

MiTT Soldiers Reunite Ten Years Later

By MSG(R) Carter Sensabaugh

ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19th, 80th DIV OIF veterans got together at James River State Park in Gladstone, Va. for a reunion to commemorate the ten-year anniversary of the Iraq deployment. Clear skies and abundant sunshine greeted about forty attendees from as far away as Syracuse, New York and Augusta, Georgia as they reconnected and spent the afternoon eating barbeque, telling war stories and laughing about their shared character-building experiences in Iraq.

The MiTT (Military Transition Team) reunion effort was spearheaded by MSG (RET) Carter Sensabaugh, who lives in Northern Virginia. "I think about the Iraq deployment all the time... from Atterbury to Al-Kisik. It has been one of the defining moments of my adult life. I hadn't seen most of the guys I deployed with since our demobilization in Indiana nine years ago. Putting together a mini-reunion to mark the passing of a decade seemed natural. More importantly, our shared area of operations, primarily Ninevah province, has been in the news a lot in the past year and for all the wrong reasons."

Working with little more than a four-month lead time, a ten-year old MiTT roster and social media, MSG Sensabaugh was able to corral about sixty MiTTs and gauge their interest in getting together. "The initial response was overwhelmingly positive, so we pushed forward and made it happen. Unfortunately, my reach was limited primarily to MiTTs deployed between Sinjar, Tal'Afar and Mosul. We had representatives from the 1st Brigade, 1st Division MiTT, many folks from the 3rd Division MiTT teams and MNSTC-I J4. Among the reunion attendees, were four of the 80th Divisions' thirty-one Purple Heart recipients."



Above: MiTT reunion attendees

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BOY, HAS THE WEATHER CHANGED!! We went from hot, hot, hot to much cooler days and nights. Now we are being battered with rain causing flooding up and down the east coast. If you must be out in this type of weather please be extremely careful. Standing water on road ways can be deceiving and without knowing it you will be swept away.

Fall is here and with that the leaves are falling but the grass has slowed down growing some. Be watchful as you clean out your hedges and flowers. Who knows what may be nesting in there. Hunting season is also here so if you live close to where the hunters are make sure you either Post your property or if you give permission that they know what your schedule is to be outside. Wouldn't want you to end up on the Thanksgiving table!!

We had a wonderful reunion we just had in New Cumberland, PA and if you were not there we really missed you and you missed a great time. Unfortunately as we get a little older there seems to be more family members in attendance than us Veterans. Next year we will be in Alexandria, VA. Sure hope to see you there.

Veterans Day is next month. I surely hope that you will be able to attend at least one of the local ceremonies in your area. Our Nation is very proud of all Veterans and this is a day that the community can say Thank You. Give one of your Battle Buddies a call and make sure they are

doing well. For the younger Veterans, Iraq and Afghanistan were rough on many Soldiers. Do a regular Buddy Check on each other and even check on someone that you might not know. Unfortunately, 22 Veterans commit suicide daily. We all must do our best to stop this. Reach out to one another.

You are about to see a change in the frequency of the publishing of the 80th Blue Ridge Service Magazine. We will no longer publish four times a year but will go to three. Those times will be February, June, and October. Please provide me anything you would like to include in the magazine at least one month in prior to publication.

I know it is early but since this will be the only magazine before Christmas I wanted to be the first to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. If you do not celebrate Christmas I hope you are able to celebrate in the way that your faith leads you.

Please send me your new email addresses. As you know we no longer have AKO and if you have a military email address they have also changed.

Annual Members – You can mail me your 2016 dues any time now. I will make sure that all records are updated so that your mailing label is correct.

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

Eight Inducted into 2015 Class of the Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Gov. Rick Scott and the Cabinet today inducted eight individuals into the Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame. The unanimous vote for the Class of 2015 came during the Sept. 29 Cabinet Meeting at the Capitol.

Inductees are:

1. Charles E. Bennett, U.S. Army veteran (deceased)
2. Laurence O. "Larry" Campbell, U.S. Marine Corps veteran (deceased)
3. Chief Master Sgt. Charles E. LeCroy, U.S. Air Force (retired)
4. Lawton M. Chiles, U.S. Army veteran (deceased)
5. Col. Curtis V. "Curt" Ebitz, U.S. Army (retired)

6. Col. Warren "Rocky" McPherson, U.S. Marine Corps (retired)
7. Gerald V. Myers, U.S. Army veteran (deceased)
8. Maj. Gen. Earl G. Peck, U.S. Air Force (retired)

The Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame recognizes and honors those military veterans who, through their works and lives during or after military service, have made a significant contribution to the state of Florida through civic, business, public service or other pursuits. It is not a traditional military hall of fame, as it focuses on post-military contributions to the State of Florida.

