

Blue Ridge 80th Division
The Service Magazine
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BLUE RIDGE

The Service Magazine
Volume 86, Number 342

Post Reunion - 2004
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
Ardenes
Rhineland
Central Europe

God Bless America



**The World War II Memorial
Washington, DC**

Deadline for the next issue is December 1, 2004

Eightieth Division Veterans Association

BLUE RIDGE
The Service Magazine

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

SECRETARY/EDITOR Robert T. Murrell

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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.

NATIONAL OFFICERS 2004-2005

NATIONAL COMMANDER

Marvin R. Spencer (Hq Co.-317)

2102 4th Avenue North, Texas City, TX 77590-7261 / 409-948-4276

SR. VICE COMMANDER

Walton Spangler (A-319)

8275 Hagerty Road Ashville, OH 43103-9715 / 740-474-5734

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PNC Robert H. Burrows (Hq-317)

P.O. Box 453, Broomfield, CO 80083-0453

3RD VICE COMMANDER

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208 N. Elm Street, coldwater, OH 45828-1164

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Chaplain

Judge Advocate

Historian

Service Officer

Flag Sergeant

Color Sergeant

Sergeant-at-Arms

Public Affairs Officer

Division Photographer

Robert T. Murrell (M-318)

Col. John O. Woods (DHQ)

PNC Angelo J. Barone (L-317)

Dempsey J. Prappas (317-AT)

Edgar E. Bredbenner Jr. (B-318)

Felix J. Cistolo (G-317)

Albert J. Cresson (C-315 FA)

Don Davis (K-319)

George V. West (C-318)

Tom Pappas (F-318)

2 Years

Melvin C. Beers (C-319)

Richard Davis (905 FA Bn)

Albert S. Haley (H-317)

3 Years

Gerald V. Myers (G-317)

Laverne J. Schock (F-317)

Tom Pappas (F-318)

TRUSTEES

1 Year; Felix Cistolo (G-317)

2 Year; Robert N. Nathason (L-317)

3 Year; Robert W. Smith (K-317)

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1 Year

George V. West (G-318)

Andy Ferens (M-317)

Robert J. McDonald (C-319)

3 Years

Gerald V. Myers (G-317)

Laverne J. Schock (F-317)

Tom Pappas (F-318)

Commander's REPORT



Our New Commander Marvin Spencer wishes all good health and he is proud of being Commander of such a great bunch of guys, and will have more to say in the next issue of the Blue Ridge Service Magazine.

2005 Reunion Will Be In Columbus, Ohio

The 2004 reunion of the 80th Division Veterans Association is past. We had a great time in Pittsburgh.

Our thanks to our new Commander Marvin Spencer and his associates Clarence and Naomi Brockman and the great time we had and the good hospitality. It's always good to visit our Military friends.

Now let's look forward to 2005 in Columbus, OH. Mark your calendar for August 24-27, 2005. We are making plans to entertain you.

The Marriott North, a beautiful Hotel, will make your stay one to remember.

Please feel free to contact me if you have a question or suggestions. We will do our best to make your visit to Columbus, Ohio enjoyable.

Walt Spangler 740-474-5734

8275 Hagerty Road Ashville, OH 43103-9715

HERE YOU ARE, a number of you have ask me about what is happening in Europe come September and December.

Battle of the Bulge Celebration

Mr. Constant Goergen asked me to send you this information.

We have scheduled 2 kinds of festivities:

1. The commemoration of the liberation of the Town of Luxembourg by allied forces on September 10. The beginning of the Battle of the Bulge.
2. Please refer to the official website from AMBA www.amba.lu or www.usvf.lu. The USVF organize their festivities in Hoscheid in the North of the Country. An official program, in which our Grand-Duc and the whole Government are embedded in nearly finished, I only have a draft (on paper) not yet in electronic form. As soon I have more details you will get them from me.

François Theis

Life Plus Club 2003-2004

If you sent in money and I omitted your name let me know so I may give you credit. Last date of entry 9/1/2004

Annon	I-318
Bayruns, Frank Jr., Friend	
Bell, George	F-319
Blatz, Lou	L-319
Cistolo, Felix	G-317
Costley, Marurice W.	C-319
Cree, Leroy	L-318
In Memory of his brother	
Melvin	E-318
Futch Archer	G-317
McCarmick, Milton	AT-319
Nagel, Thomas	Cn-318
Pflederer, Robert	Cn-319
Poletti, Francis in Memory of her husband	313th FA Bn

Schwendeman, George	Hq 1st Bn 317
Shoemaker, Howard	I-317
Stanley, Thomas L.	Hq Co. 319
Stewart, Patrick	E-318
Smith, Robert W.	K-317

McBRIDE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

If you paid into the McBride Fund since the last issue and I have omitted your name, send me your name so I can give you credit. Last date I entered a name was credit. Last date I entered a name was 9/1/2004

Nicoll, William O.	780th Ord.
--------------------	------------

Welcome New Members

Beck, Richard	Hq Co. 319	Metz, Morris D.	K-318
4655 Meadowgreen Drive		125 Richard Garr Road	
Pittsburgh, PA 15236		Easton, PA 18040 / 610-252-3694	
Forster, James C.	H-317 Assoc	Persing, Ray A.	K-318
908 N 8th Street		Published in 2003	
Selingsgrove, PA 17870-1706		Didn't give company at that time	
Frank, Leonard	E-318	Roach, John W. Jr.	C-319
704 Stirling Road		805 Harding Road	
Silver Spring, MD 20901		Metairie, LA / 504-733-0214	
Kohnen, James L.	E-317/80MP Assoc.	Ziebel, Gerald	D-319
2700 Shawn Leigh Drive		770 S. Parkway Drive	
Vienna, VA 22181-6136		Brookfield, WI 53005	
Kutsch, Daniel F	319 Assoc		
200 Clearview Drive			
Ridgway, PA 15853			

Secretary's REPORT

FAX: (412) 828-7651

NEW "E" MAIL ADDRESS: divinf801@verizon.net

To all the people who are receiving the Blue Ridge Service Magazine, and the man has passed away, and you have been receiving the Blue Ridge magazine long after his death, please report his death. His buddy's would like to know of his passing and it will help me to have his death recorded. I just had a return from the Postal Service marked died 15 years ago. I feel sure there are more out there.

While I am at it, take a look at the front of your Service Magazine. If it doesn't show Life or 2004, you need to send in your dues. The Executive Council a few years back voted to drop those who are more than Three Years back in their dues. I haven't done that yet but too many of you are two and three years overdue. Please I don't wish to drop you

Several men have asked me about the 60th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge this winter. The following is the answer I received from Constant Goergen, co-ordinate for the Country of Luxembourg.

I am not able to give you all the details you want, but I can tell you that there will be several ceremonies for the 60th. Anniversary of the battle of the bulge December 16th and December 18th, with night vigil and torchlight parades remembering all your fallen comrades in arms. I shall inform you as soon as I can get the whole program. Best regards to you and the members of the 80th. Infantry Division. *Constant Goergen.*

HELP WANTED

Sundra Leen, P.O. Box 162, Independence, KY 41051 would like to know if anyone remembers Sgt. Arthur Y. Poetter, of Company "H" 319th Infantry. Write her if anyone remembers.

"My uncle served with the 317th Co C during WWII and he was wounded on November 8, 1944. I believe he participated in the Ardennes campaign. I am trying to find out where he was wounded and if anyone knew my uncle. Thank you very much.

