



Reunion Report

by JEFF WIGNALL

MY WIFE AND I arrived at the Ramada-Plaza Hotel in Hagerstown on the afternoon of the 11th of August in order to address some last minute details of the 2014 Reunion.

Things got under way on the 13th as scheduled with the Executive Council meeting late in the afternoon, followed by the first of four dinners, attended by about 48 Veterans, family members and guests. Following the meal, the evening was given over to socializing until quitting time, which came somewhat early as most present had only arrived that day after lengthy drives. Before breaking up, I made two presentations that were personally significant to me; one to Abe Barone, who regrettably had passed away only a matter of some ten days prior to the Reunion, and his wife, in recognition of their 60 years of service to the Association. The second was to Robert Murrell to recognize the work he has done over the years to compile histories of the Division and its embedded Regiments.

Thursday began with the Business Meeting at 10:00, and at 1:00 about 50 members departed by bus for the planned tour of the Antietam Battlefield. After viewing the introductory film at the park headquarters, the group gathered outside for an initial talk by our tour guide, Joe Stahl, then boarded the bus for a short drive to the next significant point of interest, the Cornfield. Another talk was presented at that point, and we moved on to the next stop at what became known after the battle as Bloody Lane, and lastly to the Burnside Bridge. No American should be unaware of what took place here a century and a half ago, or the effect on our history since.

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BLUE RIDGE



Only Moves Forward

THE SERVICE MAGAZINE

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WELL, I BELIEVE cooler weather is on the way. We didn't get much rain this Summer but hopefully the cooler Fall weather will bring us the water that we need.

If you did not make it to the 95th Annual Reunion you certainly missed a treat!! In my opinion we had an outstanding meeting and the touring of the Antietam Battlefield was top notch. We had very good meals and the speaker for Saturday night was fantastic. Hopefully you will be able to join us next year in Harrisburg, PA.

Since the weather is changing many of us will be outside working in our yards. Be very careful of where you place your hands. There are still snakes and spiders lurking around. I saw a black snake out back of my house that was about five feet long. He slithered out of the way but it still gave me the willies!! While my daughter, Margie, and I were cleaning the bank of the pond a couple of weeks ago we saw several Northern Brown Water Snakes. I want my husband to shoot them but he says everything needs to live. I agree but not everything on this property. Just be very careful and don't overdo it.

It is very soothing to live out in the county. We look out and see all sorts of animals. Just a few nights ago we saw three fox, two skunks, 16 or so deer, and of course lots of birds.

Watching the deer is just so beautiful. Some still have their spots and then there are several bucks with large racks.

By the time you get this you will be preparing for Veterans Day. Thank you to all that have served and those who continue to serve. We would not be the Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave without all of you. Even as a Veteran, when you see another Veteran thank them for their service. Remember we are a Team and Battle Buddies for Life!

Also, Thanksgiving is fast approaching. Family time is so important and I truly hope that you are able to spend some time gathered around and giving thanks for the many blessings that we all have been given.

Please send me any articles from the newspaper or just a note and photo from a family member when you have received some sort of recognition. I would love to include it in the magazine.

Don't forget to look at your mailing information on the back of the magazine. If it does not show LIFE or 2014, you are very close to being behind in your dues. The Constitution states that members will be dropped from the mailing if they become three years in arrears with their dues.

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

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Shortly after returning to the hotel the evening program began, opening with a welcome from Hagerstown Mayor David Gysberts. It had been the Mayor's intention to speak briefly and depart, but he was induced to remain with us for the remainder of the evening, and indications were he was glad to have done so. Following this second buffet meal, Roger Keller, representing the Washington County Visitors Center, appeared and spoke about several interesting aspects of Hagerstown history. A presentation was made to Mr. Keller for the staff of the Center to recognize the substantial assistance they had provided in organizing the event. The closing event was the drawing of the first of the three cash prizes, and the winner, PNC Clarence Brockman.

Friday again began with a meeting, the General Meeting, at which officers for the coming year were elected and sworn. From about noon on, the first of many local military re-enactors arrived to set up their displays and converse with those present. Dean Dominique spoke about his recently published book on the 317th, and other members set up displays intended to further their research projects.

The Friday evening buffet was reduced slightly by the six PNCs (and me as the newbie) attending the traditional PNC Dinner—in the hotel restaurant. Following the PNC dinner we rejoined the main group that, having finished their meal had

commenced drawing the tickets for the items donated to our Charity Table, and distributing them to the winners. This provided an active hour of fun for the group during which several items "went to good homes." Luck once again favored the Dorsten family table. The total raised this year came to \$605, from which a donation of \$500 will be made to the Wounded Warrior Project, and the balance retained as seed money for next year. Our thanks go to all who donated items for the tables, and those who so liberally purchased tickets. We wrapped up this evening with the second cash drawing, won by Martha Nelson.

