

# FIGHTING 69TH INFANTRY DIVISION

## ★★★★ Association, Inc.



VOLUME 34 No. 1

SEPTEMBER — OCTOBER — NOVEMBER — DECEMBER

1980

"THE THREE B'S"

BOLTE'S BIVOUACING BASTARDS

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

## bulletin

*Do You Remember? . . .*

### OFFICERS 1980-1981

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

Chester Yastrzemski, *Vice President*  
29 Skinner Street  
Southampton, N.Y. 11968 272

Frank Nemeth, *Secretary*  
66 Gaping Rock Road  
Levittown, Pa. 19057 269

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

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

Anthony Keller, *Auditor* 272  
Harold Starry, *Co-Chaplain* 272  
William Snidow, *Co-Chaplain* 661  
Sam Woolf, *Scholarship* 273

### LADIES AUXILIARY

Mary Balzano, *President*  
Emily Fletcher, *Secretary*  
Margie McCombs, *Sunshine Lady*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Loar Quickle, *Board Chairman* 271

### 1980-1981

Kenneth Steinel 569  
Howard Hoover 271  
Gerald Rodelli 269  
Paul Shadle 271  
Walter Doernbach Div. Hq.  
Clifford Blank 661  
George Shapiro 272

### 1981-1982

Victor DeCarlo 271  
Victor Woo 69 OM.  
Joseph Wright Div. Hq.  
William Beswick 661  
George Gallagher 69 OM. & MP.  
Ray Fahrner 273  
Robert Kurtzman 272

### 1982-1983

Sumner Russman Div. Hq.  
Robert Ellis 271  
Herb Callaway 272  
Jacob Stark 273  
Robert Bement Divarty  
Ray Lotie 269  
William Snidow 661  
Vernon Wirth 777

### PAST PRESIDENTS

Maj. Gen. E. F. Reinhardt, Texas Div. Hq.  
Lester J. Milich, N.J. 569 Sig.  
Hyman E. Goldstein, N.Y. 272 Inf.  
Clifford E. Ewing, Ga. 769 Ord.  
Sherman Lawrence, N.Y. 272 Inf.  
Murry 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.  
W. 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.  
John Moriarty, Mass. 69 MP.

Deceased



Pictured above is a beautiful scenic photograph taken in the city of Witzenhausen, Germany.

"Do you remember?"

and

"Do you remember" the day the 69th Division took the city of Leipzig, Germany, except for the monument?

The soldier in the photograph is George Knight of the 273rd Infantry Regiment Headquarters.

"Do you remember?"

Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas  
and a  
Happy and Healthful New Year

# HONOR ROLL TEAM (Committee) — NEW ORLEANS

1980 REUNION and STATE ATTENDANCE

## Pennsylvania

Earl & Dorothy Witzleb  
Paul & Marion Shadle  
George & Vicki Gallagher  
Adam Manz  
Raymond Fahrner  
Betty Foster  
Marie Suprano  
Clarence Marshall

## Oklahoma

Sumner A. Russman

## Ohio

John Gradomski

## Colorado

Dutch Hawn

## Arizona

Robert & Phyllis Ellis  
William & Patricia Ruebsaman  
Leonard & Corky Halpenny  
Robert Myers

## Texas

Frank & Gloria See  
Cliff & Dolly Blank

## California

Victor Woo

## Missouri

Joseph & Eleanor Wright

## Michigan

Glenn Vanderlaan

## Mississippi

Martha Douglas  
M/Gen. Guy Rogers

## New York

Alex Zubrowski  
Tony & Florence Keller

## Louisiana

Warren Alford  
Mildred Costa

## North Carolina

Lottie Herring

## RETURN TO CAMP SHELBY

## Mississippi

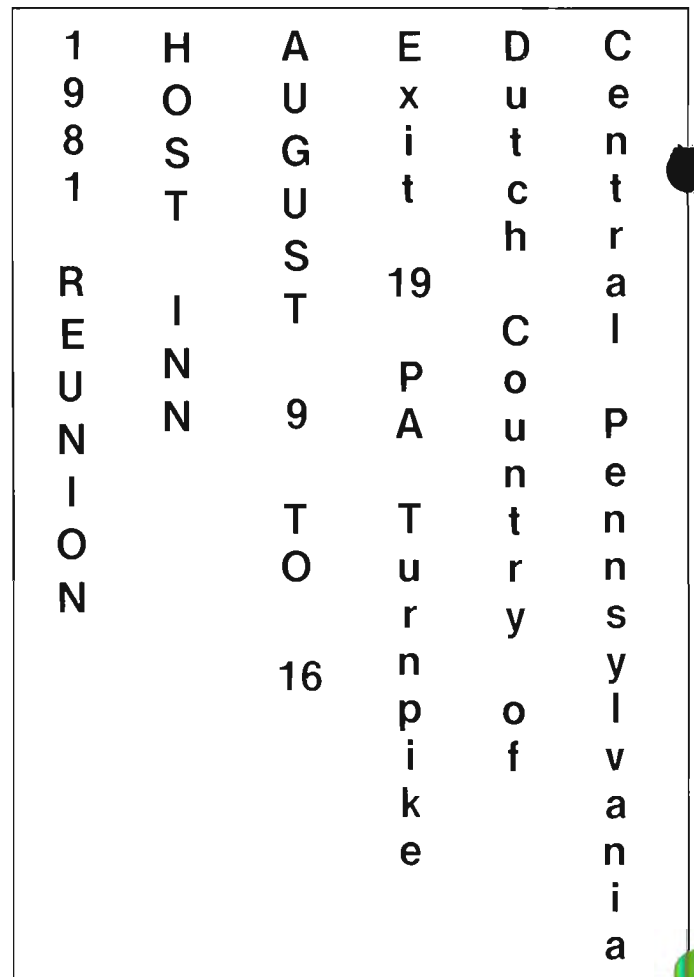
Merle Douglas  
M/Gen. Guy Rogers  
M/M Van Pittman  
M/M Lorne Mennell  
Col. Stuart & Staff  
Hon. Edwin Pittman  
Gov. William Winter  
Mayor B. L. Bobbie Cham

## Mississippi

Sybil Kleinke  
VFW Post 3066  
Mrs. Jacque Jones  
Hattiesburg Historical Society  
WDAM-TV  
Hattiesburg American  
Gordon White  
First Mississippi National Bank

## STATES REPRESENTED BY MEMBERS

Pennsylvania.....	22	Iowa .....	2
New York .....	14	Kansas .....	2
Florida .....	12	Michigan .....	2
Mississippi .....	11	Minnesota .....	2
Ohio .....	10	North Carolina .....	2
Louisiana.....	9	Tennessee .....	2
Texas .....	9	Wisconsin.....	2
Georgia .....	7	Arkansas .....	1
Arizona.....	6	Connecticut .....	1
New Jersey.....	6	Kentucky .....	1
Maryland .....	4	Missouri .....	1
Virginia .....	4	Nebraska .....	1
Alabama.....	3	New Mexico.....	1
Illinois.....	3	Oregon .....	1
Massachusetts.....	3	Rhode Island .....	1
Oklahoma .....	3	Washington, D.C. ..	1
California .....	2	West Virginia .....	1
Colorado.....	2		
		<b>Total Members</b>	
		<b>Registered 154</b>	



# Attendees at 1980 Reunion

## MARRIOTT INN, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

[\*First Reunion]

### Div. Hq. & Hq. Co.

Warren Alford ..... Louisiana  
 Fred & Lois Avery ..... Virginia  
 General & Mrs. Charles Bolte (Adalaide) ..... Virginia  
 A. F. & Mary Casper ..... Arkansas  
 Albert & Henrietta Crisp ..... New Jersey  
 Bill & Ginny Irwin [Guests] ..... New Jersey  
 Mr. & Mrs. James Taylor [Guests] ..... New Jersey  
 R. Keith & Colleen Curtis ..... Iowa  
 Jim Damron & Son, Jack ..... Kentucky  
 Walter & Ann E. Dorenbach, Sr. ....

[And Two Guests] ..... New Jersey  
 Theodore & Rosemarie Edstrom ..... Ohio  
 Thomas Faust ..... Mississippi  
 W. O. "Dutch" & Jeanne Hawn ..... Colorado  
 Adam G. Manz ..... Pennsylvania  
 Clarence Marshall ..... Pennsylvania  
 Robert Myers ..... Arizona  
 Sumner A. Russman ..... Oklahoma  
 Joseph & Eleanor Wright ..... Missouri

### 69th M.P.

Carl & Ruth Miller ..... Ohio  
 James & Faye Moody ..... North Carolina  
 Van W. Pittman ..... Mississippi

### 69th Q.M.

George & Vickie Gallagher ..... Pennsylvania  
 Victor Woo ..... California

### 269th Engineers — Hq. & Serv.

William & Betty Foster ..... Pennsylvania  
 Charles & Polly Griffin ..... Arizona  
 Leonard & Corky Halpenny ..... Arizona  
 John & Elizabeth Hawley ..... Pennsylvania  
 Walter & Elizabeth Howland, Jr. [Guests] ..... Florida  
 Oliver & Violet McConahy ..... Pennsylvania  
 Luis & Mary Rivera ..... Florida

### A-269th

Raymond & Ruth Lottie ..... Minnesota  
 Joseph & Christine Monteleone ..... Pennsylvania  
 Don & Lorraine Williams ..... Arizona

### B-269th

Stanley & Ruth Auk ..... Florida  
 Daniel & Helen Evers ..... Pennsylvania  
 Charles & Lottie Herring ..... North Carolina  
 Frank & Stefania Nemeth ..... Pennsylvania  
 [And Two Guests] .....

### C-269th

\*Thomas & Mackey Hunt ..... Tennessee  
 Gerald & Eleanor Rodelli ..... New York

### 369th Med. Battalion

\*John Crittenden ..... Oklahoma  
 Merle Douglas ..... Mississippi  
 Martha Douglas ..... Mississippi

### 569th Signal Co.

Howard & Ina Bayerle ..... Alabama  
 John & Jean Kastanakis ..... Alabama  
 Curt & Evelyn Peterson ..... Wisconsin  
 Herbert & Lola Wheeler ..... Georgia

### 769th Ordnance

Clifford & Estelle Ewing ..... Georgia  
 B. A. & Irene Humphreys ..... Ohio  
 Irving & Shirley Sarafan ..... New York  
 Joseph & Vera Selb ..... New Jersey  
 Raymond & Francis Van Brocklin ..... Iowa  
 John & Phyllis Walen ..... Florida

### 661st T.D. Battalion

Hq. Co.  
 Allan & Nina Farrar ..... West Virginia  
 A-Co.

Clifford & Dolly Blank ..... Texas  
 B-Co.

