

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

The Service Magazine
Volume 79, Number 320

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Issue 5



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 June 1, 1999

Eightieth Division

Veterans Association BLUE RIDGE

The Service Magazine

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

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Flag Sergeant Andrew B. Ferens (M-317)
Color Sergeant Albert J. Cresson (C-315 FA)
Sergeant-at-Arms Don Davis (K-319)
Public Affairs Officer George V. West (C-318)

TRUSTEES

1 Year; Edward J. Sacco (Hq.-905 FA)
2 Year; Robert N. Nathason (L-317)
3 Year; Robert W. Smith (K-317)

2 Years

Gerald V. Myers (G-317)
Albert S. Haley (H-317)
Laverne J. Schock (F-317)

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1 Year

Melvin C. Beers (C-319)
John J. Crimi (C-318)
Robert I. Simpson (I-317)

3 Years

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

Commander's Corner

I think that the general advice to all seniors is to plan ahead as much as possible for better health and welfare. Our association has a great history that we are proud of and it should be remembered even if it seems to reverse that advice. But, planning ahead for our next reunion does both at once: remembering your service comrades and pre-registering to attend the reunion with some of those comrades. Respond quickly when you receive



the reunion announcement from the chairman, Max Schmidt.

The last issue of the Blue Ridge had an invitation to Veterans of the 80th Infantry Division to attend an anniversary at Weimar, Germany. I have registered to be in attendance and have been informed that a group of maybe twenty will make the trip. We shall report about the trip in the next issue.

I saw an advertisement of a local funeral director that proposed the advice to plan your own last rites so that as you approach that time it would be comforting that you had done so. Our Association members often ask each other, unless a miracle occurs we shall be listed in the Taps and how will our Association be terminated? I have been informed that about twenty years ago a committee prepared a procedure to follow which was approved and entered into the record. Not all of us were members of

the Association at that time; therefore, I will place on the agenda of our next general business meeting at our next 80th Association Reunion in Greensboro a review of the record.

Judge Advocate Dick Wilmer will monitor the subject under discussion and answer questions. I foresee no termination in less than ten years, but let us agree upon what must be agreed to prior to the last breath.

With the arrival of March we're moving on

to Spring weather. I'll attend the Florida Post 47 meeting at Melbourne Beach (March 11/12/13), not only to enjoy the comradeship and pleasant temperatures, but while there to hear the crack of the bat at a few spring training baseball camps. Post 47 always extends the invitation to any 80th Assn. Member to "come on down," but perhaps as you read this the affair has passed. Also, I did travel to their November meeting at Ocala for a very pleasant four days.

The Holidays arrived and passed by and we're all on our way to 2000. I remember that 20 years ago that horizon was a goal we talked about and wondered would we be around to see it. Well, it's a lot closer now and some will and some won't, just as predicted then. Someone asked Frank Sinatra once on his birthday, "What did you wish for on your birthday?" And he responded— Another birthday!

McBride Scholarship Fund

A \$500.00 award is given to a student of Madison, WI High-school each year, in the name of our Commander, General McBride who attended this high-school. It is very low and only four or five years remain. At the Reunion in Harrisburg, those in attendance were given a chance to keep this award alive. The Sect was asked to insert an article in the Newsletter for those of you who didn't know of the fund that perhaps you may wish to make a donation to keep this award alive. Perhaps my notes from the reunion omitted you if so please write so your name may be published in the next newsletter. The recipient must write a letter as to how and where this award will be used. If a letter is not received, the award must be returned.

HELP!!

Looking for anyone from I-317 that remembers Joe E. Stillberger, KIA 26 December 1944, Kehmen Luxemburg, his daughter is wanting to know more of her father, she was only four years old when he was KIA. Send me any and all the info so I may pass it on. I want to thank you fellows of the 80th. I must give credit where it is due and many of you have helped whenever called on in attempting to help our children. **Another man** asks for help... Dale Butz Forward Observer for the 775th FA Bn supporting the 317 and 318 Infantry Regiments,

Cincinnati Post #34 in memory of all the Past Post Commanders since its inception

Carrie D. McAllester in memory of her husband Sam McAllester

Robert J. Trammell, Jr. D-318 In memory of Sam McAllester

Murray I. Kaufman F-317 in memory of Col. Cameron 317th Regt Commander

Louis P. Blatz L-319 in memory of Lucille Siebert, wife of William

Daniel Martelli C-319

Dear Mr Murrell, Sect/Editor

I want to thank the 80th Division Veterans Association for the \$500.00 McBride scholarship money from Madison High School for my second semester at the Colorado Schools of Mines in Golden Colorado. This is a real plus when it comes to paying tuition.

Thanks for this help with my education. Signed Ryan D. Waterbury. 4501 South 13th Street, Norfolk, NE 68701-1351.

wishes to know if any of you remember the crossing of the Moselle River, between Metz and Nancy and the men who had crossed, being pinned down by fire from across the river. Boats had been brought up at night and the Infantry, rowed across and gained a foot hold on the island. He was to go in the next boat load the next morning, when the crossing was called off. The few men who had crossed were taken prisoners and the last he saw of them they were being marched up the hill. Dale would like for someone to verify his memory of this happening. His address: 401 W. Lincoln A-301, New Braunfels, TX 78130.

Secretary's REPORT

NEW-"E" MAIL ADDRESS divinf80@aol.com

Your Secretary has purchased a new computer, along with new programs, along with a Scanner and a Zip Back Up Drive, he is also now on line with the above address. Now all he has to do is learn how to use the new programs, to help you better.