Bret Job 4240 Trail Ridge Lane Minnetonka, MN 55345 - 612-239-3881

"My late father, Pfc. Clarence H. Kohnen of St. Louis, Missouri. Served with and fought in Company E of the 317th Infantry Regiment during World War II. And after the Battle of the Bulge, he also served in the 80th Division MP Platoon until the end of the War. My family would warmly welcome hearing from any veterans who knew him and/or served with him in either of these two outfits."

Please contact:

James L. Kohnen — phone: 703-255-2596 E-mail: KohnenJL@AOL.com
2700 Shawn Leigh Dr., Vienna, VA 22181

MAIL BAG

I have received word from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. That Edgar C. Wilson, 905th FA Bn has given a gift in Memory of General Horace L. McBride...Fred Buscarini writes giving his new address. Let's all send a Fred a card or latter to let him know we haven't forgotten the guy. His address: Fred Buscarini C/O Autumn House at Powder Mill Road, 1775 Powder Mill Road, York, PA 17403. Phone: 717-718-3878. Fred says he likes it here, the food is good and he has a good clean room. He is close to his son's place (12 miles) and he has visited him twice. Better yet, he is gaining weight and is beginning to feel like his old self again. (Ed. Note. We sure miss you writing the column for Dv Co. and Dv Hqs. Best of everything to you.)... For quite some time, I had been trying to remember the name of one of our comrades that I knew for a short time in Co. A 319th Inf. Finally, it came to me: Wilson. The latest issue of the Blue Ridge verifies it. Mailbag mentions a Drue C. Wilson trying to get in touch with some of his comrades. I spent my first three days and nights in the 80th with this guy in a foxhole on the outskirts of Heiderscheid, Luxembourg. The next day after our return from outpost duty, Jan 3, 1945, was my 20th birthday. He is, I believe, from Oklahoma and probably a farm boy. He knew how to milk the Luxembourg cows and we made hot chocolate with our D-ration bars with the milk therefrom. And, yes, I remember the wounded platoon leader he mentions—lying on the ground in Wallendorf and our boys (who were not medics) desperately trying to get plasma into his veins. I did not know until now that he was evacuated alive. For some reason I have thought about him over the years, although I did not know him. As I recall, his name was McDonald. You may pass on this information to Wilson or whoever else might be interested. In 1956, I returned to Luxembourg and saw the aforementioned foxhole that Wilson and I dug and spent three nights in. It was still there after more than ten years. Best regards, Voncile B. Ralph, Co. A 319th Inf. (415) 626-2653... PNC Robert H. Burrows had back surgery last week of June. He is doing fine, getting Physical Therapy three times a week. He also has moved back to Colorado... Edgar J. Griesbaum Company "B" 318th write in response to Jeff Wignall's article on Farbersviller. I was 1st Squad, 3rd Platoon. We had foxholes overlooking the town. It was raining every day. Our Lt. selected 5-6 men to go on patrol; I was lucky, as I was not one of them. The patrol went down the hill into Farebersville, we later heard distant gunfire. The patrol had been trapped in the town and waded the river to escape. I far as I know they never returned...

The Ladies Auxiliary

The Past National Presidents made a great showing at the 2004 Pittsburgh Reunion the week of August 11-14. Those in attendance were: Helen Beers, Naomi Brockman, Rose Cistolo, Cara Lee Davis, Rita Kutsch, Rosemarie Palmietto, Pauline Parks, Kay Rejnieck, Josephine Rakotis, Ida Reilinger, Alice Schmidt, and Margaret Schock.

It was nice to have so many of our Past National Presidents attending the reunion and hope to see them all in Columbus, OH in 2005.

Many of the Past National Presidents gathered in the lobby of the Hotel for a formal photograph before entering the main dinning room for a very nice and relaxing meal and they all made plans to do it again next year.

The Thursday morning "Coffee Break" was well attended with many of the women at the reunion sharing time together that morning. Talking about old reunions and the friendships they still continue to share and embracing the new members with the hope of them all making new memories in the years that still lie ahead.

On Friday Morning, the National Ladies Auxiliary held their business meeting which included the following officers for 2004-05.

President-Kay Rajnieck PNP, 1st vice President-Donna Kutch, Treasurer-Helen Beers PNP, Secretary- Barbara Brockman, Chaplain-Naomi Brockman, PNP, Historian-Rita Kutsch PNP, Sgt.-at-Arms Helen West, Sgt.-at-Arms Doris Murrell.

A brief Memorial Service was held for all Auxiliary Members that had passed away since the 2004 Reunion.

The National Ladies Auxiliary installation Luncheon was held on Saturday in the hotel and was well attended. All officers were installed at that time; the raffle prizes were awarded along with the names being pulled for the Veterans Table Raffle. A great time was had by all including Max Schmidt when he made a "Special" presentation to President Kay Pajnieck.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT



The officers and members of the Descendants of 80th Division Veterans are extremely grateful to the 80th Division Veterans who invited our participation in the 85th Birthday of the Association. Special thanks to all who visited our displays and contributed to the dialogue during the showing of the slides We look forward to seeing everyone next year in Ohio. We remind you that membership in the Descendants is open to veterans, family members and anyone who is interested in preserving the history of the 80th Division. Visit our website at www.80thdescendants.com for an application.

TAPS

Angelo, Robert L. G-317
2421 Lancaster Drive
Sun City Center, FL 33573-6510
Rptd by Felix Cistolo 7/2004

Dunsha, Bruce A. 314 FA Bn
38 Waring-Welfare Road
Boerne, TX 78006
Rptd by Wife June 1/12/2004

Ellig, George M. B-317
C/o 2011 Estrella Avenue
Loveland, Co 80538
Rptd by Daughter Carol

Estes, Clifford unknown
Round Rock, TX 3/20/2004
Rptd by Clara Erwin

Florence, Frank Jr. Rev L-317
30 Ray Drive Apt 106
Taylorsville, KY 40071-6611
Rptd by wife Betty

Green, Raymond. Jr. L-319
320 N. 2nd Street
Sandpoint, ID 83864-1421
Rptd by Hank Einolf 7/3/2004

Kuhnert, Lester M. E-317
300 Fayette Street
Conshohocken, PA 19428-1902
Rptd by Postal return ?1989
Marked Deceased fifteen years ago

McClure, Harry R. L-317
128 N. Blake Street
Olathe, KS 66061-3726
Rptd by Dr. D.D. Stuart 6/13/2004

Robbins, Robert L., HQ 305 Med Bn
2825 Bloomfield Road Apt 330
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703-6330
Rptd by Wife 7/11 2004

Scaaco, Anthony A. A-305th Eng
9422 N 22nd Drive
Phoenix, AZ 85021-3106
Rptd by Son John 7/9/2004

Singleton, John R. Unknown
Austin, TX 4/8/2004
Rptd by Clara Erwin

Sirmons, Tommie G. ?-317
C/o 17410 Sunset Arbor Drive
Tomball, TX 77377
Rptd by daughter Marla 11/03

Thompson, Robert E.
314th FA Bn Med
5976 Hibiscus Drive
Bradenton, FL 34207
Rptd by June Dunsha 8/2/04

Traugher, Rex E. L-317
1120 Franklin Street
Sandusky, OH 44870-3637
Rptd by Wife Thelma 7/4/2004

DEMPSEY J. PRAPPAS, P.C.
Attorney and Counselor at Law
1302 Harold
Houston, Texas 77006-3802

August 16, 2004
80th Division Veterans Association
630 Penna. Ave.
Oakmont, PA 15130-1574

Dear Veterans of the 80th Division, family and friends:

At the dinner-dance held on August 14, 2004 for the 85th Annual Reunion & Convention of the 80th Division, it was announced that I would contribute for each dollar contributed to the 80th Division Memorial Fund" up to a total of \$10,000.