William & Jo Beswick ..... Virginia  
 William & Ellen Snidow & Gary ..... Virginia

### 777th Tank Battalion

Hq. Co.  
 John W. Gradomski ..... Ohio  
 Frank & Gloria See ..... Texas  
 Gaylord & Ruth Thomas ..... Wisconsin

### Serv. Co.

Nicholas Loden ..... New Jersey

### B-Co.

\*Lyle & Ethiel Amer ..... Kansas  
 Alex Zubrowski ..... New York

### D-Co.

\*Alex & Florence Lasseigne, Sr. .... Louisiana

### H.Q. Divarty

Robert Bement ..... Colorado  
 Alfred Faison ..... Florida  
 Douglas & Nyda Hall ..... Louisiana  
 James & Mellanie Shuman ..... Oklahoma

### 724th Field Artillery

Hq. Bat.  
 Stacy W. & Natalie Gooch ..... New Mexico

### A-Bat.

Leonard & Alma Braverman ..... Florida  
 Franklin & Phyllis Diekman ..... Illinois  
 Woodrow Mitchell ..... Texas  
 William & Patricia Ruebsaman ..... Arizona

### B-Bat.

\*Joseph & Lucy Vicidomina ..... Louisiana

### C-Bat.

\*Sam & Katherine Foose, Jr. .... Mississippi  
 John & Gladys Heliseva ..... New York  
 Louis & Chucki Psaltis ..... Illinois  
 John & Neta Turner ..... Georgia

### 879th Field Artillery

Hq. & Serv. Bat.  
 Dell & Mary Balzano ..... Ohio  
 Harold & Emily Fletcher ..... Pennsylvania  
 Al & Margaret Kormas ..... Ohio

### A-Bat.

Merel & Eileen Yarnell ..... Kansas

### 880th Field Artillery

B-Bat.  
 L. C. & Ann Folwell ..... Georgia  
 Ernest W. Jackson ..... Georgia

### C-Bat.

Enrico & Anne D'Angelo ..... Pennsylvania

### 881st Field Artillery

Hq. & Serv. Bat.  
 \*George Burchfield ..... Mississippi

### A-Bat.

John & Marie Suprano ..... Pennsylvania

[Continued on Page 4]

**C-Bat.**

Joe Sarna ..... Illinois

**271st Infantry Reg.**

**Hq.**

Frank Perry [*And 2 Guests*] ..... Minnesota

**Medics**

Francis Burrows ..... Maryland

**Serv. Co.**

Cy Rockhold ..... Ohio

**Hq. 1st Btn.**

Alton & Mary Windsor ..... Mississippi

**A-Co.**

Robert & Phyllis Ellis ..... Arizona

Nick Matrana ..... Louisiana

**B-Co.**

David Mertz ..... Louisiana

J. Donald & Claire Persich ..... Louisiana

**D. Co.**

Paul & Margie McCombs ..... Pennsylvania

**Hq. 2nd Btn.**

Robert & Gloria Maxwell ..... Florida

**E-Co.**

Paul & Marian Shadle, Sr. .... Pennsylvania

**F-Co.**

C. Ashmead Fuller, Jr. .... Washington, D.C.

**G. Co.**

\*Robert & Anita Frenzer ..... Mississippi

Nathan & Rhoda Green ..... New York

**H-Co.**

Mrs. James Buie, [*And Two Guests*]

Joseph and Kathleen Dickerson ..... Alabama

Arnold & Ann Fox ..... Massachusetts

John & Helen Hayes ..... Florida

Charles & Louise Kooles ..... Florida

**Hq. 3rd Bn.**

R. K. & Delores Mann ..... Texas

\*James & Betty Yake ..... Florida

**K-Co.**

Robert L. Kremin ..... New York

**L-Co.**

Thomas & Mattie Carson ..... Georgia

**M-Co.**

W. C. & Reba Sheavly ..... Maryland

**272nd Infantry Regiment**

**Medics**

\*Irwin & Mary Ann Nicholson ..... Texas

S. Raymond & Charlotte Strauss ..... New York

**B-Co.**

Bernard & Marie LaDue ..... New York

**C-Co.**

Gerald & Elizabeth Emmons ..... Pennsylvania

Samuel & Cecelia Paranka ..... Ohio

John & Elizabeth Walker ..... Pennsylvania

George & Shirley Yost ..... Pennsylvania

**E-Co.**

E. H. & Mamie Everage ..... Texas

Tony & Florence Keller ..... New York

Edward & Victoria Netta [*And Two Guests*]

John & Doris DeRocco ..... New Jersey

William & Barbara Russell and Larry ..... Michigan

Chester & Barbara Yastrzemski & Richard ..... New York

**F-Co.**

Herbert & Kathryn Callaway ..... Texas

Francis & Eva Fournier [*And Two Guests*] ..... Massachusetts

Joseph & Anne Nunes ..... Rhode Island

Joseph & Sally Schaffer ..... Oregon

Jack Taaffe ..... Louisiana

**G-Co.**

Millard & Fredda Carter ..... Texas

William & Lynn Danahy ..... Nebraska

**3rd Bn.**

Robert & Marguerite Wilson ..... Connecticut

**I-Co.**

Wendell & Sally Freeman ..... Georgia

Dennie & Elsie Haltiwanger ..... Florida

Robert & Vivian Kurtzman ..... Ohio

L. A. & Janice Lushbaugh ..... Maryland

Edward McDonnell ..... New York

Andrew Rebick ..... New Jersey

**L-Co.**

T. Y. & Catherine Harrigan ..... Texas

**M-Co.**

Floyd & Catherine McCalip, Jr. .... Mississippi

Thomas & Wilma Moore ..... Tennessee

Raymond & Alice Wolthoff ..... Florida

**273rd Infantry Regiment**

**Anti-Tank Co.**

Glenn & Maralynn Vanderlaan ..... Michigan

**Medics**

Howard & Johnnie Lou Hoover ..... Pennsylvania

**Hq.**

C. J. & Lorraine Goodhart ..... Pennsylvania

**A-Co.**

Raymond Fahrner ..... Pennsylvania

Edward & Johanna Lucci ..... New York

**B-Co.**

\*Calvin & Nancy Howard ..... Mississippi

\*Lorne & Jean Mennell ..... Mississippi

**D-Co.**

Joseph & Beatrice DeLorge ..... Massachusetts

**E-Co.**

William & Jane Matlach & Billy ..... New York

Earl & Dorothy Witzleb ..... Pennsylvania

**F. Co.**

Robert & Ingegorg Mottaz ..... California

Sam & Anne Woolf ..... New York

**H-Co.**

Jake & Violet Stark ..... Pennsylvania

Ray & Helen Szkudlarek ..... Ohio

**Unit Unknown**

Waring M. Green ..... Louisiana

\*Sidney & Lillian Oseroff ..... Maryland

## Our President's Remarks on Future 1980-1981 Plans



*Bob Myers*

The New Orleans Reunion is history. It was a success and unforgettable in a couple of areas. The great team who made it work are published by name elsewhere in this Bulletin. They are indeed an HONOR ROLL group of unselfish and dedicated members, who sacrificed their personal preferences and desires for tours, and etc., to serve the attending members. I sometimes wonder if they are really appreciated by many. We must have such teams of great personnel to conduct all future Reunions in a successful manner.

Since my return from New Orleans, I have written some sixty-eight letters of specific thanks in behalf of our Association to many in Mississippi and New Orleans, who deserve our most "Sincere Thanks," and who did so much for us. Copies of all these letters will be available at our next Reunion, for any who wish to read them.

Finally, on New Orleans — I will make available, and post on the bulletin board at Host Inn — the financial accounting for New Orleans, 1980.

Most important — Let us look ahead to our next Reunion in Pennsylvania. We should have a new record of attendance. Some reasons I really expect this to occur are as follows:

Our own 69th Recon Troop will join us; the 880th FA Bn. Group will also join us; Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, is located within a very short and reasonable distance to the homes of almost one-third of our membership. All of this — plus added years in life — plus having our children educated — plus some of us attaining retirement, all should result in a super attendance. We will be prepared with plenty of "First Timer-Yellow Ribbons," which were such a success in New Orleans.

To help you locate men of your outfit, simply write to Clarence Marshall or me, and we will supply the names and addresses of those we have on our Roster. A surprise letter from Dr. Sumner A. Russman is the sole reason (with a nudge from my wife), that I ever attended my first Reunion.

The minutes of our Reunion and Board Meeting in New Orleans, are published elsewhere in this Bulletin. Also, a list of those who sent regrets in being unable to attend, appear elsewhere for your information.

Future business considerations that will come up in Harrisburg are most important. Some of these you are advised to be thinking about are:

1. Appointment, prior to the Reunion, of a Nominating Committee, with a representative from each Regiment, Division Headquarters/Special Troops, Divarty, 269th Engineers, 777th Tank Battalion and 661st Tank Destroyers. **Let me hear from you . . . Don't wait for — "George to do it."**
2. Election of new Officers and a new Board of Directors. Again, let us hear from you, as concerns your nominations.
3. Final vote on many recommendations of our fine Resolutions Committee. In a later Bulletin, you will be fully informed. Chuck Herring seeks your recommendations and comments.

4. Report from the future of our Scholarship Committee. In this matter, we seek input from our members, expressing their thoughts. Don't hesitate to write to Frank See in this matter.
5. Possible selection of a Reunion site for 1984. Our basic data sheet must be completed for consideration, and this sheet is available by return mail upon my receipt of your request.

Finally, I personally thank many, many, of you for your support and kind remarks, and/or letters or telephone calls. I feel our entire organization owes deep thanks to: Anthony Keller, our Auditor who worked three full-days in New Orleans; Bill Matlach and his Nominating Committee; Chuck Herring and his dedicated Resolutions Committee. (I have added to this committee, Guy N. Rogers, Attorney, Mississippi; and Walter Doernbach of Egg Harbor, New Jersey).

I completely agree with the remarks of Bill Beswick, that we seek to work together throughout our entire membership. We fought together with success and we will never be successful fighting each other. We are grown men and can solve our problems in a cordial manner.

Always happy to hear from you, and I promise a prompt reply.

*Bob Myers*

## News From The Editor's Desk

**Robert W. Uher**, 1342 East 300th Street, Wickliffe, Ohio 44092, Hq. 880th F.A.: I am retired from the Lincoln Electric Company after 37 years. I'm happy to be in contact with the 69th Division again. If I can be of any help, drop me a line. I exchange Christmas Greetings with **John O'Connors**, 4804 S. LeClair, Chicago, Ill. 60638. He was a S/Sgt. in Radio Section and part of the Cadre at Camp Shelby. I also had a good friend in my Wire Section, **William Wladyka**, 829 Brown Court, Uniondale, Long Island, N.Y.

**William G. Purser, Jr.**, 10735 Valley Forge, Houston, Texas 77042, Hq. 880th F.A.: Attended University of Texas and got a B.S. Degree in Electrical Engineering. Now Engineering Manager at Houston Lighting and Power Company.

**Robert O. Hickey**, 1661 Niagara Street, Denver, Colo. 80220, Hq. 880th F.A.: Retired from Colorado Blue Cross. Have four grandchildren.

**Robert Buttermore**, 889 Sunflower Road, Rochester, Pa. 15074, Div. Hq.: My wife and I spent a vacation recently with **Sgt. Russell Perkins** and his wife, Opal, who live in Glendale, Arizona. We were both members of Headquarters and Headquarters Company 69th Division. While there, we also visited **Bob Myers**, our former Company Commander, and now President of the Fighting 69th Infantry Division Association. Mr. and Mrs. Perkins gave us a wonderful tour of Arizona. We visited many places of interest such as: Canyon Creek, Apache Junction, Sedona; Meteor Crater, Grand Canyon, Painted Desert, and the Petrified Forest.

Sgt. Perkins has been in ill health and spent considerable time in the hospital lately. He said for me to give the fellows his regards, and he will try to attend the next Reunion, when it is held in Arizona.

**Harry I. Smouse**, 753 Coleman Avenue, Johnstown, Pa. 15902, D-271st: My family are all married. We have thirteen grandchildren. I have been driving bus for the Cambria County Transit Authority. I hope to be retiring in a couple years.

**Walter Zajdel**, 140 Sandak Court, Johnstown, Pa. 15906, D-271st: I have been married twenty-nine years, and have one son. I have been Grandpa, twice. Work for Bethlehem Steel.

**Dale G. Stollar**, R.D. No. 1, Box 295, West Alexander, Pa. 15376, D-271st: I am still living on the same farm that we purchased from my Father-in-law, in 1949. I am a Disabled Veteran, and unable to work.

