

FIGHTING 69TH INFANTRY DIVISION

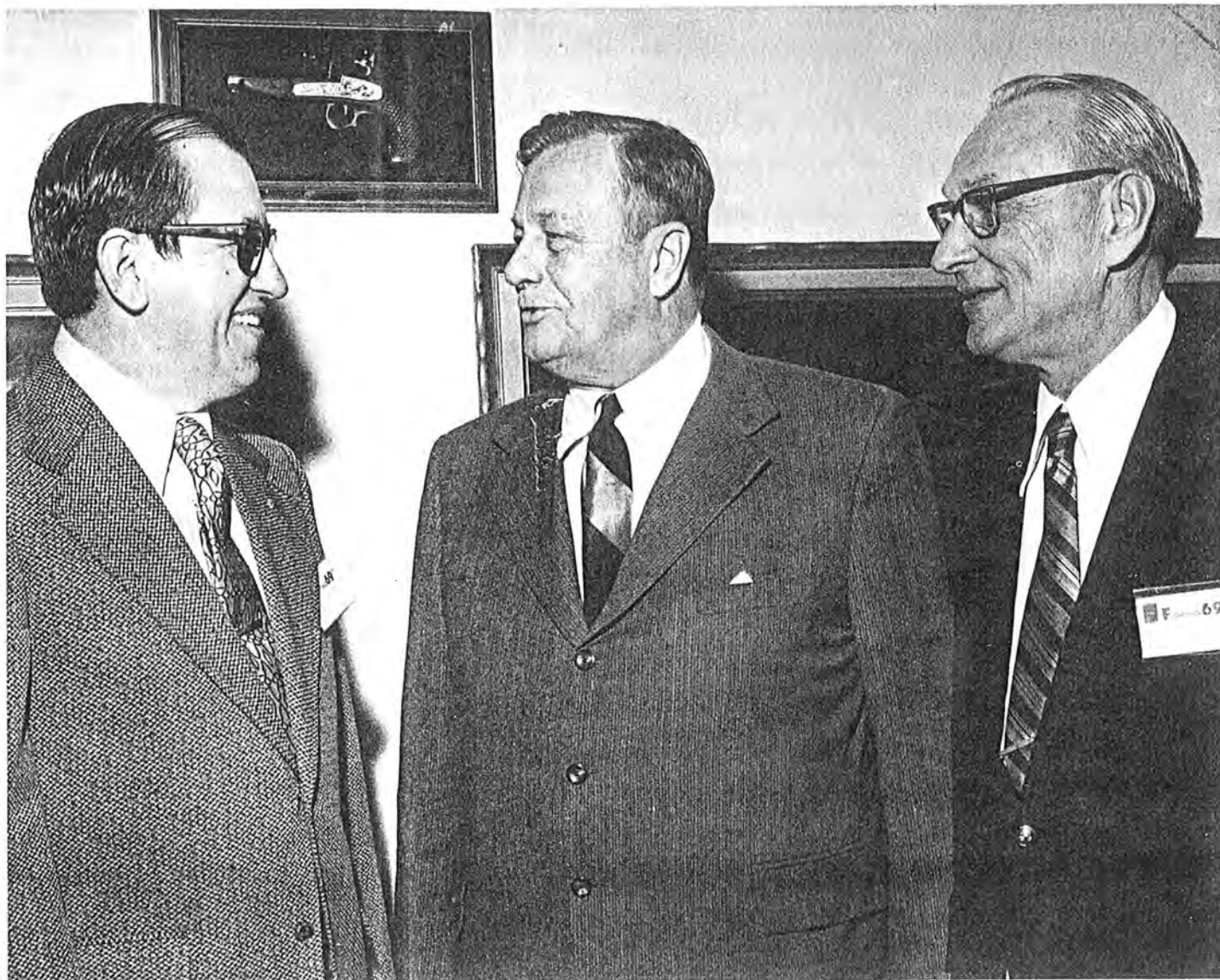
★★★★ *Association, Inc.*



bulletin

VOL. 27, NO. 2

APRIL 1974



Our Own GENERAL CHARLES L. BOLTE flanked on the left by Howard Hoover on the left and Sam Talley on the right when General Bolte attended the Central Pennsylvania Branch Dinner in Harrisburg last year. They had a good turnout that evening along with George Phillips and his wife Aggie. George was our president last year. From what I learned they had their usual good time. PLUS . . . they all were so proud to have General Bolte and one of his sons attending.

