

**Blue Ridge 80th Division
The Service Magazine**
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BLUE RIDGE

The Service Magazine
Volume 80, Number 326

Post Reunion — 2000
Issue 3

Official Publication of the
80th Division Veterans Association, Inc.



A. E. F.
Artois-Picardy
St. Mihiel
Meuse-Argonne

E. T. O.
Northern France
Ardennes
Rhineland
Central Europe

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Deadline for the next issue is December 1, 2000

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

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Historian	Edgar E. Bredbenner Jr. (B-318)
Service Officer	Felix J. Cistolo (G-317)
Flag Sergeant	Andrew B. Ferens (M-317)
Color Sergeant	Albert J. Cresson (C-315 FA)
Sergeant-at-Arms	Don Davis (K-319)
Public Affairs Officer	George V. West (C-318)

TRUSTEES

- 1 Year; Robert W. Smith (K-317)
- 2 Year; Felix Cistolo (G-317)
- 3 Year; Robert N. Nathason (L-317)

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1 Year

- George V. West (G-318)
- Louis Cayer (80th SIG)
- Joe H. Hege, Jr. (80th RCN)

2 Years

- Melvin C. Beers (C-319)
- Walton W. Spangler (A-319)
- Robert I. Simpson (I-317)

3 Years

- Gerald V. Myers (G-317)
- Laverne J. Schock (F-317)
- Tom Pappas (F-318)

Commander's Corner

The 81st Reunion is over except for a few odd's and end's! (Paying Bill's!!). I wish to thank and congratulate Jim Allen and Angelo Barone for their usual common sense, input. (Not only the above, but, we should consider the hours on our behalf, these Gentlemen have contributed!).

Our speakers, Constant Georgen, U S Veterans Friends, (President and Founder) Contern, Luxembourg and Barbara Martin, Leesburg, Florida, were exceptional and Inspirational!

Of course, Bob Rampy, who spent the better part of three hard days at the registration desk and Virgil Myers professionalism at the "Mike" Thursday evening at Huber's.

Also, Naomi Brockman, President of the Ladies Auxiliary and her Lady friends for their constant faithful support.

George West spent about eight hours on the phone from his Hotel room, contacting TV Stations and Newspapers in the area, to encourage coverage of our Reunion by the Press. (WHAS TV told us Friday evening they would cover us at the Memorial Service Saturday, alas this did not happen. (Are you surprised?). This follow up on the press release written by our own Professional, Lou Engelke ("Little Angel"), was forwarded by Lou to the Louisville and Jefferson County Convention and Visitors Bureau, who in turn mailed his Summary of the 80th's March thru Europe to about sixty of the area's News Media.

Thank's, Max Schmidt PNC, for your inside info and presenting us with a good Reunion in Greensboro. (80th)

Again, Col John Woods, came thru with his timely message and remarks! WOW, 93 years young!



Barbara Martin, author of "When the East Wind Blows" and Commander Burrows at the Reunion.

Many of our ailing Comrades, indicated, in response to our mailing, that they would not be able to attend the reunion because of Health problems (I'm afraid this will be the norm). We did receive considerable support thru the prize drawing and other monies to help finance our costs from those who for various reasons could not attend. We did MISS you.

I am sorry I did not have the time to become acquainted with the first timers. Wait till next year! We welcome You... You are at home now!

Queenie, has expressed her delight that the task has been substantially completed. Me Too!!

Now that the major part of my responsibilities are over, I look forward to the coming year and to support Clarence Brockman, Chairman 82nd Reunion and Cara Lee Davis, President Ladies Auxiliary. (Be Sure to attend the BIG BASH at Hampton, VA, August 19-25, 2001!)

Bob Burrows,
National Commander

318th Regimental Dinner, Fort Meade, MD

The newly formed 3rd Battalion 318th Regimental (MP-OSUT) 1st Brigade 80th (Trng) Division, of Fort Meade, MD, asked the Sect for the names of the 318th men living in the Baltimore, MD. Area. They would like to honor them at a Dinner on 10 June 2000. A list of all the men of the 318th men living in an 250-mile area was sent to Major Ruffner who was in charge of the dinner.

I can't recall the number of names sent to the major, but our National Commander Max Schmidt, PNC and National Historian Edgar E. Bredbenner, Jr. and myself, PNC Murrell, along with our wives represented the National Association. Those from the area of Baltimore in attendance were William Allen and wife, William J. Cople along with his wife, his son and his wife, Lloyd Jonnes along with Lynn his wife, and Donald Ayres and Bro-in-law from Wooster, OH.

Our National Commander Schmidt gave a short talk giving stats on our 80th Inf. Division WWI and II, and told of him being only 18 years of age when drafted. Our being called up to help in the Battle of the Bulge, Crossing the Rhine and our being one of the first troops to discover the horror of Buckenwald. Each of the WWII Veterans was recognized by Master of Ceremonies Lt. Col. Pitman C. Rock Exe. Officer of the Brigade and each were given a framed lithograph poster, *Bosnia March 1998*.

Colonel David Morgan Commander of the Brigade gave a short talk, followed by Lt. Col. Randy Pullen, Chief of U.S. Army Reserve

Public Affairs who spoke on the reserves being engaged almost constantly around the world in combat.

After the dinner of close to 150 in attendance, there was a mingling of both the Reserves and the WWII Vets, and much picture taking. In closing, Colonel Morgan offered the use of the Color Guard and the Band from Hampton, VA area for the 2001 Reunion. It was in several of our opinions, a very good gathering and perhaps will be planned again next year.

We wish to thank all the personnel involved for such a wonderful evening.

Bob Murrell, National Sect.

McBride Scholarship Fund

Since there was no takers of the offer Bill Henry made of those four others who would make a donation of \$500, he would match it, he has come forward to make another offer:

If nine (9) other will donate \$200, he will still donate \$500 to the McBride Fund. His offer expires 1/1/01.