[Continued on Page 6]



[Continued from Page 5]

**John Mike Butkovich**, Box 44, Roslyn, Wash. 98941, D-271st: Wife's name, Jean. Parents of three children, a daughter and two sons. I am a school teacher in the middle school, and my wife a teacher in the 5th and 6th grades.

**John H. English**, Rt. No. 1, Box 341, Joaquin, Texas 75954 D-271st: Wife's name, Mildred. Parents of one son, James Alton.

**Carroll D. Bechtel, Jr.**, 49 N. Rohland Avenue, Pottstown, Pa. 19464, D-271st: Wife's name, Jeannie. Parents of a son and two daughters. All three children are teachers.

Since my discharge, I have taken over as owner and manager of a family sporting goods store, Bechtel's Sport Shop, 233 High Street, Pottstown, Pa.

I trained with Company D-271st Infantry, in 1944, from March to August. Served overseas with the 44th Infantry Division.

**Robert A. Darnos**, 2004 N. 41st Avenue, Hollywood, Fla. 33021, D-271st: Wife's name, Martha, and parents of a son, George. Moved to Florida from Cleveland, Ohio, in 1950. I am in the television service.

**Mrs. Arthur Lamberson**, 1602 18th Street, Mitchell, Neb. 69357: This is to inform you of the death of **Arthur L. Lamberson**, who was a M/Sgt. with C-Company, 269th Engineers. He had a bad stroke December 30, 1979, which left him paralyzed in his right side, and he could not talk. He spent five weeks in the VA Hospital in Cheyenne, Wyo., and the balance of his time at a nursing home near our home. He had not been well for several years, having had a heart attack in 1955, light stroke in 1968, and heart problems again in 1975. The day of his death he had another heart attack. He worked most of the time, until the day of his last stroke.

He stayed in the Reserves after his discharge in 1946, and was called back into active service in 1950, and served in Korea in 1951.

We had often talked about going to a 69th Reunion, but it just didn't work out for us. I have lots of pictures he took in Shelby and overseas. If you are interested in them, I will be glad to share them with you. I always look forward to receiving the Bulletin, and hope that I can continue to receive it. Hope you have a very successful Reunion, this year.

**Woodford Portwood**, 141 Bassett Avenue, Lexington, Ky. 40502, M-272nd: Please send me information about the 69th Reunion, this summer. Also, can you tell me how I can get information about the 69th Division?

Are there regular Newsletters sent out? I have never received any news about the Division since my discharge in 1949.

I was in Co.-M, 272nd Reg., from the first in 1943, until we came back to this country in 1946.

**Charles Fairchild**, 19 Tropical Drive, Ormond Beach, Fla. 32074, D-369th: I was in Co.-D, 369th Medical Bn. I drove the jeep for **Major Fred Bock**. I have been active in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, for thirty-five years. I was recently awarded a white cap for the All-State Commanders Team, in Florida.

In reference to **Dave Anderson's** request for identification of the two Comrades on page 11, of the recent Bulletin, the names are: **John Liffert** and **Louis Dandrea**. I was with them the same day this picture was taken. They also belonged to my Company.

I would like to hear from anyone who knew me, and recognizes me in the picture.

[Editor's Note: Mr. Fairchild's picture appears elsewhere in this issue of the Bulletin].

**Darrell L. Gill**, 1114 N. Philip Street, Kissimmee, Fla. 32741, Med. H&S-269th: I would be extremely interested in details of the 69th Division Reunion. I would hope that it is not too late. In the event that I am unable to make connections, I am hoping that it might somehow be possible for you to get this

to such persons as might be in charge of the Medical Detachment, 269th Combat Engineer Battalion.

I did not go overseas with the 69th Division, but trained with them at Camp Shelby, in 1943.

The C.O. of the Medical Detachment, at that time, was **Capt. John Cryst**.

I have just today, heard of this Reunion. Should there be a list of names and addresses of persons attending, I would gladly pay for cost of same. I shall be grateful for anything you may be able to do to help. Just fourteen days to go, but I shall optimistically await a reply. Thank you so much for your time and attention.

[Editor's Note: Mr. Leike was referred to our Scholarship Chairman, Mr. Sam Woolf].

**Frank J. Sniadecki**, 24511 Ardmore Trail, South Bend, Ind. 46628, C-879th: Would you please send me information on how I can start receiving the 69th Infantry Division Bulletin? I have run across some that a friend of mine got, and would like to subscribe to it, since I was in the 69th Division during World War II. I served in Cannon Company 272nd Regiment and C-Battery 879th F.A.

**Albert Leike**, R.D. 2, Box 238, Parkersburg, Pa. 19365, C-369th: I am writing for information on the 69th Infantry Scholarship. I have a daughter who will graduate June of 1981, and is presently twenty-ninth in her class of five hundred eighty-nine. I would greatly appreciate it if you would forward the information.

I have been a member of the Association since the beginning.

[Editor's Note: Mr. Keike was referred to our Scholarship Chairman, Mr. Sam Woolf].

**Arthur W. Berger**, 7616 Mountain Park Drive, Mentor, Ohio 44060, Div. Hq.: I have to plead guilty to being the same Arthur Berger who was in Division Headquarters Company, and once resided at 613 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Va. When I spotted the Reunion notice in the Retired Officers Magazine, I couldn't remember whether your first name was Clarence, or not. As I recall, you were injured when your truck came in contact with a land mine.

I was a member of the Association at one time, and was in touch with **Art Burgess** for a number of years, until we lost touch, probably through poor Postal Service. My wife (the Scotch in her I suppose) drops names from our Christmas list after two years if "no hear." But, after an experience in Miami last January, I wrote you upon seeing the Reunion notice, in order to regain contact, although it was too late for me to arrange a trip to New Orleans. I am looking forward to next year.

Back to Miami — in the mid-sixties, we had mail to friends in Chambersburg, Pa., returned and marked "Moved - No Forwarding Address." While in Miami, we recalled that the wife of this couple, had a sister living in Southwest Miami at one time. We looked for our friends name in the telephone directory and contacted them with the first call.

I would like to rejoin the Association, however, I couldn't find the amount of the dues listed in the Bulletin. So, if I am not considered a traitor and wanted by the Association . . . please advise.

I graduated from college and joined the U.S. Naval Reserves Civil Engineering Corps. I was called to active duty in 1951, and released again in 1954. Finding civilian life dull, I returned to active duty in 1955, finally leaving in 1971, after twenty-four years of combined service. I have been here in Ohio for the past seven years, which is my longest continual stay in one place. My assignments usually averaged two years, and included: Puerto Rico, Morocco; Norfolk, Va.; Clarksville, Tenn.; Key West, Fla.; Quonset Point. R.I.; and Viet Nam, with return assignments to some.

Sorry, I can't make the Reunion, but do give my regards to all who remember me and ask about me.

[Continued from Page 6]

**Louie K. Crowe**, 924 S. 81st Street, Birmingham, Ala. 35206, Hq. 2nd Bn., 272nd: Inquires about **T/5 George C. Bowden** who served in the same Company that he did. During the war years, he was from Salt Lake City, Utah. We went through there several years ago and tried to locate him, but found no record. We have not kept in touch over the years with any others.

[Editor's Note: *T/5 Bowden is not on our Association Roster, so if anyone has any information regarding his whereabouts, please let us know.*]

**Ernest A. Jones, Jr.**, Box 24, Charleston, Ma. 04422, A-272nd: Just a note to request information on our 69th Infantry Division Reunion. I thought they had been discontinued long ago. Could you please bring me up to date on the things about our Division Reunions, and how to contact some of my old Army friends?

I was in Co. A-272nd Infantry Regiment from Shelby, until the end of the war. I was in the Weapons Platoon, 30 Cal. Machine Gun.

Would enjoy hearing from former Buddies.

**Robert C. Heidrich**, 7404 W. Winnemac Avenue, Harwood, Heights, Ill. 60656, B-273rd: The listing in the July issue of the VFW Magazine, announced the Reunion of the 69th Infantry Division to be held in New Orleans.

I joined the 69th Division in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and stayed with them all through their European activities. I was transferred to the 29th after VE Day, and was finally discharged here in the states in March of 1946.

I'm disappointed that I will be unable to attend the Reunion due to prior commitments. However, I would very much like to obtain a copy of the History of the 69th Division activities during World War II. I believe a book was compiled and printed shortly after the War.

[Editor's Note: *Mr. Heidrich was supplied with a History Book and I have had continued correspondence with him since his initial letter.*]

**Raymond Wolthoff**, 5609 14th Avenue, S, St. Petersburg, Fla. 33707, M-272nd: My wife and I would like to thank all those responsible for one fine Reunion. I have attended about ten, so far, and would have to say this had to be one of the best. We were happy to see my former Platoon Leader, **Floyd McCalip**, and his lovely wife, Catherine. It was their first Reunion, and both enjoyed themselves immensely. They are determined to make it next year in Harrisburg, and we are too. We visited them in Natchez, Miss., about seven years ago and had a real nice time.

We were glad to see **Cliff Blank**, **Joe Selb**, **Ray Van Brocklin**, **Millard Carter**, **Bill Snidow**, and their wives, and **Ray Fahrner** again. All of us made the trip to Europe five years ago, headed by **Loar Quickle**. We all had a great time.

I wrote to fifteen former members of my Company, hoping to persuade them to attend the Reunion, but got a response from only one of them. I sincerely hope that all of them are OK.

The Hotel and the accommodations were great, and we enjoyed the city of New Orleans. Sorry we didn't get there early enough to make the trip to Hattiesburg and Camp Shelby. I understand the Commandant rolled out the "Red Carpet," as did the City Fathers in Hattiesburg. Sure would love to have been there.

It was a pleasure to see the General and his lovely lady looking so well. All of us, I am sure, would agree that the Reunions wouldn't be the same without them. We enjoyed the Banquet. Also, the type of music played was to our liking. The food and service were excellent, and plenty of it. The Memorial Service was something to behold. Although it was held in the Banquet Room, it had to be one of the finest I have ever seen or heard. The Color Guard and musicians composed of Marines, were terrific. I'm sure there wasn't a dry eye in the house when they were finished. My wife and I plan to include next year's

Reunion in our vacation. Sincerely hope we will see many 69er's there. In the meantime, I wish all of them good health, and the best of everything.

**George and Agnes Phillips** send their best wishes to all 69er's. We see them often, as we live only ten minutes from each other. Due to his work he has a difficult time getting away. They hope to make the next Reunion with us. See you next year.

**Leonard C. Fortson**, Rt. 5, Box 67, Elberton, Ga. 30635, D-271st: Wife's name, Margaret, and the parents of two daughters. Quarry Foreman in the Granite Industry in Elberton. Two daughters are married and we have one grandson.

My wife is Sales Manager for the Granite Company.

Have been in Elberton since my discharge.

**Milton Halainen**, P.O. Box 201, Troy, N.H. 03465, 769th Ord.: Back in August, when I was in Gorham, N.H., visiting a former 69th Engineer, **Don Reynolds**, I came across another 69er who did not know about our Association.

Please put the name of **Leonard Morel**, 42 Cascade Via, Gorham, N.H. 03581, on your mailing list. He was a former member of the 769th Ord. Co.

[Editor's Note: *Mr. Morel has been added to our Roster, so that in the future he should receive all of our mailings.*]

## Dottie and Me



*Earl and Dottie Witzleb pictured above on "The Natchez" river boat, on the Mississippi River, August 1980.*

Hi — Hello!

For the next three issues of our Bulletin the column headed "Dottie and Me" will replace the article formerly titled "Money Talks." This seems to be a good idea, so we shall just ramble a little in this issue which I feel is going to be a big issue, and some good reading news. As I sit here typing and watching our Phillies take a beating from Kansas City, I am also feeling a little under the weather. It is great to look out the window and see 'Mother Nature' at her finest work. The trees are changing colors, and with the sun at the right angle, makes the mountains look so beautiful. I only wish you all could be here with me, as this third weekend of October is one of the most beautiful in Pennsylvania.

