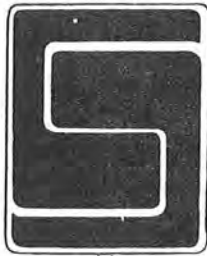


FIGHTING 69TH INFANTRY DIVISION

★★★★ Association, Inc.



VOLUME 37, NO. 1

SEPTEMBER — OCTOBER — NOVEMBER — DECEMBER
1983

"THE THREE B's"
BOLTE'S BIVOUACING BASTARDS

101 STEPHEN STREET
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bulletin

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*Deceased

*Come, Have A Glass of Sunny Florida
Orange Juice With Us In Orlando, Florida*



Fred & Mavis Butenhoff



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Walt & Ann Doernbach



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John & Gladys Heliseva

1984 REUNION IN SUNNY FLORIDA

"The Land of Disney World"

Al Faison, Co-Chairman
428 Sparrow Drive
Satellite Beach, Florida 32937
305/773-7250

Jack D. Hubbard, Co-Chairman
2852 Wild Horse Road
Orlando, Florida 32807
305/273-6466

"Come to Sunny Florida and Have A Glass of Orange Juice With Us and Your Buddies from your Unit at the Holiday Inn, 6515 International Drive, Orlando, Florida."

Members please note that this is a new location on the same road leading to all attractions in Florida, such as Disney World, EPCOT Center, Circus World, Cypress Gardens, Sea World, Kennedy Space Center, Silver Springs, and, oh yes, for the ladies a Factory Outlet Mall.

The price is right — only \$48.00 a day for your room. We'll never get this chance again. Place your Reservations early — when you get your next issue of the Bulletin in early 1984. (You can always cancel out two weeks before Reunion time).

Reunion dates are also changed to October 7 to 14, 1984, with the privilege of paying the same rate several days before the Reunion, and for several days after the Reunion.

Make plans for a Reunion Vacation Week and maybe two or three weeks, in 'Sunny Florida'.

The next issue of the Bulletin will tell all about the Reunion in Florida, and the following edition will put all the trimmings and final-touches on the Reunion.

Better Register as soon as you receive your next Bulletin.

Also, get your names submitted to the "69th Reunion Bulletin Board" by placing this information on the back of our Dues Notice Envelope. I'm sure your Buddies will want to know you are going to be in Orlando, Florida.

— REGISTER EARLY — DON'T BE SORRY LATER —

69th REUNIONS BULLETIN BOARD

Earl E. and Dottie Witzleb, Jr.
P.O. Box 69, Drawer M
Champion, Pennsylvania 15622

Hey, going to a Reunion — Well then why not drop a 13 cent post card to the address above for publication in a future Bulletin to tell your friends that you'll be there. Give your name, city, state, unit, and days you plan on being at the Reunion. We hope it stirs some interest to get your Buddies to attend.

Year	Reunion Site	Name, Unit, Days Attending	City and State
1984	Holiday Inn Orlando, Florida	Earl & Dorothy Witzleb, Jr. (Co.-E, 273rd) Sun.-Sun. Clarence Marshall (Div. Hq.) Sun.-Sun. George & Vickie Gallagher (69th M.P. & Q.M.) Sun.- Sun. Al & Ann Faison (Divarty) Sun.-Sun.	Champion, Pennsylvania New Kensington, Pennsylvania Zephyrhills, Florida Satellite Beach, Florida
1985	Resorts International Atlantic City, New Jersey	Walter & Ann Doernbach (Div. Hq.) Sun-Sun. Earl & Dorothy Witzleb, Jr. (Co.-E, 273rd) Sun.-Sun. Clarence Marshall (Div. Hq.) Sun.-Sun. George & Vickie Gallagher (69th M.P. & Q.M.) Sun.-Sun.	South Egg Harbor, New Jersey Champion, Pennsylvania New Kensington, Pennsylvania Zephyrhills, Florida
1986	Marriott Inn Greentree Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania		

This is a start, keep the names coming. We would like to know for at least two Reunions (if possible).



News From The Editor's Desk

by — Clarence Marshall

John Stanton (Formerly Szalagiewicz), 23 Beechwood Drive, Atco, New Jersey 08004 — E-273rd: My name is now **John T. Stanton** legally changed by law in Woodbury, New Jersey, in 1949. I spoke to **Walter Doernbach** a week ago, and learned about the Fighting 69th Division Association. I was a member of Company E-273rd Regiment when it was activated in May 1943. He told me to send a check of \$5.00 for dues, and I would become a member. Check is enclosed. Do you have, or can I buy a 69th Decal for my car?

(Editor's Note: Mr. Stanton, a new member, was added to our Roster and furnished Decals).

Larry Brown, 538 Burns Street, Clarkston, Washington 99043 — B-461st AAA: Received your Bulletin, and want to let you know that the 1984 Erie, Pennsylvania, Reunion will be hosted by **Bill and Jo Byler**, with the help of **Ed and Jo Gergerich**. (B-Battery Only) **George and Hazel Stein** did a super job at the Portland Reunion in June.

One day we toured Mt. St. Helens, and also a winery. The next day we went to the ocean on a tour. **Stanley Marchlik** of East Chicago, Indiana, was the only bachelor there, so he got a prize. After the Reunion, ten of us left for Long Beach, Washington. **Ed Kiefer** and **Don Detwiler** caught their limit of 2 Chinook Salmon. (Picture elsewhere in this Bulletin). **I. C. (Bill) Davis** and his wife, **Hazel**, flew out from Battle Creek, Michigan. **I. C.** has had a stroke, but he really enjoyed himself and spent quite a bit of time at the ocean. He is really a good sport. **Madeline Kiefer** has also had health problems, but she is another good sport and game for anything. She is always the life of the party at our Reunions. We enjoy your Bulletin very much.

B. J. Rimler, 6128 McLeod, N.E., Apt. No. 19, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109 — Ser. 272nd: I found out about the 69th Reunion through the American Legion Magazine. I was with the first group of draftees from Fort Dix that was sent to the 69th in May of 1943. I was in Service Company 272nd Regiment. I trained with them until May of 1944, and made the famous "March to The Sea", Gulfport, Mississippi.

I remember some of the guys, namely: **Capt. Provost C.O.**, **1st Sgt. Francis Lamb**, **S/Sgt. Barnett**, **Sgt. Major Shearer**, **Sgt. Seagraves**, **Horace McNabb** and **Bill Broder**. There is a group picture of us taken in August 1943.

After I left the 69th in May of 1944, I was sent to England and landed in Normandy on July 11, 1944, with the 35th Division, 137th Regiment Company A. I was wounded slightly in Normandy and again in The Battle of the Bulge. I returned to England and then back to the states in November 1945. I stayed in the Reserves, and in August of 1950, I was called up on active duty and landed in Hamhung, Korea, Christmas Day - 1950. I was with the 306th Engineers, and our job was to withdraw Army and Marine troops back down to Pusan. I got frost bite on both feet and was sent back to Japan. I was transferred to the 8093rd Engineers and sent back to Korea until 1951. I was then shipped home and put on disability.

My wife's name is Marie; and we have a son, **Richard**, who is a D.V.M.; a daughter, **Lillian**, who is a Law Student at the University of Georgia, and a son who is an Engineer. All three are Vietnam Vets. Both boys served in Japan and Vietnam.

I would like to hear from anyone of the original Service Company 272nd.

*(Editor's Note: In a later communication Mr. Rimler stated that he was sorry that he did not make the Reunion in Arizona, but that he had found that **George Harper**, who did attend from Albuquerque, was a member of the same Legion Post that he belonged to).*

Ted Edstrom, 21515 Riviera Drive, Cleveland, Ohio 44126 — Div. Hq.: I trust you got back home from the Reunion without any problems. We really enjoyed seeing all of the fellows and their wives.

The reason I am writing is to give you the name of an ex-69'er that I ran into the other day. He lives only about a mile from us, and was not aware of the Association or the Reunions. He has recently retired and is moving to Florida sometime in July. I gave him a copy of the last Bulletin, and got his new address, and told him I would send it to you. He would like to be added to the Roster and receive the Bulletins.

I told him about next year's Reunion in Orlando, and he was really interested as it will only be about 50 miles from where he is moving. He was with Company B-271st, but did not go overseas with the Division. He was shipped out before we went overseas. His name and new address is: **Stewart Butchart**, E. DeSoto Drive, Harbor Heights, Florida 33950.

Rowland H. Moore, 712 Martin Street, Grove City, Pennsylvania 16127 — Ser. 879th: Last week in the Youngstown Ohio Sunday Paper, I noticed the item on the 69th Tri-State Mini-Reunion, which was to be held in New Philadelphia. I contacted **Bob Kurtzman** but it was too late for me to make plans to attend. He mentioned your name, and that you might be able to supply me with a copy of the 69th Division History Book. If so, I would like to have one.

I started with the 69th in Camp Shelby, and was with it until it disbanded in Germany. I was in Service Battery of the 879th Field Artillery Battalion. I drove the ration truck, and visited all of the other Batteries daily, not any easy task I might add.

Please let me know if there is a History Book available, new or used. I don't remember ever having the opportunity to purchase one earlier, nor of one being printed.

(Editor's Note: Mr. Moore has been advised that new 69th Division History Books are available through National Headquarters).

G. B. Ringwald, 821 Sunset Drive, Glenwood, Illinois 60425 — 569th Sig. Co.: I would appreciate information on how I may join the Fighting 69th Infantry Division Association. I was a member of the 569th Signal Company at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, and the E.T.O., and would like to hear from anyone who was in the Radio Section.

Editor's Note: Mr. Ringwald was a member of our Association some years back, but in some manner we lost track of him, perhaps through the poor handling of his mail by the Post Office).

John A. McCann, 39 Mayflower Road, Woburn, Massachusetts 01801 — C-777th: Thank you for responding to my letter prior to this year's Reunion. I certainly appreciate the time and effort that you took to send such an informative letter. I regret that I am so late learning of the Association, but now that I have, please add my name to your Roster. I am already looking forward to the Reunion in Orlando in 1984. Unfortunately I have not kept in touch with any of the men, but I would be interested in the current addresses of a few of them if they are available. What few addresses that I have for the men are from back when we were discharged.

I shall be looking forward to hearing from you, and for any further information regarding joining the Association.

Roger L. Blum, 107 Laurel Avenue, Herkimer, New York 13350 — React. 69th: Just a note to let you know that I ran

(Continued on Page 4)

into Art Russ last week. While on a trip I happened to stop in Canajoharie. I had forgotten his name and address, and it was just pot-luck that I happened to spot him. The first street I went on I saw his truck with the 69th painted on it, and he was sitting inside. I stopped and we had a long talk. I told him that I corresponded with you, and he said he was going to write.

He said he went to Texas for his wife's health, but it didn't work out, so they came back home. He comes to Herkimer once a month for oxygen. He is a member of the V.F.W. at Fort Plain, New York, which is about 20 miles from Herkimer. So far I haven't found any other 69th members, but I'm still looking.

Wilbur H. Brownlee, R.D. No 1, Box 375, Claysville, Pennsylvania 15323 — Ser. 879th: On Friday, July 15th, my wife and I had the pleasure of visiting an old Buddy and his wife. We didn't stay long, but enjoyed it very much, and it sure brought back a lot of memories.

He told me he had never received any 69th material. I am sure he would be glad to get the Bulletin, and I imagine he will want to belong to the Association. I am enclosing a check for you to send him a Division History Book. His name and address: **Floyd R. Trusty**, Wallace, Nebraska 69169. He was our parts man for Service Battery 879th F.A. Bn.

Mrs. William L. Smith, Jr., Chamberlayne Road, Richmond, Virginia 23227 — Widow Hq. 724th: This is to inform you of the death of **William L. Smith, Jr.**, on July 24, 1983. He was so proud of his service in the Fighting 69th from May 1943 to October 1945, and he made some lasting friendships during that period in Headquarters of the 724th Field Artillery. I shall keep the flag that draped his coffin and treat it with the same honor that he always did.

I shall miss your communications keeping members informed. We attended one of your Reunions years ago, and were impressed with the spirit of good fellowship which prevailed. May you keep that going for many years.

(Editor's Note: Mrs. Smith was advised that she could continue to receive our News Bulletin and readily accepted the offer.)

George Phillips, 4300 23rd Avenue, N., St. Petersburg, Florida 33713 — G-271st: Agnes and I want you and all who put the Bulletin together to know that it has never been better. Each issue has been super. I know the amount of time and effort that goes in to each of these, and our 'Thanks' for a great job.

I enclose the obituary of a good Buddy of mine, and all G-271st men. **Billy Seal** was a great Soldier and served his Country with Honor. Bill was a professional baseball player who made it all the way to the old Brooklyn Dodgers as a shortstop. Having been in the National Guard he got called up for Service, and a fellow by the name of Pee Wee Reese took his place. Remember him??

Hope to see you in Florida next year.

John Amelio, 300 Main Street, White Plains, New York 10601 — Hq. 777th: Since my discharge I have worked as a house painter. I am fortunate to be in good health. I have been married for 42 years, and live in an apartment with my wife and son.

John W. Phillips, 317 Winston Avenue, N.E., North Canton, Ohio 44720 — D-273rd: Enclosed is the Operational Digest of Company D-273rd, which I found in going through some personal papers and letters. As I recall our **Company Commander Capt. Edward Taylor** had the Digest prepared, and distributed copies to everyone before the transfers of personnel were made to the 29th Division after the War ended.

The Digest is a log of events and locations involving the Company from the time we left Camp Shelby until the 29th Division transfers. I suppose, however, each individual has

his own memories of that time.

I enjoy reading the Bulletin very much, particularly now that old photos, etc. are being published. Your efforts are really appreciated.

(Editor's Note: The material that Mr. Phillips sent was too lengthy to publish in its entirety.)

Stephen Kwasiborski, 2654 E. Ontario Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19134 — F-273rd: I got your name and address from the April American Legion Magazine. I have served in the 69th Infantry Division.

I tried to make the Reunion, but was in the hospital at that time. I am sorry that I missed it.

I am writing to find out if you can help me secure some 69th shoulder patches. I have been trying to get them for some time. Your help will be appreciated.

(Editor's Note: Mr. Kwasiborski was supplied with the patches that he wanted.)

Irvin E. Robinson, Route 1, Dodge City, Kansas 67801 — C-273rd: During World War II I was a member of the 69th Infantry Division, Company C-273rd Reg. in 1945.

I am tripping to Germany in July, and want to visit or see some of the area we traveled on foot. Unfortunately I have forgotten names of the cities we were near or walked through. Do you have a map of the area that our troops traveled on foot in the spring months of 1945? Especially want the area from the Seigfried Line to Leipzig, Germany. Would like to know where we crossed the Rhine River and name of cities we might have stayed overnight. Remember the Burgmaster moved people out of warm beds for us to sleep.

Any information you can give me will certainly be appreciated.

My wife and I have five children. Three daughters are teachers and two sons are partners in farming. Our farm consists of 3100 acres of irrigated corn and dry land wheat. Also breeding Hereford Cattle.

One of these years we will plan to attend the Reunion. I like reading the Bulletin — keep it coming. Thanks for any information you can supply me for my War travels in Germany with the Fighting 69th.

(Editor's Note: My only suggestion was the map in the back of our History Book which I supplied to Mr. Robinson.)

Bruno Bruwer, 9 Eighth Avenue, Farmingdale, New York 11735 — D & Can. 273rd: We are happy to report that the Bureau of Records in St. Louis has finally agreed to assist Mr. Bruwer, and has come up with Army Serial Numbers for 12 of the 21 men that he is seeking. There is always the possibility that these are not the right men, because in some instances Mr. Bruwer only had a last name. Nevertheless, it is a start. The Bureau of Records will not divulge these men's addresses, but they will forward any message that you have to them.

They have advised Mr. Bruwer as to how he is to handle the situation, and he has followed their instructions.

We are all hoping that this brings him some favorable results. Earlier we were supplied with an address for former **Lt. McNulty** of D-273rd, by **William Jackson** of Indianapolis, Indiana.

Philip Colombo, 156-20 65th Avenue, Flushing, New York 11376 — H&S 879th: Sorry we could not make it to the Shadows. I understand we missed another good Reunion, but when the mind is willing and the body is not, you stay in one place, like the Big Apple. I got sick just before the Reunion time, but I will keep trying.

Hope to be in Orlando next year (God Willing).

I met another 69'er in the PX of the V.A. in New York. I was wearing my 69th cap, and he came over and said that it was the first time he had seen the patch since he was

(Continued on Page 5)

discharged. He is: John Primics, 14-30 139th Street, Whitestone, New York 11357 — C-Battery of the 879th F.A.

John W. Porter, 501 Otterdale Road, Midlothian, Virginia 23113 — L-272nd: Recently it has come to my attention that Henry Mitchell, former S/Sgt. in Company-A of the 271st Infantry is in a nursing home. He was a member of the 69th from activation until the end of the War. He had a stroke that left him paralyzed on his left side, and is unable to talk.

I worked with him at DuPont for many years, and have visited him at the nursing home recently. I took him the 69th Bulletins that I had and he seemed delighted with them. I plan on going back often to see him. Thought that some of his outfit might want to send him a card or a letter to brighten up his life. He is at: Chesterfield Nursing Home, Room 304, Chesterfield, Virginia 23832.

(Editor's Note: We hope that many former members of A-271st will respond to this request. Your Unit is well represented in our Association Roster).

Al Kormas, 10301 Lake Avenue, Apt. 726, Cleveland, Ohio 44102 — Hq. 879th: After thoughts of the Mountain Shadows Reunion - 1983. A great Reunion, a great resort motel, good food and tours — thanks to the Arizona Committee who deserve a great round of applause. There were a lot of 'First Timer's' there, who really enjoyed it. The tours were good, even if our bus did break down in the desert with the temperature at 113 degrees. Too bad George Hinant couldn't have brought his Civil War Cannon inside the lobby. He is a great guy, and I enjoyed talking to him, and many more.

