

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

The Service Magazine  
Volume 83, Number 332

Spring — 2002  
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

## God Bless America

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Deadline for the next issue is June 1, 2002

# 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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All communications, including articles, photos, news items for publication, changes of address, dues remittances and death notices should be addressed to the Secretary/Editor.

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Historian ..... Edgar E. Bredbenner Jr. (B-318)  
Service Officer ..... Felix J. Cistolo (G-317)  
Flag Sergeant .....  
Color Sergeant ..... Albert J. Cresson (C-315 FA)  
Sergeant-at-Arms ..... Don Davis (K-319)  
Public Affairs Officer ..... George V. West (C-318)

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2 Year: Robert N. Nathason (L-317)  
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Walton W. Spangler (A-319)  
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##### 2 Years

Gerald V. Myers (G-317)  
Laverne J. Schock (F-317)  
Tom Pappas (F-318)

##### 3 Years

George V. West (G-318)  
Andy Ferens (M-317)  
Robert J. McDonald (C-319)

## Commander's REPORT



Reunion and presented a plaque to Bob Corsey and Michelle Hergenrother and the staff for all the help they gave us at our reunion.

By now Han Einolf of L 319 should have received a check for their losses from the Hotel to cover the loss in the party room. A reminder to all when you lost your key go to the front desk immediately and request a new one. When you do this no one can enter your room. We are sorry this happened.

I recently joined the ranks of those with heart problems. I am now on medication and doing well. I was told it was a heart virus.

We hope all of you are making plans for our reunion to be held in Melbourne, Florida. Register early, give the committee a break.

We send "Deepest Sympathy" to all who have lost a loved one.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Melbourne, Florida, this August.

*Commander Brock*

I must say that I am sorry to the Reading Post that I could not attend their Christmas Party. Hopefully I will be able to attend the Post for a breakfast later this year.

I did get to the Brett Post Christmas Party at the Latrobe Airport. It was nice seeing everyone and I came home with Cookies. Naomi missed a good time she was home ill.

I will be flying to the Melbourne Fl for the Florida Post meeting in March. One that will be after I get there when you read this.

We traveled back to the Holiday Inn where we had our 83



## 2002 REUNION NEWS

ERIC REILINGER, REUNION CHAIRMAN

The letter to our next national reunion will be mailed shortly. It is not too early to plan to attend another wonderful get-together with your comrades, old friends and perhaps some new ones.

The place will be the Airport Hilton in Melbourne, Florida, on August 14th through 18th, 2002. The room rate will be \$75.00 plus tax. The invitation letter will include driving

directions for those who plan to drive to Melbourne. For those who plan to fly, free transportation from Melbourne Airport to the hotel is available.

Plans are finalized for a full and enjoyable program at a first class hotel, with exceptional food, at reasonable prices. So come and join your comrades to make this another successful 80th Division Reunion. REMEMBER THE 80th ONLY MOVES FORWARD!

## Secretary's REPORT

FAX: (412) 828-7651  
"E" MAIL ADDRESS,  
Divinf80@AOL.Com

Lets all send a card to John Rodgers K-319 P.O. Box 2990 Tantallon Road Sherwood, Tenn 39376. John is very sick and maybe a card for you fellows would cheer him up... WE have word that Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Kullowatz, along with Mr. and Mrs. Rodolphe Fabre has celebrated their 60th wedding Anniversary. Congratulations to them.

The following is a report from Dr. Lee S. Anthony who visited the battlefield of World War One, whose father was a WW I Veteran and a member of our Association.

By way of reporting on my recent activities, let me say that I am truly honored to serve as the 80th

Division representative to that area of France in which the "Blue Ridge" soldiers fought, were wounded and died during October-November of 1918. I note that the 80th Division also covered Eastern France in WW II.

As part of my activities, I obtained eight nylon U.S. flags, measuring 5"X8", from a source on the internet; a company in Texas. Our local U.S. representative's office was not able to supply these flags, which were to be flown over the U.S. Capital in September as "no flags were available".

A presentation certificate was printed for each flag. (In English and French) I was met at CDG Airport in France by a retired Phy-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

## Life Plus Club 2001-2002

Life Members who contribute over and above the Life Membership. There is no set amount, it's free will as of 1 March 2002, 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 75% 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!

Annon	I-318
Barthold, Walter	80th Sig
Becker, Myron	C-318
Bloedorn, John H.	L-318
Coleman, Robert	C-318
Colvin, Harry W. Jr.	SV-318
Eckrich, John	C-318
Hand, John W.	K-318
Cool, Harry A.	F-317
Kostenbader, Allen H.	A-305 Eng
Anne T. Mc Nichol in Memory of	
Charles S. Nase	D-317
Pfledderer, Robert	Cn-319
Paul, John	D-317
In memory of Charles Nase	
Mc Donald, Robert	C-319
Ny York Post # 43 In Memory of	
Dean Midey	A-317
Reilinger, Eric	Hq 3rd Bn 317
Scheftic, Thomas	E.B-317
Thomas Edward F.	M-318
Wilson, Robert	G-319

All Communications pertaining to the 80th Association regardless what they are about, should be directed to the Secretary for an answer, and no one else.

