

BLUE RIDGE

The Service Magazine
Volume 89, Number 360

Winter 2008
Issue 4



80TH DIVISION MONUMENT: The wreath on far left was presented on behalf of Soldiers of the Global War on Terrorism; the red poppy wreath was presented for the WW I 80th Soldiers and wreath on right for the Soldiers of WW II.

Official Publication of the 80th Division Veterans Association, Inc.
Deadline for the next issue is MARCH 1, 2009


Eightieth **Division**
Veterans Association

**BLUE RIDGE
The Service Magazine**

The official quarterly publication by the 80th Division Veterans Association.
(Incorporated as a not-for-profit organization in the State of Pennsylvania).

SECRETARY/EDITOR PNC Robert T. Murrell
630 Pennsylvania Ave., Oakmont, PA 15139-1574
412-828-7651 Fax: 412-828-7651 e-mail: divinf801@verizon.net

All communications, including articles, photos, news items for publication, changes of address, dues remittances and death notices should be addressed to the Secretary/Editor.

NATIONAL OFFICERS 2005-2006

**NATIONAL COMMANDER
Eugene O'Neil (C-319)**

4718 Col Darmell Place • Upper Maroboro, MD 20772-2801 • 301-617-1793

SR. VICE COMMANDER

CMS Donald Stewart (IT Div Hqs)

782 Pine Run Road • Appolo, PA 15613 • 412-222-8577

2ND VICE COMMANDER

PNC Max R. Schmidt

1716 Noble Place • Greensboro, NC 27408-2614 • 336-288-0983

3RD VICE COMMANDER

Secretary/Editor	PNC Robert T. Murrell (M-318)
630 Pennsylvania Ave., Oakmont, PA 15139-1574, ph: 412-828-7651	
Chaplain	PNC Angelo J. Barone (L-317)
Judge Advocate	Dempsey J. Prappas (317-AT)
Historian	PNC Robert T. Murrell (M-318)
Service Officer	PNC Felix J. Cistolo (G-317)
Flag Sergeant	
Color Sergeant	
Sergeant-at-Arms	Don Davis (K-319)
Public Affairs Officer	HNC George V. West (C-318)
Division Photographer	Tom Pappas (F-318)

TRUSTEES

1 Year: PNC Walter W. Spangler (A-319)	2 Year
2 Year: Bert Marsh	HNC George V. West (C-319)
3 Year: PNC Felix Cistolo (G-317)	Robert Moorhead (L-317)
	Robert J. Mc Donald (F-319)

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

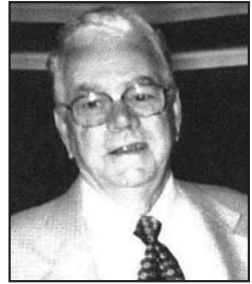
1 Year

Gerald V. Myers (G-317)
Laverne Schock (F-317)
Tom Pappas (F318)

3 Year

Jim Pietsch
PNC Russell Sick
PNC Robert Burows

GENE O'NEIL
COMMANDER



Season's Greetings
from 80th Division
Blue Ridge

*All of the Past National & Honorary
Commanders are looking forward to seeing
you at the 90th Annual Reunion in 2009*

Amendment Changes to Constitution-By-Laws

The 80th Division was deactivated a second time in 1946, but reorganized as the 80th Airborne in the 1950's and has remained active since that time as the 80th Institutional Training Division (IT) and currently as the 80th Total Army School System. (TASS)

During our Executive Council Meeting in August 2008, all 80th Division Soldiers were approved for full membership in the 80th Division Veterans Association.

Further, approval was given to open full membership to all relatives of the 80th Division Veterans; i.e., husbands, sons, grandsons, nephews, wives, daughters, granddaughters and nieces.

THEREFORE, the by-laws of the Association are to be amended as follows:

ARTICLE I

Objects

The objects of this Association are: Patriotic, Historical and Fraternal, and to uphold the Constitution of the United States of America, to foster and perpetuate true Americanism, to preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members, to assist worthy comrades and preserve the memories and incidents of our Association in World Wars of April 6, 1917 against Germany and the Central Powers, and December 7, 1942 against Germany and the Axis powers, and from the time of reactivation in 1950 forward, that any 80th Division Soldier has served.

ARTICLE II

Membership

2. Any Honorably Discharged person, or present officer or enlisted person, welfare worker or accredited new-correspondent who served with the 80th Division (between August 27, 1917 and June 26, 1919 or July 15, 1942 and May 8, 1945 or anytime following reactivation of the 80th Division in 1950 is eligible to become an active member of the Association, subject to the following provisions and qualifications:

ADD:

2c Any person who is a relative of any 80th Division Veteran shall be eligible for full membership in the Association: i.e., husbands, sons, grandsons, nephews, wives, daughters, granddaughters, nieces or nay other relative with an interest in preserving the objects of this Association.