I wish to confirm this commitment for the creation of a "Memorial Fund" to finance the design, purchase and creation of a permanent 80th Division Memorial to all the World War II veterans of the 80th Division.

In recognition of this "Memorial", I encourage all members of the 80th Division Veterans Association, their family and friends to join me in making a donation to support the building of this permanent memorial. Between now and June 1, 2005, I will match each gift, dollar for dollar, up to a total of \$10,000. Please send you donation to the 80th Division Memorial Fund" care of Robert T. Murrell.

I hope that each member of the 80th Division Veterans Association; their family and friends will share our enthusiasm for establishing a permanent memorial to the WWII veterans of the 80th Division.

I remain with best wishes for the creation of a permanent memorial for the 80th Division.

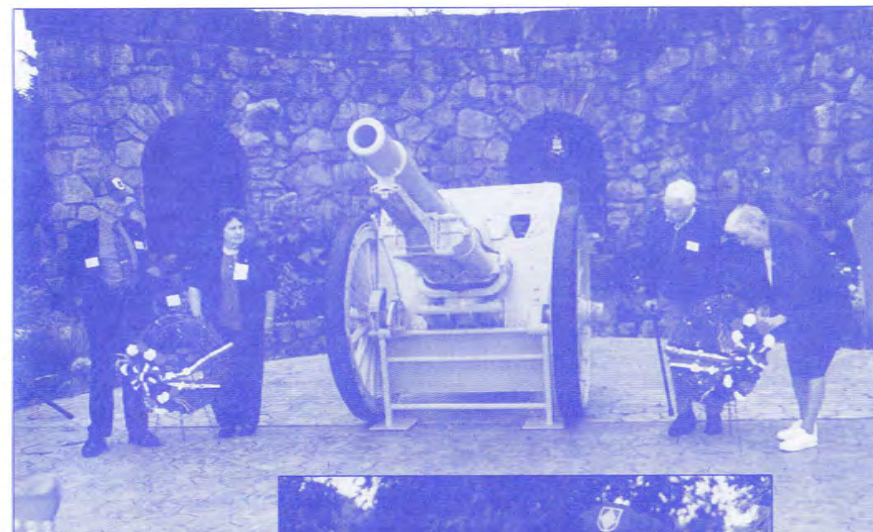
Sincerely,
Dempsey J. Prappas
Member of the 317th
Anti-Tank Company

It is estimated to cost \$20-30,000. This money will be used to create an 80th Division Monument in Arlington, VA Cemetery and Fort Benning, GA current Museum with a Display Case of 80th memorabilia, including the History of the 80th Division along with the uniforms of the 80th Division of both WWI and WW II. Can we count on you with a donation of \$50, \$100, or some other Donation?

Editor's Note: We already have a sizable amount to start. The Committee is Eugene O'Neal, C-319 Chairman, Vice Cmd Walton W. Spangler and PNC Robert Borrows

Memorial Dedication at North Park Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

80th Division Veterans presented a dedication ceremony with a laying of wreaths. The cannon was refurbished for the event by members of the Amish community.



Photos from the 85th Reunion in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



Waiting for the bus...

...First timers! WELCOME!!



Presentation of the Wreath...

...The Color Guard





The "Pledge of Allegiance"...

...General Dollar, Guest Speaker



Presenting our New Commander, Marvin R. Spencer...

The 80th men who traveled to see the WW II Memorial and their remarks.

Marvin Spencer National Commander- He and his wife were interviewed by Fox News, Mrs. Spencer told of he being "Rosie the Riveter" who helped build B-24 Bombers. He had his name on the Bulletin Board and was wounded at Metz... Walter Spangler, 3rd Vice Commander, also attended and saw Marvin's name posted on the bulletin board. So much to see, I could go on and on about the beauty of the Memorial. I wish to suggest, if possible, you need to go to see it beauty... Jim Gentry- I am proud to have been an 18 year old replacement in F-318. I wore my "IKE" Jacket, unbuttoned. My two sons and two grandchildren visited a week after the dedication. Very impressive and inspiring. Done in good taste. The registry listing may be viewed at the Memorial... Leonard Frank a new member that Paul Mercer told about the Association at the WW II Memorial, writes, I was so excited when all of a sudden I saw an 80th Patch and talked to Paul but I was at a loss for words. I served with company E 318th and was wounded in the Battle of the Bulge and was sent to England. I rejoined the 80th two days after the war was over. Not having enough points I was transferred to the 1st Infantry and then I lost all contact with the 80th. Thanks again Paul... Bob Burrows, along with Mabel and son Bobby (?) attended the WW II Memorial. It was nice and glad we had the opportunity to go. It was amazing the number of Veterans there...

THE 85th ANNUAL REUNION ROLL CALL

As is customary the names of those who attended the 2004 reunion are published. The list is taken from the Official registration fee of attendance or Registered and is prepared as accurately as possible. It contains the many family members and guest who attended. It also contains the Widows of deceased servicemen. If by chance your name does not appear and you were attendance, please contact the Editor and your name will be published in the next issue of the Blue Ridge Service Magazine.

317TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

Artino, Sal	A	Palmietto, Dominick	G
Parma, OH		Croton on Hudson, NY	
Barone, Angelo PNC	L	Palomboro, Dominick	Hq
Pottstown, PA		Philadelphia, PA	
Basden, Bryan L.	M	Parks, Robert E. PNC	L
Rutherford, NC		Nashville, TN	
Brockman, Clarence PNC	Hq	Pauley, Roy A.	G
McDonald, PA		Costa, WV	
Burrows, Robert H. PNC	Hq	Petrollini, William PNC	I
Chandler, AZ		Youngstown, OH	
Cistolo, Felix PNC	G	Prappas, Dempsey	AT
Ellwood City, PA		Houston, TX	
Cyana, William J.	L	Relinger, Eric PNC	3d Bn Hq
Union, NJ		Melbourne Beach, FL	
Dumrauf, Raymond B.	?	Schmidt, Max R. PNC	G
Pittsburgh, PA		Greensboro, NC	
Edwards, Jack E.	K	Schock, Laverne J.	F
Carlsbad, CA		Port Huron, MI	
Esco, Virgil	K	Shoemaker, Howard	I
Wetumpka, AL		Verona, PA	
Ferens, Andrew	M	Simpson, Robert I.	I
Whittaker, PA		Cecil, OH	
Flemings, Daniel R.	K	Smith, Rufus	A
Hancock, MD		Ripley, TN	
Flick, Douglas	Sw/G	Smith, Robert W. PNC	K
Shawsville, VA		Wooster, OH	
Federick, William C.	2d Bn Hq	Spencer Marvin R.	Hq
Shamokin, PA		Texas City, TX	
Futch, Archer PNC	G	Strugis, Ellis P.	A
Livermore, CA		Fruitland, MD	
Metzer, Howard	AT	Rajnieck, Francis PNC	H
Sarasota, FL		Richmond Heights, OH	
Moorhead, Robert G.	L	Strickland, Frank W.	D
Wallingford, PA		Langhorne, PA	
Munn, Troy	K	Umbarger, Howard	A
Tulsa, OK		Grand Rapids, MI	

318TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

Beckman, Charles	C
Morgantown, IN	
Dorsten, Elmer G.	A
Coldwater, OH	
Grabert, Lester W.	H
Evansville, IN	
Hechler, Otto W.	L
Markman, IL	
Hopkins, Gene, H.	B
Cottage Hills, IL	
Inselmini, Bruno	Cn
Latrobe, PA	
Kerr, Kenneth H.	G
Yuma, Az	
Markus, Roy	C
Martins Ferry, WV	
Martin, Ronaldo P.	A
Clearwater, FL	
Murrell, Robert T. PNC	M
Oakmont, PA	
Nagel, Thomas	Cn
Latrobe, PA	
Papas, Thomas J.	F
Chicopee, MA	
Stewart, Patrick E.	E
Inkster, MI	
Storkman, August A.	G
Gig Harbor, WA	
West, George V. HNC	C
Presto, PA	
Wignall, Jeff	A Assoc
Peabody, MA	
Wilkinson, Robert O.	I
Greensburg, PA	

319TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

Beers, Melvin	C
Natrona Hts, PA	
Bell, George M.	C
Melbourne, FL	
Black, Bill	G Assoc.
Morehead, KY	
Blatz, Louis P.	L
Mount Clements, MI	
Cosica, Joseph J.	A
Southaven, MS	
Davis, Don K.	K
Sioux Falls, SD	
DiCarlo, Victor J.	2d Bn Hq
Pittsburgh, PA	
Eckelmann, Fred C.	L
Schuykill, PA	
Einoff, Henry C.	L
Laurel, MD	
Flynn, John	L
Laguna Niguel, CA	
Jones, Byron A.	C
Macon, GA	
Krehbiel, Bill	L
Halstead, KS	
Laing, William	G
Highland Park, IL	
Lishko, Robert C.	M
Chandler, AZ	
Marsh, Burt R.	M
Hamburg, NY	
McCormick, Milton G.	AT
Rochester, NY	
McDonald, Robert J.	C
Greenville, PA	
McKenzie, William J.	H
Finksburg, MD	
Norry, Gerald	AT
Avon, NY	
Ohlman, Gerald G.	H
Saint Peters, MO	
O'Neal, Eugene P. Jr.	C
Upper Marlboro, MD	
Soloninka, Frank F.	L
Bradendon, FL	
Spangler, Walton W.	A
Ashville, OH	
Spellman, Jerry	Hq/K/L/M
Anaheim, CA	

313TH FA BN

Hargraves, Edward H.	A
Creede, CO	
King, Earl P.	B
Huma, LA	
Noxon, Charles	B
Richmond, VA	
Phillips, James W. PNC	A
Elizabethtown, PA	
Shirey, Lou PNC	B
Reading, PA	

315TH FA BN

Cresson, Albert	Hq
Derry, PA	

305TH ENGINEERS

Lelito, Edmund R.	H/C
Highland IN	
Sick, Russell P. PNC	C
Hamilton, OH	

305TH MEDICAL BN

Leonard, Frank	B
Hazleton, PA	

80TH RCN

Closer, Paul J.	
Womelsdorf, PA	
Rehling, Arthur J.	
Cincinnati, OH	

80TH SIGNAL

Ryan, James E.	
Arkron, OH	

780TH ORD

Washenko, Sam	
Seymour, CT	

80TH QUARTERMASTER

Carver, Francis	
Monroe, IN	

DIV & DIV HQ CO.

Stevens, Lyell	
----------------	--

80TH DIVISION IT

Dollar, Douglas Major General	
-------------------------------	--

WW I

Lee, Anthony S. Dr.	F
Salem, VA	
Nelson, Rodger	Band
Akron, OH	
Smith, Bruce	Friend
Fayetteville, PA	

WIVES, CHILDREN, GRANDCHILDREN, WIDOWS & GUESTS

Ambrosic, Christine	
Ashman, Sandy	
Brinker, Mary	
Brinker, James	
Bandom, Claudia	
Barone, Kay	
Beckman, Elizabeth J.	
Beerrs, Helen PNP	
Bell, Jean	
Berman, Carol	
Blocker, Audery	
Blatz, Richard	
Brockman, Barbara B.	
Brockman, Naomi, PNP	
Brown, Cindy	
Bunn, Robert	
Burrows, Mabel	
Burrows Robert Jr.	
Callahan, Breana	
Callahan, Brendon	
Callahan, Cathy	
Callahan, Tim	
Carver, Marjorie	
Carver (Daughter)	
Cerny, Linda (Hechler)	
Cistolo, Rose PNP	
Coinelliens, Pam	
Coscia, Joanna	
Davis, Carla Lee PNP	
Dian, Betty	
Di Carlo, Delia	
Dickson, Marlene	
Dickson, Dave	
Eckelmann, Fred G. Jr.	
Einoff, Marcia	
Elstro, Laura	
Elstro, Melissa	

Elstro, Susan	Phillips, Ruth J.
Esco, Marjorie	Policaastro, Theresa
Esco, Wayne	Rajnieck, Kay PNP
Fleming, Jackming	Rakotis, Josephine PNP
Fleming, Pat	Rehling, Grace
Flynn, Betts	Reck, Marlene PNP
Futch, Sybil	Reilinger, IDA PNP
Hanson, Carol	Rieke, Edward
Hartfort, Rosemary	Rieke, Shirley
Hawkins, Debbie	Smith, Cecelia
Hechler, Mattie	Smitgh, Nancy
Hopkins, Anna Lee	Sopangler, Helen
Hreha, Dorothy	Stevens, Anita
Jackson, Pat A.	Strickland, Lee
Jones, Gladys F.	Storkman, Beverlee
King, Eunice	Schmidt, Alice PNP
Klimkowski, Paulette	Schock, Margaret PNP
Krehbiel, Billie	Schonly, Eleanor B.
Kudrna, Lois + 2 Guests	Schweitzer, Betty M.
Kutch, Dan	Shaffstall, John
Kutch, Donna	Shaffstall, Sharon
Kutch, Mary	Shoemaker, Judy
Kutch, Rita, PNP	Silvey, Ancil
Latusek, Hilda + 7 Guests	Silvey, Bettye
Laing, Charmaine	Simpson, Mable I.
Lehito, Geraldine	Soloninka, Helen
Leonard, Gregory	Stevenson, Kay M.
Markus, Madalyn	Stevenson, Todd
Marsh, Barbara	Strickman, Lee
Martin, Muriel	Thompson, Janet
Mc Arthur, Ann	Thynge, Betty
Mc Cormick, Jane	Tristano, Gerald
McDonald Helen C.	Tristano, Susan Ambrosic
McLaughlin, Donna	Thwaite, Jean
Mills, Becky	Umbarger, Darlene
Morgan, Jennifer	Umbargar, Delton
Moorhead, Joanna	Umbargar, Jean
Murrell, Doris E.	Umbargar, Ruth
Nelson, Martha D.	Vinson, Lynne
Norry, Vera	Walker, Jean L.
Noxon, Teresa W.	Waltner, Pricilla
Noxon, William	Warren, Fran M.
Oldman, Libby Walls	West, Brian and guest Becky
Ohlman, Jerry	West, Fran
O'Neil, Ivy D.	West Martin
Palmietto, Rosemarie PNP	West, Helen
Parks, Pauline PNP	Wenzel, Norma L.
Pauley, Jewel	Wignall, Mary
Pietsch, Helen	Wurst, Camille