Allen, William F. K-318

*The Holiday Inn, Hampton,
Virginia Welcomes You to
the 82nd Reunion!*

Call us at 1-800-842-9370

Life Plus Club 1999-2000

Life Members who contribute over and above the Life Membership. There is no set amount, it's free will as of 14 September 2000, I may have omitted a name. I assure you it was not intentional. Please write me if I omitted your name, it will be corrected in the next issue of the Blue Ridge. I wish to thank each and everyone of you who contribute, by donating you are helping to promote the 80th Division and help one who may be less fortunate than you or I.

Gentlemen: While some of you have been faithful in sending in extra for the Life Plus Club, due to the shrinking membership (just follow the "Taps" column) and close to 75% having taken Life Dues, I am asking those of you who haven't been a part of the Club in the past to consider making a donation over and above your Life membership. Thank You!

Annon	I-318
Annon	I-318
Annon	I-318
Annon	I-318
Bell, George M.	F-319
Blatz, Louis	L-319
in Memory of Vera, Eckelman	
Blume Bernard R.	A/B-319
Castagna, Mrs Maria in Memory of her husband Edward	Dv Sp Trps
Claussen, Mrs Ruth in Memory of her Husband Arnold	C-317
Cistolo, Felix	G-317
Dolon, John Sr.	C-319
Dulaney, Dennis	80th Signal
Eckrich, John	C-318
Engstrom, William H.	80th Sig
Foerster, Richard	C-305 Eng
Hovey, Richard	E-318
Kaufman, Murray I.	F-317

Welcome New Members

Gray, James H. Sr. E-318
2345 Emerson Ave
Dayton, OH 45406

Grammar, Milton L. B-319 Assoc
Rt. 1 Box 61 E
Comfort, TX 78013-9606

Meinke, Herbert F-318
6747 Lupton Drive
Dallas, TX 75225

Muller, Victor, S. Assoc A-317
27981 Faroles
Mission Viejo, CA 92692

Sayre, Carey Assoc H319
1331 Millstone Dr.
Richmond, KY 40475

Wuthnow, Arvid V. B-317
907 W 6th Street Apt C-23
Halstead, KS 67056-2150

Maher, Francis D. I-319
Mc Cormick, Milt AT-319

Millen, Philip H. C/B-319
Morgan Richard L-319
Phillips, James A-313 FA Bn

Phillips, James A-313 FA Bn
Ranum, Robert L. B-305 Eng
Robinson, T. Dorothy in Memory of her husband Clifford 305 Med

Robinson, Irv H-319
Shoemaker Howard I-317
Simpson, William G. C-317

Stuart, Daniel, Dr. 305 Med Bn
Turner, Zane H-317
Umbarger, Howard A-317

Reber, Sydney Dv Hq Sp Tp

If you gave money at the reunion for Life+ Club and your name isn't listed, please notify the editor. Thank You!

Past Commander's Farewell Message

As my term of office as your National Commander comes to an end, it is with great humility that I stand before you to Thank You for the honor to have served. I have many memories, not only of the present, but of the past that has brought us together. As I reflect, there are memories of joy and sadness. The joy being with men that served the 80th in Wartime and have served the 80th Division in Peacetime through our Association. We all feel sadness when one of our buddies are missing at our Reunions, either through sickness, personal problems, or death. Our ranks are getting smaller, but I feel the strength that we all had in service to our Country, and as we had witnessed during our inspiring Memorial Service in Louisville, Ky. when we paid tribute to 116 deceased members. The sharing of one another company and relating our past experiences, will always be intrusted in us. It is important, that we make every effort to attend our Local Post and Reunion meetings.

Thank You for giving me the honor and recognition as your National Commander, which I will always cherish. My term of office has been fruitful. As many of our Past National Commander's know it cannot be accomplished without the cooperation and dedication of the members.

To the Officers, Trustees, Executive Council, Committee Men and Volunteers, you have given much of your time to help keep the 80th Division Association moving forward. It is a Motto that we earned and will remain with us forever.

To Naomi Brockman, National Auxiliary President, your Officers and Members we will always be grateful

to know that you and your Ladies were always there to assist when called upon.

To my wife Alice, of 53 years Thank You for your support during my term of office. Without your understanding and cooperation, my task may have been difficult.

To our National Commander Robert Burrows, I pledge my support. I wish to congratulate you and your Officers and staff for a successful year.

It has been an interesting journey since my first reunion in Pittsburgh, PA. and to be nominated and elected as National Commander in Greensboro, N.C. last year. I look forward to where the road will now lead me.

Thank You All and God Bless.
Max R. Schmidt PNC

Out-going Commander Schmidt (left) with in-coming 3rd Vice Commander Futch at the Reunion.



Mail Bag

Word reaches the Editor that, Tilly Kimmes, a long time friend of the 80th, has retired from CEBA. She plans to move to Luxembourg City to a Senior Home. Many of us remember Tilly greeting us as we landed in Luxembourg Airport, helping us to get a rental car, leading us out on the road to her home and a reception party in our honor. Tilly always called the men of the 80th, "Her Boys". I am sure she will be missed. It is believed that Camille Kohn will be taking over for Tilly... Harry Cady Cannon Company 319th called and said he was sorry he could not make the Reunion due to his having his hip replaced. Sends his greeting to all his buddy's.... Leo DiRenzo, 3271 Estelle Ave. Lorain, OH 44052-5105 Telephone 440-282-5944,

has the 2nd Volume of the 80th History to sell, call him if you wish to purchase.... PNC Shirey Chairman of the nomination Committee for our 82nd Annual Reunion in Hampton, VA would like to hear from paid up members of the Association who at some time, if not at the present has served on the Executive Council and would like to be considered for the 3rd Vice Commander office in 2001. A dedication to our 80th ideals, regular attendance at the reunions, a knowledge of procedure how to conduct business meetings, would help your chances of being considered. Many want the



Above: Doris and Bob Murrell,

Below: First-timers at the reunion. We hope to see them again in 2001!



Glory but fall short of the dedication! Hoping to hear from you, my address is 1415 Lorraine Rd., Reading, PA 19604... The son of our former Commander, Max R. Schmidt, had surgery of the neck, between 5&6 C. He is doing well and we wish him a speedy recovery...