An induction ceremony to honor the eight inductees will be scheduled in the future. For more information, visit <http://www.floridaveteranshalloffame.org/index.asp>

Commanders Message

DOUG KNORR

National Commander 2015 - 2016



AS I WRITE THIS REPORT we have just recently finished the 96th Annual Reunion of the 80th Division Veterans Association in Harrisburg, PA. Our theme was, "We Remember with Thankful Hearts" as we celebrated 70 years since the end of WWII. It was a great time of reuniting with old friends as well as making some great new friends.

There are so many that I want to thank for making the reunion a true success. We had several great speakers which included Bob Harmon, who reflected on his time as a WWII veteran. We had two authors who gave us their insights on WWII, Dean Dominique (One Hell of a War) and Gid Adkisson (Infantry Lieutenant). We were also delighted to have MG A. C. Roper Commander, 80th Training Command (TASS) speak to us Friday evening on the activity and focus of today's 80th Division. Dr. Lee Anthony and Bill Black also offered presentations on aspects of WWII as well as the Liberation of Nocher. A special treat was provided from Major Gary Schreckengost (R) who provided tables of WWII articles including German military uniforms (I will always remember Burt Marsh in a German WWII helmet and overcoat with Gary holding him hostage in his American military uniform). In addition, the raffle tables netted \$595.00 which will go to benefit veterans in need.

As your 2015-2016 National Commander, I first, I want to thank Jeff Wignall for his leadership, as National Com-

mander, this past year. This coming year, it will be our focus to encourage 80th division veterans from every decade to become members of the 80th Division Veterans Association. In addition to serving and remembering those who served, and their families, during WWI and WWII we also want to serve and remember each of those who have stood in the GAP during the Cold War, Persian Gulf War and the War on Global Terrorism. We look forward to having more veterans and their families join with us to celebrate and remember what it means to be a part of the family of the 80th Division for many years to come.

Finally, if you have not yet purchased a memorial brick to remember your families veteran, I would ask you to consider making this lasting memorial and at the same time helping to fund the 80th Division Veterans Association.

I look forward to seeing you all next year in Alexandria, VA as we come together for the 97th Annual Reunion of the 80th Division Veterans Association.

May God Bless You and May God Bless America!

Join us in Alexandria, Virginia in 2016



I AM PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE that our 2016 Reunion of the 80th Division Veterans Association will take place August 17 – 21 in Alexandria, Virginia. Mark your calendars and plan to attend our 97th Reunion. Our host hotel will be the Holiday Inn and Suites, Historic Alexandria. Alexandria is only a few short miles from our nation's capitol, Washington D.C.

We are planning a fantastic reunion and will be visiting historic landmarks such as Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington; and, the WWII memorial in Washington, D.C., plus some additional surprises. Look for more details in the next Blue Ridge magazine including registration information.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 404-493-6601 or by email, williamrblack@gmail.com.

See you in August!

Bill Black, Senior Vice Commander

Army General on Doughnut Duty at Virginia State Fair



MG Benenati (4th from right) with Pelican Joe's staff

THE STATE FAIR OF VIRGINIA is understandably fun for those who attend, but it can also be a blast for those who work it.

Take the folks at Pelican Joe's Donuts.

"A hoot," said Paul Benenati, one of the four owners.

Maj. Gen. Paul Benenati is 1st Army deputy commander at Rock Island Arsenal in Illinois, and very possibly the only Army general to be cooking doughnuts this week.

"I think that's right," he said Sunday. "It's a crazy thing."

Tucked in a corner of The Meadow Pavilion, Pelican Joe's was a popular spot, with bustling activity on either side of the counter. A line of customers formed for the minidoughnuts and cups of pumpkin spice coffee; on the working side, a team busily filled the orders.

Every year, more than 30 people — family and friends — come together to work the Pelican Joe's booth. Benenati's mother, Vivian, comes in every year to work a few shifts. She turns 80 on Wednesday. A photo of his late

By Bill Lohmann, Richmond Times-Dispatch

father, who loved working the doughnut machine until his death in 2009, hangs behind the counter. They still do it the way he did it.

"The guys call it 'The Mr. B Donut Wrangling Method,'" Benenati said with a laugh.

Pelican Joe's is an interesting business model. There is no store. It operates for only 10 days every year: during the State Fair of Virginia.

Before he started moving around with the Army, Benenati lived in the Richmond area. Whenever he attended the State Fair, the one food he looked forward to every year were the minidoughnuts. Eleven years ago, he thanked the doughnut vendor and said, "See you next year."