FIRST TIMES

Brockman, Jennifer L.	
McDonald, PA	
Cossman, Harry	80th Signal
Newpot Beach, CA	
Cadman, William	I-317
Moontownship, PA	
Cadman, Dorothy	Spouse
Moontownship, PA	
Hartfort, Dallas	C-317
Carnegie, PA	
Hartford, Rosemary	Spouse
Carnegie, PA	
Kalb, Jerry	Hq-319
Camillus, NY	
Laughlin, Joe	Son
Southampton, PA	
Laughlin, Tom	Brother
Southampton, PA	
McCoy, Pat	319
No City Listed	
McCoy, Mary,	Spouse
No City Listed	
Pietsch, Paul	AT 318
Atascadero, CA	
Pietsch, Helen	Spouse
Atascadero, CA	
Rittiger, Richard	CN 319
Pittsburgh, PA	
Rittiger, Robert	Son
Pittsburgh, PA	
Rubal, Bernard	Hq 80th
Stow, OH	
Roof, Carl	3d Bn Hq 317
Indiana, PA	
Roof, Frances	Spouse
Indiana, PA	
Wenzel, Ray	G-317
McMurry, PA	
Wenzel, Norma	Spouse
McMurry, PA	
Warnshive, Glen	2d Bn 319
Russell, PA	

Trip To Luxembourg June 17-24, 2004

The following comments are presented by G. Virgil Myers, Co. G 317 Reg., 80th Div. This is a summary of their trip to Luxembourg, June 2004 where they took part in the annual 6-day celebration of the, "American-Luxembourg Friendship Week", June 17-24. This annual week of celebration is planned and sponsored by "The U.S. Veterans Friends Organization of Luxembourg" to honor those American Veterans that fought in The Battle of the Bulge and others that helped free Luxembourg from the Nazi forces.

Wednesday June 16 2004 — My wife Bobbie and I arrived at the Luxembourg City Airport at 10:30 A.M. on British Airways from Orlando, FL. It was a beautiful no hassle flight. Waiting to greet us at the terminal were several of our Lux. friends, Renee Schiosser, Marco Eifes, John Parker and Constant Goergan, Life President of U.S. Veterans Friends of Lux. (This group makes an effort to meet every veteran and family member that attends this week of celebrations.) Some one picked up our bag; John Parker escorted us to his car for transportation to the Euro-Hotel in Gonderange, Lux. just 10 minutes from the airport.

Thursday June 17 — we arrived in Lux. a day early planning to spend the day in France. George Daubenfeld, a good friend of ours and John Parker had volunteered to be our driver, guide and translator since he is fluent in French, German and English. He picked us up from the hotel early and we were on our way to the area of Sivry, Belleau and Nomeny about 20 miles SE of Port-A-Mousson France. We met and spent the day with Captain Michael Mathieu, an officer in the French Army that I have been corresponding with by e-mail for almost a year. Michael purchased part of Hill 351 where he uncovered the remains of Private Robert Homer H Co., 317 while clearing an area of his land.

It was a very exciting day for me. I was able to travel over some of the area where I was initiated into combat with the 80th Div. in 1944. George proved to be an ideal guide and translator. He was able to tell us what the civilians were asking or saying when we talked with them. It was a day I will always remember.

Friday June 18 — to start our week of celebration we were met at our hotel by a new high profile air-conditioned tour bus with a driver that all week could traverse the narrow streets and winding roads that you wouldn't think a jeep could travel. It was a comfortable, safe and enjoyable tour of Lux. all week. The group of 60 people had a ball together.

We had a grand tour of Lux. City. Visited the Foundation Pescatore Building where General Patton had his headquarters during the Battle of the Bulge. This is where he wrote his famous prayer during the Bulge. A copy of the prayer is always available in the chapel of the Pescatora.

Next we were taken to the City Hall where the Mayor and city officials greeted us, then enjoyed a champagne and orange juice reception.

At 6:00 P.M. a commemorative ceremony was conducted at the Hamm American

Cemetery just to the East of Lux. City to honor the American Veterans buried there. This was a very spectacular and special event.

The 80th Inf. Div. headquartered in Richmond, VA furnished the color guard, bugler and back up personnel for all the special events and wreath laying for the week. They made each ceremony a special day for the veterans that were representing their units at their memorial.

At Hamm Cemetery Ceremony men representing each Div. in attendance carried huge planters of flowers following the honor guard, placing the flowers to the front of General Patton's grave very close to the crosses of veterans buried there. For many it was a very misty eyed ceremony as taps and the U.S. National anthem were played.

The color guard and bugler that Gen. Dollar brought to Lux. to represent the 80th Div. were selected by their peers as the best in the entire Div. at what they are assigned to do. They were all professionals and you would have been proud of every one of them.

At 7:15 P.M. presentations were made to a select group of American, Lux., Belgium and German people. The Chapel of Four Chaplain Certificates. This ceremony was followed by a beautiful banquet for us prepared by the people of Ostrang, Lux. What a day!

Saturday June 19 — We traveled to the very north part of Lux. to a village called Cinqfontaines, where the only deportation camp for Jewish people was constructed and used during the Nazi occupation of Lux. It was a satellite camp but was closed after 2 years for less than 500 Jews from Lux and Belgium were exported from this camp.

From there we traveled to the Town Hall of Wincrange where we were treated to liquid refreshments. Then a lunch fit for a hard working construction worker. It was amazing the amount of food that disappeared from the tables.

The next step was a commemorative ceremony at the monument to the 28th Inf. Div. near Eschweiler/ Wiltz. Then a visit to the church that had been rebuilt right after WWII by funds given to the parish by the family of George Mergenthalir a young American soldier that was killed just outside of Eschweiler. He was a friend of the priest and had attended mass only a day or so before he was killed. The priest buried the young veteran at the church until his family returned his remains to the U.S. in 1947.

Saturday evening the people of the Eschweiler area treated our group to another outstanding banquet dinner.

Sunday June 20 — Traveled to the 80th Inf. Div. monument located at the West Side of Heiderscheid, Lux. in a drive through park on Hwy N-15 that runs east to west from Ettelbruck to Bastogne.

The 80th Div. color guard presented the colors as veterans plated flowers at the monument in honor of those that didn't make it home from WWII.

The bugler played Taps that reverberated across the hills and valleys where the 80th fought some of its toughest battles. Many people at the ceremony commented that the view of the Lux. countryside from the 80th Div. monument is the most beautiful spot of all monuments in Lux.

From the 80th monument the bus took us to Dahl, Lux. where a special mass was held for American soldiers who have lost their lives during "The Battle of the Bulge".

The color guard held the colors with out moving a muscle all during the mass and while school children from Washington County; Maine gave a 30-minute singing concert. I couldn't believe those men could stand still so long.

After mass the village of Dahl had a reception for all that had attended mass in the Town Hall.

We then went to the Sgt. Day Turner's monument at the Michel Lenners farm where Sgt. Turner earned the nations highest honor the Medal of Honor while with 319th Reg. The monument and farm is located at the NE corner of Dahl.

The ceremony held at the Sgt. Day Turner Monument was very moving. The posting of the colors by the 80th Div. soldiers, the raising of the Lux. and American flag while the bugler played Taps. (I should mention he is a third generation Bugler). After the ceremony General Dollar presented each 80th Div. Veteran present with a beautifully framed certificate of appreciation for our services during WWII.

Following the ceremony at the monument, the village of Dahl and Michel Lenners served the group a huge luncheon Bar-B-Q of all meats, tables of cakes, pies and desserts too numerous to name. Drinks of all kind were available.

