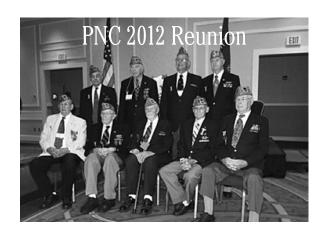




More photo hightlight from the Reunion inside...





Editor's Notes

BY CSM(R) Doris Wollett

UMMER WILL BE GONE and fall officially here when you receive this edition of the 80th Division Veterans Service Magazine. I think we are all ready for some cooler temperatures and less humidity. Leaves have already started to fall and acorns are in demand for all the wild life that roams around. I have seen deer, squirrels, foxes, a bob cat, skunks, and of course so many beautiful birds. The humming birds are moving south so they stop by and get a snack on the way. God has blessed us so much with all the beauty in and on this earth.

Hunting season will start soon so if you know any hunters please emphasize safety to them. Every year there are hunting accidents that most likely could have been avoided. I know many folks like wild game but it is not worth someone getting hurt or losing their life over.

With fall here and the leaves piling up be careful when raking. You never know what you might find in that pile. Snakes and small critters love to hide from you and just wait for your hand to reach in and pick up more than you thought would be there.

We had a delightful Reunion and attendance was good. Everyone that did not make it certainly were missed and I can only hope that you will be with us next year. By the way, the 94th Reunion will be held in VA Beach 4-8 Sep 2013!! More information to follow but mark your calendars and start making your plans to be with us.

GOD bless each of you and remember the 80th "Only Moves Forward"!!



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.

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NATIONAL COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

REETINGS TO ALL! This is my first newsletter submission as your new National Commander for 2012 to 2013. I want to congratulate our now-Past National Commander, Dr. Lee Anthony and our out-going National Auxiliary President Judy Luthman for their great work throughout 2011 and 2012. It has been both an honor for me to work with them and also to have had the opportunity to coordinate our reunion this year in Baltimore. I thoroughly committed myself to that task and was very happy with the results. Everyone who attended seemed to have a really great time and most left feeling very upbeat about the association. We have a great line-up of officers serving the Association and I am really excited to work with all of them. I think everyone is already looking forward to next year's event; which our new Senior Vice Commander, MG (R) John McLaren is already planning to hold at the Virginia Beach Hotel and Conference Center after Labor Day weekend in 2013.

I want to thank everyone who was able to attend this year, as well as those who could not attend but sent in their contributions as patrons or simply wished us well as we celebrate the legacy of the 80th Division and the Veterans Association. Some could not attend for health reasons and I want to wish them all a fast and full recovery. Overall, we had a total of 124 attendees this year to include 23 WWII veterans and seven Past National Commanders. For those who could not attend, I now want to provide a recap of the reunion events to share what we did. By the way, a full color copy of the 2012 Reunion Program can be found at our website: http:// www.80thdivision.com/PDFs/2012ReunionProgram.pdf



COL GRANT R. PORTER. COMMANDER

We started off the Reunion on Wednesday night with the Commander's Reception; which featured a full dinner and a presentation by Baltimore historian Christopher George from Liverpool, England. Chris helped Lee and I welcome everyone to Baltimore by providing a historical overview of the city of Baltimore and it's significance in saving the country as we celebrate the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812. Chris's book, Terror on the Chesapeake: The War of 1812 on the Bay, provides a fascinating account of the battle of Baltimore; which inspired Francis Scott Key to write our National Anthem as the Star Spangled Banner yet waved over Fort McHenry to symbolize a victory over the British.

Thursday followed with a refreshing series of presentations delivered by some of our own members in the early afternoon to about 40 listeners. I introduced each speaker by providing an introduction about who they were and giving a brief account of their life and background. Jan Elvin began the series by discussing how her curiosity and love for her father led to her research for her 2009 book, The Box from Braunau - In Search of my Father's War. Jan also provided copies of her book to our Guest Speakers on Friday and Saturday night. Thanks Jan!

Tonyia Gibbons followed with an account of a similar quest she made to find out more about her father; whom she had never met. Tonyia's father, a 317th Soldier, was killed in action during WWII. Tonyia's curiosity inspired her to find out more about her Dad and to research his accomplishments. In doing so, she sought the help of Senator Bill Nelson of Florida to assist her in receiving her father's medals. Senator Nelson presented the medals to Tonyia in a ceremony in

Florida and that story caught the attention of Fox Television. Fox invited Tonyia to appear on a Christmas special of Fox and Friends in December of 2009. I had the good fortune to accompany Tonyia as we were interviewed by Geraldo Rivera before a live studio audience in NYC at Fox studios. Tonyia presented the video along with her story to the group.

I then gave a tribute to our last surviving Medal of Honor recipient, the late Paul Wiedorfer. I showed a video of an interview I conducted with Mr. Wiedorfer in January 2002; in which he discussed the events of that Christmas Day in Chaumont, Belgium in 1944 when he charged into two machine gun nests while his platoon was trapped under enemy fire. Miraculously he managed to make it through and toss hand grenades into each of the machine gun nests and force the Germans to surrender. I told the group about how MG (R) Doug Dollar and I went to the Wiedorfer's home and conferred upon him the title of Honorary Colonel of the 80th Blue Ridge Division. Mr. Wiedorfer accepted the title under one condition, "as long as I don't have to do any more marching!" I finished the presentation by narrating a video that was prepared by family friend Dennis Fay that told the life-story of Paul Wiedorfer.

