

**Blue Ridge 80th Division**  
**The Service Magazine**  
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OAKMONT, PA 15139-1574

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# BLUE RIDGE

The Service Magazine  
Volume 79, Number 321

Post Reunion — 1999  
Issue 2

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 Sept. 12, 1999 due to vacation.*

# 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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## Commander's Corner

There are many who have an opinion we should not be so opposed to the atrocious acts in Kosovo and say. It's just a civil war in Yugoslavia. Ask a holocaust survivor his opinion. Nobody is born with hate and prejudice. It's taught. There's words and then some incidents end in a massacre. If opposition is weak, you have a repetition of what happened in Europe in 1935-'45. Those who lead such a venture will not negotiate until human rights are asserted with force.



Our generation fought WWII to stop Nazi expansion. The media had not yet told the world of the atrocious concentration camps. The final revelation came too late to save those millions of victims. Therefore, let us not be critical when technology is used for reducing a threat that's new in this time but old in the concept.

The invitation sent by Mayor of Weimar Germany to the 80th Division was accepted by fifteen veterans (myself included) and a well-organized week of ceremony and tours was enjoyed. I thank Dr. Richard Bobb for keeping notes and submitting his report for this issue of the Blue ridge.

I extended my trip by taking the train to Paris for four additional days. It hasn't changed in fifty-

four years since I was there last. If we had destroyed it in 1944, as we did many other cities, they would have rebuilt it by now and it would be a modern city. However, the tourists wouldn't have a place to go.

I apologize to the family of Past National Commander Price Carney for arriving late for the interment April 26th. Price thought a great deal of his years of comradeship with

the 80th division veterans. We will long remember his humor and sincerely. He definitely earned our respect. Angelo Barone gave a final service at the mausoleum.

After enjoying fours days with about forty in attendance at Melbourne Beach, Post 47 March 10-13, I returned to Ohio with a drive of 840 miles in one day. I don't plan to do that again. No major effect, but I was in bed two days, exhausted.

I attended the Post 42 party in Mansfield, OH may 14th, and have reservation in Albany to attend the New York Post #43 meeting May 28-29. I'll see those attending Post 3 picnic July 18th and see many more of you "one more time" at the Association reunion in Greensboro, NC August 25-29.

Salute

Russell P. Sick, Commander

## 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 past to consider making a donation over and above your Life membership. Thank You!

Alsup, Robert F.	L-318
Annon	I-318
Annon	I-318
Anzivino, Ralph L.	L-318
Blatz, Louis	L-319
<i>in memory of George Sciese</i>	
Div Hqs and Hq Company Post #39	
<i>in Memory of PNC Price Carney</i>	
Eckrich, John H.	C-318
Inkrot, H. Clifford	D-318
Moberg, John A. Dr 1st Bn Hq 319	
Pfledderer, Bob	CN 319
Sproull Robert C. , Dr Hq 313 FA Bn	
Smith, Robert W.	K-317
Thompson, Ivan E.	L-318
<i>in memory of William J. Blume</i>	
Terrizzi, Frank	F-318

## Welcome New Members

Bloomfield, William D. Associate 588 Bucyrus-Nevada Road Bucyrus, OH 44820-9436	M-319
Mercer, Paul L. 9005 Fairglade Dr Jacksonville, FL 32221-5476	B-318
Mohr, Edward Windsor Dr Friendswood, TX 77546	Associate
Pratt, Marvin 1927 Lewis Salina, KS 67401-6629 785-827-3979	Cn 317
Schember, Raymond W. 8708C SW 90th St Ocala, FL 33481-7418	I-318
Simpson, Billy B. 619 W. Cooper St Ripley, MS 38663-1542	L-318
Stanton Thomas 711 Eagle Bend Road Clinton, TN 37716	G-317
Thompson, Donald B. 415 Buffalo street Beaver, PA 15009-2003	B-318

## Secretary's REPORT

### NEW-"E" MAIL ADDRESS Divinf80@Aol.Com

I would like for those of you who are on the net, to send me your E-mail address, so I may correspond with you when something of importance comes up. Thank you... Both of the WWI men who was reported in the last issue of the Newsletter, who received the French Legion of Honor Medal passed away within three and six weeks of receiving their medal. Both were 103 years of age. With the passing of three World War One men this year, we now have one known living member from W.W.I. Harry Harenski, (102 years of age) Company E 320 Infantry Regiment. He received his French Legion of Honor medal on 25 April, 1999. Nation wide it is reported there are only 1900 W.W.I men still living.... it was reported to the editor that Kay Solvak, wife of Charles, 315th FA passed away mid March...

### ***Are you aware 1900 WWII Veterans are passing away each week?***

**Of Note...** *"Underneath the lamppost by the barracks gate" goes the nostalgic song "Lilli Marlene." It originated from a poem written in 1923 by a German World War I veteran. In World War II it was aired for the first time by a German armed forces radio station on Aug. 18, 1941, and soon became the most popular song for the German soldiers, and also for the Americans.*

## Mail Bag

A note from Ila Wolfe, wife of Bernard G. Writes he is a bed patient at home and has been for the last four years, has a Pace maker, an aortic aneurysm and a number of other ailments. Last 4 April was his 89th birthday and they celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on 8 May 1998.... Our National Historian, PNC Edgar E. Bredbenner, Jr. Gave all of us a scare when he was taken to the hospital with a breathing problem. He is now home. He has a muscle in the heart that is weak, the doctors said medication would take care of the problem, but he must slow down.... Word has reached the editor that Donald Schoo, has received a very nice award from the Northern IL University, ROTC for participation in their program. I gave a lecture on WWII and the Holocaust. I gave a program on the 80th Division and they were very thankful, for my stories... New member Paul L. Mercer wants all of you from B-318 to write him. He would like to make contact with you, his address is under new members... The family of Price Carney wishes to thank the Association for the contribution to the McBride Fund in his memory...

## QUESTION ?

After reading the article, that appears below, my question to you. What in your opinion is it that binds us together?

### *What is it That Binds Combat Veterans Together?*

It isn't friendship. We all have friends. You can go to a company picnic or a convention and you will not feel the same emotion in the air as when you attend a veteran's reunion.

It is something beyond regular friendship. It is knowing that "you and they have been to Hell and back." It is a deep-rooted emotion that binds you together. It is the knowledge that when things were tough, you and your buddies stuck it out and lived through it. You can attend high school reunions, college reunions, company conventions, the whole civilian works, but there isn't the "band of brothers" feeling that is felt when combat buddies get together!

You and your buddies may have less hair on top and a lot more inches around the belt line, but deep within all of you is the same comradeship that you had during those horrible days of war. Whether it is ten years or fifty years, when combat buddies meet it seems like yesterday! All of the memories begin to assemble in your mind...memories that you thought had been pushed back into the recesses of your memory bank. "Whatever happened to..." You try not to let on that these

old veterans mean a lot to you, but by the time Auld Lang Syne is played and the flags furled and the station wagon is packed, there is a lump in your throat and a tear in your eye as you part company with men who once lived and fought beside you.