To so many of you, who talk yearly about coming to the Reunions, and never do, don't put off attending any longer, because you are really missing something. If you wait too long your health may fail you, and then you will never be able to make it. Put Orlando, Florida, in your schedule for next year.

Marg and I wish you a healthy, happy and safe year, and we will be looking forward to seeing you in Orlando.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

This Bulletin marks the start of the 7th year that Earl Witzleb and I have been putting out your Bulletin. We hope that you have enjoyed the past 18 issues, and will continue to do so. It is up to you members to send us the material by the deadline, and we will see that it appears in print.

A Message From Past President Walter Doernbach

Here it is over six months since our great Reunion at Mountain Shadows, Arizona. Thanks to Bob Myers, Len and Corky Halpenny and the great committee members who made this Reunion a great success. These people showed us a professional job, well done. Thanks, again, from me as your President. It makes the job easier, with these people to help you. I want to thank Earl and Dottie Witzleb, Frank Nemeth, Clarence Marshall, Sam Woolf, Tony Keller and all of the people who graciously served on various committees when asked to do so by me. Without your help I could not have accomplished what the job required. THANKS — THANKS — THANKS. I am forever grateful. I and my lovely wife were thankful for all of your best wishes and prayers which made our attendance at the Mountain Shadows Reunion possible. Even though it was shorter than we had planned, we had a great time, and it sure was good to meet and be with all of you people. You are the greatest, and we love you all. Thanks, again, to Bob Myers for transportation back and forth to the airport and also to Dutch Hawn.

Now, about our Reunion at Resorts International Casino in Atlantic City. We have a tentative date in the latter part of September. As soon as the summer influx of vacationers is over we will meet and semi-finalize most essential items. Our committee is gaining new members partially due to the newspapers, and also the notice in our Bulletin.

Several months ago my High School Class Reunion for our 45th year was held at Copsey's Restaurant. Each member came up to the mike and introduced their spouse, and told of his or her children and what their life had encompassed. I mentioned that I just finished a term of 2 years as President of the Fighting 69th Infantry Division Association. To my surprise a former classmate's husband came over to our table, and introduced himself as John Eggie of Cherry Hill, New Jersey. He told me he served in Hq. Company 1st Bn. 271st. We talked for an hour, and in the conversation he told me of the pictures and memorabilia that he had. The following week, on his way to the seashore for the weekend, he stopped to see me. He said he could only stay for about 20 minutes, but it ended up to be around two hours. We looked up some of his former Buddies, and who would you believe one of his closest? None other than our Past President from Connecticut, Al Carbonari, whom John hadn't seen or heard from in 38 years. We called Al, and his wife, Edith, answered the phone. She advised us that Al had broken his leg again and was on the mend. This is why they had not attended our meetings, and Reunions. Let's send Al a 'Get Well Card'. John, Al and I had a three way conversation for about 20 minutes, and how exhilarating it was. I was glad to be a part of it.

John had pictures of Al and his other Squad Members, namely: Donald Say, Charles Brasch, Bowles, Currey, Mike Koltowski and Cvejrus. I am sending these pictures to you for publication — Maybe other members will recognize them, and come up with a current address for them.

So you see, with Decals on your car, newsletters, and just plain being proud and mentioning that you are a 69'er brings former members out of the woodwork. Let us all make an effort, and maybe you can find a former Buddy.

My leg is almost healed up, and I am resuming my life after going to the hospital for treatment every day for two months.

Thanks again, for all your thoughts and wishes.

Walt and Ann

It's the end of another year
and once again we say
to each and every member and his family

Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year

From the Officers, Board Members, and
The Ladies' Auxiliary Officers.
Hope you also had a Bountiful Thanksgiving

Former Members of The 69th Division and Attached Units Relocated Since Our Last Bulletin

Earl Miller — C-880th
3313 Livingston, Ft. Worth, Texas 76110

Henry Mitchell — A-271st
Chesterfield Nursing Home, Room 304,
Chesterfield, Virginia 23832

Charles Doan —
Main Street, Caldwell, Ohio 43724

James Flood —
Quaker City, Ohio 43773

Stewart Butcher — B-271st
East DeSota Drive, Harbor Heights, Florida 33950

Harold R. Longmire —
55 Lark Lane, New Baunfels, Texas 78130

Harold W. Crutchfield —
1930 Flat Shoals Road, S.E., Apt. H-8,
Atlanta, Georgia 30316

John Amelio — Hq. 777th
300 Main Street, Apt. 6-H, White Plains, New York 10601

G. B. Ringwald — 569th Sig.
821 Sunset Drive, Glenwood, Illinois 60425

Glenn Blake — Divarty
136 N. Sixth Street, Morton, Illinois 61550

Floyd R. Trusty — Ser. 879th
Wallace, Nebraska 69169

Helmuth A. Boehm — B-271st
33935 Pequito Drive, Dana Point, California 92629

Stanley W. Forrester — K-272nd
1036 S. 75th Street, Mesa, Arizona 85208

Everette Patterson — Hq. 3rd Bn. 273rd
3256½ Mesa Avenue, Clifton, Colorado 81520

John Eggie — Hq. 1st Bn. 271st
319 Cherry Hill Boulevard, Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08002

John F. McNulty — D-273rd
207 S. Hammond Ferry Road,
Linthicum Heights, Maryland 21090

Tom Waychoff — 661st
10249 East Brown Road, Mesa, Arizona 85207

John Primics — C-879th
14-30 139th Street, Whitestone, New York 11357

Walter Bush — Hq. 777th
3886 Merrick Street, Dearborn, Michigan 48124

Theodore Smola — Hq. 777th
7726 Torrisdale Avenue,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19136

Charlie White — A-777th
c/o Gen. Bald Tate Hospital,
Georgetown, Massachusetts 01833

Frank Gurrieri — C-880th
109 Smallwood Avenue, Belleville, New Jersey 07109

Edgart W. Clark — C & Hq. 272nd
666 N. Dixie Hwy., Wapakoneta, Ohio 45895

Tony Altier —
226 E. 6th Street, Dover, Ohio 44622

William J. Phillips — 271st
425 Liberty Street, Dover, Ohio 44622

Rowland H. Moore — Ser. 879th
712 Martin Street, Grove City, Pennsylvania 16127

Donald Calhoun — AT-272nd
131 Tenth Street, N.E., New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663

Robert Walsh — L-271st
256 Chelmsford Drive, Aurora, Ohio 44202

D. Ottaviani — Can. 273rd
2454 LaSalle, Niagra Falls, New York 14301

George Endrai — A-269th
1620 School Street, Lorain, Ohio 44055

EARLY BIRD DINNER PICTURES Mountain Shadows — 1983

Bob Myers is in posession of those excess and unclaimed pictures taken following the Early Bird Dinner at Mountain Shadows.

Those holding five dollar coupons should contact Bob Myers including their coupon, Unit, and twenty cents postage. Those, without a coupon who wish to receive a picture of their group should send Bob Myers their check for \$7.20 and indicate their Unit and return address.

The photograph company will leave these pictures with Bob Myers until February 1, 1984. After that date they will be reclaimed and destroyed if not sold. Bob's address is: 10453 Cumberland Drive, Sun City, Arizona 85351.



Stephen Yelenchic Hq. 661st pictured fourth from left in back row. Photo taken in Ft. Benning, Georgia in 1942. Steve passed away in 1974.

Picture furnished by his wife



John Eggie's Squad Headquarters 1st Battalion 271st. (Front Row — Left to Right): Charles Brasch, John Eggie, Cvejrus, Bowles. (Back Row - Left to Right): Slim Curry, Mike Koltowski, Donald Say, Al Carbonari. Man on extreme right not identified.

Army Buddies Are Reunited After 38 Years May 1983 — Fredonia, N.Y.



TOGETHER AGAIN for the first time since 1945, left to right, seated: James Valentino of Gary, Indiana, who was driver for Col. A. E. McCormick (Ret.) of St. Paul, Minnesota, with whom he is shaking hands; Lt. Maurice McCarthy (Ret.) of Fayetteville, New York; Guy Mattingly, Jr. of Abilene, Texas; Dr. Morris Greenberg of Philadelphia; Mr. Deering and Donald Hall of Effingham, Illinois. Standing: Clarence Marshall of New Kensington, Pennsylvania; Simeon Mack of Akron, Ohio; Paul Hastings of Endwell, New York; Ralph Andreasen of Aurora, Illinois; Stanley Lucki of Runnemead, New Jersey; Harold Hohn of Easton, Pennsylvania; John Pemberton of Ironton, Ohio; Phillip Yankoschuk of Bayside, New York (city engineer of New York City); John (Jack) Clark of Southwest Harbor, Maine; Elwood Lutz of North Miami Beach, Florida and Long Meadow, Massachusetts; and Robert Maxwell of Vero Beach, Florida. Attending the Reunion but not in the photo, Bruno Yetto of Williamsville.

(Observer Photo)

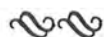
United States Army Buddies in 1945, members of Headquarters Company 2nd Battalion 271st Infantry, 69th Division, had their first Reunion, Friday through Sunday in Fredonia. More than 20 "Buddies" returned for the get-together organized by Leonard Deering, 53 Liberty Street, Fredonia.

Fredonia American Legion Post 59 served as Reunion Headquarters, with registration held Friday afternoon and evening, a business meeting Saturday afternoon and a banquet that night. Following dinner and a program, country/western musical entertainment was provided by Adrian Westland of Perrysburg.

On Saturday afternoon, while the men held their business meeting, Mrs. Deering led their wives on a tour of the area visiting among other sites, area antique shops.

As might be expected, there were plenty of memories stirred during the Reunion, most conversations recalling some part of the "Linkup" of American and Russian Armies at Torgau on the Elbe River on April 25, 1945. The former servicemen remembered the scene well — they were among the participants along with the 273rd Regiment of the 1st Army's 69th Infantry Division in a meeting with Marshal Koniev's 1st Ukrainian Army. To make the historic linkup, the men fought their way to a juncture across the entire breadth of Europe, 2,200 airline miles from Stalingrad on the Volga to the Normandy Coast.

The group agreed to hold a second Reunion in 1985.



Introducing Your 1983-1984 69th Infantry Division Association President . . .



George W. Gallagher
147 El Torro Street
Spanish Trails
Zephyrhills, Florida 34248
813/788-5924

Greetings To All Members Of The Fighting 69th Infantry Division Association:

I want to thank all the members for electing me your President. I appreciate your confidence in me and feel it is a great honor and privilege to serve the Fighting 69th Infantry Division Association.

The Reunion in Arizona is now over, but not forgotten. We all had a wonderful time at beautiful Mountain Shadows.

At this time I would like to personally thank Bob Myers, Leonard and Corky Halpenny, Bob Ellis and all the Committee Members for all the hard work and time they spent in putting that Reunion together. Congratulations for a job well done! I would like to say that describing a Reunion is like trying to tell someone who hasn't been there what combat is like — it's impossible. The days that fly by — the parties, banquets, memorial service, etc. What can't be described is what it is like to take part in all this with men like yourselves. The wonderful feeling of seeing a Buddy after all those years.

Al Faison, Chairman of the Florida Reunion, has informed me the Reunion site in Florida has been changed. Due to the mix-up about availability of rooms at the Hilton Hotel. The Reunion site is changed to the Holiday Inn Hotel on International Drive, Orlando, Florida. Also the date has been changed to the week of October 7 to 14, 1984. Now is the time to start saving your money and planning your vacation to spend it in "The Land of Disney World and Sunny Florida." You can bring your family and your grandchildren and have a wonderful time. Why not spend the whole week?

With your help and cooperation I am positive it will be the greatest and most successful Reunion ever held.

I have some information from the Veteran's Association I would like to pass on to our members.

Burial in a National Cemetery is available to any deceased Veteran of wartime or peacetime service, who was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable. The Veteran's Association will furnish a headstone or gravemarker to memorialize a Veteran or mark the grave of a Veteran.

The Veteran's Association may also pay an amount equal to the cost of the government headstone, currently \$67.00, toward partial reimbursement of a private headstone for placement in a cemetery other than a National Cemetery.

An American Flag may be obtained from the Veteran's Association to drape on the casket of a Veteran. The flag is then given to the next of kin.

I called General Bolte and talked to him for a few minutes. Both are in good health and anxiously awaiting the next Reunion in Orlando, Florida.

By the time you receive this Bulletin, Vickie and I will be back in 'Sunny Florida'.

We wish you good health and happiness for all the coming years.

God Bless You All and Best Wishes.

George W. Gallagher
President

Rowland H. Moore Writes . . .



Rowland Moore and Victor Sendelsky.



Ed Dodds, Rowland Moore and Robert Sherfey.

I was happy to receive the 69th Bulletin, and a short letter from you regarding the History Book. I intend to send for it soon, or stop in New Kensington and pick it up.

Although I live up here in Mercer County, I was born and raised near Vandergrift, Pennsylvania, and attended the Allegheny Township Schools. My wife is from Vandergrift, and worked at the Wear Ever Plant Office in New Kensington.

I have enclosed two pictures taken in Germany while I was in Service Battery of the 879th Field Artillery. These were taken with Sinzig, Germany, in the background, during the time of the defense of the Remagen Bridge, which was just a few miles up river. We were camped in a synthetic rubber factory, and the shrapnel from anti-aircraft guns rained down on the metal roof all night. We slipped arms, cut from a shirt, with the cuffs tied down over our carbines to keep off the dust. We soon left Sinzig and crossed the Rhine near Coblenz on a pontoon bridge. We stopped at Vallendar, just up river from Coblenz.

Meeting of Officers and Board of Directors 69th Infantry Div. Association May 27, 1983 Scottsdale, Arizona

President Walter Doernbach called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. In attendance were President Walter Doernbach, Vice President George Gallagher, Treasurer Earl Witzleb, Jr., Secretary Frank Nemeth, Ray Lottie, Murry Galuten, William Matlach, Bob Bement, Alex Kormas, John Suprano, Fred Avery, Sumner Russman, Ted Edstrom, Paul Shadle, Enrico D'Angelo, Bob Kurtzman, Pat Lushbaugh, Earl Walters, Clarence Marshall, Jake Stark, Jr., Ed Lucci, William Sheavly, Paul McComb, William E. Snidow, Robert Ellis, John Gradomski, Chet Yastrzemski, Herb Callaway. A fine turnout of 28 members present. Prayer was presented by Co-Chaplain William Snidow. Pledge of Allegiance was said by the membership and was led by Joe Wright.

Treasurer's Report — Earl Witzleb, Jr., stated that his report was a nine month report due to the reunions. Passed out financial reports to the members and explained each item. Motion by Chalmers Pearson that we strike from the Dues Envelope any form of contribution to the Scholarship Fund or any other type of contributions, seconded by Bill Sheavly, so carried. Treasurer, Earl Witzleb, Jr., requested permission to spend up to \$100.00 to hire help if need on the Bulletins and Dues Notices. Motion by John Suprano, seconded William Snidow, so carried.

Secretary's Report — Minutes of the Board of Directors held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, were read. Motion made and seconded that minutes be accepted as read and so carried.

Overseas Flower Fund — Frank Nemeth reported that we have approximately \$390.00 in our fund. The next decorations will be April 25, 1984, on the 145 graves of the deceased 69'ers.

Auditor's Report — President Walter Doernbach read a letter in the absence of Tony Keller stating he had examined the books sent to him by Treasurer Earl Witzleb, and all was in excellent order. Motion by George Gallagher, seconded Chalmers Pearson, and so carried.

Membership Chairman — Clarence Marshall reported we now have 5,260, an increase of about 98, we also had 67 members expire. Motion by Herb Callaway, seconded and so carried.

Resolutions Committee Report — Joe Wright went over all the proposed changes in the By-Laws and Constitution as stated in the Bulletin. After much discussion by the Board Members a vote of thanks was given to Joe Wright and his committee. Motion by Frank See to print the new revised Constitution & By-Laws in the Bulletin, seconded and so carried. Motion made by Chalmer Pearson to accept all the changes in the By-Laws & Constitution, seconded by Sumner Russman, and so carried.

Future Scholarship Committee — Chairman Frank See reported that the committee recommend that the Trustees of the Scholarship Committee recommended to the Board of Directors to raise the amount of the scholarships above 20% to 50% of the total fund. Recommend to eliminate the comingling of the Scholarship Fund and the General Fund and separate the Scholarship Fund for investments in order to keep separate records of income and payment. Recommend to the Board of Directors that we request the Scholarship Committee make an annual separate report of the total Scholarship Fund amount, total earnings and total obligation of Scholarship commitments in terms of numbers receiving, duration

and cost per student. Recommends to continue the Future Scholarship Committee with an eye to who will administer this fund in the future. Request that a vote of the General membership to determine membership approval or disapproval of the Scholarship Program is made a matter of record. Motion by Frank See for the Board to vote on the recommendations by his committee, seconded John Gradomski, and so carried.

Scholarship Committee — Chairman Sam Woolf gave a fine report on the working of his committee and read letters from some of the members wishing applications. Two scholarships were awarded this year. Members gave Sam Woolf a standing ovation for his outstanding work. Motion by Frank See to accept report, seconded Robert Ellis, and so carried.

Souvenir Report — Chairman Bill Sheavly gave a report on the new souvenirs he acquired for the 40th Anniversary of the 69th Division.

Reunion Site for 1984, Orlando, Florida, Al Faison was not present so no report was given.

Walt Doernbach gave a fine report on moving the Reunion to Atlantic City instead of Wildwood Crest in 1985. Motion by Sumner Russman, seconded Herb Callaway, and so carried.

Nominating Committee — Chairman Chet Yastrzemski reported that the Committee recommends the following men to the Board of Directors for a three year term: 271st Infantry - Paul Shadle, 272nd Infantry - Andrew Rebick, 273rd Infantry - Raul Nava, Special Troops - Welkos Hawn, Division Artillery - Charles Chapman, 269th Engineers - William Foster, 777th Tank - Gaylord Thomas, 661st Tank Destroyer - Donald B. Miller. Officers recommended for a two year term: President - George Gallagher, Vice President - William Beswick, Treasurer - Earl Witzleb, Jr., Secretary - Frank Nemeth.