Right after lunch 80th Div. Veterans that made the trip to Lux. had previously decided to present certificates of appreciation to 6 people that have for years served American Veterans in many ways, without reward of compensation nor had any been expected. Those receiving certificates: Constant Goergan for his years of work with the U.S. Veterans Friends Organization; Camille Kohn for the many years he has guided C.E.B.A.; Fernando Zins an Architect by trade designed nearly all the monuments in Lux. with out any compensation; Michel Lenners and wife, Luci, for maintaining the Sgt. Day Turner Monument, raising and lowering the American flag each day since the monument was erected; Roland Gaul, director and overseer of the museum of WWII at Diekirch, Lux.; and Nick Kramer for the signs and stories he has built and erected at the many battle locations in Lux. This proved to be a big hit, not only with the people that received the certificates but by the Lux. people for the gesture made to their neighbors.

At 5:30 P.M. we all went back to the church for a concert by the Washington County, Maine school children's choir. They were great!

Monday June 21 — Today we traveled to the village of Bertrang west of Lux. City. Here a monument has been dedicated for the 5th Armored Div. which liberated that port of Lux. from the Nazi in Sept. 1944. The color guard and bugler again displayed their professionalism with another stellar performance.

Following the ceremony a delicious lunch with wine and all the trimmings served by the people of Bertrang.

In the afternoon we had an enjoyable ride back to the north central area of Lux. 10 miles or so north of Clervaux, Lux. to the commune of Weiswampach, Lux. where a beautiful monument to the 80th Div. stands to verify that divisions severe losses in capturing the village and area from the Germans.

A beautiful banquet was served that evening to our group by the people of Weiswampach and Heiderscheid area. They tried to out do other villages with their tasty food and drinks.

Tuesday June 22 — we traveled to the southern border of Lux. following along the Moselle River visiting Remick, Wellenstein and Schengen. Stopping at each village to visit different sights. In Differdange, Lux. we were given a tour of the of the John E. Dolibois European Center a branch of the Miami University of Oxford, OH.

Dr. E. Stiller, the Executive Director of the University gave us one of the most enthusiastic and positive talks on why we Americans have the right to be proud of our heritage for it has always been America's option to help the world's people that have been taken advantage of and Lux. was a perfect example. He strongly impressed on us, that the people of Lux. would never forget what the young veterans from America had done for them. The University had a reception for us of sandwiches and drinks.

From Differdange we went east to the area of Zinz, Germany where the 94th Inf. Div. monument is located high on the hill six miles south of Remick, Lux. The monument over looks the Moselle Valley to the north and the Saarbrücken Valley to the east. A prime location for this monument that was started by a lone German farmer years ago. A banquet of German food was served by the people of Zinz, Germany.

Wednesday June 23 — This is the dress up day for everyone. We all have a special invitation with assigned seats in the Cathedral to attend the Grand Duke's birthday ceremony. The National Holiday is celebrated at the same time with big fireworks planned for tonight.

The bus delivered our group to the Cathedral a little after 9:00 A.M. We were among the first people to enter the church. We were escorted to our seat location which was at the front on the left side in close proximity of the Royal Family and their children. The Royal family is always the last to enter the completely filled cathedral. Everyone stands in respect to their positions as leader of Luxembourg.

The ceremony lasted almost an hour of songs, prayers and music. It was one of the most impressive ceremonies I had ever witnessed. It was attended by Ambassadors, Embassy Heads, CEO's and all the huge companies and other special guests. Their spots were all designated by row, number and name. The men all wore formal long tailed coats with gray pin striped trousers. The ladies wore formal outfits with matching hats, gloves and shoes.

The next day the same ceremony is repeated for the general public of Lux. but casually attired.

We were directed to exit the cathedral by the side door where the Arch Bishop of Lux. was standing to shake our hand, ask us where we were from and wish us a safe trip on our way home. The whole affair was a day to remember.

We returned to our hotel for a special going away luncheon put on by the U.S. Friends Organization and the Euro Hotel. Everyone was busy taking pictures and saying their good-byes to everyone. There was supposed to have been massive fireworks that evening but it had to be canceled due to the extremely high winds. End of American-Luxembourg Friendship Week.

Thursday, June 24 — everyone is making plans to return home today or continue with their add-on vacation in Europe.

POST NEWS

Brett Post #3

The monthly meeting of the Post was held on Thursday 19 August 2004 at De Munzio's Restaurant at the Arnold Palmer Regional Airport, Latrobe, PA. Good food was enjoyed by all. Commander Bruno Inselmini gave a report on the 2004 reunion, and how he enjoyed reminiscing with many of his buddies whom he had not seen for quite awhile.

Those attend were: Bob and Helen McDonald, Rita Kutch and her daughter Paulette Klimkowski who brought the National Sect/Editor Bob and Doris Murrell, Mike and Dorothy Evanovich, Tom Simpson and Granddaughter Casy, Al Cresson, Joe Boronyak, Bruno Inselmini and Tom Nagel.

Louise and Raymond Fritz made a visit to the WWII Memorial along with a visit to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and a visit to the Grave of John F. Kennedy along with their friends John and Anna Pollock. Many pictures were taken and passed around.

We wish everyone good health and look forward to seeing all at the next Luncheon 16 September. *Louise Fritz.*

Greater Reading Post # 32

Not much news to report. Christine Gehman is home now after a knee replacement and is slowly adjusting to it.

I'm working with the Boonesboro Boone Library to get our 80th Division Exhibit started. Many phone calls and waiting. If you have memorabilia you would like to contribute call me PNC Lou Shirey at 610-478-9034 or deliver it to the Boone Library at 129 N. Mill Street, Birdsboro, PA. Thank You!

Anyone interested in attending our Brunch - 11 AM at the Queen City Restaurant, Rt. 10 and 222. 3rd Saturday of March, June and September 2004. *PNC Shirey*

New York Post # 43

We had a good turnout at Albany last May. All officers were reelected and the post decided to stop payment of annual dues and gifts. In the future, if we need funds we will ask for them.

We go back to Ramada Inn in Geneva, NY. A beautiful facility at the end of Seneca Lake right in the heart of the Finger Lakes. This is winemaking area of the state and also with great fruit available. The dates on this are October 4-7, Monday through Thursday. We do need numbers in advance even though there is no charge for the Thursday noon buffet. Mail will be sent prior to receiving this data.

May, back to Albany, NY to Turf Inn for our annual meeting. Remember we always have our WHITE ELEPHANT RAFFLES AT ALL OF OUR GATHERINGS. The dates on this are Thursday through Sunday, May 26-30, 2005.

We will again try to have our visit to the NYS Historical museum that we had to cancel because of repairs to facility in May 2004. This will be Friday Morning. More on this later. *Ed Bredbenner, Sect Post 43*

Company H 319th Post # 33

We had a grand time at the 80th Division Reunion. Company H was well represented at the reunion. Not as many were there as one would wish but we made it one of the best ever. Of course they all are "one of the best", we thought of those who were not with us and even talked about them (Nick and Ginny).

Those present were myself Commander Ohly, and my daughter, Penny and son-in-law, John. Lois Kudrna and her daughter Karol and son-in-law Reggie who also added to the fun and laughter. The matched pair of Bill and Wilma McKenzie made their presence. Orin Ledbetter and his daughter Debbie continued to complete Company H. Orin kept Debbie concerned with his whereabouts. Just where is he? Also present and making the time enjoyable were Ken Kerr from Yuma and Barbara from Indianapolis.