VALLEY FORGE — NOW DELAWARE

LETTERS FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP

GUY MOORE, Box 87 Shelbiana, Ky. 41562 C-Co. 272, "Dear Loar: I was reading a clipping in the newspaper of the Reunion of the Fighting 69th. I am a veteran of this outfit, I was in the 272nd Regt. C-Co. I was sent over as a replacement and was assigned to this great all American unit, which I am very proud to be a part of. I joined the 272nd in the Ardennes Forest. I found I was in a great outfit, with a fine group of men. My Co. Commander was Capt. Earter, a great leader, who was shot early one morning by a German burp gun. I had many good buddies with Co. C. If you have the names of any of these men from C. Co., or, maybe a list of all the outfit, I would like to be there in Pa. with reunion, but it is possible I may not be able to make it. Please send me any information you can about the above. Yours truly, Guy Moore

BERNARD SITRON, 1100 Main St., Norristown, Pa. 19404 and 661st Tk. Destroyer Bn. writes: Dear Loar I read in the Philadelphia Bulletin that the 69th is having a reunion on Aug. 23-26. I was asgnd. to Hqs. Co. 661st T.D. when they were formed in Camp Hood, Tex. (Now Ft. Hood). Prior to their being shipped to the ETO I was transferred to Infantry in England and served with the 39th Div. in France. I would like to know if the 661st is going to be present and other particulars of the reunion. Yours truly, Bernard Sitron

THEODORE C. STACHOWICZ, 88th F.A. and 10 W. Park Place, Great Neck, N.Y. 11023 writes: "Dear Fellow 69'er: Even though my name was mis-spelled I received the Apr. 1973 Bulletin today, I was very surprised and grateful that I received it. You see, I did not know that there ever was a 69th Div. Assoc. even though I hear from four men that were in my outfit, maybe they didn't know either, at the end of this letter I will give you the names of these men and the correct spelling of my name, this way you could check to see if they are members.

I started out with the 69th Div. on May 15, 1943 at Cp. Shelby, Miss. and was with them until sometime in 1945 when I was transferred to another Division because the 69th was coming home to be de-activated, I was in Hqs. Batt. 88th F.A., would like to know if any of the men I know are members of the association.

I was Mess Sgt. when we were in Europe. What a change of pace from Mess Sgt. to Steam Fireman. I am sure the same happened to quite a few of you that you are not doing in civilian life what you did in the Army. I am married and my wife is Marie. We have lived in Great Neck, N.Y. for 20 years. Travel a lot, mostly to So. Calif. and Las Vegas where we both have family. Hope to retire in the not too distant future. God willing. Hope this letter finds some of my old and maybe a little forgotten friends of the 880th F.A. Bn, Hqs Batt."

The names of Ted's buddies are as follows: HAROLD HOARN, 23 Oakford Av., New Egypt, N.J. 08533, WILLIAM SUCKEL, 2910 Avon Blvd., Ashtabula, O. 44004, JOHN SANTOS, 40 Brook Ave., Riverside, N.J. 02915 and WM. KUNKEL, 5319 Willowhurst, Ft. Wayne, Ind. 46815

GLENN B. VANDERLANN, A.T. 273 writes: "Dear Mr. Quickle: Apr. 2, 1973 I went to work for Internal Grinding Abrasives, 3011 Hillcroft SW, Grand Rapids, Mich. as Plant Engineer. For our first vacation, my wife and I want to make the Return to the Elbe Tour for 1975. I have already put in my application for this vacation. However many things can happen between now and 1975.

I am enclosing a check for five dollars. Please send me a Div. lapel pin and some decals. Please keep me posted on the itinerary for the Elbe Tour in 1975.

JOS. WRIGHT, Summit Ridge Dr., Forsyth, Mos. 65653 and Hqs Co. 69th Div. writes: "Dear Loar: Before the 1973 Reunion slips proudly into history I must write and confirm what I told you at Valley Forge. Geo. Phillips and his staff did a superb job with this one and it was built on the foundation that was laid in the the years past by dedicated guys like you and Sol Rosenblitt. George carried through and kept it going and all of you taking part in the arrangements should be proud. It was good to see so many of the Alumni of the 1965 "Return to the Elbe" and to see one of the group, Al Carbonari, elected to the Presidency of the Assoc.

