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MARRIOTT HOTEL



The Service Magazine

Post Reunion - 1997

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, 1997



The Service Magazine

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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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Color Sergeant	Albert J. Cresson (C-315 FA)
Sergeant-at-Arms	
Public Affairs Officer	

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**3** Years Gerald V. Myers (G-317) Robert S. Haley (H-317) Laverne J. Schock (F-317)

# Commander's Corner

## Hip! Hip! Hoorah! Harrisburg, Pennsylvania in '98

This is the first communications from our new incoming Commander, Henry J. "Hank" Wurst.

Camille and I wish to thank all that attended the 78th Convention in St. Charles, IL. Those of you who missed the Dugout party on Thursday Night, well all I can say, you were a loser. Yes, we know, some had health problems, others had many other reasons for not attending. We regret you were unable to attend. We want to express our appreciation for all help and assistance, and love that was poured out toward us.

We shall endeavor to continue

the forward path of the 80th Division.

Special thanks to Marcella Haley and Alice Schmidt for the great service rendered in the Auxiliary unit. They along with all the women did an outstanding job.

We look forward to having a fine year and a great time in Harrisburg, PA in 1998.

The Memorial Wreath from the Memorial Service of Saturday Morning 23 August held here in St. Charles, IL. was donated to stand at the Veterans Mound in Warrenville, IL., for all to see and remember all Fallen Comrades.

Begin to look ahead and make plans to greet Camille and me at the 1998 Reunion in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

See You! Hank Wurst, Commander

# Welcome 7 New Members & 1 Associate

Acree, James M. C-319 2215 Blue Star Lane Dallas, TX 75235	440 Rittenhouse Circle Havertown, PA 19083-2119
Aladeen, Kenneth Hq 2d Bn 318	610-853-2071
3612 Lafayette	Loertscher, George M. 80th Rcn
St. Joe Mo. 64507-2128	1018 S. Montgomery Street
816-233-0588	Salt Lake City, UT 84104-3229
Borin, Leonard J. E-318	Stoddard, Michael A. G-318 Assoc.
3810 S. Mission Hills Rd.	385 Carmelita Dr
Northbrook, IL 60062	Mountain View, Ca 94040-3258
847-272-0967	Young, Richard H. E-317
Dorsten, Elmer G. A-318 208 N. Elm St. Coldwater, OH 45828-2618 419-678-2618	22251 Covello St Canoga Park, CA 91303-1036 818-348-8605

# Secretary's REPORT

IF you want your Blue Ridge without having to send \$ 1.24 to your Secretary, then look on your JUNK MAIL and send me the FULL NINE DIGIT Zip Code.

In the last issue of the Blue Ridge, I ask for the additional Four number zip code, or as the Post Office calls it the nine number zip. To you who have responded and it is a great number, I thank you, however, some of you either don't read the Blue Ridge or you just don't give a CARE, as I still am lacking a great number. This issue is the last before the end of the year as the next issue may or may not make January 1. The Post Office doesn't give a hoot if you are a National Officer or as we used to say in service a Buck ----Private. They still want me to use

#### PAID ADVERTISEMENT

#### **318th History**

Very informative on a day to day basis. If you would like one, send a check for \$15.00 postage paid to: Robert T. Murrell, 630 Penna Ave., Oakmont, PA 15139-1574. Also a few copies of the "Operational History" are still available at \$25.00.

#### Robert T. Murrell 630 Pennsylvania Avenue Oakmont, PA 15139-1574

DO NOT make checks out to 80th Association. Please allow six weeks for delivery.

4

the nine numbers or they may not be mailed. OK, I do care, but please, when you do not receive your Blue Ridge, **DO NOT BLAME ME. IT IS YOU AT FAULT.** As I said before, sometime you have to tell it like it is. LOOK NOW at the address label. Does it show all nine numbers?

Also, this being the Post Reunion Issue, and room needed for the names of those who either registered or who attended the reunion some articles sent in had to be set aside, also I'm backed up on true 80th happenings, that comes first.

Thanks to you who sent letters and cards, both of the surgery and the anniversary.

#### 23 OCTOBER 1944-1997

In remembrance of the men of Company "A" 305th Engineer Combat Battalion who were killed or wounded in the explosion of the building they were housed in at Pont-a-Mousson, France. Their Buddies have not forgotten.

# Do YOU Remember?...

Who remembers the town and date General Patton inspected the 80th Division.

Who remembers what Regiment or Company around and in the vicinity of Braunau, Austria liberated a POW Camp known as B17 and had Air Force men as prisoners. A call from a Air Force PW of that camp remembers it was the 80th and we gave them food as they had none.

# Life Plus Club 1997-8

Life Members who contribute over and above the Life Membership. As of Sept 11, 1997, 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.

Beers, Melvin	C-319
Bell, Alvin E. Jr	80th Sig
Bell, George, Sr	F-319
Bierbaum, Paul M.	80th QM
Blume, Bernard R.	A/B 319
Chuiko, Charles	B-318
Drylie, James S.	A-318
Eckrich, Jack	C-318
Einolf, Henry C.	L-319
Grady, Robert F.	L-319
In memory of Jack Frick	, one good
Solider	
Jennings, William	Hq-313FA

# **Out of the Past...**

General McBride's 80th Infantry Division should cross the Moselle at the river's western most extremity near Toul, whence centuries before, the Moselle had flowed on into the Meuse, and march against Nancy directly through the Foret de Haye. This headon attack was to be a diversion, however, to distract attention from the main effort, an envelopment of Nancy from the north. About thirty kilometers north of Nancy, the Grand Couronne is broken by a fairly broad opening, through which a highway crossing the Moselle at Pont-a-

Martelli, Daniel E.	C-319
Martin, Webster	F-319
McAlister, Sam	B-318
McCormick, Milt	AT 319
Menifee, Walter D.	Med 319
Merritt, Kerry G.	F-319
Miller, Ira	C-314 FA
Neal, George	A-317
Pappas, George	SV-318
In memory of wife Emily	01010
Ricthie, William R.	M-318
Robinson, Irv PNC	H-319
Schmidt, Max R.	G-317
National Vice Commander	
Tallent, Harold R.	D-317
Thompson, Ivan E.	L-318
Vaughn Lemoin	L-319
Young, William P.	80th Rcn
Scacco, Anthony A.	A-305 Eng
See B.R. Article	
Sell, James J.	Dv Hqs
Tagmeyer, Nate	B-319
Zizaro, Michael Hq 314 FA	
Members who are not Life Members	
but choose to make a donation over	
and above the yearly dues.	