Coming off a very good New Orleans Reunion, and settling back to do another year's work for the Association, I have to begin with one sad note to each of you members. All in New Orleans were enjoying themselves, very much, especially the Doernbach's, Walter and Ann, along with their daughter and grandson, who said it was one of the best Reunions, departed from New Orleans and upon arriving back home, in Egg Harbor, New Jersey, found that their home had been completely burned out. We of the 69th Division are really shaken and upset over this terrible event. Walter and Ann will attend the Tri-State November Weekend on November 7th, 8th, and 9th, in Pittsburgh. We will find out a little more at that time.

Dottie and I enjoyed the week in New Orleans, doing some work and getting a little enjoyment while in that southern city. Working during Registration is a great joint effort with Tri-

Staters and Arizona Groups, presenting a good Reunion for those who attended. We found time to ride the street car, walk on Bourbon Street, see the Dome, eat in some of the noted places, along with enjoying the Early Bird Ride on the Mississippi aboard "The Natchez" . . . sat in on the Beer Party Dance on Friday evening, and really enjoyed the Saturday night Banquet Dinner Dance, which was preceded with one of the most beautiful Memorial Services ever . . . with the Marine Band and all the works. Others have mentioned the good Reunion in other columns in this issue of the Bulletin. We all had a **great time**. Heading home, and taking a week to do so, we stopped in Vicksburg, Mississippi, for a few days. This would make a nice location, for a future Reunion, with the main attraction Vicksburg Battlefield, and the experimental waterways testing station. We saw them doing a test on the area between Los Angeles and Long Beach, California; a test on Cleveland Harbor; and yes, a test on Presque Isle located at Erie, Pennsylvania. Then we headed for Nashville, Tennessee, which would make another good Reunion site, with "Opryland" and the Grand Old Opera being featured. All you need, Members, is a committee to handle the chores; and you can find out how to go about this by writing our President, Bob Myers, whose address is on the cover page.

After three weeks away from home, I had a struggle getting my 'jungle back in order'. Might just say, that Dottie and Marion Shadle will not be working so hard at future Reunions, as the local committees should do it all, so that the visitors get a chance to enjoy themselves. New Orleans had no committee, but the members from the Hattiesburg area really showed us one of the features of the New Orleans Reunion, on the trip back to Camp Shelby. **Merl Douglas** and **Guy Rogers**, along with the ever so many members; too numerous to name, did a top rated detail on that day . . . seeing that the four buses got started five minutes late, and leaving the **Fletchers; Harold and Emily**, stuck in an elevator at the Marriott, we settled back to let the Hattiesburg gang take over. One bus blew a tire, shortly after take-off, and the driver has to be complimented for bringing it under control, and not causing an accident. His name was **Larry McCool**, c/o New Orleans Tours, 7323 Chef Menteur Highway, New Orleans, Louisiana 70126, if you care to write a note to him. Yes, the trip back to Camp Shelby and the Memorial Services made the New Orleans Reunion. The staff at the Marriott did an outstanding job in keeping our group happy, with no difficulties except the one mentioned. By the way, the Marriott team was led by **Tom Rosepink**, a native of Carnegie, Pennsylvania, which is only 'a stone's throw' from Pittsburgh Greentree Marriott, where we had such a good Reunion.

Might just mention that we are now in a **new Dues year**, and to be in good standing, you should have a **white Dues Membership Card**. Dues Notice envelopes should be in your home by now, except for those on the west coast with 98's and 99's zip code. We came up eighty-three short on the Dues Envelopes, so don't feel bad, as you will be the first to get the Second Dues Notice envelopes in January, 1981. Remember, if you have paid your dues and have a white dues card, disregard the notices, except for sending a letter to me in the envelope with news for the Bulletin.

If you notice the new slate of Board Members, you will see that we now will have eight each year, serving a three year period. One each, from 271st Regiment, 272nd Regiment, 273rd Regiment, Division Headquarters/Special Troops, Divarty, 269th Engineers, 777th Tank Battalion, and 661st Tank Destroyers. After three years, each group will have three members on the Board, and they are expected to be the leaders in their particular groups, to stir-up interest in getting better attendance at Reunions. We are most concerned with better attendance from the Regiments. It is expected that these Board Members will hold caucuses during Reunion week for the purpose of making selections for the new Board Members, and discussion of business for the betterment of the Association.

This business will then be discussed at the Board Meetings, for approval. We are most interested in seeing some members from the Anti-Tank and Cannon Companies, along with the Recon Troops, who are expected in full force at Host Inn.

Our Ladies' Auxiliary has a great group of women who question if they can write letters for the Bulletin. My answer to this is a **BIG YES**, as you are part of our Association. Once again, I say to use the old dues envelopes for your correspondence, as they cost us a few pennies and should be used. By the way, make sure your husband sends in his dues along with yours, if he hasn't done so earlier. We like to use the ladies' dues to pay the expenses for the Sunshine Lady, who is doing a great job in sending birthday and anniversary cards. I just got mine yesterday.

Before I close and let Dottie have a paragraph, I just want to say that the 69th Division sends out a News Release Letter each year in April, to 675 newspapers across the country. I feel we should improve this function by including TV stations, as well as radio stations across the country, as our news release to them may do us more good than the newspapers. You can help me build this list up, by sending me the name and address of your TV stations, radio stations, and also your newspaper, as we may not have an address for these media, in your area. Oh yes, use that dues notice envelope that might be lying around, and be sure it is addressed to Box 69, Champion, Pennsylvania.

Now, I'll let Dottie talk to you. She says that 69th hats, packets, license plates, and golf towels are once again for sale this year, through the mail. When sending in an order, if you only purchase a hat, add \$1.00 for postage and insurance. Otherwise, send \$2.00 for the first item ordered and \$1.00 for each additional item ordered. The Price List is as follows:

Adjustable Hats (Both Blue Backing and	
Red Backing) . . . . .	\$ 5.00
Small, Medium, and Large Packets . . . . .	9.00
Extra Large Packets . . . . .	10.00
Extra, Extra Large Packets . . . . .	11.00
Extra, Extra, Extra Large Packets	
(Not Available)	
Children's T-Shirts (Small, Medium, Large) . . .	5.00
Umbrellas (Golf Size)	
(Not available)	
Golf Towels . . . . .	5.00
License Plates (Made of Aluminum) . . . . .	4.00
Large 69th Division Decals (Each) . . . . .	.50
Small 69th Division Decals (Each) . . . . .	.25

If you send in your Dues and ask for a Decal, we will be happy to send one of each to you with your Dues Card. These are for display on your car window, or on luggage, or whatever.

We will do our best to try and please each and every member, once again this year. At times, please be patient, as we do have other duties to attend to during the week.

## Our Vice President



Chet Yaz

I was born in Water Mill, Long Island, New York, and was born the son of immigrants from Poland.

I attended and was graduated from Southampton High School. While in high school, I was captain of the baseball team, and I also did some wrestling.



[Continued from Page 8]

I entered the Army in January of 1944, and took my basic training at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, in the Artillery. When I finished basic training in June, I was then sent to Camp Shelby that same month. I was with Company E., 272nd Regiment, and went overseas with the 69th Division. After VE Day, I was transferred to Company H, 116th Regiment, 29th Division, stationed in Bremerhaven. I was then transferred to the 269th Military Police Company in Berlin, and was discharged in May of 1946.

I played semi-pro baseball and basketball with the Bridgehampton White Eagles, and played with my nephew, Carl Yastrzemski, during his last year in high school. My three brothers were also on the same team.

I entered the field of Police work in July of 1953, and was graduated from the New York State Police Academy in Troy, New York. I am presently a Sergeant and in a supervisory capacity in Police Headquarters and Patrol Units. This past July, I completed twenty-seven years in Police work, and am looking forward to the day of my retirement, and living on the west coast of California.

I have served two years as Secretary of the 69th Association, and am presently serving in my second year as Vice President. In the past I have also served the Association by being on the Board of Directors for a few years.

## 69th and General Bolte Say . . . "Keep Records"

10 September, 1980

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Disposition of the Official Military Personnel Folder [OMPF]  
**TO :** Chief of Military History  
United States Army  
The Pentagon  
Washington, D.C.

1. The membership of the Fighting 69th Infantry Division Association voted unanimously against any action to destroy the official military personnel folder seventy-five years after transfer to the NARS.

2. This vote, at our 33rd Annual Reunion in New Orleans, La., in August 1980, represents some 4800 members and includes General Charles L. Bolte, USA Retired as Vice Chief of Staff. We join him in his words. "It is my own opinion that they should be preserved for future reference in individual cases and for historical research, at least. I realize the enormity of the problem and of the bulk involved, to say nothing of cost to Government. But, in these days of the advances in micro-recording, etc., I should think the problem could be solved. It certainly is not limited to the Army, where the DAMN memo originated."

3. Our membership is all in agreement with our General. We will dispatch this letter to our congressional representatives throughout the United States.

Respectfully yours,  
Bob Myers, *President*  
Fighting 69th Infantry  
Division Association

## Scholarship Winners for 1980

This year it was three young ladies from our membership who have won the honors of winning the 69th Infantry Division Association awards, which will give them \$200 for the next four years, to help them further their education in the fields they have chosen. Sam Woolf, Scholarship Chairman, along with the other Past Presidents, had the difficult chore of selecting the three from a field of eleven applicants, as the grades were all so

close. Mary Drew from Princeton University, our Scholarship Advisor, once again said we of the 69th Division do have some of the most outstanding students of the graduating classes, making it quite difficult in making a selection or selections. You too, 69th Member, may have your senior son or daughter apply for a 69th Scholarship, by writing for an application to Sam Woolf, Scholarship Chairman, 241 Waverly Road, Scarsdale, New York 10583. The only requirement of the Members is that he is in good standing with the 69th Infantry Division Association, by having his dues paid. The Scholarship Committee, as well as the committee on the future Scholarship program are most concerned about just how many more future students, sons and daughters of members we will have making application to the Association for Scholarships.

"Mr. Sammy," as we call him, would like member parents to write him a letter stating they intend to have their son or daughter apply for Scholarship when they become Seniors, and the year in which they will graduate from high school. For example: John Jones — Class of 1983, or Mary Brown — Class of 1985. Really, the two committees would like to know the age of your younger children so that they can plan for future years. We have a sound Scholarship Program going now and would like to keep it going that way, as long as we know we have students who are going to take advantage of our program. So, do write Sam on future plans for your children, concerning their education. Remember, to qualify for a scholarship in 1981, your application has to be in the hands of Sam Woolf no later than April 30, 1981. The committee meets in early May.

Here are our scholarship winners for 1980 —

Jeannette Marie Tukis resides with her parents at Hendrickson Place, Fair Haven, Red Bank, New Jersey. Her parents are Joseph and Marilyn Tukis. Joseph Tukis is from K-Company 272nd Infantry Regiment.



*Jeannette Marie Tukis*

Jeannette ranked first in her class of 311 students, maintaining close to a 4.0 average. She is extraordinarily gifted and talented academically, in all areas. She has won many academic awards including "Who's Who Among American High School Students," and has a National Certificate of Educational Development. Jeannette is a member of the National Honor Society and writes:

Dear Mr. Woolf:

I would like to express my deepest appreciation for having been awarded the 69th Infantry Division Association Scholarship Merit Award. It brings my family and me great honor and pride to accept this honor.

In response to your letter, enclosed is a photo of myself, along with a copy of my acceptance letter from Mount Saint Mary's College of Emmitsburg, Maryland, where I plan to attend in the fall.