I wish to thank all of you who sent me Holiday cards. I hope you understand it is impossible to send each and every one of you a personal greeting, I only wish I could, but, with close to 2000 of you out there, it would be too costly for me, being on a fixed income... Now the Association has ok'd the Net, we are now on line and be sure to use the E-mail if you have news of any kind including "TAPS or something for the newsletter. . .

Would you believe that since 1 January 1998, I have had 100 pieces of mail returned to me marked FOE (Forwarding Order Expired), plus many, many more with an address correction. A very small percentage have wrote telling me they didn't receive their Newsletter. I wonder why? **In the future, and listen or read close**, in that you don't bother to send me your new address when you move, I am going to do the same thing you do. I'll ignore any piece of mail that has been returned to me even though it has your new address on it and not mail your newsletter until you send me \$1.00 for the lost postage, (now 82 cents for a return) and Newsletter.

I've had it with those of you who don't care to correct your address.

This also includes snowbirds... Your Secretary has been informed of the death of Edouard Kuncker, Mayor of Ettelbruck, Luxemburg on the 19th of January, 1999. If you care to write a card or letter send it to Edouard Peiffer, Secretary to the town of Ettelbruck, % Hotel DeVille, P.O. Box 116, L9002 Ettelbruck, Luxembourg . . .

The form the new reunion Chairman must fill in and send to the National Secretary, the names of which his committee is composed. One of which must be a Past National Commander, who has been a reunion chairman, and a third person of his choice who is on the active roster, and that they are to be with him at the time of signing the hotel contract as voted on in the last Executive Council Meeting in Harrisburg has been complied with by the secretary and the forms are now in the hands of all three reunion chairman. However, as of the deadline, the Secretary has not received these signed forms back. This was brought about due to two near misses of chairman who were very ill at the time of their planning the reunion. One dying shortly after he became Commander and the other going into a hospital immediately after the reunion where is yet today.

NOTE:
3' X 5' OUTDOOR 80TH FLAG
is no longer available.

Life Plus Club 1998-9

Life Members who contribute over and above the Life Membership. As of March 1, 1999, I may have omitted a name. I assure you it was not intentional. Please write me if I omitted your name, it will be corrected in the next issue of the Blue Ridge. I wish to thank each and everyone of you who contribute, by donating you are helping to promote the 80th Division and help one who may be less fortunate than you or I.

Gentlemen: While some of you have been faithful in sending in extra for the Life Plus Club, due to the shrinking membership (just follow the "Taps" column) and close to 60% having taken Life Dues, I am asking those of you who haven't been a part of the Club in the pass to consider making a donation over and above your Life membership. Thank You!

Annon I-318

Annon I-318

Mrs Ruth Classen in memory of her Husband Arnold C-317
Panfilo Difonzo A-314 FA Bn
John Dolan C-319

Mrs A.H. Erickson in memory of her husband F-317

Jarr, Arthur W. B-905 FA Bn
Kstenbader, Allen A-305 Eng Bn
Phillips, James W. A-313 FA Bn
Rudolph J. Litwinski 318 Med Bn
Dr. Rasselle L. McCaleb Cn 319
Charles G. Parker G-319

Robert E. Parks L-317

In Memory Of Sam McAllester

Robert Pfedderer Cn-319

William R. Richie M-318

William F. Racine L-317

Frank Strickland D-317

Zane Turner H-317

Mail Bag

Bill Shifflette C-319 wishes to know if others of you in C-319 remember Glenn Saddler. Is he deceased or alive? He was last known to live in WV. Computer search does not have any listing for him in WV. If alive would you have his address? Send info to 292 Moon Clinton Rd, Coraopolis, PA. 15108-2415... PNC Hank Wurst writes—he is still in the hospital and wishes he could be with us in any of our meetings. His wife has had a heart attack so now we have two of the Wurst family on the sick list. Let's send them a card of Cheer. 28 W 791 Batavia road #199, Warrenville, IL 60555-2245... John Wettig 2nd Bn Hqs-319, 436 Swan Circle, Elsmere, KY 41018-1940 has a picture made at Camp Forrest Tenn and he only remembers one other, than himself and that is Elmer F. Mueller, who is not a member of the Association. He would like to identify the other five men. Look at the picture in the centerfold. Write John if you know any of them... Earl B. Frey. 1880 Valley road, Marysville, PA 17053-9512 wants to hear from you old timers of E-317... Harold O. Bomhoff, 501-7th Ave S.E., Oelwein, IA 50662-2845, Chaplain of the 317th Regiment writes he is now 95 years old. (Ed note: no mention of when his birthday falls, but it would be very nice of all you 317ers to drop him a line that he is not forgotten.)... also, Chaplain John W. Osberg, 5620 Wesleyan Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23455-6912 is in his nineties, you fellows of the 318th do likewise,

French Legion of Honor taps 103-year-old Blue Ridger, Leroy Hutzler Jr.

An award ceremony in Washington DC honored Americans who served on French soil during WWI. Hutzler was unable to attend due to a hospital stay, so Alain de Keghel, the consul general of France, came to him.

In his hospital room, Hutzler was inducted into the National Order of the Legion of Honor, the highest award bestowed by France.

We also had one other WWI man from McKeesrock, PA to receive his medal in the V.A. Hospital—Edward Worms. Both men are 103 years of age. Congratulation to both men.



On the left Harold O. Bomhoff, 317 Chaplin, Center Leroy Hutzler and on the Right Chaplain John O. Woods.

The photo at right appeared in the February 24th edition of the Richmond Times Dispatch.



FAMILY PHOTO

SERVICE. Leroy Hutzler Jr. was 22 when he became a first lieutenant with the 319th Regiment of the 80th "Blue Ridge" Division.



