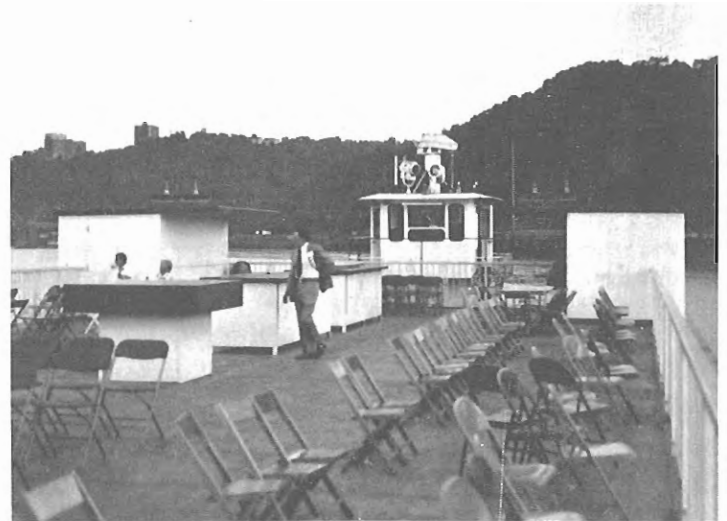
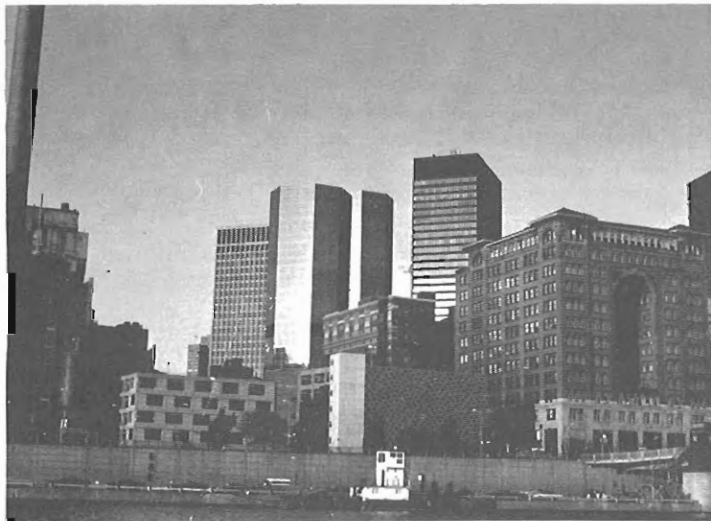
Director for the year 1978-1979 to replace Earl Witzleb shall be George Gallagher.

Good and Welfare: Bill Lilien and others gave a speech on brotherhood within our Association and to work together towards the successful conclusion of the Reunion.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

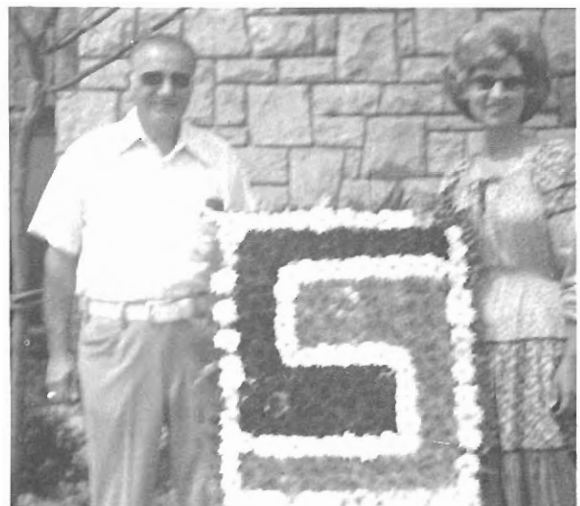
Respectfully submitted

Chet Yastrzemski
Executive Secretary



Pittsburgh ... *Someplace Special* ...
As Viewed From
The Three Rivers

The above photographs are scenes taken at the time of the Early Bird Dinner Cruise, Pittsburgh Reunion 1978. [Photos furnished by Bill Harmon, a guest on the cruise].



John and Marie Suprano pose with Memorial Wreath at 1978 Reunion.

Attendees At 1978 Reunion

Mariott Inn, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

DIV. HQ. & HQ. CO.

Fred Avery
Gen. Bolte
Robert Buttermore
Al Crisp
Keith Curtis
Jim Damron
Walter Doernbach
Ted Edstrom
Bretsel Everson
Jim Kehew
Adam Manz
Clarence Marshall
Bob Myers
Richard Pfahler
Sumner Russman
Robert Silberg
Joe Wright
Ike Zaleon

69th MP

Carl Miller
John Moriarty
John Navratil

69th QM

George Gallagher
Florian LaSecki
Arthur Richhart
Victor Woon

69th RECON

Joe George

269th ENGINEERS

Hq. & Ser.

Andrew Fedor
W. R. Foster
John Hawley
Walter Holman
Oliver McConahy
Stephen Sholtis
Leroy Tobias

A-269

John Buller
Ray Lottie
Joseph Monteleone
George Roup
Robert Turner
Joe Vioral

B-269

Charles Herring
Dale Highfield
Frank Nemeth
John Pontieri

C-269

Gerald Rodelli
Ray Weekly

569th SIGNAL CO.

Bernard Bosley
James Combs
Kenneth Manning
Seymour Nash
Curt Peterson
Kenneth Steinel

769th ORDNANCE

Joseph Selb
Ray Van Brocklin

661st T.D. BATTALION

Hq. Co.

Allan Fawcra
Anthony Polito
Gilbert Romero

A-Co.

Cliff Blank
Elwin Patterson

B-Co.

William Beswick
Ralph Bragg
William J. King
Garland O'Roark
William Snidow

C-Co.

Steve Forgas
John Porter
Julius Slopek

777th TANK BATTALION

Hq. Co.

Herman Amos
George Dendle
John Gradomski
Alfred Liane
Frank See
Gaylord Thomas

A-Co.

Ray Dixon
Vernon Wirth

B-Co.

Arthur Capaccio
Alex Zubrowski

Ser. Co.

Nick Loden
Robert Weise

HQ. DIVARTY

James Brennan
Alfred Faison

724th FIELD ARTILLERY

Hq. Bat.

Denman Ayers

Service Bat.

Herbert Konze

B-Bat.

Jack Adams
Sidney Apfelbaum
George Bosnich
Al Bukovec
Alfred Cagno
Rinaldo Cagno
Victor Ferrone
Kenneth Fredrehsen

Thomas Heath

Jack Houston
Walter Johnson
Edward Kaasmann
Paul Koeninge
Victor Loseo

Mike Losh

John Oesch

Nels Parson

Henry Weitmarschen

Larry Whelan

C-Bat.

John Heliseva

879th FIELD ARTILLERY

Hq. & Ser. Bat.

Dell Balzano
Philip Colombo
Peter Fiorelli
Harold Fletcher
Fred Schoepf

A-Bat.

Arthur Russ
Merel Yarnell

C-Bat.

William Harr
Frank Kruger

880th FIELD ARTILLERY

Hq. & Ser. Bat.

Warren Kunkel
Stuart McGowan
Andy Spinder

A-Bat.

James Bilhrey

B-Bat.

Walter Kaminski

C-Bat.

Enrico D'Angelo

881st FIELD ARTILLERY

A-Bat.

James Liguori
James Stankovich
John Suprano

B-Bat.

Daniel Sparks

271st INFANTRY REGIMENT

Anti-Tank Co.

E. B. Abbott
Nelson Clark
Donald Durst
George Weston
Alfred Zelenty

Cannon Co.

Alfred Blain
Peter Kagles

Medics

Francis Barrows

Ser. Co.

Cyrus Rockhold

Hqs. 1st Bn.

Vernon Harlin

A-Co.

Robert Ellis
Franklin Haught

C-Co.

Dr. Henry Madoff
David Prion
Robert Rankin

D-Co.

Merrill Embick
Charles Knebel
Paul McCombs
Theodore Snyder

E-Co.

Charles Moore
Phillip Roy
Paul Shadle

G-Co.

Clifton Barbieri
Victor DeCarlo
Clarence Goon
Nat Green
G. Scott Gresham
Daniel Malinowski
Loar Quickle
Blake Reep
Dudley Reynolds
David Sratena

H-Co.

Glen Breiland
Walter Hart
Walter Jeskiewicz
Charles Kooles
Al Panara

Hqs. 3rd Bn.

Charles Woolery

L-Co.

Thomas Carson

M-Co.

William Sheavly
Samuel Talley

272nd INFANTRY REGIMENT

Regt. Hqs. Co.

Raymond Knudsen

Anti-Tank Co.

George Shapiro

Medics

Raymond Strauss

Ser. Co.

John Swenson

Hqs. 1st Bn.

Donald Newman

A-Co.

Allen Whitehead

C-Co.

Earl Ike

Sam Paranka

Joseph Sidel

Hqs. 2nd Bn.

Harold Starry

E-Co.

Sam DiGirolamo
Anthony Keller
Milton Lutes
Chet Yastrzemski

F-Co.

Herbert Callaway
Frank Castaldo

Francis Fournier

James Henry

Joseph Schaffer

Neil Shields

G-Co.

Anees Barakat
Clarence Burke
Frank Dusi
Clement Hudacek
William Lilien
William Phillips

H-Co.

John Mowad

I-Co.

John Almacy
Edward Ambrose
Frank Aplan
Andrew Bishak
Leon Ebert
Wendell Freeman
Dennie Haltiwanger
James Herbison
Robert Kurtzman
Leonard Lushbaugh
Edward McDonnell
Chalmer Pearson
Thomas Reardon
Andrew Rebick
Alton Shahan

K-Co.

Dan Hobart

M-Co.

Lido Dal Porto
Al Nagionis
Raymond Wolthoff

273rd INFANTRY REGIMENT

Anti-Tank Co.

Glenn Vanderlaan

Medics

Howard Hoover

Ser. Co.

Stanley Olszewski

A-Co.

Ray Fahrner

E-Co.

Davisson Dunlap

Fred Huston

William Matlach

Earl Witzleb

F-Co.

Charles Euton

Robert Mottaz

Ralph Ogg

Richard Winner

G-Co.

Homer Rager

Edson Stagg

Ray Strick

H-Co.