"TAPS"

Ball, Gerald A. Sr. 609 Washington St Ogdensburg, NY 13669 Rptd by wife Evelyn	M-318 6/10/00	Hammond, Glen 1094 Tumbleweed Drive Loveland, OH 45140 Rptd by Art Rehling	80th Recon 10/31/99
Boburchock, Frank 1008 Main Street Berlin, PA 15530-1427 Newspaper Obit	Hq-319 8/27/00	Honold, Carl A. West Ninth Street Mishawaka, IN Rptd by James O. Smith	D-317 7/29/00
Briski, Frank R. 3630 S. Oakdale Drive New Berlin, WI 53151-5358 Rptd by son Tom	H-318 6/23/00	Johnson, Albert P.O. Box 11 Swepsonville, NC 27359-0011 Rptd at Reunion	M-319 Unknown
Bongard, William 2822 Fuller Street Philadelphia, PA 19152 Rptd by A. J. Cerino	780th Ord 7/7/00	LeCount, Luther D. c/o 1331 Millstone Drive Richmond, KY 40475	H-319
Bowers, Not a member Rptd by Grandson	A-305 Med Bn 1/1/96	Lochtefeld, Omer C. P.O. Box 99 Saint Henry, OH 45883-0099 Rptd by Delmar Wilson	C-305 Eng 8/8/00
Cornelius, Robert S. P.O. Box 90552 Industry, CA 91715-0552 Rptd by son R. Scott	E-319 Oct. '99	Lonsack, Jpseph W. 235 Country Road 489 Etowah, TN 37331 Rptd by daughter Susan	SV 317 4/8/94
Ferry, Joseph B Breiningsville, PA Newspaper Obit Not a Member Rptd by Catherine Hayrack	? 1/9/00	Miller, "Strech" Seymour 7 Ethel Terrace Rushmore Hill Pratts Bottom Kent 8R6 8LY England Rptd by wife	I-318 6/20/00
Castagna, Edward 11408 SW 82nd Terrace Ocala, FL 34481 Rptd by wife	Dv Hq Sp Trps 7/17/00	Nissen, James 16 Robbin Cres Rochester, NY 14624 Rptd by Burt Marsh	M-318 10/98
Guerrero, Sam C. 4617 Raintree Blvd Austin, TX 78745-2147 Postal Return marked Deceased	SV 318 Unknown	Patterson, Arthur D. 12 E. Wallace Ave. New Castle, PA 16101-2409 Rptd by his wife Colleen	Hq-317 7/15/00
Haiser, Adam 31449 Pager Dr. Warren Mich 48092 Rptd By Bill Brown	G-317 6/10/00	Schuab, Paul 6929 Ravenna Ave Louisville, OH 44641-9224 Rptd at Reunion	L-317 8/18/00



*113th Army Band
(Dragoons), Fort Knox,
Kentucky.*

*Blowing Taps at the
memorial service at the
reunion.*

Siegman, Richard 2725 Ranchwood Ct Melbourne, FL 32934-7543 Rptd by Conrad Ormond Newspaper Obit	B-315 FA Bn 6/4/00
Summerlot, Raymond D. 2628 N. 9th Street Terre Haute, IN 47804-1104 Rptd by wife Naomi L.	K-317 8/19/99
Tramel, Mondell 1060 Briarfield Rd. Jackson, MS 39211-4119 Rptd by Bob Fasnacht	F-318 7/7/00
Turner, Harry T. 140 Beech Rd. Lawrenceville, VA 23868-3805 Rptd by Family	Hq-319 Unknown
Wilson, George 310 Cline Street Pittsburgh, PA 15112-1605 Rprtd by wife	I-318 6/17/00
Wydra, Joseph A. 6 State Route 4 Mt. Carmel, PA 17851 Rptd by A. Barone Newspaper Obit	G-317 6/6/00

Secretary's REPORT

**"E" MAIL ADDRESS
Divinf80@AOL.Com**

Once again I ask you to send in your memories of where you were or what you remember of a battle that I might record it the stories of the men of the 80th. Take a look at the "Taps," your name will appear some day. We had more than 100 men pass away last year, and it is stated we will be dying off more quickly as we age. The average age of WWII men, is now 76 years old. Please send me your story before your name appears under "Taps" Think about it, don't take it with you. This is the last call for the widows who haven't let me know if they wish to continue the Newsletter. Those few who answered Thank You!

Yearms, Browing G. Warren, OH Rptd by William H. Yearms	80th sig 8/30/00
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REUNION MEMORIES...



Above: Ladies Auxiliary at the Memorial Service.

Below: National Officers at Memorial Service.



Soloist, Jennifer Hartlage with David Lang at the piano.



Gerald V. Myers presenting an award to Constant Goergen of Luxembourg



Chaplain Woods sharing a moment with Jim Ryne

Company L 319

Again our Company had a great turnout at the Louisville Reunion. Thirteen (13) former members of the Company attended and with nine (9) men bringing their wife or significant other, we had a total of twenty-two (22) enjoying the festivities. It was good to see Frank and Helene, John and Helen and Ray who have been missing for a few years.

All in all the Reunion was a huge success. Our Hospitality room was open each day from 8:00 A.M. until about 11:30 P.M. each day and was stocked with all types of goodies and beverages. We were especially pleased to be visited by our outgoing commander Max Schmidt and his wife as well as our Secretary/Editor Bob Murrell. The visit to the Winery on Thursday was a real treat for all who attended. The wine tasting was a pleasure and the food was excellent as was the omp-pa band.

Of a negative nature concerning the Reunion, the fact that we were not able to get table assignments did not sit well with many of the people who attended the Banquet and Dance. People were forced to stand in the hallway near the Banquet Room entrance for approximately 45 minutes waiting for the doors to open. This is hard on people of our age who have bad legs from the service and could have been avoided if tables were assigned. People then could arrive closer to the dinner hour and could immediately go to their assigned table. Please go back to the old method next year. The lack of a proper Dance surface also did not sit too well. Many couples still enjoy dancing and dancing on a carpet is not conducive to dancing pleasure. Lets

hope that next year in Hampton, these two problems will not exist.

On Friday evening the Company L members went out to dinner together to the De Frisco Restaurant. The service and food there was exceptional and our thanks to our former Company Commander Jim Young for making the arrangements at the restaurant and for furnishing the two Vans which transported us to the restaurant and returned us to the hotel.