“TAPS”

Allison Edward W. 80th MP
71191/2 Grand Ave
Pittsburgh PA 15225-1039 1/11/99
Rptd by Ralph Rocco

Anerousis, Peter D-317
825 Windsor Dr
Cinnaminson NJ 08077-3743
10/29/98

Arnold, James M. K-317
42 West Main Street
Richwood, WV 26261 11/25/98
Rptd by wife Louise

Bates, Eugene E. E-318
14759 SW 171st St
Rose Hill, KS 67133-8191 9/21/98
Rptd by wife

Bower, Edward H-318
28 Bay Blvd
Bayville, NJ 08721 11/03/98
Rptd by Norris Wilson

Butler, William Mack A-305 Eng
217 Madison Ave.
Clifton, NJ 07011 2/23/99
Rptd by Allen Kostenbader

Claussen, Arnold G. C-317
522 hidden Oak Dr
Hobart, IN 46342-5168 1/19/99
Rptd By wife Ruth

Cox, William F. Sr. 780th Ord
P.O. Box 147
Johnesville, VA 24263-0147 12/31/98
Rptd by wife

Crosley, George D. Med det Sp Tr
130 N. Park Street
Easton, MD 21601-3908 2/2/99
Rptd by W. Williams

Dutzik, Clarence Cn -319
141 Scout Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15210 10/1/98
Rptd by Harry Cady

Dye, Victor C. K-317
Rt 1 Box 1995
Naylor, MO 63953 12/23/98
Rptd by Dan Fleming

Fair, Alver F-317
Gordo, AL 8/7/98
Not a member
Rptd by Gaylord Smith

John Furedi, Sr. I-318
729 Ridge Ave.
West Hazelton, PA 18201-3620
2/19/99, Rptd by wife Stella.

Graeff, Charles Hq 905 FA
2142 Reading Blvd
West Lawn, PA 19609-2211
December 1998
Rptd by Joe Mollica

Johnson, Charles “Ed” 319th
RR 2 Not a member no address
Shippen Township
Emporium, PA 15834 5/12/98
Rptd by Jean Fisher

Landolph, Joseph R. Sr. C-319 Med
913 Greenbriar Lane
Springfield, PA 12/2/98
Rptd by Jim Sell

Maves, Otto E. HQ 80th
216 Pleasant St.
Stevens Point, WI 54481-3425
Unknown
Postal Notice

Mueller, Alfred C. A-313 FA Bn
5405 Lever Ct
Cincinnati, OH 45238-3319 10/22/98
Rptd by J. Phillips

Palchick, John “Snakey” ?-319
Not a member no address
Date unknown
Rptd by Ralph Rocco

Peterson, Marion E. H-319
Arlington, SC
12/4/98
Rptd by Carroll Peterson

Rathfon, George L. Hq 1st Bn 317
c/o 117 N. Center street
Bradford, PA 16701-1145 12/6/98
Rptd by son David

Schreiber, Alvin C. A-305 Eng
14903 Devonshire Woods Place
Tampa, FA 33624 12/27/97
Rptd by Allem H. Kostenbader

TAPS continued on page 11

REUNION UPDATE

Greensboro, NC

HOLIDAY INN FOUR SEASONS

Joseph S. Koury Convention Center

3121 High Point Road at I-40

AUGUST 25-29, 1999

As I am composing this article for publication early in February; winter is starting to fade away in this part of the country, as we have enjoyed 60-70 degree temperatures. It makes you think of an early Spring, and then looking forward to the Summer, when we can once again join together to enjoy our Annual Reunion. Remember this is our 80th Division Veterans Association 80th Annual Reunion.

I expect the convention letter with the usual information will be mailed to the membership early in March, which will give you time to decide your participation. Room rates will be \$85.00 plus tax. There are Suites available, if desired, to accommodate your needs-price will range depending on your requirements. A self addressed Hotel Reservation envelope will be included in the Convention letter. You can relax in the indoor-outdoor pool, enjoy the coffee shop, cafeteria, restaurants, or take a short walk across the parking lot to a wonder-

ful fully contained enclosed shopping mall.

Registration fees, etc, has not been finalized as of this writing. One optional tour buss has been concluded, i.e. Replacement Ltd. This is a must for you ladies. (Men would also be interested.) This corporation is world renown. If you ladies are missing a piece of your china, crystal, flatware (regardless of age) Hummels etc. this is the place to find a replacement. Conducted tours of the premises will be available. Presently evaluating an addition tour.

Directions to the hotel will be included in your Convention Letter. (*EDITOR—Don't lose the letter as some have done in the past.*) Also points of interest in Greensboro and the surrounding area.

North Carolina offers great interest for historians, culture and arts. We extend a Warm welcome. See you in Greensboro!

Max R. Schmidt, Sr V.Commander and Convention Chairman

Out of the Past...

CONTINUED:

Thus, when Eisenhower, Tedder, Bradley, Devers, and Patton met about eleven that morning in the chill of the old Verdun caserne, Patton had already done his homework for accomplishing what the Supreme Commander would request. The 4th Armored Division was already in motion. Bradley remained uncommonly impatient and irritable that morning, but Patton could well arrive theatrically, in a jeep with plexiglass doors and a .30 caliber machine gun mounted on a post, his brass buttons gleaming, his jaws clamped on a cigar. He was confident enough for the immediate future to display characteristically possessive concern for the longer-range future. When Eisenhower repeated his proposal to shift the 6th Army Group boundary as far west as the Moselle, Patton demurred. As Bradley tells it, Patton had accumulated a good deal of bridging equipment to cross the Rhine River, and he feared that Devers would appropriate it. A compromise accordingly left the 3rd Army the existing XX Corps bridgehead across the Saar and into the west Wall; the new boundary separating the 12th and 6th Army Groups would run about midway between Saarlautern and Saarbrücken.