Col. Meyers did a good job of recruiting Div. Hqs personnel for this year and he will continue in the years to come. We had a total of 29 people at the banquet with the largest number from the Transporation Plt., led by *Dutch Hawn*. These were *Fred Avery & wife*, *Ron Curtis*, his brother and their wives *Al Crisp*, *Tony Dastra* and *Walter Doernbach* and wives and *Clarence Marshall*. From the Co. Street were *Myers*, *Miller Hovis* and wives and *Jim Kehew*. *Dr. Braverman* and wife were there and we certainly include in our own select group, *Gen. Chas. L. Bolte* and his charming wife. From Hsq. Sp. Trps. we had *Gen. Casper* and his wife as well as *Ted Edstrom*, *Joe Wright & wives*. We also include as an honorary member, *John Moriarty* from the M.P. Plt. with whom we shared our latrine & shower.

There were a lot of reminiscences exchanged because many of these fellows hadn't seen each other since 1945. Gen. Casper looked on with approval as "his boys" swapped tales, most of which were true. The biggest surprise to us was that TONY DASTRA, the grease monkey who could fix any vehicle, is now a Men's Hair Stylist. He finally explained how he and 2 other guys got lost and left behind when our Cadre troop train from Cp. Adair stopped at Denver. There must be a heap of truth in the theory that a uniform attracts girls because the ladies at the reunion were a most attractive and stylish group. The high point of our undividual Reunion was the Fri. dinner at a local restaurant when Co. Myers told the waitresses to give the check to me and the fellows would pay me later. Would you believe that the check for \$156. came out even. Of Course, they all suspected me of making some of my expenses out of the profits. Our group may have set some kind of a record for attendance from various distant states because Hawn came from Colo., Myers from Ariz., Curtis from Iowa, Edstrom from Ohio and Casper from Arkansas, the Hillbillies from the Ozarks in Missouri.

We had a great time and hope to give even more support to Al Carbonari. Thanks again, Joe Wright. P.S. We were so happy to see CLARENCE MARSHALL so justly rewarded with the ring and plaque. He has done a remarkable job in locating 69'ers. J.W.

MARTIN P. MILLER, I-271 writes: "Gentlemen: Strange as it may seem, I was not aware that you had a 69th Inf. Div. Assoc.

I had served as a 2nd Lt. with Co. I, 271 Inf. I stepped on a mine in Germany on Feb. 28, '45, and was hospitalized for almost two years.

I would like to become a member of your Association."

Miller was a 1st Lt. when he retired. He is now practicing law in Littleton, Colo. and lives at 2009 West Littleton Blvd. 80120. We do everything we can to let former members of our group know about our association but the news releases and broadcasts do not seem to reach out far enough. Last Spring 746 news releases went out all over the country.

CECIL J. BESHORE, E-273, Mt. Wolf, RD #1, Penna. 17347, wife: Charlotte and daughter Cynthia, married; Son Cecil John III married and another son Gregory. 1 grandchild, Kimberly Dawn. Discharged from 69th 1946, having served in the

COME TO THE EARLY BIRD

Infantry for 26 mos. I delivered milk for 1 yr., then started working for Beshore and Killer, Inc., the Ford dealership near our home. I was an Auto Technician for 20 yrs. and now serve in capacity of Shop Foreman. This has proved to be both an interesting and challenging career. Am active in Christ Lutheran Church, Manchester. For hobbies I belong to the White Rose Squares, Modern Western square dance club of York, Pa.

A. C. FAISON, was an officer in ARTY and did not state which Btryor Co. "Dear Clarence: I am asking for information concerning the Renunion of the 69th Inf. Div., notice of which I saw the May issues of the Retired Officer Magazine.

I was Air Officer, 69th Div., Arty. during 1943-46.

I'm sure your reply will tell me, but where in the world is "King of Prussia"? It is not on any map I can find. Sincerely, A.C. Faison"

Eds. Note . . . King of Prussia is one of those areas situated in one of the garden spots of America, Valley Forge, that is rapidly growing population wise.