I deeply regret that I will not be able to attend the Reunion Banquet in New Orleans, Louisiana, on August 23, 1980. Therefore, at this time I would like to thank you and the entire Scholarship Committee for your support and monetary award.

Sincerely,  
Jeannette M. Tukis

[Continued from Page 9]

Nora Ann Herbison resides at Paula Court, Cornwall-on-Hudson, New York, and is the daughter of James and Marie Herbison. James is a member of I-Company, 272nd Infantry Regiment.

Nora has demonstrated not only excellent grades, but also total involvement in school leadership as President of Student Council. She is also a member of the National Honor Society and excels in leadership and dedication in getting a job done. Nora is pursuing a business administration course and contemplating Law School. She writes:



Nora Ann Herbison

Dear Sir:

I would like to thank the 69th Infantry Division Association Scholarship Committee for naming me as the recipient of a 1980 Scholarship Merit Award, including a cash award of \$800.

I regret that I will not be present at the Reunion Banquet, Saturday evening, August 23, 1980, to receive my award in person. I will be packing for orientation week at the State University of New York at Oswego.

Once again, I would like to thank the committee and the entire membership of the association for this most honorable award.

Sincerely,  
Nora Ann Herbison

Mary Ellen Soderstrom lives at Webster Avenue, Cherry Hill, New Jersey, and is the daughter of Howard and Mary Soderstrom. Howard is a member of the 69th Division Headquarters.

Mary ranked fifth in her class of one hundred thirty-eight students. She is a member of the National Honor Society, "Who's Who Among American High School Students," and has won certificates of merit in the National French Contest, National Poetry Press Contest, National Essay Press Contest, and the American Legion Safety Essay Contest. Mary plans her studies in the field of Computer Science and writes:



Mary Ellen Soderstrom

Dear Mr. Woolf:

I wish to express my sincere gratitude for having been selected by the 69th Infantry Division Association Scholarship Committee to receive a 1980 Scholarship Merit Award. Words can not adequately express the feelings which I have in regard to the honor which I have now received. With the continuing increase in educational fees for college, an award such as the Scholarship Merit Award can be effectively used in combatting these rising costs. I feel that a scholarship such as the 69th Division's is an aid to future generations of citizens by helping them to continue their education, and as such, the Association should be commended for its great work.

I regret that I will be unable to attend the initial announcement and presentation of the award at the Reunion Banquet in New Orleans. However, I have enclosed a photo so that you may publicize my name to your membership via your Bulletin.

Enclosed you will also find my letter of acceptance in the University of Scranton's College of Arts and Science, for a degree program in Computer Science, as well as their acknowledgment of the confirmation of my acceptance for the September, 1980, term.

Again many warm thanks for the honor which you have bestowed upon me.

Sincerely,  
Mary Soderstrom

\*\*\*\*\*

It was also nice to hear from Jeffrey D. Seagraves, a Scholarship Award winner during the years of 1976 thru 1979, who writes:

Dear Mr. Woolf:

I was a recipient of a 69th Infantry Division Scholarship during the years 1976-79. I again would like to take this opportunity to thank the Association for their award, as it was very helpful in furthering my education.

I would like to bring you up to date on my activities. I recently graduated from the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy in April, 1980. I also recently passed my State Licensure Boards and now am a Registered Pharmacist in the state of Pennsylvania. I am employed with Rea & Derick, Inc., in Philipsburg, Pennsylvania, as a Pharmacy Manager.

Once again, my sincere thanks and best wishes to all members of the 69th Infantry Division Association.

Sincerely,  
Jeffrey D. Seagraves, R.Ph.  
107 Laurel Street  
Philipsburg, PA

## Ladies' Auxiliary Minutes New Orleans, Louisiana

The meeting of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Fighting 69th Infantry Division was called to order at 10:10 A.M., on Saturday, August 23, 1980, at the Marriott Hotel in New Orleans, Louisiana, by President Mary Balzano.

The President opened the meeting with words of welcome to all. We were honored by having Mrs. Bolte and Mrs. Costa present. There were fifty-two members present.

Five new members were asked to rise and identify themselves. They were: Ann Folwell, Catherine McCalip, Wilma Moore, Lola Wheeler and Nyda Hall.

The minutes of the previous meeting, held Saturday, August 18, 1979, at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel in Boston, Mass., were read by the Secretary, and were approved as read.

It was suggested that our dues be raised from \$1.50 to \$2.00 per year. This was made into a motion and seconded.

Lovely lap robes were made by Dorothy Witzleb's Mother, Mrs. Frank Morris, and by Mrs. Eleanor Rodelli's sister. Eleanor contributed six dollars for the material. Letters of thanks will be sent.

Mrs. Florence Keller suggested that next year, when we register, we should sign-up for a half a day or so, to help out in the Registration Office. This way, Dorothy Witzleb and Marian Shadle will have some free time.

Valerie Ike was not present, but she had sent word that she would be glad to go to the V.A. Hospital as she has friends in this area. However, Neta Turner from Atlanta, Georgia, volunteered to see that the lap robes will be delivered to the V.A. Hospital in New Orleans, on her way home. A special thanks to you, Neta, for taking care of this for us.

Mrs. Mildred Costa, a native of New Orleans, was our guest Speaker. As she spoke about the Mardi Gras, we all could

[Continued from Page 10]

capture the enthusiasm of this very interesting yearly affair. She had souvenirs for all of the ladies.

Our Sunshine Lady and Past President of the Ladies' Auxiliary, Margie McCombs, presented our President, Mary Balzano, with a beautiful pillow made out of sheep skin. Paul, her husband, had punched the holes for each and every square. A round of applause was given to Margie.

The collection this year amounted to \$121.37, for tooth brushes, tooth paste, etc., for our Veterans.

Margie McCombs was called upon for a closing prayer.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned in regular form.

Respectfully submitted,

**Emily E. Fletcher**  
Secretary

Coffee was enjoyed by all.

After the meeting, door prizes were given out. It was suggested that we place in the Bulletin a reminder for all of the ladies to bring one or more door prizes to our next meeting in Pennsylvania at the Host Inn.

## Letter of Thanks To Hattiesburg

### Letter:

Written By — **Joe Wright**, 69th Div. Hq.

Typed By — **Dorothy Witzleb**, Ladies' Auxiliary

During the period from its activation in May, 1943, until its departure during the Thanksgiving week in November, 1944, the 69th Infantry Division occupied the facilities at Camp Shelby near Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Many of us used the U.S.O.'s in that town and some shared the hospitality of its private citizens when our wives came to visit us.

The thirty-six years since then took us to victory at the Elbe River in Germany, and then to our homes with no assurance that we would ever see Hattiesburg again. Some were left in hallowed ground in Holland and Belgium. Wednesday, August 20, 1980, during our Thirty-Third Reunion in New Orleans, a routine tour was scheduled to return to Camp Shelby. When a State Police escort met our three buses with one hundred thirty-five aboard at the city limits of Hattiesburg, the tour was no longer routine.

How many of us ever thought our return to our war-time home would rate a greeting from the Governor, a speech of welcome from the Mississippi Secretary of State introduced by a General, a resolution of welcome by the Mayor, keys to the city to our Association President and General C. Bolte, a tour of the city, lunch at William Carey College, refreshments at Camp Shelby, and a welcome by the Commanding Officer. Could one imagine the merchants sending gifts to be distributed, some substantial cash donations, and surrounding all of this a display of true Southern Hospitality by the Hattiesburg Area Historical Society. Many a silent tear was shed by those fellows who went away so many years ago, and they still wonder "Did we do enough to deserve all of this?"

Well, Thank You, Hattiesburg.

This expression was adopted by the Board of Directors of the Fighting 69th Infantry Division at its meeting on August 22, 1980, and is authorized to be delivered to any and all whom it may concern by Merle Douglas who directed this delightful return to Hattiesburg.

## A Note of Thanks . . .

Hi, Everyone!

Just a note of "Thanks", to all of you for your cooperation in sending in your Advanced Registration Forms for the New Orleans Reunion.

We also wish to "Thank" everyone for their help at the desk.

It was our pleasure to greet many of you, as you signed in at the Reunion.

Further, we appreciate your concern over Marian's sudden illness while we were in New Orleans, and are grateful for the many phone calls, cards and notes of concern.

Many Thanks!

*Paul and Marian Shadle*

## "Big Al"

Hey, Earl, the "Al" who wrote the letter you are puzzled about, has to be **Al Waichulis** of Gary, Indiana. Al and Nina have been active in Legion activities for many years. Last time the Legion was in New York, Al called me and we hoisted a few. Al and I started in E-Company, 271st Infantry Regiment, from its very inception and continued with the Fourth Platoon until the War ended. He as Platoon Sergeant, and I as Machine Gun Section Sergeant.

Enclosed is a photo taken in Metzbach, Germany, during a pause in the fighting. I am also sending a photo of Winchester Barracks which might be blown-up as a memento for the Winchester Museum.

Sincerely,

**Irv Gotkin**

Company E, 271st and New York City

[Editor's Note: Thanks for the letter and photo's, Irv. Can't find Sgt. John Rath, Sgt. Joe Kurt, or King, on our Roster. Do you have their addresses, or any others that we might not have? Also, notice that of the thirty-five members from Company-E, 271st, on our Roster, twenty-three of them are from the east, and close enough to come to our 1981 Reunion at Host Inn. Why don't you make an effort to get them out for a 271st, E-Company get-together? I'll send you the addresses I have if you want them].



[Seated Left to Right - Front Row]: Sgt. Al Waichulis and Sgt. John Rath. [Rear Row]: Sgt. Joe Kurt and King. Incidentally, Al is 6'4" or 6'5" tall, and if anyone deserves to be called "Big Al," it's him.



Winchester Barracks

[Left to Right]: Bill Bock, Joe Itzkowitz, Irv Gotkin, Al Waichulis, Ralph Leasure.

## Scenes From the 1980 Reunion



*General and Mrs. Bolte seated at the Head Table on Banquet Night, August 23, 1980.*



*General and Mrs. Bolte, and George and Vickie Gallagher. This picture was taken prior to the Saturday Night Banquet.*



*Chuck Herring presenting plaque to President Bob Myers, at the General Business Meeting.*



*69er's gathered outside of William Carey College in Hattiesburg, prior to lunch.*



*Joe and Eleanor Wright at Camp Shelby*



*269th Engineers Hospitality Room at the New Orleans Marriott.*

## Scenes From The 1980 Reunion



*Enrico and Ann D'Angelo, Marie and John Suprano, and Earl Witzleb at Camp Shelby.*



*69er's in front of Dolton Hall at Camp Shelby.*



*Scene from the French Quarters, New Orleans, Louisiana.*



*Ray Fahrner and Vic Woo at Antoine's Restaurant in New Orleans, Louisiana.*



*Leonard and Corky Halpenny.*



*Aboard the Natchez during the Early Bird Dinner and Cruise.*



# Memories



*Charles Fairchild seated in the jeep which he drove for Major Fred Bock of D-Company, 369th Medics.*



*Bill O'Donovan holding the Infantry Flag for his Company.*



*T/Sgt. Stewart and Russian soldiers in Grimma, Germany.*



The two pictures above, were taken on the First Day of Combat, for A-Battery, 881st Field Artillery.

The gun picture above is **George D. Stephan**, who now resides at 640 N.E. 116th Street, Miami, Florida 33161.

The other picture is **Jim Ligouri**, mired in the mud. He now resides at 2080 Baird Road, Penfield, New York 14526.

*Photos furnished by John Suprano*



*Another picture of Charles Fairchild D-369th Medics at the entrance to Leipzig.*

# 1981 Big Reunion

HI YA!!!

