

# FIGHTING 69TH INFANTRY DIVISION

## ★★★★ Association, Inc.



VOLUME 32 NO. 2

JANUARY - FEBRUARY - MARCH - APRIL

1979

"THE THREE BBB'S"  
BOLTE'S BIVOUACING BASTARDS

101 STEPHEN STREET  
NEW KENSINGTON, PA. 15068  
412/ 335-3224

## bulletin

### OFFICERS 1978-79

John Moriarty, *President*  
Pine Lane  
Brookfield, Mass 01506 69MP

Robert Myers, *Vice President*  
10453 Cumberland Drive  
Sun City, Ariz. 85351 Div. Hq.

Chester Yastrzomski, *Secretary*  
29 Skinner Street  
Southampton, N.Y. 11968 272

Earl E. Witzleb, Jr., *Treasurer*  
P.O. Box 69 Drawer M  
Champion, Pa. 15622 273

Clarence Marshall, *Membership*  
101 Stephen Street  
New Kensington, Pa. 15068 Div. Hq.

Anthony Keller, *Auditor* 272

Harold Starry, *Chaplain* 272

William Matlach, *Scholarship* 273

### LADIES AUXILIARY

Margie McCombs, *President*  
Helen Steinel, *Secretary*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Loar Quickle, *Board Chairman*  
512 S. Main Street  
Pennington, N.J. 08534 271

### 1978-1979

Walter Holmlin ..... 269

Clarence Miles ..... 724

George Gallagher ..... 69 MP. & QM.

Ray Fahrner ..... 273

Edson Slagg ..... 273

Gilbert Sadler ..... 273

James Henry ..... 272

### 1979-1980

Charles Herring ..... 269

John Havy ..... 273

Jacob Stark ..... 273

Frank See ..... 777

William J. King ..... 661

Denman Ayres ..... 724

Robert Ellis ..... 271

### 1980-1981

Kenneth Steinel ..... 569

Howard Hoover ..... 271

Gerald Rodelli ..... 269

Paul Shadle ..... 271

Frank Nemeth ..... 269

Walter Doernbach ..... Div. Hq.

Clifford Blank ..... 661

George Shapiro ..... 272

### PAST PRESIDENTS

\* Maj. Gen. E. F. Reinhardt  
Texas ..... Div. Hq.

\* Lester J. Millich, N.J. .... 569 Sig.

\* Hyman E. Goldstein, N.Y. .... 272 Inf.

Clifford E. Ewing, Ga. .... 769 Ord.

Sherman Lawrence, N.Y. .... 272 Inf.

Murray Galuten, Okla. .... 272 Inf.

\* Henry Madison, N.Y. .... 272 Inf.

Sol Rosenblatt, Fla. .... 271 Inf.

Cyril Baron, Fla. .... Div. Hq.

Loar L. Quickle, N.J. .... 271 Inf.

Harold M. Starry, Pa. .... 272 Inf.

Wm. R. Matlach, N.Y. .... 273 Inf.

Sam Woolf, N.Y. .... 273 Inf.

Geo. E. Phillips, Fla. .... 271 Inf.

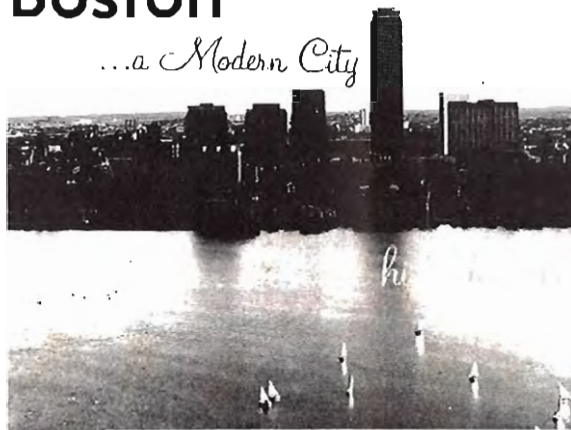
Albert Carbonari, Conn. .... 271 Inf.

Stanley Olszewski, Conn. .... 273 Inf.

\* Deceased

## Boston

...a Modern City



1979 Reunion  
Boston, Massachusetts

We will meet at the **Boston Park Plaza Hotel** from Wednesday, August 15th to Sunday, August 19th, for our 1979 Reunion.

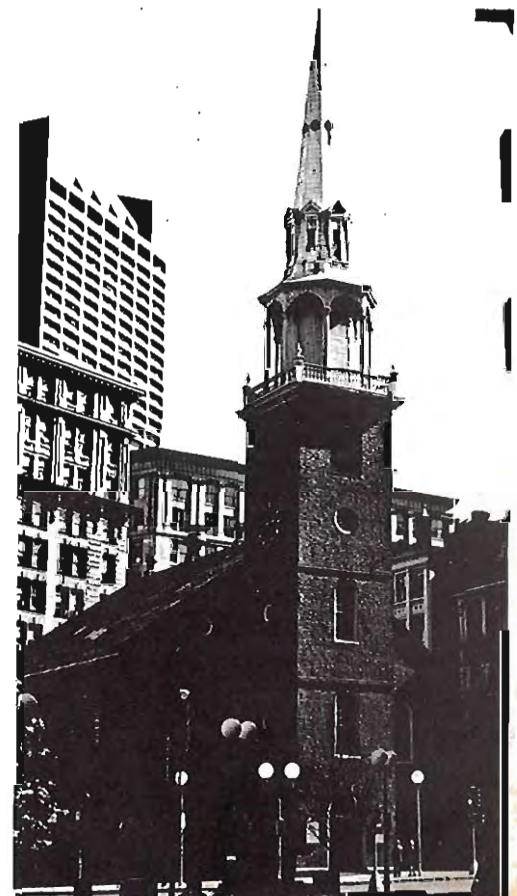
Boston is an historical city and a splendid place to spend a week or so for a vacation . . . and what with the Reunion being held in this beautiful and historic city . . . everything should blend into a wonderful time for all 69er's and their families. Friends are also invited, so bring them along. Why not plan with a couple of your Company Buddies and their families. Let's make Boston "A Hopping City" for a week.

Pictured at the top of this page is a view of the Back Bay Skyline of Boston.

At the right of this page is a view of the Old South Meeting House which was a Congregational Church built in 1729. It was organized with the intention of being more liberal than the older Puritan Churches. As it was the largest hall in town, it was also used for some public meetings. One spirited meeting adjourned to become the Boston Tea Party. It is now a museum with exhibits of colonial Boston.

So . . . See you in Boston shortly. Yes, only five months away.

Once you have attended a Reunion of the 69th Infantry Division Association, you'll never want to miss another. It's a **must in your lifetime** . . . meeting Buddies you haven't seen in over 30 years.



## Editor's Note

I am sorry for the delay in mailing Dues Cards to those sending in dues in October and November. I tried to mail these Dues Cards by bulk rate, but was turned down by the Postal System. By mailing bulk rate, this would have saved the Association about 75% of our normal cost — Sorry, it didn't work. All members should have their Dues Cards by now.

Sure would like to see more members pay dues . . . (Contributory, if possible), along with their Ladies' Dues.

Last year, and this year, we will put out three editions of the Bulletin, one for each four months. Starting next year, we would like to publish four Bulletins . . . one every three months, but this depends on you, and you alone, our members, by paying dues.

We can only do as much as our income allows.

You may by now have noticed the new way of addressing our Dues Notices and Bulletins. Our Addressing Service has installed a new system, which will save us a few pennies — possibly I should say dollars, however I hope you like it.

**If you have any news of interest send it along to me, and it will get in the Bulletin.**

Hope to see a large turnout May 4th, 5th and 6th, from the Tri-State Area for our Spring Weekend, which will also make Vic DeCarlo very happy.

In the same trend of thought, and looking forward to seeing you — sure would be nice to see all 5,000 Association Members in Boston on August 15th thru 19th, 1979, for our Grand National Reunion. Plan to attend the Boston Reunion! Bring your wife or family and meet your Buddies who you may not have seen in 30 or so years.

It is also my hope that I may be able to announce the sites for our next two or three Reunions, following the events at our forthcoming Boston Reunion.

**If you have a group of Buddy 69er addresses which you think we may not have, please send them to us, and let us check them out. In return — if you desire an address of a Buddy of yours, who is a member of the Association, we will be happy to send that information along to you.**

Oh yes, when sending in your Dues — if you want a 69th Decal for your car window, request it at that time. — Let's all put a decal on the car so that when we spot one, we can find out who our Buddy 69er is. "Let's get them popping-up all over these United States."