Mousson proceeds southward toward Chateau-Salins. The Pont-a-Mousson gateway is flanked by bluffs both 382 meters high, the Ste. Genevieve plateau on the south and Mousson Hill on the north; but despite these guardian pillars, it has been for centuries one of the favored military routes across the Moselle. General Eddy's plan called for McBride's 317th Regiment to win a bridgehead at Pont-a-Mousson, through which Bruce Clark's CCA of General Woods 4th

Continued on page 8

# **"TAPS"**

#### AEF

Letters were sent to each of the following AEF man's family, asking to forward word to the Secretary, that I wished to update my files. In each letter, I ask if the man was still living and if so, please forward that information to me. I stated if no Rptd by G. Neal response, I would have to assume the man was no longer living. I received one reply, that of Julian Todd and his name was recorded in the last issue of the Blue Ridge. Therefore, as no response was received, names as living.

305 Eng Bearer, Clair Ho Bialkowski, A.G. B 305 Eng Daniels, Charles E. F

320 Reg D'Ariano, Rizieri Graham, David F. Unknown King, Ray Lee, P. Blair B 317 315 FA Lescanac, Joseph B 320 Maire, George McCoy, William G.C. 318 Otis, John Edward Unknown Rowell, Charles G. Hg 314 FA Shontz, Russell M. Hg 305 Ammo Train Smith, James O. 318 Amb Waters, Vergie H. H 319 314 FA Wilson, Olin V. Winter, Paul T. 305 Eng

This leaves only Summers and Hutzler, both over 100 years old.

#### ETO

Berry, Albert K. Box 4501, RD 4 E. Stroudburg, PA 18301 9/14/96 - Rptd By wife

Carey, Edward No Address Reading, PA 6/15/97 Rptd By Lou Shirey

Cleary, Thomas L. DDS 305 Eng 1214 White Oak Dr Verona, PA 15147 7/22/97 Newspaper Obit

M-319 Cleghorn, James 2473 E. 45th St. Tulsa, OK 74105 8/4/97 Rptd by son Robert

80th Rcn Cochran Millard 2819 Hillsdale Road Springfield, OH 45503 6/97

Denton, Junior Lee "Spud" A-317

127 Wright Shop Road Madison Heights, VA 25472-3913 8/2/97 Rptd by Wife Margaret

I will no longer carry their Espelage, Arthur J. B-314 FA 3105 Pickbury Drive Cincinnati, OH 45211 8/8/97 Rotd by Daughter Diane Ferritto, Carl PNC Ha 1st Bn 319 305 Sig 28766 Alton Ave. Wickliffe, OH 44092 7/9/97 319 Rptd by Felix Cistolo Frick, Jack 915 Roosmore Ave Pittsburgh, PA 15226 5/14/97 Rotd By J. Young Garcia, Ernest 4418 Northrop Terrace Tampa, FL 5/19/97 Goldstein, Irving 7150 Parsons Blvd #7M Fresh Meadows, NY 11359 -1989 Rptd by Pat Stewart Harvey, Raymond E K-318 Not a member and no address 435 Smith Street Plymouth, WI 53073-1236 10/21/96

1-318 Rptd by wife Dolores

Heller, Edwin I. H-317 450 N. Oakhurst Dr. # 302 Beverly Hills, CA 90210 B-313 FA 11/20/96 Rotd By Albert S. Haley, Jr.

C-318 Hewins, Ernest 106 Hausser Ave Highstown, NJ 08520-4308 0/1/97 - Rptd by wife Emma

Killman, Henry P. Col. Cadre to 106th Dv Camp Forrest. Unit unknown Newspaper Obit 4/29/97

Lauber, Leo F. B-80th Rcn 4830 Salem Ave Davton, OH 45416 5/13/97 Rptd by Son Thomas

Mobley, Eurskin B-313 No Address Dawsonville, GA 5/97 Rptd By Lou Shirey

Policastro, Joseph A. 3d Bn Ha 318 2401 Third Ave

Altoona, PA 16602-3322 8/15/97 - Rotd by Felix Cistolo

B-318 Ross, Frank 2607-3d Street #201 Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221-22758 9/7/95 Rptd by Con. Comm.

Smith, Archie - Unit unknown Eden Hill

1-319 Tyrone, PA 5/3/97 Newpaper Obit Not a member Do not confuse with Archie from Kentucky

E-319 Taylor, Lloyd Not a member Date and unit unknown. Rptd by Con. Committee

E-318 Ungrey, Louis F-318 560 Newaygo Drive White Cloud, MI 49349 5/16/97 - Rptd by Mondell

> Warner, Norman R. L-319 No date given Rptd by J. Young

K-317 Webb, Theodore 269 Sewickley/Oakmont Rd Pittsburgh, PA 15237 6/1/97 Rptd by Son William