On Saturday morning we held our traditional Memorial Service. The format was as we have followed it for many years, and the Color Guard provided by a Civil War re-enactment group from the 3rd Maryland Regiment commanded by Dennis Rohrbach, who played Taps at the appropriate time. Several other re-enactors in uniforms of the Civil War and WWII took positions around the room for the duration of the service. General McLaren officiated; Chaplain and Vice-Commander Doug Knorr provided the clerical services and solos. I did the poetical reading, and General McLaren, CSM Wollett, and I read the names of those who had left us during the past year. Interestingly, the room was very slow to clear, and those who moved as far as the adjacent lobby tended to remain for some

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COMMANDERS MESSAGE



Jeff Wignall, Commander

REUNIONS ARE SMALLER than in the past. We count attendees in tens now where it once was hundreds. But except for the advantage of the computer, the job of organizing a Reunion remains much the same: complicated. I would suggest that it's not unlike planning a military campaign, with more unknown than known at the beginning. I have the comfortable feeling that the end result this year was a success.

The reward for success, and I don't know that there has ever been a failure, although recall one instance where a bail-out was required, is to advance to the position of Commander.

That is a singular honor for me since I am not military, nor to my knowledge are the next three Vice-Commanders who will in their turn advance to this position. That said, I have never viewed this organization as a military organization, but as one of civilians who were called upon to become soldiers, and in the main returned to their civilian pursuits when the fighting ended. No personal military experience of my own could ever qualify me to join their ranks. My role here is purely administrative; to conduct an event that age prevents those rightly entitled to the honor from performing, and my presence is as the son of a man killed in action in France.

I would like to express my thanks to those who supported me in this endeavor, to those who supported the event by attending, or, as many who were unable to attend did, by purchasing Raffle Tickets and Program Books, and to the far too many to be mentioned individually whose combined efforts made this year's event possible. I must single out my wife, Mary, for her forbearance, and for chairing the Charity Table this year that generated a substantial donation to the Wounded Warrior Project. My sincere thanks also to those who commented favorably on the program, and particularly to those whose cards and letters arrived in the days after our return home.

My efforts during the coming year will be directed towards growing our membership, from the ranks of those who have served in the 80th in recent years, and among the 80th families. There are totally different problems involved in these efforts, but we will be pursuing ways to "get the word out." While we need funds to keep afloat, we must increase our membership to stay afloat.

Fund raising efforts must and will continue. Many members have responded generously to our request for donations, the paver program is now in place, and I will hope for continued good results. Some new ideas are on the table, and others gratefully accepted, especially if they work.

One particular thing that has been discussed in meetings, but I don't believe made known to the membership as a whole, is the matter of the McBride Fund. It should be understood by everyone that this is not a source of funding for the Association, but is a privately administered scholarship program we assisted for many years by channeling donations sent to us on their behalf. We no longer provide this service, and request that any donations sent to us be marked for the 80th Division Veterans Association only. Anyone with a specific desire to contribute to the scholarship fund is welcome to contact us for the name of the administrator, but we will no longer accept or process donations for the fund. Further to that, if anyone may have made provision for a bequest to the Association, but identified it as for the McBride Fund, please arrange to make a correction unless it was your specific wish that it go to the scholarship, in which case it should be redirected to the fund administrator.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Wignall".

SAVE THE DATES!
96th Reunion will be held in Harrisburg, PA
August 19 - 22, 2015

Come to Luxembourg in January for a Special 70Th Anniversary Memorial!

THE COMMUNITY OF NOCHER, Luxembourg will be unveiling a memorial dedicated to the men that helped liberate them during the Battle of the Bulge. The 70th Anniversary of this liberation will be January 18, 2015.

The people of Nocher request the honor of your presence for this dedication. They would welcome any 80th Division veteran, but would especially love to see any member of the units that were involved in their liberation. Those include:

- 319th Infantry Regiment
- 3rd Battalion (Companies I, K, L, M)
- Company G (2nd Battalion, attached)
- 702 Tank Battalion – Company C
- 610th Tank Destroyer Battalion – One platoon of Company A
- 305th Engineer Battalion – One platoon of Company C

There are a limited number of all expense paid packages available for 80th Division Battle of the Bulge Veterans and a companion.

The people of Luxembourg, along with local hotels and the CEBA historical organization are providing lodging, ground transportation, tours and most meals while in Luxembourg.