You tell your wife; "Damn, it was good to see them again." *And it was!* Ole Charley might have gained fifty or so pounds, but he sure could fire that machine gun. "Chief" looked almost as young and fit as he did when we crawled up and gave you first aid under fire. "Danny Boy" is now almost bald, but he was quite a sergeant in those days and "Jimmy" the "Polock" gets around pretty good with one glass eye and one arm.

Yes, memories flood your mind as you head for home. No one knows the feeling except those of us who were there, You wonder if you will ever see any of them again. Combat was hell and you have many terrible memories of death and destruction but the memory of total camaraderie with men who shared that hell will forever be embedded in your heart. There is no friendship like that of combat buddies. It is something that lasts forever.

Author unknown.

## REUNION UPDATE

Greensboro, NC • Holiday INN Four Seasons  
Joseph S. Koury Convention Center • August 25-29, 1999

By the time you receive this copy of the "Blue Ridge" I trust you have sent in your pre-registration Form for our Annual Reunion.

As I am composing this article in the middle of May, I am still optimistic of a significant attendance, but response from the membership has not been overwhelming. As a reminder, all registrations and selections of events should reach me no later than June 15th. All hotel reservations should be mailed directly to the hotel in the pre-postage paid envelope and arrive no later than July 25th. Hotel rates will apply 3 days prior and 3 days after Convention. Our hotel reservations upon arrival, will be at the Koury Convention Center entrance (Tower #2) which is near the hotel. Our 80th Division Registration will be on the same floor in Tower #1. (Registration clerks will assist you if needed.)

I had been asked by some, if another Tour could be scheduled for Friday August 27th: but others

said they would prefer to do as they choose, or just take a day of relaxation and socialize. Historically this has been a 'free day'. For this reason, as previously stated, representatives of the Greensboro Area Convention & Visitor Bureau will have a table set up near our Registration Desk to assist you in visiting points of interest in the area, on your own.

For those of you who will be flying into Greensboro, there will be free shuttle service provided by the Hotel. Just use the Reservation phone adjacent to the Baggage area. There is also "Free" parking at the Hotel for all vehicles.

Our Convention agenda will follow the normal course of events as in previous years. Looking forward to greet you the members, guests and the faithful ladies of our Auxiliary and several new members.

*Max R. Schmidt-Sr. Vice Commander: 1999 Reunion Chairman (336) 288-0983*

### PAID ADVERTISEMENT

#### 317th, 318th & 319th Histories

Very informative on a day to day basis. If you would like one, send a check for \$16.25 for EACH book to Robert T. Murrell.

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

*DO NOT make checks out to 80th  
Association*

*Also a few copies of the "Operational History" are still available at \$27. Over 5000 have been sold in the USA and Europe!*

# "TAPS"

## WWI

\*Hutzler, LeRoy 319  
501 College Drive  
Blackstone, VA 23824 2/28/99  
Rptd by daughter  
\* See Article on page 9.

Worms, William S. Hq Co  
Stowe, PA 3/22/99  
Newspaper Obit

## ETO

Audsley, Robert E. F-319  
Box 141  
Chilhowee, MO 64733-0141 3/97  
Rptd by wife Evelyn

Ball, Chester A-314 FA  
6174 Sunny Vale Dr.  
Columbus, OH 43228-9738 3/8/99  
Obit in the Red Diamond

Barfield, Woodrow W. C-313th FA  
1406 N 33rd Street  
Lawton, OK 73505-3807 1/8/99  
Rptd by wife Evelyn

Beale, James W. AT-319  
RT.. 2, Box 458  
Appomattox, VA 1/10/97  
Rptd by M. Schmidt

Blackmore, Charles R. A-319  
PO Box 211  
Grover Hill, OH 45849-0211 Unknown  
Rptd by Robert I. Simpson

Blume, William J. "Joe" L-318  
816 Hiber Ave.  
Huntington, WV 25705 2/27/99  
Rptd by Jean Fisher

Botts, Joseph Hq 315 FA Bn  
842 Law Lane  
Mt Pleasant, SC 29464-9524 3/12/99  
Rptd by Fred Buscarini

Brazill, Myles 80th MP  
RR2, Box 157  
Landisburg, PA 17040-9615 Unknown  
Postal return marked Deceased

Callard, Chester James A-317  
Columbus, OH 9/1/93  
Rptd by Son John

Carney Price F PNC Dv Hq  
32 Holland Park Dr  
Franklin, TN 37069 4/24/99  
Rptd by Robert E. Parks

Davis, Charles 80th QM  
Address unknown  
Not a member 6/20/98  
Rptd by Caleb Hurst

Dowdy, James T. Jr. 80 MP  
1212 S. Flamingo  
LaMarque, TX 77568 1/30/99  
Rptd by Everett A. Hanson

Flack, James W. Sr. QM  
239 Wyoming Street  
Greensburg, PA 15601-3981 3/20/99  
Rptd by wife Josephine

Harper, Horace M. Sv-319  
104 Deer Ford Dr  
Lancaster, PA 17601-5685 3/28/99  
Rptd by Lorraine Snyder

Haubner, Robert K. A-318  
1703 Fort Hill Road  
Phelps, NY 14532-9622 3/15/99  
Rptd by wife Rose

Jamesison, James F. A-318  
440 Tittenhouse Circle  
Havertown, PA 19083-2119 5/7/99  
Rptd by Jeff Wignall

Klepacz, Marion S. F-318  
5567 Dorr St  
Toledo, OH 43615-3630 5/8/98  
Rptd by R. Fasnacht

Lebenson, Milton B-318  
9841 Queens Blvd  
Flushing, NY 11374-4361 3/19/99  
Rptd by brother Len

Miller, William B, Col. 702 Tk Bn  
16107 5th Street E  
Redington Beach, FL 33708-1615 4/99  
Rptd by Florida Post News

Murdock, Frank Hq 3d Bn 319  
Box 101 Rt. 2  
Simpsonville, AR 72712 5/18/99  
Rptd by Gene Barry

Reid, Edgar Douglas C-317  
PO Box 9998  
Campbell, AL 36727-9998 Unknown  
Postal Return marked Deceased

Robinson, Edwin M. A-313 FA Bn  
933 Bartlett Terrace  
Libertyville, IL 60048-1909 4/12/99  
Rptd by Lee Hatcher

Rowling, Sidney Hq-319  
518 N. Wynnewood Ave  
Wynnewood, PA 19096-1312 2/26/99  
Rptd By Irv Robinson

Santopietro, James Hq 313th FA Bn  
1606 Baldwin Street  
Waterbury, CT 06706 5/26/99  
Rptd by Paul Burgio

Szeucaqyle, Jack M 319  
125 Morris Ave  
Garfield, NJ 1/28/99  
Rptd by M. Schmidt

Thomas, E.J. Hq 305 Eng  
911 Stanbridge Road  
Drexel Hill, PA 19026-4725 Unknown  
Rptd by wife

Thornberry, Douglas G-319  
P.O. Box 38153  
St. Louis, MO 63138-0953 3/20/99  
Rptd by wife Wilma

Turner, Harry T. Hq 319  
140 Beech Road  
Lawrenceville, VA 23868-3805 3/2/99  
Rptd by wife Annette

Wing, Eugene W. Unknown  
1248 Laurelwood Rd  
Pottstown, PA 19465-7464 3/14/99  
Rptd by son

# LEROY HUTZLER

Leroy was born on the 4th of July 1895. Attended several of our reunions and stood very tall and erect always speaking with a strong voice. At the age of 22, Leroy became a first lieutenant in the 319th Infantry Regiment of Blue Ridge Division in WW I, and soon found himself fighting in France.