Friendship in Luxembourg

If anyone would like information on going to the Celebration of Friendship Week in Luxembourg 18th through 23rd of June 2009 contact G. Virgil Myers at 1-683-686-2121 or E-mail him at Virgil2121@Yahoo.com.

I will be glad to make your hotel Reservation and arrange for you to be picked up at the Airport and be transported to the Hotel at no charge. You will not have to worry about transportation for the Celebration as that is furnished by the USVF of Luxembourg.

The number of people they can handle for the 65 Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge will be 60. That is the number they can safely and will fit into the places they have to eat in.

I think, we 80th Division Veterans need to reciprocate some small token of our appreciation to those people in Luxembourg who over the years have embraced our great Division. Six monuments dedicated to us and our sacrifice monuments are enough of a testament of their love toward the 80th.

This small token of appreciation from us Veterans and Families should help strengthen ties to the country of Luxembourg and its people.

We are asking the Division as a whole to take on this project. Hopefully everyone should kick in a few bucks, if so no one family is sacrificing very much but we all should get involved. Send your donation to Robert T. Murrell, 630 Pennsylvania, PA 15139-1574.

Information Wanted

Looking for veterans of the 80th Division who were involved in the action around Mertzig/Grosbous, Luxembourg on or about 22 December 1944. My grandfather served in the 915th Volksgrenadier Regiment, of the German Army and was taken prisoner in Mertzig on 22 December 1944. Please contact Thorsten Herbes at 630-497-8443 or therbes@comcast.net. Regular mailing address is 22 Monarch Drive, Streamwood, IL 60107

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

I hope all you whom I have been mailing a card to each year, will understand with money so tight and the price of mail has gone up and I have been mailing out some one Hundred Cards, it is a little too much, so that I will be sending a Greeting by this Newsletter. Thank you and may each of you have good health in the incoming year. Bob Murrell, Sect.

Please check when you last paid dues on the back Cover. A number of men are slipping up on paying their dues and are close to being dropped. Some are two years back, 3 years and you are out. Look at the cover now. Are you one of them? Also, I am a Stamp Collector, use a Commemorative Stamp on your mail. Thank you

REUNION NEWS

90th Annual Reunion — Pittsburgh Marriott Hotel
777 Aten Road, Coraopolis, PA 15108
August 26-29, 2009

Airport Marriott Hotel	\$85.00 Plus Tax
Registration	\$40.00
Wednesday Night Dinner.....	\$24.00
Old fashion Turkey Dinner with Trimmin's for our 99th Birthday	
Thursday Night, 3-Hour Dinner Cruise	\$55.00
Aboard the Gateway Clipper for the Dugout Party. You Dine and sight-see along the Ohio River	
Ladies Get-together Friday Morning	
Ladies Luncheon Sat. Noon.....	\$18.00
Saturday Night Banquet.....	\$35.00
Chicken, Salmon, Beef or Pork Chops, choice of one.	

Left in L-319 Hospitality Room

Books and Medals were found at the Hotel Carlisle Dickinson Room after the reunion. They are German Medals and a book about a school disadvantaged German Children. They may be claimed by going to bcsmith@80thdescendants.com or writing to B.C. Smith 254 Waverly Court Fayetteville, PA 17222-1202 or call 717-352-4883

“The Blue Ridge Division Answers the Call in WWII”

by Robert T. Murrell
\$30

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630 Pennsylvania Ave
Oakmont, PA 15139-1574
E-mail: divinf801@verizon.net

LIFE PLUS CLUB 2008-2009

If I have omitted your name, the last Date I entered is 1 December 2008. Please notify the Editor and it will be in the next issue of the Newsletter.

Cistolo, Felix G-317
McDonald, Robert J.C-319
McLaren, John P., Gen. 80th (IT)Hqs
Merritt, Kerry G. F-319
Moorhead, Robert L-317
Murrell, Robert T. M-318
Myers, Gerald V. G-317
Relinger, Eric Hqs 3d Bn 317
Schmidt, Max R. G-317
Schock, Laverne F-317
Sweda, Michael, Sr. H-317

CHALLENGE FUND

Jeff Wignall A Company 318th Assoc. is the first to accept this challenge.