Please keep Bettes and John Flynn in your prayers. When Bettes and John returned home they were informed that Bettes favorite Cousins had been killed in an automobile accident while we were in Louisville

If you were not aware, Fred Ecklemann lost his beloved Vera since our last Reunion and unfortunately I was not aware of it until our last Blue Ridge went to press. It would be nice to get this type information first hand and why I encourage you to keep me informed of anything I can convey through this medium to all members of our Company.

Keep Well Company L members and keep me posted as to events happening in your part of the world. Maria and I wish to thank all the members and wives for the beautiful Begonia plant. We appreciate your gratitude. It is our pleasure to be part of Company L and host the hospitality room. We look forward to Hampton next year and hope all of us will be together again.

Hank Einolf

(Right) Enjoying the Commander's Reception on Wednesday Night at the Reunion

305th Engineers Post #40

One more time the 80th veterans gathered and we shook hands and hugged each other. The many miles to be traveled were ignored in the plans of those veterans to attend the traditional annual reunion. Some that we said goodbye to at Greensboro did not make it and we are slowly, (or quickly...choose your word)... becoming an Association of "survivors".

Our Post 40 continues to provide a great hospitality room and it served well for it's purpose. On the Engineer's register were Delmar Wilson, Byron Dovenbarger, Edmund Lelito, Pete Mayer, Rus Sick and Orville ?, Wally Ponder, Elmer Dorsten (A-318) and Floyd Warner (80th Sig Co.)

We attended the very impressive memorial service that has become the major highlight of the reunion. A military band and vocal soloist were contributing factors plus our Chaplain John O. Woods strong voice yet at 92 telling all that prayer of thankfulness is due many times more than a prayer of petition. Included in the Honorary roll call were these 305th Engineers; Buxbaum, Cheeks, Lochtefeld, O'Brien, Harrison, Rode and Selesnick.

Doverbarger, Wilson and myself attended services at St. Henry, Ohio August 12th for Omer C. Lochtefeld.

Archer Futch of G-317th was elected 3rd Vice Commander at the annual business meeting. Archer is from Livermore, CA. He has a pleasant personality and will be a good Commander.

Plan to join us next time!!! Best regards...Russ Sick, Commander



Lane Hall Post #42 313 F.A. Bn

Thanks to Bob Burrows, Angelo Barone and all the others who helped make the 81st Reunion a success.

The annual 80th Division Veterans Association reunion held in Louisville, Kentucky, on 23 -26 August was attended by the following members: Warren Burkart, Francis Poletti, Karl and Audrey Blocker, Dom and Jeannette Abbruzzese, Lou Shirey, Jim Phillips, Willis Fraley and son, Lee and Ann Hatcher, Max Wheelwright and son, Charles Kingsolver, Sue Ambrosic and Jerry.

The Reunion held at the Galt House Hotel was enjoyed by all who attended. Constant Georgen, a guest from Luxembourg, was greeted by the membership at the Commanders Reception.

Thursday, the dugout party was held at Huber's Winery. There was much to see and enjoy there.

The Memorial Service on Saturday Morning was attended by our group, and it was a very inspiring ceremony. It was nice to see all who attended the service to honor the veterans present and those who had passed away. The Memorial Service Program Book was dedicated to Past National Commanders Al. Latusek and Claude "Ed" Schappell.

A few of our members visited the Slugger building where they make baseball bats and sport equipment and got a tour of the facilities and see bats being made.

The group in attendance voted to have a Mini-Reunion next year at Bearcreek Farms in Indiana. More about this later.

Received a letter from Shirey. He was delayed in traffic for over one hour on his way to WV where he visited

Brett Post #3

The annual Brett Post picnic was held Sunday 16 July 2000 at the Natrona Heights V.F.W. Pavilion. It was a well-attended meeting and a good time was had by all. Plenty of food. The annual election of officers was held at this meeting. The new officers being, Bruno Inselmini Commander, Raymond Fritz Vice Commander, Melvin Beers Sect/Treas., and Andy Ferens Chaplain.

In attendance was PNCs Angelo Barone from Pottsville, PA. and Robert T. Murrell, National Sect/Editor. Two National Commanders, and Nick Rakotis, Honorary Commander were present. Also, Jo Rakotis, Helen Ferens and Helen Beers PNPs.

The next scheduled luncheon will be held the third Thursday in September, at the Blue Angel in Latrobe. Reservations are to be made to Commander Bruno so we may know how many to plan for. Everyone is invited and welcome, this makes for a successful meeting.

Melvin Beers Sect/Treas.

Donald Brand. Don was in good spirits using oxygen most of the time. He sends best wishes to all 80th friends. Lou sent a generous donation (\$50.00) for our hospitality room.

To everyone who supplied food, drink and cash donations for our hospitality room in Louisville, I give a big hug! To my assistant, Fran Poletti, Many thanks.

We were very happy to see the number of our members attending the reunion. Had a great time and hope to see everyone again next year in Virginia.

Jim Phillips, Sect/Treas-
Fran Poletti, Assistance

Post #33 Co. H, Inf.

Our yearly meeting was held on Friday August 25, 2000 at the Galt House Hotel in Louisville, KY. All members who were eligible to vote were present. The nominating committee presented a slate that met everyone's approval, Gerald Ohlman, Commander, Irv Robinson, Secretary. Our new commander thanks everyone for their confidence in electing him, and hopes to increase the membership attending the reunions.

Joining us were Jerry, Patty, Commander Ohlmans son and daughter and son-in-law John who provided us with a fifteen passenger van to go cruising the trails and busways of Kentucky. Our commentator was Patty, our pilot was Jerry and John held down the co-pilot seat.

The group included Nick and Ginny Grossi, Lois and Tony Kudrna, Gerald Ohlman, Oran and Nell Jean Ledbetter, Kenneth Kerr, Irv and Hilda Robinson.

Time has run out, into the mail this must go. (Editor note: it made it by the skin of his teeth.)