Leroy retired at age 65 from his family's department store, Hutzler and Co. After retiring with little to do, Hutzler began working part-time at St. Mary's Hospital and soon took over the receptionist's job full time. Brain surgery sent Hutzler into permanent retirement at age 98.

Returning home and continuing living on his own after enduring physical, speech and occupational therapy. He reapplied for his drivers license and passed both the written and driving test.

Unfortunately, a series of falls ended his independence and he moved into Our Lady of Hope, an assisted facility in Richmond, VA.

Leroy was to go to Washington to receive his French Legion of Honor Award, but due to his grave condition he could not make the trip. However, A French diplomat and embassy official in Washington came to Richmond and pre-sented Leroy the medal with the traditional words of thanks in French. Leroy received this award on February 23, 1999 and on February 28 he passed away.

Those of us who were fortunate enough to know Leroy, will always remember him as a true Gentleman standing ram-rod straight, speaking in a firm voice. Farewell Comrade.

## Accounts by Our Members

### The 80th Infantry Division returns to WEIMAR, Germany

*As told by Dr. Richard Bobb, 317 Battalion Surgeon*

On 10 April 1999, fifteen 80th Division Veterans, wives and sons, bravely re-invaded Germany and after 54 years reoccupied Weimar. This time it was a little different. We were housed, fed and entertained royally by our very friendly hosts who referred to us as their "liberators." Everyone expected an enjoyable time, but what we received greatly exceeded all the expectations any of us had.

We were met at the Frankfurt, Germany airport by a pleasant young lady, Millie Waters, a representative of the U.S. Army which had arranged our transportation to Weimar. On arrival late in the afternoon, we checked in at the new four stars Dr. Wolffs Art hotel which provided us with fine breakfasts and dinners each day we were there.

Sunday we toured the concentration camp Buckenwald. There was a ceremony that day celebrating the 54th anniversary of its liberation. Among the delegations, placing flowers on the memorial was a uniformed Russian soldier and civilian. Each one of us participated with our own individual roses. Among the participants were former inmates, some wearing parts of the stripped uniforms. One was so moved emotionally he gave Don Davis a swatch from the uniform he had worn.

Monday we walked to the town hall where the Lord Mayor Doctor Volkhardt Germer, and other dignitaries and a band officially welcomed us to Weimar. They gave each of us a beautiful picture book of Weimar and refreshments. Later we were taken to the historic Jacobskirche (Jacobs Church) where the memorial service was conducted in German and English. A soprano, a Korean who is now the wife of a German, sang a beautiful solo that none of us will forget.

Tuesday we went to Erfurt a town about 20 miles away. It was also "liberated by the 80th Division. In fact, one of our group was wounded there. We were greeted by a band and the Lord Mayor Manfred Ruge. After presentation of gifts and refreshments, we toured the city. Records show it was in existence in 742. Martin Luther was a Monk here and earned his doctorate at the university which is one of the oldest in Europe. Their 17th Century Petersburg Citadel was occupied by Napoleon after his defeat at the Battle of Leipzig. We next visited the mill Heilige Muhle (13th Century) and the associated Glenn Miller Museum. Our host and owner Karl-Friedrich Naue, is a well known jazz musician who had an orchestra which played in the Glenn Miller style until 1969 when the Russians had him disband it. He supplied us with refreshments including the traditional bratwurst and beer as well as a tape of the recording of his Glenn Miller orchestra.

Wednesday we spent the morn-

ing on a walking tour of Weimar, whose written history goes back to 1250. UNESCO has designated it a World Heritage Cultural Site. They are currently having a year long celebration of their being chosen th European Cultural City for 1999. Also, a concurrent celebration is the 250th anniversary of the birth of world famous Johann Wolfgang Goethe, Germany's foremost man of letters. The town of about 60,000 has been the home of Lucas Cranach, the 16th century painter, Johann Sebastian Bach-employed by the reigning duke, Friedreich Schilder—poet, Franz Liszt, pianist and composer, Fred Nietzsche, philosopher, Walter Gropius, founder of the Bauhaus movement. Weimar is where the constitution of the ill fated post WWI "Weimar Republic" was ratified.

That afternoon Bernd Zange, the local Ford Dealer had a party for us where we met local townspeople and had the usual delicious bratwurst and beer.

Thursday, we went to the park laid out by Goethe himself and with an English speaking guide, visited Goethe's Garden House which was given to him by his patron, Grand Duke Carl August. The furnishings are all original. We visited the extensive caves under the park and town itself. Goethe collected fossils and geological specimens here. They were expanding during the war and were used as air raid shelters. Some believe that part of these caves was dynamited shut by the Nazi's and still contain the crated Amber Room, a renown treasure looted from the Czars palace at Tsarskoye Selo in WWII.

Next some of us visited the Rus-

sian soldier's cemetery with its impressive wrought iron gates, complete with the Red Star and Hammer and Sickle. Although there are only about one hundred simple stones, each one shows five to six names with dates of birth and death. All had died after the war.

Later in the afternoon, we went to the dedication of Lincolntrasse where the American Consul General Patrick Trohn gave an address in German.

Friday, we were entertained by the school children. A really touching experience. One little girl welcomed us with a speech in English. (English speaking people in this part of Germany are not as common as they are in West Germany. Until the Russians left, that language was taught starting in the fourth grade.) They played instrumental solos, sang as a group (some songs in English) danced including the square dance. Finally they presented each of us with a personally drawn picture of Goethe's Garden home. After the program we had sandwiches and drinks including beer as we met with some townspeople and some of the Buchenwald internees.

Saturday, we went to the nearby village of Niedergrunstedt. There was a commemorative service, in their small 12th Century church which had two galleries above the ground floor. It was packed. Many were standing. We had reserved seats in the front. The wonderful choir amazed us. After the service they presented each of us a commemorative plaque from the village. We then adjourned outside where they served us the traditional bratwurst and beer.