Dempsey Prappas has come up with a donation of \$50,000 to be matched by either Grants or by the men of the 80th, for the perpetuation of the 80th, by insertions in different magazines and newspapers around the Country, and other means of getting the 80th Division before the eyes of the Public.



MEMORIAL FUND

If you have sent in money and I have omitted your name please let me know so I may give you credit. Last date I have entered a name 1st September, 2008

[PAID ADVERTISEMENT]

“Through Our Eyes: Eyewitness Accounts of World War II”

Publisher: iUniverse

ISBN: 0-595-47690-2 Cost: \$18.95

The book contains stories from fifteen men who were members of the 80th Inf. Division. These men are, Walter Barthold, Duffy Brown, Donald Davis, John Flynn, Walter Hogan, Troy Munn, Robert Murrell, Virgil Myers, John Odom, Leroy Pierce, Howard Rosenblum, Bill Siebert, Arthur Taleos, Edwin Wheeler, Jr., and Irvin Wojciechowski. Order through Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble and various other book stores.

POST NEWS

New York Post #43

Here I am settled in Columbus, Ohio and getting ourselves adjusted to the new environment. It's quite a change from Hamburg, NY. We moved 8/8/2008 from Hamburg, brought Barbara home from rehab center on 8/18/2008. We had to get settled in a hurry. Barbara is pleased and happy with our new home. It's a double home, all on one floor, wheelchair assessable, since Barbara is confined to one. Tina and Jeff live on the other side, which makes it convenient. Tina takes care of her mother, without her, I would be a wreck. I'm so fortunate. The therapists come twice a week and puts Barbara through many of her exercises. The in between days, Tina and I put her through her many exercises. She is doing pretty good, getting stronger and stands more than a minute, can't walk, but we are leaning that way. Her left side remains immobile.

I am sad to report that Post 43 lost a prominent member, Frank Watson, who passed away on 11/2/2008. He was a dependable member and will be missed very much. Our Condolence to his family. Rose Palmietto called reporting his death.

Angelo Barone calls once a week, checking on the Marsh family. We appreciate his calls.

I talked to Ken Nutting, Harry's son, last week and he reports that his dad is holding his own. He is presently living with his other son, Dave, because he requires assistance. I believe he walks some with his walker, but needs the use of a wheelchair. He has to have dialysis 3 times a week, which I understand, takes four hours. Hang in there Harry, I know you to be tougher than nails.

Walt and Annabelle Spangler stopped by to pay a visit. He is getting along very well. They got their crops harvested in October, leave that to Walt, he is an early bird with efficiency.

My son-in-law, Jeff, and I attended his son's graduation from Infantry Basic Training at Fort Benning, GA on 10/29/2008. Their ceremony was impressive and a helluva different then when I and the rest of us experienced sixty-four years ago. While there, we stopped by the 80th Division Monument and took some pictures. It looks the same as the day it was dedicated.

Hope everyone has a Very Merry Christmas and may we start looking for signs of spring.

Don't forget our Post 43 meeting in beautiful Geneva, everything is ready, all we need is dough boys like you to come and join us. All are invited. The date is May 18-22,2009. See you there.

Burt R. March, Commander
1897 Fonenay Court
Columbus, OH 43235
Home: 614-725-2573-Cell: 716-982-6696

Florida Post #47

Our Ocala meeting was a small group but it was the most compatible function we have experienced at this site. Many items were discussed. Any subject brought all attendees into the conversation. The input of each continued, no matter what the issue all were not only eager to contribute but to add humor to the enjoyment of all.

With so few ladies in attendance there was no luncheon spread but with all the restaurants in the area we went out to eat. Our next meeting will be February 19th thru the 21st 2009 at the Crowne Plaza Melbourne Oceanfront, 2605 N. A. 1 A., Melbourne, Florida. Reservations can be made by calling 321-777-4100. Be sure you mention that you are with Florida Post #47.

Hope you all have a great Holiday and looking forward to a great New Year.
Kay Rajnicek, Secretary.

Company L, 319

Another Reunion has come and gone and the number of Veterans attending is continuously shrinking. Our Company where in the past had as many as a dozen Veterans in attendance could only count on 6 at Carlisle. We sorely missed Jim Young and Vera ,John and Betts Flynn and Rudy and Carol Berman, but welcomed back John Bals who has not been attending for quite a few years.

We had a nice Hospitality Room with food and beverage available during our stay in Carlisle but unfortunately this was our last Hospitality Room. Maria and I have decided that the responsibility of the room is getting to be too much for us to handle and because no one has volunteered to take over this task, the Hospitality Room will end with fond memories. The food left over was given to a homeless shelter and the beverages were given to a local American Post.