John Adams

George Bogdowiecz

Samuel Grubbs

Russell Keyser

Charles Leskus

Michael Massullo

Joseph Roznar

Jake Stark

Ray Szkudlarek

Hqs. 3rd Bn.

Jack Goldman

Gus Nagy

Unit Unknown

Donald Rogers

GUESTS

William Stevenson

George Wright

CONTACT

A

FORMER

BUDDY

And

GET HIS NAME

ON THIS PAGE

NEXT YEAR

Annual Meeting of General Membership August 20, 1978, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

President John J. Moriarty called the meeting to order at 10:10 A.M.

Invocation was given by Chaplain Harold Starry.

Fred Huston welcomed all 69th Members to the Pittsburgh area, and wished everyone an enjoyable stay.

Chuck Herring presented the golf awards to the respective winners.

Minutes of the meeting held August 20, 1977, at Mountain Shadows, Scottsdale, Arizona, were read and approved. So carried.

Treasurer's Report: Earl Witzleb gave a fine report, and had done an excellent job.

Auditor's Report: Anthony Keller verified the report of Earl and stated all was in order, and Earl had done a real fine job.

Membership Report: Was given by Clarence Marshall. He reported that three Bulletins were sent out the past year, and that three or four Bulletins would be out for the coming year. He stated that our former Roster was 4685, and now totals 4726, an increase of 41 new members.

Communications: President Moriarty read a telegram from Col. Gordon Ingraham and his regrets in not attending. President Moriarty informed members of the illness of Past President Al Carbonari and Sam Woolf.

Chapter Reports:

661 TD: Bill Beswick reported there were 60 members in attendance at Gettysburg, Pa., and an enjoyable time was had by all.

Central Pennsylvania: Bill Foster reported on having a spring meeting and the members enjoyed a picnic. He presented to President Moriarty a check for \$80.00 for our Flower Fund, in remembrance of Bob Ober and William Allbright.

Western Division: Bob Myers reports they have picked up 40 members and had met at Mountain Shadows, and that there will be future gatherings.

Scholarship Committee: Chairman William Matlach reports there were five winners for this year who shall receive an award of \$600.00, or \$150.00 per year. Winners: Michael Apfelbaum, Anna Havey, Greg Jensen, Edward Scatena and Steven Snyder. Loar Quickle read letter from Mary Drew who gave a \$25.00 donation to the Scholarship Fund.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Stan Olszewski gave a report on holding the 1979 Reunion at the Boston Park Plaza, Boston, Mass.

Suggested 1980 Reunion sites were: New Orleans, La., Richmond, Va., Harrisburg, Pa., Kansas City, Kan., Salt Lake City, Utah. Discussions were held and by a show of hands the members preferred New Orleans and Richmond.

Nomination Committee: Nominations were presented by Stan Olszewski for a one year term.

President John J. Moriarty
Vice President Bob Myers
Treasurer Earl Witzleb
Secretary Chet Yastrzemski
Chaplain Harold Starry
Membership Clarence Marshall
Auditor Tony Keller
Chairman of the Board Loar Quickle
Directors for 1980 - 1981:

Kenneth Steinel	Frank Nemeth
Howard Hoover	Walt Doernbach
Gerry Rodelli	Cliff Blank
Paul Shadle	George Shapiro

Director for the year 1978-1979 to replace Earl Witzleb shall be George Gallagher.

Nominations were open from the floor. None were received and the nominees were unanimously approved by a vote of one by the Secretary and were accepted and approved.

Memorial Service: President Moriarty stated the services would be held at 2:00 P.M. at the Flag Pole.

Gen. Bolte welcomed the members and gave a short speech.

Motion to adjourn at 11:25 A.M.

Respectfully submitted

Chet Yastrzemski
Executive Secretary

Board of Directors Meeting

The meeting was held on May 21, 1978, at 1:00 P.M., at the Marriott Hotel in Stamford, Conn. Present were: *President*, John Moriarty; *Secretary*, Chet Yastrzemski; Ray Fahrner, Gerald Rodelli, Sam Woolf, Frank Nemeth, Ed Stagg, Stan Plszewski, Bill Matlach, Loar Quickle and several spouses.

Scholarship Committee: Bill Matlach gave a talk on the pending Scholarships, and gave available data to members with members giving suggested ideas on the program to the committee.

Reunion Sites: President Moriarty suggested that future Reunions be held in Connecticut or Massachusetts. Present plans for holding a Reunion in New Orleans or North Carolina, not feasible at present due to lack of interest and data available from those areas. Bill Beswick presented data to Moriarty on holding Reunion in Richmond, Virginia. Motion made and seconded that the President be allocated expenses when investigating future Reunion sites which require his presence at those locations. So carried.

Memorial Service: A discussion was held as to feasibility of holding our services indoors, particularly on Banquet Night. It was stated that more people would attend, and the mode of dress would be more appropriate than when holding services in the afternoon. It was decided that services remain the same as present but should facilities not be available or accessible, then ceremonies could be conducted indoors.

69th Books: Copies of the book can be obtained from Loar Quickle.

69th Film: The members decided that a reprint be made from the present film.

Souvenirs: Loar Quickle reported that the present firm is out of business and now being operated by the Louis Firm of Stamford, Conn. Suggestions were made by the members that Loar is to place the order.

Valley Forge Freedom Foundation: Motion made and seconded that a \$100 donation be given to the Foundation. So carried.

Investment of Money: Stan Olszewski suggested that the Association invest available monies in Government Bonds so that we may realize a larger profit from interest. Motion made, seconded, and carried, that the President check with the Treasurer for any available funds.

Directors Meeting: It was decided that May be set as the date for the Annual Board of Directors Meeting, prior to the Annual Reunion in August.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 P.M.
 Respectfully submitted

Chester Yastrzemski
Executive Secretary

News From The Editor's Desk

Editor's Note: Quite a bit of the material in this column we received prior to our August 1978 Reunion. However, our Bulletin had already covered 20 pages, so it was imperative that we hold this until our first issue after the Reunion).

Alden Beverly, 30 Crane Avenue, White Plains, N.Y. 10603, A-273, writes the following: I have always enjoyed reading the Bulletin, but found the last one better than ever. I was a member of the 1st Platoon in A-Company 273. I was shipped back on a hospital ship before the Division was sent home, so I lost contact with the rest of the guys. I had originally joined A-Company in Shelby just before the Division went overseas. Every year I plan to go to the Reunion, but something always comes up. Either that, or I see the Roster of those who attended and say no one seems to come from A-Company 273. Perhaps the trouble is we are all waiting for the next guy to show up, and that way we will never get together. I would love to hear from any of the guys who might remember me. I was a BAR man until we confiscated a German truck, and I ended up driving that for a while. In your last Bulletin there was mention of a book on the History of the 69th Division. Could you please send me information on how I might obtain one? Also, I have a few pictures I took of some of the fellows from our outfit. They were taken while we were in Germany. There are also some snapshots taken with the Russians. If you would be interested in printing them in your Bulletin, I can send them to you. *[Editor's Note: Ray Fahrner served in A-273 and he attends almost all of the Reunions. History Books can be obtained through National Headquarters].*

Charles Baraniak, 322 Ohio Street, Boswell, Pa., 15531, Hq. 879: Received the Bulletin and I really enjoyed reading it. But, when I read about Col. Thomas's fatal heart attack it was with deepest sorrow, as he was a very fine man. Please notify me about the dues to be paid as I would like to receive the Bulletin. The only fellows that I can remember was a Jewish Private by the name of Felowitz from New York. He was my Buddy. There was a Polish Corporal who was our Squad Leader. I have forgotten his name. Also our S/sgt. Stark, and a Dr. Vernon.

James Massiano, 30 King Street, Lynn, Mass. 01902, 273: Yesterday's Boston Globe carried a notice about the August 13-20, 1978 Reunion, of the 69th Infantry Division in Pittsburgh. I am very interested in attending, along with my wife, so please send me the details. I was with the outfit from the time it was activated here in the states, all the way to Leipzig and Torgau. It would be very nice to see some of my old friends again. Will be looking forward to your response.

Leon and Rose Swedlow, 69-59 197th Street, Flushing, N.Y. 11365: Dear Mr. Marshall, Leon and I will not be able to attend this year's Reunion. We will be moving to Florida during the month of August. Our new address will be: 528B Midway Drive, Silver Spring Shores, Ocala, Fla. 32670. Leon retired last year at the age of 53, and after my returning to college for a new career, we decided to move when I graduate this August. (I expect a degree in Sociology, Summa Cum Laude). Our son Matthew graduated from Charismatic Christian Bible College in June. (With Honors). That leaves just our daughter, who hopes to complete her Doctorate in English from Brown University within the next two years. Leon might even return to college in Florida, to try something new. Too bad, your Scholarship Fund does not cover the members themselves, their wives, and higher education.

Joe W. Andrews, 2013 Sunnybrook Drive, Burlington, N.C. 27215, A-777th: I happened to see in our local town newspaper (Burlington Times News), that the Fighting 69th was having its 31st Reunion. When I saw the Fighting 69th it caught my eyes. Also, the paper stated the attached Units, and one being the 777th Tank Bn. was invited. Is this

correct? If this information is correct, I would like any details that you have about the Reunion. In a later communication we received the following from Mr. Andrews: "Thank you for your letter and the two Bulletins which I have received. I had thought that maybe it would be possible for me to attend your Reunion this year, but have recently found out that it will not be possible. I do have some up to date names and addresses of men that I served with. All of us were with Company A-777th Tank Bn.: **Howard D. Clem**, 1600 53rd Street, Langdale, Alabama 36864; **Donald Slimmer**, 114 S.W. 4th Street, Little Falls, Minn. 56345; **Reino Pelkonen**, 611 N. Mariposa Street, Burbank, Calif. 91506 and **Robert L. Littlejohn**, 431 Rudd Street, Burlington, N.C. 27215. **Floyd Eden** passed away about two years ago. I do hope that your Reunion and all plans will work out with much happiness for all of you who attend. I know it will be a great Reunion, and I think it is great that you had it all of these years. Maybe the 777th will come in stronger, and we along with the Fighting 69th can have a large number to attend at a future date." *[Editor's Note: We thank you for the addition, Mr. Robert Littlejohn. The other three men are already on our Roster].*

From **Jerome B. Wesler**, 4730 Willowcrest Avenue, No. Hollywood, Calif. 91602, Hq. 1st Bn. 271: I enjoy reading your publication. Have been with the same firm Friedman Bag Co., Inc., for 39 years. The last four as President of the West Coast firm, with headquarters in Los Angeles. Hello, to my former Buddies in Hq. 1st Bn. 271.