Clarence Marshall has copies of **The 69th Division History Books, and emblems for sale**, and is hoping to get **Regimental Books** made up one of these days. Our **Souvenir Stock** is in good shape now, and can be purchased at the Boston Reunion. I expect to have hats and jerseys available at Boston for members. These were hot items at the Pittsburgh Reunion, and were originally just an article for the Pittsburgh Committee.

Well, do have a nice year — and let us hear from you. If you know of any of our members who are sick or in a hospital, do let us know.

We want to be "One Big Happy Family," — or should I say "Gang." So let's all meet and have fun in Boston in just a few months. Hope to see you there!

Earl Witzleb, Jr.

## News From The Editor's Desk

Thomas Maielli, 407 Blaine Street, New Castle, Pa. 16101. A-880 writes: In your latest Bulletin I saw a **James Bilbrey**, A-880, attended the Reunion. I do not recollect the name, but I was with A-880, from the start in Shelby, to the finish. Please have him contact me in some way in the Bulletin, or a card with his address.

[Editor's Note: Mr. Maielli was provided an address for Mr. Bilbrey].

\*\*\*\*\*

From Col. Ray Strauss, Rams Acres, Danby, Vt. 05739, Med. 272: First I would like to commend **Fred Huston** and all others responsible for the wonderful Reunion in Pittsburgh.

Reading the Bulletin from cover to cover, I thought of all the work, time, energy and loving care that was expended creating the Bulletin. I noted **Russ's** remark: "Reunions are for realizing how old you are getting." Russ looks the same now as he did then. However, did anyone see the picture of Russ which is hanging in his living room?

I was saddened to see the additional 69er's who are no longer with us. Many I knew.

But, now for the purpose of this letter. While attending a Commander's Conference in Albany, New York, a rather young Staff Sgt. saw my 69th patch. His father belonged to our Division, and did not know there was an Association. By now you should have heard from him. His name and address is among my papers back at Ft. Hamilton. And, again while coordinating the Army Dental Corps information booth at the Greater New York Dental Meeting, 25 November to 1 December, I was approached by a representative from **Coe Laboratories** (maker of Dental Products), and he was elated to see the patch I wear on my right sleeve. His card is enclosed. I promised to get him on the mailing list, as he expressed a desire to join our Association, and attend the next Convention.

I was indeed surprised to see my picture with my dental assistant **Addie Cote**. I have always had great respect for the man, and maintained a fondness during all of these years. I am eager to relocate Addie. Have you his address? He did live in Connecticut.

Since I will be retiring next 1 July, I am sure I will be available for the entire Convention — Boston '79! See you then!

I think after 37 years in the Army and Army Reserve will let me go.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sam Woolf**, 241 Waverly Road, Scarsdale, N.Y. 10583, F-273, writes and sends along a new address: Hope all's well with you. I am feeling much better, and am back to work full time. I was at a World War II Motor Vehicle Club and Collectors Group at Irv Sarafan's place of business, and we came across a 69er who didn't even know we existed. Enclosed is his address, and I told him he would receive our Bulletins from now on. He also would like to pay dues.

His name and address is: **Frank Packard**, Pine Acres, Oakham, Mass. 01068, A-269. Hoping you have a great Holiday and a Happy New Year.

P.S.: Please give my best to Earl and the gang from Pennsylvania.

\*\*\*\*\*

A request for an address from **Ernest W. Jackson**, 1409 Florence Drive, Albany, Ga. 31707, B-880. Please send me the address of **Walter Kaminski** who was at your Reunion. I have been a good member of the 69th Infantry Division Association since it started, but have only been able to attend one of the Annual Reunions. That was in Atlanta in 1952.

I had a stroke in 1975, which affects my handwriting. — Thank you very much.

\*\*\*\*\*

A card from **John P. Runden**, Glen Rock Road, Little Falls, N.J. 07424, C-879: Only very recently did I learn that the 69th Division had an Association. I would like to be enrolled as a member. I was part of the Division — Charlie Battery 879th FA., from March or April 1944, to V.E. Day. I have read with great interest the Bulletin Vol. 31 No.3 — but did not see a statement about dues.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dr. Phillip M. Ikins, 306 Sedgwick Drive, Syracuse, N.Y. 13203, A & B 271 writes: I was a Second Lieutenant in A-Company 271, about the time that the picture in your last issue was taken, and do remember all of the officers that are shown.

I have never had contact with any of them other than Jack Jones and Capt. Austin, both of whom I saw at one of our 69th Reunions many years ago. I did see Jack Wrigley, shortly after the War, when he would drive through Syracuse as a sales representative. I would guess that he still lives in Youngstown, Ohio.

Best regards to Jack Jones, and congratulations on his retirement.

Has Capt. Llewellyn Jones, Commanding Officer of B-Company 271st Regiment made himself known? Would surely like to hear from him.

I was a Staff Sgt., under him earlier in combat.

As you can see, I am a Chest Surgeon, in Syracuse, N.Y.

\*\*\*\*\*

This is from Charles K. Wilson, Rt. 1, Box 224, Newton, Ill. 62448, Hq. 272: I was just looking at my 69th Division Association Bulletin. I look at it more than any others. I think that it is very nice that we can get some information like this.

I am going to be in Boston this year if I can make it.

I see where they spoke about the East meets West. I am sending a picture of that, and our little dog who went all through the War with us.

Now can you get me the address for M/Sgt. Jack Eurick? He was in Hq. Co. 272nd Inf. Regt. with me, and I was 53 when we were discharged. He and Gen. Reinhardt were together in the First World War. I would like to get his address, as we were very good Buddies.

I saw where Raymond Knudsen was at the Reunion in 1978. He and I are Buddies, and have always kept in contact.

I am looking forward to getting my next 69er paper.

[Editor's Note: We do not have M/Sgt. James Eurick on our mailing Roster. If anyone can help us relocate him, please contact National Headquarters].

\*\*\*\*\*

Michael Kertis, 1028 Green Street, Marcus Hook, Pa. 19061, G-272: Received my September to December issue of 69th Newsletter. Noticed the regulars from G-272 were at the Pittsburgh Reunion. I would have enjoyed meeting Clem Hudacek and Frank Dusi. I haven't seen the latter since 1945.

I was one of the original members of the Unit, along with Bill Phillips, and Jim Henry, F-Company and others I see listed at the Reunion. In 1945 I was separated from the 69th and went to the 29th Division at Bremerhaven, and the American Enclave. From there I went to the 87th Division in Berlin, then to Berlin District Headquarters. From Berlin we went to the British Sector of Germany, near Braunschweig, where we set up the first check point on the Autobahn, at the British and Russian demarcation line — later known as Check Point Charlie. We monitored all traffic going to and coming from Berlin. More about Berlin and East Germany another time.

Enclosed is an article of interest to all 69er's. This obituary was in the Wilmington, Delaware, paper, October 12, 1978.

[Editor's Note: Mr. Kertis sent an obituary for Major General John F. R. Seitz, who was Assistant Division Commander for the 69th Division at the close of the War].

\*\*\*\*\*

Received the following report from Betty Foster on the Central Pennsylvania Group: This is to let you know that the Central Pennsylvania Branch of the 69th Infantry Division, had their Annual Fall Dinner Meeting on Saturday, November 4th. We had a very enjoyable evening.

We had a member, Raymond Pugliese, who attended our dinner for the first time. Mrs. Robert Ober also was in attendance. Mr. and Mrs. C. A. McConahy of New Castle, Pa., also stopped over in New Cumberland, and visited the shop of Betty and Bill Foster.

The Central Branch also held a Picnic in July.

Hope to see you in Boston this year.

---

## In Our Time of Sorrow

My Sister and I want to express our sincere appreciation for the kindness, and sympathy shown to us during the time of the loss of our Mother, Phrona Marshall.

We particularly want to thank Bob Myers for his words of sympathy, and his efforts in letting others know of Mom's death. Mr. and Mrs. Paul Shadle who ordered the lovely flowers, and who came to the funeral home. Mr. and Mrs. George Gallagher and Mr. and Mrs. John Suprano, who also came to express their sympathy . . . and all of those who sent cards.

As we said in our card to Bob Myers, "We always had a small family, and death has made it even smaller. But, with the 69th Members, we have gained a large and very kind and friendly family."

Thank you all!

Clarence Marshall

## "Mother"

The following article about Mothers, was written and submitted to us by Guy A. Ungaro, 215 W. Vine Street, Alliance, Ohio — December 1978.

What would the History of our lives be, without the knowledge of our greatest possession — "Our Mother."

With many books, articles, and poems written of "Mother" . . . of her many known realms that carved the many milky streams of our life.