RAY HERBST, A-272, and 32340 Inglewood Birmingham, Mich. 48003. Writes: "Would appreciate names and addresses of any 69th Div. men in the Greater Detroit Area, especially "A" Co. 272 or Hdqs. (Regt.) 272. Just received April 1 Issue of the Bulletin. Seems to be a shortage of news from former members of the 272nd. Come on men, lets "Talk It Up", Seeing several pictures of Gen. Bolte reminded me of our marches to the sea, and the 3B's. "BOLTE'S BIVOUACING BASTARDS . . ."! Regards, Ray.

MRS. PAUL F. ADAMS writes about the death of her husband: "This is to notify you of the death of one of its members who held a life membership.

PAUL F. ADAMS, age 48, a paraplegia from Co. A-369 Med. Bn., died of service connected disabilities Apr. 17, 1973. He left a wife, Bonita and son, Carleton Bruce. Sincerely.

SOL ROSENBLITT, H-271, and a former president, and long time secretary of the national association writes from: Zadar, Jugoslavia: "Hi, Enjoying the drive thru Italy and now Jugoslavia: Suprising how modern the hotels, food grand. The



Participants in Memorial Ceremony Valley Forge

scenery superb and the people are so kind. Sorry not to be able to see the group in Tarrytown. Love to all, Sol and Miriam

Eds. Note! . . . It has come to my attention that Sol is in bad health, really for the first time in his life. Sol and Miriam retired a few years ago and are now living at 1333 Beach Blvd., Hallandale, Fla. You good friends, and I know there are many send Sol greetings and wish him well. Loar . . .

NICHOLAS LODEN, Service 777 TB writes: "Dear Sir: In regard to the Reunions of 69th, 661st and 777th Tk. Bn. I was in 777th. As of now I'm planning to attend the Reunion, I would appreciate very much the addresses of any member of Service Co. 777th. If you had heard from any of them, would you forward the addresses. Are there any hotels or motels there? P.S. . . . would like to hear from you soon. Nicholas Loden, 174 Carlton Ave., E. Rutherford, N.J. 07073

MRS. M. SADOWSKI writes to Bill Beswick: "Dear Mr. Beswick: This is to inform you that my husband, Steve Sadowski, passed away on Nov. 28, 1964. Thank you for the invitation anyway. I'm sure Steve would have loved to attend." Mrs. Sadowski lives at 403 Ogden Pl., Perth Amboy, N.J.

ROBT. H. MAC LEOD, Lt. Col. Inf., USAR Retired writes to Clarence: "Dear Sir: As much as I would like to attend the reunion for the 69th Inf. Div., and 661st TD Bn and the 777th T. Bn., the job will not permit me to do so.

I was a member of the 661st Tk. Destroyer Bn. from May of '44 to Nov. '45. Was assigned to Co. C as the executive officer. This was a most enjoyable tour of duty.

Am now retired, have been for the past 11 yrs. and am trying to get the civilians straightened out here in the Houston, Texas Area. This is no easy task as most retirees probably already know.

Have one request. If any former member of the TD'er Corps has an extra insignia (the half track I would surely like to have one. Have been trying to complete my collection, and have not been able to locate one in this area. Don't have anything of value to exchange for it and would be willing to pay for it. Would appreciate this information be posted on the bulletin board or in the reunion bulletins if they are to be published.



Color Guard and Gen. Bolte, Memorial Valley Forge 1973

ALL NEAR BY MEMBERS SHOW UP

I hope the reunion is a success and my best wishes to all of the former members of the groups, especially the 661 Tank Destroyer Bn." Col. MacLeod lives at 11746 Oak Valley Dr., Houston, Tex. 77065. Col MacLeod, there is no such thing as anyone being not able to attend in this day and age. Did you know that your Col. Miller has been at two of the last 3 reunions and he comes from Arizona. He made the largest Bn. group in our entire 69th the best time they ever had at the Valley Forge Hilton. Try to make it next year. Wait until Bill Beswich gets on your back????

MARK DE SERIO, 1542 E. 54th St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11234 writes: Dear Mr. Marshall: Kindly send me any information on reunion of 69th Div. this Aug. Being a member of original 69th.