Continued on page 16

# **Mail Bag**

Ed Timpone A-318 writes, he got through WWII with just one battle wound, great for an infantryman, then had a quadruple by-pass in 1984, have second bit of surgery the next day due to a mess up on the surgeons part and a triple bypass this year 1997. States he is doing OK now and is back on the golf course... Walt Cooper, L-319 sends along the reason he didn't attend this reunion. His wife Christine had a mild stroke, and though he and Christine have made several before this one they had to miss St. Charles, and hope to see all their friends in Harrisburg, PA next year... Rich L. Myers, 15174 Arnold Road, Dalton, OH 44618-9229, C-317, writes ill health keeps me from coming to the reunions, but I keep in touch through the Blue Ridge... Ira and Antoinette Miller C-314 FA recently celebrated their 50th Anniversary June 7... Bill Pulley H/Sv 318 writes had surgery on 1/9/97, lost the lower portion of my left lung to cancer. Doing fine now, walking every day. Not able to travel as yet... Bill Kenoyer A-315 FA had a set back 5/27. An aneurysm in the Aorta ruptured while attending a church Elders meeting. He was rushed to the hospital and by the Grace of God was saved from certain death. Thanks to the prayers of my wife and many friends, I am on my way back. His Address: 84 Ridgeview Road, Sioux City, IA 51104-4052 Send him a card ... Word from Nashville, TN doesn't come out all that well. Carrie McAllester fell last May 9 and broke her right hip, states she has a

good nurse in Sam. Word also reaches the Editor that Price Carney is undergoing some test and wont be at the Reunion. Bob and Polly Parks is holding the Nashville line, but will not fly and too far to drive to the St. Charles Reunion... Carl Kredel 80th Rcn has been admitted to Liberty Nursing Home Rm 205 17th and Allen Sts. Allentown, PA 18104. Carl has had several mini strokes and Alzheimers... Delbert and Lucille Whitlow, B-318, 247 Johnson Road, Pelzer, NC 29669-9059 celebrated their 60th Anniversary on 7/16/97. Both are active in Church work and Senior Citizens groups. Del also lost his brother a few days before their anniversary on 7/4/97... Report PNP Kay Anstine, Ladies Auxiliary passed away on 7/29/97. Reported by Jo Rakotis... Word reaches the editor that many of you sent Homer Sumners of WWI many cards. Word was he was happy so many sent him cards. Now, he will be having his 102d Birthday come 8 October. Lets flood him with cards. 112 Columbia Ave., Middletown, IN 47356. Happy Birthday Homer .... Chaplain John Woods had his 90th birthday September 20. His address: 339 E. Jamestown Road, Greenville, PA 16125-9294, send him a belated card if you didn't know of his birthday in time to send a card... C. D. Clements and Louise celebrated their 55th Anniversary with a Limo and Champagne on July 13, 1997... Bob Grady, L-319 wishes to thank all those who sent cards wishing him a speedy recovery and is very sorry his doctor wouldn't let him come to the reunion to greet you.

Continued on page 21

### Some will remember the USS WEST POINT — SS AMERICA

Largest of the U.S. Transports of WWII, and called "flagship of the U.S. Transport fleet", this famed ship was built in 1938/40 for the United States Lines, at Newport News, VA. She operated commercially as the SS America briefly. In June 1941 the Navy chartered her; later she was acquired outright by the Navy and converted from a luxury liner to a transport (AP 23) and re-named.

The West Point can be said to have been in "world-wide service," for she was on the scene in all oceanic theaters of war. By war's end, she had made over 35 voyages and carried more than 300,000 troops.

She measured 723 feet in length, 93 feet in beam and drawing nearly 33 feet, this ship had a gross tonnage of 26,455. She had twin propellers and a steam-turbine drive: 24 knots (27.6 m.p.h.). Her peacetime passenger accommodations numbered 1,046--in contrast to her wartime troop accommodations for 8,175 troop officers and men.

NOTE: We thought our Mail Bag would be full to over-flowing about the picture and story in the last issue... for those of you who didn't notice THAT photo was of the USS West Point. The photo shown here (at right) is of the Queen Mary!

#### **Out of the past...** Continued from page 5

Armored Division and a battalion of the 318th Infantry would move swiftly to circle south and east into Nancy.

The XII Corp's collision with preparations that the Germans had made while the army paused to await gasoline came yet more abruptly than Walker's. On 5 September, the 317th Infantry was unable to force a crossing of the Moselle at Pagny-sur-Moselle on its north flank, and at Pont-a-Mousson a tiny bridgehead was wiped out by a German counterattack, with 160 Officers and men missing. The 319th had succeeded in crossing into the loop of the river near Toul late on 4 September, but it made additional headway only slowly against good troops, the 3d Parachute Replacement Regiment, who exploited some of the old French fortresses of the Verdun-Toul system.

General Eddy, whose 9th Divi-

sion had changed front with such remarkable promptness months ago on the Cotentin Peninsula, with similar promptness formed a new design: a double envelopment. His third division, General Baade's 35th, had been held back at first to protect the Third Army's south flank; but General Bradley's solicitude for the Third Army-carrying his hopes for an all-American thrust to the Rhine-now brought the XV Corps back into Patton's fold and to the right flank, freeing Baade from patrolling duties. Eddie thereupon decided to use the 35th Division to win a bridgehead over the Moselle south of Nancy from the southeast. When the enemy shifted his attention to contain this stroke, the 80th Division would again essay a crossing north of Nancy, CCA, 4th Armored would join whichever thrust showed the greater promise, reinforcing success.

Continued on page 9 ...



Queen Mary — June 1944 — S/S N.Y. 844 Trans-shipment aboard to secret overseas destination

#### Continued from page 8

The Germans not having enough reinforcements to hold the Moselle in strength everywhere along Patton's front, and on the next morning the 137th Infantry, Kansas National Guard, along with CCB won crossings farther south, around Crevechamps and Bayon. These footholds soon attracted more of the 15th Panzer Grenadiers, and the Americans faced slow going.