We can always write many more appreciating thoughts of praise, blessings of goodness and other rewards, to fill many more volumes of cloth of our libraries of life. The inner warmth of our heart is always felt as we once again glance at her picture on the wall or mantlepiece. To look back to yesteryears, to Her Love that fit our tongue through our hearts each day, is handed down — our name for generations to come. These are the links of heritage . . . memories of early ties which pace around the haunts, which now we understand — "Her inward feelings." "Her" one hope to acquire — "Her" blessings of goodness — to others — then our values of life will never fail. "Her One Prayer" — is while we live with God's help, make us worthy of the life "She" taught us.

Wisely we do not forget those "Mother's Days." Starting from the twilight of our youth, thoughts and secrets endear the beauty of "Her" superlative heart, — "Her" gift of giving. "She" wants no rewards, no dividends for "Her" values of Motherhood.

No greeting like "Her" welcome, no homage like "Her" praise — the only one to touch the rainbow of all the mornings' and evenings of your life.

"Her" home cooking has long been sent into limbo, as one gets into today's encounters of the restaurants. The atmosphere of all "Her" confections of homemade desserts, are the wonderments of our daytime routines.

"Her" understanding of hate, to despise nothing, ignore or fear nothing . . . were messages of splendor, which cleanse the dark parts of our life together. Among the bitterness of depression, and years of Wars — "Her" duties were quieter and sincere days of tremendous queries, which she understood with "Her" daily prayers.

We only pluck "Her" love and hope, which lifts our head each day. With deep affection, we will never stop going down memory lane . . . As we think of silence . . . No eyes see us weep . . . For then these hearts that miss you, "Mother," have still a little journey to creep.

"God" knew you had to leave us, but life and home are not the same now. But, with all the treasures you have left, which leave our hearts with many stings, the pain is here to stay.

No light words pass us now, for our faces spread your chart each day. As we pause to breathe a prayer above the sod, where "God" must eye "Each Day."

## The Battle Goes On . . . Who Is The Oldest Member Of Our Association?

### RUSSELL PERKINS NOW GRABS THE BRASS RING AS BEING THE OLDEST OF THE MEMBERS OF OUR ASSOCIATION —

**Russell Perkins** of 7021 W. Patricia Ann Lane, Peoria, Arizona, 85345 Div. Hq., has informed us that his birth date is December 3, 1905, which qualifies him as the elder statesman of our Association. This preceeds **Mr. Edmund L. Petersen** who reported his birth date in Bulletin Vol. 32 No. 1, as being January 15, 1906.

Russ attended our Reunion at Mountain Shadows in 1977, and your Editor who is 17 years younger than **Mr. Perkins** had a harder time remembering him than he did of me. (I'm ashamed to admit this). He was my Sergeant for a short time when I entered Division Headquarters Company.

We are happy that we brought our Reunion out west so you could attend, and I hope we head that direction again in the not too distant future.

\*\*\*\*\*

### MR. PETERSEN A GOOD LOSER

The following letter, a copy of which was sent to your Editor and a copy to former **Staff Sgt. Russell Perkins** will testify to the fact that **Mr. Petersen** is "A Good Loser." He wrote as follows:

Dear Staff:

I am delighted to hear that I am not the Oldest Living 69er. Your friends from the Headquarters Company will be very happy to know that you are still well and active.

I will send everything you sent to me, and a copy of this letter to the Editor. He will be happy to hear from you.

Thank you for your letter, and May God Bless You.

[Editor's Note: Russ Perkins had sent to Mr. Petersen, who in turn forwarded to me the following: A photo copy of his birth certificate to verify his age, a poem titled "On Tobacco," by Dr. T. W. Belingham, a message on Alcohol and Driving, and a policy from The Eternal Life Insurance Company, founded by Jesus Christ - Matthew 16-18].

\*\*\*\*\*

### FORMER STAFF SGT. RUSSELL PERKINS' REIGN DOESN'T LAST LONG, AS HE IS DETHRONED —

We received the following from **Clyde W. Van Horn** of 665 Cypress Street, Monterey, California 93940:

Would like to put my bid in as to being the Oldest Member of the Association.

Was a "retread" from World War I, and with two others from the 69th was sent back to the United States, and discharged at Ft. Sheridan, Illinois, on July 1, 1945, as being "Too Old."

Like **Edmund L. Petersen**, I was sent from Camp Adair to Camp Shelby. Spent the many months there helping to train new men as replacements were moved out.

Can anyone tell me how many times we went through basic training?

Was born January 11, 1900.

[Editor's Note: Mr. Van Horn's Unit was Co.-B 369th Medics].

\*\*\*\*\*

At a later date we received a letter from **Lester Langley**, 129 Walnut Street, Ottawa, Illinois 61350, H&S 269 Eng., who was trying to claim the Oldest Member Honor, as his birth date was November 3, 1905. However **Mr. Van Horn** (who we have written about above), has **Lester's** birth date beaten by 5 years and 10 months.

**Mr. Langley** also came from the 96th Division in Camp Adair, Oregon, as Cadre for the 69th when it was activated in Camp Shelby.

**Mr. Langley** suggests that we should put a spot on our dues notices to fill in one's birthdate and their length of service in the 69th Division.

## Bill Muldoon Reminisces

**Bill Muldoon** formerly of Co.-E, 272nd Infantry Regiment checking in again.

Enjoyed the last edition of the Bulletin. Now again I see of another former original E-Company, 272, man passing on — namely **Hyman Golstein**. He used to be nicknamed "Goldie," in the company.

I am enclosing \$1.00 to be put in the Scholarship Fund, in memory of Hy.

Now to reminisce about the "Old Days at Camp Shelby." Since I am writing this letter around Christmas time, my Good Buddy, **Eddie "Winky" Netta** and I, were detailed by our **Capt. Guilford** to go out to the woods near the Leaf River and cut some pine boughs to decorate the Mess Hall for Christmas. Poor **Eddie**, I boosted him up the tree and he did most of the work. But, I had the job of lugging it all back to Camp.

Then our many Beer Parties at the Mess Hall, whenever the PX would divide-up all of the profits to various Companies, every couple of months.

We were all — both young and old at the time, and were all training together to be Infantry Soldiers — Not really, truly, knowing what was in store for us about a year later. How we would take many long marches, and be very tired as we approached Camp. Lo and Behold — They would put the Division Band at the gate to play some "peppy marching tunes," so we would forget how tired we were . . . and the blisters on our feet would not hurt anymore.

We were kids of 18 and 19 years then.

Then the Shipping Lists coming in to the Division every month or so . . . Often wondering what had happened to some of the guys after they were shipped out.

Have lots of memories of Camp Shelby and the surrounding area. — Marching in and around the Camp . . . Saw many little towns which we would normally not have seen otherwise.

Then our Ship Out, and saying goodbye to Buddies we had cultivated during the past year. Those were the days, and memories will always remain.

Keep up the good work — and as the ranks are thinning — Let's keep together.

Happy Holiday Season to all.



## Special Notice

THIS IS A SPECIAL NOTICE TO ALL FORMER MEMBERS OF THE 29th INFANTRY DIVISION WHO WERE TRANSFERRED INTO THE 69th AT THE CLOSE OF WORLD WAR II —

A survey is being taken to find out if there is enough interest to make it feasible to have a reprint made of the 29th Infantry Division History Book.

If you were a member of the 29th Division, and would desire a copy of the book, when it is reprinted, please notify National Headquarters of the 69th Infantry Division Association, and we will send the results along to those who are making the survey.

The demand for the reprint of this book will dictate whether the plan is carried through, and the price of the book.

So, don't hesitate if you have always wanted a copy of your History Book. This may be your last chance.

## The Search Is On For Former Members of AT-271

James K. Healy, Jr., of 163 Dumbarton Road, Baltimore, Maryland, is working hard to relocate former members of Anti-Tank Co. 271st Infantry Regiment. He even uses measures which your Editor never thought of, in his search for former 69er's.

He states he has searched through the Legion, V.F.W., B'nai B'rith, various Police Departments, newspapers, and the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick. His next move will be through the Mafia.

He states that the Police Missing Persons Bureau has been very cooperative.

Proof that he has been successful is the fact that just recently he passed on these new addresses for our Mailing Roster:

Ralph O. May, Sr., 4764 Hunters Green Drive, Ft. Myers, Florida 33905

Homer C. Queen, Rt. 13 - Box 570, Lexington, North Carolina 27292.

Keep Up the Good Work, Jack! We need more like you.