Members of E-273 will be disheartened to learn that JAMES BRUCE a former buddie died of heart surgery in 1958. He was only 34 years old. He was married for 11 years and had 2 children. He lived at 5608 Interboro Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.

WARREN L. KUNKEL, 880th FA and 5319 W. Willowhurst Dr., Ft. Wayne, Ind. 46815 writes Clarence Marshall: "Dear Clarence: I would like information on the 69th Div. Reunion. I served with the 880th FA Bn from Cp. Shelby to the end of the war . . . P.S.: I saw the notice of the reunion in the Legion Magazine."

ROBERT W. OLIVER, 777th Tank Bn, writes from 27 Church St., Chateaugay, N.Y. 12920. "Dear Clarence: The June American Legion Magazine I note that the 777th Tk. Bn. are to have a reunion during Aug.

I would appreciate information as to the date and place of reunion and program for the event.

Thanking you, I remain . . . interested as I was in A-777th about 23 months.

EARL J. EDWARDS, 879th F.A. Batt. writes Clarence: "Dear Comrade: Would like to attend the 69th Div. Reunion.

I was in 69th from May '43 to Nov. '44 in the 879th F.A. Batt. Please send information. Earl lives at 400 Indiana Ave., Eaton, Ind.

SAMUEL N. ALWINE, H-271 writes: "Dear Mr. Marshall: Please send details of forthcoming reunion of the 69th Div.

Unfortunately over the years I have lost contact with everyone from my old outfit which was Co. H-271." Sam lives at 4 Perilli Dr., Ann Reno Park, Telford, Pa. 18969

JOHN J. CUPINE, JR. A-271 and 5 Hazel St., Binghamton, N.Y. 13905 writes: "Dear Clarence: I was a member of A-271. I trained at Cp. Shelby Miss. and went over seas with 69th Div.

I left them at Winchester, Eng. I would like information about organization. Thank you, John

JOHN PASQUINO, writes Clarence: "Dear Sir: Will answer your letter of June 13th, 1973. Glad to hear from my old unit the 777th Tk. Bn. I was in D Co.

CARL Q. CHRISTOL, HQS. CO., DIVISION writes that he was elected President of the American Branch of the International Institute of Space Law. He is the author of "The International Law Of Outer Space." He lives in Los Angeles where he is professor of International Law at the University of Southern Calif.

FRANK E. GOODING, 273rd Regt., and 211 E. Walnut St., Fairbury, Ill. 61739 writes: "Hi. See the 69th Div. is going to hold a Reunion. Please send me details, Thanks, . . .

VERNIE H. GRAY writes, I was pleasantly surprised to receive your letter informing me of the 69th Assoc.

I got my book out and relieved our tour of France, England, Germany and Belgium.

I was sorry your letter was so long reaching me at my present address. It was too late to attend Reunion. Hope I can next year.

Probably would consider becoming a member of Assoc. If you would send me necessary information.

Thanks again for your letter. I am enclosing information you requested. (Vernie was listed in the other communication.)

HENRY NEWSTEIN, 661 TD read about the Reunion which was in his own backyard. Dear Sir: Please send me any information available for the 69th Div. Renunion. I was with the 661st T.D. Bat. Thanks.

Eds. Note: Henry was there with his bells on . . . Hope you come again. Your outfit is a great one and I know you could not have helped having a riotous time . . .

SHERMAN RAINES, Sv. 272 and Box 72 Rich Creek, Va. has a wife: Ruth and daughter Deborah Lynn and son, Serman Jr. Sherm is a Painting and Decorating Contractor for Ryan Homes in the Pittsburgh area.

ANDREW J. FEDOR, 717 Shaw Ave., McKeesport, Pa. 15132 and 269th Engrs. Wife, Irene and son, Andrew and daughter Judith Anne.

GET ACQUAINTED — COME THURSDAY 15TH

AL G. SHIRES writes: "Dear Mr. Quikle, I was in the 69th Inf. Div. at Cp. Shelby, Miss. in 1943. I read where the 69th was having a convention this month but did not have time to plan to attend. If there is a mailing list or publication being put out, I would like to have my name included for future meetings. Al's address is the All State Sign Co., 4260 N. E. 7th Ave., Fort Lauderdale, Fla. 33308. Any of you members down that way and recognize him give him a call at 564-5719.