The highlight of the reunion seemed to come on Thursday night, when we embarked on a tour of Baltimore's Inner Harbor. We had two deluxe buses depart the hotel at 5:30 pm. We boarded the Spirit of Baltimore for a dinner cruise that included excellent food selections, a beautiful sunset as we passed by Fort McHenry, and a fantastic performance of The Boogie-Woogie Bugle Boy from Company B that was

STATE OF THE ASSOCIATION

Report of the National Commander, Lee S. Anthony, Ph.D., CAPT, USNR (ret), 24 August, 2012

- 1. THANKS FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE!
- 2. History of the 80th Division Veterans' Association (DVA).
- 3. Present activities
- 4. Path to the future
- 1. 'THANKS" for the opportunity to serve as the National Commander of the 80th Division Veterans' Association, I am humbled by and thankful for the selection, to be allowed to serve this distinguished organization, which for 93 years has kept memories, respect, and honor alive.

Throughout my childhood, I remember my Dad; his helmet, gas mask, and tunic. Later, I saw other memorabilia, such as his Purple Heart, his Victory Medal, a ring from Verdun, and a small stone from the beach at Brest. But always apparent was the scar on his forehead, caused by German shrapnel. At one time, he told me that he still had shrapnel in his body. However, as was often the case, he seldom spoke of the war; "La Grande Guerre", or "The War To End All Wars".

Thank you for allowing me to help you keep alive the history of heroic deeds, noble sacrifices, and "Hell" which was encountered by personnel of the 80th Division over the period from 1917, when it was established, until this day.

2. Toward this end, those WW I veterans formed the 80th Division Veterans' Association in 1919, before leaving France, and the organization flourished, with a very high percentage of the veterans joining. But, the story continues to unfold as National Socialism (Nazi) came to power in Germany. The 80th Division was re-activated for WW II, and again fought for Liberty and Freedom; in some cases, liberating the very same ground which the 80th liberated in WW I. Following the return of the WW II veterans from overseas, it took time and events for the mutual acceptance between the older veterans, and the returning young veterans who had fought under the Stars and Stripes, and the "Blue Ridge" flag, just as nobly as had those of 1917-1918.

It is totally natural that the camaraderie which is formed by those who fight and sacrifice together, leads to a closed "club." Fortunately, there came the realization that the Nation and the "Blue Ridge Division" are entities which are larger than we, and which need to be both remembered and continued.

We have seen another, more diverse type of veteran since WW II; those veterans, who served during the "Cold War", Desert Shield, Desert Storm, and the entire Global War On Terrorism, which is now being fought around the world.

These "latter day" veterans have also sacrificed in many ways. We all know comrades who lost their lives in uniform.

3. Present Activities:

First and Foremost, we continue the Camaraderie and Friendships which have grown, year by year. The value of Such ties is overwhelming.

The 80th DVA continues to provide McBride Scholarships in honor of the WW II Commanding General of the Division.

On an individual level, many of our veterans give lectures and "show-and-tell" to the public, particularly to groups of young people.

An important task is that of connecting the history of our Veterans with the increasingly interested group of family members and historians who are eager for information.

We are now seeing increased interest in four areas:

- (1) We note that our own Virgil Myers has for many years taken a delegation of veterans, family, and friends to Eastern France, Belgium, and Luxembourg to join with those individuals (or their descendents) who were liberated by the 80th Division in WW II. This "Luxembourg Friends' Week" has presented a unique opportunity for our people to interact with those extremely grateful, freed persons.
- (2) Cemeteries and memorials: I had the honor of representing the 80th DVA in Memorial Day ceremonies in the Margraten, Netherlands American Military Cemetery (AMC) and the Henri Chappelle AMC as well. In addition, I took flowers to the grave of my father's comrade, Corp. Henry Sentell in the Somme AMC. I also visited the Meuse-Argonne and Epinal AMCs.

I am happy to report that there is a spontaneous movement overseas for citizens of these countries in which the 80th fought, to "adopt" the graves of our fallen comrades, placing flowers, and providing extra "TLC" for the graves, which are so well tended by the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC) and the local citizens who work there.

An example is Mr. Sebastiaan Vonk of the Netherlands, who has formed a group which adopts 80th graves in the Margraten and Henri Chappelle AMCs. We had the fortune to meet this group at Margraten AMC on 26 & 27 May, 2012.

(3) Another very important activity is that of Battlefield Archeology. We have an expert in this field who resides in Niederfeulen, Luxembourg, named Jean Muller. Many of you are aware that Jean has been working for several years to secure the land and build a memorial to the 80th and attached units, listing the names of our KIAs. This June, he and I met with the owner/overseers of a "Church" property, who are willing to provide a "999-year, free" lease for this purpose. We note that the previously proposed memorial in Mertzig was taken over by the town, and their 80th memorial was dedicated during the Friends' week.

Dick Flick's Story





HE TERRAIN AT THE MOSELLE RIVER crossing had us on a grade facing the Germans who were also on a grade. We exchanged a lot of fire. I remember seeing American and German bodies floating down the river. It disturbed me to see the Americans but the Germans were the enemy. A while after the crossing we took an observation hill from the Germans about three times. They had dug foxholes and we were using them (they were already set up and I would go back to the same hole). One afternoon we had taken the hill again and a replacement Lt. came up. I remember his name because it was Douglass, same as mine but spelled with two s'. His fox hole was about 25 feet from mine. The Germans opened up on us with 88's. His foxhole took a direct hit.

On Sept 19th we attacked at hill 412 through the Bois De La Rumont Woods. The Germans dropped mortars on us and shrapnel passed through my left arm causing me to turn and a second round went into my right leg. I was able to get back to a road using my rifle with bayonet attached to help walk. On the way I saw a German moving in the trees and set the rifle sight on him. This was the only time I would look directly at the face of the enemy before pulling the trigger. It was only then I saw the medic's cross and let him pass unharmed.