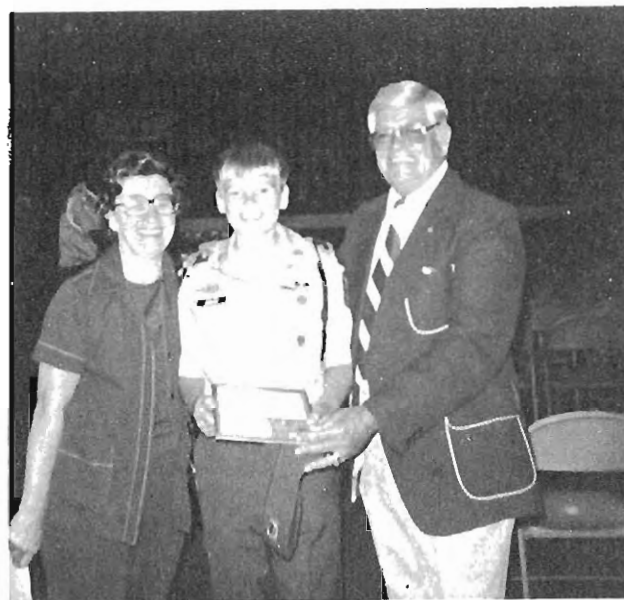
## Division Association Chapter Meetings and Communications

### 269th ENGINEERS

All is quiet with the Engineers in this Bulletin, as it is with many of our Groups and Chapters.

Haven't heard from **Chuck Herring** of the Engineers as to how he made out with his "Mid-Winter Reunion," in Florida, but hope he did get some interesting letters from members in Florida, Georgia and all the southern states.

It would be nice to have a Group from down that way so that we could look forward to having one of our National Reunions in the deep south, one of these years.



Pictured above is **Curtis W. Herring**, better known as "Beemer" who as a Junior ROTC student, was highly honored.

Last May, when Beemer was in the ninth grade at Williston Junior High School in Wilmington, North Carolina, he was awarded with the Military Scholastic Excellence Award, by the American Legion.

Pictured with Beemer are his proud parents **Chuck and Lottie Herring**. Chuck is an active 269th Engineer.

### ARIZONA

**A report for Arizonians who are Veterans of the Fighting 69th, and our attached units in combat — 661st. TD's and 777th Tk. Bn.:**

Hello again:

Our Reunion in Pittsburgh last August was a **real good one**. Approximately 450 attended.

Arizonians in attendance at Pittsburgh included: **M/M Frank Haight**, A Co. 271st, **Bob Ellis**, member of the Board and A-271st, **Frank and Gloria See**, 777th Tk. Bn. (Frank has moved to Midland, Texas, since our 1977 Reunion), and yours truly, currently serving as VP and formerly of Div. Hq. Hq. Company.

**John Havey**, member of the Board, was unable to attend due to family commitments.

This year we meet in Boston, in August, and hopefully in New Orleans in 1980. I sincerely hope we increase our Arizona and Western attendance — which you can help us do. Reduced Super Saver tickets on the airlines should be a big help.

I have just learned that **President, John Moriarty**, will spend the week of January 21st - 28th, in Sun City. Accordingly, I suggest we consider an informal get-together on Saturday 27th of January, with John. I propose a "Dutch" Luncheon about 12:30 at the Fountain Bell Restaurant, on Bell Road, in Sun City. This get-together will not change our plans to meet in Tucson with **Bob Ellis** in charge in May or June of 1979, ahead of the 1979 Reunion. Details later.

The recognition gained at Mountain Shadows for us in the West, Southwest, Mid-West and Northwest can only become a real force by our enthusiastic participation when we can do it. Please drop me a line or call me personally as concerns your attendance and/or comments. I am hopeful we will have a real good turn-out in both January 1979, and May or June in Tucson. I look forward to hearing from you, and better still, seeing you in January.

With warm regards,  
Robert "Bob" Myers  
10453 Cumberland Drive  
Sun City, Arizona 85351  
Phone: Office — 602/933-0173  
Residence — 602/977-1952

*[Editor's Note: Sorry, Bob, we can't put out a Bulletin each month as some of our news will be a bit late. I do hope you had a nice turnout for the President, John J. Moriarty, when he visited you and the westerners during the week ending January 27th. I hope your luncheon at the Fountain Bell was a great success. It's not too late to say to all Arizonians and westerners, including California, Texas, and all Mid-Western states, to write to Bob now, or call him with regard to his May-June Group Gathering in Tucson, Arizona. I am sure Bob and Bob Ellis will show you a good day and evening. Their concern is to form a large Western Group of Buddy 69er's, and generate plans for a large turnout at our national reunion this year at the Park Plaza Hotel, Boston, Massachusetts.]*

## Arizona Welcomes Our President

The following is a letter received from Bob Myers — dated February 2, 1979.

The Mini-Reunion Week in Arizona has just come to a conclusion. **John Moriarty**, **Joan** and her lovely daughter, **Donna**, spent a week with us in Sun City, in a lovely vacation apartment. Also, **Joe and Eleanor Wright**, with their great friends, and new Honorary Members, **Elmer and Virginia Kreftmyer**, were here three weeks and culminated their visit in Sun City vacation apartments., next to John and Joan. **Bob Ellis**, from Tucson, joined us for a Friday Fish Dinner and the Luncheon the following Saturday, January 27th. Twenty-one were in attendance and we did have a great time. With unseasonal rain and cooler temperatures, John and Joe thanked me for the three nice days of the seven here in our Sun City Apartments.

**Leonard Halpenny**, of Tucson (269th Engr.), and his lovely wife presented the arrangements for our Annual Arizona get-together on Saturday, May 19th in Tucson. A letter will be mailed to all Arizona members plus **Victor Woo**, in California, and **Frank See**, in Midland, Texas, with details in early April. (The Chinese New Year prevented Victor Woo from being with us, and Frank See is busy as Hades with his most successful new dealership in Texas, and was unable to join us the 27th of January. They will be with us in May at Tucson).

Attendees in January included: **M/M Harold Marshall**, **M/M Dean Smith**, **Frank Campaigne**, (Our Bolo designer), **M/M Leonard Halpenny**, **M/M David Delory**, **M/M Frank Haight**, **Bob Ellis**, and my lovely wife, **Elva**, attending her first and in good health, and those otherwise mentioned above.

A report was made of the progress in putting together the Reunion plans in New Orleans for 1980, which looks most detailed and complete in a copy of detail reply to our own **Warren Allord**, working in New Orleans. This will enable a complete presentation at our forthcoming Reunion.

Several of us are making the long haul to Boston and we do invite all 69er's, and attached units, to join us as well as at any of our Arizona Get-togethers.

**Sammy Wolf** comes in for a week starting 5 February, so we will have another go at some 69th chatter.

Warm regards to all,  
*Bob Myers*



**Victor "Vic" DeCarlo and Earl Witzleb** on the deck of the Party Liner, going down the Ohio River.



Interior of the Party Liner.



**Chuck Herring** (back to picture), **Earl Witzleb**, **John Moriarty**, and **Victor Woo** in the Hospitality Suite.

## TRI-STATE [Pittsburgh] GROUP

Our group enjoyed one of our better Dinner Meetings on November 11, 1978, as a Post Reunion gathering.

Once again we met at the Pittsburgh Marriott, with 22 attending. Namely: Clarence Marshall, Clarence Burke, Victor DeCarlo, Jim Stankovich, Jr. (A newcomer), Joseph George and lady friend, Paul and Marion Shadle, Milton and Dorothy Lutes, Earl and Dorothy Witzleb, Jr., George and Vickie Gallagher, Fred and Eunice Huston, and newcomers Mr. and Mrs. John P. Suprano, Mr. and Mrs. Enrico D'Angelo, and Mr. and Mrs. David C. Patterson.

Welcome aboard, newcomers, and hope we see you quite often. As you all know we plan to meet twice this year, along with attending the "Big Reunion" in Boston, Massachusetts, at the Park Plaza Hotel.

After a fine dinner of swiss steak and the works, we settled down to our business session which had to deal mainly with the 1978 Pittsburgh Reunion. All present were happy to know that we ended up in the black, after showing the great time we gave to each and every member and family who attended. The night ride on the Three Rivers made our Reunion in Pittsburgh. The night at the track, the baseball game (which started Pittsburgh on a long winning streak), the beer party, barbershoppers, and all day Saturday doings, with about the best Memorial Service ever, plus the banquet dinner dance made for a good week for all.

Our plans call for two weekends and the 1979 Reunion in Boston, as our activities for 1979. We will first meet May 5th and 6th in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, with Victor DeCarlo in charge of arrangements. He plans on featuring a trip to Fallingwaters. We will then attend the Boston Reunion from August 15th thru 19th, and end up with our Fall Dinner in Pittsburgh, on November 3rd and 4th. Earl and Dottie Witzleb will be in charge, with plans of going to Klein's for dinner and a night at Heinz Hall.