See You All At . . . **HOST INN . . . Hershey . . . Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, at Exit 19 of the Pennsylvania Turnpike . . . which goes into Dutch Country of Central Pennsylvania. Reunion week — August 9 to 16, 1981 — with main attractions beginning on August 12.**

How many of you members saw this notice on your Dues Notice Envelope, and have you taken care of the envelope? I sure do hope so.

Our next Bulletin will have all the details in it for the Host Inn - 1981 Reunion. Plan on attending this Reunion, as it is the central location of our membership and many new faces should be seen as the 69th Recon Group, the 880th Field Artillery, and the 661 TD's expect to have large turnouts.

We are looking for many First Timers to pin the Gold and Blue Streamers on, which went over big in New Orleans.

**Bill and Betty Foster** are Chairpersons for this big week, with the Central Pennsylvania Branch of the 69th, hosting as the Committee under the direction of **John T. Hawley**. Both of these men are from the Engineers, so we expect to see a lot of Engineers present. Who will have the largest turnout, and can we break a record for attendance at the Reunion in 81? When I speak of a record, how about this from "THE ATTACK," the official publication of the 94th Infantry Division Association. The headlines in their Fall 1978 issue read — 1,247 delight in Denver. I wonder how they did in '79 at Bal Harbour, Florida, and again in 1980? I notice they also have ten real active Chapters across the United States. **Can we top it?** I am sure the 69th can, as we pull our efforts together to have a "Great Reunion." So, members, write your Buddies, call them on the telephone, share a ride and expenses with them, and do be a part of a "Great Reunion." I know many of you have addresses of Buddies, as I see you getting them out of our Roster Book at the Reunions, and you do still send Christmas Cards to some, so just talk-up a "Great Reunion" once.

We are getting older and it would be nice to see old friends once again, and believe me, once you attend a Reunion, you won't miss many more of them, as we do have a good time of friendship. Just how many more will we be having? So . . . bring a Buddy, or two, with their lovely wives . . . Come next August 1981 to the Host Inn - Hershey, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania — The Keystone State of Pennsylvania.

## Members of the 69th Division And Attached Units Just Relocated

**Robert E. O'Brien** — B-271st  
Box 445, Northville, N.Y. 12134  
**John McGinley** —  
1031 Nevada, Butte, Mont. 59701  
**Edward F. Ward** — E-273rd  
c/o Capt. Edward Ward, 5085 Chickweed Drive  
Colorado Springs, Col. 80917  
**L. W. Roeder** — C-269th  
943 Palatka Road, Louisville, Ky. 40214  
**Joseph Skalla** — C-880th  
1368 Cleveland Avenue, Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14305  
**Walter W. Quigley** — C-880th  
Rt. 1, Box 280, Smith Avenue, Gerber, Calif. 96035  
**William F. Bowman** — Med. Bn.  
605 Wilder Drive, Charlottesville, Va. 22901  
**Woodford Portwood** — M-272nd  
141 Bassett Avenue, Lexington, Ky. 40502

**William Muller, Jr.** — B&C-724th  
510 McLaws Street, Savannah, Ga. 31405  
**Ben Hinds** — Hq. Divarty  
635 Grand Avenue, Paris, Tex. 75460  
**Francis G. Prince** —  
2325 Old Kanuga Road, Hendersonville, N.C. 28739  
**Robert O. Hickey** — Hq.-880th  
1661 Niagara Street, Denver, Colo. 80220  
**Arthur W. Berger** — Div. Hq.  
7616 Mountain Park Drive, Mentor, Ohio 44060  
**Col T. Y. Harrigan** — K&L-272nd  
1210 Sealane Drive, Corpus Christi, Tex. 78412  
**Russell C. Goddard** —  
Rt. 8, Hilltop Acres, Bowling Green, Ky. 42101  
**Preston Babineaux** —  
Rt. 1, Box 10, Jennings, La. 70546  
**Dr. Gerald Ehrlich** —  
49 Summit Road, Elizabeth, N.J. 07208  
**O. A. Hall** —  
944 Magnolia Avenue, Buena Vista, Va. 24416  
**Eli O. Jackson** —  
Rt. 1, Box 254, Shelbyville, Ky. 40065  
**Bernard V. "Lefty" Kreh** — 724th F.A.  
210 Wickersham Way, Cockeysville, Md. 21030  
**Raymond A. Lesseig** — Ser.-271st  
1276 California Avenue, Whitehall, Pa. 18052  
**I. A. Nicholson** — Med.-272nd  
617 Patricia, Hurst, Tex. 76053  
**William G. Purser, Jr.** — H&S-880th  
10735 Valley Forge, Houston, Tex. 77042  
**Frank Remis** — F-272nd  
J Street, S.W., Miami, Okla. 74354  
**Robert W. Uher** — Hq.-880th  
1342 E. 300 Street, Wickliffe, Ohio 44092  
**Wesley Warren** — H-273rd  
P.O. Box 185, Pascoag, R.I. 02859  
**John Curtis Lee** — A-777th  
Rt. 3, Box 44, 209 Fairlane Drive,  
Simpsonville, S.C. 29681  
**Dolphus S. Jones** — Hq.-272nd  
Star Route A, Box 252, Atmore, Ala. 36502  
**Douglas Hall** —  
Rt. 1, Box 175, Loranger, La. 70446  
**Louie K. Crowe** —  
924 S. 81st Street, Birmingham, Ala. 35206  
**Herbert C. Snow** —  
809 West Park, Malden, Mo. 63863  
**Robert C. Heidrich** — B-273rd  
7404 W. Winnemac Avenue,  
Harwood Heights, Ill. 60656  
**Harold Lee Burns** — Ser.-777th  
3400 Park Avenue, Fort Smith, Ark. 72903  
**D. L. Gill** — Med. H&S-269th  
1114 N. Phillip, Kissimmee, Fla. 32741  
**Ernest A. Jones, Jr.** — A-272nd  
Box 24, Charleston, Ma. 04422  
**Anshel Konzak** — A-369  
2726 Oakley Avenue, Baltimore, Md. 21215  
**Mead M. Rea** —  
1042 Gardner Road, Dayton, Ohio 45429  
**James R. Guest** —  
576 93rd Avenue, N., Naples, Fla. 33940  
**Ralph Ward** — 569th Sig.  
Rt. 1, Box 141, Mittie, La. 70654  
**Joe Pilgrim, Jr.** —  
Rt. 2, Box 40, Elberta, Ala. 36530  
**William E. Dew** — C-880th  
920 W. 12th Street, Ada, Okla. 74820  
**Carroll D. Bechtel, Jr.** — D-271st  
49 N. Rohland Avenue, Pottstown, Pa. 19464  
**Joe Mike Butkovich** — D-271st  
Box 44, Roslyn, Wash. 98941

[Continued from Page 15]

**John H. English** — D-271st  
Rt. 1, Box 341, Joaquin, Tex. 75954  
**Harry I. Smouse** — D-271st  
753 Coleman Avenue, Johnstown, Pa. 15902  
**Dale G. Stollar** — D-271st  
R.D. 1, Box 295, West Alexander, Pa. 15376  
**Walter Zajdel** — D-271st  
140 Sandak Court, Johnstown, Pa. 15906  
**Ralph McBane** — D-271st  
c/o Louise McBane,  
215 John Wayne, Lafayette, La. 70508  
**William A. Davies** — 769th Ord.  
746 Euclid Avenue, Birmingham, Ala. 35213  
**John Marriano** —  
612 Fourth Avenue, Elizabeth, N.J. 07202  
**William Marendish** — H&S-724th  
15700 S.W. Oak Hill Lane, Tigard, Oreg. 97223  
**Robert Stevenson** —  
Jackson Street, N., Warren, Pa. 16365  
**Harvey Nelson** —  
10 Elm Street, N., Warren, Pa. 16365  
**Norman Roslund** — 271st  
Box 532, R.D. 5, Sussex, N.J. 07461  
**William Keelin** — C-661st  
Thebes, Ill. 62990  
**William Boyer** — 661st  
R.D. 3, Clymer Road, Quakertown, Pa. 18951  
**John Keyson** — A-661st  
9121 Red Oak Drive, Waco, Tex. 76710  
**Sam Hoffman** —  
228 S. First Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11211  
**Sidney Oseroff** —  
4224 Fallstaff Road, Baltimore, Md. 21215  
**Raymond J. Cusimano** — Hq. 2nd Bn.-271st  
P.O. Box 888, LaCombe, La. 70445  
**Michael Makuh** — A-724th  
2815 Saratoga Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44109  
**Joe Vicidomina** —  
5109 Alexander Drive, Metairie, La. 70003  
**Don Kalb** — F.A.  
5117 N. Cumberland Road, Norridge, Ill. 60656  
**Samuel J. Palmatier** — Rec.-661st  
14148 Webster Road, Bath, Mich. 48808  
**Frank J. Sniadecki** — C-879th  
24511 Ardmore Trail, South Bend, Ind. 46628  
**Walter Smykowski** — C-777th  
6836 Bruckner, Detroit, Mich. 48210  
**Albert C. Bonura** — C-777th  
1008 Oglethorpe Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15201  
**Robert A. Darnos** — D-271st  
2004 N. 41st Avenue, Hollywood, Fla. 33021  
**Leonard C. Fortson** — D-271st  
Rt. 5, Box 67, Elberton, Ga. 30635  
**Leonard Morel** — 769th Ord.  
42 Cascade Via, Gorham, N.H. 03581

## A Tale of A Christmas Past

By — Francis T. Tomczuk — AT-271st

Through the trees, the large manor house in Twyford, England, looked as though its tenants might be Sir Lancelot or Sir Galahad and their retinues. Closer, however, it appeared to be of a more modern design, perhaps of the XVIIIth Century.

In this part of England during the winter months, the ground, every morning, was covered with pure white frost, so that it looked as though it had snowed during the night. This layer defrosted in the late morning and the green of the sceptered island emerged throughout the countryside.

To enter the manor, one approached the archway, under which could fit two horse-drawn coaches. The entrance, on the

left, was graced by a tympanum above the large oaken door. On each side, light lanterns, now decorated with wreaths, swept away the darkness and gave an inviting glow to the visitor.

In the December of our story, the Anti-Tank Company of the famed-to-be Fighting 69th Infantry Division made its home. In one wing, reserved for servants, there were forty rooms, each with a fireplace, each with three bunks. The fireplace tried to burn slaggish coal that looked more dark grey than black.

Unbeknown to the brass hats, the manor was thoroughly explored by a group of not more than ten Polish Americans and a few 'friends.' A Polonian who had studied architectural engineering supervised measuring the structure from outdoors.

This is what they found:

Above the archway was a chapel. From the outside, it seemed that it simply did not exist. From the inside, the doorway leading to the entrance was plastered in and wall-papered. It took ingenious labor to 'create' an entrance and use it almost daily to enter the chapel, which still had candles and liturgical books and other identifications in evidence.

The soldiers entered their quarters from the outer wing door. But it did occur in their minds that the servants, when habitating here, certainly did not go out in inclement weather to reach their masters' and mistresses' rooms. Again, passages behind master bedrooms were found. And, surprise of surprises, the finest discovery was the finding of three enormous bathrooms with large tubs, sinks and a flush toilet in each.

The Anti-tank men had already found a large dining room with furniture intact. It could seat about fifty persons at one dinner. On the other side was a room that ran in the opposite direction and apparently used for receiving guests who had travelled a distance and had outer clothing to be taken care of.

All around the manor was a forest.

Only one road went by, a slightly more than single lane old macadam.

Why had the soldiers sought the secrets of the building? Well, not more than three could take an outdoor shower before the water ran cold. And, an outdoor latrine left something to be desired; its only comfort being the relief it gave and the absence of flies during the winter. The visit, weekly, of the 'honey-bucket' man with his overlong tie and his pleasantries could not accustom the 271st to the deprivation of a secluded sitting.