Bill and Billie Krehbiel stopped on their way to the Reunion to see Marshall Hill and the old rascal is still pretty chipper at 90 years of age. Mary, his daughter takes good care of him.

Our special congratulations to Bill and Billie Krehbiel who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on November 23rd.

If you subscribe to *Readers Digest* or can borrow a December issue from someone, be sure to read the article about Doctor Rick Hodes, Betts Flynn's son who works in Ethiopia and who has adopted five children there.

Hope you all had a Happy Thanksgiving and Maria and I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Wealthy New Year.

Keep in touch. Hank Einolf

Ray Dumrauf Hqs 317th wishes all to know he as had complete shoulder replacement on 7 November and will be in a nursing home for rehab for a couple of weeks. He is doing well say's his daughter, Marlene Dickson.

Three Men and a Genie

Three men, a Canadian farmer, Osama bin Laden and a Submariner are all walking together one day and they come across a lantern. A Genie pops out of it and says, "I will give each of you one wish, which is three wishes in total."

The Canadian says, "I am a farmer and my son will also farm. I want the land to be forever fertile in Canada. "POOF! With a blink of the Genie's eye, the land in Canada is forever fertile for farming.

Osama was amazed, so he said, "I want a wall around Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq and Iran so that no infidels, American or Canadians can come in our precious land." POOF! Again with the blink of the Genie's eye, there was a huge wall around these countries.

The Submariner says, "I am very curious. Please tell me more about this wall." The Genie explains that the wall is 5,000 feet high, 500 feet thick and completely surrounds those countries. Nothing can get in or out; it's virtually impenetrable. The Submariner sits down, cracks open a beer, smiles, and says, "Fill it with water."

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

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www.80thdescendants.com

Lee S. Anthony, Ph.D., Commander

TAPS

I want to Thank Gayalan Wojtowicz for all the research she does on the Ancestor Network in finding all those of the 80th who have passed away and not a member of the Association and some who were. THANKS GAYALAN. Her father was in Company B-317.

Austin, Samuel M-317
1955-2nd Avenue NW
Hickory, NC 28601-5763
7/10/2008

Baron, Judson R. AT-317
7 Gould Road
Lexington, MA 02173-1003
10/6/2003
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Bauerle, Richard Frederick C-317
Lansing, MI
6/9/2008
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Bly, William 315th FA Bn
Muskegon, MI
5/27/2008
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Bodkin, Fred R. Jr. D-702 Tk Bn
108 Bodkin Road
Uniontown, PA 15401-0000
5/26/2008
Rptd by Terry Janes

Cayer, Louis F.E. 80th QM
707 Crescent Avenue
Rumford, ME 04275-2334
4/15/2008
Rptd by Son

Chism, Donald L-319
C/o 170 Rocking Chair Road #8
Spring Creek, NV 89815
8/28/2008
Rptd by Daughter Donna

Droddy, Howard W. K-317
2313 Bermuda Drive
West Palm Beach, FL 33406-5219
6/11/08

Eberhardt, Warren C. Unknown 80th
Plymouth, OH
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Gates, Lee M. Unknown-80th
Cotulla, TX
4/8/2008
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Gerson, Walter
San Diego, CA Dv Hqs
12/8/2007
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Green, Oscar Unknown Artillery- 80th
Salyersville, KY
10/15/2008
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Hill, Stanley W. 317th
Hughesville, PA
2/20/2008
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Kellcher, Stanley Unknown 80th
Baberton, OH
10/1/2008
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Lehman, Alferd Unknown 80th
Saco Bay, Maine
6/22/2006
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Lindberg, Arthur J. 314th FA Bn
Chico, CA
9/25/2008
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Marakowski, Gustave M-318
Elliottsburg, PA
3/2/2007
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Morrison, Charles Unknown 80th
Roeland Park, KS
10/18/2008
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Newton, James Unknown 80th
Bristol, TN
12/3/2008
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Pauley, Roy A. G-317
PO BOX 48
Costa, WV 25051-0048
9/5/2008
Rptd by Rose Palmietto

Phillips, Theron Arston Dv Hqs
2068 Whiterock Road
Floyd, VA 24091
12/25/2005
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Pichekoske, Lloyd J. C305-Eng
N10468 Chief Kuno Trl
Fox Lake, WI
8/28/2008
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Raummussan, Richard I-317
32 Julian Dr
Preston, CT 06365-8001
12/24.2004
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Rice, James Hobert, Jr. Hqs 80th
Little Rock Ar
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Roper, Elmer Dv Hqs
3507 Archer Drive'
Huntsville, AL
9/21/2008
Rptd by Wife