The vendor said no, he was done, and there would be no next year. So Benenati and his partner in a technology company, Teri Phillips, bought the doughnut business. Phillips' husband, Bubba, and son, Michael, are also partners.

They kept alive one of their favorite fair traditions — the doughnuts are still made of soy and wheat flour and cooked in soybean oil — and over the last decade they've discovered it was a favorite of other fairgoers, too.

"The best thing about this is the people we meet," Teri Phillips said. "They come up and give us their stories. It's just so cool to be able to follow in their family traditions. We've watched their kids grow up."

So when will the Pelican Joe's store open?

"No, no, no!" Phillips said with a laugh. "That would be too much like work."



Soldiers Reunite... continued from page 1

Left: Bryan Ralls speaking at MITT reunion.



Three veterans made formal comments to the group, MSG (RET) Sensabaugh, LTC Jay Stafford and CSM(RET) Doris Wollett. Bonds were reaffirmed and a good time was had by all. A GO FUND ME account was set up to collect donations for the reunion. After paying the bills, the remaining \$200 was donated to the Wounded Warrior Project in the name of the 80th DIV MiTTs. Outstanding!

Special recognition goes out to all those that donated to the cause and to SFC Matt Torrance for being the point man on the ground. Plans are already beginning to take shape for a second 80th Division MiTT reunion in September of 2016.

WE ENJOYED A GREAT REUNION in August. We particularly appreciated Major Gary "Schreck" Schreckengost's display of related materials at the meeting. Schreck's knowledge of small unit tactics during WWI was most helpful, and should be further discussed in the books which I am sure he will be providing soon.

A tradition which began in 1920 is that of producing reunion badges of some sort for each reunion. Unfortunately, in recent years there have been some reunions for which no badges were produced. There is a collection of reunion badges which came from PNC Bob Murrell; I have also started putting together another such collection. I will plan to eventually have a complete collection of these badges through 2015.

This year, the reunion badges were produced as an "add on" to be purchased separately by the registrants. There are many more of this year's reunion badges still available for purchase. The badges consist of one medallion and a drape (WWI, WWII, Cold War Commemorative, and Iraqi Freedom Commemorative). These have the same size and general appearance of standard military medals. They will be available from my office at the price of \$70.00 each, which will include shipping and handling. I can be contacted at (540) 563-0165 or isa80division@gmail.com.

Our relations to the village and people of Nantillois continue to flourish. I shall look forward to visiting there again next year, if possible.

I would like to point out that the memorial pavers of either Hokie stone or Georgia granite are available; contact Vice Commander Bill Black or PNC MG John McLaren.

We have been in contact with Mr. Stephen C. Spears, NSS who is an internationally known sculptor of Doughboy statues. I would like to see three 80th Division Doughboy statues located (1) at the headquarters in Richmond, VA (2) at the Argonne Circle in Roanoke, VA, (3) Nantillois, France.

Three full size Doughboy statues could be purchased for \$187,200, while three, 24-inch Doughboy statues could be purchased for \$30,000.

And finally, the most historic operation in the future is the proposed acquisition of the former Walter Reed Hospital chapel, now located in the Washington, D.C. area. This chapel was built during the depression years by the Red Cross "Gray Ladies" nurses, who provided the \$160,000 for the construction of this memorial chapel which was dedicated and consecrated in 1931. Since the old Walter Reed campus has been deactivated, the pews and other items of worship have been removed from the

chapel. The Army is turning over ownership of the site to the Department of State; this should be completed by 30 September 2015.

There is a group based in Roanoke, VA which is led by a former Army chaplain, Rev. Jeff Clemens, who served in Afghanistan, Germany, and Korea. Chaplain/Pastor Clemens was the spearhead and driving force for the research and the establishment of memorial plaques in Bedford County commemorating the B25 crash which occurred during WWII, with the loss of all crew aboard.

God willing, we would like to have this chapel moved to the D-Day Memorial site in Bedford, VA. There, the chapel could be re-consecrated and once again, serve as a sanctuary and spiritual haven. This will be a costly project. First, we will need a petition with many thousands of signatures, requesting that the Department of State and National Historical Preservation Organization release the chapel for this purpose. It will probably cost about \$2 million to disassemble and transport this great limestone rock chapel to Bedford, VA. There, it will probably cost about \$8 million to re-build the chapel. This is obviously a tremendous undertaking; it will require both money from foundations and from individuals. However, the immediate task is simply to get as many signatures as possible on the petition which is requesting the release of the chapel for the above purpose.