That evening we had our farewell dinner. Some tears were shed by both hosts and guests. We were surprised by the wholehearted warmth, generosity and kindness shown to us by everyone. Many little incidents, even by people with no connection to our visit, demonstrated this. For example, when Archer Futch and I visited the museum in Goethe's town residence, we found his carriage in the stable. I was trying to take a picture of it, but having trouble because of the very bad lighting. A German who spoke no English, saw my problem. He departed and on returning presented us both with a postcard photograph of the carriage.

The people of Weimar spent over 40 years under Russian occupation. That experience, I believe, preceded by their short American occupation (12 April to 3 July 1945) as well as their knowledge of West Germany's freedom and prosperity with the American occupation were some of the causes of their affection for America.

We are greatly indebted to Brend Schmidt who conceived our visit and worked tirelessly over a period of years to bring it about. Then he and his co-worker Hans Stadelmann, a German navy veteran of WWII, stayed with us everyday to assure that everything went well. We also owe a debt to our own Sid Haley who, on very short notice did an excellent job of coordinating the state side of the trip.

For all of us participants our trip will be one of our most treasured memories.

## **Weimar wishes to thank the 80th Division for their return**

*By Brend Schmidt of Weimar, Germany*

I think it is time to write you on the visit of the 80th Division Veterans to my town of Weimar, from 10 to 18 April 1999. It was a matter of the veterans who were involved in the liberation of our town and area 54 years ago who were invited back and we wished to honor them for saving our city from total destruction. The invitation came from the Lord Mayor of our town. It was Brend Schmidt and Hans Stadelmann who were the organizers of this trip.

Many ceremonies were held as described by Doctor Dick Bobb, and the Consul General and Consul of the United States participated. It was very hard to say good bye, but promise to come back, many of the citizens and veterans had tears in their eye upon their departure.

I shall not go into detail of all the events as Doctor Bobb, with a great mustache, a retired surgeon of the 317th promised he would tell all when he got home. I shall remember, Caleb Hurst, a good researcher, Archer Futch, a retired mayor, Dan Martelli was very kind. Virgil Myers and his wife celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary while here away from their children. Eric Reillinger, who excellently understood the German language, Vern Schock whose wife became sick the last few days, Bob Walker, who was one of the first in Buckenwald. 80th Division Veterans Commander Russell Sick, also visiting Paris after leaving us.

Bob Burrows, who rented a car and was driving his family to Czechoslovakia. Jerry Spellman and his two sons, Sid Haley the excellent organizer of the trip and then who can forget Don Davis, a giant and the "loudspeaker" of the troop and funny, who stood along side of "Shorty" Clifford Hooker with his arm out stretched over his head. We of course will not forget all the ladies and sons who came also and it is our hope you will return again next year in April. Again, thank everyone for coming.

## **Behind German Lines**

*By a Quartermaster*

When we were told of a trip, we were told we were going to Lemoncourt, but we were not shown the roads we were supposed to use. We did not get started the first day as the Engineers did not get to the bridge at Dieulouard due to the Germans.

Driving daylight was OK, but at night we could not see anything. As we were not allowed any lights, not even the cat eyes. As usual, it turned out to be a game of follow the leader, if you could see the leader. After dark, I came to a "Y" in the road. I stopped and could not hear or see anything to give me a hint as to which road to take. I choose the left road and luckily it was the right way. In the dark, we bumped quite often and in one of these bumps the truck behind me bent my trailer tongue so bad, I could not unhook the trailer.

In the book *The U.S. Army in WWII* by Hugh Cole, he stated the 4th Armored camped on the road

that night, but as I remember it, we drove all night. They did say someone took the wrong turn, and we drove through some wrong turns, turned around and headed the other way. To make matters worse, I was driving the next to last truck in the convoy.

At dawn we pulled off into a field to eat, and heard two different sounding machine guns. The infantry officer wanted to send out a patrol to see what the situation was. He picked a few men, but one protested saying so and so should go in his place as he had the Combat Infantry Badge as he had more experience.

Shortly after leaving this field, we passed a few side roads with wounded Germans laying along side of the roads, begging for help. We never stopped to help them and a few feet beyond the 4th Armored had a tank guarding a side road.

We ended up in Arracourt, and after taking the troops up to the top of the hill, I was instructed to go back to town, to the infantry battalion headquarters, to pick up pioneer equipment so the infantry could dig in without having to use the small entrenching tools. While I was in town, there was a lot of rifle firing, and I later found they were firing at our Quartermaster up on the hill, we still had the 443d QM Co. attached to us and a few of their trucks were with us and one of their Black men was hit, but, would not leave his friends for medical attention. From the sounds we hear, that guy spent all night digging his fox-hole deeper. The next morning we found the infantry expected a counterattack.

About daylight we started mov-

ing, but had to stop because of German action, and one of our trucks was stopped across the road, and two American tankers were clearing up things on our left. Shortly after they discovered a German tank coming from Nomeny, spotting the truck across the road the German tank fired at the truck, hitting and exploded it causing the truck to burn. The American tanks took off after the German tank and it didn't get very far as the American tank knocked it out.

Shortly after this, the infantry was told to remount he trucks. The infantry officer in charge of the troops on my truck got in beside the assistant driver, instead of in back of the driver, and ask him, "do you know what to do if the driver is hit?" Yes, was the answer. The officer then made the statement, "now if I get hit you hold on to me because I do not want those SOB's to get hold of me." In other words, a T-5 gets shoved out on the cold wet ground, but a second lieutenant gets to ride back on a truck seat. I often wonder if that officer made it through, and what I would say to him if I were to meet him today? A little later the troops detrucked and fought they way into St. Genevieve, and we were laying on the ground hoping the shelling would quit.

After being shelled and the town captured we drove through the town, and just about that time we heard artillery being fired. Being a little skitterish, we started down the hill toward our lines. The ground was wet and a fence was stretched across hill and there was only one small gate in it. Well you should have seen us slip and slide down through that little passageway, and

we kept going until we got to the bottom of the hill.

There we found it was our artillery firing well over our heads at the Germans. That is the only time I saw General McBride. They wanted a few trucks to go after ammunition and they picked on me, but I told them I could not unhook my trailer, so they picked another driver to go. Boy, did he gripe. The above happened behind German lines 14-16 September 1944

### **Don't ever forget to pray, and avoid all werewolfs**

*Told by an Officer of the MP's*

The 80th Division has relieved the 3rd Division in the city of Nuremberg. The war in Europe would be over within two weeks but not before the 80th would drive southeast to meet Soviet forces coming our way from the east in Austria.

As the lieutenant in charge of the Military Police Platoon's traffic section, I am ordered to go in my jeep from Nuremberg to Regensburg, which is a daylight jeep drive of at least two hours through one of the thickest, darkest forests I will ever see.

My job is to reconnoiter roads and a big bridge way that has been reestablished across the Danube River by the 65th Division. The 80th Division will use this bridge in advancing through the 65th Division.