We would like to consider all members living in Western Pennsylvania, and Eastern Ohio, as Tri-State members, so do make plans for all activities, especially the Uniontown get-together in May. All 69er's throughout the country are invited, should you be able to make one, or all the activities. One of our great members are the Newman's from Grantsville, Maryland, who were unable to attend the November dinner due to being on vacation.



For this picture we need help. It is supposed to be of Regimental Hqs. Company-272. If you can identify any in the photo please contact National Headquarters.

Do fill in the following and send it on to Victor:

**Hear Yel — Hear Yel — Our Spring Weekend will be  
"A Barrel of Fun"**

### For Reservations write or call:

Victor A. DeCarlo  
136 N. Gallatin Avenue  
Uniontown, Pennsylvania 15401  
Phone: Area Code (412) 437-4561

### Headquarters will be:

Mt. Vernon Inn  
West Main Street  
Uniontown, Pennsylvania

### Dates Are:

May 4th - 5th - 6th, 1979

### Room Rates will be:

Single \$19.08 — Suite \$42.40

Double (1 Bed) \$23.32 — Double (2 Beds) \$24.38

I/we \_\_\_\_\_ (Number in party request you reserve us  
\_\_\_\_\_ room(s))

Single \_\_\_\_\_ Double (1 Bed) \_\_\_\_\_

Double (2 Beds) \_\_\_\_\_ Suite \_\_\_\_\_

### For:

Friday evening \_\_\_\_\_ and/or Saturday evening \_\_\_\_\_

### The Schedule for the Big Weekend is as follows:

**May 4, Friday** Check-in time (Afternoon or Evening)  
Ladies Shopping Trip — 7:30 P.M.  
Uniontown Mall

**May 5, Saturday** Chit-Chat Meeting — 10:30 P.M.  
Check-in time (Morning until 11:30 A.M.)  
Depart by car pool for tour of  
Fallingwaters — 1:00 P.M. — \$2.00  
Cocktails (Cash Bar) — 5:30 P.M.  
Dinner, Prime Rib — 6:30 P.M. — \$12.00  
Dancing 'till ???

**May 6, Sunday** State Music Hall, Uniontown  
Don Williams, one of the top  
Country Male Singers — 3:30 P.M. — \$10.00

Total enclosed, or see you there: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I am, and may I have confirmation of room[s]:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Area Code \_\_\_\_\_

Tear Here .....

**Fallingwaters** is the home designed and built by Frank Lloyd Wright, now known as Kaufmann Conservation, which is a showplace of Pennsylvania.

Dinner will be in the Mt. Vernon's Governor Carver Dining Room, and will be a full-course, set-up with the works.

Prices are per person and can be made for any of the above.

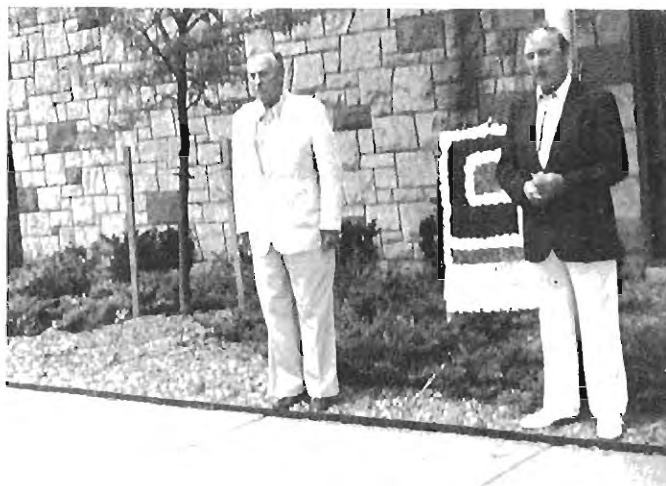
Guests, friends, are invited with members.

We plan a Tri-State Caucus Friday evening at 10:30 P.M. with a General Meeting following the Dinner, Saturday evening, until Dancing begins.

See you there and do write Vic — Now! — Today!



Scoreboard at Three Rivers Stadium, Wednesday night, August 16, 1978.



General Bolte and President John Moriarty at Memorial Services.

## *Memories of The Pittsburgh Reunion*



President John Moriarty throwing out first pitch.



69th Association members on their way to ball game, led by Piper Glenn Vanderlaan.



Jim Stankovich, Jim Liguori, and John Suprano at Saturday Night Banquet.



# The 777th Tank Battalion Overseas



LST in Convoy, transporting 777th from Portland, England, to LeHarve.



A-Company Tanks in mud at Westhausen.



A-Company Tanks. Town unknown.



C-Company Tanks in Grimma



Holzhausen — [Left to Right]: Ray Dixon, James O'Day, Maurice Anderson.



Robert Follmer, A-Company.

The photographs published above were furnished by Vernon Wirth of Milwaukee, and a former member of A-Company.

For some unexplainable reason this article did not get mailed in time for our last Bulletin, and I'm sorry. It had been written, just carelessness, I guess.

The 661st T.D.'s. did not have quite as many in attendance in Pittsburgh, as we usually do. We only had 27 present this year, compared to 35 to 40 in past years. This seems odd since we have about 47 former 661er's in a 20 mile radius of Pittsburgh.

We had a 661st Dinner on Friday evening which is customary for our group each year. **Tony Polito** of Hqs. Co. 661, made the arrangements for us at LeMont Supper Club, overlooking Pittsburgh's Golden Triangle, The Three Rivers and the Three Rivers Stadium. It was a magnificent restaurant and truly a sight to behold. If you are ever in the area at night, be sure to go to the LeMont for dinner, they are most courteous.

We had a first timer this year. It was **Ed Cibik** and his charming wife from Apollo, Pa. I believe they were encouraged to attend by **Chuck Yannoul**, who was unable to attend at the last minute due to illness in his family — sorry to hear about it, as Chuck is one of our faithful.

While we were in Pittsburgh, **Bill Snidow**, **Garland O'Roark** and I went down to Washington, Pennsylvania, to look up another 661'er, whom we did locate, that person being **Fred Evans**. He has not changed one bit, except for looking a little older along with the rest of us. A very pleasant visit. He said he is very interested in attending our pilgrimage back to Fort Hood, Texas.

"The Annual Reunion of the 661st T.D. Bn. in 1980," will be held in Austin, Texas, in April or May, with a pilgrimage back to Fort Hood. I mention it at this time to give you plenty of time to think about it, and make any necessary plans. **Robert Leon Stone** of Austin is making plans for us.

At last year's 661st Reunion in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, it was voted on to hold the 1979 Reunion in Harrisonburg, Virginia, the first of April or first part of May. As of this writing, the final arrangements have not been completed.

The tour of the Fisher Body Plant was especially interesting to some of us, because we had our own personal guide in the person of **Joe Slopek**, C-661st, who explained some of the more minute details of the operation. The only difference is that Joe is employed in the Ford Motors Division Body Plant.

*[Editor's Note: Yes, Bill, with 47 or more members in the Pittsburgh area, the 661st should have had a better turnout in Pittsburgh. I feel that with the many hundreds (600 to 800) members in Western Pennsylvania and Eastern Ohio, that we should have had a much better turnout in Pittsburgh. Those who did not attend probably missed one of the better Reunions, and it was right in their own backyard . . . And, possibly they will never get a chance again to have a Reunion held so close to home.]*

Hope one of your 661'er men, **Fred Evans**, will be able to attend our gathering May 5th and 6th in Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

Sure wish you fellows along with Headquarters could plan your Dinner Meetings earlier in the week at Reunion time . . . like perhaps a Wednesday night . . . so that all of you could make the Friday Night Beer Party at the Reunion.

I sincerely hope that by now one of your 661'er men, **Garland O'Roark**, is completely recovered from his siege with double pneumonia. We want to know about all members on the sick list so that we can pass the word along to all his Buddies].

## James K. Healy, Jr. Passes On

Our Association regrets to announce the passing of Comrade James K. (Jack) Healy, Jr., on January 27, 1979.

We were unable to relocate Jack for many years, but through a stroke of luck, your Editor found him again through the Baltimore Phone Directory in 1976.

Gaining the knowledge of our Association and our yearly Reunions, he made it to Mountain Shadows in Scottsdale, Arizona in 1977. His health did not permit him to come to Pittsburgh in 1978, although he had worked hard to try to get the former members from his Company to attend.