Any Battle of the Bulge veteran and a companion can take advantage of this offer.

In addition, Delta Airlines will provide five round trip air transportation packages from the United States for any Battle of the Bulge veteran and a companion. As of early September there are still three packages available.

The dates for this trip are January 11 – 19, 2015. You would be leaving the United States on January 11, returning on January 19, 2015.

A program is being planned by the people of Luxembourg between January 12 – 18, 2015, including:

- Visits to 80th Division monuments, battle sites throughout Luxembourg
- Visit to the Diekirch Military Museum
- Visits to the Saint Avold, France and Hamm, Luxembourg cemeteries
- Monument unveiling on Sunday, January 18, 2015

If you're interested in traveling to Luxembourg to attend this monument dedication, please contact Bill Black at 404-493-6601, or via email at williamblack@gmail.com

We hope to see you in Luxembourg in January!

Sandiway Golf Club, Cheshire, England - Thursday 26 June 2014

Local dignitaries gathered at Sandiway today to take part in a small ceremony to unveil two plaques on the Golf Course. Information discovered in a history of the Club written by former secretary Alan Seaman in 1992 revealed that many US Troops were present in the area in WWII, and had used the course for both recreation and training. He identified the men of the US 80th Division as being stationed around Sandiway before they moved on to France.

To memorialize the 70th anniversary of their presence, two granite plaques have been placed on the course, one near the ladies' 5th tee in a copse of trees, some of which still clearly show the carved initials of men who were there so many years ago.

The second plaque is located near the men's 4th tee. This area was not a part of the course in 1944, and some bull-dozing was done to create target butts for shooting practice. These were left, and later incorporated into the layout of the course.

The tribute was led by Frank Harding, Club Chairman, and attended by several committee members and representatives of the local British Legion. The High Sheriff unveiled the two plaques and sprinkled the area around them with poppy seeds gathered in Flanders.





Memorial Day Remembrances...



Cherril at Grave of Eugene Wehmeuller



Presenting American WWII Orphans Network (AWON) Wreath



Cherri McMillian & Denise Thill



AWON Wreath



Henri Chapelle



Margraten



Ardennes

Battle of the Bulge Certificates

Dear Mr. McLaren,

We wanted to let your 80th Infantry Division Association membership know of a special opportunity to get a Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge certificate. They are usually \$15, but right now we are offering them at a special price of 2 for \$15 [2 copies of the same certificate.] Shipping in a protective cardboard tube is included in the price.

Any WWII vet who received the Ardennes campaign credit is eligible for the certificate, which attests that the veteran participated, endured and survived the largest land battle ever fought by the US Army. (We also have an alternate version worded for veterans killed or wounded in the battle.) Family members or friends may also order it in a veteran's name.

It is an 11 x 17" parchment paper, full-color certificate. A full description is on our ordering page.

We hope that you will add a link on your website to our certificate page, where people can order the certificate and pay with a credit card: http://vbob.org/?page_id=120

We thank you for your consideration and all you do for our veterans.

Tracey Diehl, Member Services, Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge

<http://battleofthebulge.org> tracey@battleofthebulge.org 703-528-4058



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time. There was the usual picture taking, but I'd like to think the reluctance to leave was a reflection of the service itself. Comments were many, positive, and numerous.

As the room eventually cleared, the re-enactors expanded the area at the opposite end of the hall to set up their varied and interesting living history displays. These men and women live their roles, and are extremely knowledgeable about their respective parts. They conversed at length with everyone who passed through the room during the afternoon, and I learned later that information flowed both ways to mutual advantage.

Each of the basic groups—as far as I was able to sort them—received recognition for taking part. I was unable to get a full count of the individual participants, but the groups represented included: the 318th Regiment, Company A (Gettysburg, PA), the 14th Tennessee Regiment, Company B (Hagerstown, MD), the 3rd Maryland Regiment (Hagerstown, MD), The Battling Buzzards (101st Airborne, Cumberland, MD), and the Ill-Tempered Men (1st Division, Martinsburg, WV)—with its contingent of Blue-Caps, who were far less ill-tempered. Participants represented the French-Indian War, Civil War, Spanish American War, and WWII, in varied period attire, with a wide array of display items from their respective periods.

Most significantly, the presence of these men and women was entirely voluntary, and I will add that they felt so honored to be a part of this reunion that all have expressed a desire to return next year.

The take away message from the program: Those who are compelled to take up arms in defense of their country will not be forgotten.