After a while I made it back to an aid station where several wounded were being loaded. On arrival to the medical unit, I was placed on a stretcher and taken into a tent with others waiting on surgery. As we waited we could hear screams in another tent, but wasn't sure what was going on. When it came my turn they flopped me up on the table. The surgeon pulled off the sulfide dressing I had applied in the field and said "we can take care of this". One man held my shoulders and another lay across my legs. The surgeon proceeded after the shrapnel with forceps but without anesthetics. I had found out what the screaming was about and did the same! When he pulled the metal out I asked if I could keep it for a souvenir. He said no, he had to seal it up and send it back to Washington for analysis. They were concerned the Germans were putting some kind of toxin or bacteria in the shells.

After recovery in England, my route back to France was the same as the first trip landing on Omaha Beach. I had walked up from the beach on the first trip but rode this time I knew about the walk and grabbed a ride on a Navy amphibious vehicle called a Duck. I rode up the steep hill and waited on the others to get there with their tongues hanging out like I had done the first time. We were headed back to the front when I was placed in the 317th Regiment's Service Company. Captain Martin needed five truck drivers with Army permits and I had mine from being in the 146th AAA.

When in Oberfeulen I would park next to a building to sort of hide the truck, and rest inside on a table between trips. One day I got up, walked around the truck and noticed one of the dual rear tires was flat so I left to get it fixed. When I returned the building had been destroyed and several GIs killed

It was in the same area on the road between Niederfeulen and Oberfeulen that a German plane tried to strafe me. I noticed the plan turn and new he was certainly coming after me. Because of previous anti-aircraft training, I also knew that at a certain point as he nosed down he would not be able to react to me leaving his committed line of attack. I watched intently and at just the right time jerked the wheel and left road. The bullets pelted the road where I had been.

I came back up on the road and watched as he circled to make another pass. This time he was coming from behind the truck. Now picture me hanging on to the steering wheel leaning far out of the truck looking backwards at the approaching plane. Again at the correct moment I wheeled the truck off the road again and, as before, the bullets hit the road just missing their target. The pilot gave up after that.

We were pretty busy keeping supplies moving to the front as Patton wasn't one to slow down for anything. We were hauling ammo and water to the front when a sergeant spotted and followed rail road tracks in the woods. There he found camouflaged German rail road tank cars backed in and abandoned. The tanks were checked and found to have fuel (blue gas).

The Captain called back to HQ about the find. The call came back from Patton to empty the water cans, fill the cans with the fuel and take it to a location where he had tanks out of fuel. We completed the task. It felt good to hear the tanks crank over, chug, cough and finally roar to life. The tank commanders got their orders; we all waved as they left. We had been able to help the tanks out of a bad situation and enabled them to keep pressing the enemy.

Only Moving Forward: The 80th in Germany, Part I

N MARCH, 1945, the 80th Division crossed the border into enemy territory. Its men were emerging from a major part in the defeat in Luxembourg of Germany's Ardennes counteroffensive, popularly known as the Battle of the Bulge. Victory now seemed assured.

A photograph in my collection shows a sign proclaiming, "Entering Germany by the Grace of God and 1st Bn. 318th Infantry, 89th Div." I report this without prejudice to the claims that I have no doubt other units make to having been the first to cross the line.

How did Germany differ from Luxembourg and France? So far as I remember, the terrain and the villages through which we passed looked much the same. The difference was in the people. No longer were we welcomed as liberators. We were endured as invaders. In retrospect, I should describe the attitude of the German citizenry as sullen. I suspect today that many of them still believed that Hitler would keep his promise to come up with a secret weapon that would drive the enemy from the sacred soil of the Fatherland.

Our behavior towards the civilian population, I should describe as often rude, sometimes harsh, but never brutal or cruel. We regularly, for example, ordered them out of their houses so that we could move in. We did so on short notice, fearing the possibility of booby traps. I must say, by the way, that not all of us showed respect for the belongings that we found in the homes we occupied. The newspapers, I remember, used torefer to us as typical American "souvenir hunters." That, I must admit, was a euphemism for what often boiled down to just plain looting.

The farther we got into Germany, the more evident became the signs of defeat. We began to see long columns of disarmed German soldiers marching westward, all with their hands clasped behind their necks. I have read since then that until the very last day of the war, the German military police and SS were apprehending and sometimes executing as deserters their comrades who attempted to surrender, but I know from experience that plenty of officers and men managed to give up.

We also began to see as we proceeded into the country some of the literally millions of foreigners that the Germans had either captured as prisoners of war or conscripted as lave laborers. Eastern Europeans, principally Russians and Poles, far outnumbered westerners, but we did come upon at least one French PW camp. All of these persons, men and women alike, some of whom had suffered mistreatment, greeted us with heartrending enthusiasm. Generally speaking, we tried to be generous with food and tobacco, but of course our supplies were limited. We had difficulty, moreover, communicating with those, by far the majority, who did not speak our language.

The 80th Division liberated the German concentration camp at Ordruff, in the vicinity, as I remember, of Weimar. It was not, again as I remember, an extermination camp, but a place where prisoners, I presume principally Jews, were, instead of being poison gassed, worked or starved to death. Corpses were everywhere, but worst of all was the sight of some of the survivors, too weak from hunger and overwork to stand up and reduced virtually to the condition of skeletons.

It was this camp that General Eisenhower visited, saying that he did so in order to prevent anyone from ever denying that such atrocities had really happened. Yet nowadays Holocaust denial has become a reality. It infuriates me, as I am sure it does many 80th veterans, to read or hear of such criminal distortions of history.

By April, the 80th's advance through Germany had become not much more than a truck ride. Resistance. while it continued, was sporadic. We penetrated as far east as the outskirts of Chemnitz, near the border of what is now the Czech Republic, and deep within what was to come the Soviet zone of occupation. We did not enter the city, however, but reversed course and headed westward. I have read since then that Eisenhower had decided to call off our race to get to Berlin before the Soviets.

Another factor in that move was the widespread belief that the Germans were preparing in the mountains of Austria a "national redoubt," an impregnably fortified area where they could hold out indefinitely. We, therefore, headed southward. We entered what is now Austria, by crossing the Inn River at Branau, the birthplace of Adolph Hitler.