DV Hqs and Hqs Co
Post #39
No report

Rcn Post #37
No Report

Co F 318 Post # 46
No Report

Cincinnati Post #34

The Cincinnati Post met on Sunday 6 September 2000 at Habigs Restaurant, 3881 Harrison Ave, Westbrook, OH for dinner. Vicky my wife and I decided to take the Scenic Route (US 25) from home to Harrison Ave. This small trip takes about 35-40 minutes down I-75 through Cincinnati Downtown exiting at the Harrison Ave Exit, then driving to the restaurant. To Make this short, we should have taken US 25 as Covington was having October Fest and street were blocked off. By the time we got to Cincinnati we were caught up in the Bengal Game traffic. Driving through short streets and alleys and what not we got to Habigs 25 minutes late. Jesse Obel, 317th Infantry remarked I must have got caught up in the traffic jam. This I had to agree.

Floyd Warner, our Commander who had made the Reunion at Louisville, gave me the members who had made the reunion. They are as follows: Signal Co. Jim Ryne, Floyd Warner, Dennis Delaney, Clifford Ewing and Charles Vernberger. He also noted Ed. Swisher celebrated his 78th Birthday on 3 July 2000. We of the Post wish him Happy Birthday.

Vicky and I will be visiting Natural Bridge, KY., and then a Cousin Reunion at my sister-in-law, Eleanor Curtis, Kingston, TN.

John T. Wettig, Sr.

From out of the past... will resume in the next issue.

Greater Reading Post #32

Several members of our Post enjoyed the hospitality of our 81st reunion Chairman, Bob Burrows in Louisville, KY.

He made us all feel welcome. Some 300+ of Blue Ridgers. The program ended with a delicious dinner and entertainment on Saturday night. Thanks Bob and Mabel.

Members of the reading Post attending were Ed Bredbenner, Paul Clouser and myself.

Thanks to Jim Phillips Post # 42 had a hospitality room and we were welcomed there and had a place to relive our heroics during the war.

I enjoyed seeing some of my former chow-hounds such as Kingslover and his son-in-law, John, Wheelwright and his son Bob Burkhart, "Doc" Blocker and wife Audrey. Where were the rest of you Baker Boys?

Returning to Reading, Clouser and I visited Donald Brand in Morgantown, WV. Don looks good but must depend on oxygen most of the time. If you know of others that are ailing, give them a call.

ATTENTION: Post #32 members, I have made arrangements for our Christmas Dinner, Sunday December 17th, 4 P.M. at Crystal Springs Restaurant, Sinking Springs, PA. Please let me know if you are coming. Need the numbers.

Because I haven't heard from anyone about any serious health problems, I assume all are coping (, I have three pins in my hip) and we will see each other at our Christmas Dinner. Next year Brockman will entertain us in Hampton, VA. Start your planning now.

Lou Shirey Sect/Treas

Co. M 318th Inf. Post #44

It is with deep regrets I send to you of Company "M" 318th Infantry and those of other units that may have known our First Sgt. Gerald A. Ball, Sr. Of his passing away on 10 June 2000.

Gerry and I were very close from the time we first were transferred into Camp Forrest, TN. Gerry and I along with Sgt. Lindburg (Mess Sgt. also deceased) went to town together and we had our good times. Often was the time after a night in town, the three of us would hit the mess hall and have a steak or whatever before hitting the sack.

Upon being shipped overseas we were separated for a while as I was a Section Sgt of HMG's, but when we were in a assembly area, we always found the time to chat. The two of us along with Lt. Pershing and the driver, whom I forget his name, were in a jeep at Chemnitz when we overran our own road block and the jeep was blown out from under us. We made our way back to our lines by bicycles. All four of us survived the war. We all made a reunion together, and yes, we won the war over again. My deepest Sympathy to the Ball family.

Jack Stumcke called me a few weeks back, stating he was coming to Louisville for the reunion, however, after sending in his money, making reservations with the Airlines and the Hotel, he had to cancel out due to a health problem.

New York Post #43

Had a good time in Albany last May with 51 attending. The following attended: Barones, Bredbenners, (with sister from Tucson) Cistolos, Coples, Dolans, Gerhmans, Marshs, McDonalds, Midleys, Don Mulkerene, Murrells, Nuttings, Palmiettos, Pattersons, (with daughter and grandson) Bill Petrollini, Rajniceks, Schmidts, Bob Smith, Stepneskis, Wilsons, Wilkinsons, (with daughter and husband), also Elaine Thomas Carpenter and friend.

A good time was had by all and all officers were re-elected. Approved all bills and signed many sick cards. We had seven PNC's and four PNP's present. The 50/50 drawing went to Doris Murrell. Barones basket of goodies was won

by Rita Midey, Bunny Cople won the clock made by Jack Wilson, Alice Schmidt won a set of Rockwell Mugs. I wish to thank Abe for Beer and others for goodies. Post presented Commander Schmidt a supply of New York State wines, the best. Many fine gifts and fun had by all..

Had a short meeting in Louisville at the convention. Made note of one lost member: Gerald A. Ball, Ogdensburg, NY, CO. M-318th, Bob Murrell's Co. 1st Sgt. Look forward to next gathering in Seneca Falls, NY on 5-8 October. By the time you receive this we will have been history. Next May back to Turf Inn, Albany, NY., Memorial Day weekend. Great spot and all are invited to join in with us, just need to know in advance the number.

Ed. Bredbenner, Sect.



Informal gathering of the past National Commanders (missing are Lou Shirey and Jim Phillips)

Co. M 319th Inf.

The ranks are thinning out very fast, only three men showed up. Byran Basden, Robert Lisho and daughter Pam, Burt and Barbara Marsh.

The reunion was great but short in numbers. On Wednesday with only 200 for the Commanders Reception. A sit down dinner of salad, tuna and chicken pitas and apple pie. Better than snacks and standing in line.

Thursday a tour to the Huber Winery, for wine tasting, shopping and a tour of the vineyards. Five bus loads enjoyed barbequed ribs and chicken.

Friday the troops jumped into my car and drove to Fort Knox to view Patton's Museum. We took plenty of pictures and I purchased a tape "The Man Behind The Myth" A story of Patton.

Saturday the Memorial Service with our 92 year old Chaplain will be 93 in September, gave his usual well-received message. 125 men were on the Memorial list since our last reunion.