JOHN PASQUINO, writes Clarence Marshall: Will let you know I have received your letter giving me Mr. Metro Labosky's address. I have written him but no answer yet. I will try again.

Hope you and the rest of the buddies had a nice reunion at Valley Forge. Would like to know if I could join the Association even if I did not serve overseas. As I have stated before. I was in the 10th Armored Div. Co. C., 3rd Regt. at Ft. Benning, Ga. then to the 777th Tank BN., Co. D. then moved to Ft. Knox, Ky. Let me know the dues." (John you have every right to belong to our association, the dues are \$3, regular and if you can afford to help us out more there is a Contributing Membership which is \$10. Take your pick. Your outfit is growing in attendance at our reunions.

JAKE AND VIOLET STARK, of Harrisburg Branch writes to Loar: "Sorry that Vi and I cannot attend the First meeting of the Tri-State Branch.

We have a get together of our Christian Married Couples of our Church. I am president and Vi is vice-president.

Congratulations on being named President of this new organization. I know that you can make it go. Please give my regards to: Sam Woolf, Geo. Phillips and Bill Matlack and all the rest that I know and to all your wives. Hope to see you all soon. Lots of luck, Vi and Jake . . ."

MARVIN E. BLACKWELL, Rte. #5, Cleveland, Tenn. 37311 writes: "I am writing to get more information about the Fighting 69th Inf. Div. I was a member of the 69th Div. in Germany and would like all the information I could get. Also when the reunion will be and where, please answer soon by return mail. Thank you.

JOHN MORIARTY, 69th MP's and Pine Lane, Brookfield, Mass. "Dear Loar; Enclosed checks for my reservation for the Fly-Cruise and the European or Return to the Elbe number two . . . I have intended to send them for some weeks. My daughter, Sandy, would love to go on the Cruise but her school vacation does not fall in that week, so, unless there is some change I will have to go alone, and "Lead the Band". She is excited about the Elbe #2 Tour, however.

It was great being with you all at the meeting at George Phillips in Westfield last Sunday. We had a real good day and meeting, I thought.

It was a rough 4 hour drive home for me — got home at 4 A.M. and up at 6:30, as I had a very big day at work. Took

Tuesday off to recuperate! I did not get a chance, but wished I had talked with you about my nomination to be Treasurer and I hope you acquiesce in this appointment for me.

I had a nice letter from Dawn, please tell her I am writing to the Pittman's today and will advise if I hear of them coming to the reunion. See you in August Loar, if not before. My best to Adele as always."

John did see us before, he was invited to have dinner with us on Tues. night before the reunion, he was in Washington, D.C. and his daughter, Sandy, called him and he came up for dinner along with Geo. and Aggie Phillips. We had dinner and went over to Valley Forge and checked in the Hilton for a week of fun and fellowship with the rest of the 69th reunion attendees.

Your editor cannot help telling you once again what a great job of organizing was done for the past reunion. The entire program went off without a hitch. George Phillips is to be commended for his great effort down to the smallest detail. He certainly was on top of it all. Sometimes we don't realize the great talent within our organization. We have been most fortunate in our years as an association to have had such men heading our organization. They all lend a great deal of new ideas and a fresh approach to the job and what has to be done. Today, it is not easy to deal with hotels and their staff. However, Bill Terney and his staff were great in their cooperation. We have never had the cooperation in years that we had at Valley Forge Hilton.

DR. DALE A. CARLSON 9235 41 St. N.E., Seattle, Wash. and Sv. 272 writes he has a wife Jean and children: D. Ronald, Gail L., Joan M. and Gwen D. He is chairman - Dept of Civil Engineering, Univ. of Washington Research, is teaching and consulting in the area of environmental quality control.

JOSEPH A. ENGASSER, 27 Virginia Ave., Hazlet, N.J. 07730 and Sv. Co. 272, has a wife; Cecilia and children; Eileen, Catherine and Peter. He sent Clarence Marshall 7 names and addresses to check. That's a boy Joe, and we hope they all check out.