## Welcome New Members

Dean Dominique	Assoc K-317	Gryceski, Alferd F.	A-318
1706 Charlotte Drive		18 Stewart Drive	
De Ridder, LA 70634		Morris Plains, NJ 07950	
Diehl, Erle K.	AT 2nd Bn 317	Hegman, Leslie	K-318
6E Yester Oaks Court		15550 Burnt Store Road Lot 17	
Greensboro, NC 27455-3128		Punta Gorda, FL 33955-9337	
Downs, Arley		Oliver, Franklin T.	M-319
1384 W. 150th S		2602 W 100 N	
Dana, IN 47847-8048		Monroe, IN 46672-9732	
Gehringer, Carl F.	K-318	Shilla, G. A.	C-317
4116 Greenmont SE		1201 Monument Blvd #26	
Warren, OH 44484		Concord, CO 94520	

## REPORT FROM DR. LEE S. ANTHONY, CONTINUED

sician, Dr. Lucien Houllermare, and the mayor of Fleville, M. Damien Georges. They had driven for three hours to get to the airport, and then we three drove to Chatel-Chehery, where quarters were waiting for me at the Chateau. The chateau was operated by the HUET family, Simone and Jacques. They had pictures of the damage to the chateau during WW I, and stories of the underground shelter.

Dr. Lucien Houllermare and his wife were most hospitable. They had me up to their house once or twice a day for coffee and breakfast and/or dinner, almost totally using produce from their garden. Lucien was kind enough to give me both walking and auto tours of the surrounding country. The walking tour was a rather thorough across the Sgt. York battlefield in which he and his son killed 25 enemy soldiers, Captured a number of machine guns (probably about ten), and 132 prisoners. A monument is erected to Sgt. York and is in front of the Chatel-Chehery mairie.

The auto tours included a trip to the location of Major Whittlesy's "Lost Battalion" of the 77th Infantry Division. We also went on to a German cemetery near Nantillois. The presentation schedule is as follows:

In addition to the French, we had a retired French Two-star General at most of the ceremonies. The U.S. Army provided the commanding General of the 5th Corps,

as well as the 1st Division Color Guard, rifle squad, bugler, and the divisional Sgt. Major, all transported from basis bases in Germany.

We also had a contingent of four Army Officers from Fort Leavenworth, KS, headed by LTC Taylor V. Beattie. Col. Beatty had visited the Sgt. York area 9 times, and writes (Professionally) of the Sgt. York and the "Lost Battalion" episodes. Also from Ft. Leavenworth were Major Carl Hughs, Major Terry Connelly, and Major Dick Cole.

We met Frederick Caster, Curator of the future Meuse-Argonne museum. M. Casters' girlfriend, Lisa M. Budreau of St. Anthony's College, Oxford, U.K., is the coordinator of the American We saw Superintendent Phil Rivers of the American Cemetery at Romaign, whose ceremonies at the cemetery went extremely well. The assistant to Super. Rivers is Graig Rahanian, who has a very impressive background with the military. His wife, Lora, is a truly outstanding individual, whose intellect, warmth, charm and "Savoir-faire" cannot be exceeded. Craig and Lora had the "group of five" over to their quarters for two most enjoyable visits.

I will emphasize this trip was cold. Neither the Army types nor I wore overcoats. Therefore we were standing in the weather whose temperature was 0 degrees Celsius, with winds kicking up to 30 miles per hour. I cheated by wearing sweaters beneath my uniform. (It still fits.)

During the presentation at

## McBride Scholarship Fund

At the business meeting of the Association held in Hampton, VA this year, it was brought out, that we have enough money in the fund, to carry the annual scholarships, another 14 years (including the interest during those years).

It was decided to find a foundation, in which to invest this money, so that the scholarships could continue long after the last of the 80th WWII Veterans have all passed on.

We have found such a Foundation. However, we need to have \$10,000 for a permanent endowment. There is currently \$8586.58 in the McBride Fund. It would take approximately four years for the fund to grow to \$10,000. During these four years no scholarships could be awarded.

We are asking those of you who are able to do so, to make a donation to the fund in order to build it to the money needed. Meaning, we need donations totaling \$1413.42 to keep awarding annual scholarships. Can we count on

you? In May another installment of \$500 is to be made for the scholarship. So we need to hurry it or we lose \$500 toward our goal.

Annon	I-318
Blatz, Louis P.	L-319
Connors, Richard J.	Hq-317
De Muro, Jerry	L-318
Flemings, D.R.	K-317
Heckler, Otto	L-318
Jarr, A.W.	B-905 FA Bn
Kline Leonard	A-318
Nolan, John J.	C-319
Pacol, John S.	K-317
Patterson, Raymond	L-317
Phillips James	A-313 FA Bn
Reading Post	Gift
Reading Post Auxiliary	Gift
Reber, Sydney A.	Hq/Sp Trs
Szurgot, Jane	Friend
Turner, Zane L.	H-317
Wason, Charles H.	319th Med

Buzany, I stated verbally and in writing, that this village was liberated by the 80th Infantry Division. This issue is no longer in doubt.

Since the 1st Division has active forces in Germany, it is relatively easy for them to support these activities, and their support is profoundly appreciated. However, I would like to encourage the

80th Infantry Division participation once or twice per year on Memorial Day and on "Armistice Day. (Veterans Day.)