We spent no time there, but I did see the the Führer's boyhood home, which had been proudly converted into a museum. (I am sure that a visitor to that town today would be greeted with blank stares if he mentioned the name of Hitler.)

The national redoubt never materialized. Perhaps it had never been more than a myth. May 8, V-E Day, found the 80th in Völklabruck, Austria. There we encountered men ("Texastruppen," the local civilians called them) of the 36th Infantry Division, which had fought its way up through Italy. The war was won, and we who had survived could relax at last. Much lay ahead of us, however, and I hope in a future issue to recount some of our experiences in the immediate postwar months.

Walter Barthold, 80th Signal Company September 14, 2012

POST NEWS

Florida Post #47

I think I can say we are glad that summer is almost over, unless you like the heat and humidity and lack of rain.

Hope everyone had a great time at the 80th Division Veterans Association Annual Reunion. Francis and I were unable to attend due to other commitments.

We heard of a few health problems with some of our members and understand that they are on the road back to good health.

I'm looking forward to seeing our friends at the Hampton Inn in Ocala, FL in November. A letter will be going out in September to remind you to make your reservation before the cut off date.

Our meeting in Ocala will be November 1st thru the 4th, 2012 at the Hampton Inn, 3434 College Rd., Ocala, FL. Reservations can be made by calling (.352) 854-3200 be sure to tell them you are with Florida Post #47. The room rate will be \$79.00 plus tax per night. This has been our rate for the past several years. This rate includes a nice breakfast buffet.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Kay Rajnicek, Sect.

313th Field Artillery Battalion

This Reunion seemed to be very special to me. I have hit 90 years of age and to be able to travel to the places in the country and visit with my old friends and celebrate the 80th Division Reunions with them is such a happy time for me. It was so good to see those of our group and other groups who were able to attend.

The Members of our group who attended were Alice Noxon and her daughter, Audrey Blocker and her daughter Claudia, Hilda Latusek and her daughter Patty, and Patty's husband Jack. My daughter in law Joan also attended.

The Boat Ride we went on was great and I know that everyone enjoyed it very much. It was very scenic and we got to see the Baltimore Harbor and many more scenic areas and sailing vessels in the area. The crew both male and female entertained and it was very enjoyable.

The Memorial Service on Saturday morning was very moving because our Officers did such a great job in planning. The Dinner Service with the gathering was very successful and enjoyable.

Frances Poletti

POST #50 NEWS & ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

80th Blue Ridge Army Reserve Association, Annual Minutes, 26 August 2012.

The meeting was called to order by President Grant Porter at 0835. Welcoming remarks were made followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The guest speaker for this meeting was Command Sergeant Major James Wills, 80th Training Command. Secretary Pete Herbert read the Secretary's Annual Report 2011 – 2012 Highlights:

- Current membership stands at 125
- 76 are Life Members (\$250 of which \$150 is paid into the 80th Division Veterans Association for membership; no additional dues are paid)
- 49 are Annual Members (\$35 of which \$20 is paid into the 80th Division Veterans Association for membership)

Vice President Wollett read the Treasurer's Annual Report 2011-2012. Highlights:

- Revenue for 2011-2012 was \$3,798.00
- Expenses for 2011-2012 was \$5,733.50 (Soldier of the Year, etc., payment to the 80th Veterans Association, HQ 80th Family Day, Membership Items, and the Scholarship
- Money Market Balance: \$10,560.45

• Checking Balance: \$4,204.19

OLD BUSINESS

- Awards Program: Six Awards were given at \$250.00 per category. The checks were presented by VP Doris Wollett and Board Member Dr Lee S. Anthony to the individuals at the 80th Training Command Leadership Council Conference conducted in VA Beach, VA. Guest speaker was Dr Lee S. Anthony.
- Scholarship Fund: The first Annual Continuing Education Scholarship for \$500.00 was awarded to Emily Hardy, daughter of LTC(R) Bill Hardy. Emily is attending Washington and Lee University.
- 3rd Time supporting the HQ 80th Training Command Family Day. Our Post provided \$100 towards prizes for the games that the children played. Word is that the Day was very successful and the families had a lot of fun.
- Annual Golf Tournament: The 3rd Blue Ridge Golf Tournament was a great success and everyone had lots of fun. This event raised \$77 for the Post.
- Annual Holiday Party: The 2nd Annual Holiday Party was also a big success. The Party was held on 10 Dec 2011 at the Holiday Inn on Belles Road in Richmond. There were 36 in attendance. Our Post donated over 30 toys to the Henrico Christmas Mother Program which supports needy families.

A raffle was conducted and raised \$245 for our Awards Program. Each attendee (one per family) was given a Blue Ridge Holiday Ornament as a gift.

- Blue Ridge Quarterly Luncheons: We held three quarterly luncheons at local restaurants: Oct 2011, Mar 2012, and Jun 2012. Average attendance was between 18-25 including guests and members. This is a great opportunity to keep up with Old Friends and keep abreast of happenings at the 80th. Members and guests who have attended recently include MG(R) LH Ginn, Rose Marie Cooper, widow of the 80th Division's first CSM, CSM Bob Cooper, LTC(R) Clyde Hughes, LTC(R) Carroll Shepherd, COL(R) David Gallagher, Tom Lach, Gayle Bevelle, former SSA for the MTC, COL(R) Jim Brown, June Brown, SGM(R) Vernon King, LTC(R) Charles Elam, COL(R) Ed Polonitza, 1SG(R) Shelia Foushee and COL(R) Andy Andrews. We have had two raffles and have raised over \$120.00 for our Scholarship Fund and Awards Program.
- Army 10 Miler: The Army 2011 Ten Miler was completed by six Blue Ridge participants to include: Glen Hence, Grant Porter, Andrew Walters, Coretta Lankford, Floyd Lewis and Angela Robey. Each participant received \$25 to help defray their registration fee.