LE ROY D. BROWN, 2975 Briarwood Lane, Titusville, Fla. 32780, and Hqs. Co. 269th Engrs. Has a wife; Frances E. and a daughter Linda Rose. He is retired (7-1-71 as Manager Transportation, Lake Region, Cleveland, Ohio of Norfolk and Western R.R. Co. Now spends his time golfing, bridge playing and just being plain lazy. He wants an application for membership sent. (Good philosophy in being lazy . . . your editor is going to be in that position in a couple of years and I too hope to be able to be that way. When a man spends his time all his life working and fighting for his country, he deserves to feel that way . . .)

ALL NEARBY MEMBERS SHOW UP

ENGINE – EARS

By Walt Goeben

Well another reunion is history, and it was pleasant history. It seems each reunion is better than the previous one.

The hotel was great. Service was excellent. Our ceremonies was at a most historic as well as a very beautiful location. The Freedoms Foundation park and museum were great to see, and to drive through the Valley Forge Park was such a great experience.

The Engineers had a great turn-out. Our C. P. was a complete success. As new members arrived they could always find the other Engineers in our C.P. We have FRANK NEMETH to thank for that.

We were glad to see two of our members, *Bob Turner* and *John Pontieri* at the reunion after having been ill. Bob missed last year, "but not two in a row", he said.

We missed LEO MCGILLEN and the GEO. ROUPS. We hope you'll make it next year.

This was the first time that we did not have "our mother of the Engrs." Mrs. Robbie MacGregor at the reunion. We certainly all missed her and wish her a speedy recovery. The MacGregors were all missed.

CHUCK HERRING did a fine job teaching RUBY ESTLER to play golf, only he teaches at three in the morning in the hotel hall. Ruby and Frank Estler were guests of Walt Goeben. Ruby comes from Chuck's home town. Those "Tar Heels" will play golf any place.

JIM EIBLING had a large collection of photos of the Engineers in Europe. These pictures will increase our 269th Album to a great extent.

At the next reunion, please bring any photos and addresses that you may have. Check your Christmas Card List, like Elsie and Dave Coe did. They came up with about 20 new names and current addresses.

Engineer Mystery Question; Did anyone see where Elfrieda hid the \$70? Does John know?

In closing I hope we have a larger turn-out next year, keep those addresses coming and most of all keep well — See you in Wilmington.

Letters From Our Membership Continued

EDWIN K. WHITE, 5534 Tarnow St., Detroit, Mich. 48210 and D. Co. 369th Med. Bn. has a wife, Norma and children; Jacqueline, Steve, Edwin, Jr., John, Beverly and Roscoe. Has been in Detroit past 21 years. Retired with disability from Kelsey Hayes Co. Auto Div., Detroit. (looks like you were very busy raising a family too, Ed, right?)

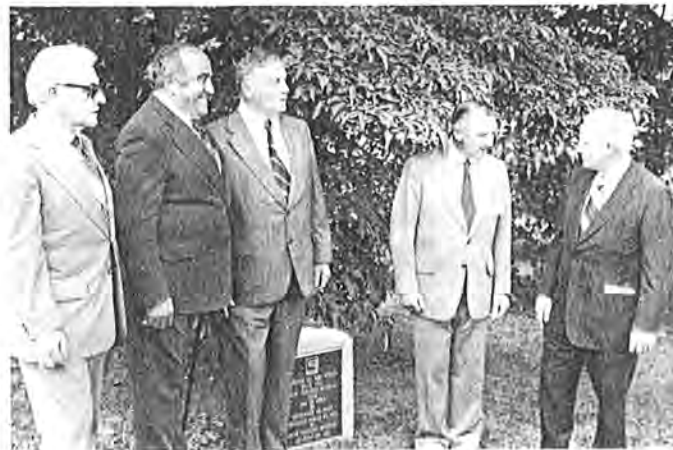
Ed also sent in the address of Howard Sharp, Van, W. Va. or is it Man . . .

JOHN S. CRABTREE, BELL FARM, Ky. 42605 and D Co. 369th Med. Bn. has a wife, Violet and daughter, Carolyn Sue. Was in the U.S. Forest Service working with the Job Corps. He was disabled for 10 years. Went into the Grocery Retail for 10 years. Has been with the Forest Service since April '66.