The website which will contain the petition is being modified to post the petition as I write this report. The web linkage will be through the Eighth Airforce Fellowship Association which is located in Roanoke, VA. If you agree that this is a worthy project, please go to www.roanoke8thairforce.com and add your name.



2015 REUNION HIGHLIGHTS



PNCs: Seated: PNCs Bob Murrell, Jim Phillips, and Bob Burrows.

Standing: MG Roper, PNC Lee Anthony, Cdr Doug Knorr, PNCs John McLaren, Walt Spangler, and Jeff Wignall



80th WWII and Iraq Veterans

2015 REUNION HIGHLIGHTS



Gid Atkinson



Bob Harmon



MG Roper



Ed Glofka



*CSM(R) Wollett and
PNC Brockman*



PNC Brock and PNC Burrows

2015 REUNION HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday Dinner snapshots...



2015 REUNION HIGHLIGHTS

Memorial Service snapshots...



Burt Marsh wearing German attire while MAJ Schreckengost holds him captive



Outgoing Commanders Plaque presented to PNC Wignall by PNC McLaren



A SOLEMN MOMENT OF remembrance to our nation's Sons and daughters who served in its defense!

Most of you have been to a military funeral in which taps was played; this brings out a new meaning of it.

Here is something Every American should know. We in the United States have all heard the haunting song, 'Taps...'. It's the song that gives us the lump in our throats and usually tears in our eyes.

But, do you know the story behind the song? If not, you will be interested to find out about its humble beginnings. Reportedly, it all began in 1862 during the Civil War, when Union Army

Captain Robert Elli was with his men near Harrison's Landing in Virginia. The Confederate Army was on the other side of the narrow strip of land.

During the night, Captain Elli heard the moans of a soldier who lay severely wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the Captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention. Crawling on his stomach through the gunfire, the Captain reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him toward his encampment.

When the Captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead. The Captain lit a lantern and suddenly caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son. The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, the boy enlisted in the Confederate Army. The following morning, heartbroken, the father asked permission of his superiors to give his son a full military burial, despite his enemy status. His request was only partially granted. The Captain had asked if he could have a group of Army band members play a funeral dirge for his son at the funeral. The request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate. But, out of respect for the father, they did say they could give him only one musician.

The Captain chose a bugler. He asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth's uniform. This wish was granted. The haunting melody, we now know as 'Taps' used at military funerals was born.

I too have felt the chills while listening to 'Taps' but I have never seen all the words to the song until now. I didn't even know there was more than one verse. I also never knew the story behind the song and I didn't know if you had either so I thought I'd pass it along. I now have an even deeper respect for the song than I did before. Remember Those Lost and Harmed While Serving Their Country.

Also, Remember Those Who Have Served and Returned; and for those presently serving in the Armed Forces.

The words are:

*Day is done.
Gone the sun.
From the lakes
From the hills.
From the sky.
All is well.
Safely rest.
God is nigh.*

*Fading light.
Dims the sight.
And a star.
Gems the sky.
Gleaming bright.
From afar.
Drawing nigh.
Falls the night.*

*Thanks and praise.
For our days.
Neath the sun.
Neath the stars.
Neath the sky.
As we go.
This we know.
God is nigh.*



<http://tapsbugler.com/december-7th-bugler/>

TAPS

Anderson, George W. F-318
Somerby Apt 285
200 Rickaway Rd
Peachtree City, GA 30269
DOD: June 16, 2015
Rptd by: Mike Williams

Barden, David HQ 319
4007 Sharon Ct
Richmond, VA 23225
DOD: May 30, 2015
Rptd by: Internet

Beagle, Denis H-317
P O Box 355
Clendenin, WV 25045
DOD: 2005
Rptd by: Internet

Boucher, Adrien USAR
New York City, NY
DOD: Apr 29, 2015
Rptd by: Internet

Boverio, Albert HQ 905 FA
489 Barron Park Court
San Josa, CA 95136

Brunson, Ralph B-317
2907 21st St
Lubbock, TX 79410
DOD: Jul 8, 2015
Rptd by: Internet

Burgio, Paul A-313th FA
176 Scott Rd
Prospect, CT 06712
DOD: Jun 29, 2015
Rptd by: PNC James Phillips

Carroll Forrest L-317
101 Brown Ave
Chillicothe, OH 45601
DOD: Jul 28, 2005
Rptd by: Internet

Chartraw, Eugene K-317
P O Box 52
Ansley, NE 68814
DOD: Jun 18, 2015
Rptd by: Internet

Falk, Donald
Holdridge, NE
DOD: Jun 17, 2015
Rptd by: Internet

Franz, Raymond AT-319
8621 N 300 E
Decatur, IN 46733
DOD: May 27, 2015
Rptd by: Internet