Bill Miller couldn't make the reunion due to his wife Betty having brain surgery 25 July 2000... Harriet Tucker had back surgery and recovering nicely... Bob Lisko has trouble walking due to his bad knees and used a wheel chair which came in handy on the tours... Ray Reyer had planned on attending but his wife fell and dislocated her shoulder in June... Byran and the Marshes are healthy. Drop us a line with your news.

Burt Marsh.

Florida Post #47

He was our Man Friday. Our first complainer. Our first fixer upper.

At our first pre-post meeting I provided all the beverages and snacks, much from the Base Post exchange with the help from Wally Ponder who is retired from the Air Force. I had provided five different liquors. The only complaint we had was; where is the Scotch? When he was informed this was our first meeting and I didn't know the preferences of the members, Adam Haiser eliminated that situation by stating he would bring the Scotch in the future. He often become our gofer. His last act was at our March meeting in Melbourne.

The energetic contribution such as Adams will be sorely missed.

Many thanks to our National Commander Bob Burrows for giving us another wonderful reunion. Those that did not attend missed a fine time.

We are glad the Wally Ponder made it, he certainly had a lot of enjoyment.

Our next meeting will be November 3rd and 4th, 2000 at the Hampton Inn, 3434 SW College Road, Ocala, FL 34474. Phone number (352) 854-3200. The room rate is \$61.00 single or double accommodations. The rate is good 3 days prior and 3 days after the meeting. Reservations must be made by phone no later than October 15, 2000.

Francis Rajnicek, sect.

Post #36 3d Bn., 317 Inf.

Our hospitality room wasn't as filled as in past years. We missed many who were regulars in attending. Just a few we missed: Harry and Fran Nutting, Bill Cyrana, Jim and Irene Pouletsos and Helen Kudenov. We were glad to see Ray Dumrauf (Bn Hqs) after his stroke even though in a wheelchair being helped by his buddy Dominic Palombaro also from Bn Hqs. Nice to see O.E. and Lucille Clark. Lucille was in a wheelchair. The Clarks' niece and their friend brought them.

We were glad to see Walt Scheneman, (L) and his wife and Willis Tarpley (L) and his wife. Willis was in a wheelchair. Willis's daughter brought her father and mother. And we were glad Bob and Pauline Parks came. We haven't seen all of them in years. I regret to say I did not get the names of the two first timers in our midst. I apologize to them.

We thank Jim and Eleanor Allen (K) for the use of their suite for our Hospitality Room. Our thanks again to the Allens and Bob Smith for getting the refreshments and Beverages. All enjoyed Eleanor Allen's delicious Cookies.

We received a letter from Mrs. Connie Groves of Rineyville, KY who is seeking information about her father, James L. Jacob from Falmouth, KY. He passed away in March of 1985. Her family is curious about his time in the army. She says "he wouldn't open up to us" the members of the family in a personal way. Jacob was a replacement in Company L and was awarded the Silver Star in action around Greimearth, Germany on March 13, 1945. He was wounded

either that day or shortly after. If anyone has any information about him please write to his daughter, Mrs. Connie Groves, 421 Schlaefer Way, Rineyville, KY 40162, Tel: 270-769-5409.

Rev. Kenneth Hawkins (L) mentions in a note that both he and his wife are doing fine and in good health. He retired 14 years ago from the ministry. They now live in Brookville, FL 14384 Midfield St. 34613-5938. Tele: 352-596-6741. Leroy and Nancy Pierce after the reunion are going to Iceland and the Scandinavian countries. Have a good trip.

Chairman Angelo J. Barone had a beautiful and inspiring Memorial Service. We thank Angelo and Kay for their dedication to this service. We also thank Angelo for acting as MC at the Banquet.

We are saddened to report the death of Paul L. Schaub (L) on 18 August 2000 after an extended illness. Paul and Eleanor (Ellie) his wife attended the reunions regularly before his illness. The V.F.W. stood guard and his grandson played taps at his funeral. The grandsons were also pallbearers. A memorial gift from the 3rd Bn. Was given to his church.

Please send me news, whatever it may be, so that we may be informed. We're all interested about each other's happenings and health.

Bob Nathason, Sect.

317th / 318th / 319th

HISTORIES

\$17.25 EA

Operational History — \$30 EA.

— POSTAGE PAID —

Robert T. Murrell

630 Pennsylvania Ave.

Oakmont, PA 15139-1574

THE 81st ANNUAL REUNION ROLL CALL

As is customary, the names of those who attended the 2000 Louisville, KY reunion are published. The list, is taken from the Official attendance and is prepared as accurately as possible. It does not contain the many family members or guests, and widows of deceased members, who also were recorded as in attendance. If by chance your name does not appear and you were in attendance, please contact the Editor and your name will be published in the next issue of the Blue Ridge Newsletter.