During this time we had two formal presentations, Joe Stahl, our battlefield guide, returned to talk about his primary interest in Civil War Dog Tags, and Vice-Commander Bill Black talked about his forthcoming trip to Luxembourg in January. Regrettably, one man I was looking forward to hearing was unable to appear. Skip Koontz of the 14th Tennessee had been scheduled to appear as Stonewall Jackson, but a late change in his work schedule prevented it.

Our farewell banquet—with about 80 present—was held on Saturday night, and opened as were the other gatherings by outgoing Commander McLaren and Chaplain Knorr. The speaker following the meal was Mr. Bernard Marie, presently of Roanoke, who recalled his time as a child in France during the D-Day Invasion and the aftermath, and included some commentary on Franco-American relations over the years since.

The evening wound down with the formal passing of command. If anyone understands what went on there, please fill me in; I haven't figured it out yet. I was handed a hat. After the ensuing confusion we were able to return to the script long enough to draw the final raffle ticket—PNC

Brockman, for the second time!—and for Chaplain Knorr to deliver the benediction.

To my knowledge everyone returned home swiftly and safely, the single exception being the 27 hour delay experienced by Joyce Lee and her brother Allen in trying to escape from Washington, DC.

Beyond the program itself, the Program Book was well received. Many extra copies were purchased, and several bought in advance by folks unable to attend. Unfortunately I was unable to promote it when it was announced as it didn't exist at that time, so the level of success with that was limited, but profitable. For those unaware, the booklet "Forward 80th," a history of the 80th Division printed by "Stars and Stripes" in 1945, was included in its entirety in the book, along with some other interesting "stuff." The cover design utilized a drawing by the noted military artist Howard Brodie that appeared as "YANK" magazine illustration during the war, and was used with the gracious permission of the artist's family. A limited number of copies remain for anyone interested (now that it's been unveiled). I will have to advance the price to \$7.50 for single mailed copies due to the postal rate increase, with additional copies at \$6.00. Likewise several sets of souvenir dog tags, \$6.00 mailed, \$5.00 for added sets. Great stocking stuffers for the grand-kids! Mail or email—I can accept PayPal on my own account and pay it over to the Association.

I heard many positive comments about the hotel, and zero negative, so I'm thinking everyone was happy with their rooms, and the general layout that minimized the travel distance for those with difficulty in getting about. Need I mention the food!

"... and those at home abed shall think themselves accursed they were not here!" (Shakespeare: Henry V)

Next year at Harrisburg!

HISTORIAN'S REPORT

CONGRATULATIONS ON ANOTHER great reunion, as has been reported by many people. I would like to thank all of you for your prayers & well wishes during my wife's hospitalization.

Welcome aboard to Andy Adkins and to Gary Schreckengost who have consented to serve as Associate Historians for WWII and Post WWII respectively. We welcome the expertise of these two well-qualified historian/authors.

For your further information, I am attaching a detailed Bio for Bernard Marie, who was the featured speaker at the reunion. I am sure that there are many historical facts which you will pick up from this Bio.

I shall look forward to another great year!

Respectfully,

Lee S. Anthony, PNC and Historian



Reunion Highlights in Photos





Reunion Highlights in Photos



The Story of “LITTLE BOBBIE”

A FEW YEARS AGO, a teen from the Netherlands contacted the Association, requesting information about a couple of WW II 80th Division Soldiers who are interred in ABMC Cemeteries in Europe. He had “adopted” the gravesites of the Soldiers and often visited those sites, leaving flowers and other mementos. In the years that followed, he and some friends organized “Stichting Verenigde Adoptanten Amerikaanse Oorlogsgraven Foundation United Adopters American War Graves.” He has also been a guest in the US a number of times and recently attended the 95th Annual Reunion of the 80th Division Veterans Association. Sebastiaan Vonk has become a well-known member of the Association and has been welcomed, not only for his commitment to honoring those buried in his native Country, but for his dedication to the 80th Division and its associates. Now a student at University, his major is American Studies and he receives the support and appreciation of grateful families and Association members.

Sebastiaan’s role with the 80th Division Veterans reminds us of another young man who won the hearts and love of 80th men who served during WW I, in those same European battlefields. In a reversal of roles, that young man was adopted by the Soldiers of the Division. What follows are excerpts from the story that appeared in the October-November 1924 edition of the *Service Magazine*, written by Burg Clark.

“Little Bobbie”

Orphan of France and Soldat of the 80th Division

“The histories of all wars contain many unwritten pages which never come to light until the actors who played a leading part in the drama have marched on into the “great Beyond” and the part they played has either been forgotten or passed into the realm of fable and fiction.

.....