Frederick, William HQ 317
101 N Ash St Apt 605
Coal Township, PA 17866
DOD: Jul 31, 2015
Rptd by: Son, Thomas

Ginter, Earl L-317
213 Sunset Ave
Hanover, PA 17331
DOD: Jun 6, 2015
Rptd by: Chaplain Knorr

Goldstein, Morris
Scranton, PA
DOD: Aug 24, 2014
Rptd by: Internet

Gordon, George USAR
Petersburg, VA
DOD: Aug 6, 2014
Rptd by: Internet

Graham, MAJ Paula 94th Div
Chesterfield, VA
DOD: Sep 19, 2015
Rptd by: Charlene Williams

Hastick, Alex B-318
Lanoke Harbor, NJ
DOD: Dec 30, 2013
Rptd by: Internet

McBreairty, Rex Medic
Ailigash, ME
DOD: Jan 15, 2013
Rptd by: Internet

Mosley, William 2-318
191 Pennsville Pedricktown Rd
Pedricktown, NJ 08067
DOD: Jul 28, 2015
Rptd by: Bill Black

Mullins Jr, William 318
Kansas City, KS
DOD: Dec 2013
Rptd by: Internet

Nicholson, Aristomenes
Chicago, IL
DOD: Jul 2014
Rptd by: Internet

Partin, MAJ(R) Bolling Jr HQ 80th Div
Hopewell, VA
DOD: Aug 27, 2015
Rptd by: COL(R) David Gallagher

Phoenix, CSM Mike HQ 80th Div
2595 Splitrail Road
Shawsville, VA 24162
DOD: Jul 7, 2015
Rptd by: Wife, Jenny

Poinsett, Albert Wright L-319
1106 Applewood Dr
Freehold, NJ 07728-3979
DOD: Jun 19, 2015
Rptd by: Daughter, Susan Levine

Prost, Joseph
Chicago, IL
DOD: Jul 5, 2015
Rptd by: Internet

Rakotis, Josephine PP Ladies Auxillary
DOD: Jun 8, 2015
Rptd by: PNC Jeff Wignall

Ridgill Jr, Harold USAR
Suffolk, VA
DOD: Dec 4, 2014
Rptd by: Internet

Scheible, Warren
Hamilton, IL
DOD: Nov 24, 2014
Rptd by: Internet

West, HNC George C-318
315 Summer Dr
Coraopolis, PA 15108
DOD: Aug 15, 2015
Rptd by: Bill Black

Wratschko, Robert K-318
21429 Martin St
Carson, CA 90745
DOD: Feb 28, 2008
Rptd by: Internet



ONE HELL of A WAR

is now available for purchase.

The authors MAJ Dean Dominique, USA (Ret) and COL James Hayes, USA (Ret), have given a special 30% discount for members of the 80th Division Veterans Association if you buy the book directly from the printer.

Simply go to www.createspace.com/4789517 and apply Discount Code XPC47KYZ to receive 30% off of the cover price.

The book can also be purchased online from Amazon at

www.tinyurl.com/317WWII

More information about the book can be found at

www.WoundedWarriorPublications.com.

Only Moving Forward: The 80th in Germany, Part 2

Walter Barthold, 80th Signal Company

MANY, PERHAPS MOST SURVIVING 80th veterans will recall, as I do, the summer of 1945 as pretty much a vacation. For us, the war was over. The possibility, indeed the likelihood of being sent to the Pacific to help finish the defeat of Japan seemed, rightly or wrongly, remote. We concentrated on enjoying the summer and longing for the day that would see us back in the States in civilian attire.

V-E Day, May 8, found the 80th in Völklabruck, a city in what is now Austria. Our weeks there consisted, to my knowledge, largely of inactivity and recreation. As had been the case ever since we crossed the border into Germany, we were quartered in civilian homes, which, so far as I know, the Army had simply commandeered as enemy property. As a radio operator in the 80th Signal Company, I stayed, along with the rest of the radio section, in a spacious house in what I am sure was one of the city's finest residential sections. It was a good life in comparison with the relatively rugged conditions we had grown used to while the war lasted.

It was here that the Signal Company organized a softball league, in fact two leagues, designated "A" and "B." I played on the radio section's "B" team. I give the Army credit for its diligence in supplying troops with sports equipment, and not only for softball.

Early in June, in fact on or about the 8th, my 21st birthday, the 80th Division moved to Kaufbeuren, Bavaria, where we spent most of the summer. Again we were billeted in civilian homes. This time our quarters were somewhat less splendid than those we had enjoyed in Völklabruck, but still quite comfortable and more than adequate. It did not bother us that from time to time the regular occupants of the premises visited us to reclaim items of personal property or for other purposes. We were altogether conscious of our status as a victorious army and, without being cruel or oppressive, took full advantage of that status. We knew that we were treating the Germans far better than they had treated the peoples whose lands their army had occupied.