NEW BUSINESS

- Election of Officers: President Porter led the discussion for 2012-2013 Officers. The slate of those recommended for all positions was read and approved. A motion was made by President Porter to approve the individuals from the approved slate. Motion was 2nd by VP Wollett. Motion carried. There will be two Board Member positions left unfilled.
- Future of Holiday Party and Quarterly Luncheons: VP Wollett will contact the Holiday Inn and make arrangements for the 3rd Holiday Party tentively scheduled for 15 Dec 2012. Next Quarterly Luncheon is tentively scheduled for 24 Oct 2012 at the Holiday Inn Belles Road. This location seems to work well for everyone and the Hotel is very accommodating.
- 2013 Scholarship Fund: Secretary Herbert and Board Member George Croughwell made a motion to award a second \$500.00 Scholarship to a current College student. Motion was 2nd by Jim Brown; Motion carried. CSM(R) Jim White will assist the Scholarship Committee.
- 2013 Annual Meeting Location and Dates: The 80th Division Veterans Association will hold their Annual Reunion 4-8 Sep 2013 at the VA Beach Resort and Conference Center, VA Beach, VA. After some discussion, MG(R) John McLaren made a motion that Post #50 conduct its Annual Meeting at this location on 8 Sep 2013. Motion was 2nd by Carol Deverell. Motion carried.
- Soldier and Civilian Awards for 2013: Secretary Herbert made a motion that the amount of each category be increased to \$300.00 this year and future years will depend on the Post finances. Motion was 2nd by VP Wollett. Motion carried.



Presentation of \$500 Continuing Education Scholarship Award from Post # 50. (Front L to R) Post VP CSM (R) Doris Wollett, Emily Hardy (recipient) and Scholarship Chairman MSG George Croughwell. (Rear L to R) Blue Ridge Members LTC Franklin Porter and LTC (R) Bill Hardy.



Post #50 presenting a gift to Andy in appreciation for keeping the website updated and available for all to view. CSM(R) Doris Wollett, Andy Adkins, COL Grant Porter



Raffle Winner: Post #50 raffle winner of a beautiful hand etched mirror Paul Fate, Robert and Gail Puccio, Donna Herbert, Ava Porter

Reunion Photo Highlights



STATE OF THE ASSOCIATION... continued from page 4

Many of you know that Jean has uncovered the history of three of our G.I.s who were KIA; this history has been made available, he has constructed a memorial on the site, and he has located and given personal effects of these three men, to their families.

In June 2011, Jean and I visited the site of a destroyed Sherman tank. We were able to recover pieces of equipment, part of a rank insignia, part of a watch, and bone fragments.

This year, we went to "The Pine Forests" where a squad from Co. C, 317th Infantry Regiment encountered a "Bouncing Betty" booby-trap mine; 6 of the 7 members of the squad were KIA on 26 December, 1944.

Jean found in 2004 at this scene, under a fallen pine tree, a camera which belonged to Tec 5 Louis J. Archambeau. The film from the camera was processed, and the images were sent to his family.

This year, we found: (1) Half of a plastic soap dish, (2) half of a pocket comb, (3) a mess kit cover, and (4) a canteen cup, all of which were identified by name or serial number. We are now in the process of returning these artifacts to the families. We have a DVD which shows the project.

4. Post 50 (Blue Ridge Association) has been, and continues to, recognize by tangible awards, the performance of the 80th personnel, and to provide "back-up" for the families of overseas-deployed personnel. It is extremely important that this recognition continue to be granted.

I am happy to report to you that Mr. Vonk has received a plaque, and a \$500 scholarship in the name of the 80th DVA.

Mr. Jean Muller has also received a plaque of appreciation from the 80th DVA.

We note that Mr. Muller and I have formed a "Military Archeology Section" of the 80th DVA, and hereby respectfully ask for formal recognition from the Association.

Remembering that Virgil deservedly received Honorary Citizenship in Luxembourg, I would urge that the U.S. grant Honorary Citizenship to Mr. Muller for his contributions over the years.

The strategic outlook for the 80th DVA is one of great possibilities. The fact that the 80th is now a truly national asset, with international/world-wide responsibilities, tells us that we need even more to not only continue, but to expand and enhance those activities outlined above. We need to remember, honor, respect, and to learn from the past, as we merge the generations and adjust our methodology to the future. We need to maintain closer ties with the 80th, in order to better support them in their mission.

We hope and pray that God, in His infinite mercy and wisdom, will continue to bless this nation, if we return to Him. We must remember that our forefathers founded this nation on Judeo-Christian principles. The fact that we have been tolerant of others does not mean that "the tail can wag the dog". If people want Sharia law, or no law, reject God and Godly principles, let them leave the U.S., and let us remake this Nation as it was initially.

"God bless this Nation, the 80th Division and its attached commands, and the 80th Division Veterans' Association."

POST #50 NEWS AND ANNUAL MEETING RECAP... continued from page 8

- CSM Wills requested and made a motion that we add the Audie Murphy Inductees to the list of awardees. After discussion it was determined that Inductees would receive \$50.00 per awardee not to exceed six Soldiers. Motion was 2nd by Buddy Deverell. Motion carried.
- Continued Support for Army Ten Miler, 80th Family Day and Golf Tournament: Secretary Herbert made a motion that we continue to support these events. After discussion it was determined that we would give \$25 to Post members that participate in the Army Ten Miler; \$100 towards the HQ 80th Family Day Activities; and provide merchandise to be used as prizes for the Golf Tournament. Motion 2nd by Jim White. Motion carried.
- Secretary Herbert reported that \$210 was raised from a raffle held at the Veteran's Dinner on Friday (24 Aug). Virgilio Munoz, 80th Safety Officer, donated an "80th Only Moves Forward" mirror for the raffle. In addition, we sold \$151 in merchandise.