Old Business — None.

New Business — A standing ovation to Gaylord Thomas and his committee for the fine job they did at the Milwaukee Reunion. Motion by Frank See and seconded by Sumner Russman, and so carried, that the Secretary write a letter of 'Thanks' to the Grandee Cheese Company for the generous amount of cheese donated to the 69th Division Reunions.

Benediction by William Snidow.

Motion to adjourn made by Jake Stark, seconded by Ray Lottie, and so carried at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank C. Nemeth

Executive Secretary

Annual Meeting Of General Membership 69th Infantry Div. Association May 28, 1983 Scottsdale, Arizona

President Walter Doernbach called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Invocation was given by Co-Chaplain William Snidow.

Pledge of Allegiance by membership.

Secretary's Report — Minutes of the meeting held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on August 20, 1982, were read. Motion by Denman Ayers, seconded by James Cassidy to accept, and so carried.

(Continued on Page 10)

ANNUAL MEETING OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP —
(Continued from Page 9)

General Bolte entered and was escorted to the platform where he addressed the membership. He received a standing ovation by same.

President Doernbach read the communication from William Beswick accepting his nomination for Vice President and thanked all for their letters during his illness. Letter from Lottie Herring stating she hopes to see all her friends in Orlando, Florida, next year and all is well.

Treasurer's Report — Earl Witzleb, Jr., gave his report on our financial status and answered all questions on his report. Motion to accept by John Suprano, seconded Joe Gibbons, and so carried. No questions on the motion.

Auditor's Report — President Walter Doernbach read a letter in the absence of Tony Keller stating he had examined the books sent to him by Treasurer Earl Witzleb, and all was in excellent order. Motion to accept by Bob Bement, seconded Herb Callaway.

First Timer's were asked to stand and be recognized. There was a large turnout.

Membership Committee — Chairman Clarence Marshall reported we had 5,250 members. He acquired 10 new names at the Reunion, so we now have 5,260 members. A standing ovation was given for his outstanding work and devotion.

Scholarship Committee — Chairman Sam Woolf reported we gave two scholarships this year, Patricia Jean Pierron and Simone Nash. Sam asked all parents to please follow up all applications since the children seem to put them aside. He also stated he heard from 20 or 30 people who still have children eligible. Motion by Gene Butterfield, seconded Bob Kurtzman, and so carried.

Future Scholarship Committee — Bob Kurtzman reported that since the money can't be touched, asked the Board of Directors to increase monies paid out from 20% to 50% to help use up the fund. Recommended the Scholarship Fund be kept in a separate account from the Operating Fund. Vote taken to see if the Fund should slowly terminate as our children grow older. The membership voted to go along with the recommendations of the committee.

Overseas Flower Fund — Reported by the Secretary on the amount in the fund and how many gravesites are in Europe and being decorated each "Link Up Day", April 25th.

Bulletin Report — Co-Editors, Earl Witzleb and Clarence Marshall, would like to start something new this year. If the members writing their letters would enclose a photo of themselves and their wives, it would help the reading members to relate to each other. We will use as many as space is available.

Resolutions Committee — Chairman Joe Wright went over the Constitution and By-Laws and gave the recommendations and suggestions of his committee and the recommendations received from the membership to update them. Motion by Sam Woolf that we accept the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee with the changes that have been suggested. Seconded and so carried. The By-Laws and Resolutions will be printed in a future Bulletin and mailed to all members on the mailing list.

Future Reunion Sites — Chairman Bob Myers reported that his committee received only one proposal in sufficient detail that his committee could consider and submit to the membership as a recommended site for 1986, Green Tree Mariott in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in mid-August. Motion by Al Kormas, seconded by Victor Woo, and so carried. Bob Myers asked all people who would like to hold a Reunion to please contact his committee and request the form that they will provide asking for the basic data from which they make considerations. Al Faison went into detail about the rooms, rates and asked members to write in early to be sure of rooms for Orlando, Florida, and everything is ready for the Reunion.

Walter Doernbach asked for permission to move the Reunion to Resorts International, Atlantic City, New Jersey, in 1985. Motion by Joe Wright, seconded Herb Callaway, and so carried.

Nominating Committee — Chairman Chet Yastrzemski reported that his committee recommended the following members to the Board of Directors for a 3 year term: 271st - Paul Shadle, 272nd - Andrew Rebeck, 273rd - Raul Nava, 269th - William Foster, Division Artillery - Charles Chapman, Special Troops - Welkos Hawn, 777th Tank - Gaylord Thomas, 661st Tank Destroyer - Donald B. Miller. Motion by Joe Wright to accept, seconded Edminster, and so carried. They also recommend the following for the slate of officers for a 2 year term: President - George Gallagher, Vice President - William Beswick, Treasurer - Earl Witzleb, Jr., Secretary - Frank C. Nemeth. Motion by Sam Woolf to accept, seconded Al Faison, and so carried.

New Business — None.

Old Business — None.

Souvenir Report — Chairman Bill Sheavly gave his report on getting items for our 40th year and asked for input on getting new items.

Golf Tournament — Chairman Chalmers Pearson stated that 26 players reported out. Prizes were awarded to nine players for their achievements. Lou Shaw got the first ever 'Hole-In-One' of the 69th Infantry Division Golf Tournament.

Benediction by Co-Chaplain Bill Snidow.

Motion to adjourn by President Doernbach at 12:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank C. Nemeth

Executive Secretary

**FORMER MEMBERS OF COMPANY-K 271st
AT ARIZONA REUNION**



(Front Row - Left to Right): Worley Smith, Herb Pickett.
(Back Row — Left to Right): Robert Kremin, Al Hornyak.

It is reported that former Company Commander Capt. Herbert Pickett still has a field jacket presented by K-Company. Above the right breast pocket is the lettering "C. S. Herb".

He explains to his wife and ranking officers that it stands for "Combat Soldier", but the men of K-Company have other interpretations of its meaning which we won't discuss here.

Picture furnished by Bob Kremin

1983-1984 APPOINTED COMMITTEES

BULLETIN EDITORS

Earl E. Witzleb, Jr. (Co. E, 273rd)
P.O. Box 69, Drawer M
Champion, Pennsylvania 15622
412/455-2901 (Evening and Weekends)

Clarence Marshall (Div. Hq.)
101 Stephen Street
New Kensington, Pennsylvania 15068
412/335-3224

REUNION/ACTIVITIES SCREENING COMMITTEE

William Beswick, *Chairman* (661st TD)
Box 576
West Point, Virginia 23181
804/843-2696

Robert E. Myers, *Member* (Div. Hq.)
10453 Cumberland Drive
Sun City, Arizona 85351
602/977-1952

John T. Hawley, *Member* (269th Eng.)
330 East Fort Street
Shippensburg, Pennsylvania 17257
717/530-2974

Gaylord W. Thomas, *Member* (Hq. Co.-777th Tk. BA)
432 Doty Street
Waupun, Wisconsin 53963
414/324-4065

Earl E. Witzleb, Jr., *Member* (Co.-E, 273rd)
R.D. No. 1, Box 477
Acme, Pennsylvania 15610
412/455-2901 (Evenings and Weekends)

RESOLUTIONS/BY-LAW COMMITTEE

Joseph Wright, *Chairman* (Div. Hq.)
Route 4, Box 140
Forsyth, Missouri 65653
417/546-4529

Leonard Lushbaugh, *Co-Chairman* (Co.-I, 272nd)
204 North Antietam, Box 93
Funkstown, Maryland 21734
301/739-2828

Enrico D'Angelo, *Member* (880th FA)
516 Chestnut Street
Saltsburg, Pennsylvania 15681
412/639-3037

John Suprano, *Member* (881st FA)
1006 Edgewood Road
New Kensington, Pennsylvania 15068
412/335-6678

Leonard C. Halpenny, *Member* (269th Eng.)
3938 Santa Barbara Avenue
Tucson, Arizona 85711
602/327-7412

George E. Gleed, *Member* (Co.-K, 272nd)
P.O. Box 15267
Las Vegas, Nevada 89114
702/385-4474

Raymond Wolthoff, *Member* (Co.-M, 272nd)
5609 14th Avenue, S.
St. Petersburg, Florida 33707
813/347-6975

FUTURE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Robert Kurtzman, *Chairman* (Co.-I, 272nd)
610 West Maple Street
Wilmot, Ohio 44689
216/359-5487

Anees Barakat, *Member* (Co.-G, 272nd)
41 Sterling Avenue
Dallas, Pennsylvania 18612
717/675-2854

William Matlach, *Member* (Co.-E, 273rd)
19 Barberry Road
West Islip, New York 11795
516/669-8077

Samuel Woolf, *Member* (Co.-F, 273rd)
241 Waverly Road
Scarsdale, New York 10583
914/633-6887

Victor B. Woo, *Member* (69th Q.M.)
2136 13th Avenue
Oakland, California 94606
415/261-0523

Curt Peterson, *Member* (569th Sig.)
490 Wallace Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53716
608/222-7957

Carl A. Miller, *Member* (69th M.P.)
1016 Marion Road
Bucyrus, Ohio 43302
419/562-7029

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Robert "Bob" Ellis, *Chairman* (Co.-A, 271st)
6721 Calle Dened
Tucson, Arizona 85710
602/747-2861

Herb Callaway, *Member* (Co.-F, 272nd)
610 East Houston Avenue
Crockett, Texas 75835
(Please send telephone number to Earl)

Jacob Stark, Jr., *Member* (Co.-H, 273rd)
691 Dunkle Street, Enhaut
Steelton, Pennsylvania 17113
717/939-4802

Robert "Bob" Bement, *Member* (Divarty 724th F.A.)
P.O. Box 524
Mancos, Colorado 81328
303/533-7683

Sumner A. Russman, *Member* (Special Troops, Div. Hq.)
6001 North Brookline, Apt. 905
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112
405/842-8152

Raymond C. Lottie, *Member* (269th Eng.)
5207 Sheridan Avenue, N.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55430
612/529-6298

Vernon J. Wirth, *Member* (777th Tk. Bn.)
8330 West Concordia Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53222

William E. Snidow, *Member* (661st T.D.)
Route 1, Box 303
Pembroke, Virginia 24136
703/626-3557

(Continued on Page 12)

1983-84 APPOINTED COMMITTEES —
(Continued from Page 11)

PRESIDENT'S AWARDS COMMITTEE

George W. Gallagher, Chairman (69th M.P. & Q.M.)
147 El Torro Street
Spanish Trails
Zephyrhills, Florida 34248
813/788-5924

Frank Nemeth, Member (26th Eng.)
66 Gaping Rock Road
Levittown, Pennsylvania 19057
215/945-3809

William C. Sheavly, Member (Co.-M, 271st)
218 Sacred Heart Lane
Reisterstown, Maryland 21136
301/833-2771

Clarence Marshall, Member (Div. Hq.)
101 Stephen Street
New Kensington, Pennsylvania 15068

SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN

Samuel Woolf (Co.-F, 273rd)
241 Waverly Road
Scarsdale, New York 10583
914/633-6887

SOUVENIR CHAIRPERSONS

William and Reba Sheavly (Co.-M, 271st)
218 Sacred Heart Lane
Reisterstown, Maryland 21136
301/833-2771

**HATS, PLACKETS, T-SHIRTS,
GOLF TOWELS & LICENSE PLATES**

Dorothy A. Witzleb (Ladies' Auxiliary)
P.O. Box 69, Drawer M
Champion, Pennsylvania 15622
412/455-2901 (Evening and Weekends)



**SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET
SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA**

Harriet and Phil Sparacino and Walter and Alice Haag. Second Reunion for the Sparacino's and the first for the Haags. Walter was the First Sergeant of B-Battery 881st Field Artillery Battalion. This meeting marked their first in more than 37 years.

1983 Scottsdale, Arizona Reunion Wrap-Up

Leonard and Corky Halpenny, Co-Chairperson
3938 Santa Barbara Avenue
Tucson, Arizona 85711
602/327-7412

Robert E. "Bob" and Elva Myers, Co-Chairpersons
10453 Cumberland Drive
Sun City, Arizona 85251
602/977-1952

Dear Earl and Fellow Association Members:

It is a little difficult for a co-chairman to assess a Reunion, for he remembers only the problems and has little opportunity to converse with attendees.

On the whole I think it went fairly well. The local committee members worked long, hard hours. These dedicated Association members and friends included the following:

Leonard and Corky Halpenny
David and Alice Delory
Bob and Phyllis Ellis
Stan Forrester, Mountain Shadows Security
Buss Harmon, friend of Clarence Marshall
Frank and Dana Haught
John and Janet Havey
George and Betty Hinant
Bob and Elva Myers
Frank and Ted Nemeth
Bill and Pat Ruebsamen and their daughter, Beth
Ralph Samples
Frank and Gloria See
Dennis Wallace
Earl and Dottie Witzleb
Victor Woo
Joe and Eleanor Wright

Alice Delory and Victor Woo peddled the raffle prizes to what I thought was a phenomenal profit.

Although I am not a golfer, I understand the Golf Tournament was a great success.

The negatives seemed depressing at the time, but I hope the members of the Association are philosophical enough to realize that the problems of World War II still occur in the 1980's. It was very pleasing to realize how few complaints resulted from the snafus. I guess the main ones were the bus breakdown on the Tucson bus trip, being oversold by two seats on the Sedona bus trip, and the terrific heat wave, dust storm, and power failure the night of the Banquet.

It was a pleasure to see General Bolte and his lovely wife again and to see him in such good health.

In terms of finances, the Reunion was in the black by \$1,875.

In conclusion, we are looking forward to the Reunion at Orlando in 1984, and will see all of you there.

Leonard C. and Corky Halpenny

(Editor's Note: Attendees for the Mountain Shadows will be listed in the next Bulletin, as this edition is quite large at this point).

Scholarship News



Anne and Sam Woolf

by — Sam Woolf, *Scholarship Chairman*
241 Waverly Road
Scarsdale, New York 10583
914/633-6887

Dear Earl and Dotty:

Hope all's well with you. Anne and I are fine and since our return from the Reunion, which was a great one again, (my compliments to a great committee), I have been very busy at work. We were hoping to make the Tri-State, but it is almost impossible because of my work. I'm sure you all will have a great time. Please give our regards to all who attend and don't forget to tell them to get the application for our Scholarship.

Enclosed are a couple of letters that you might consider for the Bulletin, also pictures of our last two winners. We should be very proud of these two girls who are outstanding students. Both graduated approximately in the top ten per cent of their classes. Enclosed are their letters to me. By the way the Pierrons also have three more children who will be applying for Scholarship until 1989.

By the way I just received my Bulletin and once again I must say thank you to both you and Clarence for another most informing Bulletin. I read it many times over, and show it to all my friends who always hear me speaking of the 69th and how proud I am to be a member.

Once again have a great time in Ohio, and say hello to all.

Best regards from Anne

Your Buddy, Sam

* * * * *

The two Scholarship winners for 1983 awarded by the Scholarship Committee and presented to the membership at the Marriott's Mountain Shadows Resort, Scottsdale, Arizona Reunion last May 28 were: **Simone Nash** who's parents are **Mr. and Mrs. Seymour Nash**, 234 11th Street, Lakewood, New Jersey, and **Patricia J. Pierron** daughter of **Ethel and Eugene J. Pierron**, Route 1, Belgium, Wisconsin, hard working farmers from the mid-west.

Seymour is a member of the 569th Signal Company and Eugene was with the 661st Tank Destroyer Recon Company.

Following are the acceptance letters of the two outstanding, beautiful daughters of the 69th members, of which we are proud to award them the Scholarships.

* * * * *



Simone Nash

Dear Mr. Woolf:

Thank you very much for granting me this Scholarship. It will be a great aid in paying for my college education. With the continued rise in college costs these days a college education can be very expensive and so whatever I may do to ease the financial burden on my parents is greatly appreciated.

Thank you very much for bestowing me with this honor and I look forward to submitting great grades. Unfortunately I will not be able to personally attend the Reunion due to previous engagements. Please extend my appreciation to the Scholarship Committee.

Sincerely,
Simone Nash

* * * * *



Patricia J. Pierron

Dear Committee Members:

I would sincerely like to thank you all for selecting me for your Scholarship. I'm sorry but I will not be able to attend the Banquet, due to the fact that I'm still attending school. My parents will be present at the Banquet to accept the award for me.

Enclosed is my senior Picture.

Sincerely yours,
Patricia J. Pierron

P.S. I will send my acceptance to college at a later date.

Following is a newspaper article which featured a story of **Patricia Pierron**:

ATHLETE IS HONORS STUDENT

Patti Pierron was the Fredonia Lions Club January Student of the Month. The Ozaukee High School senior has earned honors for her athletic and scholastic ability.

She has been a member of the volleyball team for four years and was on varsity for three years. She was named to the second team of the Central Lakeshore all conference squad as a junior, and first team as a senior.

She has been a member of the cheerleading squad for three years and was voted outstanding cheerleader last year.

(Continued on Page 14)

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS — (Continued from Page 13)

Patti is a member of the student council, vice president of the senior class and member of the National Honor Society.

She will be an honor graduate in June. Her plans include entering college in the fall to pursue a career in nursing or sports medicine.

Patti is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Pierron, R.D. 1, Belgium, Wisconsin.

* * * * *

Two interesting letters received from future Scholarship applicants are for membership reading. I am getting many letters from members still having young children in grade school and high school, so our Scholarship Program should last for many years to come.

To those of you applying for the scholarship awards, do so early and do follow through with the paper work, from your end of it, and see that your school follows through with their end of it. Many of our applicants never follow through with the necessary information which only takes a few hours to handle. Please note that if you are applying for a 1984 Scholarship Award the deadline is now set for **April 30, 1984**, so don't delay but act early. In fact do it now if you haven't already started.