My mother, a convert to Catholicism, had mailed me what is called a "Foxhole Rosary." I kept the rectangular, card-size, plastic rosary,

which glows faintly at night, in my left shirt pocket.

My driver was from Indianapolis, IN. In historic Regensburg, a piece of shrapnel punctures one of my jeep tires. The driver replaced the ruined tire with our only spare.

We cross the bridge and complete our reconnaissance. I want to re-cross the bridge to Regensburg and get back on the highway to Nuremberg before darkness closes over it, but the road leading to the bridge is congested; so, cop fashion, we take a short cut across a field.

We are slithering through mud slowly. I am leaning out the right side of the jeep watching it front wheel cutting through the mud when I see a sign in the grass ahead of us. The sign say, "Achtung Minen."

Whacking my drivers hand to get his attention, I shout, "stop, you're getting into a mine field." My right hand was pressing on the rosary.

The jeep slides to a stop as its right front wheel flattens the warning sign. The driver backs up the jeep. As he tuns it away from the minefield, we hear a sizzle. Another puncture.

I was lucky enough to mooch a new tire from the operator of a 65th engineer maintenance truck which had an air compressor on it. The driver has removed the old tire, and is preparing to fill the new tire with air, the engineer says, "You guys are lucky. This is the last jeep tire for today.

I say, "Even though we won't be able to get through that black forest before dark, we can get at least part of the way back to Nuremberg."

My driver and the 65th Division man both suggest waiting until dawn for the return trip. But I insist on starting out as soon as the driver can finish filling the new tire with air.

The 65th Division soldier says, "If you wait for daylight, you can report back almost as soon as if you'd driven all night with "cat's eyes." Besides German radio is encouraging the Werewolf, Hitler Youth groups, to attack lone jeeps using "Cat's eyes" to get over the roads."

Hearing this news, the driver seems to be underestimating the amount of air the compressor is putting into the tire. The tire explodes.

That explosion has always made me wonder if, in filling the tire so fast, my driver, now deceased, hadn't exploded the tire on purpose and equaled the Greek philosophers in common sense.

I also like to think the explosion was a personal little miracle connected with the Foxhole Rosary that Mom has sent Me.

### **Mousson Hill**

*As told by an Officer of "I" 318*

I was right there with the rest of the 3d Battalion 318th Infantry, having fought our way through Loisy and Atton up to the rear of the hill. We soon realized why the top of the hill was so important - it commanded a view of Alsace Lorraine, that on a clear day one could see Strasbourg to the east. Great location for spotting artillery targets and watch the Jerries maneuver.

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*Continued on page 21*





**Above:** In front of Rathaus (City Hall), April 12, 1999: Jerry Spellman, Med, 3rd Btn, 317th; Hans Stadelmann; Clifford Hooker, Co. G, 318th; Archer Futch, Co. G, 317th; Eric Reilinger, Hdg Co, 3rd Btn, 317th; Bernd Schmidt; Russell Sick, 305 Engrs; Bob Burrows, Hdg Co, 2nd Btn, 317th; Don Davis, Co K, 319th; Sid Haley, Co H, 317th; Virgil Myers, Co G, 317th; (hidden) Caleb Hurst, 80th Qtm Co; Dic Bobb, Med, 2nd Btn, 317th; Dan Martelli, Co C, 319th; Vern Schock, Co F, 317th; Bob Walker, Hdg S-2, 317th; Benjamin Alvarado, Co G, 317th.



**Above:** Spouses of veterans in front of Weimar Rathaus (City Hall): Mabel Burrows, Ida Reilinger, Bobbie Nyers, Victoria Alvarado, Marcella Haley, Margaret Schock, Carol Walker.



Caleb Hurst, Dan Martelli and Millie Waters in public square at US Army, Europe.



Sons of veterans in front of Rathaus (City Hall): Gary Spellman, Timmy Spellman, Bobby Burrows.



**Above:** Signing honored guest book of Lord Mayor of Weimar, Germany.



**Above:** Some children of Weimar who entertained us.



**Above:** Lord Mayor Herr Doctor Volkhardt Germer and Richard Bobb.



**Above:** In front of bus chartered by US Army for three days of our Weimar trip are Gary Spellman; Jerry Spellman, Med, 3rd Btn, 317th; Timmy Spellman; Vern Schock, Co F, 317th.



**Above:** Ceremony at Buchenwald Memorial Garden near Weimar.

**Right:** Millie Waters, US Army Transport. Coord. from Heidelberg, and Jerry Spellman, Med, 3rd Btn, 317th.



**Above:** Virgil Myers, Co G, 317th with two German Army Officers at Petersberg Citadel in Erfurt.

**Left:** The LONG and SHORT of the 80th Division! Clifford Hooker, Co G, 318th & Don Davis, Co K, 319th



Ceremony at Buchenwald with Russ Sick and the Lord Mayor Dr. Volkhardt Germer of Weimar.



Bobbie and Virgil Myers, 60th Wedding Anniversary!



Reception at Weimar Rathaus: Marcella Haley; Sid Haley, Co H, 317th; Dr. Volkhardt Germer, Lord Mayor of Weimar



Mabel and Bob Burrows, Hdq Co 2nd Btn, 317th.



Bernhard Ochsenreither, Architect and City Planner, Erfurt, Germany and Sid Haley, Co H, 317th



Host Bernd Schmidt and Russ Sick.



Glen Miller Museum at Old Mill in Erfurt, Germany





April 11, 1999, 80th Division vet Ben Alvarado with Buchenwald internees. Ben Schmidt (right, in baseball cap) arranged and conducted visit.



Buchenwald, April 11, 1999. REAR, L TO R: Dic Bobb, 2nd Btn Surgeon, 317th; Sid Haley, Co H, 317th; Caleb Hurst, 80th Qtm Co; Don Davis, Co K, 319th; Archer Futch, Co G, 317th; Virgil Myers, Co G, 317th; Dan Martelli, Co C, 319th; Eric Reilinger, Hdq Co, 3rd Btn, 317th; Benjamin Alvarado, Co G, 317th. FRONT, L TO R: Bernd Schmidt and Hans Stadelmann, Weimar Trip coordinators.



Above left: Crematorium at Buchenwald Concentration Camp. Right: Millie Waters, US Army Transp. Coord. from Heidelberg, Germany and Dr. "Dic" Bobb, 2nd Btn Surgeon, 317th at Guard Tower at Buchenwald.

### MOUSSON, from page 15

Our weapons platoon position was near the top, with the Germans dug in on top in the rubble and on that side of what our men had renamed "Castle Dome", facing Pont A Mousson itself, and below the Moselle River. We had no sooner dug in when 20mm ack-ack was received from the river area. Also heavy shelling commenced from the east, the other side of the hill. The heavies did not hit the top of the hill but was arching over the crest, landing approximately 100 yards beyond our foxholes on the down hill side. Each round sounded like a freight train overhead. I recall one Sergeant who bragged he had not dug a foxhole since the Falaise Gap. He dug that day, deep, deep, deep. Rumor was it was bigger than a 155mm—even a railroad gun due to the rounds being spaced four to five minutes apart. I can still hear those rounds roaring over my foxhole today, and on top of this it rained, rained and rained. Our dead was lined up like cord wood, shelter halves barely covering their faces.