- Proposed Teleconference Schedule for 2012-2013: 4th Tuesday of Oct, Jan, Apr, and Jul. Secretary Herbert will send out call in information prior to each teleconference.
- Board Member Lee S. Anthony requested that the Post look into replacing a plaque at Mousson Hill in France which is placed in remembrance of fallen 80th Division Soldiers. After discussion it was determined that Lee will research this further and let the Officers and Board Members know of any restrictions along with the cost to replace the plaque. Lee to send an article to put in the 80th Division Blue Ridge Service Magazine seeking donations for this project.
- Jim Brown raised a question about ordering some sort of pin that shows we are Veterans. He will send Pete the information about the pins and Pete will look into ordering the pins.
- Recognition of Andy Adkins for maintaining the website.
 Andy does this at no cost to the Association.

Jim Brown moved to adjourn the 80th Blue Ridge Army Reserve Association Post #50 Meeting; 2nd by John McLaren; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1050.

COMMANDERS REPORT... continued from page 3





Jari Villanueva

Change of Command: Grant Porter and Lee Anthony Exchange Salutes

rehearsed by the wait staff, especially for us. We enjoyed the intimacy of our own private deck, though half the group went top-side to the third level to enjoy the beautiful evening and warm summer breeze. We returned back to the dock at 10pm and got back to our hotel by about 10:45. It was a full day for our 100 attendees who participated in the cruise.

Friday afternoon was a free day for everyone to do as they wished. A few of us went over to Annapolis and toured the Naval Academy where they have an excellent museum full of artifacts and multimedia displays that tell the history of the American Navy, as well as a large church that houses the highly adorned black and white marble crypt of John Paul Jones. Friday evening back at the hotel was also a highlight of the reunion as we featured a special guest speaker during a fine dinner. Mr. Jari Villanueva, Director of the Maryland National Guard Honor Guard came equipped with his bugle and delivered what some referred to as a world-class presentation. He spoke about bugle calls and the history of "Taps" and other bugle calls used in the USA and throughout the world. Taps originated from the sound of a lone drummer who played in the night to announce the call for lights out. The Bugle came into use as it could be heard better by a larger group over a larger area. Jari sounded numerous bugle calls throughout his presentation and kept everyone's attention and interest alive as he told the history.

Saturday morning led off with the Memorial Service; which was managed by Abe and Kay Barone. The event was memorable as Max Schmidt recited a poem, "Should Tomorrow Start Without Me" and Denali Porter and Jari Villanueva performed a musical selection by J.S. Bach, Bist Du Bei Mir (If You are With Me) as well as the National Anthem for piano and trumpet. Roger Nelson, Jeff Wignall and Doris Wollett provided the roll call and Chaplain Bill Manning delivered the invocation and enlightenment message. The ceremony was dignified by the presence of the Maryland National Guard Honor Guard who presented and retired the Colors. The WWII veterans all gathered for pictures after the event.

The most well attended event of the reunion came that evening with the Saturday night Banquet; which was attended by 123 people. Once again, the food was delicious, the atmosphere was lively and the speakers were inspired. Abe Barone served as the master of ceremonies for the event and I had the pleasure of introducing our guest speakers. MG (R) John McLaren spoke about the Medal of Honor and recognized the 11 representatives of the Wiedorfer family who came on behalf of the 318th Company G Medal of Honor recipient, the late MSG Paul J. Wiedorfer. MG William Gerety, Commander of the 80th Training Command, delivered the keynote address by paying tribute to the legacy of the 80th Division and moving forward to discuss the present and future of the 80th Training Command. Midway through the dinner, our outgoing National Commander, Dr. Lee Anthony saluted me as I was "hatted" with the blue garrison cap and installed as the new National Commander for 2012-13.

The next morning on Sunday, Post 50, the Blue Ridge Army Reserve Association, held it's 11th annual business meeting and breakfast. Bob and Mabel Burrows and Jeff and Mary Wignall attended along with Lee Anthony to break bread with the Blue Ridge Army Reserve Association members. There were 21 attendees total who joined together to listen to the 80th Training Command's Command Sergeant Major, Jim Wills. Jim discussed the Army values and how they relate to the legacy of the WWII veterans as MG Gerety listened in.

We want to thank the 80th Command Team for participating in our events as "First-Timers" to both the 80th DVA reunion as well as the 80th Blue Ridge Army Reserve Association breakfast meeting. I also want to thank all participants and well wishers who made the reunion such a great success.

Sincerely, Grant Porter, National Commander

LETTERS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Note from Faye Cleary

Saturday, September 8, 2012

Dear Doris:

Richard's beautiful Funeral with full Military Honors was on Aug 20 in Santa Fe, NM Veterans National Cemetery. The Patriot Guard Riders escorted his hearse from Albuquerque to Santa Fe (approx. 54 mi) had a parade of flags into the church for Mass and then at the service in Santa Fe, also standing guard w/flag by hearse during a reception at church and presented me with a medallion after the flag presentation. Bearers were 6 grandchildren, 2 policemen in uniform, 2 Active Coast Guard and 2 civilian granddaughters. Richard was in uniform too with medals. Twenty one gun salute and taps, there wasn't a dry eye – so beautiful.

Love - Faye

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

80th Books for Sale

317th,318 th, 319th Regimental Histories, Experiences of the 80th men in WW II, The 80th Answers the Call in WW II all sell for \$25.00 each plus \$3.00 P&H

341 Pages Revised Operational History Large Type easy to read \$35.00 plus \$3.00 P&H.

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Sandston, VA 23150-5406

PAID 2012 Ex

Membership Expiration Date

You have paid through Dec of the indicated year

Check your name and address (Apt., Bldg., Lot No.). Notify the Secretary if you find an error.

Need A New ID Card?