Devers like Patton was reluctant to abandon his own defensive plans but acquiesced in the necessity. Eisenhower for his part feared that enlargement of Dever's zone would aggravate the problem of the Colmar pocket, an old sore subject between him and Devers. If the Germans in the pocket should be-

come active, the Supreme Commander envisaged the 6th Army Group's withdrawing as far as the Vosges if necessary to prevent undue southern distractions and to preserve the integrity of Dever's front—thus giving up Strasbourg, a notion that inevitably precipitated an eruption from General de Gaulle when it soon reached his ears. Eisenhower's Colmar pocket worryment helped dictate also that, in exchange for the VIII Corps, Patton must yield some troops to reinforce Devers.

But the main theme of the conference was of course to counterattack. Eisenhower began by announcing—perhaps with an eye particularly on Bradley—that he wanted to see none but cheerful faces. "The present situation is to be regarded as one of opportunity for us and not of disaster," he said. Patton was fully primed to enter into this spirit. He suggested they should all have guts to let the Germans go to Paris: "Then we'll really cut 'em off and chew 'em up." Everyone smiled, but Eisenhower made haste to emphasize that the enemy would not be permitted to cross the Meuse: "Our weakest spot is in the direction of Namur," that historic strategic pivot at the junction of the Sambre and Meuse. "The general plan is to plug the holes in the north and launch coordinated attack from the south." to lay his detailed plans, Eisenhower wanted to know how soon Patton could counterattack with at least six divisions.

Patton's answer created "a stir, a shuffling of feet, as those present

straightened up in their chairs," and the stir has never abated. He could attack, Patton said, "On 22 December, with three divisions, the 4th Armored, the 26th, and the 80th Infantry Divisions"

No one but his own staff knew how much Patton had already prepared, and thus no one else thought he could disengage from one battle and turn ninety degrees into another battle so quickly. However much Patton had prepared, furthermore, as his biographer Martin Blumenson puts it: "Altogether, it was an operation that only a master could think of executing."

A master's design, it was also to be an operation masterfully executed.

We all remember, how we loaded into jeeps, trucks and whatever else we had and made an overnight trip of approximately 150 miles in the dark, only to go into the line the next morning in each of the sectors assigned us. We also remember the cold month of December with the deep snows and bitter cold. So cold that if a man were to be wounded he dare not lay down, but to keep going if at all possible as he would freeze to death if he didn't do so, and many of our men died due to the fact they couldn't make it to an Aid Station.

We all now know, of how the 1st and 2d Battalions of the 318th Infantry Regiment were attached to the 4th Armored Division for the relief of Bastogne. It was also the 80th Division who had the first elements to contact the 101st Airborne Division when Lt. Carr led a four man patrol through German lines and made contact with the encircled troops and brought out overlays of positions, that made it possible for the Armored to break

through the German lines and give relief to the very weary, but happy men when they first saw friendly troops coming to their rescue.

The 80th after the Battle of the Bulge moved very rapidly through Germany, being turned back at Chemnitz in favor of the Russians, turning south to Nurnburg, Regensberg, etc and war's end in Austria.

It has been a pleasure to bring you "Out of the Past" and this issue is the last of the Article. I hope you have enjoyed reading it and with the next issue I will be starting, "Eye Witness" Articles. I'll be looking for stories and events that can be proven, not just what you remember. No names will be printed, but I'd like for them to be sent to me with the event you write me. I use "elements", instead of names for fear we will overlook someone whom should also be mentioned and wasn't.

TAPS continued from page 8

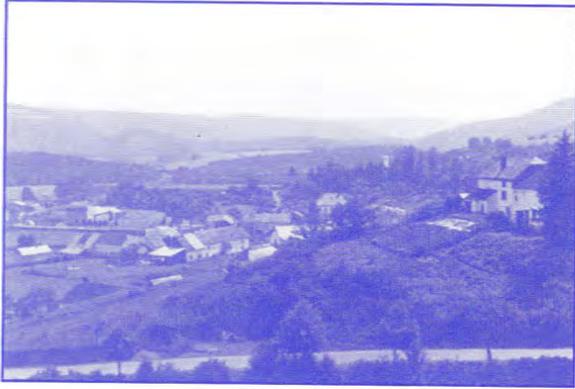
Sciese, George L-317
13419 Round Tree
Hancock, MD 21750 2/8/99
Rptd by Hank Einhoff

Stevens, Daniel F-318
678 Conina Dr
Cincinnati, OH 5/98
Rptd by M. Tramel

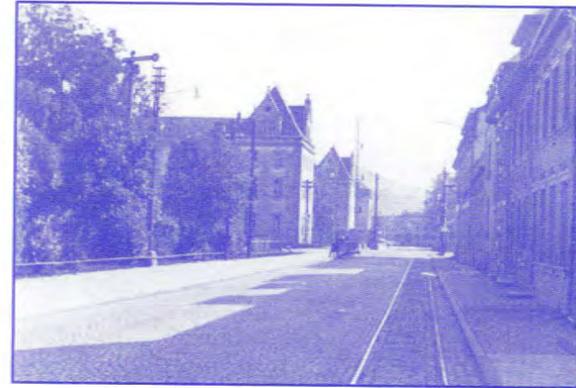
Turner, Bruce C-317
484 Salem Street
Wakefield, MA 01880 12/22/98
Rptd by Mrs L. Richard Myers

Wassil, Joseph J. 80th Band
3510 Kathleen Ave.
Dayton, OH 45405-2526 9/18/98
Rptd by son Phil

Zygulski, Stanley J. E-318
1322 N. Adams
South Bend, IN 46600 4/26/98
Rptd by Ralph P. Chapman



Wilderwiltz



Diekirch

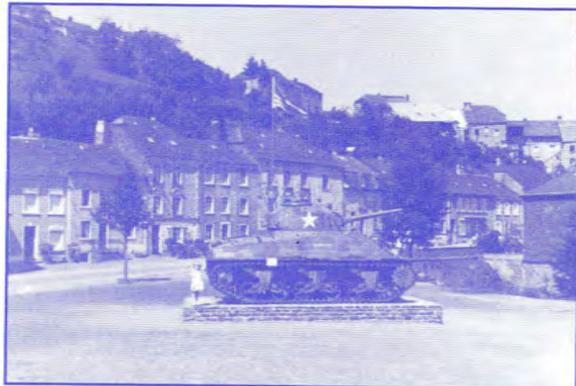
Some towns out of our past...