Another article in this issue relates that just recently he relocated two more former members of his old Unit AT-Company 271st Infantry Regiment. He was a big help to your Editor who also takes care of the mailing roster for the 69th Infantry Division Association.

---

## Sick Call

**Milton Halainen** from Troy, New Hampshire, was on our sick call list. I am very happy to report that he is recovered now and looking forward to being with us at the Boston Reunion this coming August.

Milton missed the Pittsburgh Reunion due to open heart surgery, at that time. All has been going fine for Milt, and we will see him in Boston for another week of fun — just as in the past.

*[Editor's note: We really don't want any of our members on Sick Call, but would like to hear from those who aren't up-to-par at this time, so that we can pass the word along to all our fine members who are interested in each of us.]*

*Just drop a note to me in one of your dues notice envelopes and we will get it in the Bulletin.]*

---

## Frank See Makes a Change

**Lou Grubb**, President of Lou Grubb Chevrolet, has purchased Huckabay Chevrolet, of Midland, Texas, in partnership with **Frank See**, Executive Sales Manager of the Phoenix Agency. The dealership has been renamed Frank See Chevrolet, Inc.

Frank and family have moved to Midland to operate the dealership after more than 20 years with Phoenix Agency.

Frank is one of our boys who Co-Chairmaned the Mountain Shadows, Scottsdale — Phoenix, Arizona, 1977 Reunion, with **Bob Myers** and their fine committee of westerners. Frank will remain active with the Arizona group who will be meeting in Tucson, Arizona, in May or June 1979, for their Spring Get-Together, in making plans for the coming Reunion in Boston.

Their day of fun, business, and a Dinner Banquet will be in charge of **Bob Ellis**, another one of our boys.

---

## Fahrner Has a Question

**Ray Fahrner** has located a place of business who will produce regimental pins, which I suppose are for the 271st, 272nd, 273rd, and whatever.

Ordering the pins must come in lots of 100, and will be somewhat expensive. Each pin will cost about \$6.00, which will include the cost of postage to your home.

Pin orders could be taken and delivered at the Boston Reunion at a lesser cost, but you must attend the Reunion.

If you are interested in a Regimental Pin — write Ray a note. You may reach him by writing:

H. Ray Fahrner  
Forge Gate Apartments  
33 E 1  
Lansdale, Pennsylvania 19446

[Editor's Note: You quoted a price the gentleman gave for each pin. If we did get the orders in large numbers — that is over 100 for each Regiment — would his cost come down so that we might present a better price to our members?].

## Russ Keyser Writes

One of our 69th Members who participated in the Friday Night Beer Party — Barbershop Singing — at our Reunion in Pittsburgh, sends the following about his group of singers and the good they are doing in this area, and across the country. They made for a good Friday night of entertainment for all of us in Pittsburgh.

Entertaining those in attendance at the Pittsburgh Reunion of the 69th Infantry Division Association on Friday evening of the Reunion week was the "Three Rivers Barbershop Chorus," representing the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter of the SPEBSQSA, INC. This mouthful of initials stands for the "Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America, Inc." — a male singing organization which started inconspicuously at an informal gathering in the Muhlenbach Hotel in Kansas City in 1938. The purpose of the meeting was to gather men of good will together to enjoy fellowship and to sing songs of the turn of the century, in four part harmony, unaccompanied by musical instruments, and without printed arrangements, literally "woodshedding" the chords by ear.

The idea of this type of singing caught on immediately, and sparked men's enthusiasm and spread like a brush fire until now, forty years later, we are an international male singing society of over 33,000 members in the United States, Canada, and several foreign countries. The largest male singing society in the world! The Pittsburgh Chapter was chartered in 1945 and was the first to be formed in Pennsylvania.

Within our chapters we have a chorus and also quartets, each of which sings the same type of four part close harmony. Most chapters present an Annual Show to their public, presenting their chorus and several quartets. During each year they also sing at Veteran's Hospitals, Homes for the Aged, Churches and Community Groups. We are proud that many of our society quartets have been selected to be part of USO Groups sent abroad to entertain our servicemen at overseas bases. Among those selected were two quartets from the Pittsburgh Chapter, the Circle W Four, and the Pittsburgh Four. One member of our Three Rivers Chorus is Russ Keyser (Maj-AUS, Ret.) who was an Executive Officer of Co.-H 273rd Inf. Regiment, during the "Brown Shoe War."

Our Society service project is the Institute of Logopedics in Wichita, Kansas, which is an institute that provides treatment to children who have communication problems, primarily due to birth defects or illness. During their treatment, the children live at the institute in small groups in family sized cottages, with house parents in each cottage. It has been discovered that many forms of music help to break down the communication barrier between these children and the world at large. Most of our choruses and quartets contribute a portion of their fees to the support of this institute, having contributed in excess of two million dollars to date.

The Three Rivers Chorus is proud to have entertained the men of the Fighting 69th Infantry Division. There are many fine Barbershop Choruses throughout the United States, so if you enjoyed our singing and would like to hear more, just contact a chorus in the city where your convention is being held.

## A Message From Guy Ungaro

I see by the last edition of the Bulletin, and also by hearing Vernon Wirth, when he stopped here on his way back home from the 1978 Reunion, that you and the rest of the Officers and Committee have sure been kept busy with membership, Reunion and other problems which have arisen in the last year. I do hope that your family, and the many families of the Fighting 69th enjoyed a wonderful Holiday Season. I know through receiving letters from 777th Tank Battalion Buddies, greetings have been wished by them, many times.

I would like to thank and compliment those who are responsible for putting my articles in the Bulletin. By the same token I have enjoyed the many articles and letters of other Veterans and Buddies. They have become articles of a rich material substance, and only we as Buddies and Veterans understand them . . . and they are truly valued possessions of our lives.

I am looking forward to enjoying these treasured memories in person with all of you at the Reunion in Boston. Maybe, to reminisce a little . . . to brave sweet words which cheer us for years.

I know that many more Buddies of the 777th Tank Battalion have got in contact with you and expect to get membership through receiving the Bulletin, and their exchange of thoughts and feelings, which I hope is as heartwarming as this message of mine. With concern to see each other heartily . . . with the trusts and the understanding of each other, and to ultimately dissolve the little barriers of life.

And so until we see each other — may we ever remain Army Buddies.

Guy Ungaro, 215 West Vine, Alliance, Ohio

## John Moriarty Received The Following From Marcel Cloutier

Hi, John:

Happy New Year to you and yours. The reason I am writing is to give you a little news item which you can include in the next Fighting 69th Infantry Division Bulletin — if you have room.

I fought with the Fighting 69th with M-Company, 271st Regiment, all the way from Camp Shelby to the Elbe. I haven't met a soul from the old outfit from then until recently.

I saw a name and address in the Bulletin Volume 32 No.1 — a Buddy by the name of Gerard Frechette from Dalton, New Hampshire, and who now lives in Cincinnati, Ohio. I am from Woonsocket, Rhode Island, originally. After seeing his name and address in the Bulletin, I contacted him, and we had a "Mini-Reunion" at his home on the 29th of December, 1978.

We had a real ball reminiscing over the "Old Days" from Camp Shelby to the Elbe.

I think one of the main purposes of the Bulletin has been served in this instance by getting Old Buddies back together and strengthening the Association, as a whole.

We are already discussing attending the next Fighting 69th Reunion in Boston, Massachusetts, on August 12th to the 19th.

Thanks for a "Great Job" — from an old Fighting 69er.

Marc Cloutier, M-271

[Editor's Note: Marc, you missed a good Reunion in 1978 at Pittsburgh. Sure do hope to see you and Gerard in Boston. If either of you two have old addresses of Buddies, please send

them along to our Membership Chairman, Clarence Marshall, who will chase them down. — Who knows, we may pick up another Buddy or two. This goes for all members of our 69th Infantry Division Association].

## Our Sunshine Lady

Our Sunshine Lady received the following from Mrs. Rose Weed:

Dear Kate:

. . . I feel that I can call you that since you have sent so many lovely messages to the Weeds.

Thank you so much for the **Gingrich** address. I have already written to them.

I am enclosing a check to you for \$3.00 for the "Marshall Postage Fund."

Thank you again, for keeping me in mind, even though my husband is gone.

Sincerely,  
Rose Weed

## PFC Earl F. Hunt Writes

The following is a letter written to John Moriarty, from PFC Earl F. Hunt, of Bethesda, Ohio.

Dear John:

This is my first letter to our Association. I was encouraged to drop a few lines to you after reading the last Bulletin.

I am pleased to observe that my Regiment 272 has had five Past Presidents. I know **Sherman Lawrence** and I knew **Hyman Goldstein** quite well. It makes me very sad to learn that Hyman among many others, can no longer answer Roll Call.