We at times had to venture out singly to fill our canteens with water, which we had caught in an old boiler pan some farmer had embedded in the side of the hill to collect rain water for his live stock. Using our Halazone tables to purify the water. It was on this hill that General Serby, our Artillery Commander was killed.

Supplies were dropped as we were running out of ammo, rations, and medical supplies, along with needing batteries for our radios. These were dropped by the L-4 planes of the Artillery. Now the reason for the troops renaming

Mousson Hill as Castle Dome was a high glass enclosed crucifix towering some twenty to thirty feet above our heads, facing toward Pont A Mousson below.

Receiving small arms fire from the upper right of the hill and from excellent cover for the Germans, we soon heard the clanking of tanks some distance away, so I had the men ready the bazooka we had brought along with the weapons platoon and was in the light machine gun section. Soon one of the men spotted the tanks some two hundred yards distant and when he gestured/reacted to the scene the glass case blew into a million shards, we of course knew the tank had made a direct hit, when this happened we scampered back to our foxholes leaving our light machine gun. After a fashion, we noticed the machine gun, with the ammo belt still in its throat and on its tripod. Our radio was also next to it, and I put a round through it so the Germans would not have a chance to use of it.

Realizing we needed that gun, I yelled to cover me and I darted out for the gun as they fire into the rubble to keep the Germans heads down. After reaching the gun, I released the gun from the tripod and wheeling around to return to my fox hole, I fire the MG from the hip into the rubble area. Shortly afterward, what appeared as blue eggs came rolling down the hill and exploding with a deafening roar. No shrapnel, they were concussion grenades. Along with these grenades 20mm shell came flying in, and each man ducked down in his fox hole and waited for a counterattack which never came.

MOUSSON, continued on page 22

## 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. The fund 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.

*Clarence J. Dean, Jr C-318*  
*William O. Nicoll 780th Ord*  
*National Association in*  
*Memory of PNC Price Carney*  
*PNC Club in Memory of*  
*PNC Luther H. Smith H-319*  
*PNC Club in Memory of*  
*PNC Price F. Carney Div Hqs*

### *MOUSSON, from page 21*

Finally, the sun broke through and what a thrill it was to see the P47's staffing and bombing repeatedly, all around our positions. As we enjoyed this show, we noticed a line of tanks with infantry advancing as they fought their way through Loisy

## *New York Post # 43*

By the time you receive this report we will have held our annual election and meeting at the Turf Inn, Albany, NY. Our next meeting will be at the reunion. Please check the bulletin board for location, time and date. This will be a short meeting and an update on Post functions.

Our big fall gathering will be in Ithaca again at the Best Western Inn. We have had excellent room rates and also they now serve a very nice continental breakfast for guests. In our last report I reviewed the many activities scheduled. On Thursday we will have to leave the motel at 1115 AM to arrive at the Tower Club at Ithaca College. This is a beautiful site overlooking the Finger Lakes area, over forty miles long. Both Cayuga and Seneca have over 35 wineries located near their shores. Also, many orchards of fruit are located in this area of New York State. It is the time to stock up on wine, fruit and honey, we expect to be able to visit some of these so you may fill your baskets full. News will be arriving in a few months on this final post gathering of the century. See you all at the Convention.  
*Ed Bredbenner, Sect*

and Atton below as we had done a few days before. It was our relief column and it was a sight to behold. We cheered a la Hollywood, as they approached and met with us. No doubt about it we were only too glad to get off that hill, but the excitement was short lived as orders were soon given to move out in another attack.

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

I received a letter from Rudolph Hirschler who joined the 80th in 1998. He inquired about the 3d Bn and I hope I filled him in about us and our Hospitality Room. Rudy was in Company M from September 1944 through October 1945. He had to miss Harrisburg because of his wife's illness but hopes to be in Greensboro. When they come greet and welcome them. I'm sure he can fill us in on some of M Company's and his experiences. Angelo and Kay Barone and Bob and Polly Parks attended funeral services in Nashville for PNC Price Carney. Bob and Polly also attended funeral services for PNC Sam McAllester, Jr in Nashville.

After attending the Florida Post meeting in Melbourne in early March the Barones drove to St. Petersburg and visited the Nathasons. Bob Smith also attended the Florida meeting and the Legion of Valor meeting, I think in Arizona.

Rex and Cecilia Kibbie wrote they have been traveling. In December, January and February in Texas visiting their son. In March visiting friends and relatives in and around Las Vegas where their eldest son lives. They are taking their pickup and trailer to Alaska in June and hope to stay until August and early September. They are really enjoying retirement.

We send our prayers and good wishes to all who are ill. We wish them a quick recovery and back to good health real soon.

We hope to see many in Greensboro. This will be the 80th Reunion for the 80th. How many organizations can have that record?  
*Bob Nathason, Sect*

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**St. Louis, MO 63131**

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## Florida Post #47

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At our March meeting we had an election of officers as follows:

Commander: George M. Bell, Sr.,  
1st Vice Commander: Archie B. Howell,  
2nd Vice Comd: Robert H. Smith,  
Sect/Treas: Wallace G. Ponder,  
Sgt-at-Arms: Adam Haiser

We lost another member Col. William B. Miller USA Ret (702nd Tk Bn). Bill passed away the early part of April 1999, he will be missed by all.

Evelyn and I were unable to attend our March 99 meeting for I brought Evelyn home two days before the meeting. It has been a long haul for her, over four months in a couple of hospitals, but she is doing real well. We both would like to thank everyone who sent get well cards, phone calls and their prayers, we appreciate it very much.

Other members unable to attend due to illness: Urban Weinheimer and George West.

Virgil Myers informed me that everyone had a great time in Melbourne, FL again and we had great weather for the stay.

National Officers in attendance: Commander Russell P. Sick, Sr. Vice Cmd Max Schmidt, 3rd Vice Cmd Clarence Brockman. From the Ladies Auxiliary, Pres. Margaret Schock, 1st Vice Pres. Naomi Brockman, Sect. Marcella Haley and Historian Rita Kutch.

Virgil Myers called me after he and Bobbie returned from Germany. Said the group had a great time and they were wine and dine and got

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## Post #44 Company M 318th Inf.

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Our Full Page Ad in the Reunion Program Book, remembering our fallen comrades has been placed again this year, renewing our pledge not to forget those who have answered the call of our Supreme Commander. "To Our Fallen Comrades."