Santora, Bert Unknown-80th
Oneonta, NY
11/2/2002
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Schwettmann, Willikam H.
Unknown-80th
Las Cruces, NM
9/2/2008
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Seal, Everett Hobert Unknown-80th
Halfway, Oregon
10/20/2006
Newspaper Obit

Shevechuck, Nick Jr. F-318
933 Henry Drive
Fairmont, WV 26564-5025
4/8/2008
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Shidler, Arnold E. C-318
821 S. Market Street
Winimac, IN 46996
4/8/2008
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Singleton, John Robert
2nd Bn Hqs 318
Austin, TX
4/8/2004
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Stevens, Halbert Seeley, Col.
Unkown-80th
Portage Lake, Maine
2008
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Stoneberg, William F. Unknown-80th
Elk River, MN
4/10/2005
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Stowe, George J. Unknown 80th
Cincinnati, OH
11/9/2008
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Tankersley, Claude Nelson
Unknown-80th
Lynchburg, VA 9/29/2005
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Templin, Robert Unknown-80th
Camden, SC
2/13/2005
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Thorson, Harold N. Unknown-80th
Stanwood, WA
12/21/2003
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Timmons, Richard L. 80th MP
Ocean View, DE
10/26/2006
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Trusty, Glynn, Sr. Machine Gunner,
Unknown-80th
Russellville, AR
6/7/2008
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Turtletaub, David C. Unknown-80th
New Brunswick, NJ
1/29/2007
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Tyler, Richard D. Sr. B-317
Binghamton, NY
9/20/2008
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Van Emburg, Charles M-317
3 E. Lake Road
Madison Twp, PA 18444-4114
7/10/2008
Rptd by D. Kilfoil

Vincent, George 80th Hqs
Topeka, KS
9/24/2005
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Walker, Richard A. I-319th
2701 Park Street
Terre Hault, IN 47803-2821
1/1/2005
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Watson, Frank J. Hqs 317
95 Arthur Place
Yonkers, NY 10701-1702
11/2/2008
Rptd by Rose Palmietto

Wende, Joseph A. Unknown-80th
Wilkes-Barre, PA
6/7/2004
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Werth, Wilmer W. 305 Eng.
Wittenburg, WI
1/24/2008
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

White, Rexford C. Unknown-80th
North Scranton, PA
4/21/2006
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Wilder, Morris C. Unknown-80th
Muskogee, MI
8/20/2007
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Yurecsko, John A. 317th
Rockaway Township, NJ
2/20/2008
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

Zimmersman, Harry P. 808 TD
Ada, MI
1/24/2005
Rptd by Newspaper Obit

**NATIONAL LADIES AUXILIARY
2007-2008**

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Treasurer - PNP Namoi Brocvkman Chaplain - PNP Josephine Rakotis
Historian - PNP Helen Beers Sect - Alice Schmidt
Sgt.-at-Arms - Kay Barone

**Brett Post No. 3
Pittsburgh**

*Bruno Inselmini,
Commander*

322 Carolyn Avenue
Latrobe, PA 15650-1012

CINCINNATI POST #34

Jack Wettig, COMMANDER

Art Rehling, TREASURER
4656 McNeil Ave.,
Cincinnati OH 45212-2541
(513) 631-0031

**3rd BN., 317th INF.
POST #36**

*Robert Moorhead
Secretary*

**305th
Engineer Battalion
Post No. 40**

Russell P. Sick, Commander
3131 Pleasant Avenue
Hamilton, OH 45015-1740

**Company "H"
319th Inf. POST #33**

*Gerald G. Ohlman,
Commander*

*Irv Robinson,
Secretary*

**FLORIDA
POST #47**

*George Bell
COMMANDER*

*Francis Rajnicek
SECRETARY*
215 Bill Allen Circle, W
Sabastian, FL 32958



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80th Division Veterans Association
630 Pennsylvania Avenue
Oakmont PA 15139-1574

Desiring to maintain liaison and comradeship with Veterans and soldiers of the 80th Division, and receive the Blue Ridge Service Magazine.

DATE: _____

PLEASE SPECIFY BATTLE / CAMPAIGN: _____

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UNIT: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP + 4: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

PLEASE CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX

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- RENEWAL \$10 / YEAR
- LIFE MEMBERSHIP \$50
- ADDRESS CORRECTION

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- LIFE MEMBERSHIP \$150

* ACTIVE membership requires battle / campaign experience
outside continental US. (O.C.U.S.)

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