WILL GOODHEIM E-272 and 1095 Decker St., Kingston, N.Y. 12401 writes Clarence: "I was pleased to meet you at the last Reunion and sincerely hope that you were able to find the name of Anthony P. Ancona (A-271 or 272) in your records. As you know, he is in a hospital and would very much like to hear from any of his old buddies from his outfit. His address is ANTHONY P. ANCONA, BERGEN PINES COUNTY HOSPITAL, PARAMUS, N.J. 07652 (A-272)



In picture below, reading from left to right are Mrs. Mellenger, Weston, Taylor, Jake Stark, with back to camera, Quickle, Carbonari and the back of Mrs. Milich. Taken on the back lawn of Geo. Phillips' home at a meeting last summer. They are enjoying Jake's humor.



Harold Starry, Al Carbonari, Gen. Bolte, George Phillips and Gen. Johnson just after the unveiling of our new project to honor all of you who served in our wonderful "3 BBB's" and The "Fighting 69th" from the beginning at Cp. Shelby to the end of the war . . .

VALLEY FORGE — NOW DELAWARE

Letters From Our Membership Continued

You will be pleased to hear that I located another 69th alumnus thru using a 69th car sticker. He turned out to be a fellow employee who noticed the patch and sought me out. He was a member of our group for ten years and dropped out. After telling him about the great bunch of people in the organization and the fine work being performed, he would like to rejoin. He is: JOSEPH J. RUANE, L-272, 13 TREETOPS LANE, POUGHKEEPSIE, N.Y. 12603.

Thanks to you again for your fine cooperation and courtesy. Will." Will, you are a perfect example of why our organization is alive.

DID YOU KNOW? If more of you paid dues to the organization, we could do more? Did you know that we have wonderful turnouts and everyone, despite some flaws, showing up now and then in the reunions, everyone seems to go a way HAPPY? Did you know that no other kind of group has a chance for live fellowship as our type of group? We REALLY do have fun regardless of the outfit, everyone seems to fit right in, did you know. DID YOU KNOW? THAT THERE IS A COMPLETE BREAKDOWN OF SOCIAL DIVISIONS AT OUR REUNIONS AND DOCTORS, FARMERS, WORKERS, WRITERS, PROFESSORS ARE ALL ALIKE?

A MOST DEDICATED GROUP

This page is dedicated to our most active branch. We have the Old New York Group, now the Northeast Branch, the Pittsburgh Branch and the Virginia Branch, those of the franchised groups by actual charter of the National Assoc. Up to now the Harrisburg, or Central Penna. Group have been having the most fun and activities. I know as I am a member with them as well as the Northeast Branch. The Branch was started by our former president Harold Starry and he has not let up in the effort of keeping it alive. They held a picnic on August 4th this year and had two dinners since the last reunion. I attended one dinner but missed the other two events. At the Reunion in Valley Forge, I took such a ribbing in not publishing a picture and giving them a by-line on their events that I do hope this space makes up for my laxness before.

At their first dinner this year, they had the honor of having General Chas. L. Bolte attend along with his son. They sure are proud of this accomplishment, as they well should be. In the

picture below, you will see each officer and believe me, besides being interested in the Central Penna. Branch they participate in the national Assoc. activities. Many of them are on the Board of Directors and hold office. Harold Starry, a former president of the National Assoc. is now our Chaplain. If you have never heard any of his prayers, you missed the best composition of words with meaning and a voice that is pleasant to listen to as you will ever hear again. Reading left to right. The group below is Mel Mellinger, Jake Stark, Harold Starry, Howard Hoover, and Sam Talley. All officers in some capacity. Oh! Oh! Better not let it go by . . . Howard is President, Sam is Secretary Treas., Harold Chaplain and Mel is Program Director and Jake is the immediate past president.

No kidding aside, they are the greatest bunch to have fun with this side of the Pacific . . . By the way they sent another picture since reunion in the event I had lost the first one. The first one just fits the space left over . . . Keep it up fellows





the 69th

INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC.

101 stephen st., new kensington, pa. 15068

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IN MEMORIAM

HOWARD L. HALL

Anti-Tank 271; Dec. 6, 1970

COL. CHAS. L. ADAMS

Oct. 15, 1973

CLIFFORD GRAY

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RAY R. PAINTER

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