“The “Drummer Boy” of the Civil War has seized a place in our imagination, and has justly been celebrated in the literature of our Nation. Perhaps the grandfathers of the men who served in the “Blue Ridge” Division in France, were “Drummer Boys” in some instances. In any case, they served in opposing armies, the men from Virginia and below the Mason-Dixon line under Lee, and from Pennsylvania and West Virginia under Grant. Their grandsons fought shoulder to shoulder in the great battles of the St. Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne under the insignia of the 80th Division. Why not ask them if the “Drummer Boy” had a counterpart in the A.E.F.?”

“.....

“The Yank has a weakness for mascots and children. Four years of war had left France with many orphans who de-

veloped a sturdy self-reliance in taking care of themselves. They had lost both Father and Mother and the big-hearted Yank, thinking perhaps of his own little ones away back in America, tried to make it up to them. In the training areas, the children never lacked for food, candy and daddies. They adopted the “American Soldat” and did not stop at one, but adopted the whole company.

“Such was the case of Bobbie Seeuws, born in Paris, whose mother died when he was a baby and whose father gave his life for France.

“Little Bobbie strayed far from his birthplace, and September 1918 found him in Tronville, Department of Meuse, close to the battle area, when the Blue-Ridgers arrived, preparing to move up and take part in the St. Mihiel Offensive. Bobbie was impressed with the authority and appearance of the 305th Military Police Company of the Division. He watched the tall Pennsylvanians and Virginians as they directed the crowded traffic at the cross roads and decided that it was a good “outfit” to join. He found a friend in Corporal Elmer W. Carr and in Harry Kurtz of Philadelphia. These two “Buddies” decided that the first thing a “Soldat” and Mascot needed was a uniform. A few days later, the Quartermaster Sergeant had difficulty in straightening out his report. A complete uniform was missing in action. It was by no means the first one that he could not account for. He “cussed” out his corporal for not keeping his eyes open, and forgot about it.

“Bobbie appeared a few days later, after the Company Tailor had had several mysterious conferences with him, as an ‘American Soldat’; overseas cap, blouse, wrapped leggings, hobnailed shoes and everything. He threw his shoulders back, cocked his cap in the approved angle over the left eye, swaggered down the street and distained to notice the lowly “Frogs.”

“Bobbie became the most popular member of the Company. His military education progressed by leaps and bounds. His vocabulary of American slang grew apace. He learned to have the proper contempt for Second Looies and Top Sergeants. He never bothered about passes, and his salutes to unpopular officers brought joy to the “Bucks.” The little detail of mustering him into the United States Army was overlooked.

“The Order came for the Blue-Ridgers to prepare for action. The division was to move up into the St. Mihiel. Bobbie must be left behind—there would be “dirty work at the crossroads.” He was given presents and bribed to stay until his company came back. Bobbie was a casual—nobody wanted him. He rubbed a grimy hand into his eye, then came to a snappy salute as the company marched away.

"The next evening a diminutive figure in olive-drab scrambled from the rear of a truck load of "Corned Willy." Walking up to the M. P. at the corner, who inquired "What outfit Mac?"

"305th M.P.s"

"Attaboy" and Bobbie went in search of the kitchen for a "handout of slum".

"From then on, Bobbie accompanied his "outfit" through the St. Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne Battles, bearing the same hardships and dangers, learning to hunt cover when the shells got too "hot," and proudly assisting in guarding the prisoners as they were marched back from the front. He was an M.P. and the 305th M.P.'s 80th Division, were like no other M.P.s which ever served in "this Man's Army." If one was not convinced, name your weapons and Bobbie would show you the war was not over.

"After the American troops sailed for home, Bobbie continued to remember his Buddies, and regularly writes to Harry Kurtz at Philadelphia. Harry wrote to Bobbie last December {1923}, inviting him to the Annual Reunion of the 80th Division, and his verbatim reply is given below:

{ "My dear old Friend Harry: — I was very pleased to hear from you today. I wrote you already many times, but I never knew if you got my letters. I am not more a Corporal now, but since the last December I'm a Sergeant, so I'm much better, but not for the money, as we don't get more than one franc, seventy-five centimes a day. You ask me since when I'm in the Army. I'll tell you that I'm here since the 15th February 1922.

"I will have 40 days leave in the year 1924, and if I had money enough I would be very pleased to go and see you over there, but it is too dear for me and I must wait my time to end. I will be very pleased to receive your tobacco, if you can send me some, because everything is very dear over here. I do hope old friend my letter will find you and your wife O.K., and in very good health. I hope to hear very soon from you.

"You asked me where I am in Germany. I'm not very far from Essen in a very little city we call Herdecke. It is not very nice. We don't enjoy ourselves very much. Everything is too dear and the life very hard, chiefly when we don't get any money for what we would like to do.