There is a great possibility that the awards will be increased at this year's Scholarship meeting. This date will be set and announced very shortly to the Scholarship Committee, consisting of the 69th President, Treasurer and all of the Past Presidents of the 69th Infantry Division Association.

* * * * *

Dear Mr. Woolf:

I am writing in regards to the Scholarship Awards. In September I will be starting my senior year in high school and will begin planning for my college years beginning September

1984. I am interested in applying for a 69th Division Scholarship. Last year I obtained the application forms and am now in the process of having my school and teacher fill out their portion of the application.

This letter is in response to the article in the summer issue of the 69th Bulletin stating that you are interested in knowing how many more young teenagers will be interested in future years in applying for a scholarship.

Dear Mr. Woolf:

First I must tell you how much my husband and I enjoy reading the 69th Bulletin.

In your "Scholarship News" I noticed your request about youngsters who might apply for a scholarship.

Please take note we have a 14 year old son Jonathan, his birthday is March 18, 1969, and he is a fine student and athlete and sure to go to college.

Sincerely,

Isaac Gordon
1016 La Corte Terrace
Cranford, New Jersey 07016

* * * * *

The Scholarship Awards are a tremendous help to the students, I am sure. I wonder how many young students you have helped. It would be nice if the Division could continue this aid as long as there are sons and daughters to benefit. I hope that I can be one of the lucky ones.

My father is **Harold E. Stambaugh** from the 69th Recon Troop.

Very truly yours,

Nancy S. Stambaugh
1619 Sleepy Hollow Road
York, Pennsylvania 17403

* * * * *

(Continued on Page 15)



Hq.-2nd Battalion, 273rd Infantry — Camp Shelby Mississippi
April 1944

Sammy, I have sent you the original of this report and will publish it in the Bulletin for membership reading as it might be of interest to parents having children in school and who will apply for the Scholarship Award. It is the awards I have paid as Treasurer since taking over this duty after the 1977 Association Reunion. You will see my first checks were for \$150.00 and the ones mailed out for 1983, were \$250.00 which as you stated earlier could be increased this year at the 1984 Scholarship Committee Meeting. The figures are dollar amounts in hundreds.

Name	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
1. Robert Kent Ainley	\$150	\$150	\$200	\$200			
2. Sara B. Barakat	150	150	200	200			
3. Christel K. Knudsen	150	150			\$200	\$250	
4. Tina S. Popkins	150	150	200	200			
5. Mary Ann Vasil	150	150	200				
6. Shelley Murphy	150	150	200				
7. Robert A. O'Connor	150	150	200				
8. Leslie Snyder	150	150					
9. Jeffrey D. Seagraves	150	150					
10. William Kantor	150						
11. Ellen Matlach	150						
12. Michael Apfelbaum		150	200	200	200		
13. Anna Havey		150	200	200	200		
14. Greg Jensen		150	200	200	200		
15. Edward A. Scatena		150	200	200			
16. Stephen Snyder		150	200	200	200		
17. Sandra Bareford			200	200	200	250	
18. Regina Moward			200	200	200	250	
19. David Scatena			200	200	200	250	
20. Mary Soderstrom				200	200	200	\$250
21. Jeannette M. Tukis				200	200	250	250
22. Nora Ann Herbison				200	200	250	250
23. Melissa Leike					200	250	250
24. William Matlach					200	250	250
25. Leslie Ann Ainley						250	250
26. Simone Nash							250
27. Patricia Pierron							250

You will note that Christel K. Knudsen had a break in her schooling, then returned. Likewise Edward A. Scatena's schooling was only a three year course and returned his fourth year check to the Scholarship Fund Committee.

Earl E. Witzleb, Jr., Treasurer

Phil Sparacino Writes . . .

We heard you had a wonderful time at the Tri-State Mini-Reunion in New Philadelphia, Ohio.

We here in Milwaukee had a Get-together at **Fran and Zita Enright's** on Saturday, September 24th. Fran and Zita furnished drinks and snacks. We later went to the Timbers for dinner.

In addition to the Enrights, the following were in attendance:

Vern and Hildegard Wirth
Dale and Bonnie Scott
Curt and Evie Peterson
Ethel and Eugene Pierron
Reita and Chalmers Pearson
Fred and Mavis Battenhoff
Harriet and Phil Sparacino

We missed **Ruth and Gaylord Thomas**, who had a prior commitment.

Since I wrote you last, I have initiated some letters to a few of the former B-Battery 881st Field Artillery members. **Walter Hagg** and I are trying to increase B-Battery's attendance at Orlando, Florida.

It is my sad duty to report that **John Young** of our Unit, and who resided in Brooklyn, New York died in April of 1983. I have advised Mrs. Young that I would notify the 69th Bulletin.

We heard that the location and date of the Reunion in Orlando has been changed, and are anxiously awaiting the next issue of the Bulletin for details.

Bolte — What A Man (General)

Dear Earl:

Another year marches implacably by, and again I was unable to come to the Reunion at Scottsdale. I have a sister-in-law who lives in Phoenix, and this would have been a two-fold pleasure had I been able to get away.

I am still very busily occupied with the Military Order of the World Wars and manage to keep busy and occupied to maintain keenness of mind and spirit. Even at my advanced age of 75. I feel it is better to contribute to a worthy endeavor than to just sit on the front porch and rock!

I saw General Bolte at the inauguration ceremony of our present Chief of Staff of the Army, **General Wickham**, with whom I shared an office in the Pentagon many moons ago.

He looked his usual healthy self and both he and Mrs. Bolte seem to have weathered the years in good shape. When I asked the General, from behind his back "Is this where Bolte's Bivouac-ing Bastards congregate?" — He, without turning around to see who was posing the question, replied "Yes, George!"

Imagine anyone recognizing a voice that he hasn't heard for years!! Truly amazing.

George E. Loikow
 6937 Chestnut Avenue
 Falls Church, Virginia 22042

Dottie and Me



Earl and Dottie Witzleb, Jr.

Treasurer — 69th Infantry Division Association and
Co-Editor of the Bulletin
Post Office Box 69, Drawer M
Champion, Pennsylvania 15622
412/455-2901 (Evenings after 7:00 p.m. and Weekends)

Hi 'Ya Members and Wives:

We do hope this column finds you and your family well. We also hope that the recession hasn't hurt too many of our members, if any. Dottie and myself would like to hear from you all, with a note in the envelope you received recently.

I would like to again remind you in this issue of the Bulletin about the Souvenirs which are for sale by the Division Association. We have had so many letters asking what we have to offer, that I thought it best to repeat the same page which appeared in the last issue of the Bulletin regarding the Souvenirs which are available. Take notice that there are three addresses listed which you can order from: **Reba and Bill Sheavly, Dottie Witzleb and Clarence Marshall**. The Tote Bags are a hot item and make a good present for the ladies at Christmas. The Anniversary Bon Bon Trays is a good reminder that 40 years have passed and were offered at the Mountain Shadows 1983 Reunion for the first time. When the supply is sold we will not repeat it. Reba and Bill will come out with a new item or two at the Reunion in Orlando, Florida.

I do want to stress the coming 1984 Holiday Inn, Orlando, Florida, Division Association Reunion to each of you at this time, as I feel it will be a very large and well attended Reunion. It might just be the Reunion you should all try to attend as this should be the one most likely you'll find all your Buddies at. We will never get another Reunion in Florida, where there is so much to do and see, plus meet Old Buddies — some that you haven't seen in 38 years or more — **and the price is only \$48.00 a day.** I believe most rooms have two double beds in them so either bring your family for a week of fun, entertainment, sociability, and friendship with a unit Buddy, or yes do get acquainted with several division friends. The other thing is share the room with your Buddy. I would like to emphasize that all 1984 Reunion information will be in the next two Bulletins which will be published in 1984, but do plan now so that you can be ready to send for a room reservation to the Holiday Inn right after the next Bulletin. Plan your Reunion and vacation right now so you can get the time off work when vacation schedules are made at your plant or office. Then too, after you send in your room reservation, send your activities reservation to the Reunion Committee. All this information will be ready for you in the next issue of our Bulletin.

It's a job for a Reunion Committee, a lot of work to do with so few members doing the work. I ask your cooperation in helping them. Just to show you the problems that come

up with committees I follow with two letters received from **Al Faison** a Co-chairman of the Florida Reunion. As you will see we are now established with the Holiday Inn for the week of the Reunion in Florida, and for several days before the Reunion and following the Reunion we will be extended the same room rates. Al had some problems setting up the motel location and going from one location to another. Al also has in the letters some helpful advice and says the weather should be just right.

NOW, HERE'S AL . . .

Dear Earl:

It was nice seeing you and Dottie again even though we did not get to spend much time together. There were so many friends there from Headquarters Battery, Division Artillery for the 'first time' that we simply did not have enough time to visit with all the folks we wanted to spend time with. I especially want to express my appreciation, and that of the whole gang for Div-Arty, to **Joe Tully**, and his charming wife, for the outstanding barbecue and "Booze" they put on for us Friday Night at their home in Rio Verde.

I must admit that I was surprised, and pleased, to hear so many of our friends from the Western states say that they definitely were planning to come to the Reunion in Orlando in October 1984. We are going to do everything possible to see that everyone has a good time. I think that now is a good time to emphasize the importance, and necessity, to plan on spending the entire week at this Reunion, **October 7 to 14, 1984.** There is so much to see and do in the Orlando Area you cannot do it all even in a week. It would be smart to plan a real vacation of at least two weeks and take in some of the attractions on your own. The Holiday Inn will extend our Reunion room rates for three days prior to and three days after we conclude. I am reluctant to comment on weather after the unusual weather we had in Scottsdale, but I will. In the middle of October you can expect daytime temperatures of about eighty degrees. Some evenings you will need a light sweater or jacket. Bring shorts, bathing suits and summer weight clothes. We promise that no one will get frost bite.

My friend from St. Petersburg, **Alice Wolthoff**, was kind enough to do an informal survey among the ladies at Scottsdale, and as a result I promise all the ladies, husbands too, will have tours to Cypress Gardens, Silver Springs, the Kennedy Space Center, as well as EPCOT, Disney World, Sea World and Circus World. There are many other interesting and attractive areas in the vicinity, mostly free, and there really is something for everyone here. Another thing to consider if you are now retired, or considering retirement soon, this will be a good time to talk to those of us now living in Florida about the advantages and disadvantages of spending your remaining years in this salubrious climate. It will also give you the opportunity to look over some of the many developments, of which there are hundreds.

I do want to emphasize one very important point, that is that if you are going to come to the Reunion in Orlando, **PLEASE, PLEASE**, make your hotel reservations as soon as the information is available in the Bulletin. The hotel only has 400 rooms blocked out for us until the 14th of September 1984. But, I have a feeling we are going to need more than 400 rooms, so be prepared to make your reservation early so you will not be shut out.

* * * * *

Dear Earl and Dottie:

I have not written you before because I did not have anything to tell you. But now I have. **We have the Holiday Inn on International Drive (6515) for the week of October 7th through the 14th, 1984, and the rate is \$48.00 (flat rate).** This is the largest Holiday Inn in Florida, 642 rooms, and the second largest in the United States. They have banquet facilities

(Continued on Page 17)

for over 900 people seated at round tables, meeting rooms are large, the place is very pretty, clean and very well kept. That is the bottom line and the good news. This was all consummated this morning by telephone and knowing that you would be at work, I called George Gallagher the news since I had heard he would be seeing you this coming weekend. It is a long and frustrating story — how we got to this point — and I will explain that later in the letter. The convention sales manager, Mr. Louis F. Evans, is writing up the contract, and the request for credit information that seems to be standard with all these convention hotels, and will mail it to me this week, but to Suffolk, Virginia, where Anne and I will be visiting until the 8th of September. I will have copies made of everything and send you and George, will sign the contract and return it to the hotel with the notation that the credit information has been forwarded to you for completion and furnished to the hotel. By the way I have reserved the "Governor's Suite" effective Sunday, October 7th, for you and Dottie and George and Vickie. It is very nice.

The Holiday Inn is just a couple of blocks up the street from the Hilton, and all of the good things we have said about the location of the Hilton apply equally to the Holiday Inn. Incidentally, last year the Holiday Inn was one of the first places we went to, but were turned off at that time because the sales manager then, a young woman, informed us we would not be allowed to bring booze or beer into the Hospitality Room unless we paid them a 'Corkage Fee' or bought it from the hotel. Later, after we had confirmed the Hilton, I got a letter from the young lady inviting me back to look over the facilities and saying they would permit us to use our own booze and beer, etc.

Earl I want to ask you to write something that is real ATTENTION GETTING for the next issue of the Bulletin, detailing the change in dates and place. You are very good at that sort of thing and it will be far superior to anything I might try to write. The simple truth is I underestimated the space and facilities we would need, and we just outgrew the Hilton. The management there agreed and were very helpful in contacting larger hotels for us and giving us leads, etc. But believe me we have really been sweating it out for the last couple of weeks to get something in the same time frame that was large enough, nice enough, and at a reasonable rate. We got the Holiday Inn only after Mr. Evans got another outfit to change the dates of their meeting. They had previously contracted for the ballroom facilities for Friday and Saturday Nights of the same week we wanted them.

Meanwhile, I had tentative commitments for a week in September at the Marriott for \$55.00 a day and another at a new Sheraton across the road from Sea World for week in October, but they wanted \$65.00 a day. The Sheraton was somewhat isolated.

After our meeting this October, at the Hilton, we will have our committee firmed up, and also the tours, etc. Right now I lean toward telling people to go to Disney World EPCOT and Sea World on their own. If they come by air, they can get to these places by bus from the hotel and cheaper than we can rent busses. Gray Line Tour Bus Company runs a bus every hour from the hotels along International Drive to these places. If they drive, Sea World is only four or five minutes away, straight down International Drive, and the entrance to EPCOT and Disney World are about ten minutes away down I-4.

Thanks,

Al

* * * * *

Isn't it a lot of work a committee goes through for one of these Reunions? I would like to add this information to this column so that you are aware of it — our plastic Name Tags are getting extremely costly for using them once and only for

a week — some only days or a day. We are now planning with the Reunion Committee, our Souvenir Chairpersons (Reba and Bill Sheavly, and myself), in purchasing permanent Name Tags such as those worn by personnel of the Holiday Inn, Denny's or other Service Groups — then we could use them for the rest of our Reunion years. After you have received your permanent Name Tag it will be up to you to keep them in your luggage bag or other safe keeping place, so that you can use it again at following Reunions. More information will be out on this subject in later Bulletins, but if you can be helpful on the item do get in touch with Reba and Bill Sheavly. I am sure they will appreciate your ideas. If you have any old name tags laying around that you have received over the years and don't want them, why not bring them along to our Holiday Inn Orlando Reunion as we just might be able to re-use them.

At our Tri-State Weekend in New Philadelphia, Ohio, having our National President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Chairman, Seven of the 28 Board of Directors, and two Ladies' Auxiliary Officers, President George Gallagher — decided to hold a meeting of those officers to bring them up-to-date on happenings of the Division Association. It was decided at this meeting to not only have 'First Time Ribbons' and 'Committee Ribbons' but to include ribbons for the Officers so that you will know who your Officers and Board Members are at Reunions. It will be especially helpful to members to know who our three Unit Directors are so that they plus all Unit persons, at some time during the Reunion week can get together in selecting your new Director to serve for a three year term. These names must be turned over to the Nominating Committee prior to the Board of Directors Meeting, usually held on Friday of the Reunion Week. Our General Membership Meeting is held the day after that meeting, and thus far always on Saturday morning.

* * * * *

THE FOLLOWING IS A COMMUNICATION FROM MARGIE McCOMBS:

Dear Earl:

Paul and I took a run down to Freedom's Foundation yesterday at Valley Forge and took a picture of the dogwood tree we planted 10 years ago, growing well, eh?

Paul also took some on our 35 camera but is just the beginning of the roll and dear only knows when we will finish the roll, don't take as many pictures as we used to.

Hope all is going well with Dot and you. Had our two granddaughters from Idaho for a visit last week, so had great time! My sister is coming from Buffalo for two and a half weeks in August. Paul is enjoying his retirement, no alarm to get you up in the morning, great!!

Take care.

As ever,

Margie



(Continued on Page 20)

40th Anniversary Reunion Mountain Shadows Marriott Scottsdale, Arizona — May 1983



Clarence Marshall, George Gallagher and Earl Witzleb.



Our beloved General Charles L. Bolte and Family. General Philip Bolte on left, and Mrs. Bolte, center.



General Philip Bolte, Murry Galuten and Victor Woo.



Past President Bob Myers with wife, Elva, on the left, and daughter, Pat, on the right.



Grant Brown, Victor Woo and George Gallagher. A first time that three former Quarter Master members got together at a Reunion.



Bob Ellis and his wife cut the light fantastic at the Banquet Dance.

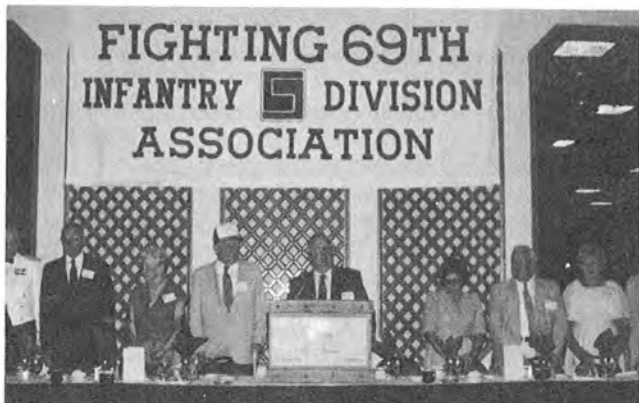
40th Anniversary Reunion Mountain Shadows Marriott Scottsdale, Arizona — May 1983



Frank Nemeth with cool hands mixing drinks in Hospitality Room.



Inside the Tucson, Arizona, Tour Bus.