In the manor, the problem was heating the water without letting everyone else know. How this was done is still one of the great military secrets of World War II, and if any of the brass hats of the 271st regiment read this, it'll be the first knowledge that while they shivered under the shower, a dozen or so men bathed in luxury in tubs in which two kings and one queen luxuriated.

Christmas was approaching. A good Jewish friend, Bernard Wattman (who was much later to be the caretaker of the Kosciuszko Home in Philadelphia) organized the several Jewish faith soldiers to be the workers on Christmas Eve and Christmas day, and the morning after. They worked the kitchen and took care of all the tasks.

A group of us placed ourselves in charge of decorating the place and preparing for the Christmas Eve supper. Out into the woods we went, brought evergreens and holly wreaths and made sure the mistletoe was placed in strategic positions.

In a way, we admire the English people. Here we were in their country, housed rather nicely, and their husbands, sons and brothers were fighting the Nazis or languishing in boring prisoner-of-war camps.

The major guest rooms were on the second floor. From the master rooms one came to a balcony which overlooked the grand ballroom. For a private residence it was large, allowing perhaps 200 persons to mingle and dance. A fireplace imposed itself fully on one corner, so enormous that four or five men could stand across it, not bending at all. In this a large Yule log spread its warm cheer throughout the room.



[Continued from Page 16]

The room was decorated throughout, with wires holding many of nature's decorations in place. Not too far from the blazing fire was a Christmas tree decorated to its full height of 16 feet and festooned with lights.

This was the Christmas of the 271st Anti-Tank Company.

Francis Grzywacz, Detroit, was sure that at home the OPLATEK was to be shared. Robert Martynowski, Elizabeth, came to the Christmas Eve supper thinking of WIGILIA.

The large dining room was in use. Normally, the meals were served elsewhere, even outdoors, though the weather was cold, nipping at the tendons of the ankles and making them less supple.

Francis, during the meal, offered a sharing of the OPLATEK to Robert. "I wish you the happy holidays of the Birth of Jesus and a fortunate New Year."

"Na wzajem," replied Robert.

Then in a spirit of comradeship unique to brothers-in-arms and Christmas joy, many came to join in the Polish tradition.

Albin Cegelski, Chicago, and William Coveleski, South Bend, joined in the singing of English Christmas carols.

The young ladies from Twyford and Winchester had arrived. The supper was shared with them. (Soldiers wishing to share a dinner with English families were asked to omit one meal, then were given one small chicken or something equivalent to take to the family hosting them at their homes).

Proud of their ethnic language, several of the soldiers chatted among themselves in Polish, if only to keep in practice.

Norbert Osiecki, Green Bay, was speaking to Grzywacz in Polish. "This is the one time I wish I were home," he said in Polish. "I think the Wigila is one of the warmest family meals of the year. Everyone is so happy . . ."

An English girl overheard and commented, "So many of you Americans speak such fluent French. Did you learn it in school?" At first no one had the heart to tell her and others it wasn't French, but Polish.

After the meal and the merry toasts, all went into the grand ballroom. There were enough musicians to make the evening a joyous one and many stayed up much beyond midnight. The hospitable English had organized social groups who, chaperoning the young ladies, kept our lives more interesting.

However, the Polish group — and there were many more than those mentioned — decided it would be a back-home reminding gesture if they attended Midnight Mass as they celebrated Pasterka at home.

At 11 P.M., permission was sought and granted to use a truck to go to the Roman Catholic Church in Winchester, not too far from the famed Winchester Cathedral.

Joining the Polish group were Rudolph Kik, Chicago; Paul Waggoner, Marion; George Weston, Roselle; and several others.

"Gloria in Excelsis Deo" sang the choir. The soldiers of AT-271st were in church. Many went to Communion, prayed, thought of their families.

"Adestes Fidelis" continued the choir. "Hark the Herald Angels Sing," and "Joy to The World," sang the congregation. The church was too small for the number of Catholics and friends celebrating the birth of the Christ Child.

Too soon did the Mass become "Missa Est." Yet, the magnificent choir continued to sing. In retrospect, one thinks happily that the Mass was in Latin, for that ancient tongue unified all (even the Germans, later) and was in the language of the Pope.

"Did you notice," Grzywacz asked no one in particular, "that there are no children here?"

We looked about, and in certainty, there were no children. It was wartime and the children of England were safe from the bombings, safe in Canada and the United States.

The choir had ended their singing and the people slowly were flocking from the church. Glancing around, the AT-271st group noticed many "foreign" soldiers, bearing the names of their nations on their shoulder patches. Among these were many smart-looking soldiers, the first to fight the enemy. They bore the patch 'POLAND' on their British-style uniforms.

One of these soldiers had a glorious voice. It was he who started to sing "Dzisiaj w Betlejem." Happily, there were at least one hundred of them throughout the church. Others quickly joined in. Polonians from other American outfits joined. The AT-271st Polish Americans joined in. "Dzisiaj w Betlejem" was followed by "Wśród Nocnej Cisy," "Przybieżeli do Betlejem," "Pasterze Mili," "Śliczna Panienka," "gdy Sie Chrystus Rodzi" — all the Polish Christmas carols and kolendy that the courageous immigrants brought to the land of the free were sung, lustily, religiously, joyously, by the men and the women who were fighting to free the world of tyranny and bring it under God's peace.

There were many English men and women who stayed and listened, not comprehending the words, but understanding the warm message of Christmas and the longing for home.

"Pojdźmy Wszyscy do Stajenki" — Let us all go to the creche, they sang and several hundred voices still honored in the language of their land.

From many hands to other hands and to lips came the OPLATEK and many happy wishes. It was as though a PASTERKA were celebrated and the thoughts of home were warm in all hearts.

And one soldier thought: The children of this great island are away from the war, safe in Canada, and in the United States.

But on this Christmas Eve, the children of Poland prayed.

They were in the war zone. Their peace on Earth was in their confidence in God, in Jesus, and Mary, and Joseph. Some day they, too, would have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

---

## Thank You Note . . .

On behalf of myself and all the 69th Veterans who live in this area, we wish to thank the Officers, Members of the Board of Directors, and the Association Members for selecting Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as the site for the 1982 Reunion.

The members who will work with Gaylord Thomas and me, on the Reunion Committee, will try to have a very good program of entertainment each night, along with a daytime tour of one of the three Milwaukee Breweries, to sample some of their products, and other points of interest in the city.

Vernon J. Wirth  
8330 W. Concordia Avenue  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53222  
(414) 442-9664

### TO OUR SERVICEMEN

I want our servicemen to know how very much we care.

Because of them, we here at home do not have to beware.

I write as one who knows so well, what it means to be away,

And there are millions like me, who know of war's dismay,  
Our fervent prayers go with them wherever they may be.

God help them to be brave and strong, because of them  
we're free.

May they not hear the voices of those who sell them short.

The people who use freedom to belittle and distort.

But may they know their nation stands beside them till the end.

And that we are grateful, on that they can depend.

*Editor's Note: The above was furnished to your Editor by someone anonymous from around the Buffalo, New York, area, who lost a son in Viet Nam.*

## We Are In Need of An Identification

On Page 90 of the 69th Infantry Division History Book, there is a picture of a G.I. seated with the Letters V. E., on the soles of his boots. **Mr. Lorne Mennell**, 217 N. 25th Avenue, Hattiesburg, Miss. 39401, would like to know the name and address if possible of this gentleman.

If you can help, either contact Mr. Mennell or National Headquarters and we will get the word to him.

## Medals — Ribbons — Awards — Citations

In our previous Bulletin, we asked for help for an address where you could get re-issue of the above, if something has happened to your original ones. We have had several replies which direct you to the same place, but the listing was different.

Commanding Officer Army Records Center  
9700 Page Boulevard  
St. Louis, Mo. 63132

Commander U.S. Army Reserve  
Components Personnel and Administration Center  
Attention: AGUZ-ED-AW  
9800 Page Boulevard  
St. Louis, Mo. 63132

## The First Annual Reunion Of The C-Battery, 880th F.A.



**C-880th F.A. Battery**

[Left to Right — Kneeling]: Howard Whitfield, Bud Henson, Al Philpet, Bob Williams, Lowell McFarlin, LeRoy Curtis, LeRoy Goetz, Lewis Pugh.

[Second Row]: Marvin Reber, Jack Runkle, Lee Meyer, Henry Abbe, John Wallace, Nick Mancini, Ray Kubacki, Ray Mills.

[Third Row]: Wayne Murphy, Don Johnson, Bill Sells, Ralph Cowin, Ed Dufton, Cliff Eley.

For the first time since the Army Days of Germany, in 1946, twenty-two former members of C-Battery, and nineteen of their wives, met in St. Clairsville, Ohio, on August 22-24, 1980, for a Reunion, which all agreed was the high-light of their lives.

The first group of men checked in on Thursday evening, and the rest on Friday. The initial contacts were ones of high emotion and much happiness. The afternoon was spent welcoming new arrivals and renewing old friendships. Friday evening the entire group convened in the hospitality room for more reminiscing and feasting.

Upon an early rising, by most present, Saturday found us having our first official business meeting at 9:00 A.M. Following the business meeting, the group divided for various tours. Some went to the glass factories and their outlets, some went shopping at the large Ohio Valley Mall, several went on a tour of a coal strip mine where they were able to see some of the mining equipment in action, notably, one of the world's largest

Adjutant General Decorations and Awards Branch  
Department of the Army  
Washington, D.C. 20310

Department of the Army  
R C D A C  
T.A. Romano Ltc. GS  
Director of Personnel Services  
St. Louis, Mo. 63132

[Editor's Note: It is necessary to send them a copy of your discharge and all pertinent information].

## A Warm Welcome . . .

On behalf of all the 69er's in the Midwest, I extend to you all a "Warm Welcome" to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1982.

My wife, Ruth, and I enjoyed the Reunion in New Orleans. It is always great to visit with old friends, and at each Reunion we seem to find new friends to add to our growing list.

See you all in Harrisburg in 1981, and then in Milwaukee in '82.

Sincerely,  
**Gaylord W. Thomas**

mining shovels. Six of the men went on a golf outing at the Cadiz Country Club.

Saturday evening we gathered in the banquet room for a delicious Buffet Dinner. Many picture albums, war souvenirs, and other items of yester-years were on display. **Ralph Cowin** even wore his Army Jacket to prove that he still could get into it. After a welcome by **Bob "Willie" Williams**, **Captain John Wallace** led us in a Memorial, in honor of our deceased comrades. **Dr. Lewis Pugh**, Master of Ceremonies, led us on to a very delightful evening of entertainment, reminiscing and fellowship. After each man was cleverly introduced, he came to the podium and made his remarks. **Lew Pugh's** son, **Bill**, entertained us with wit and song.

Many of those present attended a church of their choice on Sunday morning. A convoy was formed and we traveled eighteen miles to the Salley Buffalo Park in Cadiz, where we all enjoyed another delicious catered Picnic Dinner. Several of our number then said their goodbye's — see you next year farewells. The remaining ones then went to the Pugh's home for another Buffet Luncheon and a final hour or so together.

The farewells were sad, but our renewed friendships were great and our spirits were strong. So, the final words from all were "See you next year!"