Horace Greeley McNab, R.D. No. 1, Newtown, Pa. 18940, wrote the following to Earl Witzleb: I wonder if you could give me the address of Robert Shearer, Regimental Sergeant, Major Service Company 272nd Infantry Regiment. We are old friends, and I have not seen or heard of him in years. The last time I heard from him, he was in Corpus Christie, Texas, and perhaps you have him in your file. Mr. McNab's P.S. was: "Where in the hell in Pennsylvania is Champion, Pa.?" *[Editors Note: Mr. McNab was furnished Robert Shearer's address, and clued in on Champion, Pa.]*

Edward S. Wallin, 1078 W. Grondahl Street, Covina, Calif. 91722, Div. Hq.: Dear Earl, Now that I have become an honest man and paid some dues will you please do me a favor? I would like to have my address changed to the one shown above. This is my home address and will ensure me of getting my mail quicker. Also I would like to have the address of Col. James Damron (Ret.). Jim and I spent much of our time together, leaving Camp Shelby with the advanced party scouting the European countryside for suitable quarters for the rear echelon. Thanks for your trouble, and I wish I could have made the meeting at Scottsdale. From what I hear it was excellent.

A short note from **Marion Dellinger**, 800 S. 27th Street, Lafayette, Ind. 47904, Div. Hq.: Dear Mr. Witzleb, Thank you for the good work that you are doing. Would it be possible for you to have a list of the addresses for both the Transportation and Combat Platoons of Division Headquarters? At Christmas time I wanted to send them pictures of themselves as a present, but I find that my lists are both old and misfiled. The pictures were taken at Camp Shelby, Miss. *[Editor's Note: Mr. Dellinger was supplied with the addresses which he requested].*

Veteran's Day

As the human race has gone about its business of getting born and staying alive, we step aside from the procession one day to observe Veteran's Day.

Veteran's Day, a day for veterans that had fortitude to grace this country with their leave of life — without a fear,
[Continued]

pledging with their lives to be faithful whatever the cost may be in earth's most sacred gifts.

Veterans, strong armed comrades, potent factors in all world forces with their sacrifices have proven time of their many hours of distress and misery.

Veteran — one who has made us pluck and see a million more suns. They stood on the brink of the oceans. They laid on the brink of the hills. They fought for the hope of existence, for this hope of happiness supreme.

Veteran's Day to share the immense sacrifices and unhappiness of mothers with their kindred thoughts, deep sympathy of hearts of their own families. The force of praise for one day for them. For mothers a glimpse, some touch, a cry and on they go for another year.

We rejoice to the many veterans on this Veteran's Day. For their faith in God and Buddies now enjoying the abundance of all the objects of life they fought for. Equally grieving with sorrow for those who are being praised by Our Master.

My lids have long been dry, but tears come in my eyes. For as veterans we understand our silence. A stimulant for the nobler side of our nature. We associate the choicest thoughts with the magic of the memories of our broken ties. Those whose lives were proven. Some are in churchyards. Some sleep beneath the sea. Some whose names were cut a few days ago. So on this Veteran's Day be kind to those who remain.

We have wept with bitter tears for our veterans. Over grass grown graves where slumbering veterans of yesteryear wars lie. An ornament, a decorated name of action. Their names, their dates, their simple words on a marble column alone tell us the story of Veteran's Day. Fast comes the rolling years, the hours of fate. Fate that has formed and widened their circle in the sky. With others a day of value, of love and sorrow, of admiration of portraits.

We bow our heads on Veteran's Day. We pause and breathe a prayer above the sod, so we can say "peace be still." In this world that leans to veterans for its joys of liberty, hopes, fears and aspirations. A priceless gem, for the crown of America. Veteran's Day.

Guy A. Ungaro
215 West Vine Street
Alliance, Ohio



Officers of A-271, Cornberg, Germany, July 1945.

[Front Row - Left to Right]: Charles Humphries, Jack Wrigley, John Becarri.

[Back Row - Left to Right]: Irving Kramer, John Austin, Jack Jones, Lewis Rader. (Photo furnished by Jack Jones. He would like help in relocating Kramer, Rader, Humphries and Becarri).

Former Members of the 69th Division or Attached Units Relocated

The names, addresses and comments below are for former members of the 69th Division or its attached units that we have just relocated.

Charles C. Woolery, 110 South J Street, Indianola, Iowa 50125, Hq. 3rd Bn. 271: Please send information regarding 69th Infantry Division Reunion as noted in the American Legion Magazine (June 1978). The names of a couple old Buddies I would like to have addresses for: **Al Venete, Jack Berry** (Editor's Note: Neither of these men are on our Roster. Can anyone help with them?).

The following from **Mrs. Daniel Young**, wife of **Daniel Young**, R.D. No. 4, Slippery Rock, Pa. 16057: I read in the paper where you were having a Reunion for World War 2 Veterans who served in the 69th Infantry Division. Would you please write and let me know where the Marriott Inn is located and other information on it. My husband was in this Division and would like to attend.

Charles Baraniak, 322 Ohio Street, Boswell, Pa. 15531, Hq. 879: I am interested in the 69th Infantry Division Reunion as I was in the 879th Field Artillery in Miss., in 1943. Please forward me any information concerning this Battalion.

Andy Spinder, 4165 Center Street, Butler, Pa. 16001, 880th FA: Noted in our local newspaper "The Bulletin Eagle," where the Fighting 69th Infantry Division Association will have its 31st Annual Reunion on the 13th to 20th of August, at the Marriott Inn in Pittsburgh. Being a member of the 880th FA during period of activation in 1943, to the completion of the War in Europe, I have strong intentions of attending the Reunion. Seeing and meeting some of my old Buddies will surely be a pleasant and enjoyable satisfaction. I have two boys, Sam and Jeff age 16 and 14. I am interested in obtaining information concerning the Scholarships which the Association will be awarding. Also, can you furnish me with a listing of the programs scheduled for each day during the Reunion?

Leno Leoni, R.D. No. 1, Box 242-A, Wellsburg, W. Va. 26070, B-724: Have been married for 28 years and have one daughter and 2 grandchildren. I have worked in a papermill for the last 26 years, and now manage Hill Top Salvage, a division of the Banner Fibreboard Co., in Wellsburg, W. Va. *Mr. Leoni sent along two other names and addresses of men who also served in his Unit: Paul Diserio*, 121 Youngs Lane, Washington Pike, Wellsburg, W. Va. 26070, and **Gordon Rogers**, R.D. No. 2, Box 16, Orma, W. Va. 25268.

Alfred Blain of Cannon Company 271, sent in a new address for one of his Buddies, **Philip Hammitt**, 12815 Cabell Road, Philadelphia, Pa. 19154.

Thomas Heath, B-742: Ran into one of the former members from his Unit while vacationing in Florida, and passed his address along to us. The new man is, **Ricaldo Cagno**, 215 S. Bradford Avenue, Tampa, Fla. 33609.

Bernard Unland, AT-273, passes along the address of a friend who served in the 69th. **Carl Herweg**, 312 East Taylor Road, Lombard, Ill. 60148. [Editor's Note: Did this gentleman serve in the same Unit as you? We would like to have his Unit].

Andrew Rebick, I-272, forwarded us the following address for a former S/Sgt from his Unit. **Dennie C. Haltiwanger**, 547 Brunswick Road, Jacksonville, Fla. 32216. Mr. Rebick advises us that he is interested in attending the Reunion in Pittsburgh.

Don Newman, of Grantsville, Md., has done some re-

search work for us in the telephone directories, and came up with this new address for us: **B. M. Files, Jr.**, 2912 Marwood Drive, Jackson, Miss. 39212, Hq. 1st Bn. 272.

Lloyd J. Purdy, One Grandview Drive, Cobleskill, N.Y. 12043: Will you please provide me with information about the Reunion of the 69th Infantry Division Association to be held August 13th or 20th? As one who served with the 69th in Europe, in 1945, I am interested in becoming a member of the Association.

James Brennan, 4113 Park Avenue, Union City, N.J. 07087, Hq. Divarty: I am taking this time to write you about our Division. I was in Hq. Battery, 69th Field Artillery. When I was in Beaver Falls back in January, I saw a notice in the newspaper about a convention. I said to my sister that I sure would like to attend it then. I saw the notice in the V.F.W. Magazine with your name and address. When I received my discharge back in December 1945, I was so glad to receive it that I never thought in 1978, I would be so glad to hear about old friends, and to talk about things that are always in our memories. Though I was in the Field Artillery I hope that I am welcome to the convention in August. [Editor's Note: Mr. Brennan was advised that anyone who served in any part of the 69th is welcome].

John R. Stotler, 1911 Steven Drive, Edgewood, Md. 21040, D-272: I would be most pleased to receive information about the Association and also about the Reunion in August. I am a former combat member of Company-D, 272nd Infantry Regt. I am looking forward to hearing from you. Please excuse the hasty letter.

Leo Henrichs, 313 Elm Newkirk, Okla. 74647, D-271: Please place me on your mailing list. I will not be able to attend the Reunion this year as it conflicts with the National Legion Convention in New Orleans. I am a District Commander of the Oklahoma Legion. I was a member of Company-D 271st Infantry Regt., and was with the 69th at Camp Shelby. I went overseas with them, and was in all combat with them. I hold three Bronze Stars and a Combat Infantryman Badge. I am retired from Boeing Company after twenty years, due to health reasons. Anything I can assist you with please contact me.

Calvin E. Howard, Rt. 3, Box 75, Richton, Miss. 39476: I am interested in information on the Reunion of the 69th Infantry Division. I am very interested in attending.

Lawrence Whelan, 1388 Vidot Court, Covington, Kent. 41011, B-724: Have owned and operated an Automotive Jobber Machine Shop for twenty years. My son Jim joined me as a partner two years ago.