I must admit, however, that U. S. troops did not always respect the personal property that came our way in the occupation of German homes. To call a spade a spade, looting was prevalent and went unpunished. We learned that to send back to the States what were sometimes euphemistically called souvenirs, it was only necessary to label a package with the magic words "captured enemy equipment" to get it past the censors at A.P.O. 80, no questions asked. This practice does not stand out as a proud chapter in the history of the 80th Infantry Division.

With the unconditional surrender of Germany's armed forces, the attitude of the civilian population changed. Ger-

mans, at least the bulk of them, recognized that they had no choice but to make the best of their situation. They gave at least the appearance of friendliness and cooperation.

Before long, however, it became apparent to any of us who achieved a relationship of confidence with a German or Germans, that their apparent conversion from Naziism had not always been wholehearted. A feeling seemed to prevail among them that their army had not really been defeated but overwhelmed. Germans, some insisted, made better soldiers than Americans.

Many Germans, moreover, once they realized they had no reason to fear reprisals on our part, spoke with admiration of the benefits Hitler had bestowed on the population by programs such as "Strength Through Joy" and the two Nazi youth organizations. All, of course, claimed ignorance of the horrors their country had inflicted on Jews and on the "inferior" occupants of the lands they had subjugated.

Today, Germany is recognized and respected as a responsible member of the European community with a dedication to a democratic form of government that has by now become a tradition. Such was not the case in 1945.

A complication arose in relations between soldiers and civilians. Not long after V-E Day, General Eisenhower issued a regulation prohibiting "fraternization" with German civilians. It excepted purely business transactions but was obviously intended to remind all concerned that we had overcome a system of monstrous evil in which the great majority of the German people had been compliant if not necessarily participants.

The prohibition against fraternization soon proved unworkable and unenforceable. It collapsed of its own weight. The population of Germany in 1945 included millions of young and not-so-young women whose husbands, sweethearts or potential suitors were either dead or confined in far-off PW enclosures. Set down in their midst were hundreds of thousands of healthy young men, all lonely and far from home. Trying to keep these two groups apart was like defying the law of gravity. Some time during the summer, I do not remember just when, realism prevailed, and the anti-fraternization policy was rescinded. We were admonished, however, to exercise "discretion" in our relations with the civilian population. That admonition, if noticed at all, provoked only laughter.

Like every German city or town in those days, Kaufbeuren had a multitude of disabled veterans. Unable to find employment, they tended to share one another's company by gathering in small groups on street corners or other public

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Did you notice the change?

STARTING WITH THIS ISSUE you will notice a change in the magazine. First, we are going to three times per year instead of four. Also, the 80th Blue Ridge Service magazine will look more like a regular magazine. It will come to you flat and in color. This will allow us to have better quality of photos and also include more articles since it will accommodate more pages. In saying all this, the magazine will be published October, February, and June. Please get any information you would like included in an issue to the Editor, CSM(R) Doris Wollett, one month ahead of the publishing date. Email is preferable to csmwollett@verizon.net. If you do not have access to a computer, you can send information via regular mail, but please include your contact information.

Returned Magazine - No Forwarding Address DO YOU KNOW WHERE I AM?

Lam, SFC Jessica	Life	
Noxon, E	Life	
Simpson, Elaine	Life	
Rockenbrod, Frank	LUX	
Beers, Mrs Melvin	2014	
Bell, John	Life	2nd Time
Ison, 2LT Angie	Life	
Johnson, Mr Gustave	2014	
Kowalski, Walter	Life	2nd Time
Sproull, Dr Robert	Life	
Wegman, William	Life	

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places. To this day, I wonder what it did to those men, legless or armless as they were, to see young German women or girls passing them by on the arms of their erstwhile enemies, able-bodied American soldiers.

So much for the occupied Germany of 1945. As I have tried to indicate, it differed from present-day Germany as day differs from night or land from sea. Yet I have no difficulty recalling it in detail, and to me it then becomes reality.