Photos were sent by
Frank DoBozy,
Company K, 317th Inf.

Kemen



Heiderscheid



Wiltz



Farbersviller,
France

Lane Hall Post #42 313 F.A. Bn

First, I'd like to thank all who sent Christmas cards or called. It is always good to hear from 80th Friends.

Dominick Abbruzzese writes that he is feeling good and back on his part-time job. Only taking one pill three times a day. He wishes to thank all who sent cards or called during his illness. Dom stated that this helped a lot. Thanks again. Dom and Jeanette celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary October 23, 1998.

Sad news from Helen Mueller. Al Mueller, "A" Battery, Motor Sgt., passed away October 22, 1998. He was confined to a wheelchair for ten years. Our condolences go to helen.

Plans are well on their way for our post's Mini-Reunion:

WHERE: Fairfield Inn, 1065 N. Lexington Springfield Road, Mansfield, OH 44906. Phone: (419) 747-2200 or 800-228-2800.

WHEN: May 13-14-15, 1999
Hosts: Doc and Audrey Blocker, 190 Clair Road, Mansfield, OH 44906.

Phone: (419) 529-3739

Any questions write Audery.

Two more good books: 1. The Greatest Generation by Tom Browkaw (ED-Agreed I am reading it) 2. The Victors by Stephen E. Ambrose.

To all members and friends who are on the sick list, we send you best wishes for a speedy recovery.

God willing, Ruth and I will see all of you in Mansfield, OH on May 13th.

Jim Phillips Sect/Treas.

305th Engineers Post #40

Thanks to all for the Holiday Greetings, especially to those who added a short note. I failed to get anything special for the entire mailing list of the Post as I have in the past five years. Maybe I'll get an idea by next year.

Delmar and Ernestine Wilson commented on their recent trip to Florida and a very enjoyable visit with Urb Weinheimer and Billie Mellon. Returned with a carload of those delicious Navel Oranges and grapefruit. I bet everyone he knows in McConnelville got a free bag. They also came by Rock Hill, SC and visited with Mrs. Wrenn.

Al Sacco reminded me Al Schriber of "A" Company passed away last Christmas ('97). Also Frank Cherobine of "A" Company about the same time. Others in "Taps" this past year ('98): Ralph Popovich and Edward Jackson, both of "B" Company. I'm sure we all check the "Taps" listed by Sect. Murrell, so if I don't report it in the Post news please carry on without assuming oversight.

Morris Edelman was the battalion adjutant through '42-'45 and I thought he was coming to Harrisburg, but he didn't. Recent letter arrived saying he probably will join the Post. Also, he sent to me a great photo of all the battalion officers assembled at Ft. Dix. Gee, it's weird to see those young faces and to remember the respect we gave each of them. Most are recognizable by me but not all. Another officer, Carl Henry, wrote he will be in Cincinnati this summer and we'll try to plan a lunch together. Not a word heard from Dick Foerster

Brett Post #3

The Brett Post Christmas Party was a great success at the Holiday Inn at Monroeville. We had 40 people in attendance, 5 PNC; Cistollo, Latusek, Murrell, Petrolinni and Rakotis. The food was wonderful and Melvin and Helen Beers donated beautiful table decorations and door prizes. Fred Mikolowski won the lovely fruit basket.

Hilda and I donated a few door prizes and bought other door prizes with Post money. Once again, the ladies donated delicious cookies. Thank you Ladies! My daughter Sue Bresch and her husband Mike were the hostess and host of the party, helping out with the presents and providing Christmas music. Our Commander, Sick sent a note of apology. Our Brett Post Commander made it four days late. Sorry you

in Louisville but let us all wish him well.

PNC Irv Robinson sent me a fine framed photo enlargement of the Post 40 group who attended a meeting at The Embers Quality Inn at Carlisle, Pa. In 1984. This photo was published in the reunion edition 1984 Blue Ridge if you have a copy of it on hand.

Sometimes there are duplicate copies of your reunion photos and if anyone has some Harrisburg duplicates that they can mail to me I'd be very grateful. I have only a few that I took but I would welcome more for an album I want to keep as chairman of the affair.

I will have a nice hospitality room at Greensboro as Assn. Commander, so let's all get together there.

Russell Sick, Commander

missed it Jack.

On 18 February we held our Valentine Luncheon at the Palace Inn. Twenty-one people were in attendance, Hilda and I, and the Beers, Melvin and Helen, donated ten door prizes. Half and Half raffles were held, and Fred Mikolowski won two of them. Everyone enjoyed the delicious meal and conversation with our buddies. Our next luncheon will be held on 16 March for a St. Patrick's Day Party at the Blue Angel Airport in Latrobe.

Our Brett Post will hold its annual Picnic and Election of Officers on July 18, 1999 at the VFW Picnic Area, Hours are from 1100 until 1800. I will try to send cards to all members and I will ask except and appreciate an R.S.V.P. by phone or mail to make definite arrangements with the Restaurant. For a final thought, since we pay no dues, all our money is made on 50/50 raffle and donations.