The ensuing commotion south of Nancy seemed to make the moment ripe for a new effort by the 80th Division north of the city, at some place other than Pont-a-Mousson and the strongly held hills flanking the Ponta-Mousson gateway. The place selected was Dieulouard, about six kilometers south of Pont-a-Mousson; the occasion would be the first major WWII offensive of the 80th Division. McBride assigned the 317th Infantry the assault crossing again, with the

further duty of pushing as far as the summit of the Moselle plateau east of the river. The 318th Infantry was to follow and turn north, mopping up the high ground all the way to Mousson Hill. McBride took special care to conceal from hostile eves the shift of his attention from the Pont-a-Mousson crossing site, and his care paid off. The Moselle plateau opposite Dieulouard proved another of the places that the Germans had not gotten around to reinforcing. The Americans crossed at two fords or in assault boats during the early morning hours of 12 September, against only occasional fire from light enemy outposts. Obscured by low clouds and a drizzling rain, the engineers soon threw bridges across. The 317th Infantry captured the Ste. Genevieve heights, and the 318th pushed north as far as the town of Atton on the way to Mousson Hill.

Continued next issue.

## Dedication Ceremony for Medal of Honor

Seven men of the 80th Association attended a special dedication in Scranton, PA, on Friday, June 6, 1997. This was to honor two men who received the Medal of Honor during WWII, A Lt. Sarnoski, who was KIA while flying in the Pacific and PFC Gino Merli, 1st Infantry Division, fighting in Belgium. This was a very moving ceremony attended by many thousand folks from the Scranton, PA. area. This dedication took place in Court House Square in downtown Scranton and was attended by many local politicians as well as U.S. Senator Specter. A beautiful granite monument was placed there with all the stories of the heroics of these men. 80th committee men were lke Refice. Bill Zwick and John Beebe. Of course their wives were also very much involved. PNCs Barone and Bredbenner represented the 80th Association plus Fred Buscarini and Andy Anderson. Our wives also were there to support this wonderful occasion. We were quests of honor and had reserved parking and reserved seats at all occasions, thanks to the 80th folks on the committee. Thursday night we were invited to the Committee buffet and on Friday, after the ceremony, we attended a very large lunch and a moving program. About 700 attended the lunch and very many thousand attended the ceremony. Friday evening we went to the hometown of Gino Merli, Peckville, and about 250 attended another buffet that the women of the VFW prepared. Outstanding food, of course. It was a wonderful time had by all and much work and effort went into this dedication. The whole town pitched in and supported this. It was very emotional and certainly was heartwarming to see the patriotic effort by the people of this area. I quess some communities still have the old American spirit and love their country and their heroes as well as the American Flag.



PNCs Barone and Bredbenner at Scranton Dedication for Medal of Honor, June, 1997

# MONUMENT TO AMERICAN WAR ORPHANS UNVEILED IN LUXEMBOURG



A curving cobblestone path leads to a circle containing a single star — the symbol for widows and children of men lost in battle. The star measures more than six feet across. Centered on it is a foot high stone pentagon topped with a bronze plaque which reads:

U.S. Veterans Friends Luxembourg Remember. Private Alfred Etcheverry 1912-1945. Killed in Action at Goesdorf, January 13th, 1945. Buried at the American Military Cemetery, Hamm. Pvt. Etcheverry was Married and Father of Two Children.

Dedicated in Heartfelt Sympathy. To all the Orphans of WWII American Soldiers.

(Editors note: see OUT OF THE PAST in last issue.)

# St. Charles Reunion



Paul Arndt (F-319) and Webster Martin (F-319) at the 80th Division Reunion, August 20 - 24, 1997, St. Charles, Illinois

Nothing but raves for St. Charles and the Pheasant Run Resort Hotel. Beautiful views of the Golf Course and good fellowship from all quarters. Commanders Reception with its good music, Thursday Night Dugout Party was out-of-this-world as usual, the Memorial Service on Saturday morning had a huge crowd. This year, an ad in a local newspaper invited the public.

These pictures were all I had at the time of the deadline.

The Executive Council will meet at the Airport Marriott Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA on October 30, 31 and November 1, 1997. Room rates: \$80 plus tax. Letter to follow. Every 80th Veteran is invited to attend.

# Begin to make plans for Harrisburg in 1998!!

Col. Wood enjoying the line dance at the reception...



#### Leader of the pack Bob Murrell ...



# St. Charles Reunion

#### THE 77th ANNUAL REUNION ROLL CALL

As is customary, the names of those who attended the 1997 St. Charles, IL. reunion are published.

This list, is prepared as accurately as possible, is taken from the official registration forms of those who paid the registration fee and attended. It does not include 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 write the Editor and your name will be published in the next Blue Ridge.

(Hg-IR)

Magnuson, Jack

#### **317th INFANTRY** REGIMENT

Adkisson, Gid Allen, James (K (G Alvardo, Benjamin (A Artino, Sal (A) Baca, Justin Barone, Angelo (L Blatchley, Clifford (Ho Bobb, Richard (Met Det Brockman, Clarence (Ho Brown, William (K Buda, Louis (H Bugg, Robert (MBurrows, Robert (2d Bn Ha) Cirino, Sal (K DeLucas. Donald (AT Crofoot, George (L Esco, Virgil (K (G Cistolo, Felix Cyrana, William (L (? Dumrauf, Raymond Edwards, Jack (K (B Ellia, George Elster, Marvin, Jr. (D (CN Evanovich, Michael (M Ferens, Andrew Fidler, Walter Fleming, Daniel Flick, Douglas (Sv Frederick, William (2d Bn Ho (B Golden, William (K Goode, Irving (D Hatton, Ellery (D Haviland, Joseph (H Haley, Albert (C Kemper, Don Kibbe, Rex. Jr. (L)