Head table at Saturday Night Banquet honoring our 40th Anniversary Reunion.



Registration Crew hard at work getting everyone lined up for an enjoyable Reunion.



Musical entertainment at the PX Beer Party on Friday night.



Hoofing-it-up on the dance floor at the PX Beer Party.

Dottie did a nice selling job of Hats and Plackets for the Division Association at the Tri-State Weekend in New Philadelphia, Ohio. I am sure Bill and Reba Sheavly would have done well also, with the smaller items to the many 'First Timers' of not only Tri-State but of any 69th Division function. Many liked the Tote Bags and were told to write Bill and Reba. I believe we have some new 'First Timers' for the Orlando Reunion. They loved the Tri-State and I am sure they will fit in perfect with the Division Reunions.

Clarence tells me also, that he picked up 8 new names at the Tri-State Weekend. Wasn't that wonderful getting that many names. We did send out News Release Letters, and I think this is where most of them came from. A new name, **Clarence Frederick**, is in a Veteran's Administration Hospital in Dayton, Ohio, so we do have 69th Buddies in hospitals. This is the second I have heard of.

In the next Bulletin, No. 2 — January, February, March, April, 1984 — you will see on pages 2, 3, 4 and 5, corrected copy of the Division Association Constitution/By-Laws, and Scholarship Fund. Keep them in a safe place as it may be years before they are reprinted.

We are going to have a big Bulletin so I better close for now. Before I do, I'll just say that I went into the hospital on October 3rd and operated on for a hernia, October 4. By the time you are reading this Bulletin I should be back to work. This has caused no delays in the Bulletin and Dues Cards.

May I also repeat that any Group or Unit having Mini Reunions or Weekends, get your information in early to me, Earl Witzleb, and I'll get it in one or even two Bulletins before the event happens. I like to know this at least one year ahead of time due to the fact that we only put out three Bulletins a year, which makes scheduling hard, due to the time problem of the Bulletins. The three periods Bulletins are published for are: January, February, March, April, 1984 — May, June, July, August, 1984 — September, October, November, December, 1984.

Read your Calendar of Events for deadlines.

* * * * *

(Editor's Note: Thanks for the picture Marge. Hope it reprints well in the Bulletin. Notice our 69th Memorial in the front left portion of the picture at the base of the tree. Next time we have a Reunion in that Eastern area we should have a tour going to visit it at Valley Forge. It would be interesting to hear from other 69th members who have visited our Memorial and Tree during the last few years. I am wondering if the Memorial needs a cleaning and feel it just might be time we give a donation to the Freedom's Foundation, as we do in sending money to the Overseas Flower Fund. The 29th Division supports this cause. Comments are welcome. Might say Margie McCombs is our Ladies' Auxiliary Sunshine Lady and once you attend a Reunion she gets your name and children's names so that she can send Birthday and Anniversary Cards at the appropriate time of the year. If you have attended a Reunion during the past many years and aren't getting a card, do write Margie and I'm sure she has a reason why you aren't receiving them. It just might be your own fault. Ladies' Auxiliary Dues money is used to support this wonderful project of the auxiliary).

* * * * *



Nemeth Gets Home

Hi 'Ya, Dottie and Earl:

Since we last saw you, I'll give you a report on our car troubles. As you know we had to get a room and stay Sunday and hoped to leave on Monday. It sure was lonely in that motel. I checked with the front desk and every body left on Sunday except us. We had met a couple from Girard, Ohio, who knew my Dad and worked with me in the McDonald, Ohio, mills, so they knew a lot of the same people we knew back in McDonald in 1953 — anyhow they said they might stay over another day, but no such luck they were gone also. So for excitement we went back over to "Rinks" again and got some stuff, mostly to kill time.

We didn't get much sleep Sunday night, rolled and tossed all night, just worrying about the car and getting home again. So we were up real early Monday morning and on the way to breakfast, we stopped to see the car and tell them where we were, since they were suppose to call us at the motel. So we ate half-heartily and went back to the car!

"FLASH BACK" — (When I was having car trouble Sunday, a 69'er told me to ask for Ralph at this gas station. Ralph wasn't there since he doesn't work on Sunday and I wanted his opinion about the car first, since the young guy told me we might need a new motor!!) — and they had it on the lift and were putting the cover back on the motor, so I asked the guy what they found, he said he had some bad news, I asked "how bad it was?" He said they wouldn't have to tear my motor down, since it was only "carbon" build-up on a piston wall (which is common with the gas now-a-days) and they broke it loose and now they were going to run some "engine tuner" through the motor. It smoked like hell for a while, and then they road tested it and made out the bill and it only cost around \$20.00.

We packed and left the motel around 9:10 a.m. and had a nice trip home.

Went to the Unemployment and Sub Offices yesterday and didn't have any trouble there on being late. So, all went well once Ralph showed up at the gas station.

Son called yesterday and said you had called him. "Thank you" for being concerned about us. We really had a good time and enjoyed the Tri-State Weekend very much. Looking forward to the next one. So take care and the best to you always!

Ted and Frank Nemeth

(Editor's Note: Dottie and I sure hated to leave New Philly knowing Frank and Ted were stranded for the day or longer. We are thankful it was for only a day, and it didn't cost that much, and that you didn't loose out on your unemployment. Frank is a steelworker from Fairless Works, U.S. Steel Corporation, working a few weeks, then off for a while and so on for several years now. This is the plant that may be buying steel from England. See what it does to our members and working men. Maybe we should write to our Congressmen and Senators asking them to put a big limit on holding down foreign steel).

Need A Discharge

FOR LOST OR MISPLACED DISCHARGE — WRITE:

National Personnel Records Center
9700 Page Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63132

Include: Name, Army Serial No., Date of Entry Into Service, Date of Discharge, Branch of Service, Birthdate, Birthplace, Home Address When Entering Service, and Social Security Number.



THE AUXILIARY'S PAGE

by — Dottie Witzleb

P.O. Box 69
Champion, Pennsylvania 15622
412/455-2901 (Evenings after 7:00 P.M. and Weekends)

FIGHTING 69th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION LADIES' AUXILIARY OFFICERS — 1983-1984

Anna Walters, Secretary
P.O. Box 304
Landisville, Pennsylvania 17358
717/898-8843

Margaret Kormas, President
10301 Lake Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44102
216/651-2084

Vivian Kurtzman, Assistant Secretary
610 West Maple Street
Wilmot, Ohio 44689
216/359-5487

Margie McCombs, Sunshine Lady
1184 Thorndale Road
West Chester, Pennsylvania 19380
215/269-0810

Hello Ladies:

Not only did I enjoy myself at the Division Association Reunion at Mountain Shadows, Scottsdale, Arizona, and our trip back home to Pikes Peak, Sandia Peak Tram, and a visit at the **Joe Wright's**, but the just recent Tri-State Weekend at the Holiday Inn, New Philadelphia, Ohio, was enjoyed equally well. It was like having two Reunions in one year. I enjoyed meeting all the new 'First Timers' at both the Association Reunion and the Tri-State Weekend. The association of faces and names means a great deal to me when I prepare Dues Cards. Now I really know who you are and you now know me.

It would be nice for our Auxiliary Officers to send me a picture of yourselves so that all our members and ladies get to see what you look like. It would be nice to have a write up also. In fact I am looking for news and pictures from all Auxiliary members.

Through **Bob Kurtzman** and the Tri-Staters we found another new 69th member, but he is not in the best of places, so like all good 69'ers, drop him a card of friendship and encouragement. His name and address is: **Clarence O. Frederick**, Ward 30, V. A. Patrick Hospital, Dayton, Ohio.

Now I am sure you will want to hear from our new Ladies' Auxiliary President.

* * * * *



*Paul and Margie McCombs
Margie is our "Sunshine Lady"*

President Margaret Kormas Speaks Out . . .

Greetings from Cleveland, Ohio:

First, I wish to express my thanks and appreciation to all the members of the Ladies' Auxiliary who elected me as their president for the next two years. As I said at the last meeting, "**Emily Fletcher** will be a hard act to follow," but I will do my utmost to do a job worthy of your confidence and trust in me, and hope we can work together to increase our membership and continue to improve our organization as in the past.

The National Reunion in Arizona in May is still fresh in memory, and it was just great to meet again and renew old friendships and gain some new acquaintances too. It seems the more Reunions one attends, the more enjoyable they become because you know more people and feel more "at home" . . . and you begin to realize each year how "special" all the members are who make up the "Fighting 69th Division Association."

And, now just back home from the Tri-State Weekend in New Philadelphia, Ohio, last week, I wish to express sincere "congratulations" to **Vivian and Bob Kurtzman** and their committee for their highly successful and most enjoyable Tri-State Get-Together (which proved to be more like a 5 or 6 state reunion, judging from all those who attended) — what a great party they put on for us! Every moment was filled with good food, wonderful friends, interesting places and things to see, and the warmth and hospitality of very special people! Everyone agreed that Vivian and Bob and their committee did a fantastic job and we all went home with a wonderful, warm feeling of lovely memories shared with special friends!

We can now all look forward to the next Tri-State event in Bedford, Pennsylvania, next June, and then the big National Reunion in Orlando, Florida, in October 1984.

Hope to see you all then!

Best Wishes and Regards

Margaret Kormas
President, Ladies' Auxiliary

(Continued on Page 22)

The Mystery Lady Writes



Rhoda Green and Dell Balzano

Dear Dottie:

We have just received the latest 69th Bulletin and as usual read it from cover to cover.

When I saw the "Mystery Lady" in the photograph which was published in the Bulletin, I smiled — "That's Me!"

I immediately showed it to my husband, Nat Green, C-Company 271st.

The picture was taken on the bus, on the way back from the visit to the Correctional Institution in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. If you recall, it was a very hot day and we were exhausted from the long ride. I knew someone had taken my picture, sleeping on Dell's shoulder, but I did not know who. If you know who the 'mystery photographer' is, please tell him I would appreciate a copy.

The Reunion in Milwaukee was great. Unfortunately we could not go to Arizona this year, but we expect to definitely make it next year.

We love the Bulletins.

Sincerely,
Rhoda Green
(Mrs. Nat Green)

(Dottie's Note: I thought this was Rhoda Green all along. The 'mystery photographer' isn't a man, it's a she. Hey, Mary, send Rhoda Green a copy of the picture — 5 Westwind Road, Yonkers, New York 10710).

Letters We Have Received Keep Them Coming

Dear Dottie:

Enclosed is a check for \$6.00 to cover cost of License Plate (made of aluminum) — \$4.00, plus \$2.00 to cover the cost of postage.

I have been looking for such an item and found it listed in the latest Fighting 69th Infantry Division Bulletin on page 14.

I was a member of Company-K 273rd Infantry Regiment, starting in Camp Shelby and remaining with the 69th until after the armistice in Germany, when I was transferred to the 29th Division.

Thanks for your effort to assist the 69th.

Sincerely,
Carl E. Colpean
1619 Chestnut Street
Saginaw, Michigan 48602

(Dottie's Note: Carl read his Bulletin and found the Souvenir Page).

Hi, Dottie:

Hope you and Earl had a beautiful summer. It's sure been a hot one. It will be nice to see the Fall Season come, because I believe it is the nicest time of the year.

I hope to make the Atlantic City Reunion, and if everything goes right maybe I can make the Florida one also.

Please send me the 69th Division Plates.

May God watch over all of you.

Thank you,

Alfred J. Blain
24 Mt. Royal Street
Chicopee, Massachusetts 01020

Step Ladder Afgan

Ladies, it's that time of year when winter is setting in — and it is now time to make Lap Robes for the Veterans.

Bring the Lap Robes to the Reunion in Orlando next October 1984, so that they can be distributed to the Veteran's in hospitals in the Orlando area. This is a project which the Ladies' Auxiliary has carried on for many years.

Below is a pattern which you might like to make.

STEP LADDER AFGAN (About 33 inches wide)

Pattern in groups of 18 chain, plus 10 chain.

Chain 192 — Double Crochet in 3rd chain from hook, and next 9 chain stitches. Chain 8, skip 8 chain then, 10 Double Crochet in next 10 stitches ending row with 10 Double Crochet. Chain 3 turn and repeat.

(Pattern will look very loose).

When desired length is reached twist first 8 chain group, and interweave all chain spaces (will look like a plait) to top of Afgan.

Last row 10 Double Crochet and over top of 8 chain weave Single Crochet continue to end — trim with any ending you desire.

Late News Item

Just received word from President Gallagher that Vice President Bill and Jo Beswick's son is in Williamsburg General Hospital.

They were scheduled to attend the Tri-State Weekend, but had to cancel out due to Allen being admitted to the hospital.

By the time you get this Bulletin, hopefully and prayerfully he will be home so do write a card to Allen Beswick, c/o Bill Beswick, P.O. Box 576, West Point, Virginia 23181.

* * * * *



GIFT SHOP CORNER



Bill and Reba Sheavly

Souvenirs

Some Souvenir Items are now being made available for sale through the mail besides being sold at the Annual Reunions.

William and Reba Sheavly, Souvenir Chairpersons plan to introduce more new items as often as ideas and agreements can be reached.

The following items are now for sale by sending Check or Money Order, payable to 69th Infantry Division Association.

Send your order to:

William C. Sheavly, Souvenir Chairman
218 Sacred Heart Lane
Reistertown, Maryland 21136

ITEMS:

- 69th Bumper Decal, size 3-1/2" x 5" (Waterproof)
(Identify you as a member of the 69th).
Mailed Post Paid Two for \$1.00
- 1982-1983 Pocket Secretary, with 69th Decal
(Place for appointments, birthdays, anniversaries).
Mailed Post Paid \$2.50 Each
- Chrome Zippo Lighter with 69th Emblem
(Your choice either men's or ladies' while they last).
Mailed Post Paid \$8.00 Each
- Tote Bag, 12" wide, 15" deep, side pocket, zipper top.
(A real popular item at Milwaukee Reunion).
Mailed Post Paid \$10.00 Each
- Necklace, silver or gold filled,
large 69th Emblem, 18" long
Mailed Post Paid \$9.50 Each
- Stick pin, silver or gold filled
(A nice gift for the ladies' of the 69th).
Mailed Post Paid \$6.00 Each
- Small Lapel Pin
Mailed Post Paid \$5.50
- Large Lapel Pin - Screw Back
Mailed Post Paid \$6.00
- Keytainer - Red vinyl with chain for attaching keys
- just squeeze to open
Mailed Post Paid \$2.00
- Ladies' Slim Zippo Lighter
Mailed Post Paid \$8.00
- 69th Necklace with gold filled chain
Mailed Post Paid \$8.50
- Bracelet with 69th Charm, assorted chain patterns
Mailed Post Paid \$9.50

**WHEN ORDERING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS -
SEND TO:**

Dottie A. Witzleb, Salesperson
P.O. Box 69
Champion, Pennsylvania 15622

ITEMS:

- Adjustable Hats (Both Blue Backing and
Red Backing) \$ 5.00
- Small, Medium, and Large Plackets 9.00
- Extra Large Plackets 10.00
- Extra, Extra Large Plackets 11.00
- Extra, Extra, Extra Large Plackets
(Not Available)
- Children's T-Shirt (Small, Medium, Large) 5.00
- Adult T-Shirts
(Small, Medium, Large, Extra Large) 6.00
- Umbrellas (Golf Size)
(Not Available)
- Golf Towels 5.00
- License Plates (Made of Aluminum) 4.00
- Large 69th Division Decals (Each)50
- Small 69th Division Decals (Each)25

If you send your Dues and ask for a Decal, we will be happy to send one of each to you with your Dues Card. These are for display on your car window, or on luggage, or whatever.

For Mail Orders: Add \$2.00 for the first item ordered and \$1.00 for each additional item, to cover the cost of Postage and Insurance. Send \$1.00 extra if only ordering a hat.

It has been suggested that before putting your License Plate on your car, that you would give it a coating of clear varnish, in order to protect it.

**WHEN ORDERING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS -
SEND ORDER TO:**

Clarence Marshall, Salesperson
101 Stephen Street
New Kensington, Pennsylvania 15068

ITEM:

- 69th Infantry Division History Book \$5.00
- 69th Infantry Division Shoulder Patch \$1.00

NOTE: All items will be available at all Division Association Reunions - The next Reunion October 7-14, 1984, at the Holiday Inn, International Drive, Orlando, Florida.



1. Stick Pin - Silver or Gold Filled
2. Small Lapel Pin
3. Large Lapel Pin - Screw Back
4. Keytainer - Red Vinyl with Chain for
attaching keys - just squeeze to open
5. Men's Zippo Lighter
6. 2 Year Pocket Secretary
7. Ladies Slim Zippo Lighter
8. 69th Necklace with Gold Filled Chain
9. Bracelet with 69th Charm
Assorted Chain Patterns

Members of Fighting 69th Relive Drive Across Europe



Reliving old stories and catching up on new developments in one another's lives are (From Left to Right): General Charles Bolte, Frank See, Cliff Blank and Bob Myers, all of whom served with the 69th Infantry Division — the Fighting 69th — in World War II.

by — Dave Eskes - Gazette Northeast Bureau

It was a beautiful day at Mountain Shadows Resort, as guests lounged by the pool or walked about in the shade. The sound of a lawn tool buzzed lazily in the distance. It was a good day to be alive.

Frank See sat at a table in the Mesa Room talking to Alex Lasseigne, his Texas drawl counterpointing Lasseigne's Louisiana patois. Cliff Blank purposefully smoked a cigarette and listened.

It appeared the gang was all here . . . , well almost the whole gang. Lee Adams wasn't here. Neither was Bob Zimmerman, Martin Lofgren, Louie Parath or Kirk Sinclair.

All served with the 69th Infantry Division in the waning days of World War II, when the 69th drove across Germany to the Elbe River and linked up with the Russians, the first allied troops to do so.

Adams and his colleagues are listed "In Memoriam" at the back of the divisional history, joining more than 400 other combat dead — men forever young in the memories of comrades now on the far side of middle age.