317th Infantry Regiment			
Allen, James S. PNC	K	Frederick, William C.Hq 2dBn	B
South Bend, IN		Shamokin, PA	
Artino, Sal	A	Futch, Archer H.	G
Huntington Beach, CA		Livermore, CA	
Banks, Marc	SV	Haley, Albert H.Jr. "Sid"	H
Norfolk, VA		Spring, TX	
Barone, Angelo PNC	L	Kendall, Richard B.	SV
Pottsville, PA		North Olmsted, OH	
Bobb, Richard MD	Bn Sg	Kocher, Donald E.	SV
Orman Beach, FL		Huntington, IN	
Brockman, C.H. PNC	Hq	Matheny, Thomas G.	F
McDonald, PA		Columbia, MO	
Bugg, Robert W.	M	Maledy, Ralph G.	D
Pilot, VA		Columbia, MO	
Brown, William S.	K	Muller, Victor S. (Assoc)	A
Cape Coral, FL		Mission Viejo, CA	
Burrows, R.H. Cmd2d	BnHq	Munn, Troy K.	K
Bloomfield, CO		Tulsa, OK	
Campbell, Fred	I&R	Myers, Gerald V.	G
Oakridge, TN		Lakeland, FL	
Chatman, Floyd	A	McNichol, Louis J.	D
Cistolo, Felix PNC	G	Kindersville, PA	
Ellwood City, PA		Nathason, Robert N. PNC	L
Cool, Harry A.	F	Newtown Square, PA	
Eugene, OR		Palmietto, Dominick	G
Courtney William M.	E	Croton On Hudson, NY	
Ephrata, PA		Palombaro, Dominic	Hq
Dumrauf, Raymond B.	?	Philadelphia, PA	
Pittsburgh, PA		Parks, Robert E. PNC	L
Edwards, Jack E.	K	Nashville, TN	
Carlsbad, CA		Patterson, Raymond W.	A
Elster, Marvin H. Jr.	D	Riverside, RI	
Salinas, KS		Patton, Clay J. Jr.	L
Esco, Virgil	K	Warminster, PA	
Wetumpka, AL		Petrollini, William PNC	I
Ferens, Andrew B.	M	Youngstown, OH	
Whitaker, PA		Pierce, Leroy K.	L
Fleming, Daniel R.	K	Morning Sun, IA	
Handcock, MD		Pudelek, Paul S.	F
Flick, Douglas	G	Dearborn Heights, MI	
Shawsville, VA		Rajnicek, Francis PNC	H
		Richmond Heights, OH	
		Rampy, Robert L.	B
		Cave Creek, AZ	
		Reilinger, Eric	Hq 3d Bn
		Newland, NC	
		Rice, Tim Assoc.	L
		Atlanta, GA	
		Richards Don	?
		Topeka, KS	
		Richardson, Jack J.	E
		Mattoon, IL	
		Rogowski, Harry	F
		Port Charlotte, NC	
		Scheneman, Walter	L
		Fort Morgan, CO	
		Schmidt, Max R. PNC	G
		Greensboro, NC	
		Schock, Laverne J.	F
		Port Huron, MI	
		Shoemaker, Howard C.	I
		Verona, PA	
		Simpson, Robert I.	I
		Cecil, OH	
		Skerlong, Herman	K
		Bethel Park, PA	
		Smith, Donald R.	G
		Lake Placid, FL	
		Smith, Robert W. PNC	K
		Wooster, Oh	
		Spellman, Jerry C.	K
		Anaheim, CA	
		Spencer, Marvin R	Hq 3d Bn
		Texas City, TX	
		Strickman, Frank W.	D
		Yardley, PA	
		Sturgis, Ellis P.	A
		Fruitland, MD	
		Tarpley, Willis B.	L
		Anderson, AL	
		Umbarger, Howard	A
		Eaton Rapids, MI	
		Walker, Robert M.	S-2
		Fishers, IN	

Watson, Frank J.	Hq	West, George V.	C	Green, Robert T. Jr.	L
Yonkers, NY		Presto, PA		Sandpoint, ID	
Wuthnow, Arvid	B	Wignall, Jeff Assoc.	A	Grossi, Nick A	H
Halstead, KS		Peabody, MA		Mercer Island WA	
Young, Richard H.	E	Wilson, Norris W.	H	Harmon, Charles R.	AT
Canoga Park, CA		Tioga, ND		Seattle, WA	
318th Infantry Regiment		Young Rick	H	Krehbiel, Bill J.	L
Addington, Willie	L	Canoga Park, CA		Halstead, KS	
Medina OH				Kudma, Tony	H
Beckman, Charles	C	319th Infantry Regiment		Center Point IA	
Whiteland, IN		Acree, James J.	C	Laing, William H.	G
Bredbenner, Edgar E.	PNC B	Dallas, TX		Highland Park, IL	
Ithaca, NY		Arndt, Paul J.	F	Ledbetter, Oran H.	H
Bolus, Joseph T.	D	Manitowoc, WI		Albany, TX	
Clinton Township, MI		Atnip, James W.	E	Liebreich, Oscar P.	A
Borin, Leonard J.	E	Clasgow, KY		San diego, CA	
Northbrook, IL		Balas, John	L	Lishko, Robert C.	M
Cople, Bill	Hq	Evergreen Park, IL		Covina, CA	
Hauppauge, NY		Basden, Byran L.	M	Marsh, Burt R.	M
De Muro, Jerry	L	Rutherfordton, NC		Hamburg, NY	
West Chester, IL		Beers, Melvin C.	C	McCormick, Milton	AT
Dorsten, Elmer G.	A	Natrona Heights, PA		Rochester, NY	
Coldwater, OH		Bell, George M. Jr.	F	McDonald, Robert J.	C
Eckrich, John H.	C	Melbourne, FL		Greenville, PA	
Hebron, IN		Berman, Rudolf	L	Norry, Gerald	AT
Giles, Merlin D.	L	Livington, NJ		East Bat, NY	
Pasco, WA		Blatz, Louis P.	L	Ohlman, Gerald G.	H
Grabert, Lester W.	H	Mount Clemens, MI		Bridgeton, MO	
Mount Vernon, IN		Borman, Walter	A	O'Neil, Eugene P.	C
Griesbaum, Edgar J.	B	Santa Maria, CA		Upper Marlboro, MD	
Saint Louis, MO		Bowles, Lloyd	A,C,SV	Orr, David C.	F
Hechler, Otto W.	L	Florence, KY		Grayville, IL	
Markham, IL		Bowcutt, Vern M.	AT	Ralph, Voncile B.	A
Hopkins, Gene H.	B	Orem, UT		San Francisco, CA	
Cottage hills, IL		Brassil, Patrick J.	L	Robinson, Irvin PNC	H
Kerr, Kenneth H.	G	West Chester, IL		Laguna Woods, CA	
Yuma, AZ		Chapman, Calder W.	C	Shifflette, Bill	C
Martin, Ronaldo P.	A	Williamsd, AZ		Coraopolis, PA	
Clearwater, FL		Coscia, Joseph J.	A	Siebert, W.D. "Bill"	L
Murrell, Robert T. PNC	M	Southaven MS		Salina, KS	
Oakmont, PA		Costley, Bill	C	Simpson, Edward H.	A
Pappas, Thomas J.	F	San Diego, CA		Collinsville, AL	
Norwalk, CA		Davis, Don K.	K	Spangler, Walton W.	A
Rasmussen, Richard	I	Sioux Falls, SD		Ashville, OH	
Preston, CT		Dolan, John J. Sr.	C	Soloninka, Frank F.	L
Sommer, Arthur E.	E	Poughkeepsie, NY		Bradenton, FL	
Appleton, WI		Dolan John J. Jr. Assoc	C	Thomas, Selle B.	F
Stewart, Patrick E.	E	Highland Mills, NY		Anderson, IN	
Inkster, MI		Einoff, Henry C.	L	Vaughn, Lemoine	L
Strauss, Nathan J. Hq 3d Bn		Laurel, MD		Modesto, CA	
Chicago, IL		Flynn, John F.	L	Weaver, Luther F.	A
Szefier, Casimir	B	Laguna Niguel, CA		Macon, GA	
Bayonne, NJ		Fussell, Robert L.	F	Young, J. Givens	L
Thompson, Donald B.	B	Ider, AL		Florence, NC	
Beaver, PA		Garone, Frank Hq 1st Bn			
Tyler, William E.	H	Lake Ronkonkoma, NY			
Warrenton, VA					