Al Latusek, Sect/Treas

317th, 318th & 319th Histories

The new 317 History is now ready for mailing, informative on a day to day basis. If you would like one, send a check for \$16.25 P&H for EACH book ordered to:

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

Also copies of the "Operational History" are available. \$25.00 plus 2.00 P&H. (Over 5000 have been sold in the USA and Europe!) DO NOT make check to the 80th Association. Please allow six weeks for delivery.

Post #36 3d Bn., 317 Inf.

I'm repeating the same format of last year's column by selecting a few abstracts from the 1998 Christmas Cards.

George and Dolly Crofoot sure missed the reunion. They thank everyone for the signed card sent them. Rex and Cecilla Kibbs (L) traveled a lot this past summer. They will pick up their trailer and travel to Alaska next June. Mid Render still receives the Blue Ridge. She would have loved to have seen Linda Steen King and Katy Barone Marianelli. As she says a lot of water over the Dam since she used to come to the reunions. She is doing OK. Bill Petrollini (I) is feeling better after his carotid surgery. Bob Smith had a great trip to Greece and Turkey and the weather was good.

From Joe and Pauline Zabitchuck (L). Joe had a stroke and is not well. Pauline has him home trying to take care of him. Paul Cowgill (L) mentioned his wife passed away in February 1998. Previous to that date, they had moved into a Masonic Retirement Facility in June 1997. He keeps in touch through the Blue Ridge. Helen Kudenov (Bn Hq) writes everything is ok. She expects to spend Christmas in Phoenix with daughter and her husband. Bob and Jean Moorhead (L) are well.

Also, Harry and Fran Nutting (I) send greetings as do Jeff and Mary Wignall, Bob and Pauline Parks, and Bill and Charmaine Laing. O.E. and Lucille Clark hopes to see everyone in Greensboro. Angelo and Kay Barone wish all good health for the coming year.

Leroy and Nancy Pierce had an interesting historical trip with grandsons visiting the Philadelphia area.

Bob Parks informs me former Captain Thayer (L) has bone cancer. (Rev.) Frank Florence's new address is 4473 Deatsville Rd., Cox's Creek, KY 40013, Tele. 502-477-9890. Frank mentioned he hasn't driven a car in three years. Last time Frank wrote he said Betty is still in a wheelchair. Bob further wrote that Jake Hedrick (K) lost his wife of many years and Gorden A. Buser (L) lost his wife of 51 years last April. We extend our deepest sympathy to Jake and Gordon. Bill Pilkinton (L) now uses a cane. We understand Paul Schaub (L) is still quite sick.

I know all the physical problems and ailments mentioned above doesn't make for good reading but I think everyone is interested for we know one and another over many, many years. We pray for the return to good health for those with physical problems.

We know the Barones will attend the Florida Post meeting in March. We are not sure whether Bob Smith, Bill Petrollini or Betty Hook will also attend. They attended last year.

Bob Nathason, Sect

Welcome New Members

Gandy, Kenneth L-319
1502 East Adams Ave
Temple, TX 765014628

Hugh Cooper B-905 FA Bn
6422 Old U.S. 68
Georgetown, OH 45121-9763

New York Post # 43

Our annual meeting and election of officers will be held again at the Turf Inn, Albany, NY. Dates are May 27-31, 1999. We will have the usual hospitality room #305, starting on Thursday afternoon. Excellent food and facilities and much fun.

Our Fall meeting will be held in Ithaca, NY., at the Best Western Inn, September 22-27, 1999. Our last meeting of the old century and it will be a big one.

Those who arrive early on Wednesday will gather at our home Wednesday evening. On Thursday at noon we will dine at the Towers Club, at Ithaca College. This is a four story building over looking the area and especially Cayuga Lake, the largest of the Finger Lakes. Thursday night we will gather with other Veterans for an Italian Night at the local Elks. Friday noon we will meet at Kidders Landing on Cayuga Lake for a lunch. Afterward we will visit apple orchards to stock up and then visit Taughannock Falls, the highest drop east of the Rockies. Friday Night back to the Elks for a Fish Fry (or Steak). Saturday we will visit Wagners Winery on Seneca Lake for Luncheon Buffet and stock up on wines. Saturday night, back to the American Legion for more food. On Sunday noon we will again return to the Antlers for our great Buffet and short meeting and our raffles. Do not forget White Elephant gifts for the raffles at our gatherings.

We will also hold a short meeting at the Convention. Check the Bulletin Board for the time, location and date.

Ed Bredbenner, Jr. Sect.

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**MILIBROOKS - Dept. A
10410 Donoho Place
St. Louis, MO 63131**

Post #33 Co. H 319 Inf.

We regret to inform the membership that Mrs Hermina Feinberg, a past president of the National Auxiliary, widow of Louis Feinberg, Company L, 317 Inf. And a long time member of Post #33, died November 1998 after a long illness. May she be remembered with a blessing.

Jack and Kate were unable to make the reunion in Harrisburg, PA. Because Kate had a kidney infection which put her on "the going nowhere list", she is feeling much better, lost some weight, and Jack was told by his Dr. to see him in a year. I do believe we will see Jack and Kate in Greensboro, NC in August 1999.

Remember Joseph Reickle, "Joe" came out of the hospital a few weeks ago, had his voice box removed, feeling pretty good and could use some good cheer, his address: Joseph Reickle, 10 East Parker Street, Scranton, PA 18509.