Alfred Nock, 56 Shadowood Way, Ballston Lake, N.Y. 12019, K-271: This name and address sent to us by **Robert L. Kremin**, 3604 Howlett Hill Road, Camillus, N.Y. 13031. Mr. Kremin also served in K-271.

Ralph Grubbs, 1325 Valley Avenue, Winchester, Va. 22601, Recon. 661st: Would you please send me full information as to dates and so forth, of the 661st Tank Destroyer Bn. Reunion? I was attached to Recon. Company while stationed at Ft. Hood, Texas in 1943.

C. L. Macknair, R. D. No. 1, Box 72, McClure, Pa. 17841, I-273.

Andrew Blishak, 120 Mackall Drive, Beaver, Pa. 15009, I-272.

Francis W. Bennett, 129 15th Street, New Cumberland, Pa. 17070, Ser. 271: I will appreciate information regarding the 69th Infantry Division Association Reunion in Pittsburgh. During World War 2 I was a Platoon Leader of the 2nd Bn. Section in Service Company of the 271st Infantry Regiment. Generally the section was attached to the Second Battalion.

Ernest Ruhl, Route 1, Box 765, Prineville, Oregon 97754, 777th Tank Battalion: This address sent along by Al Liane of Milwaukie, Oregon.

Gerard Frechette, 12006 Summerville Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246, M-271.

James M. Stankovich, Jr., 1136 High Street R., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15212, A-881: Both the Editor and Co-Editor of the Bulletin received calls from this gentleman, and he was very glad to reestablish contact with our Association, and to receive copies of our most recent Bulletins.

Zell Olken, 3129 W. Birchwood, Chicago, Ill. 60645, 271st: This address sent along to us by **Glen Felner**, Glenco, Ill., E-271.

Glenn M. Jones, 5731 N.W. 111th Street, Hialeah, Fla. 33012, F-271: I am a former member of the "Fighting 69th" Division. For the records, discharged **Sgt. Glenn M. Jones**, 44005378 Co.-F 271st Infantry Regiment. I found out through a friend of mine about this current get-together too late to do anything about it, but I would like to be put on your mailing list.



AT-271 men, Leo Boyd and E. B. Abbott, with 57mm Anti Tank Gun, Camp Shelby, March 26, 1944. [Photo furnished by E. B. Abbott].

Letter From the President

Greetings, Fellow 69'ers!

We have just completed our 31st Annual Reunion and look forward to the 32nd Reunion which will be held at the Park Plaza Hotel in Boston, Mass., in August 1979. This year's Reunion in Pittsburgh was excellent, and the committee headed by Earl Witzleb and Paul Shadle did an outstanding job in organizing and carrying out the program. They all worked very hard and I send my personal thanks and congratulations to them. Some of the highlights to me were the Dinner Cruise on the three rivers, and the baseball game between the Pirates and the Reds. It was a great thrill for me, an old baseball buff, to throw out the first ball of the game. And, of course, it is always enjoyable to be able to visit with General and Mrs. Bolte.

Each area in which we hold a Reunion, is *unique*, with its own type of hotel, as well as sightseeing and recreational opportunities. This makes it difficult to say that one was better than another. In total, I have personally enjoyed all fourteen Reunions which I have attended, because of that most important factor — the Friendship and Camaraderie which we enjoy.

The Annual Reunion is the highlight of our association year, and you know, fellows, each year we see a lengthening list of our Comrades who have passed away. So, I urge each of you to attend the Reunion whenever you can. Don't miss the opportunity to enjoy being with a Buddy once more.

As we start our 32nd Year of the Association, I wish all of you good health and happiness, and hope all your wishes for the year will be realized.

John J. Moriarty
President

**69th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

August 1, 1977 to August 1, 1978

Mountain Shadows Reunion - 1977 Scottsdale, Arizona Receipts			\$ 8,319.52
Disbursements:			
Early Bird - 301	\$ 3,004.50		
Beer Party	704.25		
General Meetings - Coffee & Rolls	417.69		
Banquet - 338	4,539.17		
Total Disbursements			\$ 8,665.61
Net Loss - Reunion*			- \$ 346.09
	Total	Operating	Scholarship
Balance August 1, 1977	\$29,324.46	\$13,248.32	\$16,076.14
Cash Receipts 8/1/77 to 8/31/77			
Dues — Contributing Members - 78	\$ 780.00	\$ 780.00	
Regular Members - 95	\$ 475.00	475.00	\$
Ladies Auxiliary	99.00	99.00	
Scholarship Fund	63.50		63.50
Cash Receipts 8/1/77 to 8/31/77			
Dues — Contributing Members 78	\$ 780.00	\$ 780.00	\$
Regular Members 95	475.00	475.00	
Ladies Auxiliary	99.00	99.00	
Scholarship Fund	63.50		63.50
Total Receipts	\$ 1,417.50	\$ 1,354.00	\$ 63.50
Total Received and Balanced	\$30,741.96	\$14,602.32	\$16,139.64
Disbursements:			
*Loss on 1977 Reunion	\$ 346.09	\$ 346.09	
Deposits on 1977 Reunion	2,828.50	2,828.50	
Roster Changes, Membership	30.58	30.58	
General Bolte Gift	50.00	50.00	
Kate Reynolds Gift	25.00	25.00	
Overseas Cemetery Fund	200.00	200.00	
Award Plaques	212.53	212.53	
Total Disbursements	\$ 3,692.70	\$ 3,692.70	\$
Cash Balance August 31, 1977	\$27,049.26	\$10,909.62	\$16,139.64
Resources:			
Peoples Saving Bank, New Britain, Conn.	\$14,453.09		
Federal Bank Bond	10,000.00		
Checking Account - Transferred to Earl Witzleb, Jr.	2,596.17		
Total Resources August 31, 1977	\$27,049.26		
	Earl Witzleb, Jr., <i>Treasurer</i> For - John J. Moriarty		
	Total	Operating	Scholarship
Balance September 1, 1977	\$27,049.26	\$10,909.62	\$16,139.64
Dues - Contributing Members 78		- 156.00	156.00
Cash Receipts 9/1/77 to 8/1/78			
Dues — Contributing Members 445	\$ 4,450.00	\$ 3,560.00	\$ 890.00
Regular Members 788	3,940.00	3,940.00	
Ladies Auxiliary	66.00	66.00	
Souvenirs	93.25	93.25	
Scholarship Fund	314.50		314.50
Clarence Marshall Postage Fund (Overseas Cemetery Fund)	30.00	30.00	
(Bank Service Charge)	191.32	191.32	
Peoples Savings - Interest	8.68	8.68	
Federal Intercredit Bank - Bond Interest	701.26	571.26	130.00
Pittsburgh Reunion - 1978	440.00		440.00
Checking Account from John Moriarty	846.50	846.50	
Total Receipts	2,596.17	2,596.17	
Total Receipts and Balanced	\$13,677.68	\$11,747.18	\$ 1,930.50
Checking Account - John Moriarty	\$40,726.94	\$22,656.80	\$18,070.14
Bank Service Charge - Mechanics Bank, Mass.	- 2,596.17	- 2,596.17	
	- 8.68	- 8.68	

Cash Disbursements 9/1/77 to 8/1/78

Bulletins (3) Printing	\$4,119.16		
(3) Addressing	568.17	\$ 4,687.33	\$ 4,687.33
Dues Notices (1) Printing	\$ 97.52		
(2) Addressing	544.92	642.44	642.44
Dues Notices Returned		34.75	34.75
Dues Notice Envelopes (20,000)		413.40	413.40
Treasurer - Postage	259.76		
Envelopes & Letters	98.59	358.35	358.35
News Release (1) Printing & Envelopes	\$ 51.94		
(1) Mailing	41.11	93.05	93.05
Membership Postage	\$ 200.00		
Envelopes	21.20		
Additions - Corrections	455.68	676.88	676.88
Pittsburgh Postmaster Bulk Postage		340.00	340.00
Sunshine Lady Expenses		335.00	335.00
Souvenirs		201.00	201.00
Mountain Shadows Postage		59.48	59.48
Board of Directors - Stamford, Conn.		259.93	259.93
Scholarship Payments		1,650.00	1,650.00
Pittsburgh Reunion - 1978		1,027.26	1,027.26
Total Disbursements		\$13,383.72	\$11,733.72
Balance August 1, 1978		\$27,343.22	\$10,923.08
			\$16,420.14

Net Receipts Over & Under Disbursements

		- \$ 1,981.24	- \$ 2,325.24	+ \$ 344.00
Resources — Bond — Federal Intercredit Banks				\$10,000.00
Federal Intermediate Credit Banks				+ 5,000.00
Federal Intermediate Credit Banks — Total				\$15,000.00
Peoples Savings, New Britain, Conn.			\$14,453.09	
Withdrawal			- 5,000.00	
Interest - Savings			+ 701.26	
Interest - Bond			+ 440.00	\$10,594.35
Checking Account - County Trust, Donegal, Pa.				\$ 1,748.87
Total Resources - 69th Infantry Division Association, Inc.				\$27,343.22

Respectfully submitted,

Earl E. Witzleb, Jr., *Treasurer*

69th Division Reunites Vet Recalls Playing Cool In Skin Game

The following article appeared in the Pittsburgh Press Newspaper during our Reunion in Pittsburgh, August 1978. — By Jean Bryant.

It wasn't popular to have yellow skin or a name like Victor Woo in 1943.

World War II was in progress and the Japanese were a hated foe. They had crippled the U.S. naval fleet at Pearl Harbor two years earlier in a sneak attack that claimed the lives of more than 2,000 young Americans.

Emotions ran high in this country against the yellow skinned citizens. Woo was Chinese. He was the third oldest boy in a family of eight boys and five girls. They lived in San Francisco.

To prove he was of Chinese ancestry and was not Japanese, Woo and other members of his race had to wear badges stating: "I am American Chinese."

So he was glad to be drafted into the U.S. Army. But chow time at the induction center posed a problem for the boy who had never before left Chinatown.

While all the other inductees picked up knives and forks, Woo looked for chop sticks. A fellow inductee took him under his wing, however, and taught him the American way.

After four weeks of tough basic training in Oregon, Woo was "one of the boys." His company nicknamed him "Murphy"

since he was serving in a mainly Irish unit. It was a move to keep him from being harrassed about his Oriental name.