The last date I have entered a name is Sept. 1, 2015

ANNUAL MEMBERS

Cuevas, Jose Family of PNC Edward Patrick HQ 80th Div Coleman, 1SG Robert, 1-318th

DONATIONS

80th PNCs – In Memory of Lou Shirey
 Joanna Coscia – General Fund
 Donn Demuro – General Fund
 William Devine – In Memory of Father, Will (Buff) Devine
 318 Field Hospital
 E. Terrence Gardner, Jr – In Memory of Grand Uncle
 Thomas J. Mullarkey 315 FA
 PNC James Phillips – In Memory of Paul Burgio A-313 FA
 Dr Robert Sproull – General Fund
 Curtis Sprouse – In Memory of SGT Mulford Jones E-318
 Randy White – General Fund
 Karl Weishaupt - In Honor of B-313 FA

MURRELL MATCH

Anonymous
 Judy Bezjak – In Memory of PVT Tony Ruzich L-317 KIA
 12/25/44 Kehmen, LUX
 Cara Lee Davis – In Memory of Donald Davis K-319
 MG(R) John McLaren
 Victor Muller – In Memory of PFC Joseph Muller A-317
 KIA 2/26/45 Germany
 Roger Nelson
 David Polett
 PNC Walt Spangler

Check Your Address Label

Doris M. Wollett
 5101 Hurop Road
 Sandston, VA 23150-5406

PAID 2015

Membership
 Expiration Date

You have paid
 through Dec of the
 year indicated.

Check your name and address

(Apt., Bldg., Lot No.). Notify the Secretary if you find an error.



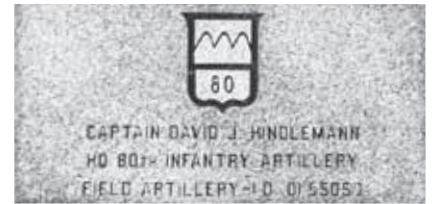
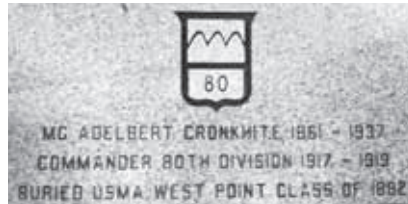
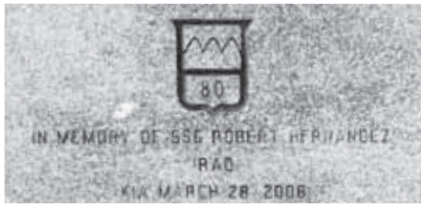
MURRELL MATCHING CHALLENGE

PNC Bob Murrell has offered to match contributions to the total of **\$1,000** received by 24 December as a Christmas gift to the Association.

Please don't miss this opportunity to **double** the value of any contribution you may be considering by sending it in as soon as possible prior to that date, with the words **Murrell Match** clearly printed in the memo line of your check!

80TH DIVISION MEMORIAL BRICKS

HONOR OUR VETERANS AND HELP THE ASSOCIATION RAISE NEEDED FUNDS!



80th Division Veterans Association Memorial Brick Paver Program

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

There are two types of bricks to choose from:

1. Standard Granite \$195 Quantity: _____
2. Virginia "Hokie" Stone \$295 Quantity: _____ (Hokie Stone has metal colored 80th Patch)

Prices include brick cutting, surface smoothing, three lines of inscription, shipping and installation.

You may inscribe whatever you wish as it can fit on the three lines. If you're interested, please fill in the following information:

NAME (FIRST / LAST) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ COUNTRY _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

Three lines of inscription: _____

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

Please Make Check Payable to: 80th Division Veterans Association. You can mail check and completed information to:

Bill Black / 80th Division Veterans Association • 1031 Overlook Park Lane • Lawrenceville, GA 30043

Phone: 404-493-6601 • E-mail: williamrblack@gmail.com



Only Moves Forward

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

80th Division Veterans Association
Doris M. Wollett
5101 Hurop Road
Sandston, VA 23150-5406

*Desiring to maintain liaison and comradeship with
Veterans and soldiers of the 80th Division, and receive
the Blue Ridge Service Magazine.*

DATE: _____

SERVICE PERIOD: WWII POST WWII CURRENT ACTIVE

PLEASE SPECIFY BATTLE / CAMPAIGN: _____

NAME: _____ UNIT: _____
IF FAMILY MEMBER, PLEASE ALSO PROVIDE THE NAME AND UNIT OF VETERAN

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP + 4: _____

PHONE(s): _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

Please make checks payable to the 80th Division Veterans Association. PLEASE CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX:

CURRENT MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING (Dues paid to date)

80TH DIVISION WWII VETERAN

- NEW/ANNUAL DUES: \$20/YEAR
- LIFE MEMBERSHIP: \$50

80TH DIVISION FAMILY / FRIEND / ASSOCIATE

- NEW/ANNUAL DUES: \$20/YEAR
- LIFE MEMBERSHIP: \$150

POST #50 80TH BLUE RIDGE ASSOCIATION

**DO NOT USE THIS FORM
CONTACT POST SECRETARY**

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SECRETARY/EDITOR: CSM (R) Doris M. Wollett • 5101 Hurop Rd • Sandston, VA 23150-5406 • 804-737-4422 • csmwollett@verizon.net. All communications, including articles, photos, news items for publication, change of address, dues remittances, and death notices should be addressed to the Secretary/Editor.