They didn't live to see suburban sprawl, shopping malls, television, men on the moon, the Cold War, computers, Vietnam, civil rights marches or energy shortages. They didn't live to see their grandchildren.

See, Lasseigne and Blank were more fortunate — with other 69th Veterans, they survived to pay homage to the dead. By the same token, they also survived to celebrate the living at this 37th Annual Reunion.

The 69th Division was born May 15, 1943, at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. Over a span of 18 months, it trained 20,000 Troops for overseas duty amid dust, heat and chiggers. For a while, it seemed the 69th was doomed to stateside.

But in 1944, it shipped overseas as a Unit, with forward elements arriving in England on November 29. It got there just in time for "The Battle of The Bulge," Germany's last great offensive.

The Allies, caught off guard, were staggered by the onrushing Panzer Divisions. Reinforcements were ordered, and on Christmas Day 2,200 soldiers left the 69th to help plug-up the gaps.

"I remember they sent them off to the Bulge and brought them back — the wounded, that is — the same night," said Al Kormas, a Sergeant who served with the 69th from beginning to end.

A month later, the whole Division left Southampton for La Havre, France. The Bulge had been contained but the Germans, who were defending their own soil now, fought on tenaciously.

Pictures in the Divisional History Book show shattered homes and rubble amid snow and mud. Bare trees serve as a backdrop to a makeshift German cemetery of crosses with neatly painted swastikas.

The 69th first made contact with the enemy at Aachen, just before reaching the Siegfried Line and relieving the battered 99th Division on February 10. The Division halted there until February 27.

Clarence Marshall will never forget those two weeks. On February 23, he took a wrong turn with his ration truck. Backing up, he hit a land mine. "I wasn't in combat long," he said apologetically.

Marshall spent 14 months in nine different hospitals. He lost the sight in his right eye, 50 percent in the left and the partial use of his left shoulder. Discharged, he asked for his old civilian job, but was refused.

Marshall, 60, has been on disability ever since, although his involvement in handling Division business has turned into a full-time job. He has attended 33 consecutive Reunions.

It also was during this brief respite that See and Lasseigne hooked up with the 69th. they were members of the 777th Tank Battalion, which had fought with the 28th Division in the Battle of The Bulge.

(Continued on Page 25)

MEMBERS RELIVE DRIVE ACROSS EUROPE — (Continued from Page 24)

See, a former Phoenix car dealer, owns a dealership in Midland, Texas. Lasseigne, who lives in Cut Off, Louisiana, 80 miles north of New Orleans, makes nets for shrimpers.

Lasseigne, who was a Private in a light tank company, remembered going for 28 days without a change in uniform. See laughed loudly as his friend recounted the story.

"They took us into a tent and made us take off our clothes and throw them in a corner. Then, they deloused us and sent us to the showers. At the other end of the tent they gave us new clothes. We were good for another month."

See recalled that the battle for Leipzig on April 18, German SS Troops holed up in Napoleon's Tower, a monument with 21-foot-thick walls, and refused to surrender.

"The artillery shells just bounced off the walls," said See, a Sergeant at the time. "The bodies around the tower got so thick that we had to call a truce to gather the dead." Leipzig capitulated the next day.

"To me the War was like a dream," said Lasseigne, a wiry, energetic man. "We didn't worry about getting killed. We worried more about freezing to death. It was just a job we had to do."

Cliff Blank, Warren Metchell and Julius Slopek joined the 69th Division east of the Rhine River, after it had crossed Victory Bridge, the 1,370 foot pontoon replacement for the collapsed Ludendorff Bridge at Remagen.

The three were members of the 661st Tank Destroyer Battalion, which had spearheaded the First Army into Germany. The 661st was equipped with fulltracked, self-propelled guns.

The vehicles were powered by aircraft engines, had a cruising range of 200 miles and could reach 70 miles per hour. They were used to support infantry as well as destroy tanks.

"We moved mostly at night," said Blank, a resident of Victoria, Texas, who owns a firm manufacturing oilfield tools. "Our purpose was to outflank enemy tanks, not shoot it out with them. Our vehicles only weighed 18 tons."

At 68, the burly former First Sergeant looks as though he wouldn't have much trouble taking over a company today. He plans to retire next January. "I've had enough," he said.

Mitchell, 57, is general manager for the Belmont County Water District in Belmont, California. He recalled the liberation of a concentration camp, one of many liberated by the 69th.

"The odor of those places I'll never forget," said Mitchell, an ex-Corporal. "It was a physical-chemical smell. When the people in towns nearby said they didn't know about it, they weren't telling the truth."

Slopek, 59, was a Sergeant responsible for two security vehicles and four guns as the 661st rolled across Germany with its contingent of infantry. He is a processing and design manager for Ford Motor Company.

"I was a super patriot," said Slopek, echoing the sentiments of those seated at the table with him. When his son went to Vietnam, he changed. "It was all political," he said. "Boy, did I make a 180 degree turn."

But in April, 1945, Vietnam was nearly 20 years away. World War II was all but over and soldiers who had accustomed themselves to death began to think about survival.

Reluctant to jeopardize lives, commanders turned to massed artillery. When the 69th met stiff resistance at Eilenburg, it saturated the city with 10,000 rounds of white phosphorus and high explosive shells.

At Torgau, the Division's last battle, it was the same story. The city was leveled when fanatical SS troops refused to surrender. In both cases, a capitulation was forthcoming.

It was at Torgau that the American advance ground to a halt. "We sat there at least 10 days doing nothing," recalled Adam Manz, 73. "We had a clear road to Berlin — it was only 27 miles northeast of us."

In three months of fighting the 69th had driven 400 miles through 500 towns and taken 35,000 prisoners-of-war.

Although it had been rumored the German commander east of the Elbe wanted to surrender Berlin to the Americans, the fate of the German capitol already had been decided at Yalta. It would go to the Soviets.

Blank recalled that the 661st made visual contact with the Soviets across the Elbe but were prevented from linking up. "Our highest ranking officer was only a Lieutenant Colonel," he explained, "so we had to retire."

Later, the camera caught Lt. Albert L. Kotzebue of the 273rd Infantry Regiment reaching for the hand of his Russian counterpart in the 58th Guard Division, 34th Corps of General Jadv's 5th Ukrainian Army. The photo is a classic.

Other pictures show Americans and Russians mixing. The troops are smiling and appear to be having a good time, the ranking officers appear strained and uncomfortable. They are glimpses into the future.

"It started getting political then," said See. "It started when we met the Russians on the Elbe and it carried over into Korea and Vietnam."



Colombo Writes

Dear Earl:

We would like to thank the Tri-State Group and especially **Bob Kurtzman** and his wonderful wife, **Vivian**, and their committee for the wonderful weekend we spent in New Philadelphia. It brought back memories of the New York Chapter when it was active and we used to have one night dinners, or a picnic in Cunningham Park in Queens, where one of the biggest entertainments was the Indian leading the children around the area.

I didn't know we had such a large amount of name dropers. I'll bet a lot of men who weren't there — had their ears ringing, while they were talked about. I for one met a man I hadn't met in some 30 years or so. I heard men saying I haven't seen you since we left that place 38 years ago, and you haven't changed — except!!

I hope to hear from some of the men in the 'Down-States Area' who would like to have such a Weekend Event. Down-States Area includes: New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, part of Massachusetts — say within the distance of 200 miles, or even more if they want. Let's hear from you who are interested. The place to write is to me: **Philip Colombo**, 156-20 65th Avenue, Flushing, New York 11367.

It is quite possible that we could arrange such an event before October 1984, as this could be a prelude to the Orlando, Florida Reunion, which should be a very successful Reunion.

So, Old Buddies — let's get in touch with one another and get the ball rolling. Get in touch with me as soon as possible.

Philip Colombo



Along 150 Miles in Reich

THIS ARTICLE APPEARED IN THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER APRIL 13, 1945.

by — Ivan H. (Cy) Peterman
Inquirer War Correspondent
By Wireless
Copyright, 1945, The Philadelphia Inquirer

WITH U.S. FIRST ARMY SPEARHEADS OUTSIDE LEIPZIG, April 11 (Delayed). — Merrily we roll along, a vast column of tanks and infantry riding trucks, armor and jeeps, cutting a 20-mile swath through the heart of Deutschland near Leipzig, with hardly a fight worth the name.

It is truly fantastic — a roaring irresistible "ride of American Walkures" that leaves stunned Germans eating dust in village streets or standing in their fields appalled by its might.

I have driven 150 miles through Germany today and haven't heard a shot fired. I haven't seen a single body beside the road, although yesterday there were German dead at a few bridges. I see wide half-plowed valleys with red-tiled roofed burghs right and left, through which reconnaissance units dash, pausing only long enough to accept surrenders and consign straggling Wehrmacht troops rearward.

BIG PARADE IS ON

This is again a big parade. It's more powerful than even in France, more satisfying because these are Nazis and Herrenvolk who watch with eyes bulging, for most of them didn't even suspect that we were coming.

In our wake are displaced internationals, some trying now to follow the Yanks eastward to meet the Russians, clamoring and jabbering, pushing a few belongings behind the conquering procession.

GAINING 30 MILES A DAY

Today our armor raced ever closer to Leipzig — I rode with the 69th Infantry Division commanded by Major General Emil F. Reinhardt. They are averaging 30 miles a day under the driving order of General Reinhardt, who has motorized everyone for the race across Germany.

Only handfuls of Germans still resist, there's a fight at a town just south of our area, where prisoners said the enemy would hold out to the last man. Few bridges are being blown up now as the Germans scramble madly to reach them. In our van Americans are rumbling along, raising columns of dust in the bright sunshine of the Nazis' darkest spring.

RACE AFTER TROOPS

Starting at Handmunden, we raced after troops through Goettingen, Heilingen and Kolleda. The only unfriendly soldiers I saw were in civilian clothes and were feeding German deserters in town hall.

Armor was in Clingen Gruessen this morning but raced ahead and is still going as I write. We are using artillery liaison planes to locate other spearheads and keep in touch, for the front is fluid and nobody is sure where the other units have penetrated.

LIKE NAPOLEON'S ADVANCE

It's up and down and roll till dark, with infantry trailing a few miles behind tanks, as divisions move shoulder to shoulder and continue abreast. Germany never saw anything like this invasion since Napoleon rolled into Jena for his great victory some 140 years ago and took this identical route.

As I jeeped 60 miles an hour today along roads equal to America's best, I traversed many towns where people had

barely time to scrutinize the Yanks before they passed, clearing out the enemy in a few minutes, knocking out lone guns, smashing through flimsy defenses or just busting through without firing a shot.

NO BATTLE WEST OF ELBE

One communications outfit grabbed a monorail car, rigged up a telephone and spun down the long-deserted railway line. From Major Maxie Thurmond, of Athens, Georgia, I learned that the last Hun tanks which the infantry encountered were way back at Handmunden. There seems no possibility of any conflict this side of the Elbe River, if there's any defense there. Except for the network of towns fringing Leipzig, that great city should be entered soon.

Prisoners are coming in small clusters. One division got 881 yesterday, but only 220 so far today. Tanks and tank destroyers rolling ahead of doughboys tell the German troops to disarm and wait until the infantry can scoop them up.

IN TOWN NEAR LEIPZIG

The last word was that our armored lads stood in a small town near Leipzig. There was no heavy fighting so far and the only casualties were from an occasional sniper. Our forces are averaging 40 miles a day. They have encountered only one mine field and have had to destroy hardly any towns east of the Weser.

From the worried Burgomeister in Schlotzheim I learned that he fears Nazi reprisals and that the American advance caught the whole countryside completely by surprise. The first inkling they had was the arrival of our tanks as no Wehrmacht unit had defended this vicinity. With a population of 3800, the town manufactured rope and other products and farmed the fertile valley where today I saw plowing with cattle oxen and one horse and with mostly women working the fields.

SLAVES RUN AWAY

"The foreign workers all ran away yesterday," the Burgomeister said, "when the Americans came. We had about 400 who lived in camps.

"We had trouble feeding them and yesterday, when you came, they broke into the shops and stole our food."

The Burgomeister, who has been a minor official for 34 years, spoke with pitiful shrug. He was sourpussed, mean and afraid for his miserable neck and while he talked to me he clutched a black book embossed with the Swastika.

KEPT IN MAYOR'S POST

A burgomeister for two years, he was told to carry on by Allied Military Government officials and given to understand that he had better do it right or else. He has two sons prisoners of war in America and another missing. He is a veteran of the First World War and grudgingly admitted it was better to have the Americans here than the Russians.

But funniest was crestfallen dismay which our arrival created among the good Nazis obviously left unprepared by Goebbels' propaganda. As his predecessor was drafted into German Army, the Burgomeister had quite a job corralling deserters into the city center for delivery by the noon deadline.

I talked with him in front of the luxurious quarters which Frau Philippine von Loeben used prior to the arrival of our officers. Her quarters were filled with stolen goods, doubtless brought by her cavalry captain. The Yanks had lunch there before racing forward and in turn took a few souvenirs.

Among those who dashed toward the Elbe today with the 69th Infantry Division were Private First Class Harold Stambaugh, of 822 S. Beaver Street, York, Pennsylvania; Arthur Treible, of Dover, New Jersey; Johnny Burns, whose dad is a Philadelphia policeman, and Jerry Leib, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, all headquarters drivers who escort commanders along the fast-moving front. They stopped before Frau von Loeben's Schloss while lunch was on, then hit the road again.

Furnished by — Harold Stambaugh

Note of Thanks From 2nd Lt. Curtis Herring Better Known As "Beemer" Herring

Dear 69'ers:

Thank you very much for the card signed by all that was sent to me for my graduation.

I'm grateful for all of your unending support as I attended Georgian Military College to receive both my Associate degree in Engineering and my Commission into the United States Army Reserve, as a 2nd Lieutenant.

I'm sorry that I missed the Reunion in Scottsdale, but my calendar was marked so that I would be thinking about you all on those special days. I thoroughly enjoyed the first Reunion there and I was more than anxious to return.

You have all made me feel right at home in the 69th Division and for that I will be forever grateful.

Thank you again, for all that you have done for me, my loving mother, and for the Herring family as a whole. Thank you again, for everything.

With all my love and thankfulness.

Curtis W. Herring

Report on The 69th Recon Reunion

I wish to report that the 69th Recon Troop held their Annual Reunion on September 16, 17 and 18 at the Holiday Inn, Inner Harbor, Baltimore, Maryland.

We stuffed ourselves with the famous Chesapeake Bay hardshell crabs and partook of other good food and some small quantity of beverage on Friday evening. On Saturday morning, we had our annual meeting wherein, among other items of business, we decided to meet in York, Pennsylvania, in 1984 with this author as the host.

We visited the aquarium around noon and then spent the afternoon and evening reminiscing about our previous adventures. Our hosts were **Robert Steward** and **Nick Zins** and they did all in their power to show us a good time. It was a splendid Reunion.

It is simply amazing to see that the fellowship that has existed between these men has not only persisted, but has grown stronger with the passage of time. It is refreshing and exhilarating to undergo this experience. I am already looking forward to September 14, 15 and 16, 1984.

Sincerely,

Harold E. (Hap) Stambaugh

Warren Alford Proud of 69th

I am very proud to be able to say that I was very proud to have been a member of the 69th Division and to have served with the men of Division Headquarters. Later, before we left Camp Shelby, I was transferred to the Quarter Master Company and I won't forget the friends I made in the M.P. Platoon. (I was at that time, Sgt. Warren H. Alford of New

Orleans, Louisiana). I was in charge of the Bull Gang. We dug garbage pits, slit trenches, put up Division Headquarters tents in the field, etc. The men in the Bull Gang were all good men. So help me, when a member of the Bull Gang pulled Guard Duty, we saw to it his shoes were shined, pants tucked in at the right length, and rifle cleaned. We all did work together.

I was sorry to have been transferred to Quarter Master, but I found that men of the Quartermaster Company were just as fine and did a fine job no matter what the job was, and I say this for the men of all the Units of the 69th Division.

I have a lot of fond memories of my service after I left the Army in 1946. Went to work for the Veteran's Administration. Then went to work for the ICRR for 12 years. Went to college — took the National Teachers Exam, and passed, and taught school. While working for the railroad, I was married and we had two sons. Then I worked for the Tulane Medical School in the capacity of Supervisor of Buildings. Retired from there two and a half years ago. I am now working for the Clerk of Court here in Gretna, Louisiana (Jefferson Parish).

After I was married, in 1952, I lived across the street from General Maraist, Artillery General. He still carried a walking cane — a fine gentleman.

Just a word to say I was proud to have served with General Bolte — set his tents up — go with him to set up areas where the Headquarters was to be located, while we were in the field. He was some General, believe me. I remember his son too, Glenn. The General's Driver used to take care of him, and the General too.

Since the Reunion here in Louisiana, I've been in the hospital several times — doing fine now and planning to go to the Reunion in Florida in 1984.

I may not be able to put into words here in this letter — but I hope you all will read between the lines, as to my feelings for the 69th Division and the men I served with.

One thing more — the Scholarship Fund is a great thing. My check included here is for my Dues and the rest to whatever use you determine — plus a Rose to the guys we left "Over There."

Respectfully,

Warren H. Alford
114 East Randall Court
Gretna, Louisiana 70053



Ed Kiefer and Don Detwiler of B-Battery 461st AAA Battalion display their limit of Chinook Salmon which they caught at Long Beach, Washington. Ten of the men took this fishing trip after their Reunion at Portland, Oregon.

Picture furnished by Larry Brown

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS AND COMMUNICATION SCHEDULE

May I just make note to all Leaders of Chapters, Groups, Branches, Companies, Regiments, Recon, Artillery and T.D.'s to get your Activities Schedules in to Box 69, Drawer M., Champion, Pennsylvania 15622, as early as possible. We try to work at least a year ahead, as we only put out three Bulletins a year. When mailing in this information, do send your organization's name, person in charge (Chairman), address, city, state, zip, telephone numbers including area codes), dates, location, and anything else that you feel might be of interest for the outfit to know. This may also bring a few new faces, or two, to your group.