In December 1944, Woo left the states in a convoy bound for Europe. He was among 15,000 men in the 69th Infantry Division. "The Fighting 69th" they called it.

There was no question anymore about Victor Woo's loyalty. He was an American fighting man.

In that convoy were men like Bob Myers of Sun City, Arizona, who at 25 was a company commander in charge of 350 men; John Moriarty, a 21 year old military policeman, who could shed a tear unashamedly at the thought of the folks back home in Brookfield, Mass., and Ray Fahrner of Landsdale, Montgomery County, a machine gunner who volunteered at 20.

It took about 10 days for the convoy of destroyers and freighters to cross the icy Atlantic waters to Southampton, England, where the troops disembarked.

A short while later, the 69th Division was dispatched to Belgium replacing the 99th Division which had suffered heavy losses during the Battle of the Bulge.

Still later, the 69th Division men found themselves at the Siegfried Line, a Nazi stronghold at the German border. It was a bloody battle that put the Germans on the run deep within their own territory.

(Continued)

On and on the 69th pushed, crossing the Rhine River where the German front collapsed. They linked up with the Russian Army at Torgau on the Elbe River to squash all German resistance.

Woo, Moriarty, Myers and Fahrner recalled those war years yesterday at the Marriott Inn in Green Tree where the 69th Division Association is holding its 31st Reunion.

"Patriotism was at an all-time high during World War II," Fahrner recalled. "We all had been brought up in a society of Boy Scouts, church . . . the family circle was close . . . you felt you had something to fight for. That spirit is lacking today."

And lacking today too is the spirit that saw PFC Victor Woo come back to Chinatown decorated in campaign ribbons to a hero's welcome.

About 300 men from across the country are attending the 69th Division Association Reunion which ends Sunday.

Letter to The Editor

I would like to compliment those who are responsible for making our Bulletin more newsy, and a joy to read. Compliments to our great committee and workers for making the Pittsburgh Reunion this year such a good one. The Boat Ride, Friday's Banquet and the Barbershop Chorus, and the Saturday Night Banquet.

Now on to a few complaints. Why were we barraged with three different Raffles, and then a collection taken for our Veteran's Hospitals? A money Raffle, and two Christmas Trees — are a bit much. One tree we were told was for the Cemetery Fund. They were sold 3 for a dollar, which I paid — some five for one dollar, and a friend was charged one dollar for one.

Do we no longer have money to support our Cemeteries? This was the first time, and I hope the last time that a collection is taken for the Veterans. The Auxiliary has always worked hard and had their own Raffle for their funds. We here in Pittsburgh work hard and do support our Veteran's Hospitals. The B'nai B'rith Women and Jewish War Veterans take the wheelchair Vets on the Gateway Clipper, to the ball games, and many outings and parties. There are parties of all kinds, and services rendered as much as possible. The thought of collecting \$300 and to be used for tooth paste and brushes was a bit much. How much tooth paste and brushes can they use? They could use canteen books, comfort items, stamps, stationery, socks, lap robes, and so forth. We here in Pittsburgh work very hard to keep our Veterans, and I assure you they do need love and attention. To take a collection, was a little out of place, as I am sure every Veteran there would empty their pockets for a fellow Veteran in need. I hope this does not happen again, as our 69'ers do pay dues and support the Association for any needs that arise.

A 69'ers Wife and Auxiliary Member

'Fighting 69th' Renews Friendships, Relives Battles in Mud

The following article appeared in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Friday, August 18, 1978 — By Joyce Gemperlein.

My father died two years ago and it's hard now for me to find his grave. Time has planted more townspeople on the western fringe of the church's sloping cemetery, effectively moving his tombstone from the far-left to almost the center-rear.

I keep losing my place, even though it is marked with a stone and bronze plaque from World War II.

Being surrounded this way might upset my father because he never was much for crowded places and always seemed to like being near an exit.

He said he always tried to sit at dinners with his back to a wall. Something he learned in the war, in the infantry.

Almost more than he talked about being in the war, my father talked about being in the infantry. The word he used most often — at least the one I remember — was "mud." the one I remember — was "mud."

Every picture he had of those years in Europe showed teen-aged men painted with mud because, he said proudly, the infantry was the part of the U.S. Army that did the dirty work, the hand-to-hand combat.

I have always wondered about "The Mud Factor" of World War II and why grown men liked to recall what had to be a horrific experience.

"The infantry was known as the 'Queen of Battle' because we did the dirtiest work — in the mud, the foxholes, close contact with the enemy. We went from one town to another flushing the enemy out."

Those were not the words of my father, but of John J. Moriarty of Brookfield, Mass., the president of the 69th Infantry Division Association. It has 4,500 active members.

The group is meeting this week at the Marriott Inn in Green Tree for its 31st Reunion, a gathering that not only has photographs of bedraggled soldiers, but has memories to listen to and memories for sale.

The sale items are salt shakers, hats, decals and sport shirts marked with the red, white and blue symbol of the "Fighting 69th."

Not on the agenda are impromptu discussions about the 15,000-man division's greatest achievement; crossing the Rhine River to meet the Russians at the Elbe near the city of Torgau — the first meeting between American and Russians, "the linkup," when the newspapers worldwide proclaimed "East Meets West." It was 1945.

The division was organized in May of 1943, with men from all over the United States. They were shipped overseas in December, 1944, and were in combat for 86 days.

From the food-supply truck driver who used his Army skills to become a Port Authority bus driver to the division's only dentist who continued his career in Oklahoma, the men agreed that — for the most part — they came to Pittsburgh to renew friendships and relive the war.

Not just the war, the infantry.

They milled about with joviality and beer yesterday. They bought raffle tickets for a whipped-cream-like ceramic Christmas tree decorated with gold chains and yellow lights. It had been donated and made by a former truck driver, Joseph George of Beechview.

It was different from a high school or college reunion. Closer. Less Awkward. No one loudly dropping names or proclaiming great wealth. But it was early yet and still it could happen.

"Still it's different from high school reunions," said Moriarty. "It's special because all of us shared a very, very hard time in our very, very young lives."

"We went away from home to hard times, hard places. We saw men die. Now we all share a camaraderie because during that period of time we each had done the same thing," the Mass., car dealer said.

Dr. Sumner A. Russman, 62, of Oklahoma, a dentist, said:

"All reunions are for realizing how old you are getting but these types are different because of what was shared."

"After all, we were on the brink of life — that's how very young we were — and we were facing death. We mopped up.

You could have all the bombs you needed, but then you need us."

And, Walter Holmlin, a former Headquarters 269 engineer, admitted that, each year, the war stories get bigger and more exaggerated.

But always there are the stories of those who did not make it, others who — like my father — died later but are honored with a copper-colored graveside disk and still others who see their own sons come home from war with wounds from head to toe.

And now, although my father also never liked the shoulder-to-shoulder, elbow atmosphere of reunions, I think I understand "The Mud Factor" of World War II.

Thirty-five years later, it's part of the survivors' glue that kept the memories and the friendship alive.

The Challenge As To Who Is The Oldest of Our Former Members Continues

In our last News Bulletin, **Charles Tanzi** reported in at the age of 70. Sorry, Charlie, we have come up with someone who has you beat. We received the following from **Edmund L. Petersen**, P.O. Box 249, Morris, Ill. 60450, B-272 & 760 Ord.

When the 69th was activated I came in with the Cadre from Co. B, 383rd, 96th Infantry Division from Camp Adair, Oregon. I was a T/4 (First Cook) with Co. B-272 early in 1944. I transferred to the 769th Ord. as Mess Sgt. Later in April 1944, I moved troops to Ft. Meade as Mess Sgt. on the train. In an accident on arrival at Ft. Meade, April 28, 1944, my spine was fractured, and I spent 8 months in a body cast at Walter Reed Hospital. I had a medical discharge at Ft. Custer, Michigan, on April 12, 1945, and spent another 8 months in a Walker Brace. My date of birth is, January 15, 1906, making me 72 years of age.

Joe Wright Furnished Picture For Cover Page Of This Bulletin

I am flattered that one of my pictures is worthy of being published in the Bulletin. Actually I know little about the history of West Downs School, and as you know we spent only five weeks there. I am sure it is over 100 years old — and the wooden stair treads are worn deep from the many feet which have trod them for many generations.

I am told that the white on the front of the building is not mildew, but rather a mixture of cement and crushed clam shells.

The quonset hut at the bottom right of the picture was erected by the Army when our first troops were stationed there, and is still used as a Chemistry Laboratory.

The playing fields behind the school were reduced to a sea of mud by our trucks during the War, but they have now been restored so that the students may again play football and cricket.

The bathrooms have not been modernized beyond what they were when we were there, and our guys will remember lining up for baths, hoping that the hot water would last. Normally it only lasted for the first few guys in line.

And alas, Women's Lib has finally caught up. After many generations of only boys, there are now girls at West Downs School.

[Editor's Note: In closing, Mr. Wright suggested that I write the Headmaster for further history of the school, which I did. The write up which appears under the picture is the communication which I received from the Headmaster.



Former members of AT-271.

[Top Row - Left to Right]: Howard Liggan, Unknown, Arnold Brown, Unknown, Floyd Jennings, Unknown, Unknown.

[Bottom Row - Left to Right]: Unknown, Stanley Becker, Unknown, Eugene Hartman, E. B. Abbott, Paul Fry.

[Photo taken at Camp Shelby, September 7, 1943, and furnished by E. B. Abbott].

(If anyone can help us with the Unknown men in this photo please do so through National Headquarters).

A Communication from Mr. Muldoon

Received the 69th Division Bulletin for May, June, July and August 1978, and must say it was a very good edition.

I was in E-Company 272 Inf., Camp Shelby, from May 1943 until May 1944. I remember the hot summer months of June, July, August and part of September, when all of us 'green horns' took our basic training to become Soldiers. How we were all promised 15 day furloughs after basic.

The middle of September the first batch went on leave. It was the second group who almost finished — then all of a sudden they needed so many men from the Division to ship overseas. There were still some more small groups remaining. The one I was in almost cleaned out the 69th of originals.

I can still remember the 442nd Combat Team, all Japanese, ancestors living in and around Hawaii and vicinity. They were made into a great fighting team, and a **good bunch of guys**. They went over to Italy, and won a lot of honors.