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	Maledy, Ralph	(D)
	McCaskey, Edward	(M)
()	McGivern, Matthew	(K)
0	Myers, Gerald	(G)
5)	Nathason Robert	(L)
Ú.	Noel, Arthur	(L)
()	Nutting, Harry	(1)
)	Palmietto, Dominick	(G)
1)	Palombaro, Dominic	(Hq)
)	Paul, John	(D)
1)	Petrollini, William	(1)
Ö	Pierce, Leroy	(L)
1)	Pudelek, Paul	(F)
1)	Rajnicek, Francis	(H)
)	Rampy, Robert	(E)
()	Reeder, Eugene	(A)
ľ)	Rogowski, Harry	(F)
)	Schmidt, Max	(G)
Ó	Schock, Laverne	(F)
5)	Shoemaked, Howard	(1)
j.	Simpson, Robert	(İ)
_)	Smith, Phil (G As	
Ó	Smith, Refus	(A)
3)	Spellman, Jerry	(Hq)
))	Strickland, Frank	(D)
i)	Sturgis, Ellis	(A)
1)	Summerlot, Raymond	(K)
I)	Umbarger, Howard	(A)
Ó	Watson, Frank	(Hq)
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i)	Young, Richard	(E)
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Ó	318th INFANTRY	
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Stoddard, Michael (G Assoc) Storkman, August (G) Strauss, Nathan (Hq) Szefler, Casimir (B) Terrizzi, Frank (F) Tramel, William (F) West, George (C) Wignall, Jeff (A Assoc) Wilkinson, Robert (I) Wojciechowski, Irvin (F)	Buydos, Michael Cople, Bill DeMuro, Jerry Dorsten, Elmer Eckrich, Jack Goode, Charles Grabert, Lester Hagan, William Hart, Edward Heckler, Otto Hopkins, Gene Major, Terrance Martin, Ronaldo Micole, James, Sr Murrell, Robert Rhoads, George (A As Seidel, Clarence Smith, Robert H. Sommer, Arthur Stewart, Patrick	(Å) (A) (M)
Storkman, August (G) Strauss, Nathan (Hq) Szefler, Casimir (B) Terrizzi, Frank (F) Tramel, William (F) West, George (C) Wignall, Jeff (A Assoc) Wilkinson, Robert (I)		(202
	Storkman, August Strauss, Nathan Szefler, Casimir Terrizzi, Frank Tramel, William West, George Wignall, Jeff (A As Wilkinson, Robert	(G) (Hq) (B) (F) (F) (C) (C) soc) (I)
	Acree, James Anderson, Lloyd Arndt, Paul	(C) (L) (F)

Continued on page 15

Balas, John Beers, Melvin Bell, George Jr. Bell, Wade, Jr. Berman, Ruldolph Birong, John Blatz, Louis Bowcut, Vern Bowles, Lloyd (A/C/Sv) Brassil, Patrick Briggs, Eugene Chism, Donald Cornelius, Robert S. Cornelius, Scott R. (E Assoc) Coscia, Joseph Costley, Maurice Davis, Don DeBoard, Howard Dolan, John J. Dolan, John J. Jr. (C Assoc) Einolf, Henry Harmon, Charles Jester, Willam Krehbiel, Bill Kudrna, Tony Laing, William Leibreich, Oscar Liskko, Robert Martin, Charles Martin, Webster McCormick, Milton McDonald, Robert Norry, Gerald Novinski, Stanley O'Neil, Eugene Orr. David Ralph, Voncile Rivas, Hector Robinson, Irvin Schilling, Edward Schmidt, Donald (F Assoc) Siebert, Bill Simpson, Edward Vaughn, Lemoin 313th Field Artillery Bn. Abbruzzese, Dominick (Hg) Blocker, Karl Burkhart, Warren

Fraley, William

Hanson, William

King, Earl Phillips, James Robinson, Edwin Shirey, Llewellyn

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### 314th Field Artillery Bn.

Litchfield, Russell Minahan, Daniel Wilmer, Richard A.

315th Field Artillery Bn.

Byl, William Cresson, Albert J.

905 Field Artillery Bn.

Fisher, George

#### 305 Engineer Bn.

Dovenbarger, Byron Foerster, Richard Hanson, Everett Lelito, Edmund Rode, Warren Sick, Russell P. Wilson, Delmar

80th Quartermaster

Carver, Francis

**80th Military Police** 

Engelke, Louis Walker, Lorin

Div.HQ & HQ Company

Murnahan, Ralph (Hq) (Dv AG) Stevens, Lyell Woods, John H. Chaplin

#### 780th Ordnance

Knecht, Richard McVay, Thomas, Jr. Reidembaugh, John J. Srnec, Walter, Sr. Washenko, Sam

#### 305th Medical Bn.

Campbell, John Myer, Henry Rothbard, Lionel Tucker, William

**80th Signal Company** 

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Bell, Alvin Engstrom, William Ryan, James Umberger, Charles 80th Quartermaster Bierbaum, Paul 702d Tank Bn Miller, William B. (B) 633d AAA AW BN Schoo, Donald **Special Units** Etcheverry, Nicholas D. (CIC Assoc) McMillen, Thomas (CIC) Award Ticket Winners

\$500.00

Dorsten, Elmer A-318 208 N. Elm St Coldwater, OH New Member & First Timer

\$300.00 McCaskey, Edward M-317 252 Cornell Des Plaines, IL 60616

\$200.00 Troutman, Henry 3d Bn Ho 317 258 E. 5th St. Berbville, OH 19506

See you all again soon .... **REMEMBER:** HIP!

HIP! HOORAH! HARRISBURG!! Pennsylvania in '98

# New York Post # 43

Our annual meeting and election of officers went off very well with over 50 attending. Early arrivals took a battlefield tour of Saratoga area conducted by Harry Nutting, (the Mayor). Friday noon lunch, Betty Dian and Ike Refice along with Kay, joined us, along with a wonderful case of grapes.

Among the fifty present, were National Officers, PNC's Bredbenner, Barone, Rajnicek and Smith. PNP's Hook, Rajnicek and Palmietto. Third Vice Commander Max Schmidt and Alice also joined our post and was most welcome.