BY COL(R) Paul Hoppes

Occasionally, Retired Soldiers need to renew their ID Card or have it replaced. All National Guard units across the country can issue ID cards. You need to contact the National Guard Headquarters in the state that you are in and they can tell which unit in their command can issue the ID cards. It requires two (2) forms of ID. At the same time they will update DEERS with any changes you may have (address, status of spouse, etc). This was very convenient for us when Nancy needed her ID renewed; we only had to drive an hour, rather than the two (2) hour drive to Fayetteville (Ft. Bragg) or Columbia (Ft. Jackson).

Hope this helps.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

The last date I have entered a name is September 1, 2012

William Black (Son of Wm Black G-319)

MSG Walter Detrinidad 800th LSB

Roland Keller (Associate from Switzerland Annual to Life Membership)

Douglas Knorr (Son-in-Law of Howard Umbarger A-317)

Jean Muller (Associate from Luxembourg Annual to Life Membership)

Elaine Simpson (Daughter of Stanley Sitarz HQ 319)

Eugene Sitarz (Son of Stanley Sitarz HQ 319)

Sebastiaan Vonk (Associate from The Netherlands Annual to Life Membership)

NEW MEMBERS

Barbara Bivens (Daughter of John Nicholar K-318)

Marlene Dickson (Daughter of Raymond Dumrauf 317)

LTC Lyndon Johnson HQ 80th TC G1

Joseph Lukitsch 905th FA

Wiliam Lawrence (Son of Belford Lawrence 319)

Carrie Freeze-Novas (Daughter of Henry Freze 905th FA)

Randy White (Grandson of Carl Poil C-318)

Dorothy Winkler (Daughter of Joseph Peters HQ 305th WWI)

DONATIONS

None received at this time

Adkisson, Gid A-317 RR 2 Box 127 Abernathy, TX 79311 DOD: Apr 24, 2012 Rptd by: Son, Gid

Barnhart, Lee F-319 Muscatine, IA DOD: Apr 29, 2012 Rptd by: Cecelia Smith

Bishop, George Jr 314 FA 166 Wilson Road Princeton, NJ 08540 DOD: Jul 2, 2012 Rptd by: Cecelia Smith

Casey, SFC Paul 80th Div Band Hopewell, VA DOD: Aug 18, 2012 Rptd by: David Gallagher

Cleary, Richard B-305 Eng Bn 3901 Indian Sch Rd NE #B209 Albuquerque, NM 87110-3852 DOD: Aug 12, 2012 Rptd by: Wife, Faye

Coe, Kenneth I-318 DOD: May 4, 2012 Rptd by: Wife, Ada

Freeze, Henry D. 905 FA c/o Carrie Freeze-Novas 172 E. Emerson Rd Lexington, MA 02420-2134 DOD: Jul 11, 2012

Rptd by: Grand Daughter, Carrie Green, Charles "Tippy" 80th Spt Bn

Richmond, VA DOD: Jun 25, 2012 Rptd by: David Gallagher

Hodge, CSM(R) Robert 2nd Bde 80th Div Roanoke, VA DOD: Jun 18, 2012 Rptd by: SGM Vernon King

Holbrook, George A-313 FA 305 E. Foster St Lewisburg, WV 24901 DOD: 2003 Rptd by: Son, Tim

James, Louis E. Unk Unit Bethel Park, PA DOD: 8/28/2011 Rptd by: Cecelia Smith

Johnson, James I-317 P O Box 177 Rainsvile, AL 35986 DOD: Oct 18, 2011 Rptd by: Cecelia Smith

Kernick, Russell Unk Unit Norfolk, VA DOD: Jul 23, 2012 Rptd by: Cecelia Smith

Kessinger, Edward Unk Unit Beckley, WV DOD: 6/27/2012 Rptd by: Cecelia Smith

Krehbiel, Bill L-319th 921 Ridge Dr Halstead, KS 67056-2138 DOD: Jul 23, 2012 Rptd by: Wife, Billie

Lee, Richard 314 FA Bn 390 Oakpark Terrace McDonough, GA 30253 DOD: 2/24/2012 Rptd by: Cecelia Smith

McCoy, Pat 319th Descendant 707 N. Hillcrest Dr Wooster, OH 44691 DOD: 9/23/2011 Rptd by: Cecelia Smith

McCulloch, CSM Robert Jr 319th 80th IT Bristol, VA DOD: Feb 27, 2012 Rptd by: Cecelia Smith

Muszynski, Anthony F. L-319 34 Dell St Turners Falls, MA 01376 DOD: Jan 10, 2012 Rptd by: Wife, Helen

Nicholar, John V. K-318 3 Chandler Road East Sandwich, MA 02537 DOD: Jul 11, 2012 Rptd by: Daughter, Barbara Bivens

Nolan, MSG Frank 80th Tng Cmd G4 Chesterfield, VA DOD: Jan 2012 Rptd by: Chaplain

Pappas, Tom F-318 134 Montgomery St Chicopee, MA 01020 DOD: Oct 10, 2011 Rptd by: Cecelia Smith Plumlee, James Unk Unit Dallas, TX DOD: Apr 24, 2012 Rptd by: Cecelia Smith

Price, Michael 80th Spt Bn Richmond, VA DOD: Jun 3, 2012 Rptd by: SSG Wells

Schukei, Wesley 318 Hastings, NE DOD: 4/8/2012 Rptd by: Cecelia Smith

Shilts, Guy Unk Unit Janesville, WI DOD: 8/1/2012 Rptd by: Cecelia Smith

Sitarz, Stanley J. HQ 318 1826 Brookview Blvd Parma, OH 44134 DOD: May 5, 2012 Rptd by: Son, Gene

Spurgeon, Herschel 319 Lawrence, KS DOD: Apr 2012 Rptd by: Cecelia Smith

Stewart, Morton B 905 FA 523 Delaney Road NW Huntsville, AL 35805 DOD: Mar 15, 2012 Rptd by: Cecelia Smith