The group I was with got to Normandy, and was placed with the 9th Division. Oh yes, we had many fond memories of Camp Shelby, Hattiesburg, and buying railroad tickets to go home on leave. A 36 hour train ride to New York.

Noted that 3 men from E-272 were listed under "In Memoriam." Strange that 3 at one time should go from the same company.

Say Hello to **Harold Starry** for me. He was an E-Company boy too, and remembers me well.

As far as sites for a Reunion, how about Washington, D.C., and allowing us to use Camp Shelby one time, with a grand tour of the old hiking and training grounds.

As for my old Buddy, **Ed Netta**, inquiring about **Hy Goldstein's** address. Hy originally was in E-Company in the weapons platoon.

Remember me to any of my old Buddies at the Reunion, especially **Tony Keller**.

[Editor's Note: Mr. Muldoon donated \$3.00 to Scholarship Fund in memory of the 3 E-272 men].

Editor Hears From Former Liaison Pilot for The Division Artillery

Your Editor received the following from **Al Fasion**, 428 Sparrow Drive, Satellite Beach, Fla. 32937, and is a former Liaison Pilot for the Division Artillery.

Dear Clarence,

Though we have never met, I can't help but have a very warm feeling toward you, from reading about you in the Bulletin. It is obvious you devote a lot of time and effort to the Association.

In Vol. 31 No. 3 of the Bulletin, Earl Witzleb says he thinks you have some Histories of the 69th Division. If so, could I please buy one, whatever the cost?

In an unfortunate incident years ago, I lost all of my pictures and personal records of experiences and friends from Shelby, until my transfer to the 3rd Division Artillery after the War. If you do have such a history, please sent it to me by First Class Mail or UPS, and I'll send you a check for the total amount, plus a few bucks for the Postage Fund which Earl mentioned.

I was one of five Liaison Pilots assigned to the 69th in July of 1943. I was assigned to the 724th Field Artillery and my friend, **Capt. Norman Tanner**, was the Division Artillery Air Officer. When Tanner was transferred overseas as a replacement pilot (by mistake I might add), I was made Division Artillery Air Officer, and remained so until the War ended.

Unfortunately I did not keep up with any of our pilots, and they were good ones.

In later years my memory for names has declined to the point that I am ashamed to admit, but I can't recall most of them.

I read about the Association and joined several years ago, but have never attended a Reunion. I did hear from an old friend who saw my name in the Bulletin, **Bob Bement** of Mancos, Calif. I also read that he and **Stacy Gooch**, C.O. of the 724th FA attended the Reunion last year in Arizona. Stacy Gooch was a fine artillery man, and along with "Uncle Bob," **General Maraist**, is the best C.O. I ever knew. I might add that Stacy, who was no lightweight, was the hardest man to get airborne that I ever had in the rear seat of that little 65 H.P. airplane.

I am retired, and for a number of years have been living in Florida next door to Patrick Air Force Base, and just minutes away from the Space Center. We watch the space launches from our front yard.

If any of my former friends, and especially members of the Air Section are ever in this area, I would certainly like to hear from them and get together.

My warmest regards to all of you fellows who work so hard for the Association.

A Note From Sgt. Douglas E. Judd

Sgt. Douglas E. Judd, son of former **S/Sgt. Herman M. Judd** who served in Company-F of the 272nd Infantry Regiment, is interested in corresponding with men who knew his father in the 69th Division.

One name which he remembers his father mentioning is that of a **Lt. Boatner**.

Mr. Judd, Sr., passed away in May of a rare form of lung cancer, at the age of 65.

Anyone who remembers S/Sgt. Judd from Company F-272 please contact the Editor at National Headquarters, and I will forward the information along to his son.

From Our Buddy Jack Jones

Just a note to send you some news for your next Bulletin. I'm sorry it won't be all good.

First, **Albert Schreiber** is in the hospital recovering from a severe heart attack. He had had some chest pains and had gone to his doctor for his annual checkup, so the doctor put him in the hospital for two days for some tests. He had the attack while he was in the hospital so they were able to save him.

He was always one of the regulars at the Reunion, and we will miss him. His address is: **1604 Parkwood Road, Vestal, N.Y. 13850**, and I know he would enjoy hearing from any of the men.

George Taylor who served with companies L & M of 271, and who resided in St. Michaels, Md., died on May 13, 1978, after a long illness.

I have retired after 30 years as sales manager of a Virginia coffee company, and have become a gentleman bum, doing some of the things I never had time to do while I was working. I am enclosing a picture taken in 1945, shortly after the War ended. In it are the Officers of A-271. I have been able to locate only 2 of them, **Capt. Austin** and **Lt. Wrigley**.

Perhaps if you could put this in your Bulletin we may be able to find someone who can tell us where the others are. Would sure be great if we could find them.

Am looking forward to the Reunion in Pittsburgh, and hope to see you there. Keep up the good work.

[Editor's Note: Please check the picture closely, which appears in this issue, and see if we can help Jack relocate his fellow Officers].

Special Scholarships Available At Valley Forge Military Academy and Junior College

Valley Forge Military Academy and Junior College
Public Information Office
Wayne, Pennsylvania 19087
(215) 688-1800

Sons of military veterans killed or totally disabled in combat are eligible for special scholarships at Valley Forge Military Junior College, Wayne, Pa.

The new program has been established to honor the late Lt. Gen. Milton G. Baker, founder of Valley Forge, which will celebrate its 50th anniversary in the coming school year.

"Baker scholarships will offer qualified applicants a chance for two years of college education at virtually no expense," Lt. Gen. Willard Pearson, USA (Ret), superintendent, said today in announcing the program.

In addition, Gen. Pearson said, a recipient will be able to earn an associate in arts degree in one of the college's varied study programs and a second lieutenant's commission which will qualify him to serve in the Army Reserves or the National Guard.

The scholarships will vary in amounts from \$500 to \$1,500 annually. As explained by the superintendent, the college will contribute part or all of the difference between the cost of the total Valley Forge education and the amounts received from the ROTC program and the recipient's Veterans' Administration education payments and social security grants. The letter funds vary in different family circumstances, the superintendent noted, and therefore the amount of the scholarships will vary.

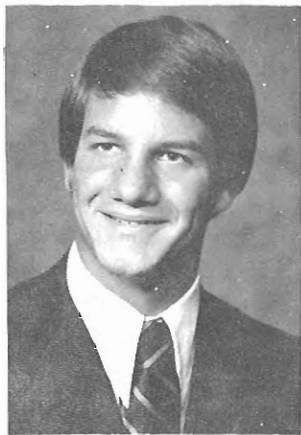
"It is possible that some recipients will receive monthly spending money allotments in addition to an all-paid education," Gen. Pearson added.

Interested young men should contact the Director of Admissions, Valley Forge Military Junior College, Wayne, Pa. 19087.

1978 Scholarship Awards

Another year — and another great group of scholars! As each year goes by, the candidates seem to get better and better! This year's award winners are truly exceptional, and we would like to have you meet them here in this publication of the Bulletin.

Michael Apfelbaum is the son of Carole and Sidney Apfelbaum of Sunbury, Pennsylvania. Sid is a former member of B-724 F. A. Besides being an excellent scholar, Michael's participation in extra-curricular activities is little short of astounding. In school politics he has occupied a number of positions: Class President (1973-1974), Class Executive Board (1974-1975-1976), Student Council Representative (1976-1977), Student Council Environmental Chairman (1977-1978), Student Council Treasurer (1977-1978) and Chairman of the Committee for the Revision of the Shikellamy High School Discipline Code. He has earned letters in wrestling, golf, tennis, extempore speaking, and has been a member of the school debate team. In 1978, he was the Co-Editor-in-Chief of the yearbook. He has received the Young American Award and has been selected as Governor of the American Legion Keystone Boy's State. In college, Michael intends to commence pre-legal studies and eventually become an Attorney at Law.



Anna Havey is the daughter of Janet and John Havey of Phoenix, Arizona. John is a former member of Hq. 1st Bn.-273. Anna was particularly recommended for an award by Mary Drew Spelman, our scholarship evaluation consultant. John Havey's wartime experience in the 69th Division appears to have been absorbed into his blood chromosomes and thereby passed on to his daughter in the form of intense direction toward patriotism and national service. Cadet Major Anna Havey (as she is known in school) has been a member of the Army ROTC for four years and has been awarded the Superior Cadet Medal, academic Wreath, Cadet of the Month Medal and MOWW Award of Merit. She has been listed in Who's Who Among American High School Students, was a finalist in the Miss Teenage Phoenix Program, and has received the D. A. R. Good Citizenship Award. She has been News Editor of the school newspaper, occupied several positions on the Student Council, and has been a member of the Rifle Team and Track Team. Anna intends to study Journalism and Public Relations in college and plans to serve in the U. S. Army after completing Army ROTC.



Greg Jensen is the son of Shirley and Clarence Jensen of Penn Yan, New York. Clarence is a former member of G-271. Greg has an outstanding academic record, particularly exceptional in mathematics and the sciences, and ranks near the top of his class. He is highly active in sports and has been Captain of the Basketball Team as well as a member of the Baseball Varsity. Greg plans to study Accounting and become a CP. A.



Edward Scatena is the son of Mary and David Scatena of Oakmont, Pennsylvania. David is also a member of G-271, as was the father of our last previously named award winner. Edward has developed a very fine academic record, specializing in mathematics, accounting, and business. He is a member of the National Honor Society, has been a Co-Captain of the Cross-Country Team and Captain of the Track Team. Edward now plans to major in Computer Programming and become a Systems Analyst.



Steven Snyder is the son of Cynthia and Ted Snyder of Syosset, New York. Ted is a former member of D-271, and is also the father of one of our previous Scholarship Award winners, Steven's sister Leslie Snyder. Steven has an exceptionally outstanding academic history, the result of an accelerated program including such courses as Advanced Physics, Calculus and Vectors, Computer Science and Electronics. He is a member of the National Honor Society, a winner of a New York State Regents Scholarship, and was selected to be Class Speaker at his graduation ceremony. He has been Photo Editor for his school paper and yearbook, a delegate to the Student Council, and a member of the Varsity Track Team and Tennis Team. He has appeared in a number of his school's dramatic plays, playing the lead in "My Three Angels." As a winner of an American Legion speech contest, he became the Memorial Day Speaker for the Legion in 1978. However, his most outstanding accomplishment is having been Elections Coordinator for WKWZ-FM, a local community radio station, organizing, instructing, and directing a staff of 90, and anchoring election coverage in broadcasts to a community of 300,000. In college, Steven plans to study Physics, Economics, and Political Science in preparation for his ultimate goal — Law.