In summation, the name of the 80th Infantry Division has again been raised in France. Should time, money, and health permit. I would be honored to again represent the 80th Infantry Division in France.

## “TAPS”

Abel, Norman c/o Steve Abels 1758 Sweetbriar Lane Eugene, OR 97405	G-319 4/29/00	Loveland, Burnham C. 284 Uxbridge Cherry Hill, NJ 08034-3732 Rptd by wife Lorraine	F-319
Bernard, William Barbaraton, OH Rptd by Ruth Hanson	Eng 8/17/2000	Maher, Francis D. 10880 SE 74th Ct Bellevue, FL 34420-6310 Rptd by wife Anna	I-319 1/14/02
Dean, Norman C. 26965 County Rd Keene, OH 43828 Rptd by son Michael	I-318 5/26/00	Mc Clain, Robert Sarver, PA Rptd by Mel Beers	B-319 2/9/02
Drudge, Lowell A. 515 S. Whitlock Street Bremen, IN 46506-1716 Post Return marked Deceased	A/Hqs 317	Mason, Abram C. 1160 Nashville Pike Gallatin, TN 37066-3110 Commander Rptd by Fred Buscarini	2/4/02 DV Hqs Co.
Dwyer, William M. 1721 Doresa Place Cincinnati, OH 45238-3724 Rptd by wife Erma	C-315 FABn 12/22/01	Merkinson, Elmer E. c/o 6347 Knights Way Riverdale, GA 30296 Rptd by Son	L-317 12/30/00
Erickson, Norman Emporium, PA Rptd by J.R. Fisher	? 1/11/02	Midey, Dean C. 20 Stevenson Street Seneca Falls, NY 13148-2216 Rptd By Angelo Barone	A-317 12/8/01
Gillis, Eugene E. 1430 W. Casino Road Everett, WA 98204-7975 Rptd by Family	B-318 6/17/00	Nase Charles S.. Nase 325 Church Road Apt. 408H Telford, PA 18969 Rptd by Mrs McNichols	D-317 12/29/01
Golden, Jacob B. 88 Ann Street Canton, NC 28716-4633 Rptd by Gen. Bill Mullins	K-318 11/18/01	Pawlak, Joe No address given Solon, OH no zip Rptd by Wilber Peck	H-317 ?
Harnish, Robert Altoona, PA Rptd by Robert L. English	Hqs 3rd Bn 318 Not Given	Phillips, Bobby 500 Moorfield Lane Montgomery, AL 36117-4457 Rptd by Kathie Weber	B-305 Med 12/3/01
Jones, John 10258 Wilson Road Brownsburg, IN 46112-9500 Rptd by Son Jeff	DV Hqs 12/3/01	Ross Edward R. 3575 Green Tree Senior Place # 308 West Lafayette, IN 47906 Rptd by V. R. Ross	Hq 314 FA Bn

## MAIL BAG

The Address of Tilly Kimmes is as follows: Kimmes-Hanson Center St. Jean De La Croix 30 rue Ste. Zithe L2763 Luxembourg, Luxembourg... Don Shoof, DeKalb, IL has lectured to High Schools and other bodies this year, a total of 19 times and travel 192 miles to do so. I know that others lecture before the Schools but Don would like to see more get involved... William Herald 3209 S. Elm Street, Muncine, IN 47302 is wanting to know more about his dad who was in the 314th FA Bn. There are a lot of you out there, can you help him?.. Floyd Warner 80th Signal Corps writes: This past year has been a little rough on me. I fell a few times and broke my arm. I am now in a nursing home. The old legs aren't any good and I'm hard

of hearing. My voice I'm weak also. However, I still enjoy reading the Newsletter and I think about the experience I had while in service. Floyd address is as follows: 3623 W Liberty Street Cincinnati, OH 45205-1332... Thanks go to Max Schmidt (G-317) and H.G. Lenord (H-317) for the insertion of the Ad I requested to be run in their local newspapers... John Hand K-318 has been busy. He has contacted 38 of his buddy's and while some have passed on the widows was glad that he contacted them. I have wrote letters to join the Association and several have accepted. All this through the computer. If everyone done as John has we would gain a lot of new members as some that he connected never heard of us...

Swauger, Ray 911 Pleasant Ave McKeesport, PA 15133 Rptd by Serafino Roccella	K-319 2/6/01	Tyler, William E. 195 Fairfield Dr Warrenton, VA 20186-3644 Rptd by Betty Sue Tyler	H-318 11/26/01
Trennnnary, Charles W. 3453 County Road 68 Auburn, IN 46706-9674 Rptd by Son Barry	B-905 FABn 8/28/01	Wallace, Lenord 325-2nd Street Earl, AR 72331-1516 Rptd by Grandson James	A-319 2/4/02
Troxell Joel I. 24 Lamont St Jamestown, NY 14701-2002 Rptd by Fred Burcarini	DV Hqs Co. 6/02	Walsh, William J. 9620 Komensky Ave Apt 202 Oak Lawn, IL 60453	C-313 FABn 7/30/01

## *We Do Not Stand Alone*

*When you think the U.S. isn't thought well of all over the world, read this editorial from a Romanian Newspaper.*

### **AN ODE TO AMERICA**

Why are Americans so united? They don't resemble one another even if you paint them! They speak all the languages of the world and from an astonishing mixture of civilizations. Some of them are nearly extinct, others are incompatible with one another, and in matters of religious beliefs, not even God can count how many they are.