I know **Edmond Petersen** also. He probably never revealed how he could clean out the entire Company on pay day with the little square cubes. Bless him! I pray that he can add to his seventy-two years, many more — without too much pain. If he claims to be the Oldest 69er, I want to enter my name for second place — Born November 4, 1909.

My records show that it was my experience to begin with the same Division, same Company, same Rank (after basic, as the one I served with, and remained with, until they ran-down the colors after World War II.

It has been my pleasure also, to have had a continual correspondence with my Company Clerk, **Joseph Ewing**, who has been Postmaster at Bayard, Iowa, these last several years.

May I close by sending this message, in verse, which came to my mind May 24, 1945, when we were in Posendorf, Germany.

Sincerely yours,  
PFC Earl F. Hunt [Ret.]  
Co. B, 272nd Inf.  
69th Division

\*\*\*\*\*

To The 69th Division

From battered shores of old Le Havre  
To Metropole of German pride  
We held our banner high.  
We fought, we toiled side by side;  
While hunger, pain and wintry blast  
Pursued our way until at last  
We VICTORY knew.

No word or song can ever tell  
Of living death and dying hell.  
But when the banners fly unfurled  
Proclaiming honors 'round the world;  
Among them high to live through time  
Will float the Fighting 69th.

Earl F. Hunt, PFC.

## A Message from the Ladies Auxiliary President

Hello —

To all the gals of the Fighting 69th.

First of all let me say to the wives and men of the Fighting 69th, who did not attend the Pittsburgh Reunion this past year, that you really missed a great Reunion. And, for those of you who have never attended a Reunion, you are missing something in your life . . . So, make a New Year's Resolution to attend a Reunion. If a first timer, it would be nice to start off with our Reunion in Boston, Massachusetts, this coming August 12th to 19th, 1979. A great time is guaranteed and you will meet many good friends you haven't seen for years. Just think of seeing a Buddy you haven't seen in 25 or 30 years.

I would also like to suggest to the women who are not members of our Ladies Auxiliary, to have your husband pay your dues of \$1.50 per year, when he sends his in. Yes, be one of us by paying dues and attending all future Reunions with your husband, and family. We do like to meet your children who are at least teenagers now, or older.

If some of you ladies are snow-bound this winter — Knit an afghan lap robe for our Veterans. **Valerie Ike** is a very active gal wherever the Reunion is, and will see to it that they are taken to a Veteran's Hospital in that particular area. This year it will be in Boston. So, bring one or two with you to this year's Reunion.

At our Banquet last year . . . plus at our Ladies' General Meeting, we collected around \$300 for our Veterans. Valerie purchased tooth brushes and paste with this money, and they were to be distributed to two Veteran's Hospitals in the Pittsburgh area.

During the winter 14 lap robes were made by Ladies Auxiliary members and brought to the Pittsburgh Reunion. These were also distributed to the two Veteran's Hospitals.

Two weeks before Christmas 1978, **Dorothy and Earl Witzleb**, **Marion and Paul Shadle**, and **Clarence Marshall**, distributed the lap robes, tooth brushes, and tooth paste to the two Pittsburgh Veteran's Hospitals.

Doing this gives one a very rewarding feeling, by remembering those who have not been as fortunate as ourselves.

I wish all of you a most Happy New Year, and want to see you in Boston in 1979. If any of you have any questions about the Auxiliary or Reunions, which you would like to have answered, just drop me a line.

Margie McCombs, President  
Ladies Auxiliary of 69th Infantry Division  
1184 Thorndale Road  
West Chester, Pennsylvania 19380  
Phone: [Area Code 215] 269-0810

Editor's Note: Valerie Ike was snow-bound in Cleveland, Ohio, and couldn't make the trip to the hospitals with the others. She did get the articles to me a few weeks earlier, when traveling to her daughter's home in Washington, Pennsylvania. We exchanged the articles from her loaded car to my pick-up one cold snowy winter evening at the Pittsburgh Marriott.

[Continued]

*I know we have three Veteran's Hospitals in Pittsburgh, but it was advised to us by hospital personnel, that two of the hospitals needed the articles most.*

*Yes, Veteran's Hospitals can use many articles through the Volunteer Service Personnel, such as tooth paste, tooth brushes, handkerchiefs, socks, soap, other toilet articles, writing pads, and many more articles.*

*It is really touching to visit with these Veterans who fought so nobly, side-by-side with us, and who unfortunately were so less fortunate than we were.*

*By the way, I think this is a first in our Bulletin . . . to have a letter from the Ladies Auxiliary. Thanks, Margie, your ladies are doing a worthy cause in helping the Veterans. ]*

## Trip To Veterans Hospital

Five Pittsburgh 69er's from the Tri-State Group delivered the tooth paste, tooth brushes, and lap robes to the Veteran's Hospitals in Pittsburgh. **Paul and Marion Shadle, Clarence Marshall, and Earl and Dorothy Witzleb** delivered half of the items to the Veteran's Hospital in Oakland and half of it to the Veteran's Hospital in Aspinwall.

It was recommended by hospital authorities to distribute the items to the two above mentioned hospitals, as they do know where it is needed.

We do have a third Veteran's Hospital, Leech Farm, which is located off Washington Boulevard, but we did not visit there due to the fact that we did not have enough lap robes. These felias at Leech Farm really do need lap robes, as well as other items which we did not have to offer them at this time.

It is with a feeling of gratitude and a prayer to the Almighty, after visiting with these Veterans at the hospitals — that we as Veterans also have been so fortunate.

I sincerely hope that many lap robes, white socks, white underwear, pencils, writing paper, and other items can be made or purchased for delivery to a Veteran's Hospital in the Boston area, when we are at our Reunion this coming August.

Ladies of the Fighting 69er's, do make a lap robe, if at all possible, and bring it to Boston. I believe a lap robe is 45 inches by 45 inches, or 50 inches by 50 inches.

The drawing in the picture below was made by Veterans at the Aspinwall Veteran's Hospital.



## Dorothy Witzleb Receives Letter From The Veterans Administration

The following is a letter received by Dorothy Witzleb, from the Veterans Administration Hospital, University Drive C, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15240:

Dear Mrs. Witzleb:

On behalf of our hospitalized Veterans, we wish to thank you and the members of your group for the recently donated comfort items.

These items will be distributed to those patients who request.

Once again, many thanks for the continued interest in the welfare of our Veteran patients.

Sincerely,

Donald F. Neely

Chief, Voluntary Service

## Kind Words

Dear Mrs. Witzleb:

Thank you for the extra copies of the 69th Infantry Division Bulletin. That was very thoughtful of you.

My Grandmother appreciated a copy of it, and I think my Military Science Instructor at the University will too.

Again, thank you, for your thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,

Ann Havey

[Editor's Note: Ann Havey is the daughter of John and Janet Havey, Phoenix, Arizona, and Ann was one of our Scholarship Winners this past year.

Dottie had mailed several copies of the Bulletins to each of our Scholarship Winners this past year, so that they might give a copy to their Grandparents and friends. I believe this is a first by our Bulletin Editors.

It would be nice to hear from all our Scholarship Winners, especially those of years gone by — telling us just what they are doing after graduation from college and how their education has helped them].



Company E-273rd Members in front of the Marriott. [Left to Right]: Frank Dionne, Bill Matlach, Dave Dunlap (Company Commander), Fred Huston, and Earl Witzleb.

We sure missed Charles "Chuck - Pappy" Shimp and Arthur "Art" Madderson and Fred C. Dicke, along with other members of Company E 273.



# A Letter From Stanley Eskin

9250-9 Reseda Boulevard  
Northridge, California 91324

Dear Fellow Members:

After thirty years I suppose I should write a few words to you . . . asking that you forgive me for being one of those individuals who pay their dues, but never shows his face.

It isn't that I am not willing to write and tell you that all is well with me . . . that I have a wonderful wife, two great step-daughters and a beautiful grand-daughter . . . and look great — but rather that I am just plain lazy.

I really enjoy reading the literature sent out by the Association, reading about the "Goof-Offs" I served with . . . visualizing all the different places we spent the good and the bad times in, and really "feeling a pang," whenever I see someone's name in the deceased column that I knew.

The photograph I am enclosing is one which was taken, I do believe, on Christmas Day, either in 1943 or 1944, in the H&S Messhall. I can't recall but a few of the fellows' names. (*From Left to Right*): I do not know the names of the 1st and 2nd guys, but the 3rd guy is GOLD? The 4th fella was a Cook, but I don't recall his name either. The 5th is RIVERA? The 6th guy I know lived in Brooklyn, New York, and he had a store on Utica Avenue, but for the life of me I can't remember his name. The 7th guy was VALESQUEZ? The 8th was SWEDLOW, our fantastic Bugler.