A truly fine group of young people — each one truly a source of great joy to his or her family — And, likewise a joy to us. Congratulations, students — May your future education prove as productive as your past!

All of the award winners will receive \$150.00 each year for the next four years for a total of \$600.00, providing they continue school in good standing for that period of time. So 69'ers, if you have a child who is about to graduate from high school and enter college, vocational-technical school, or a hospital school of nursing, why not write in for an application and compete for an award? For further information write to our Scholarship Committee Chairman:

William Matlach
19 Barberry Road
West Islip, New York 11795

Division Association Chapter Meetings And Communications

ARIZONA

After a week's rest to recover from the best Reunion I have attended I will keep my promise and get this letter off to you.

The Pittsburgh Reunion was superbly organized and administered by an extremely dedicated and capable group who were always available, understanding and helpful in a true manner of sincerity. What few difficulties that arose were met to the very best of all of your abilities. Indeed, and I can speak from experience, it is impossible to plan for every single contingency and situation. The surge of late and unexpected arrivals poses a problem which can only be solved by our membership recognizing the extreme importance of making their attendance plans known well in advance wherever possible. Even late attendees can call to advise of their coming in order that the chairman can work intelligently with commitments required for food and housing by management in advance of the actual serving.

The boat ride and baseball game were superb additions to the normal of Reunions I have attended. The choir who performed Friday night was outstanding. Even the "Host" hospitality room was thoroughly enjoyed by all early attendees and many who came late. Such generosity leaves many of us with a feeling of guilt in having taken unfair advantage of such hospitality.

I am certain that all our membership join me in a vote of complete thanks for the tremendous contribution you made in this past year for the good of our great Fighting 69th Infantry Division Association. I trust you will convey my thoughts to each and all of your most pleasant and outstanding co-workers.

You have made next year's Reunion in Boston a tough act to follow and I hope this trend will continue for the enjoyment of our membership both in attendance and those who read Earl and Clarence Marshall's fine bulletin.

Bob Myers

Dear Earl,

Gloria and I want to personally "Compliment" you, Dorothy and your fine "Reunion Committee," especially Paul and Marion Shadle, along with "Good Ole" Clarence Marshall for such a well organized and executed 1978 Pittsburgh Reunion, that will be remembered for years to come.

We had an outstanding and enjoyable time associating with such Warm and Friendly people of all areas of the Fighting 69th Association members. So "Thank You All" for your hard work and efforts in making the '78 Reunion so successful.

It was very exciting and enjoyable to renew old friendships with all 777th Tank Battalion members, as well as all other Companies and Battalions. We had, I think, the best attendance from the 777th ever. First Timers like: **Herman Amos**, Bn. Hq., **Ray Dixon** A-Co., **Bob Weise** Ser. Co., **Vernon Wirth** A-Co., **Arthur Capaccio** B-Co., **Alex Zubrowski** B-Co., along with regulars like: **George Dendle** Bn. Hq., **Nick Loden** Ser. Co., **John Gradomski** Hq. Co., **Al Liane** Bn. Hq., **Gaylord Thomas** Bn. Hq., and our adopted First Timer **Bretsell Everson**. All in all that should make a total of thirteen in attendance. Thank you all for being there and contributing. Hope all of you enjoyed it as we did.

Also, enjoyed the Fellowship of all other members who are so gracious and friendly, such as: **Dr. Russman**, **Bob Myers**, **Stan Olszewski**, **John Moriarty**, **Bill Matlach**, **Gen. Bolte**, **Earl**, **Clarence**, **Paul**, **Chuck**, **Chet**, **Col. Jim**, **Vic**, **Ray** and on and on for just too many to mention all.

Earl, I didn't ever hear just how many we had in attendance, but looked like it was some kind of record. The Baseball Game, Fisher Body Tour and especially the Early Bird Liner Cruise was fun and interesting as well as very relaxing along with the rest of the functions. You and Paul with the rest of the

Committee really "Out-Did" yourselves for everyone's enjoyment. Hope the rest are as proud of your accomplishments as I am.

There are many more comments that I could expound upon, but hope this gives you the idea. We will be looking forward with great anticipation to seeing everyone in Boston for the 1979 and another Great Reunion.

Frank See

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA

No report. Next time, Harold — I hope.

COMPANY E, 273rd INFANTRY

There were 4 members of Company E at the Reunion in Pittsburgh. They are **Bill Matlach**, **Frank Dionne**, **Earl Witzleb**, and myself. It was an excellent Reunion and I think all of you would have enjoyed it.

The Reunion for next year is scheduled to be held in Boston, and I hope to see you then. Frank Dionne suggested that I send a mailing list of all the members of Company E, known to the Association, so that each of you would know where the other members are presently residing. I am enclosing such a list. If any of you have the names and addresses of any member of the Company who are not on the list, please send them to me.

I hope this finds you and your families in good health, and I hope to see you at the Reunion in Boston in '79.

Davisson Dunlap

Mailing Address: 1601 CNA Building, P.O. Box 1171, Orlando, Florida 32802.

269th ENGINEERS GROUP (NATION WIDE)

Don't mean to sound redundant, but I would be remiss if I didn't reiterate "Bouquets" to Earl and Clarence for the beautiful bulletin (last issue).

Many "Thanks" to Earl and Dorothy Witzleb and his entire committee for an **outstanding** job done on the very successful 1978 Reunion in Pittsburgh, Pa. Can't speak for anyone else, but "The Chuck Herrings" say Thanks for a fabulous time.

And now . . . **In The Engineer's Corner!**

The 269th Engineers had a good turnout, with twenty members present and accounted for. Eight from (Headaches/Sour) H/S Company. Six were from A-Company, four were from B-Company, and two were from C-Company.

In attendance at the Reunion were:

H; S



Capt. Saul R. Strauss [on Left], and we think the man on the right is T. S. Adelard Cote. (If anyone can correct us, please do so). [Photo taken near Borna, Belgium, February 23, 1945].

Andy Fedor and Irene, Bill Foster and Betty, John Hawley and Elizabeth, Chuck Herring, Lotty, Beemer and Tina, Walter Holmlin, Oliver McConahy and wife, Stephen Sholtis and Mary, and Leroy Tobias and Florence.

A. Company

John Buller and Midge, Ray Lottie and friend. (The only line officer that has ever attended a Reunion). Joe Monteleonie and Chris, George Roup and Frances, Bob Turner and Elfretia, and Joe Vioral and Dorothy

B Company

Dan Evers and Helen, Dale Highfield and Regina, Frank Nemeth and Ted, and John Pontieri and Louise.

C Company

Gerald Rodelli and Eleanor, Ray Weekly and wife.

Guests

Joe and Bonnie (who are the daughter and son-in-law of Bill and Betty Foster).

Among the missing in this "action" (and they were missed) were Stanley and Ruth Auk, James and Marjorie Eibling, Max and Sophie Goodman, Leonard and Corky Halpenny, Sharpie and Helen Jones (and Helene), Leo McGillon, Stuart and Dorothy McGregor, James Riley, James Sears, Leon and Rose Swedlow (we were looking forward to Rose's interior decorating lecture), Max Weinzierl, Albert Winchester, Walter and Loretta Goeben. Last but not the least, we thought of Frank and lovely Ruby Estler.

Sadly missed by many was Ludwig Steinbrunner, who passed away. We are also sorry to say that Ray Lottie lost his wife last winter.

C.P. Command Post (Hospitality Room)

The Hospitality Room of the 269th Engineers was really something. A large room with tables, chairs and a bathtub full of "Cold ones." Plentiful food, snacks and drinks for all. Unforgettable highlights were Joe Vioral's birthday on August 20th, celebrated one minute after midnight. And, who (among those present) will ever forget Bill Foster? Seated in a precariously tilted chair. Bill was telling very vivid stories of his experiences as a Mess Sergeant. (The stories being punctuated by his most colorful (?) language). Needless to say . . . down went the chair with Bill in it. After an "expletive deleted" Bill got up and continued with his storytelling (while all were "splitting their sides" laughing).

We shall cherish those moments of fine fellowship in our "Command Post."

Ray Lottie was the winner of a \$\$\$ drawing. The Engineers at all of the four tables Thank You, Ray, for treating them to "hoist one" with you and to you.

Engineers, we will be looking forward to seeing y'all in Boston, Mass., next year. Oh, incidentally, don't forget to bring your beans, pineapple and tea. We'll make Hawaiian music while having a Boston Tea Party.

Chuck Herring



Pictured above [Front Row Kneeling - Left to Right]: Joe Monteleonie, A-Co.; Bill Foster, H'S-Co.; John Hawley, H/S-Co.

[Seated - Left to Right]: Andy Fedor, H/S-Co.; Walter Holmlin, C.O. of Engrs.; Oliver McConahy, H/S-Co.

[Standing - Left to Right]: Gerald Rodelli, C-Co.; Ray Lottie, A-Co.; Joe Vioral, A-Co., and Frank Nemeth, B-Co.

Just a few lines about the Engineers and the last Reunion. It was a good Reunion and I'm sure you and your wife Dottie and the Committee Members are glad it's over!!! Thanks for a job well done and you can be sure the Engineers all enjoyed it. In the letter Chuck Herring sent you please add the names of **Warren Truman and wife** from Company B as being at the Reunion. He left them out. [Editor's Note: I didn't know the Truman's were there either. They didn't register so our records will not be able to account for them. What functions did they attend??].

Please find enclosed a card about the death of **Bob Turner** from Company A. You might remember him as he was in a wheelchair and has been a regular for a good many years. He wanted to make the Reunion in the worst way as he always really enjoyed himself. His wife's name is Elfrieda, who also always attended.

[Editor's Note: Sure sorry to hear of the death of Bob who will be missed by all 69'ers at future Reunions. His death came one week after the Reunion ended on Monday, August 28th. I am sure you know he will be greatly missed by all his friends from the 269th Engineers. Our sympathy at this time of sorrow is expressed to his wife, Elfrieda].