Still, the American tragedy turned three million people into a hand put on the heart. Nobody rushed to accuse the White House, the army, the secret services that they only a bunch of losers. Nobody rushed to empty their bank accounts. Nobody rushed the streets nearby to gape about. The Americans volunteered to donate blood and to give a helping hand. After the first moments of panic, they raised the flag on the smoking ruins, putting on T-shirts, caps and ties in the color of the national flag. They placed flags on buildings and cars as if in every place and on every car a minister or president was passing. On every occasion they started singing their traditional song: "God Bless America!" Silent as a rock, I watched the charity broadcast on Saturday once, twice, three times, on different TV channels. There was Clint Eastwood, Willie Nelson, Robert de Niro, Julia Roberts, Cassius Clay, Jack

Nicholson, Bruce Springsteen, Silvester Stalone, James Wood, and many others whom no film or producer could ever bring together. The American's solidarity spirit turned them into a choir. Actually, choir is not the word. What you could hear was the heavy artillery of the American soul. What neither George W. Bush, nor Bill Clinton, nor Colin Powell could say without facing the risk of stumbling over words and sounds, was being heard in a great and unmistakable way in this charity concert.

I don't know how it happened that all this obsessive singing didn't sound croaky, nationalist, or ostentations! It made you green with envy because you weren't able to sing for your country without the risk of being considered chauvinist, ridiculous, or suspected of who-knows-what mean interest.

I watched the live broadcast and the rerun for hours listening to the story of the guy who went down one hundred floors with a woman in a wheelchair without knowing who she was, or of the Californian hockey player, who fought with the terrorists and prevented the plane from hitting that which would have killed other hundreds or thousands of people. How on earth were they able to bow before a fellow human?

Imperceptibly, with every good word and musical note, the memory

PAID ARTICLE

### **In Memory of Orville E. Walls 85th Birthday 2002**

My husband was Orville E. (Jiggs) Walls of B Battery 315th Field Artillery Battalion. 80th Infantry Division. He served from July 16, 1942, Camp Forrest, Tennessee to his Honorable Discharge October 25, 1945. He was with this Division from Tullahoma, TN, Camp Phillips, KS, Yuma, AZ., California Desert to Fort Dix, NJ., to England, July 1944.

August 10, 1944 they went into combat in France and served with his Bn until the wars end May 9, 1945. He sent me the Victory letter that he was in Lambach... and there to Occupational duty, in Gmunden, Austria. He loved the Blue Danube area very much, too bad he never got to return for a visit. The following poem was sent to me in September 1945 from Gmunden, Austria: Our sons are Glenn and Gary L. Walls.

of some turned into a modern myth of tragic of tragic heroes. And every phone call, millions and millions of dollars were put in a collection aimed at rewarding not a man or a family, but a spirit which nothing could buy.

What on earth can unite the Americans in such a way? Their land? Their galloping history? Their

**PEACE**

*It's still tonight!  
And peace and silence reign.  
No sweeter sound  
could meet the ears.  
For Victory's here,  
we've made the gains!  
No guns to flash,  
No tired men to wrestle their sleep,  
Just silence here,  
and everything is well.  
You feel the stillness, like the deep.  
No tired faces,  
No grimy hands;  
we're almost smiling now.  
No weary eyes that close  
from lack of sleep.  
We'll laugh again—  
we're learning how!  
The little part I've played is nil,  
Compared to those  
who are not here;  
They haven't felt as we feel now—  
They're fighting for the Victory still.*

The Author is John D. Young 557th FA Bn. I do not know the author personally but it remains comforting to so many of us.

Martha E. (Libby) Walls Oldham

economic power? Money? I tried for hours to find an answer, humming songs and murmuring phrases which risk of sounding like commonplaces. I thought things over, but I reached only one conclusion.

Only freedom can work such miracles.

---

## *For the Battle of the Bulge Veterans, Christmas Has a Different Effect.*

---

This is a little late but I feel it still has the interest that we all can relate to. Thanks goes to Jim Phillips for sending it in.

My wife and I were strolling through the malls and heard the Christmas music and saw many busy shoppers and excited faces.

For thousands of veterans like me the Christmas season brings back heartbreaking memories of the past.

Fifty-seven years ago at Christmas time, we were about to enter the "Jaws of Hell" that would scar our lives forever. We don't think of the snow forts we built as children or the fun we had playing in the snow.

For me and thousands of veterans of the Battle of the Bulge in 1944, we had to exist in the snow-covered fields in Belgium and Luxembourg. It was one of the worst winters in European history. The casualties were double the casualties of the Civil War, counting both sides.

To see my friends in pain and dying, to see frozen bodies of dead GI's piled up to be taken to God knows where is hard to forget. They will never see another snowfall or sleep in a warm bed. For many of those who survived, they get little comfort or understanding.