Irv and Hilda were prohibited from attending because Irv had surgery. He reports doing okay, now. Irv says thank you to all that sent him cards and well wishes. John Beebe and Kate stayed home in Pennsylvania to give loving care to the tomato patch. Why, we wondered. Well, it seems that John's green thumb is producing a 1-1/2 pound red, juicy tomato. Believe that?

On Friday the division made a trip through the winding mountain roads to assist commemorating a WWI and WWII memorial. It was drizzling and cold (at least to me).

Co. H again rented a van for a fun trip. Reggie took the brunt of the group remarks about his driving. Talk about a crazy time filled with conversation, kidding and laughter I wonder how Reggie could focus. After crossing a number of bridges we finally found the top of the peak. There was a beautiful view of the city and we could also see the confluence of the three rivers. Can't write the names of the rivers because I can't begin to spell them. (Ed Note: Allegheny, Monongahela and Ohio) We located a nice small restaurant for lunch. We seemed to take over but the locals showed us the courtesy of a long lost cousin. The manager took time to explain to Reg how to return to our hotel. Maybe he was glad to see us go. No, he enjoyed our time in his restaurant.

Leisure time was spent playing "Pig" or "PLC." Keep your remarks down, it was fun. Right, Wilma!

The Saturday night banquet and band was great. It was a real dance band and it put out some good tunes (you know our type music). You could tell by the number of "young" dancers, or at least they thought they were. The band played a number well known and liked military marches. Those brought out a number of salutes and military postures. Enough written. Be there next year.

Lois Kudrna has a home in south Florida, near the center of typhoon George, her guardian angel must have been on high alert for her house did not have any damage.

I am looking forward to next year. I hope that you are reserving the dates for next year. Penny will be there with me. Kris will be in school but perhaps she can beg her principal to let her take 2 days off.

God Bless all... God Bless America... God Bless President Bush
Ohly, Commander Post 33

Cincinnati Post # 34

We of the Cincinnati Post #34 wish to say hello to all our 80th Friends out there. We are still solvent financially, yet we are near rock bottom in currency. We have stopped collecting post dues but still meet once a month at various restaurants for fellowship, breaking of bread and reminiscing of "Old Times".

We of the Cincinnati Post #34 know that one of these days, God will call us home, and with this in mind, we enjoy the times we have together.

3rd Battalion 317 Post # 36

Sorry Rose and I were unable to attend the 85th Reunion but we got up-to-date info from our friends. Our special thanks to Jeff and Mary Wignall for their nice three-page typewritten letter filling us in on news, events and activities of members. It made us feel we were there.

Our thanks to Bob Smith for having the 317th Hospitality in his Jr. Suite and making the preparations for refreshments. Thanks to Jeff and Mary Wignall for picking up the refreshments and others who assisted and to all whom contributed to make the evening enjoyable.

We thank our new Chaplain Angelo Barone and wife Kay for another inspiring program and Memorial Service. We were glad Bob and Joan Moorhead and Bob and Polly Parks attended the Reunion. It was good to hear Ray Durrauf's daughter and son-in-law surprised Ray by attending the Rededication Ceremony on Friday.

It is with deep regret we report the passing of Rev. Frank Florence (L) and express our deepest sympathy to his wife Betty and family. Frank was an original member of Co. L. He wrote and had published his book "Feet of Clay" in 1953 about his combat and POW experiences during WW II. The book gets its title from the impression of the author that everything he had put his faith was "feet of clay" and could not help him in France during WW II. He was Pastor of several Baptist churches in Louisville, KY. We report the passing of several members of 3rd Bn.: Ralph Bruno, Jr. (L), Joseph A. Marinelli (L), Harry McClure (L), R. E. Thraugher (L) and Victor Arropolin (K). We extend our deepest sympathy to the families.

At the Reunion Bob Smith and Bettie Dian announced their upcoming wedding on September 18th in Orlando, Florida. They plan to winter in Florida and summer in Ohio. Our very best wishes to Bob and Bettie. Our prayers and thoughts are with those who are ill and wish them a speedy recovery.

Bob Nathason, Sect.

Lane Hall Post # 42

Hi Everyone, so nice to be able to communicate with everyone through the Blue Ridger. I am so sorry to have missed the reunion this year. I looked forward to it so very much, but am now looking forward to next year and Columbus, Ohio. Lee & Ann Hatcher's trip to St. Avoird, France.

Lee and Ann Hatcher with their sons, Joe and Bill and daughter-in-law Diane left Knoxville, TN. on Wednesday, May 26, 2004 to attend the Dedication Ceremony of the installation of the Carillon Bell in Lorraine American Cemetery in St. Avoird, France. This is a project Lee has worked on for 4 to 5 years and he is very happy to see it come to a conclusion. We wish to thank those in the 80th Division and the 313th F.A. who supported him. We wish also to thank Mayor Laurent Kleinhentz of Farebersviiler, France and Councillor of the Lorraine Region who gave Lee a lot of support and donated the royalties from his book "Tambow" to the project and also to Amvets and the McCormick-Tribute Foundation for letting us join them in the installation of the Carillon Bell. We were 6 hours late arriving at Chicago O'Hare Airport because our little American Airline's Eagle was dodging rain so we spent a night in Chicago and flew business class to Frankfurt, Germany compliments of American airlines.

We were met in Frankfurt by Mayor Laurent Kleinhentz and we were the guests of the Mayor and his wife Raymonde in their new home which is beautiful and very modern. Mayor Kleinhentz had a reception in the Town Hall for Lee on Friday evening, which was attended by local officials and Horace Thompson Supt. of Lorraine American Cemetery. After the reception we were taken to a local restaurant for a lovely French dinner. Saturday evening, our family and Mayor Kleinhentz and wife, Raymonde were the dinner guests of Dick and Betsy Behrenhausen and the McCormick Tribune in Metz. We met many wonderful people from Amvets and had a great time.

Sunday May 30, 2004 at 11:00 am. We attended the Dedication Ceremony at Lorraine Cemetery in St. Avoird where Lee was given two standing ovations by local citizens and visiting Americans. Many French Citizens came to say hello and a thank you for your service with the 80th Division in WWII and the liberation of France. They were very gracious.

After the dedication ceremony we were the lunch guests of Mayor Laurent and Raymonde Kleinhentz. Edwin and Anie Neis and Alain, Elizabeth and Juliette Gozzo at a beautiful restaurant in St. Avoird and lunch was a delicious 4-hour event.

Sunday evening Mayor Kleinhentz took us to Rudasheim, Germany to join the Amvets. We left for home from Frankfurt on Monday with everyone unhappy with Ann because we were in economy class-how easy it is to get spoiled. We had a wonderful and very nice visit with Mayor Kleinhentz and family. They are wonderful hosts.

How wonderful for Lee to know the Carillon Bell now plays to honor those fallen heroes buried in Lorraine Cemetery. Thank you Ann for this report, it is great.

Spoke to Ed Hargraves in May, and asked him about attending the reunion, at that time he was not sure since he takes charge of the Historical Museum in Creede and had to be able to have someone there while he was gone. I hope he was able to do that, and was able to get to the reunion.

Also, talked with Lou Shirey, he had fallen a few times, and was not badly hurt, but was going to make the reunion in spite of these drawbacks.

Jeannette Abbruzzese passed away on June 22, after a long illness. Flowers were

sent from the 313th F.A. Battery and were greatly acknowledged by the Abbruzzese family. Dom called on Monday after the funeral, and told me Jeannette looked beautiful, and he appreciated all the Mass cards and cards sent by the members of the 313th. We are family and we all care deeply for one another. When one of us leaves, we all feel the loss tremendously.