COMMANDER
Douglas Knorr
1609 Dracka Rd
Traverse City, MI 49685
231 218 1747
dougk@knormarketing.com

NATIONAL SECRETARY
CSM(R) Doris Wollett
5101 Hurop Rd
Sandston, VA 23150
804 737 4422
csmwollett@verizon.net

FLAG/COLOR SERGEANT
Roger Nelson
2385 Covington Dr Apt 201
Akron, OH 44313
330 668 3054
rhnmdn@cs.com

PNC Robert Burrows
P O Box 453
Broomfield, CO 80038
303 439 2198
DoubleGGrandma@q.com

PNC Francis Rajniecek
4895 Karen Isle Dr
Richmond Heights, OH 44143
216 731 9341
pnpkay@att.net

SR VICE COMMANDER
Bill Black
1031 Overlook Park Lane
Lawrenceville, GA 30043
413 686 0168
williamrblack@gmail.com

NATIONAL CHAPLAIN
Douglas Knorr
1609 Dracka Rd
Traverse City, MI 49685
231 218 1747
dougk@knormarketing.com

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
Burt Marsh
1897 Fontenay Ct
Columbus, OH 43235
614 725 2573
jbarton6793@wowway.com

PNC John McLaren
1233 Hartford Dr
VA Beach, VA 23464
757 495 3611
johnpmclaren@yahoo.com

PNC Eric Reilinger
4461 Stack Blv D-340
Melbourne, FL 32901
321 676 1723
normnanreif@verizon.net

2ND VICE COMMANDER
Paul Stutts
3026 Champagne Dr
Aiken, SC 29803
803 507 5599
paulstutts@bellcouth.net

NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICER
COL Kelly Niernberger
2812 Cameron Mills Rd
Alexandria, VA 22302
703 549 1253
escholar2@verizon.net

PNCs
PNC James Allen
P O Box 322
Minneola, FL 34755

PNC Robert Murrell
166 Cambridge Ln
Lewiston, PA 17044
717 242 3942
divinf801@verizon.net

PNC Max Schmidt
1716 Noble Pl
Greensboro, NC 27408
336 288 0983
schm1716@aol.com

3RD VICE COMMANDER
Gary Schreckengost
665 W Newport Rd
Lititz, PA 17543
717-665-4566
shreck@pdt.net

HISTORIAN
PNC Lee S Anthony
3769 Carvins Cove Rd
Salem, VA 24153
540 563 0165
isapa@aol.com

PNC Lee Anthony
3769 Carvins Cove Rd
Salem, VA 24153
540 563 0165
isapa@aol.com

PNC James Phillips
3211 James Buchanan Dr
Elizabethtown, PA 17022
717 367 5025

PNC Walton Spangler
8275 Hagerty Road
Asheville, OH 43103
740-474-5734

PNC Grant Porter
6730 Manor Gate Drive
Midlothian, VA 23112
804 615 0379
gpmailtime@yahoo.com

PNC Calvin Webb
520 Benschhoff Hill Rd
Johnstown, PA 15906
814-536-3438

JUDGE ADVOCATE
(open)

PNC Clarence Brockman
334 Fannie St
McDonald, PA 15057
724 926 2044
brocksdaughter@hotmail.com

PNC Jeff Wignall
27 Martinack Ave
Peabody, MA 01960
978-532-0741
member9219@aol.com



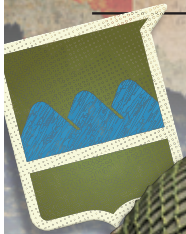
Blue Ridge 80th Division The Service Magazine

80TH DIV VETERANS ASSN

Doris M. Wollett
5101 Hurop Road
Sandston, VA 23150-5406

THE _____
80TH DIVISION
VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Needs Your **HELP!**



We find that we are in a financial crisis and need financial support to remain viable for the future. Please consider a gift for Veterans Day in the name of a loved one or a friend.

YOUR DONATION WILL BE APPRECIATED!

\$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ Other _____

Make Check Payable to: 80th Division Veterans Association
5101 Hurop Rd. Sandston, VA 23150

**IN THE
NAME OF:** _____

Name of your loved one or friend

**FROM
UNIT:** _____

Unit of your loved one or friend