When I see a big, beautiful spruce tree, in my mind I look for snipers. You can never forget the whine of bullets or the screaming or the sounds of shells exploding or the night you tried to rest or sleep in a foxhole in the bitter cold, while losing control of your bowels. This is the price you pay for being one of the lucky ones.

Our minds are not what they used to be, and we say and do things that sometimes are not understood this time of year.

Many of our service people this Christmas are in harms way and have a heavy heart. Those who are lucky enough to come home will have memories they will have to live with for the rest of their lives. Tucker Miller Harrisburg

---

## *Co. M 318th Inf. Post #44*

---

When I didn't get a Christmas Card from a long time Buddy and Friend, I began to be concerned. After several phone calls over a period of a couple weeks, I wrote a letter to the Administrator where Jack Stumcke lives.

The Manager called me telling me that Jack was in the hospital, and that he had pneumonia and had been in the hospital quite a while. In fact 53 days and losing 20 pounds.

Last night Jack called me much to my surprise. Said he was home but still very weak. He spoke with my wife Doris, but when it came time to talk to me again he said he was too tired.

Jack's address is as follows: 50 Cardinal Drive Apt 305 Agawam, MA 01001-2181. Lets all send Jack a card to get well.

I wish to thank all the people who send me a card for Christmas. As you know I could not write a card to all of you, but that doesn't mean I don't appreciate them as I do. Thank all of you.

I have been in the VA Outreach program for just about a year, I have received all my medications and a Hearing Aid. Just this past Friday 2/8/2002, I was put on Oxygen. A large tank sets on my back porch, a portable tank while I am out walking, and an eclectic unit for sleeping at night. I guess I am joining the crowd.

Bob Murrell

---

## *DV and DV Hqs Co. Post #39*

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It is with regret that I inform you of the deaths of Joel Troxell, of Jamestown, NY, one of our Supply Sgts. who died on Feb. 4th in a nursing Home after a long bout with Parkinson's disease.

Abram C. Mason, of Gallinton, TN passed away on Feb. 6th. Abe had a few health problems, one was blindness, then he had intestinal surgery, then an operation on his Gall Bladder. Abe was in the Div. Hqs. and Hqs Company Commander and was admired and respected by all who serve under him.

We will miss these two fine men, and they will be remembered in our prayers.

As for the Melbourne, FL Reunion, I can't say there is a lot of enthusiasm for it. Only Jim Sell, Bill Stephen, and Tony Manganiello inquired if any one was going, and truthfully; no one had wrote and told me that they were planning to go. However, I do believe it's much too early to give up on it.

The situation with Marie and I is much the same. I spend a good deal of my time with her at the nursing home. She seems to be quite content there, which is a big help, because if she wasn't, then I would have a major problem.

That's it for now, except to ask all of you to let me know how you feel about the Melbourne, FL Reunion.

Fred Buscarini, Sect.

*Join the Jewish War Veterans of the United States  
of America today.*

*Contact us at [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)  
or 202-265-6280*

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## Florida Post #47

---

### NO! WE HAVE NOT MOVED TO FLORIDA.

This is an answer to numerous calls and letters we have received during the last few months.

We arrived down here in October. We had gone to the Post Office and put in our temporary change of address as we have done for years. We received our mail for 3 days then no delivery for several days. We stopped the mailman and questioned why we were not getting mail. He did not know. We went back to the Post Office. They blamed Ohio. We contacted our mailman in Ohio who said it was the Florida Post Office.

While in Ohio for Christmas we checked with the Main Post Office in Cleveland they said Florida Post Office was responsible. We called Florida Post Office, they said they would check it out. After 4 months, 6 visits and numerous phone calls the Florida Post Office said they found a glitch in their computer (remember it was always the programmer that made the mistake not the operator) they now claim their error is corrected. We can only hope that is true. How this will effect the March meeting in Melbourne only time will tell.

Our March meeting will be history when you read this. From all indications we will have more snow birds than usual. Many are planning extended stays, visiting and enjoying the sites.

We had a pleasant visit with he

Commander and his wife Naomi on their return from an ocean cruise in early January. They spent a few days waiting for the snow to subside up north.

I suggest you send in your reservations for the National Reunion in Melbourne as soon as possible to aid Eric Reilinger to provide the best reunion.

We attended the VBOB meeting in Lakeland, FL. There were a number of 80th people there, it was like a mini Post #47 meeting.

Bobbie Meyers was missing. She had neck surgery and could not make it. But is recuperating nicely.

Our November meeting will be held the 1st and 2nd at the Hampton Inn, 3434 SW College Road, Ocala, FL 34474, Phone Number is 352-854-3200. Room rates are \$61.00 double or single. These rates are good three days before and three days after the meeting. When making reservations ask for Code: F47, and make you reservation no later than October 14, 2002.

Francis Rajnicek, Sect.

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### NO REPORT:

L-318

Rcn Post #37

305th Engineers Post #40

Brett Post #3

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

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Here are a few notes from Christmas cards received which are of interest to all.

Lucille Clark mentions she is doing the best she can

George and Dolly Crowfoot write that they miss the reunions and thanks for the signed card from the reunion.

Opal Finch is doing very well with her arthritis and a few other pains. Thanks for the lovely card with all the signatures of the reunion. I really enjoyed it.