Stubblefield, Robert Jr. B-305 Med 218 Kimberly Ct Thomasville, NC 27360 DOD: Jun 25, 2012 Rptd by: Wife

Terrini, Frank HQ CO 317 Hamburg, NY DOD: Mar 29, 2012 Rptd by: Cecelia Smith

Van Buren, Charles (Ray) G-317th 13156 Erickson Road Skanee, MI 49962-9002 DOD: April 20, 2012 Rptd by: Wife and Stepson

Wilson, Jack 905 FA Btry A 120 Powers Road Binghamton, NY 13903-6504 DOD: Jun 16, 2012 Rptd by: Abe Barone



A.E.F. (1917-1919)

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September 18, 2012

For Review by the 80th Division Veterans Association Executive Council

As Secretary/Treasurer of the 80th Division Veterans Association I had the financial records audited and feel our finances could be managed more efficiently. In order to do this the By Laws will need to be changed.

I recommend the following changes:

Page 3, para 4 as reads: "All money derived from Life Membership shall be kept in a Trust fund to be administered by the Executive Council as the By-Laws may provide."

Recommendation: Delete this paragraph. I have no knowledge of a Trust Fund set up. New Life Memberships do not justify a separate account. This year we received 19 applications.

Page 10, para 4 as reads: "The council shall authorize all expenditures to be made by the Resident Secretary and shall cause his books and accounts to be audited at least once a year and report to be made at the annual meeting.

Recommendation: Continue to have all current accounts audited annually.

Page 10, para 5: "All investments of surplus funds of the Association shall be made by council."

Recommendation: Designate someone to counter sign or give email approval for all checks to be written in an amount which exceeds \$250.00.

Page 11, para 3: "All payments under section two of this Article, or derived from sources other than dues shall be placed in a trust fund to be known as "The Permanent and Life membership Fund," the administration of which shall be in the hands of the Board of Trustees."

Recommendation: Delete this paragraph. I have no knowledge of a Trust Fund set up. New Life Memberships do not justify a separate account. This year we received 19 applications.

Currently, I have three bank accounts for the Association, one checking and two CD's. I have been maintaining sufficient funds in the checking account to pay all the expenses and maintain a balance to carry over to the next year. Should sufficient funds become available, I request permission to open a savings account to deposit any surplus funds.

Respectively

CSM(R) Doris Wollett National Secretary

COL GRANT R PORTER COMMANDER 6730 Manor Gate Drive Midlothian, VA 23112 MG(R) JOHN P. MCLAREN SR VICE COMMANDER 1233 Hartfort Drive Virginia Beach, VA 23464 JEFF WIGNALL 2nd VICE COMMANDER 27 Martinack Avenue Peabody, MA 01960 DOUGLAS KNORR 3rd VICE COMMANDER 1609 Dracka Road Traverse City, MI 49685 CSM(R) DORIS WOLLETT NATIONAL SECRETARY 5101 Hurop Road Sandston, VA 23150

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



80th Division Veterans Association Doris M. Wollett 5101 Hurop Road Sandston, VA 23150-5406 Desiring to maintain liaison and comradeship with Veterans and soldiers of the 80th Division, and receive the Blue Ridge Service Magazine.

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ADDRESS:				
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Please make			rans Association. PLEASE CHEO OD STANDING (Dues paid to da	
80th Division WWII Vete	rans 80th Div. \	leterans, Family Members	New Members (80th Div. Veterans, Family Members)	New Members—Associates Friends of 80th Division, Non-Voting
□ Renewal: \$10/Year	☐ Renewa	I: \$10/Year	□ New Membership: \$20/Year	□ New Membership: \$20/Year
□ Life Membership: \$50	☐ Life Mer	mbership: \$150	□ Life Membership: \$150	☐ Life Membership: \$150
FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY: ACTIVE MEMBER			LIFE MEMBER	ASSOCIATE MEMBER
Pre: 1st Vice Tre Ch	DIES AUXILIA sident - Judy Luth e President - Phyll asurer - Phyllis Ha aplain - Cecelia Sr Historian - Open ant-at-Arms - Kay	is Hanna anna nith	MOVING? Don't n Complete this form & Doris M. Wollett 5101 Hurop Road Sandston, VA 23150-540	

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Blue Ridge 80th Division The Service Magazine

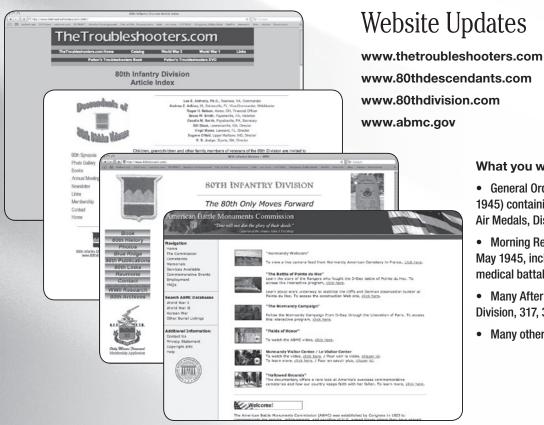
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80TH DIVISION MONUMENTS: Infantry Museum, Fort Benning, Georgia (left), HQ 80th Training Command, Richmond, VA (center) and Heritage Trail at the Army Heritage and Education Center, Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

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- General Orders (August 13, 1944 thru October 31, 1945) containing awards for Silver Stars, Bronze Stars, Air Medals, Distinguished Service Cross, Purple Hearts
- Morning Reports for almost all units August 1944 thru May 1945, including rifle regiments, field artillery units, medical battalion, 80th Division headquarters units
- Many After Action Reports and Unit Histories for 80th Division, 317, 318, 319 Infantry Regiments
- Many other Miscellaneous Reports