Bob and Doris Murrell were the hosts to Lt. Colonel Kevin Reece, a Green Beret and his wife Major Carol Reece of the Air Force, over the Memorial Day Holidays. Kevin's dad was in the 80th. Bob and the Colonel rode in the lead vehicle in the Oakmont Parade...It was a high honor to have a Special Service G.I. as our guest. You fellows in Florida will have him in Tampa come the 1st Of July when he arrives for duty.

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to see a lot of cities and places of interest to all. Was surprised by the way they treated the group, you must remember we were their enemy many years ago.

Our next meeting will be October 29 and 30, 1999 at the Holiday Inn 15208 Gulf Blvd, Madeira Beach FL. 33708-1815. Phone (813) 392-2275. Room rates \$69.00 plus tax, rates good for 3 days prior and after the affair. You must call the hotel for reservations.

I need the current address for the following members. Fred Eckelmann and Redford Young. If you read this please send me your new address, your previous letters were returned unable to forward.  
*Wally Ponder Sect.*

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## Co F 318 Post 46

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The company met in San Antonio, TX on 14-18 April 1999 for its Bi-annual reunion. Blessed by excellent weather and superb accommodations, nearly 40 of our members and their families met to "greet, meet, eat, and repeat."

The tour of Fort Sam Houston and its museums was enjoyed on Thursday. A delicious lunch was served at the Officers Club at noon. That night the hotel hosted an authentic Mexican reception. On Friday we departed by bus at 0900 for a tour of Mission San Jose, The Alamo, the downtown Riverwalk with a river boat cruise. A highlight of the reunion was once again the memorial service on Friday night. On Saturday, after the business meeting, a free day was used to visit and explore. Another great banquet was held on Saturday night. During the delicious buffet a Mariachi trio performed for our enjoyment.

Officers elected was as follows:  
Post Commander: Clayton Warman  
1st Vice Cmd: Walter Sandefur,  
2nd Vice Cmd: Tom Pappas,  
Secretary: Robert Fasnacht,  
Treasurer: Clayton Warman;  
JA John Carty,  
Historian: Irvin Wojciechowski,  
Chaplin: Adrian Monday,  
Sgt-at-Arms: John Singleton,  
Flag Sgt: Irvin Wojciechowski and the Exe Board:  
Tom Pappas 1yr, Bill Curtis 2yrs,  
Manuel Tijerina 3yrs. Photographer Tom Pappas.

The company is especially indebted to Art and Frances Strobel and their daughter, Carol Kana for

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## Brett Post #3

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Brett Post luncheon meetings for April and May were a success and well attended. The June meeting has not as yet been scheduled. The picnic will be discussed at this meeting.

We were sorry to hear of Al Latusek's Bypass surgery and hospitalization. We were glad to hear he is now home and recovering.

We were very pleased to have Essie Simpson and Ann Boronyak to our meeting. Welcome back.

For those who wish to make our annual picnic and do not attend our meetings, it will be held again at the Natrona Heights VFW on 18 July starting at 12:00 noon. All 80th People are welcome, but if you are coming we need to know the number so we may plan the food.

Cost has yet not been determined. Ladies bring you goodies. Also if you care to donate a gift for a door prize, bring it along.

Don't forget our Annual Reunion to be held in Greensboro, NC August 25-29, 1999. See you there.

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the arrangements..it could not have gone smoother. Paul Fate and Bill Curtis will host the next reunion in or near Tampa FL in the spring of 2001. The date will be determined later. If you have an E mail address, please send it along to:  
FAS2920@webtv.net  
*Bob Fasnacht, Sect*

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## Cincinnati Post #34

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First let us set the record straight. In the last issue, we wrote about the Christmas party and said that Art Rehling was sick so he and Grace hadn't made it! Well, that isn't the way it was. Art was sick with the flu and he missed our party (and quite a few other holiday parties) but Grace was there and working hard seeing that everything was ready on time, etc. Grace has sentenced anyone connected with that booboo to 40 lashes with a wet noodle.

Cincinnati Post is meeting once a month for dinner instead of lunch, now that the days are longer and slippery roads are no threat. We met at the tree House outside of Aurora, IN. They had such good food and the ride down there is so pretty. All those present had a good time. Lucy and Howard Macke were leaving the next day to tour the Ohio Amish countryside. They were looking forward to the tip. Also, we were talking about Greensboro, NC and Art and Grace Rehling said they plan to go. They are looking forward to seeing other Recon there. Floyd Warner wants to go, but has had health problem frequently this past year and hesitates to go so far from home. Mel Schmidt is looking forward to going. Her son, Don, is driving her down. Dave and Wilma Orr are also looking forward to seeing all their 80th friends there and Dave says several from F Co. Are going to try to make this reunion if their health keeps improving. Among them are Paul and Ruth Arndt. Ruthie has been in the hospital recently, but is coming home soon. Webster and Wille Martin are

planning to be there. He is doing well after surgery and Willie is getting back into action (yard work that is) after several surgeries. George and Gene Bell will be coming. Bob and Jean Kefauver have thought about going. Bob says they are well - just arthritis and old age - (that sounds familiar to a lot of us, doesn't it?) Bob and Mary Fussel have a granddaughter's wedding in FL, so they will miss the reunion this year. Sellie and Zelma Thomas are not traveling that far. Sellie is still fighting shingles. Maurice Goeckler is having hip problems. Dave talked to Orville Sword also. Orville is adjusting after the loss of his wife, Beulah. He also reports that he has had some eye problems and lost the sight in one, so he doesn't drive far from home. K.B. Foster came back to Cincinnati in March and is busy with yard work after wintering in Key West.

We heard Lou Feldman has had some surgery but is back home now and getting along okay. We've missed seeing him lately. Betty Cammerer sends her best wishes to all her friends and to Cannon Co. She hopes the Holditch's Marge and Damon, are well.

I heard from one Signal Corps, Edmund Boyce of WV. He asked about dues for the Cincinnati Post. The Post isn't collecting dues anymore, because there are so few members left in the local area. We meet for lunch once a month and have our Christmas Party and that's about it. I'd like to hear from more of Signal Corps. Come on, you guys, call or write just keep in touch. I don't have any big news either. Just day to day stuff. My address is: Floyd Warner, 3623 W. Liberty St. Cincinnati, OH 45205, Phone 513-921-8546. *Post Commander.*

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

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The 313th F.A. Group of the 80th Division met Thursday, May 13th at the Fairfield Inn in Ontario, OH. It was so nice to see our friends from TN, VA, PA, IN, WV, and CT. We were happy to see those who had been ill and in the hospital in the last few months. Al Latusek, Karl Blocker who both had hospitalized in the last month, attended and we were overjoyed to see them. Lee Hatcher and Bob Brinker, who had been ill, both looked very good and were happy to be able to attend. We all missed Ed Robinson who had been a faithful attendee to our Mini-reunions. Ed passed away in March. And of course we missed Domenick & Jeanette Abbruzzese. Domenick is recuperating from a heart bypass, and we will see him in Greensboro, NC.