Frank and Betty Florence mention how fortunate they are in having their family and grandchildren close by. They would love getting long letters from all telling them their families and activities.

Betty Hook is leaving for California to be with her daughter and family.

Rex and Cecilia Kibbe. Rex has serious medical problems and is still in the nursing home. They appreciate the many cards they have received and thank all for them. We are happy to know that Cecilia's knee surgery went well.

Bill Petrollini is heading for FL after the holidays.

Joe and Pauline Zabichuck. Joe still has problems with his health. He never came out of his stroke. Pauline has been taking care of him at home for three years. He loves getting the 80th Magazine. He can't talk but recognizes the name.

Leroy and Nancy Pierce really enjoyed the reunion this year. The side trips through the Navy Base, Jamestown and Yorktown brought early history of life.

Bob Parks filled me in that Orris Rinehart a cook in the kitchen who never came to the reunions lost his wife of 57 years. We extend our sincere sympathy to Orris. Jack Smith from GA mentions his daughter is not doing too well. Bill Pilkinton is doing the best he can.

Season's Greetings from the following: Angelo and Kay Barone, John and Simonne Daniel, Bill and Charmaine Laing, Martha Linck, Bob and Joan Moorhead, Harry and Fran Nutting, Bob and Polly Parks, Mildred Render, Bob Smith, Jeff and Mary Wignall. Bob Smith flew out to Ca. in January visiting his daughter and her family.

After the holidays Rose and I will be headed for FL for January, February and March.

We understand the Barones and Bob Smith will attend the FL Post meeting in early March.

Wishing all a healthy 2002.

Bob Nathason Sect



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## New York Post #43

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We are losing members at a fast pace. I have reported all to date to National. We give to Life-Plus in their memory. Seven years ago our NY. Post had 140 members, we are now down to 60. Dropped a few also for non-payment of dues.

We are all set for the year for our three post meetings. We always meet at convention. We also have a note on bulletin board for date-time and location. PLEASE CHECK. We go back to Turf Inn-Holiday Inn in Albany again for Memorial Day weekend, May 23-27, 2002. This is our Annual meeting and election. Oct. 7-11, 2002, Monday through Thursday we go to a new beautiful hotel right at the end of Seneca Lake in Geneva, NY., The Ramada Lakefront. This is in the heart of the Finger Region well know for apples, grapes and other fruits as well as excellent wines. We always have an excellent hospitality room. In Geneva we are on the top floor, the 6th floor, looking right down the lake. Dining on the lake or just inside depending on weather. Leaves should be in full color. All are welcome, we just need to know numbers in advance. SEE YOU THERE-HOLD THE DATES.

Ed Bredbenner, PNC Sect.

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

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Not very much to write about. We here in Central PA had a very mild winter. O.K. by me. However, we are in dire need of rain. Water is restricted.

Lee Hatcher informed me that Ann slipped on some ice and broke her wrist. She is taking therapy and doing O.K. I am not sure about Lee's story. I would sooner believe he twisted her arm.

Walter Stec called. He is doing O.K. Still goes dancing couple times a week. Keep up the good work Stec.

Fran Poletti did a good job looking for a place for our mini-reunion. Sent me a lot of information. It was decided to go to Parkersburg, WV. Dates: Wednesday, 8 May 2002 to Sunday 12 May 2000. We will use the ECONO LODGE. **Address:** 1954-7th Street, ZIP 26101. Phone: (For Reservations) 1-800-553-2666. **Local Phones:** 304-428-7500 & 304-485-8058. **Location:** On U.S. 50 West, about 1.5.miles off Interstate 77. Exit 176. **Room Rates:** \$49.00 plus .09% tax. Single or double. (When making your reservation, state that you are with WW II Veterans group) Confirmation number: 29719566. This is a good location. Near the Ohio River. **Points of Interest:**

1. Fenton Glass Works
2. Valley Gem Sternwheeler
3. Underground Railroad
4. Trolley Tours of Historical Marietta, OH

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## Post #33 Co. H, Inf.

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Taps has sounded for a couple of Company H. members: Lt. John Dingee died 9 June 2001. I think John joined us in the desert and was assigned as a first platoon leader. He traveled us overseas but left when he was in France. He made his home in Columbus, Wisconsin.

Capt. George Harman also died. He took over the company during desert maneuvers and remained until the return of Capt. Poppen. He was then assigned as Bn staff officer and remained in that position until the end of the war.

...Taps is done, gone the sun from the lake, from the hill, from the sky. All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.

I received a letter from Carroll Peterson. He said he had visited Marvin Phinny 3rd Platoon. Carroll would like to know the where about of William Dillion and Frank Delvi-

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5. Becky Thatcher Showboat Theatre
  6. Grand Central Mall
  7. Historical Harman Village
  8. Middleton Doll Factory and much more

Please make your reservations ASAP (Not later than 24 April 2002) Any questions, contact Fran Poletti at 203-855-1928 or call me at 717-367-5094. God Willing, I will see you there. (About 300 miles for me)

Jim Phillips Sect/Treas

sio. If anyone can come to Carroll's aid write: (Editor note: I have checked the roster neither man appears.) Carroll Peterson, 422 W 8th Ave. Webster, SD 57274-1228.