The bottom row has me . . . on the left, and the Company "Gold-Brick" on the right.

All of those shown were Jewish boys who were on KP that day so that our Christian friends could enjoy their holiday properly. The Cooks were Rivera, Valesquez and the unidentified one.

I hope that one of these days a Reunion will be held here on the West Coast, so that I can see some of you guys.

Oh yes, I transferred out of H&S-Company into A-Company, because I wanted to see "a little more action."

Sincerely,

Stanley Eskin



## Make Reservations Now For 1979 Boston Reunion

[Tear Here and Mail]

For Reunion Reservations Mail To:

Stanley Olaszewski  
212 McClintock Street  
New Britain, Connecticut 06053

I/we plan to be at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel for the 1979 Reunion and plan to attend the following activities . . . so count on me/us.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Sunday, August 12    | - <input type="checkbox"/> Early Arrivals — On Your Own   |
| Monday, August 13    | - <input type="checkbox"/> Early Arrivals — On Your Own   |
| Tuesday, August 14   | - <input type="checkbox"/> Early Arrivals — On Your Own   |
| Wednesday, August 15 | - <input type="checkbox"/> Night Baseball Game (Boston Red Sox vs Minnesota)  |
| Thursday, August 16  | - <input type="checkbox"/> Early Bird — Reception — Cash Bar -- 6:00 P.M.<br>Buffet Dinner — 7:00 P.M. — \$12.50<br>(Hungarian Paprika Goulasch — Boston Baked Scrod)   |
| Friday, August 17    | - <input type="checkbox"/> Board Meeting — 3:00 P.M.<br><input type="checkbox"/> PX Beer Party — Reception (Cash Bar) — 9:00 P.M.<br>(Dinner on your own -- Good evening for groups to have their get-together dinners)   |
| Saturday, August 18  | - <input type="checkbox"/> General Meetings — (Men and Ladies) -- 10:00 A.M.<br><input type="checkbox"/> MEMORIAL SERVICE — Monument Park — 1:00 P.M.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Banquet Dinner Dance — 7:00 P.M. — \$16.00<br>(Boneless Breast of Chicken, Cordon Bleu) |

Note: All prices are per person — Registration fee will be \$2.50 per person, which includes your ticket for PX Beer Party night.

Registration will begin on Wednesday at 10:00 A.M. until 4:30 P.M., and continue each of the following days: Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

## 69th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION 1979 BOSTON REUNION

The Boston Park Plaza Hotel  
Arlington Street at Park Square  
Boston, Massachusetts 02117

Toll Free Reservations Call: 800/225-2008

In Massachusetts Call: Area Code (617) 426-2000

Week of August 12 to 19, 1979 — Main Attractions - August 15 to 19, 1979

[Tear Here and Mail]

For Room Reservations Mail To:

The Boston Park Plaza Hotel  
c/o Reservation Department  
Arlington Street at Park Square  
Boston, Massachusetts 02117

Room Rates Are:

Singles — \$30.00  
Doubles — \$32.00  
Twins — \$32.00  
One Bedroom Suite — \$100.00  
Two Bedroom Suite — \$150.00  
Massachusetts Hotel Tax 5.7%

I/we plan to arrive:

Depart:

Sunday, August 12	_____	_____
Monday, August 13	_____	_____
Tuesday, August 14	_____	_____
Wednesday, August 15	_____	_____
Thursday, August 16	_____	_____
Friday, August 17	_____	_____
Saturday, August 18	_____	_____

Number in our party will be: \_\_\_\_\_ Adults \_\_\_\_\_ Children

Check-in Time is After 2:00 P.M. and Check-out Time Prior to 1:00 P.M.

I/we would like to have \_\_\_\_\_ room(s) at the 69th Infantry Division Rates.

Please Mail Confirmation To:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

{Tear Here and Mail}

## Calendar of Coming Events

### APRIL or MAY 1979 — 661st Annual Get-together

Harrisonburg, Virginia

For Information write:

William Beswick

P.O. Box 576

West Point, Virginia 23181

### MAY 4th - 5th - 6th, 1979 — Tri-State Group Gathering

Mt. Vernon Inn

Uniontown, Pennsylvania

Send Reservations to:

Victor A. DeCarlo

136 North Gallatin Avenue

Uniontown, Pennsylvania 15401

### MAY 19, 1979 — Arizona Group Gathering

Tucson, Arizona

For Information write:

Bob Myers

10453 Cumberland Drive

Sun City, Arizona 85351

### AUGUST 15th thru 19th, 1979 — 69th Infantry Division Association — 1979 Annual Reunion

Boston Park Plaza

Boston, Massachusetts

Send Reservations to:

Stanley Olszewski

212 McClintock Street

New Britain, Connecticut 06053

### NOVEMBER 2nd - 3rd - 4th, 1979 — Tri-State Group Gathering

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

(Details in next Bulletin No. 3)

### APRIL or MAY 1980 — 661st Annual Reunion Get-Together

Austin, Texas

Pilgrimage back to Fort Hood

(Plan now — Details in future letters and Bulletins).



the 69th

INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC.

101 stephen st., new kensington, pa. 15068

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID

PITTSBURGH, PA.  
Permit No. 456

A-271  
MR ROY D SLOAN  
227 BOSLER AVE  
LEMOYNE PA 17043

This is a solicitation for the order of goods and/or services and not a bill, invoice, or statement of account due. You are under no obligation to make any payments on account of this offer unless you accept this offer.



## *In Memoriam*

**R. D. Brown**  
855 Grove Street  
Danville, Va.  
C-272

**Lawrence M. Byrnes**  
278 Minnesota Avenue  
Buffalo, N.Y.  
A-271

**Robert L. Claytor**  
1822 Mayfield Drive, S.E.  
Roanoke, Va.  
F-273

**Daniel T. Cunningham**  
1607 Ford Street  
Ogdensburg, N.Y.  
Co.-D 272

**Orlin Eaton**  
Salina, Okla.  
777th

**Emmitt Farley**  
1544 Tudor Lane  
Richmond, Va.  
Hq. 661st

**Charles Gallo**  
5 Patton Road  
Billerica, Mass

**Sam B. Gillespie**  
7156 S. Ranklin Way  
Littleton, Colo.  
C-269

**James K. Healy, Jr.**  
163 Dumbarton Road  
Baltimore, Md.  
At-271

**M. G. Kipper**  
5172 Allyn Road  
Virginia Beach, Va.  
Ser.-271

**John E. Kuhlman**  
2116 Elizabeth Avenue  
Metairie, La.  
69-QM

**W. D. LaFever**  
Rt. 1  
Moulton, Ala.  
Hq.-661st

**L. C. Donald L. Langlois**  
117 Richmond Lane  
W. Hartford, Conn.  
Hq.-1st. Bn.-273

**Bernard L. Lawry**  
2141 Sycamore  
Terre Haute, Ind.  
AT-271

**Jesse B. Lee**  
540 N. 13th Street  
Ponca City, Okla.  
A-271

**James M. McGlynn, Sr.**  
Box 165  
Shullsburg, Wisc.  
E-272

**Herman B. Nash**  
Rt. 3 - Box 392  
Statesville, N.C.  
C-879

**John J. Needham**  
6208 Parkridge Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio  
Hq. 2nd Bn.-271

**Charles J. Ott, Sr.**  
23 St. Joseph Street  
Lancaster, N.Y.  
H-273

**John P. Raleigh**  
14 Washington Street  
Newburyport, Mass.  
Hq. 2nd Bn.-272

**Philip Ressler**  
1022 Anderson Hills Drive  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
Hq. 3rd Bn.-273

**Albert Schreiber**  
1604 Parkwood Road  
Vestal, N.Y.  
L-271

**M. G. John F. R. Seitz**  
Wilmington, Del.  
Asst. Div. Commander  
**Byron L. Shiver, Sr.**  
2825 Winter Lake Road  
Lakeland, Fla.

**John R. Simons**  
220 E. 9th Street  
Bloomsburg, Pa.  
A-269

**Ralph E. Stanwood**  
616 Rio Vista  
Modesto, Calif.  
C-271

**Roy Ducote**  
Simmesport, La.  
B-881

**Charles Potter**  
6202 Hulmeville Road  
Cornwell Hghts., Pa.  
Ser. 271

**Martin Gurnik**  
4049 Idela Street  
Mogadore, Ohio  
A-777th

**Floyd T. Eden**  
P.O. Box 4033  
Warrington, Fla.  
A-777th