Oley write that St. Louis weather isn't the best, but what else, you learn to live with it. He's going to the hospital for a full knee replacement. I'm unsure when the deed is done, but we can send cards and good wishes. His children are all alerted. They have been a big help to him. Kris teaches in the area, Penny will be there when he comes out of the hospital. Jerry still flies for Delta. He and his wife adopted a 2 year old. We wish them all the best. He talked to Jean Poppen not long ago, hope her daughter makes a speedy recovery. Oley is still with it, he volunteers at the U.S.O. Every Friday from 6 to midnight, and he promises to be at

Co F 318 Post 46

Got a nice "Season's Greeting" from Peggy and Frank Terrizzi. It appears they are doing all right. They plan to be in San Antonio on April 14-18, 1999 for the bi-annual reunion of Co. F, 318th, Post 46. Adrian and Euneva Monday also plan to be at the reunion.

We usually hear from Ben Terry about once a year. Ben, how is your wife Doris' health these days? I still remember those good pancakes you prepared in those cold days of December-February '44 and '45 and, of course, the delivery of the hot meals by Wojciechowski in his trusted jeep to us boys who had been in the fox holes all night.

A reminder to us all that Harry Dunivan's birthday is April 13th and Harry will be 87 years young. Harry bought his airplane ticket to San Antonio in August, 1998, such confidence for such a young man!

Carol Kana and the Tijerinas have put together an enjoyable and restful program for the bi-annual reunion. Let's all come and enjoy our comradeship. It's hard for me to wait. I probably will go a day early!

*That's all folds!
Mondell*

the reunion in August!

Last Thanksgiving weekend Hilda and I drove to Palm Springs to attend my cousin's wife birthday party. I didn't stay at the party too long. Instead, I ended up at the Desert Hospital for a week where they performed an angioplasty, and sent me home. In January I spent another week at the hospital near us. Now I'm in a Cardiac Rehab program.

See you in August, Irv Robinson

Cincinnati Post #34

Time sure slips by fast anymore. Hope you all had happy holidays. Cincinnati Post had a really nice crowd at the Christmas party—24 or so came! The weather was warm and clear up to Christmas, so traveling to the party was no problem. Our National Commander, Russell Sick, was present. Also, Dave and Wilma Orr drove up from Grayville, IL. Walt and Annabel Spangler came from Ashville, OH and Richard Wilmer from Middletown, OH. Newlyweds Joe and Janet Girard Kovach came in from Indianapolis, IN. It was good to see Dave and Helen Tubing again. We received a nice note and greetings from Charlie and Loretta Doerflein since his health keeps them from going too far away from home. Art Rehling was ill over the holidays, so he and Grace were not able to come either. The dinner was very good and we had a lot of fun afterwards with our gift exchange. Don't know what we'd do without Betty Cammerer. She always has what we need to get the games started. All in all, it was a pleasant afternoon with old friends.

The weather didn't stay warm and pleasant after Christmas. In January, our lunch at Dante's was cancelled twice due to snow and

sleet. In February, only six managed to make it to lunch in Fort Wright. The flu and pneumonia kept several homebound. Howard Macke was one of those with pneumonia so he and Lucy were among those missing. Hopefully March will come in like a lamb and we'll have our usual crowd for lunch.

Co. F keeps in touch through Dave Orr. Dave says he has heard from Paul and Ruth Arndt and George and Jean Bell. They are doing well. Webster and Willie Martin are recuperating at home from surgeries. Sellie and Zelma Thomas are taking it easy and not straying too far from home due to some heart problems. Mel Schmidt is living in Cincinnati but still goes back to the mountain home with the family for visits, shopping, and hiking. Dave and Wilma Orr report they are doing fine and hope we can all meet in Greensboro in August. We will be getting our mailing some time in March, so plan to get your registration in early.

You Signal men, remember to keep in touch. Send me a note or give me a call: Floyd Warner, 3623 W. Liberty St., Cincinnati, OH 45205. Phone: 513-921-8546. I'll pass your news on through the Blue Ridger.

Try to go to the reunion in Greensboro, NC, August 19-25. God bless you all and keep you safe and healthy.

Floyd Warner, Commander

NO REPORTS WERE
RECEIVED FROM THE
FOLLOWING POSTS:

Florida Post #47

Rcn. Post #37

Company L 319

It is said that no news is good news, but I'm not sure that applies to those of us who are in our middle 70's and beyond.

News has been scare from Company L members and, except for Christmas card greetings, things have been mighty quite.

John Flynn called and told me that he is golfing regularly and occasionally, but only occasionally, manages to par a hole (par 5's only) John also said that he has had some bad days when it costs more for golf balls than it does for green fees.

I've received word that Bill Krebhiel has discovered a 45 chapter history of the Division in WWI. He and Billie are working to authenticate it, correct spelling, etc and hope to publish it in the near future. Way to go Bill!

My son, Dennis, wrote a letter to the 80th division and it was published in the Blue Ridge. He has received many letters from 80th Division members thanking them for his expression of appreciation for the part the 80th played in the Battle of the Bulge.

One letter was from Jack Barrett who told Dennis a story I had told im (Jack) when we were in Maccelsfield. It's a funny story, but i'll hold it until we meet in Greensboro.

In September, I visited George Sciese in Hancock, MD. He is having problems and sure would appreciate your prayers. If you would like to send him a note or card: G. Wilbur Sciese, 13419 Round Tree, Hancock, MD 21750. (Editor Note: A phone call from Hank informed me of George's passing away on 2/8/99.

DV and DV Hqs Co. Post #39

On 23 February the Colonels Walt and Sally Burk will paddle Boat from New Orleans to Vicksburg, Miss. To tour the Civil War Battlefield. In March they will fly from Fort Smith AR to Baton Rouge, LA to attend an Infantry Battalion Reunion-a unit he commanded prior to joining the 80th overseas.