DECEMBER 31, 1983

Deadline for pictures and material for
Volumn 37, No. 2 Bulletin
January-February-March-April
Bulletin due out to members in March

Mr. Al Faison and Holiday Inn Orlando, Florida Reunion
Committee — Take Note.

APRIL 30, 1984

Deadline for pictures and material for
Volumn 37, No. 3 Bulletin
May-June-July-August
Bulletin due out to members in July

JUNE 7, 8, 9, 10, 1984

Tri-State Spring and Fall Weekend
The Family Group
(Inviting Central Pennsylvania Branch,
Harrisburg To Meet With Us This Weekend)
Quality Inn — Bedford, Pennsylvania
Route 220 North
Bedford, Pennsylvania 15522



Committee

John and Elizabeth Hawley
330 East Fort Street
Shippensburg, Pennsylvania 17257
717/532-2974

Enrico and Ann D'Angelo
516 Chestnut Street
Saltsburg, Pennsylvania 15681
412/639-3037

W. "Bill" R. and Betty Foster, Jr.
803 Elkwood Drive
New Cumberland, Pennsylvania 17070
717/774-2396 (Home)
717/774-0870 (Office)

Earl E. "Skip" and Dorothy A. "Dottie" Witzleb, Jr.
R.D. No. 1, Box 477
Acme, Pennsylvania 15610
412/455-2901 (Evenings after 7:00 p.m. and Weekends)

SEPTEMBER 10, 1984

Deadline for pictures and material for
Volume 38, No. 1 Bulletin
September-October-November-December
Bulletin due out to members in November

SEPTEMBER 20, 21, 22, 1984

461st AAA Battery-B
Motel/Hotel — Next Issue
East Coast Reunion
Erie, Pennsylvania

Committee

William "Bill" Blyer, *Chairman*
2625 Post Avenue
Erie, Pennsylvania 16508
Telephone — Next Issue

Edward Gergerich, *Assistant Chairman*
318 Hawthorne Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15209
412/821-2016

OCTOBER 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 1984

69th Infantry Division Association Annual Reunion
(Please Note — Change of Motel and Dates)

Holiday Inn — International
6515 International Drive
Orlando, Florida 32809
305/351-3500

(The Land Of Disney World — In Sunny Florida)



Al Faison, *Co-Chairman*
428 Sparrow Drive
Satellite Beach, Florida 32937
305/773-7250

Jack D. Hubbard, *Co-Chairman*
2852 Wild Horse Road
Orlando, Florida 32822
305/273-6466

(Continued on Page 29)

OCTOBER 7-14, 1984

Battery-C, 724th Field Artillery
Orlando, Florida

(To be held in conjunction with
69th Infantry Division Association Reunion)

Vernon E. Tritch, Jr., Co-Chairman
3259 Foxiana Road
Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057
717/944-9080

John W. Turner, Co-Chairman
2148 East Lake Road, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30307
404/378-3543

SEPTEMBER — OCTOBER 1985

69th Infantry Division Association Annual Reunion
Resorts International Casino
Atlantic City, New Jersey

Walter and Ann Doernbach, Chairpersons
128 South Cincinnati Avenue
South Egg Harbor, New Jersey 08215
609/965-1074

(Members living in New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and
Eastern Pennsylvania willing to work on this committee
call the above number).

AUGUST 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 1986

69th Infantry Division Association Annual Reunion
Pittsburgh Marriott Inn — Greentree
101 Marriott Drive
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
412/922-8400

(Family Week — We want to see you adult members and
your adult children at this Reunion, with their children.
Shall we have a baby sitting room like those of years gone
by?)

Earl E. and Dottie A. Witzleb, Jr.
P.O. Box 69, Drawer M
Champion, Pennsylvania 15622
412/455-2901 (Evenings after 7:00 p.m. and Weekends)

Committee

Paul and Marion Shadle, Reservations
Clarence Marshall, Membership
Adam Manz, Division Hospitality Room
(Sponsored by the Tri-State Group)
William "Bill" and Reba Sheavly, Souvenirs
Enrico and Anne D'Angelo, Tours
Robert and Vivian Kurtzman, Tours
(And the rest of the Tri-State Family Group)

MOVING

Please print your new address below:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please send this form and your old address label to
National Headquarters, 101 Stephen Street, New
Kensington, Pennsylvania 15068.

Please allow six weeks advance notice.

HELP!

To The Men of The 69th Infantry Division

During the latter stages of World War II (approximately
from March-May), three all Black Platoons were assigned to
the three Regiments of the 69th respectively.

I am interested in identifying, locating, and interviewing
as many of these black veterans as possible. I would appreciate
communicating with anyone who can be of assistance in this
project.

Thank you,

Jerome H. Long

Professor Jerome H. Long
Box GG, Wesleyan Station
Wesleyan University
Middletown, Connecticut 06457
203/347-9411, ext. 2689 (Office)
203/344-0724 (Home)

Going To Orlando, Florida

Cut and Mail or Take a Photo Copy

Early Hotel Reservations —

1984 Holiday Inn Reunion, October 7-14, 1984.

Mail to:

Ms. Suzanne Gary, Reservations Manager
Holiday Inn
6515 International Drive
Orlando, Florida 32809
Phone: 305/351-3500

I/We plan to arrive (Day and Date)

I/We will depart (Day and Date)

Room(s) Desired:

_____ Single \$48.00 _____ Double \$48.00

_____ Suites Single or Double \$96.00

Send Confirmation To: 69th Infantry Division Member

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Unit: _____

(Editor's Note: The following information is
something that we would prefer not to have to report.
John G. Barnett, 343 Eighth Street, N.E., No. G-1,
Atlanta, Georgia 30309, who formerly served with
both A & B Battery of the 880th Field Artillery recently
informed us that he is recovering from a heart at-
tack that he had in August of 1983. If you served with
him, or remember him, drop him a line to let him know
that you are thinking of him and wish him a speedy
recovery.

Division Association Chapter (Group) Meetings Across the United States

We are interested in all news from Chapters, Groups, Branches, Companies, Regiments, and whatever, for this column, as it may help build up your events. Mail your date(s), location, banquet cost, and room rates, plus a good write-up, to Box 69, Drawer M., Champion, Pennsylvania 15622, as early as possible. Then follow through with a write-up immediately after the event(s).

Tri-State Group

THE FAMILY GROUP

Western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Western Maryland,
Western New York, West Virginia, and now —
Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky and Virginia

Earl and Dottie Witzleb, Jr.

R.D. No. 1, Box 477

Acme, Pennsylvania 15610

412/455-2901 (Evenings after 7:00 P.M. and Weekends)

We have grown, yes "The Family Group" has included the bordering states of our Tri-State states, and now come up with nine states in our group. Welcome to all you members in the above mentioned states, and do join us to be a part of "The Family." We do not plan to solicit members as we have in the past, but ask that anyone interested in our group write to the above address stating your interest and asking to be put on the Tri-State Roster. Do include the following in your letter or cut out this form.

Name: _____

Wife's Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Unit: _____

Telephone/Area Code: _____

(Donation \$1.00 or more to cover the cost of mailing flyers and roster.

Well it is all over and what a long weekend we had at the Holiday Inn, New Philadelphia, Ohio. Each day was warm and sunny until Sunday, our departure day, when it rained for a short time. The group gathered on Wednesday and took advantage of the well stocked bar until bed time. We did take time out to have dinner at the Plain and Fancy Restaurant a few blocks up the road from the Inn. Thursday was the planned motorcade, and Friday the great bus tour. It took two busses to transport our group. During the two days we visited Warther Museum, Endres Floral Company, Schoenbrunn Village, Heini's Cheese Company, Berlin's Quilt Shop, Schrock's Cabinet Shop, the Der Dutchman Restaurant, the Alpine Historical Center, Breitenbach Winery, and all the rest of the Amish Country with the big stop being Sugarcreek. Friday evening was spent relaxing and mixing with the group in the hospitality room. Saturday morning found those late arrivals visiting some of the tour attractions or visiting the Football Hall Of Fame in Canton, Ohio, on their own.

With the good turnout National President George Gallagher called a meeting for 10:30 A.M., Saturday, for all the 69th Division Association Officers present, to bring them up to date on the Division level happenings. Would you believe those present included: the President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Chairman, and 7 of the 28 Board of Directors, and 2 of the 4 Ladies' Auxiliary Officers.

Our own Tri-State meeting was held at 2:10 P.M., lasting one and a half hours. The membership was briefed on the Bedford Weekend, June 7 to 10, 1984, by Bill Foster followed by Dell Balzano and Alex Kormas on their Weekend a year later

in June of 1985. Tri-State is only holding one Weekend these two years, due to the late National Division Association Reunion at Holiday Inn, Orlando, Florida — October 7 to 14, 1984, and the Resorts International Casino in Atlantic City, New Jersey — 1985 Reunion. George Gallagher and Earl Witzleb briefed the group, asking their support with the National Reunion. Joe George invited any one in the Baltimore area to come to the Recon Get-Together the third weekend of September. Bob Kurtzman reported 125 members attended this Weekend with 67 being "First Timers," to the Tri-State Group and of those 46 were at their first function of any 69th Division event. We also had 12 guests. Bill and Jo Beswick, our National Vice President, had to cancel the last minute due to taking their son, Allen, to the hospital. We hope Allen is in great shape by the time this Bulletin reaches his home. Earl Witzleb gave a Treasurer's Report and stated he was happy to see 3 M.P.'s., 3 Recon Troopers, 8 269th Engineers, 7 879th Field Artillery, 5 Division Headquarters, and 9 Company-1 272nd members present. He also stated "Trumpet in The Land", an outdoor drama which the group attended Thursday evening, lauded by all members, should be put on the activities of the Pittsburgh Reunion in 1986, if at all possible.

Many of the group took a dip in the pool for a couple of hours after the meeting.

The Banquet of Prime Rib was very good and tasty and enjoyed by all except Dottie and Vivian, who had fish. Our entertainment of "Rag Time Tunes" by Lucille Flora, a 91 year young lady, was a big hit. We tried to keep her all evening, but she had one more stop to make that night.

Robert and June Ainsley were introduced as parents having two Division Association Scholarship Winners. Their son is now employed in St. Louis and a daughter, Leslie, is now attending Purdue University. Also in attendance was guest Pat Dal Porto, son of Lido Dal Porto, who was a scholarship winner, way back when we only gave \$125.00 per year. Pat is now working in Ohio, and praised the Division Association membership and Scholarship Committee to the highest degree. He is a fine young man. The Division can sure be proud of him. I am sure Sammy Woolf and Bill Matlach would have enjoyed the evening talking to these people. Others mentioned at the event which someone wanted to see were: John Moriarty, Bill Beswick, Jake Stark and Ray Fahrner as you had Company members present.

Now to tell you who were present some time during the Weekend are:

1. Robert & June Ainley* — Co-G 273rd Inf.
Greenwood, Indiana
3. Tony Altier* — Co-B
Dover, Ohio
4. Frank Aplan** — Co-I 272nd Inf.
State College, Pennsylvania
5. Richard & Ann Ast* — Co-C 272nd Inf.
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
7. Dell & Mary Balzano — Ser. 879th F.A.
Highland Heights, Ohio
9. Wilbur & Doris Brownlee* — 879th FA.
Claysville, Pennsylvania
11. Eugene & Norma Butterfield — Div. Hq.
Rocky River, Ohio

(Continued on Page 31)

CHAPTER GROUP MEETINGS — (Continued from Page 30)

13. Donald Calhoun* — Anti. Tk. 272nd
New Philadelphia, Ohio
 14. Noble Casey — Co.-C 273rd Inf.
Akron, Ohio
 15. Eugene W. & Helen Clark* — Co.-C 272nd Inf.
Wapakoneta, Ohio
 16. William & Freda Clayton* — 269th Eng.
North Bend, Ohio
 18. Cecil & Alene Cottle* — Co.-F 272nd Inf.
Portsmouth, Ohio
 20. Phillip & Betty Colombo** — 879th F.A.
Flushing, New York
 22. Enrico & Anne D'Angelo — C. Btry. 880th F.A.
Saltsburg, Pennsylvania
 24. Lido Dal Porto** — Co.-M 272nd Inf.
Smithers, West Virginia
 25. Norman & Irene Eckman* — Co.-I 272nd Inf.
Youngstown, Ohio
 27. Ted & Rosemarie Edstrom — Div. Hq.
Fairview Park, Ohio
 29. James & Dotty Eibling* — 269th Eng.
Columbus, Ohio
 31. L. Boyd & Stella Ellsworth — 69th Recon
Steubenville, Ohio
 33. William R. & Betty Foster, Jr. — 269th Eng.
New Cumberland, Pennsylvania
 35. Wendell H. & Sally Freeman, Sr. — Co.-I 272nd Inf.
Lawrenceville, Georgia
 37. George & Vickie Gallagher — 69th M.P. & Q.M.
Beaver, Pennsylvania/Zepherhills, Florida
 39. Joseph A. & Zola George, Jr. — 69th Recon
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
 41. Samuel Grubbs — Co.-H 273rd Inf.
Allison Park, Pennsylvania
 42. John & Helen Harmon* — Co.-C 273rd Inf.
Caldwell, Ohio
 44. William & Mary Harr* — C. Btry. 879th F.A.
Fairfield, Ohio
 45. John T. & Elizabeth Hawley — 269th Eng.
Shippensburg, Pennsylvania
 47. Albert & Rebecca Hornyak** — Co.-K 271st Inf.
Cleveland, Ohio
 49. Ray & Leona Hull** — 269th Eng.
Mechanicstown, Ohio
 51. James S. Jones* — C. Btry. 879th F.A.
Solon, Ohio
 52. Frederick & Kathryn Johnson* — Co.-B 273rd Inf.
Ashland, Ohio
 54. Alex & Margaret Kormas — Hq. 879th F.A.
Cleveland, Ohio
 56. Robert J. & Vivian Kurtzman, Sr. — Co.-I 272nd Inf.
Wilmot, Ohio
 58. Arthur & Eloise Lohrbach* — Co.-D 273rd Inf.
Pemberville, Ohio
 60. L. A. (Pat) & Janice Lushbaugh*** — Co.-I 272nd Inf.
Funkstown, Maryland
 62. William & Dorothy Lutz* — Div. Hq.
Salem, Ohio
 64. Adam Manz — Div. Hq.
Elwood City, Pennsylvania
 65. Clarence Marshall — Div. Hq.
New Kensington, Pennsylvania
 66. Edward McDonnell** — Co.-I 272nd Inf.
Brooklyn, New York
 67. John & Ann Mikacinich* — Co.-F 271st Inf.
Girard, Ohio
 69. Carl & Ruth Miller** — 69th M.P.
Bucyrus, Ohio
 71. Gerald & Mrs. Moore* — Co.-I 272nd Inf.
Roseville, Ohio
 73. John W. & Arylene Mowrey, Jr.** — Co.-H 273rd Inf.
Charlestown, West Virginia
 75. Albert & Charlotte Naginonis**** — Co.-M 272nd Inf.
Aliquippa, Pennsylvania
 77. Frank & Stefania (Ted) Nemeth — 269th Eng.
Levittown, Pennsylvania
 79. Chalmers & Reita Pearson** — Co.-I 272nd Inf.
Bloomington, Illinois
 81. Ward E. & Marian Peterson* — 269th Eng.
Glen Mills, Pennsylvania
 83. William Phillips* — Co.-B 271st Inf.
Dover, Ohio
 84. Anthony & Jenny Plasic** — Co.-L 273rd Inf.
Steelton, Pennsylvania
 86. Lewis G. & Fern Pugh — C. Btry. 880th F.A.
Cadiz, Ohio
 88. Andrew Rebick** — Co.-I 272nd Inf.
Linden, New Jersey
 89. John & Esther Roth* — 661st T.D.
Bay City, Michigan
 91. Fred & Polly Schoepf — Hq. 879th F.A.
Lower Burrell, Pennsylvania
 93. Earl & Fern Schultz* — Co. A. 273rd Inf.
Girard, Pennsylvania
 95. Paul & Marion Shadle — Co.-E 271st Inf.
New Kensington, Pennsylvania
 97. Robert & Jean Shaffer — Co.-C 272nd Inf.
Massillon, Ohio
 99. Stephen & Mary Sholtis** — 269th Eng.
Ashtabula, Ohio
 101. Devern & Dolores Stone* — Co.-C 369th Med.
Sherrodsville, Ohio
 103. John & Marie Suprano — A. Btry. 881st F.A.
New Kensington, Pennsylvania
 105. Paul Swineford* — 69th M.P.
Massillon, Ohio
 106. Dale & Marietta Van Fossen* — 2nd Bn. Hq. 272nd
Vernon, Ohio
 108. Lewis L. Vaughan** — 69th Recon
Hopewell, Virginia
 109. Herman Walker* — Co.-L 273rd Inf.
Indianapolis, Indiana
 110. Robert & Jeannette Walsh* — Co.-L 271st Inf.
Aurora, Ohio
 112. Earl E. & Dorothy A. Witzleb, Jr. — Co.-E 273rd Inf.
Acme and Champion, Pennsylvania
- Guests:
114. Donald & Tibbie Tolbert — Guests of Freeman's
 116. Wilson & Bernice Witker — Guests of Lohrbach's
 118. Pat Dal Porto — Guest and son of Lido Dal Porto
 119. Russell (Buss) Harmon — Guest of Clarence Marshall
 120. Wilmer & Kathryn (Van Fossen) Kaderly —
Guest of Vivian (Van Fossen) Kurtzman
- Guests For Sunday Breakfast:
122. Delbert & Cora Van Fossen — Guests of Kurtzman's
 124. Mrs. Warren Van Fossen — Guest of Kurtzman's
 125. Ms. Carol Van Fossen — Guest of Kurtzman's
- Entertainment:
126. Lucille Flora — 91 Years Young
- Cancelled:
- William & Jo Beswick — 661st T.D.
West Point, Virginia
- Hospitalized:
- Clarence O. Frederick — (Unknown)
Ward 30, V.A. Hospital, Dayton, Ohio
- Mrs. Clarence O. Frederick — (Wife of Clarence Frederick)
Dayton, Ohio

(Continued on Page 32)

Interested and Heard From:

D. Ottaviani — Can. Co. 273rd Inf.

Niagara Falls, New York

Rowland H. Moore — Ser. 879th F.A.