Margaret Donigan won the 50/ 50,the Barone basket of goodies went to Jack Wilson, the two 80th clocks made by Jack Wilson went to Jackie Campbell and peggy Dolan. Many nice WHITE ELEPHANT gifts were also awarded.

Next gathering in Rochester, NY Sept 25-29, 1997. Too late for this issue. But, our annual meeting will be held May 21-24, 1998 at the Turf Inn, Albany, NY.

All left in good health, tired and happy. We closed in good harmony.

As usual, Abe Barone handled the elections doing a good job as all officers were re-elected.

Ed Bredbenner.

#### TAPS, cont. from page 6

Wengar, Robert E. 482 Overlook Drive Rittman, OH 44270 7/4/97 Rptd by Sister Margaret	L-317
Wiley Raymond H	3d Bn 317 Medic

Wiley Raymond H. 3d Bh 3 118 Whieldon Ave Ellwood City, PA 16117-2725 7/97 — Prtd by Felix Cistolo

# Brett Post #3

The summer is almost over and we had our annual Brett Post picnic at Natrona Heights V.F.W. There were about 30 people present. We would like to thank Helen and Melvin Beers for doing another great job. An election of officers was held. All the officers were reinstated; nobody volunteered.

There were five P.N.C.'s present and they all talked about their aches and pains. P.N.C. Felix Cistolo and his hip operation, and P.N.C. Bob Murrell and his shoulder and knee pain. P.N.C. Angelo Barone looked good after his heart bypass. P.N.C. Bill Petrolinni complained about his arthritis, and P.N.C. Al Latusek about dialysis. However, when the food was served, everybody had a good appetite and a good time at the picnic.

The Lunch Club was canceled for the summer. It will start again on September 18th at the Blue Angel. Everybody is welcome. Please call Essie Simpson at 864-4077 to make your reservation if you will be attending.

This year's convention was the first one that I missed since 1973. I got reports of another great reunion. The food and entertainment were great however, attendance was fair. Congratulations to Commander Wurst for a job well done.

Our condolences go out to the family of Joe Policastro, a Brett Post member, who recently passed away.

P.N.C. Al Latusek

# 305th Engineers Post #40

I wish to call to your attention Edmund Lelito, Hq 305 Eng. Bn was a first timer. He attended the Banquet only, therefore didn't get to let people know he was there when he didn't make the Friday Business meeting. His address 2233 Whispering Oaks, Highland, IN 46322.

Sometimes I wish that a Post 40 member would take one step forward and accept the nomination as Post Commander for a year or more. It has been a pleasure to have been your Commander since 1990, but occasionally I get the feeling its a pain in the butt. Some correspondence other than a Christmas Card would help to get me real news for this article. Last issue I missed the deadline...I apologize for this.

Urb Wineheimer and I attended the Post 47 party in FL last March. We shared the week together and in June I stopped at his home in South Park, (Pittsburgh) overnight when returning from a five-week tour in my TransVan. Briefly that 4200 mile trip went the entire length of the Blue Ridge Parkway, Skyline Drive, thru Wash, DC, Balti., Philly, and NYC. Then up into MA, CT, NH, and VT. Turn around point I guess was Lancaster NH after a week around the White Mts and Mt Washington. Come bach through NY and PA. Many overnight campsites, several ball games and some spectacular tourist site. Besides Urb's visit I stopped overnight at Ed and Mary Shappell's home where Angelo and Kay Barone joined us for a pleasant evening. Many memories of good-time years when the

80th folks got together at Ed's place.

Post 40 had a very nice hospitality room at St. Charles reunion just concluded. Thanks to all who stopped in. We welcomed guest from NY Post 43 and Cinny Post 34, so Friday evening the room was full of comradeship. Also Friday a group of eight of us enjoyed a private dinner at a nearby lovely restaurant. In addition to First Timer Lelito, Carl Taschek visited for a few hours of conversation. If both men read this I invite you to join our Eng. Post 40.

A brief meeting was held Saturday morning after the Memorial Service, which again was impressive. No new business was discussed and all the current officers will again serve for another year. A resolution was passed to send compliments to the reunion chairman, Hank Wurst for the outstanding, and well organized four days of the 1997 reunion. Highlight of the reunion was Thursday night Dug-out party with the "New Odysse" show. No one left until it was over. Another highlight was the singing of Janet Ryan (Hank's daughter), a talented vocal soloist, singing at the Memorial Service.

Beginning immediately on my return home, I am facing this year ahead with the responsibility as Sr. Vice Commander to organize the 998 reunion at Harrisburg, PA September 2,3,4 and 5, 1998. I cannot personally do all the things that need to be done so I'll depend on every Post 40 member to respond when I ask for your help. Begin now to make your plans to attend... providing your health will permit. Don't even think about missing the next reunion.

> Post Commander Russell P. Sick

# Post #33 Co. H 319 Inf.

All members of Post #33 who attended the reunion were present at our regular annual meeting.

On motion from the floor we dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting. The Treasurers report will be given in a later issue. The nominating committee presented our slate for the coming year. Nick Grossi, Commander. Allen Conway Treasurer and Irv Robinson, Secretary. On a voice vote they were dully elected.

On a sadder note, Doris, wife of Major Gerald Ohlman, passed away after a long illness. Our sympathy and sincere condolence to the family.

Lois and Tony Kudrna, Hilda and Irv Robinson toured St. Charles and enjoyed the reunion. It was stated this was one of the great ones.

Hope to see all of you in Harrisburg, PA next year.

Irv Robinson

Florida Post #47

We had another death since the last issue of the Blue Ridge. Ernest Garcia E-319 5/19/97 after a long illness. Our condolences to Louise and Family.