"Now I will close, hoping you and your wife will have a very happy Xmas and that you will have a very good time.

"Now I send you my best souvenirs of comradeship and remain,

"Sincerely, your Old Pal Bobbie,
R. Seeuws, Sergeant
150th Rgt. D"Inf.3e Cie. Mses.,
S.P.27
A.F. Ruhr."}

.....

"It will be seen that Bobbie knows the "American Language". He writes entirely in English and uses very good penmanship.

"A letter to Harry Kurtz, dated July 24, 1924, from Remschied, is even more interesting and indicates that Bobbie is holding up the best American traditions in the French Army.

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{ "Dear Harry and Edna: — I received your letter of 2nd July, and I write you a few lines to let you know that I am in good health and hope with my best wishes that both of you are the same.

"I am not Sergeant any more. I have give it one distribution of slap to one Lieutenant because he has said to me that the American Soldiers was not courageous in the War Time, and the he will to see another war to kill some of you. You know, Harry, that I will not let him said that. I am a American and not Frog! And so quick I'll have finished my service you see me soon over the good U.S.A. I can't see anymore the French people. You know that you are friends with them for a moment—but not forever, like you are the Americans. Since now I take myself for a American boy!!!! Not lawful for me, but I said so. Do you believe me Harry and Edna, I'll sure think right.

"I tell you that I know in Dusseldorf one American boy and his wife are there since 1922 or 23. I do not know exactly, but I will talk to them about it when I see them soon as I can. I am waiting for your picture, but hope she will come soon. I am now in a new regiment, French Soldiers, but I don't care, I have the American idea and hope to hear from you soon.

"My best wishes of good health and good friendship.

"Your old Friend
"Bobbie}

.....

"Evidently Bobbie's 'distribution of one slap to one Lieutenant' resulted in the loss of his Sergeant's stripes, and Bobbie is now just plain 'Soldat' or 'Buck', but nevertheless he has 'The American Idea'—Three Cheers for Bobbie-Soldier, 80th Division, U.S.A.!"

At the same time this article was printed, Harry Kurtz wrote to The Editor and asked his Buddies who remembered Bobbie to contribute a little money to help pay Bobbie's expenses so that he might attend the reunion of the Association the following year. Unfortunately, Bobbie never made it to the U.S.A.

Looking for Fellow Comrades of the 70th Infantry Division

By: John Eckrich

I am looking for former Soldiers of the 70th Infantry Division that were transferred into the 80th Division during WWII as fillers. I was assigned to C-318. You can reach me at 219-996-5067.

A Letter From Robert T. Murrell

166 Cambridge Lane
717-242-3942
Lewistown, PA. 17044-9315
Divinf801@verizon.net

CSM Doris Wollett
5101 Hurop Road
Sandston, VA 23150

To all the people who attended the Reunion, I hope you had a good time, as I think Jeff did a very good job of having all things come to gather.

I'm sorry that more of you didn't attend the Main Business meeting on Friday to see the new slate of Officers installed. Only one Lady attended (I failed to get her name) to her: Thanks for attending.

I sincerely want to thank the many people who helped me with my oxygen. Without them, I don't know what would of happened to me. Particularity Paul and John who were thoughtful enough to think of grabbing an office chair from the business office for me to sit in and transport me to my room when I could breath when I ran out of oxygen and couldn't walk. Others went to my room and brought me an "E" tank of oxygen, Thank you. Then on Saturday night, after I had my meal, and got up to leave for home (due to my oxygen was running so low) and had to head for home (two hours), General McLaren and CSM Wollett came to help me out, (to my knowledge it is the only time a General came off the Head Table to help anyone). Thank you, Sir.

Those of you who do not have to wear oxygen, you are Blessed and my wish is you never will. Please explain to your children why I must wear it. (Due to my smoking for forty years). Lucky it was not Cancer.

PNC Robert T. Murrell

80th Division Veteran's Association Memorial Brick Paver Program

The purpose of the brick program is to help the overall financial status of our organization and help it to remain viable for the future. It is a fantastic way to honor our veterans. The bricks (also called "pavers") are approximately 5" tall x 11" wide x 4" thick. The bricks will be placed at the 80th Training Command Headquarters in Richmond, Virginia, adjacent to our 80th Division monument.

THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF BRICKS TO CHOOSE FROM:

1. Standard Granite \$195 each Quantity:_____ 2. Virginia "Hokie" Stone \$295 each Quantity:_____

Prices include brick cutting, surface smoothing, three lines of inscription, shipping and installation. You may inscribe whatever you wish as it can fit on the three lines. If you're interested, please fill in the following information:

NAME (FIRST / LAST) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ COUNTRY _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

Three lines of inscription: _____

If you would prefer to have your brick shipped to an alternate address, please provide: _____

Please make checks payable to: 80th Division Veteran's Association. You can mail check and completed information to:
Bill Black / 80th Division Veterans Association • 1031 Overlook Park Lane • Lawrenceville, GA 30043
Phone: 404-493-6601 Email: williamrblack@gmail.com

Angelo J. "Abe" Barone



Angelo J. "Abe" Barone, 92, of Pottsville, died Sunday at Lehigh Valley Hospital-Cedar Crest. Born Nov 12, 1921, in Pottsville, he was a son of the late Michael and Mary Romano Barone.

He was a graduate of Pottsville High School and served in the Army during World War II with the 317th Infantry Regiment in France. During his tour in France, Abe was

captured by the German Army and was held as prisoner of war for 8 months. Among his numerous commendations were the Purple Heart and the French Medal of Honor bestowed on him by the French government earlier this year.

He was employed by Miller Distribution Co. prior to retiring. Abe was a member of the former St Joseph Roman Catholic Church, Pottsville, and presently was a member of St. Patrick Roman Catholic Church, Pottsville, where he was a lector and Eucharistic minister of both churches.

He was a member of the Pottsville Lions Club, the Ambulance Board of the Pottsville/Schuylkill Haven/Orwigsburg EMS, Sacred Heart Society, Catholic War Veterans Post 1029m Yorkville Hose Company and the Great Pottsville Cruise Committee. Abe also received the Golden Cross Award and was a past National Commander of the 80th Infantry Division and a past National Chaplain of the 80th Infantry Division.

Over the years, Abe shared his experience of being a POW with many schools, colleges, and clubs.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by

two brothers, Charles and James; and a sister Josephine Mulaine.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, the former Catherine Pewor; a son, Gerard "Jerry" Barone and his wife, Christine, Daytona Beach, Fla; a daughter, Kathy Marianelli and her husband, Bruce, West West Terrace; two grandsons, Adam Marianelli, West West Terrace, and Chad Marianelli, Massachusetts; nieces and nephews; grandnieces and -nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Friday from St. Patrick Church, Pottsville. Family and friends are invited to call from 8:30 to 10:45 a.m. Friday at the church. The family would prefer remembrances in the form of contributions made to the St. Patrick Memorial Fund, 319 Mahantongo St., Pottsville, PA 17901 or to Pottsville/Schuylkill Haven/Orwigsburg EMS, 320 N. Ninth St., Pottsville, PA 17901. Interment with military honors will be in Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, Annville. James E. Humphrey Funeral Home, Pottsville, is in charge of arrangements. To share your memories and condolences with Abe's family, please sign the guest book at www.jehumphreyfuneralhome.com.

RETURNED MAGAZINE

DO YOU KNOW WHERE I AM?

Anzivino, Ralph	Life	Kenetski, Stanley	2014
Arnold, Marvin	Life	Melcolm, Albert	Life
Artino, Sal	Life	Miller, William	Life
Bailey, John	Life	Morris, Shirley	Life
Barr, Jack	Life	Munoz, Moses	Life
Bell, John	Life	Muzny, Eugene	Life
Claussen, Ruth	Life	Nicoll, William	Life
Colvin, Harry	Life	Olson, Orville	Life
Cresson, Albert	Life	Parker, Milt	Life
Garnett, Fred	Life	Posey, Mrs Stewart	Life
Hodge, Lloyd	Life	Rigg, Charles	Life
Hubbard, Grady	Life	Shively, Wayne	Life
Jobe, Frank	Life	Stanley, Thomas	Life
Jonnes, Lloyd	Life	Tagmeyer, Nathan	Life

TAPS

Barone, PNC Abe L-317
116 S Jackson St
Pottsville, PA 17901
DOD: Jul 27, 2014
Rptd by: Wife, Kay

Helmuller, Oliver F-317
P O Box 61
Plum City, WI 54761
DOD: Apr 8, 2010
Rptd by: Wife, Marie

Peterson, Carroll, H-319
422 W 8th Ave
Webster, SD 57274
DOD: Sep 6, 2014
Rptd by: Margaret McKittrick

Stanard, James
10010 Tuxford Rd
Richmond, VA 23236
DOD: Apr 13, 2013
Rptd by: Wife, Phyllis

Czerkas, Frank 319
35135 Greenwich Ave
N Ridgeville, OH 44039
DOD: Jul 9, 2014
Rptd by: Daughter-In-Law Ann Marie Morris