Grove City, Pennsylvania

George Endrai — 269th Eng.

Lorain, Ohio

Joe & Eleanor Wright — Div. Hq.

Forsyth, Missouri

Sammy & Anne Woolf — Co.-F 273rd Inf.

Scarsdale, New York

William & Reba Sheavly — Co.-M 271st Inf.

Reisterstown, Maryland

Chester & Barbara Yastrzemski — Co.-E 272nd Inf.

Southampton, New York

***First time to any 69th Division Event*

**First time to the Tri-State Group*

****First award winners of a Tri-State Group plaque —*

Pat & Jan Lushbaugh

*****Winner of the Tri-State Weekend — Charlotte Noaginis*

Sunday Morning at 10:00 A.M. the group gathered for breakfast, then good-byes until we meet again in Bedford, Pennsylvania, at the Quality Inn, June 7-10, 1984, and at the Division Association Reunion, Holiday Inn, 6515 International Drive, Orlando, Florida. First priority should be to the Division Association Reunion. We will ask the Central Pennsylvania Branch of the 69th Division Association to join us in Bedford, Pennsylvania. Our thanks to a committee for a "perfect hit on the target."

* * * * *

TO THE TRI-STATE GROUP:

The Committee Members of the recently held Tri-State Weekend at the Holiday Inn at New Philadelphia, Ohio, on August 24-28, 1983, wish to thank all of those that attended and helped to make it such a huge success, we were indeed, "The Family Group."

To the 67 who attended the Tri-State for the first time, we hope that the fellowship and hospitality that you discovered will cause you to want to attend many, many more 69th function in the future.

We also wish to thank all of you for the many compliments we received on the tours we had planned for you and on the meals that you received as part of our package.

We will be looking forward to seeing all of you at the next Tri-State in Bedford, Pennsylvania, June 7-10, 1984, and in Orlando, Florida, at the Holiday Inn, October 7-14, 1984, at the Division Association Reunion.

The Committee

Noble Casey

Bob & Vivian Kurtzman

Lew & Fern Pugh

Bob & Jean Shaffer

461st AAA Battery B

William "Bill" Byler, Eastern Representative
Chairman East Coast — Erie, Pennsylvania Weekend

2625 Post Avenue

Erie, Pennsylvania 16508

Telephone — Next Issue

Earl:

Thank you for the nice letter and sorry for the misunderstanding.

We do not have a regular chairman.

Each year at the Reunions we elect some one to host the coming Reunion.

The Erie one will be hosted by Bill Byler with the help of Ed Gergenrich from Pittsburgh.

The Portland Reunion was hosted by George Stein of Vancouver, Washington, and myself. Of course our wives also put in a lot of work.

We had a tour of Mt. St. Helens on the 16th of June. We also toured the Oregon Coast and Multnomah Falls in Oregon. The ones from Pennsylvania really enjoyed the West Coast and all the beautiful scenery.

Sorry we missed the Arizona one, but was too close to the Portland one.

Will send you the addresses that I have of Battery-A later. Only have a few and the 15 that came to Allentown last year said they were going to have their own Reunion and didn't seem interested in coming to any more of ours.

The 1985 Reunion will be held in Idaho and hosted by Don and Gerry Castellaw of Moscow, Idaho. More on that one later for the exact date.

Do you know when the one in 1986 will be held in Pittsburgh?

There will probably be one around there in September of Battery-B.

Thank you for writing and hope we can meet some day.

Our patch is the First Army Patch. Clarence wanted to know.

Your friend from Washington,

Larry W. Brown

(Editor's Note: To you Battery-B 461st AAA boys and Larry, our 1986 Reunion in Pittsburgh will be held at the Greentree Marriott, the week of August 17 to 24. We hope that you fellows plus your lovely wives can join us at this time if not sooner. It would be a first for your group. We also hope to have the 69th Cavalry Recon Troops, C-Battery 880th Field Artillery, 724 Field Artillery C-Battery, Western 69ers, and all the many other Units of our Division Association with us as we are calling this "Our Family Reunion at The Point Where The Three Rivers Meet" — Allegheny, Monongahela and, where the Ohio River begins on it's journey on to the great Mississippi River. One of our evenings we hope to have a Talent Show so possibly you AAA members can show us some talent. We also hope to feature a Boat Ride on the Three Rivers, or a journey down the Ohio River to Wheeling, West Virginia, where we will see the Jamboree. Right now, please do think Holiday Inn, Orlando, Florida. Dottie and I will see you in Erie.

Bill, send me information of the Erie Weekend and your telephone number).

269th Engineers



Ted (Stefania) and Frank Nemeth

(Continued on Page 33)

Frank and Ted Nemeth, *Engineers Representative*
66 Gaping Rock Road
Levittown, Pennsylvania 19057
215/945-3809

Can't wait until the next 69th Division Reunion in Orlando, Florida, on October 7-14, 1984. We really ought to have a large turn out of 269th Engineers there, as so many guys have moved south over the years.

We had a nice turn out of ten couples in Arizona this year with two 'First Timers.' Rose and Pete Sample from Houston, Texas, and Norma and Ralph Samples of Scottsdale, Arizona. Pete was the 3rd Platoon Sergeant in Company-B, and Ralph was in Company-A. I sure had a job getting these two guy straight in my mind. Everytime I ran into someone, they would say Samples from Company-A is here and I'd say you mean Company-B. They'd say no he was in Company-A. Finally I met both of them and everything fell into place since I didn't know Company-A also had a Sample. From H&S Company (Heart Aches & Sorrow), we had Corky and Len Halpenny who live in Tucson and worked very hard, day and night on the Reunion Committee. Thanks to Corky and Len we had a lovely 269th Hospitality Room which was well stocked. Rose and Leon came all the way from Ocala, Florida, and must say, don't know how they do it, but they really stay in good shape and represented us admirably on the dance floor. Bill and Betty Foster, John and Elizabeth Hawley drove out to Arizona in Bill's RV (motor home), and really had a nice long vacation. I'll bet Betty and Elizabeth couldn't say too much with those two guys yaking all the time. Elizabeth just came home from the hospital and is feeling fine after her operation and now it's John's turn to take care of her for a while. Company-A had Ruth and Ray Lottie, who also drove to Scottsdale and had a nice trip so long as he didn't get any lousy gas. It was good to see them once again since they have to wait for the ice to melt up in Minnesota so they can move around. Hope to see more of Ralph and Norma Samples, now that they have attended their first Reunion. Hope that Norma is fine, physically. I know Ray Lottie was glad to see Ralph also. A-Company is sure getting more new guys out each year.

B-Company had Helen and Dan Evers, old reliables who seldom miss and when they do, I get worried and call to see if all's OK. The Evers' went to Switzerland after the Reunion so hope they had a nice trip. Rose and Pete Sample came up from Houston, Texas. I got excited when I saw the Sergeant. He was my Platoon Sergeant when I went to Camp Shelby. He showed me how to shave that 'peach fuzz' off my face (my first shave). Ted and I drove out and made it in good time, only took ten days to get to Scottsdale. C-Company had Eleanor and Jerry Rodelli who had a nice trip driving out and it seemed so odd not to see the grandchildren. So sorry to hear Eleanor's sister passed away. She had contributed many, many Lap Robes for distribution to the Veteran's Hospitals in the various states where our Reunions were held. We shall all miss her. Robert and Louise Jerram came from Indiana. I did not get to meet them. I guess we were on different trails, so to speak. Sure would have like to talk to him and find out what company he was in, maybe I'll talk to him in Orlando in 1984. Was disappointed that Charles Griffin didn't make it. Hope everything is OK. I'll close for now wishing everyone the Best of Health and Luck Always. Hoping to see you all in 1984 in Orlando, Florida. It should be a real good one to attend.

Let me hear from you,
Frank Nemeth



Corky and Len Halpenny
H&S 269th Engineers



Rose and Pete Sample
Company-B 269th Engineers
"First Timers"



Corky Halpenny, Ralph and Norma Samples (First Timers)
Company-A 269th Engineers



Eleanor and Jerry Rodelli
Company-C 269th Engineers

Western 69'ers

Leonard C. and Corky Halpenny, Chairpersons
3938 East Santa Barbara
Tucson, Arizona 85711
602/327-7412

In your last letter you asked for an item for the Bulletin regarding the next meeting of the Western 69'ers. My thoughts on it are as follows:

1. Phoenix is a far better site than Tucson;
2. Please, one of you California readers of the Bulletin, make a suggestion of a site in California if you would like to have it there;
3. My own idea is that a logical time would be May 1984, a few months before the Orlando Reunion;
4. When we meet, I would like to see another person elected as chairman, we need some rotation.

Leonard C. Halpenny

(Editor's Note: Western 69'ers, and I do believe most of you are from Arizona, do help Len out on items 2 and 3 above. Remember the deadline for the next Bulletin is December 31, 1983, so do get the ball rolling so that we can put an item in Bulletin 3. Keep me posted Len).

880th Field Artillery C-Battery

Lowell and Marjorie McFarlin, Co-Chairmen
89 North High Street
Box 236
Jeromesville, Ohio 44840
419/368-7363

Lewis G. and Fern Pugh, Co-Chairmen
Route 4, Grant Street
Cadiz, Ohio 43907
614/942-3721

On Thursday, August 18, 1983, the men and their wives and guest started arriving at the Sheraton Inn, in Greensburg, Pennsylvania, to attend the 4th Annual Reunion of C-Battery, 880th Field Artillery, and before the event was concluded there was a grand total of 58 people who had come to make our Reunion a resounding success. Included in that number were "First Timers," **Bob Sullivan** and **Bert and Annette Fejes**.

Thursday was spent welcoming one another and catching up on the events of the past year.

On Friday, we went on a Bus Tour to the L. E. Smith Glass Company, then to the Latrobe Airport to have lunch at the Blue Angels Restaurant. Then on to Ligonier to visit Fort Ligonier and the museum. Friday evening was spent having a very wonderful time at a Luncheon Pool Party at the Sheraton Inn.

Saturday was a day of your choosing until the Banquet and program in the evening.

Bob Williams gave the welcome to everyone in attendance. Then he asked for a moment of silence after reading the list of departed comrades. **Ralph Cowin** gave the invocation, followed by the meal. Following the meal we proceeded to have a cake walk, at which time 2 cakes were given away.

Lew Pugh then introduced our guests, and invited **George Gallagher**, President of the 69th Division Association, and **Earl Witzleb**, Treasurer, to each say a few words. Lew then introduced **Cliff Eley** as the Master of Ceremonies, and Cliff

led us through a very fine evening of entertainment which was presented by **Bill Pugh** and **Ray Kubacki**.

On Sunday, the 21st, after a very fine Brunch we said our fond good-byes until next year and then headed our separate ways. Indeed each and everyone of us wishing to convey to **Ann and Enrico D'Angelo** our warmest thanks for a job well done in organizing a Reunion we will never forget.

Those in attendance were:

Henry & Lucille Abbe — Rome, New York
Lowell & Marjorie McFarlin — Jewromesville, Ohio
Ray Mills — Vincennes, Indiana
John & Helen Wallace — Wellfleet, Maine
Enrico & Anne D'Angelo — Saltsburg, Pennsylvania
Anita & Carl Johns — Saltsburg, Pennsylvania
(Guests of D'Angelo — Daughter and Son-in-law)
Jack G. Runkle — Denver, Colorado
Joe & Dottie Damato — West Orange, New Jersey
Jessie Aufiero — West Orange, New Jersey (Guest)
L. T. & Grace McClain — Orange, New Jersey (Guests)
Bob & Irene Williams — Lorraine, Ohio
Ben Tobias — Sayreville, New Jersey
Bob Sullivan — Long Island City, New York
John & Marjorie Clark — Canton, Ohio
LeRoy & Gev Goetz — Germantown, Wisconsin
Nick & Anne Mancini — Marlton, New Jersey
Ray & Florence Kubacki — Reading, Pennsylvania
Marvin & Mary Reber — Reading, Pennsylvania
Cliff & Katherine Eley — Columbus, Ohio
Bud & Millie Henson — Somerdale, New Jersey
Al & Florence Philpet — Windsor, New Jersey
Don & Florence Johnson — Galesburg, Illinois
Wayne & Jayne Murphy — Mansfield, Ohio
Bill & Inez Sells — Sarasota, Florida
Ralph & Dorothy Cowin — Indianapolis, Indiana
Bert & Annette Fejes — McKeesport, Pennsylvania
Lee & Betty Meyer — St. Marys, Pennsylvania
Lew & Fern Pugh — Cadiz, Ohio
Bill Pugh — Cadiz, Ohio
Frank & Rose Kuser — Parkhill, Pennsylvania
George & Vickie Gallagher — Zepherhill, Florida (Guests)
Earl & Dottie Witzleb — Acme, Pennsylvania (Guests)



C-BATTERY 880th FIELD ARTILLERY

(On Floor - Left to Right): **Marvin Reber**, **John Wallace**, **Lew Pugh**.

(Seated on Chairs): **LeRoy Goetz**, **Bud Henson**, **Nick Mancini**, **Bert Fejes**, **Al Philpet**, **Bob Sullivan**, **Lowell McFarlin**.

(1st Row Standing): **Ray Mills**, **Ray Kubacki**, **Lee Meyer**, **Jack Runkle**, **Wayne Murphy**, **Ben Tobias**, **Joe Damato**, **John Clark**.

(Back Row): **Bill Sells**, **Henry Abbe**, **Ralph Cowin**, **Bob William**, **Don Johnson**, **Enrico D'Angelo**, **Cliff Eley**, **Bill Pugh**.

(Continued on Page 35)



(Left to Right): Ben Tobias, Ray Mills, Bob Sullivan, Jack Runkle.



Jack Runkle giving Friendship Rings to each woman present at Reunion.

(Left to Right): Irene Williams, Marjorie McFarlin, Jack Runkle, Fern Pugh, Betty Meyer, Marjorie Clark.



(Left to Right): Ralph Cowin, Frank Kusher.



Ann and Enrico D'Angelo, Hosts.



(Editor's Note: Mac, New Philadelphia was very much what I had expected and then some for the Tri-State Weekend. Remember Doctor Lew put on a good show last year for the 880th which Dottie and I attended. Once again we enjoyed being with you 880th members and wives at the Sheraton Greensburg, even if it was only for the Banquet and evening of entertainment. That Kubacki is something else).

John Walters Writes . . .

John W. Walters — Hq. 3rd Bn.-272nd
4012 Stillwell Avenue
Lansing Michigan 48910

This is my yearly note with my dues, to try and keep in touch and maybe reach an old member or two of my Comrades. Just when I had about given up hope on all of the names in print, I found about 10 names in the Spring 1983 Bulletin. I would like to have a list of Hq. 3rd Bn.-272nd, and also Headquarters and Service Company of the 272nd. I was 3rd Battalion Motor Officer.

I am back on the Army payroll again, and retired in May 1982, as a Lt. Col. AUS from the reserves. This gives my wife and I a chance to use military facilities as we travel, and it provides security and economical travel. We recommend it to those who travel in retirement.

Florence and I took a leisurely trip to Florida last March. Our first stop was at the limited facilities at Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Indiana. We used the old mobile home park, which they have a work order pending to up-grade it to a travel park. Then we went to Camp Carlson, run by Ft. Knox, and they have a laundry and shower building, and a full-time attendant with electric and water hookup. This camp is just northeast of the main post. Next we went to Eagles Rest at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky. This is on the main post out near the southwest gate, and has a full staff doing a good job at a fine facility. This was the best kept camp that we used on the trip.

We traveled on to Ft. Benning, which I am sure was home for many of us during active duty. I went back to the Harmony Church area, and it has not changed much. I made the mandatory stop at the Book Store, but they were out of "Follow Me" crests. They have a camp on the Florida panhandle, but none near the post. We went through Plains, Georgia, as required by all history types. Then we headed for Florida to check out Camp Blanding I.R.T.C., where I spent a year as a new 2nd Lieutenant. Many of our junior officers and fillers got their orders to report to the 69th from Camp Blanding. This is now a National Guard Training Camp, and they invited us to use the new Service Club on Kingsley Lake. They serve fine food and refreshments. Part of the lake shore next to the camp is a private operation as an RV campground, but was not open in March.

We went on to spend three days at McDill Air Force Base campground on the bay at Tampa. We went to baseball games at Lakeland, etc. These people provided room, even when they had double the normal capacity. The trip along the Gulf and up the panhandle took us to the camp at the Marina Run by Tyndal AFB. We spent three days there over the weekend, and they provide electric and water at each site, with pole lights at night. We continued to check facilities on our trip back North, and returned to the Eagles Rest on the way home.

Now, I want to stick my neck out and ask if we have room for a camping group to meet around the old campfire? Those who have retired to a life on wheels will know what I mean. Please let me hear from you. The Eagles Rest area is beautiful in the spring, for those in the fall of life. Those who have questions about Michigan, let me help.

My best to all.

(Editor's Note: Anyone interested in Mr. Walters campfire suggestion, contact him by letter at the above address, or by phone at Area Code 517-882-8406).



the 69th

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Hq. 269th

"Taps"

"TAPS"

There will be a great encampment
In the land of clouds today.
A mingling and a merging
Of our boys who've gone away.
Though on earth they are disbanding.
They are very close and near.
For those brave and honored heroes
Show no sorrow, shed no tears.
They have lived a life of glory.
History pins their medals high.
Listen to the thunder rolling.
They are marching in the sky!

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