On the 21st of March, Post Commander Ralph Murnahan and Joyce will fly to Puerto Rico where they will board a ship for a seven day cruise to Aruba and points in between and return. Have fun Guys.

Heard from Essie Simpson, and am happy to report she is feeling fine now, and is on the road to recovery. Tony Manganiello is still in therapy and doing well and hoping to be on the golf course soon.

Terry Freeman has moved from Florida to Texas, his new address: 8515 Grapevine Hwy., North Richland Hills, TX 76180.

That's it for now gang. Stay healthy and be good to each other.

Fred Buscarini Sec/Treas

I know that all of you join me in offering condolences to Lorraine Sciese, and Bill Siebert who lost his wife January 4, of this year. May she rest in Peace.

My hope is all of you are well and that you are planning to attend our next reunion in Greensboro, NC. Please, if you have any information about our members, let me know and I will spread the word through the Blue Ridge Newsletter.

Hank Einolf

Reading Post #32

Talking to the editor recently, these are the words he threw at me when discussing the news of the different Posts.

Brevity, shortness, conciseness, little, and compact are the things our Editor would like to see in our Post News. Like they say on T.V. "Just the facts Sir! Just the facts!

So here is the news from the Reading area.

We lost a long time member and Past Post Commander, Charles Graeff of the 905th FA who joined his Buddies 11/30/98.

I talked to PNC Schappell the other day and he is pleased with the treatment he is now receiving for his tumor. He seems in good spirits and Mary also and they wanted me to thank you good friends for their Christmas cards and get well wishes, they received while being dispose.

Another member who is recuperating at home is Paul Clouser who had a back operation and is now slowly recovering and learning to walk without a cane. We wish both men a speedy recovery.

Another one (aren't we all) who is experiencing health problem around the Prostate is Phil Piergrossi. Both he and I are on hormone treatments. One shot every four months and don't ask where it is administered. We now know about those hot and cold flashes, experienced by the ladies.

Echelman's wife Verna is in a Nursing Home and would appreciate a card from her friends. Her address: Monroe Care Health Center, 3000 Windmill Road, Sinking Springs, PA

Post #44 Company M 318th Inf.

Thank all of you for the Christmas cards I received. I hope if I missed some one, I will be forgiven as I get cards from over half of the 80th Association.

Received word from Sandy Best, he has had a medical problem. His wife Rita has her problems also. Both knees very bad and very bad headaches, that medication helps but not completely... Allan Waller and his wife Tommie celebrated their wedding anniversary on 31 December, congratulations to them... Joe Mollica writes he is still walking without a cane, and Angela is doing real well after her knee replacement... Jack Stumcke sends greetings to all of his friends.

Bill Richie writes, he and Ruth lost their daughter Linda to cancer a few months back. Bill says Linda was only a few weeks old when he went into service. Our condolence to the Richie family.

9608. Even though she is confined to a wheel chair she attended our Christmas dinner and also our meetings.

Other guest of note, were Ed and Barbara Bredbenner from NY and Angelo and Kay Barone from Pottville. Good food and a good time was had by the 27 people in attendance.

Speaking of meetings, our next breakfast meeting will be at the Crystal Springs Restaurant, Sinking Springs, PA. 0900 on 20 March. Come one and all!

Lou Shirey.

All of the past National & Honorary Commanders are looking forward to seeing you in Greensboro North Carolina at our *80th Annual Reunion August 25-29, 1999*

Frank Terrizzi, President
Albert S. Latusek, Vice President
Felix Cistolo, Secretary / Treasurer

**Brett Post No. 3
Pittsburgh**
Jack Barr, Commander
 5820 Meade St.
 Boston, PA 15135-1326
Mike Evanovich,
 1st Vice Commander
Al Latusek,
 Secretary/Treasurer

**3rd BN., 317th INF.
POST #36**
 Robert W. Smith
Commander

 Robert N. Nathason
Secretary / Treasurer

**Greater Reading
Post No. 32**
 Ivan Downs, Commander

PNC Lou Shirey
 SECRETARY/TREASURER
 1415 Lorraine Road
 Reading, PA 19604-1861

**LANE-HALL
POST #42**
 Lou Shirey, Commander

Jim Phillips, Secretary / Treasurer
 420 South Hanover St.
 Elizabethtown, PA 17022-2518
 (717) 367-5094

**CINCINNATI
POST #34**
 Floyd Warner
 Commander

Art Rehling, Treasurer
 4656 McNeil Ave., Cincinnati OH 45212-2541
 (513) 631-0031
David C. Orr, Post Rep.
 831 Phillips St. Grayville, IL 62844-1711

**305th
Engineer Battalion
Post No. 40**
Russell P. Sick, Commander
 3131 Pleasant Avenue
 Hamilton, OH 45015-1740
Byron Dovenbarger, Secretary
 3755 Meadowbrook Drive
 Zanesville, OH 43701-1121

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80th Division Veterans Association

630 Pennsylvania Ave., Oakmont, PA 15139-1574



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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: _____

CITY / STATE / ZIP + FOUR: _____

PHONE: _____

Make Remittance Payable to: 80th Division Veterans Association.

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1998 - 1999

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Naomi Brock, PNP, 1st Vice President
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 Marcella Haley, Secretary -- Helen Beers, Treasurer
 Betty Hook, Chaplain -- Rita Kutsch, Historian
 Doris Murrell, Sgt. at Arms -- Helen West, Sgt. at Arms

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

ORANLEDBETTER
Commander

IRV ROBINSON
Secretary

**FLORIDA
POST #47**

George M. Bell Sr. (F-319)
 Commander
 Wallace G. Ponder (B-305 Eng)
 Secretary
 4010 Leila Avenue
 Tampa, FL 33616-1117
 (813) 839-0648