Have some illness's to report: Christine Cooper had a mild stroke in June. Helen West had a heart attack in July and Bill Myers had a toe amputated. Everyone wishes all of you a speedy recovery.

Bob and Rose Nathason moved back up north. Their new address: 3400 West Chester Pike, Newtown Towers 504B, Newtown Square, PA 19073.

By the time you read this article our November get-together will be over. (Editor: Slow mail.)

For our March 1998 get-together we will be going to the Holiday Inn Oceanfront, 2605 N. AIA, Indialantic, FL 32903. Phone (407)777-4100. Dates March 5-7, 1998. Rates good 3 days prior and 3 days after. This is the same place we were last March.

Wally Ponder Sect.

# Co F 318 Post 46

It is with sadness I report that Viola Slagus died April 26, 1997. On April 2 Vi became very ill and required hospitalization. It was found she had cancer. Vi was a people person and was loved by all who knew her. Drop AI a card or give him a call. He is very saddened by her death. His address and other information will be sent out with the October Post 46 newsletter.

Since last May, John Vonado

has suffered two strokes which required surgery on both sides of his neck. John is home now and is making normal improvement. He would enjoy hearing from you.

I received a letter from Avis Carothers, 600-71st Ave #4, St. Pete Beach, FL 33705. She would like to hear from all you F Company people.

The Wojeicechowski's, Terrizzi's and Tramel's attended the 78th Reunion in St. Charles, IL. It was a real good reunion. More about it in our newsletter.

That's all Folks: Mondell

# Lane Hall Post #42 313 F.A.\*Bn

First: We wish to thank Hank Wurst and his committee for a great time in St. Charles.

Second: Happy belated 80th birthday wishes to Bob Brinker and to Chaplain John Woods who turned 90 on 20 September, 1997.

The following members attended the Pheasant Run Reunion: Don and Jean Abbrusezzi, (Hq), Karl and Aydery Brocker (B Med), Warren Burkhart (B), Willis Fraley (A), Bill Hanson (B), Charles Kingsolver (B), Jim and Lee Micale, (B), Jim Phillips (A), Fran Politti (Hq), Ed Robinson (A), Lou Shirey (B) and Max Wheelwright (B).

Everyone appeared to have a good time. We wish to thank all the children of members who drove or assisted in getting their parents to the reunion. It was nice to have them also attend and we extend an

# Post #44 Company M 318th Inf.

Letter from Jack Stumcke tells me he has sold his home and will be moving to a retirement community six miles from his youngest Nephew. He will have a one bedroom apartment starting August 21, 1997. His new address: 305 Quail Run Estates, 50 Cardinal Drive, Agawam, MA 01001. Send him a card...Bob Murrell will be going to Germany along with his wife come September 18th for two weeks. The shoulder is quite sore after a drive of 1000 miles to visit family and aninvitation to plan for Harrisburg next year.

The 1998 Reunion will be held in Harrisburg, PA at the Marriott Hotel; Dates September 2-3-4-5. It is not too soon to start making plans. Time moves very rapidly in these Golden Years, especially when you are having fun!

Our annual post meeting was held in the hospitality room on August 23, 1997. Commander Abbrusezzi presented the Normandy Medal to Wills. Fraley, Charles Kingsolver, Jim Mccale, Ed Robinson, and Max Wheelwright. Lou Shirey was elected Post Commander. Jim Phillips Sec't/Treas. After some discussion, it was agreed to have a Mini-Reunion in 1998 at Cape May, NJ. Place Atlas Hotel. More information will be forwarded later. Meeting closed in harmony.

Hope all those who have health problems are on the road to recovery. Send the News.

Jim Phillips.

other 1000 to and from the St. Charles Reunion...Bill Ritchie writes, did it ever strike you how lucky we Company "M" men have been? Look how many have been married fifty or more years to great ladies. All the time we thought we were fighters not lover's. Seems we have done very good on both counts. Ruth's back has been giving her trouble, can't take long trips by car or plane, so they won't be making St. Charles...

# Post #36 3d Bn., 317 Inf.

My wife and I were at the reunion from Sunday thru Wednesday leaving early Thursday morning for Boise, Idaho where my grandniece was married on Saturday. We're sorry to have missed those that arrived later in the week. First time in many a year we missed the group Hospitality Night.

We express a special "thank you" to Charmaine and Bill Laing who dad a wonder job in purchasing and preparing the refreshments for the hospitality room. And thanks to the Barones for the use of their suite, to Art Noel (L) for providing the beverages, to Bob Smith who took care of reserving the tables for Thursday's function and Saturday's banquet, and to those who contributed to defray expenses and to Bill Cyrana for his usual generous contribution.

We were glad to see Rex Kibble(L) and his wife Cecelia. Last time they came. I believe was 1973. Nice that George and Dolly Crofoot (L) came and good to see Jerry Spellman (Bn Hqs) who came from California as did Jack Edwards and his wife who was in a wheelchair. Ray Summerlot (K) at the Hospitality Room distributed his book "Heroes and Cowards" which is his biographical account of combat and prisoner of war experience in Europe. We missed many that usually attend: Parks, Pouletsos, Clarks, Lincks, Myers, Zabitchucks, and Helen Kudenov and her daughter.

Jeff Wignall wrote a manuscript which was a memorial to his late father entitled "The Road North of Farebersville." His father was in Company A, 318th Inf. and was KIA December 1944. The manuscript is

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an interesting and heart moving account of front line action. Jeff spent a great deal of time and effort in researching the facts to determine how and where his father was killed.

Receive a letter from (Rev.) Frank florence (L) in which he mentioned the 4th printing of his book "Feet of Clay" is now available for \$8.00 plus \$2.00 postage and handling by writing Frank at P.O. Box 563, 3391 Mt Washington Road, Taylorsville, KY 40071.

Tresa Irvin, sister of Charley Pillinger, wrote me to let everyone know she and her brother extend their thanks for the many expressions of sympathy they received on Charley's passing and for the memorial gift from the 3d Bn. to his church.