The 113th Army Band (Dragoons), CW3 Kenneth Allen, director, takes a break during the Memorial Service.

CONTINUED FROM
PREVIOUS PAGE

313th FA BN

Abbruzzese, Dominick Hq
South Plains, NJ
Blocker, Karl W. Med
Mansfield, OH
Brinker, Robert A. Hq
Richman, IN
Hatcher, Lee A
Knoxville, TN
Phillips, James W. PNC A
Elizabethtown, PA
Shirey, Lou B
Reading, PA

314th FA BN

Bujdoso, Frank Hq
Desert Hot Springs, CA
McAndrews, Paul L. Hq
Kearny, NJ
Wilmer, Richard Hq
Middletown, OH

315th FA BN

Cresson, Albert Hq
Derry, PA

905th FA BN

Boronyak, Joseph Assoc Hq
Greensburg, PA

305 ENGINEER BN

Dovenbarger, Byron C
Zanesville, OH
Lelito, Edmund R. H&C
Highland, IN
Mayer, Peter W. B
Saint Louis, MO
Ponder, Wally G. B
Tampa, FL
Sick, Russell P. PNC ?
Hamilton, OH
Wilson, Delmar E C
Mc Connelsville, OH

80th MILITARY POLICE

Engelke, Louis
San Antonio, TX

DV. HQ & HQ CO.

Carver, Francis C. Hq
Monroe, IN
Elzeer, Bill Hq AG
Springfield, VA
Murnaham, Ralph E. Hq
Evansville, IN
Sell, James J. G-4
Upper Darby, PA
Stevens, Lyell B. Hq AG
Indianapolis, IN
Woods, John O. Dv Chap
Greenville, PA

780th ORDNANCE

Washenko, Samuel
Seymour, CT

QUARTERMASTER

Hurst, Caleb J. Jr
Franklin, VA

305th MEDICAL BN

Manganiello, Anthony S.
Stuart, FL

80th SIGNAL

Delaney, Dennis A.
Manitowoc, WI
Ewing, Clifford
Fort Wayne, IN
Ryan, James E
Akron, OH.
Umberger, Charles H.
Muncie, IN

80th RECON

Clouser, Paul J.
Womelsdorf, PA
Erwin, Earl A.
Westlake, OH
Hege, Joseph H. Jr
Lexington, NC
Rehling, Arthur
Cincinnati, OH



Above and below: PNC's Dinner, Friday night, atop Galt House Flagship.



MORE MEMORIES...



Above: Memorial Service. (l to r) PNC Robinson, PNC Alice Schmidt, CMD Burrows, PNC Cistolo.



*Caleb Hurst and
Jean Walker.*



Above: Memorial Service—Color Guard of the U.S. Army Armor Center, Fort Knox, Kentucky



*Opening prayer by
Chaplain Woods.*



Above: The uniforms still fit... does yours?



Above: Executive Council meeting on Friday.



Back row, left to right: Robert Murrell, Bill Cople, Bill Krehbiel, Bill Siebert, Thon Balas, Lou Blatz, Rudi Berman. Front row, left to right: Lemoin Vaughn, Henry Einolf, Frank Soloninka, Jim Young, John Flynn, Patrick Brassel. Company L, 319.



At the registration desk. (l to r) Bob Rampy, bob Burrows, Archer Futch, Jerry Spellman.

All of the past National & Honorary Commanders are looking forward to seeing you at the 82st Annual Reunion August 19 to 25, 2001 in Hampton, Virginia

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Frank Terrizzi, Vice President
Felix Cistolo, Secretary / Treasurer

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Pittsburgh**

Mike Evanovich, Commander
371 Shady Ave.
Wilmerding PA 15148-1345

Melvin Beers,
Secretary/Treasurer

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

Robert W. Smith
Commander

Robert N. Nathason
Secretary / Treasurer

Greater Reading Post No. 32

Warren Gehman, Commander
PNC Lou Shirey, Sec't/Treas.
1415 Lorraine Road
Reading, PA 19604-1861
Phone: 610-478-9034

Breakfast Meetings 9 a.m.
Crystal springs Restaurant
3rd Saturday of March, June & Sept.

**LANE-HALL
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Director: Lee R. Hatcher
Jim Phillips, Secretary / Treasurer

420 South Hanover St.
Elizabethtown, PA 17022-2518
(717) 367-5094

**CINCINNATI
POST #34**

**Floyd Warner
Commander**
Art Rehling, Treasurer
4656 McNeil Ave., Cincinnati OH 45212-2541
(513) 631-0031

David C. Orr, Post Rep.
831 Phillips St. Grayville, IL 62844-1711

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

Russell P. Sick, Commander
3131 Pleasant Avenue
Hamilton, OH 45015-1740
Byron Dovenbarger, Secretary
3755 Meadowbrook Drive
Zanesville, OH 43701-1121

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1999 - 2000

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

ORANLEDBETTER
Commander

IRV ROBINSON
Secretary

**FLORIDA
POST #47**

George M. Bell Sr. (F-319)
Commander

Francis Rajnicek
Secretary
215 Bill Allen Circle, W
Sabastian, FL 32958