I had a very happy Christmas holiday with John, Penny and family in Leominster, MA. Of course Jerry, Donna and daughter left their home in Mattapoisset to join in the celebration. Oh! Yes, Captain Morgan should get an assist.

Traveling by plane was a little slower and more complex from what is prior to 11 September 2001. I had to remove my shoes; I was x-rayed and patted down, then finally cleared for flight. I was comfortable on all flights.

I sure would still like to hear from you!!!! Nick, why don't you tell us about the time you barehanded took on a Washington cougar?!

America's chief RR Engineer, Casy Jones, Mac K, should have some thrilling tales about run away trains. I think Mac K may have a tale or two about trains going the opposite directions on the same track.

Also, our Texas Cattleman, Orin could share his experiences of life on the range while herding cantankerous cattle. Let us hear from you, Orin!

Penny came for a visit for a few days. Think maybe she came to check up on old Dad! Just as long as she came, I don't care about the reason. Her visit was welcomed and I enjoyed her presence. So long for now, God Bless,

G.G. "Ohly" Ohlman

## Cincinnati Post #34

Post 34 Had a meeting December 9, 2001 at 1:00 P.M. At the Nick and Tom's 5774 Bridgetown Road, Cincinnati, Oh 45248 for our Christmas Party.

Those present were as follows: Russell P. Sick, PNC Elmer Dorsten, Floyd Warner Commander of Post 34 and his son Dale and daughter in-law Lou Stella, Stan and Mary Benzinger, Marge Welker, (?) Rita Hollweck, Jack and Vicky Wetting, Lucy and Howard Mackey, Mel Schmidt, Art and Grace Rehling, Jesse and Jean Obel, Betty Cammerer, Walt and Annabell Spangler. A total of 21 members and friends.

It was a great "Get Together." Floyd Warner has not been feeling well and we all gather around as he has been missing in our Post Meetings. Elmer Dorsten came down from Center OH with Russell Sick and talked to me about the Road of the 80th through France and Germany. I believe he remarked that he had two Purple Hearts. He had some great stories. We got around to eating and a

great get together was had by all present.

Now getting back to your writer. I have been well and still get around OK. Vicki hasn't been up to par but make each day. We get to our Senior Center on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of each week. This being the Christmas holidays, we haven't have had two extra days which have fallen on the 1st and 15th of the month. The Loins Club of Erlanger throws one of the parties and Dr Rohre's Son gives us another great Christmas Party so we are all well entertained at Christmas at the Center.

I must close now but before I say Good Night I and Vicki want to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Healthy New Year.



### NEW BOOK "The Stories of the Men of the 80th"

\$25 includes the postage  
Send your check payable to  
Robert T. Murrell

## Greater Reading Post #32

Since my stroke, it gets harder for me to sit down and write letters and reports such as this one, but here goes.

First I must report the passing of Jean McMullen who passed away January 6, 2002. She was the wife of Therman, as always God ended her pain and welcomed her into a better world. She will be certainly missed as she was a founding mother of our Post since 1956.

Our Christmas party was a success as we had 25 guests including our National Secretary Bob Murrell and his wife Doris. Our National Commander and wife Naomi canceled out because they were leaving for Florida. Other faithful members PNC Bredbenner and PNC Angelo Baron and his wife Kay had other commitments. We don't know if we will have another Christmas dinner this year as many members want to be with their families. It is a strain on your Secretary and Tres. As my strength is not the same since last July.

As I told you Bob and Doris

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were our guests and after his pitch for money for the McBride Fund, our post and the Auxiliary gave a sizeable amount to it with a heart felt thanks from Bob. Any donation he say's will be appreciated.

The Doyles from Harrisburg were also our guests and they visited Mary Schappell while here and they said she had "mellowed" even though she is in a nursing home nearby. Anyone who know and loves Mary know what I mean when I say "she has mellowed."

Unless I get more news from the members this is all for now. Remember as my AD reads we still have breakfast meetings in March, June and Sept. 3rd Saturday at Crystal Springs Restaurant in Sinking Springs, PA. All are welcome.

PNC Lou Shirey Sect/Treas

### NUMBER OF MEN LISTED BY STATE WHO SERVED IN THE 80TH DIVISION BLUE RIDGE

AE-1	KS-14	NY-77
AL-20	LA-12	OH-61
AR-18	MD-38	OK-9
AZ-21	MA-21	OR-5
CA-83	ME-3	PA-276
CO-19	MI-43	RI-6
CT-16	MN-6	SC-13
DC-2	MO-31	SD-3
DE-11	MS-6	TN-27
FL-120	MT-4	TX-66
GA-15	NC-25	UT-2
HI-3	NE-16	VA-51
IA-12	ND-11	WA-14
ID-1	NH-5	WI-28
IL-46	NJ-56	WV-25
IN-98	NM-8	WY-2
KY-37	NV-7	

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## Co. L 319th Inf.

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Winter is slowly grinding to a halt especially here in the East. We have experienced one of the mildest winters in many, many years. As of this writing we have had only 2" of snow and that was on January 19th and it caused no problems. Temperatures have been running about 6 to 8 degrees above normal and the crocus and daffodils are already in bloom.