Hoyer, Arnold 318
LaCrosse, WI
DOD: Sep 7, 2013
Rptd by: Internet

Scheftic, Thomas B-317
500 Morningside Drive
Lower Burrell, PA 15068
DOD: Aug 10, 2014
Rptd by: CSM® Don Stewart

Vodak, Robert 780 Ord
Rptd by: Returned Magazine

Diorio, Joseph L-318
4631 New England Ln
Youngstown, OH 44512
DOD: Dec 19, 2013
Rptd by: Daughter, Deborah Zajac

Nutting, Frances Ladies Auxillary
2056 Coolridge Place
Williamstown, WV 26187
DOD: Aug 7, 2014
Rptd by: Son, Kenneth

Slaughter, MSG® James B Co 80th
Spt Bn
Mechanicsville, VA
DOD: June 15, 2014
Rptd by: Richmond Times Dispatch

Wojnaroski, Leo 318
Goetzville, MI
DOD: May 1, 2014
Rptd by: Internet

The last date I have entered a name is September 1, 2014

NEW MEMBERS

- Deborah Blanco, Daughter of Lionel Rothbard 305 Med Allen Glover, Family
- Ben Jarratt, Son of Carey Jarratt, A-318 WWI
- Joyce Lee, Daughter of Gordon Glover D-317
- Bernard Marie, 5 Year Old in Normandy 6/6/44
- David Rothbard, Son of Lionel Rothbard 305 Med

DONATIONS

- PNC Archer Futch – In Memory of PNC Angelo Barone 317
- Virginia Barton – In Memory of Jess Barton F-317
- COL® John Brown – In Memory of CSM® Sam Lucas 2-318
- Joseph Coscia – General Fund
- Dean Dominique – In Memory of COL James Hayes 317
- PNC Elmer Dorsten – General Fund
- Bob Harman – General Fund
- William Lawrence – In Memory of Belford Lawrence, Father
- PNC MG® John McLaren – In Memory of MG® James Browder Commander 80th Division
- Victor Muller – In Memory of PFC Joseph Muller, Brother A-317
- Frances Poletti – In Memory of Edward Poletti 313 FA
- Robert & Gail Puccio – In Memory of Paul Fate F-318
- Norman Reifsnnyder – In Memory of Paul Parsons I-319
- William Siebert – In Memory of Louis Blatz, Jr Co L
- Grace Viviano – In Memory of Dr Paul Viviano 313 FA Medical
- Karl Weishaupt – General Fund – 313 FA B Battery
- Malcolm Winslow – In Memory of Buddy Leanness 319

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Sandston, VA 23150-5406

PAID 2014

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From the Internet:

http://www.roanoke.com/news/local/bedford_county/child-of-d-day-grew-into-man-of-honor/article_f1183ed6-ec4b-11e3-966f-0017a43b2370.html

By Matt Chittum | The Roanoke Times / Posted: Wednesday, June 4, 2014 8:54 pm

Child of D-Day grew into man of honor, Frenchman honors D-Day vets with dinner every year

This is the story of Bernard Marie who who lived in France as a small child and remembers the US soldiers who liberated his town. Marie now lives in Roanoke, VA, where he honors D-Day veterans annually as guests at a commemorative dinner. He has never forgotten that day in 1944, this is the story of how he is giving back.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



80th Division Veterans Association
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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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PLEASE SPECIFY BATTLE / CAMPAIGN: _____

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E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

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80TH DIVISION FAMILY / FRIEND / ASSOCIATE

- NEW/ANNUAL DUES: \$20/YEAR
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POST #50 80TH BLUE RIDGE ASSOCIATION

**DO NOT USE THIS FORM
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SECRETARY/EDITOR:

CSM (R) Doris M. Wollett • 5101 Hurop Road • Sandston, VA 23150-5406 • 804-737-4422 • csmwollett@verizon.net

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

JEFF WIGNALL (Family, A-318)
 COMMANDER
 27 Martinack Avenue
 Peabody, MA 01960

DOUGLAS KNORR (Family, A-317)
 NATIONAL CHAPLAIN
 1609 Dracka Road
 Traverse City, MI 49685-8817

ROGER NELSON (Family, Eng Reg, WWI)
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 2385 Covington Dr Apt 201
 Akron, OH 44313

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 2385 Covington Dr Apt 201
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80TH DIVISION MONUMENTS: Infantry Museum, Fort Benning, Georgia (left), Heritage Trail at the Army Heritage and Education Center, Carlisle, Pennsylvania (center) and HQ 80th Training Command, Richmond, VA (right).

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

THE **80TH DIVISION**
VETERANS ASSOCIATION

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