The attendees at the reunion were: Jim and Ruth Phillips, Urban Lassure and Reva, Audrey and Karl Blocker, Helen Lang, Charlie Phillips, Lou Shirey, Willis Fraley and his son Quentin, Al and Hilda Lutusek, Patty and Jack Fleming, Charlie and Alice Noxon, Lee and Ann Hatcher, Bob and Mary Brinker and their son Jim, Albert Sulitis, Warren Burkhart, Frank Poletti.

On Friday, we visited the Carrousel Park for a ride and shop. We also were given a tour of the workshop where the horses and other animals used in Carrouseles were made. It was quite interesting. Friday evening, we treated to dinner

by the Blocker's at their home. At the dinner we sold chances for gifts. Everyone enjoyed music played by Charlie Noxon and a fun sing-along was held. Russell P. Sick Commander, also attended this dinner and we were very pleased to have him. On Saturday, we took a trip to Kingwood Center to view the tulip gardens and a tour of the King Estate. That evening we all met at the Hometown Buffet in Mansfield for a get-together dinner. Then by to the hotel for a brief meeting of the group. At the meeting Jim Phillips was presented with a plaque by Commander Lou Shirey for Appreciation for Devoted Services as the Lane Hall Post #42 Secretary Treasurer. More prizes were awarded and then it was time for our goodbyes. We all want to thank Audrey and Karl Blocker for planning this great get-together.

Door prizes were won by Ann Hatcher, Urban Lassure, Helen Lang, Warren Burkhart, Jim Brinker, and Lou Shirey..

Our treasury is larger thanks to all who furnished prizes for our raffles and made donations.

This gathering was so successful, it was decided to have another one in 2000. More about this in Greensboro, NC.

Thanks to Fran Poletti for assisting your Secretary. God willing, I will see you in August.

*Jim Phillips, Sect/Treas.*



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## Post #33 Co. H 319 Inf.

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This is a short message to the men and women of post #33 to gear up for our reunion in Greensboro. Hilda and I are leaving on a trip to Northwest Canada, to see the sights and take it easy for 10 days. After two trips to two hospitals it's time to look around and enjoy.

In March we voted to become a city. It is not official until later this month. Our new name is Laguna Woods. Our zip code is still 92653-2902.

No news is not always good news, so let us hear from you. See you all in August. *Irv Robinson, Sect.*

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## DV and DV Hqs Co. Post #39

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Our good buddy Bob Lee suffered a stroke in early May and is now being treated in a Rehab Center in Lakeland, FL. His care giver Pauline reports that he is doing well and should be released soon.

At long last, I heard from former Capt. Henry Todd of the J.A. Section, who tells me that he is hospitalized with a broken hip and the only other news he has, is that he retired from the practice of Law after 60 years. Proudly, he tells us that they have three grandsons and one grand daughter, plus one great grandson and three great grand daughters. He also sent along a healthy check for our hospitality room.

Just after putting out our May Post Newsletter, I'm pretty well drained of news, so this is it for now. Ciao! *Fred Buscarini, Sect/Treas*

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## 305th Engineers Post #40

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I've made a few phone calls to find some news for you and all I can report is that there's no bad news. I can't say everybody is fine because I didn't talk to everyone—I quit while I was ahead.

Fellows, if you saved your Blue Ridgers (like I do), take some time right now and review some of the Post 40 articles. Some activities we had are worth the time to recall. Everybody at the past reunions saw our red shirts and our comradeship was very evident. Names we haven't forgotten will come before you eyes in every paragraph written there.

My National Commander suite will be our Post 40 Hospitality room at Greensboro, August 25-29 1999, and just so you won't be lonely in there I have invited everybody at the reunion to "come on down". If it gets crowded, I'll need help from every engineer to host the party. It's been an honor for me to be the Association Commander this year, and it adds some pride to Post #40, so let's whoop it up "one more time". *Russ, Post Commander.*

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### NOTICE TO ALL POSTS

**The next issue will carry all the names who attended the Greensboro Reunion, therefore all COPY will be limited to ONE PAGE. If they attend your Hospitality Room, their name will appear in the Roll Call, therefore PLEASE do not repeat.**

**Thank You! The Editor**

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## Company L 319

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It is now only a few months away and my hope is that Jim Young's letter to Co. L members has encouraged you to attend the reunion in Greensboro.

Walt Cooper wrote and advised me that his attendance is tentative based on Christine's health condition. He also told me that the items he took home with him will be delivered to our hospitality room regardless of his attendance.

I received a very nice letter from George Sciese's wife, Lorraine, thanking the Company for the Mass card I sent in the Company's name. I will stop by and see her later in the year and offer the Company's condolences.

Gloria Baker, Gayle Baker's wife, wrote that Gayle had a heart problem, but after treatment, appears to be doing quite well.

Frank and Helen Soloninka are both having health problems, but Frank is hopefully that he will make it to the reunion.

I talked to John Flynn and Bill Krebiel recently and both are looking forward to the reunion. John's continuing to show improvement with his leg problems and Bill is his usual healthy self. He and Billie are quite a pair!

I was watching the History Channel one night recently and they were relating the story of the Rangers in WWII. One section, they were showing training programs and soldiers climbing over barriers. As one G.I. reached the top, he turned his left arm toward the camera as he prepared to jump to the ground and his left shoulder patch was clearly visible. It was a patch we are all so very

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## Reading Post #32

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Things here in Reading are quiet as no one has reported anything to me, their Sect, with a few exceptions.

Lillian Posey fell when getting out her bathtub and has a fractured wrist...PNC Ed Shappelle has his good and bad days after his Chemo treatments. He says the tumor is shrinking so that is a good sign.

Not enough interest was shown in renting a bus to Greensboro, NC, so all members will have to go on their own.

The Post will be hosting a BBQ in June at the Crystal Springs Restaurant. Members will telephoned as to the time and date.

I had the pleasure of being a house guest of Karl and Audrey Brocker while attending the 313th FA meeting in Mansfield OH. They have a beautiful home.

*Lou Shirey, Sect/Treas.*

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proud of - that of the 80th Infantry Division. I hope some of you also saw it. (Editors note: Yes Hank, the 80th Division had quite a few in the Rangers as instructors, I was one of them.)

Again. My hope is that all of you are well and planning to be in Greensboro in August.

Don't forget to drop a card to Vera Echelman who is in the Monroe Care Center, 3000 Windmill Road, Sinking Springs, PA 19608.

*Hank Einolf*

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**Rcn Post #37 No Report**

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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**

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

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

**LANE-HALL  
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**  
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 (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**  
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**80th Division Veterans Association**  
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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.*

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CITY / STATE / ZIP + FOUR: \_\_\_\_\_

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*Make Remittance Payable to: 80th Division Veterans Association.*

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**1998 - 1999**

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

**ORAN LEDBETTER**  
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**FLORIDA  
POST #47**

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