The time since our last reunion has slipped by rather quickly and in just a few short months we will be meeting again. Hopefully all who are reading this will be with our group come August I received a note from Bill Siebert. Bill is still doing Military Rites with the VFW as a member of the firing squad. He wrote that he doesn't remember the M-1 rifle being so heavy when he was 19. Could it be he was in better shape then? I'm guessing yes. Bill visited the Sitting Bull Monument in North Dakota and once in a while spends some time in the Golden Eagle Casino in northern Kansas. He told me he never wins but has lots of fun for 5 or 6 hours and it only costs \$2.00 bus fare.

Frank and Helene Soloninka had a delightful visit from their daughter for a week in February due to the United Airlines problems but is back flying now is elated to be back to work. Helene is currently battling a case of the Shingles and Frank is awaiting a date for foot surgery. Helene or Muggee as she is known on the Internet is having a

ball with her Computer and I hear from her regularly.

John Balas E-mailed that he had a very unusual thing happen to him. He and Helen went out to their favorite Bohemian Restaurant for Goulash Soup. After eating John's jaw began to ache and he figured he had a tooth ache. He spent the night in pain and sleepless. In the morning his face was swollen and his eyes almost closed. When he finally reached his Dentist he was given an antibiotic but soon began to spit up blood. A blood bubble had burst in his eye tooth. The Dentist killed the nerve and he is now awaiting root canal. He said he is still swollen but expects it to subside.

Rudy and Carol Berman will soon be entertaining a school friend who they have not seen in 67 years. That should be some reunion especially now the Rudy is a two striper and can do some bragging.

I hope all of you are continuing to pray for Jim Young's complete and healthy recovery. Sylvia Garris E-mailed that Jim is now walking with a cane and making progress. She said he comes into the office occasionally to answer correspondence. He is not driving yet but his faithful cook and maid Wanella is driving for him. Sylvia also said he looks better, is optimistic and in good spirits. Keep those prayers going for Jim.

Lemoine Vaughn dropped me a line and said he will not be with us in Melbourne for the next reunion. We will miss you Lemoine.

The brothers Blatz are healthy as ever and looking forward to our August reunion.

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## Co F 318 Post 46

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THE COMPANY F-318TH reunion is all set! We'll meet at the Clarion Hotel in New Port Richey, Florida on May 1-5. Paul and Kathryn Fate have made all the arrangements for an interesting and memorable weekend. There will be excellent food, entertainment, and sight-seeing.

All of the information will be mailed very soon, but if you wish, you can call Paul and Kathryn at (352)686-9286, or E-mail them at KHHeard@AOL.com. If you'd like to get your hotel reservation in early, call (727)847-9005 and remind them you're Co. F.

A note last November reminds us of the loss of JENNY CURTIS wife of Bill Curtis. Our sympathy to Bill and the family.

Had a letter in October from BENJAMIN TERRY, telling of his

John and Betts Flynn continue to enjoy life to the fullest but John is still having problems with his latest operation.

I have not heard from Bill and Billie Krehbiel and am assuming they are as feisty as ever.

It would be nice to hear some news from John Birong, Jack Barrett, Don Chism, Walt Cooper, Max Coleman, Fred Eckelman, Ray Greene, Marshall Hill, Cisco Jordan, Dave Kirschbaum and Banner Rice. Come on guys, let us know what is going on in your life. We are interested and concerned about you.

family reunion in Ashland, Kentucky, with attendees from as far away as Ireland. He enclosed a photo of the Class "A" uniform showing all the decorations he earned in WWII..and some, like the purple heart, he wished he hadn't earned. He expressed his concern for a lack of uniformity in reporting news of ALL members...if guilty, I claim incompetence, not intent.

ADRIAN MONDAY sent a copy of the Co. F Thanksgiving Day 1942 menu at Camp Forrest, TENN. I'm happy to receive these items...it gives new names to try to locate for our group. He also reminded me of the death in December of memorable Col. Frank Williams.

Make your plans NOW to attend the Reunion...time is chewing away at our membership!

Bob Fasnacht. Secretary

Surprise-surprise-surprise! On February 19th I received an unsealed envelope from Holiday Inn of Hampton. In it was a check for \$100.00 marked Replace Hosp Items—no letter of explanation—just the check. I guess we should be thankful for small favors. Truthfully it was more than I expected. I thought they had forgotten us. The \$100.00 now rests in our Reunion Bank Account.

Start now to get yourself geared up for the trip to the Sunshine State. We meet again in August, Let's all be there.

Hank Einolf.

All of the past National & Honorary Commanders are looking forward to seeing you at the 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Reunion  
 August 14th — 18th, 2002  
 Hilton Melbourne Airport, Melbourne, Florida

*Eric Relienger, Chairman*

**Brett Post No. 3  
 Pittsburgh**

**Bruno Inselmini, Commander**  
 322 Carolyn Avenue  
 Latrobe, PA 15650-1012

**Melvin Beers,**  
 Secretary/Treasurer

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

Robert W. Smith  
 Commander

Robert N. Nathason  
 Secretary / Treasurer

**Greater Reading Post No. 32**

Phil W. Piergrossi, 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**

Director: Dominick Abbruzzese  
 Director: Charles Noxon  
 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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