We were sorry to hear about Audrey Engles, not being able to attend the reunion. I hope things are better with her and we look forward to seeing her next year.

NOTES FROM THE REUNION:

Jim Phillips wrote down some notes from the reunion and here they are:

Jim reports that the Hospitality Room that was given to the 313th was quite plush and the following people were able to enjoy it. Alice and Charlie Noxon and family Billie and Theresa, Sue and Jerry Tristano with her sister and husband, Lou Shirey and friend Paul Lake Clouser, the Thynges Pennell and Betty, Audrey Blocker, her daughter Claudia, and three grand daughters. Marv Brinker. Her son Jim Brinker her daughter Susan and granddaughters, Melissa and Laura, Ed Hargraves, Hilda Latusek, her daughter Patty and her husband Jack, and Hilda's other daughters and their husbands, Earl and Eunice King, and of course Jim and Ruth Phillips. The total was 36 and everyone played the card game and enjoyed the gifts won. On Friday evening a Pizza party was enjoyed by all while Charlie Noxon and Billie Noxon entertained.

The weather in Pgh. was not the best we have had at any of our reunions, thus limiting some plans for outside trips. Angelo Barone, Naomi Brockman and Clarence did an outstanding job. It seems that everyone who attended enjoyed themselves, enjoyed being with their friends and are looking forward to Columbus, Ohio next year. Keep well.

Our next report will be due to the Blue Ridger in December, please continue to call me and let me know any news you may have, Fran Poletti, 203-855-1928.

Post #44 Company M 318th

I had a chance to go to Washington, DC to see the WW II Memorial. We traveled with another couple and their daughter, arriving in D.C. approximately 2 PM. Going direct to Lloyd Jonnes home and picking him up, to go with us and act as a guide.

Arriving at the Memorial, immediately pictures were taken of Lloyd and I. Meandering around to the different States and again having our pictures made along with several others, it was time to get in the car and head out to see the other sights around Washington.

Lloyd is a wonderful guide taking us around to see the sights that tourists would not normally see. Through Embassy Row, where the Vice President lives, all the office buildings and what they were including Watergate Hotel.

Soon it was time for dinner, and getting late, as we were to head to Baltimore the next day, and our Motel was in Glen Burnie, we didn't get to linger as long as we would like to have.

As usual Lloyd and I hashed over old times and it was a good day for both. Our families had to, well, take a back seat to the two of us, so to speak, it was our Day.

Next morning we traveled to Baltimore, seeing the sights that were offered, we headed for home arriving home approximately 6 P.M.

Florida Post # 47

Just before the Reunion in Pittsburgh we received the unfortunate news of Bobbie Myers trip to the hospital in the Carolinas. All our prayers were with her. Her return to Florida indicates they were not wasted. We heard that after her return home she had a fall in which her ankle was broken. Wish her a speedy recovery and are looking forward to her improvement and seeing her at the November meeting in Ocala.

Our reunion was well planned, organized and executed. The functions were well attended. The weather was not the best but did cooperate sufficiently to allow and outdoor celebration rededicating the cannon at the 80th Division Monument. Cool weather and slight drizzle did little to dampen our spirits during the program.

We appreciate the effort Barb Brockman went through to provide us with a map showing the location of restaurants and shopping areas. This was a most helpful side light to the reunion. Thank you Barb.

On leaving the reunion we traveled south through beautiful countryside to Tennessee to visit with some of our children and grandchildren. When we left Tennessee it was 90 degrees, but we had heavy rain in Kentucky and Ohio, if we did not have an appointment the next day we would have stopped overnight to wait out the rain.

While at the reunion Hurricane Charlie hit. We called our neighbor and found out that our area was in a pocket of sunshine and gentle breezes.

I want to remind you that our November meeting will be November 4th to November 7th in Ocala at the Hampton Inn, 3434 SW College Road, 352-854-3200, Room rates is \$61.00. When making reservations our code is P47. Looking forward to seeing all of you Floridians there.

Francis Rajnec, Sect.

Company L, 319th Infantry

Well, another Reunion is behind us and I dare say that every one in our group had a good time. The facilities were excellent and our Hospitality Room was one of the nicest we've ever had.

Our ranks are thinning. We only had seven Company L members attending due to the deaths of Pat Brassell and Ray Greene and the absence of Jim Young and Bill Siebert due to prior commitments.

Ray Greene passed away on July 3rd and we extend our sincere sympathy to Ray's family on this great loss.

Frank and Helene were quite worried during the Reunion because Hurricane Charlie was supposed to strike Tampa, which is very close to their home in Bradenton. Helene reported that all was well when they arrived home and there was no damage in Bradenton. Helene will be undergoing some routine test and Frank and Helene are looking forward to spending Thanksgiving with their son Frank and family in Maryland.

John and Betts Flynn are now the proud grandparents of two more Ethiopian boys, Simenu and Dejenne. They are spending some time in the California home of John and Betts before they return home to Ethiopia to their adopted father who is Betts son.

Received an E-mail from Billie Krehbiel dated August 24th. and they were still not home. Billie said she didn't know when they would start back to Kansas. They were at the time of the E-mail visiting their son who is building a home in the woods about ten miles from Manistique. Bill and the grandchildren participated in an environmental study of the water and bottom of Lake Michigan.

Lou Blatz had some problems when he arrived home after a drive through a terrific downpour. The bathroom fan wasn't working, the clothes dryer was making noise and a 5-foot by 7-foot section of ceiling tile fell and hit his daughter. Thankfully she was not hurt. He took care of the problems and then discovered the radiator on his car leaked and he had to replace the coolant. He said he was ready to go to bed and hoped the bed didn't break down.

The following is for those who did not attend. Our Friday night dinner was held at the Bravo Restaurant and when we arrived, a gentlemen sitting in our semi private room asked me what was the occasion. I told him we were WWII Veterans attending a Reunion of the 80th Infantry Division. He said "Thanks for all you did" and I thanked him for thanking us. The gentleman finished his meal and left and the Restaurant Manager later came to us and told us that a regular customer of the Restaurant had given her \$200.00 to apply against our bill. She refused to tell us the gentleman name but I wrote a Thank You note to him and sent it to the Manager to be given to him on his next visit.

I checked with Sylvia and she told me Jim Young's wallet was not found and returned to him. She also said that as far as they could determine, no charges had been made against his credit card. Sylvia also said that Jim had bought a new wallet for all of his new cards. (Hope he bought one with a stainless steel chain to attach to his belt). Jim said he had a wonderful trip in spite of his problems.

On behalf of all of the attending Company L members, I want to publicly thank Jim for what he did for us at this Reunion. He wasn't there with us in body but certainly in spirit and he made his presence known.

My trip home was a nightmare. The Turnpike was jammed up at Breezewood and Route 70 was a disaster from Breezewood to Hagerstown. I spent 8 1/2 hours going 263 miles. When I arrived home, I found that the pool had not overflowed but Michele was standing in the woods near my home with a shotgun. She took three shots but they all missed. Take care and do keep in touch.

Hank Einolf.

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are pleased to announce the recent publication of the History of the 80th Division in WW1. This is the manuscript of Russell L. Stoltz, Division Historian, and was completed in 1926, approved for publication in 1946, but until 2004, had not officially been published. This edition was edited by Lee S. Anthony, Ph.D., Commander of the Descendants, and has been enhanced with

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