We are starting to line up our members for next year in Boston. I'm sure the Engineers will start to turn out strong at Reunions. Thanks again for all you have done for the 269th Engineers.

Frank Nemeth

DIVISION ASSOCIATION Chapter Meetings And Communications

FLORIDA (DEEP SOUTH GROUP)

Chuck Herring, one of our Engineers, will be living in Florida shortly, and will be forming a Florida, Georgia, Alabama, etc., group. Chuck is from North Carolina and would like to hold a **Mid Winter Reunion** in February or March of 1979, in or around the center of Florida, near Disney World. If you are interested in this gathering or want information on the particulars write: **Chuck Herring, 214 North 22nd Street, Wilmington, North Carolina 28401.** His telephone number is **Area Code 919/763-3198.**

Davison F. Dunlap, Winter Park, Florida, and others please take note and let's get a Florida Group going. There are 165 members in Florida, 90 members in Georgia, and 50 members in Alabama — should make a fine Chapter for the Association.

NEW ENGLAND

What do you say, John and Stan, along with others. We know you'll be hosting the 32nd Annual Reunion in Boston at the **Park Plaza Hotel, August 12th thru 19th, 1979.** More details will be made available in the next Bulletin.

[Continued]

NEW YORK

Just a note to say how sorry I was to miss the Reunion. As you probably heard I was in the hospital having surgery. I am now on the road to recovery and hope to be my old self again soon. [Editor's Note: Hope so too, Sammy . . .].

I must congratulate you and your committee for doing a great job this year. I have been getting calls and letters from 69'ers who were there. They all said this was a great Reunion, and all complimented on how smoothly everything went.

Please give my regards to your wife Dorothy, all the Pittsburgh Committee, and the rest of the 69th members across the

country. Looking forward to seeing all of you again in Boston next year.

Sammy Woolf

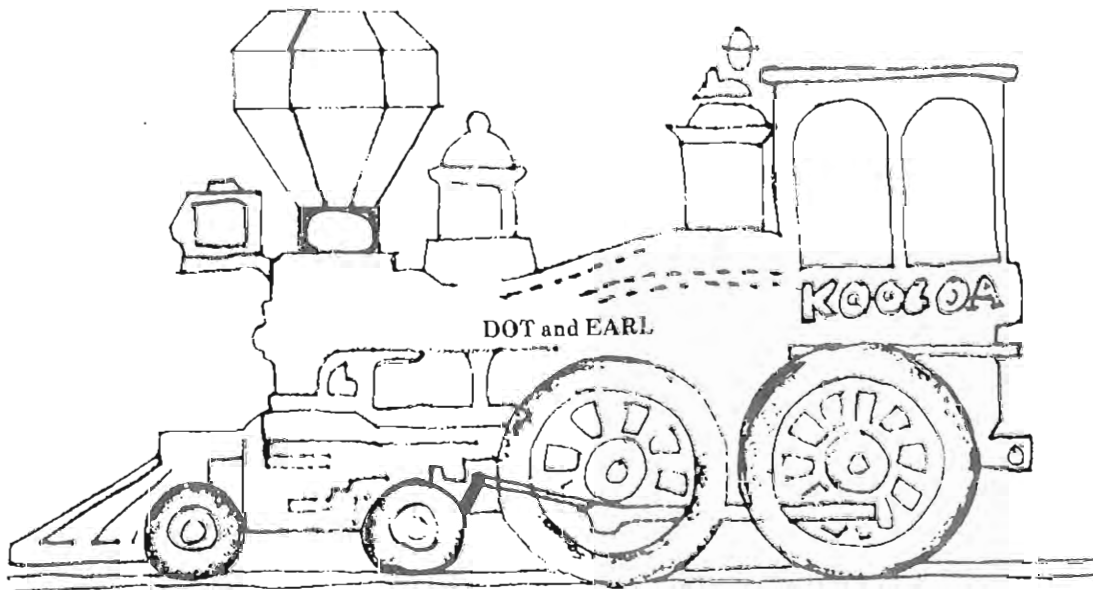
[Editor's Note: It would have gone perfectly, Sammy, but we had three who gave us some trouble on occasion. I didn't think we had any members who would cause us any grief, but found out in Pittsburgh we do have a few. It won't happen in Boston, I grant you that . . . Also, nice hearing from the New York gang].

661st TANK DESTROYERS

No report. Next time, Bill — I hope.

1978 Reunion

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA AND EASTERN OHIO
[PITTSBURGH GROUP]



MY JOB

It's not my place to run the train,
The whistle I can't blow . . .
It's not my place to say how far
The train's allowed to go.

It's not my place to shoot off steam
Nor even clang the bell,
But let the damn thing jump the track
And see who catches hell!

Have A Good Holiday Season . . .

Since this is our year end bulletin, we wish each and every member and his family, "A Very Happy Holiday Season!"

Do have a real nice Thanksgiving — to go along with a very Merry, Merry Christmas — and a real Joyous-Prosperous New Year in 1979 . . . from all the officers of the 69th Infantry Division Association, which includes your President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Directors, Membership and Scholarship Chairmen, Past Presidents and your Bulletin Editors.

Thanks a lot **George**, one of our great committee members, along with his wife **Vickie Gallagher**. The rest of our committee was **Paul** and **Marion Shadle**, **Clarence Marshall**, **Joe George**, **Milt** and **Dorothy Lutes**, **Vic DeCarlo**, **Neil Shields** (Who we left off the program — Sorry, Neil), **Don** and **Rose Newman** from Grantsville, Maryland, **Clarence Burke**, **Roy Paquet**, **Fred** and **Eunice Houston**, and myself, **Earl** and **Dorth Witzleb**. We couldn't get along without: **Victor Woo**, California; **Bob Ellis**, Arizona, and **Lottie** and **Chuck Herring**, North Carolina, our PX Runner.

All those who attended the 1978 Reunion here in Pittsburgh, know what we have done during the past year. Attending at least a half-dozen meetings, planning the attractions we presented to you all.

It was a lot of hard work planning and arranging this Reunion, meetings with the Marriott Inn, traveling at our own expense, dining at our own expense, and giving up many of our Sundays to attend our meetings. We are a small group who plan to stay together, as we worked hard together. We hope to meet at least twice a year . . . Plus attend the Annual Reunion. Our main function now will be to increase our group to make it the largest in the Division Association. We have planned a Post Reunion Dinner to which all Western Pennsylvania, Eastern Ohio, and all 69th members are invited to attend. There will be a Spring Dinner in April or May — to be followed by the Annual Reunion in Boston.

Our Post Reunion Dinner will be held at the Pittsburgh Marriott, on Saturday, November 4th or 11th, at 7:00 P.M. If interested write me, **Earl Witzleb, Jr.**, for information.

We were very displeased with the poor turnout of Pittsburghers (54 members), Western Pennsylvania (225 members), and Eastern Ohio (165 members), attended this year's Reunion. You may never have the opportunity to have the Reunion in your backyard again.

Pittsburgh was really it this year, and you missed it . . . Shame on you, Buddy 69'ers!

Pittsburgh 1978, was one of the most rewarding weeks of my life.

I really enjoyed the tours, ballgame, boat ride down the three rivers, beer party and banquet, but most of all, I enjoyed meeting the fellow 69'ers who were all so warm and friendly.

When Chuck and I left on Sunday, I was sad because I didn't want to leave anyone who had been so nice, but I took home with me a warm glow which I intend to hold onto until we all meet again in Boston.

Earl, I know you and your wife, along with Bob, Clarence, Paul, and the rest of the committee worked very hard to make the Reunion the success that it was.

Thank you all again. I'm so glad that I was able to share with all of you during your special "Reunion Week."

Mrs. Charles L. (Kathy) Moore

Congratulations on a job well done on the 31st Reunion of the 69th Division. It was my first Reunion and it couldn't have happened in a nicer place — Pittsburgh — my home town. It also put me back in touch with two of my Buddies, **Johnny Suprano**, Chief of our Wire Section, and **Jim Liguori**, whom I haven't seen since 1945 in Germany.

Jim was the old man of our outfit. I was the baby. I was known as "Footsie" and was a lineman for the F.O. We were with the 881st F.A. Bn. Can you imagine the old man and the baby getting together after 33 years? Well it all happened at the Reunion, where only a big family like ours can get together and have fun like we did. Johnny, Jim and I were with some wonderful people from the 880th F.A. Bn at the Banquet, and shar-

ed some beautiful moments together. We also had a nice time at the Beer Buffet, particularly with a wonderful couple from California, **Bob** and **Inge Mottau**. She thought that me and my son Dave were Johnny's sons, and when I told her that Dave was my own, she wondered how I kept so young looking. Inge, I wish I knew so I could pass it on to all the 69'ers so that we could stay young and have a lot of Reunions together.

Earl, you said that we finished 5 kegs of beer at the party. Well, if we had what I found under the city streets of Halle, Germany, we would have still been drinking. There was enough liquor there for the whole Division.

Well, I'll close for now other than to say, I've been happily married to the same beautiful woman for 29 years, and she has given me 3 beautiful children, Darlene, Donna and Dave.

So long, for now — till 1979 and Boston.

James M. Stankovich



Service Club, Camp Shelby. A familiar sight to those who took advantage of its services. [Photo taken in 1943].

Major General Charles T. (Buck) Lanham Passes Away

General Lanham was taken from our ranks on July 20, 1978. In 1943, with the rank of Colonel, he was Commanding Officer of the 272nd Infantry Regiment of the 69th Division, which was being activated at Camp Shelby, Miss.

Like many other officers and enlisted men, he was not privileged to stay with our Division through all of its training and in combat. Later in the War he commanded units from the 4th and 104th Infantry Divisions. While on the battlefield he met and became a close friend of Ernest Hemingway. This friendship lasted, and they corresponded frequently until Hemingway's death in 1961.

General Lanham was born in Washington, and was a 1924 graduate from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He was a published author, and was approached many times to write a book about the famous persons who he had been associated with. He refused all of these offers stating that he would never betray a confidential relationship. After he retired from the Military Service he became Vice-President for Government Relations of the Xerox Corp. In 1970 he retired for the second time, but remained with the firm as a consultant until 1972.



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