Leroy Pierce (L) wrote noticing me of Bob Wenger's passing on July 4. Bob was a member of L. 317th and a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University. He was a life member and past commander of American Legion Post 423 in Rittman, OH and a past commander of Division 1 of the Legion. He was also a former Rittman City Councilman. He was employed as a foreman at Goodrich Tire and rubber Company for 32 years and then worked as a manger for the Polson Rubber Company. Surviving are his wife, a son, a daughter and five grandchildren and a sister. A memorial gift from the 3d Bn. was sent to his church in his memory. We extend our sympathy to members of the Wenger family.

Our had working and dedicated Angelo Barone was very busy performing activities at the reunion-Chairman of the Memorial Service, assisting on the registration desk, installing the new officers of the

Continued on page 21

# Company L 319

On behalf of the twenty L-319 members, spouses and friends who were in the Pleasant Run Resort, we thank Hank Wurst for making this reunion a most memorable occasion. The hotel staff was very accommodating, which made foe a comfortable four day stay.

Again we had our "hospitality" room and there was a continuous variety of food and beverages from breakfast through lunch and late evening snacks.

Many members contributed to the food, bringing from home such items as cookies, tomatoes, carrots and peppers for dip, crackers, nuts, four varieties of homemade bread (banana nut, cinnamon, Pina Colada, cheese) and more. Bob Murrell, an adopted member of Co. L, supplied his famous pickled smoked sausages.

For the second year in a row, we had a first timer. The group welcomed Patrick Brassil who promised he most certainly would join us in Harrisburg next year.

We missed seeing some of our old standbys, who, for various reasons were unable to attend. Notable among those were Jim and Florence Young, Bob and Pearl Grady, Frank and Helene Soloninka, Fred and Vera Eckelmann, John and Betts Flynn, Walter and Christine Cooper and Max and Eleanor Coleman. We hope we will see them in Harrisburg in 1998.

We had our traditional dinner on Friday evening at Baker's Square, a delightful little restaurant on Main Street in St. Charles. We had our champagne toast to all living and deceased members of Company L before the banquet on Saturday evening. Many thanks to Lemonin Vaughn for supplying the champagne.

I all, Company L had eleven members present along with spouses and friends. Lou Blatz and his brother Richard, Lemonin Vaughn, Bill and Billie Krehbiel, Don Chrism, John and Helen Balas and son Jack, Rudi and Carol Berman, John and Audrey Birong, Lloyd and Faye Anderson, Patrick Brassill and Rita, Bill and Lucille Siebert and Hank and Maria Winolf.

We urge all Company L. Men who are reading this to make planes to join our group in Harrisburg in 1998. You won't regret it and as Bob Grady so truthfully puts it, -"Time is no longer on our side." Hank Einolf

POST 36, continued from page 20

Women's Auxiliary Luncheon, and Master of Ceremonies at the Saturday Night Banquet, all with the able assistance of his wife, Kay.

We send our prayers and good wishes to those who are ill and wish them a speedy recovery.

Bob Nathason.

#### Mail Bag, cont. from page 7

Really seemed strange not to haul out the old foot locker. Thanks a MILLION GUYS... Ed Schappell M-319 reports he was hospitalized for four day last August 14. Went in to have some tumors removed, was sent home and had to report back to the hospital. Seems he shouldn't have gone home to begin with. Ed reports Mary is doing well, gets around with the aid of a walker...

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All of the past National & Honorary Commanders are looking forward to seeing you in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania at our 79th Annual Reunion.

> William Pettrollini, President Albert S. Latusek, Vice President Felix Cistolo, Secretary / Treasurer

### Brett Post No. 3 Pittsburgh

Melvin Beers, Commander 2867 Meadow St. Natrona Hgts. PA 15065 Mike Evanovich, 1st Vice Commander Al Latusek, Secretary Tom Simpson, Treasurer

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

Robert W. Smith Commander

Robert N. Nathason Secretary / Treasurer

## Greater Reading Post No. 32

Ivan Downs, Commander

Henry S. Moyer, Adjutant 620 Fern Avenue Reading, PA 19611-1912 Phone: (610) 374-6365

#### CINCINNATI POST #34

Floyd Warner Commander Art Rehling, Treasurer 4656 McNeil Ave., Cincinnati OH 45212 (513) 631-0031 David C. Orr, Post Rep. 831 Phillips St. Grayville, IL 62844

## LANE-HALL POST #42

Lou Shirey, Commander

lim Phillips, Secretary / Treasurer

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

305th

**Engineer Battalion** 

Post No. 40

Russell P. Sick, Commander

3131 Pleasant Avenue

Hamilton, OH 45015

Byron Dovenbarger, Secretary

3755 Meadowbrook Drive

Zanesville, OH 43701

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80th Division Veterans Association 630 Pennsylvania Ave., Oakmont, PA 15139-1574

New Member

Renewal

Desiring to maintain liaison and comradeship with the men of the Blue Ridge Division... and to receive the quarterly **Blue Ridge Service Magazine**, I desire to enroll as a member. Enclosed \$10.00 dues for one year.

NAME:	UNIT:
ADDRESS:	
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Make Remittance Payable to: 80th Division Veterans Association.

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Christine Cooper, 1st Vice President Margaret Schock, 2nd Vice President Kay Barone, Secretary -- Helen Beers, Treasurer Camille Wurst, Chaplain -- Rita Kutsch, Historian Doris Murrell, Sgt. at Arms -- Jean Williams, Sgt. at Arms

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

"NICK" GROSSI Commander

IRV ROBINSON Secretary

## FLORIDA POST #47

William E. Myers (I-317) Commander Wallace G. Ponder (B-305 Eng) Secretary 4010 Leila Avenue Tampa, FL 33616 (813) 839-0648