Those attending the C-Battery, 880th Reunion were:

**Bud and Millie Henson** — Somerdale, N.J.  
**Nick and Anna Mancini** — Marlton, N.J.  
**Ed Dufton** — Scranton, Pa.  
**Ray Mills** — Vincennes, Ind.  
**Don and Florence Kubacki** — Reading, Pa.  
**Bill and Inez Sells** — Sebring, Fla.  
**LeRoy and Dorothy Curtis** — Talihina, Okla.  
**Henry and Lucille Abbe** — Rome, N.Y.  
**Howard and Vera Whitfield** — Wrightsville, Ga.  
**Lowell and Marjorie McFarlin** — Jeromesville, O.  
**Wayne and Jayne Murphy**  
and daughter **Shelley** — Mansfield, O.  
**Ralph and Dorothy Cowin** — Indianapolis, Ind.  
**Lee and Betty Meyer** — St. Marys, Pa.  
**Lewis and Fern Pugh** — Cadiz, O.  
**Cliff and Katherine Eley** — Columbus, O.  
**Marvin and Mary Reber** — Reading, Pa.  
**LeRoy and Bev Goetz** — Germantown, Wis.  
**John and Helen Wallace** — Wellfleet, Mass.  
**Alvin and Florence Philpet** — Windsor, N.J.  
**Bob and Irene Williams** — Lorain, O.  
**Jack Runkle** — Denver, Colo.



# Division Association Chapter (Group) Meetings Across the United States

We are interested in all news from Chapters, Groups, Branches, Companies, Regiments, and whatever, for this column, as it may help build up your event[s]. Mail your date[s], location, banquet cost, and room rates, plus a good write-up, to Box 69, Drawer M, Champion, Pennsylvania 15622, as early as possible. Then follow through with a write-up immediately after the event[s].

## ARIZONA [WESTERN] GROUP

Leonard C. Halpenny, *Chairman*  
3938 East Santa Barbara  
Tucson, Arizona 85711  
Telephone: 602/ 327-7412

On May 24, 1980, the 69er's living in Arizona and nearby States had a Local Reunion at the Mountain Shadows Resort at Scottsdale, Arizona, where the National Reunion was held in August 1977. The group met both for luncheon and dinner, with 'Bull Sessions' after both meals. In fact, even at breakfast the next morning, several were around to continue visiting and reminiscing.

Attendance amounted to forty-three and included the following:

Frank and Rosemary Campaigne, Sun City, B-271st  
Dave and Alice Delory, Scottsdale, AT-273rd  
Bob and Phyllis Ellis, Tucson, A-271st  
E. E. and Ellen Fetzer, Mesa, Hq. 1st-271st  
Charles and Polly Griffin, Scottsdale, H/S-269th Eng.  
Len and Corkey Halpenny, Tucson, H/S-269th Eng.  
Frank and Dana Haught, Sun City, A-271st  
John and Janet Havey, Phoenix, B-273rd  
Roger and Maxine Hawk, Scottsdale, Can. Co.-272nd  
Dutch and Jeanne Hawn, Lakewood, Colo., Div. Hq.  
George and Betty Hinant, Phoenix, C-271st  
Leonard and Berry Langdon, Mesa, At.-273rd  
Alfred and Bernice Lowe, Mesa, Div. Band  
Bob and Elva Myers, Sun City, Div. Hq.  
Herbert and Helen Pickett, Tempe, K-271st  
Bill and Pat Ruebsamen, Phoenix, A-724th  
Frank See, Midland, Tex., 777th Tank Bn.  
Col. Leo and Nadine Shaughnessy, Phoenix, Hq. 3rd Bn.-273rd  
Lawrence Sonksen and Guest, Scottsdale, F-273rd  
Albert and Mrs. Stevens, Scottsdale, 69th M.P.  
Dennis and Blanche Wallace, Mesa, Hq.-272nd  
Don and Mrs. Williams, Phoenix, A-269th Eng.

Out-of-staters attending included Frank See, 777th Tank Bn., Midland, Texas; and Dutch and Jeanne Hawn, Div. Hq., Lakewood, Colorado. Two other out-of-staters almost made it: Mr. and Mrs. James Howard, E-272nd, San Diego; and Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Williams, B-269th Eng., Reno, Earl and Dot Witzleb sent greetings.

Bob Myers and Frank See brought us up-to-date on final arrangements for the Annual Reunion at New Orleans in August, and issued a call for volunteers to assist, while there. The highlight of the New Orleans meeting, of course, will be the trip to Camp Shelby.

Leonard Halpenny announced that an attractive offer has been made by the Hilton Inn of Tucson for the 1981 meeting to be held on Saturday, May 23. All present accepted the proposal. So . . . any of you from any part of the country who would like to join us in Tucson, on May 23, 1981, mark it now in big red letters on your calendar and come join the fun!

The Western Gang has nearly finalized plans for the meeting in Tucson in the Spring of 1981. For publication in the Bulletin, here is the information as of this date:

Town: Tucson, Arizona  
Place: Hilton Inn  
Date: Saturday, May 23, 1981  
Room Cost: Single — \$22.00  
Double — \$28.00

This rate can be extended for arrivals on Friday or stayovers through Sunday.

Dinner: At Hilton Hotel Poolside — Time not yet firm

Lunch: Not yet firm — either at the Iron Mask Restaurant or at Hilton Inn

For further information contact:

Leonard C. Halpenny  
3938 East Santa Barbara  
Tucson, Arizona 85711  
Tel: 602/ 327-7412 (Home and Business)

By the end of December we will have the lunch arrangements firm and the dinner price arranged. At that time we will pass on the information.

We are looking forward to a substantial turnout from the Western States.

\*\*\*\*\*

## 69th RECON TROOPS

### An Open Letter To All 69th Division Recon Troopers

I do not profess to be a writer, nor do I have the proficiency to be one. I am just trying to get a message across for a real good turnout for the Division Reunion in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, in August, 1981.

Let me begin by stating that you Troopers who did not attend our Recon Troop Reunion on August 8, 9, 10, 1980, in Richmond, Virginia, missed a great time. Those two Virginia Rebels, **Louie Pickett** and **Cowboy Vaughn** as Co-Chairmen, did a fantastic job, not only with providing excellent accommodations at the Hyatt House, but also had an excellent Prime Rib Dinner at the Banquet. The Hospitality Room was well supplied, and they had nice competition from **Elmer** and **Ernestine McClain**, who invited everyone to their suite for any kind of drink desired. I had champagne. Elmer also gave everyone a souvenir can of beer from Texas. (It was nice to see you again, Elmer, after all these years). The weather was also perfect — sunny and warm.

As usual, it is such a wonderful feeling to be standing in the Lobby or Hospitality Room and greet the Troopers, as they arrive one-by-one. What a thrill it is, for me anyway, to 'Break Bread' again with the Troopers, especially the one's you haven't seen for thirty-five years, and to reminisce about our days at Camp Shelby and in Europe. At this Reunion, we had five Troopers who attended their 'First Reunion'. They were sorry they had never attended a previous Reunion and they all will surely try to make the next one.

The Troopers attending for the first time were: **Harold and Jean Gardner**, Independence, Mo.; **Barry Sheldon**, Bardstown, Ky.; **Wallace and Carolyn Pepper**, Arcadia, Fla.; **Edward and Nancy Sivas** and family, Calif.; and **Elmer and Ernestine McClain**, Fort Worth, Tex.

Also attending, were, **Lewis "Cowboy" Vaughn**, Virginia; **Louis and Lucky Pickett**, Virginia; **Joe and Zola George, Jr.**, Pennsylvania; **Gordon and Fern Ewing**, Florida; **Paul Fowler**, Florida; **George "Chip" Choborda**, Florida; **Nick and Catherine Zins**, Maryland; **Frank and Jo Morris**, Pennsylvania; **Bob and Jean West**, Ohio; **Henry and Lillian Weiman**, New Jersey; **William Soville**, West Virginia; **Charles and Bobby Fox**, Maryland; **Harold "Hap" and Maxine Stambaugh** and family, Pennsylvania; **Robert "Bones" and Mabel Schuller**, Ohio; **Jim Logue**, Pennsylvania; **George and Rosemarie Makris**, Connecticut; and "Yours Truly", **Mike and Mary Moscaritolo**, New Jersey.

For several reasons many of our regulars, who never miss a Reunion, were unable to attend. I'm referring to our C.O., "Boyd" and **Stella Ellsworth**, and **D. B. and Betty George**, just to mention two. Some missed due to serious illnesses, and some due to prior urgent commitments. If they all had attended it would have made this Reunion one of the best ever.

[Continued on Page 20]

[Continued from Page 19]

We surely must realize we are getting older, many of us have retired, several have moved to the sun belt (we will have to hold one Reunion in Florida), many have come down with serious illnesses, and several have passed on. Our group is getting smaller and smaller with each passing year.

About twenty-five years ago, two or three Troopers got together in a backyard, and held the First Mini-Reunion. Each year since then, it increased by one or two more Troopers, until presently twenty-five to thirty Troopers and our wives, are able to attend regularly. We meet at a different week-end than the Division Reunion, so therefore it prevented us from getting together. The Recon Troop had a small close group attending and the chemistry was just right, so we were a bit cautious of stopping a Reunion we were all enjoying. But, in Richmond, it was unanimously agreed to have our Troop Reunion coincide with the Division Reunion. I am certain we shall enjoy ourselves, even more so.

**Bob Myers**, our National President, has been notified and is elated with our intentions. Bob has promised full cooperation from him and the Reunion Committee.

**Joe George**, **Hap Stambaugh** and **myself**, are on the Reunion Committee for the Troop, and by the time this article goes to press, we will have met with **Bill Foster**, the Division Reunion Chairman, and his Committee, to be held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on November 1, 1980. Joe, Hap and I are going to work hard contacting as many Troopers as we can. We are hoping to convince forty to fifty Troopers to make this Reunion. We promise it will be the largest group ever to attend a Reunion.

Now is the time to make arrangements for the 1981 Reunion, to be held from August 12 to August 16, 1981. Plan now for your vacations, to be held at that time. If you have never been to Pennsylvania Dutch Country, we will have a real treat in store for you. You can visit the town of Hershey, tour the Gettysburg Battlefields, and just enjoy the clean Amish farms and towns. There are many wonderful restaurants, serving bountiful foods and the prices are very reasonable. Mary and I have been there several times, and we enjoy our visits more and more, each time we return.

We will be mailing letters; we will be making personal phone calls to keep you stimulated; and you will, of course, also be kept informed through the Association Bulletin.

So, please mark your calendars **NOW**, and let's really surprise our C.O., **Lewis Ellworth**, with a great turnout. Each year, we have four and five Troopers attending who are attending their First Reunion. If only they would all attend next year, we may have the whole troop show-up.

If you have any questions, or would just like to drop a line to the Committee, our addresses are: **Harold Stambaugh**, 1619 Sleepy Hollow Road, York, Pennsylvania 17403; **Joseph George, Jr.**, 3751 Willet Road, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15227; and "Yours Truly," **Michael Moscaritolo**, 575 Sherman Avenue, Roselle, New Jersey 07203.

**See You All Next Year**

#### **269th ENGINEERS [Command Post]**

**Charles R. Herring**  
214 North 22nd Street  
Wilmington, North Carolina 28401

#### **COMPANY B - 269th ENGINEERS [Only]**

**Frank Nemeth**  
66 Gaping Rock Road  
Levittown, Pennsylvania 19057

As per usual, the 269th Engineers had the best Hospitality Room. Those who frequented the "Beauregard," on the 5th floor of the Marriott were:

#### **A-Company**

**Ray and Ruth Lottie**  
**Joe and Chris Monteleone**

#### **B-Company**

**Stanley and Ruth Auk**  
**Dan and Helen Evers**  
**Frank and Ted Nemeth**  
(Ted's sister, Martha, and husband, Bill)  
**Chuck and Lottie Herring, B&H & S-Co.**

#### **C-Company**

**Gerald and Eleanor Rodelli**  
(Daughter, Son-in-law, Two Grandsons)  
(The Skaretkas)

**Thomas Hunt**

**Don Williams**

#### **H&S-Company**

**Oliver and Vi McConahys**  
**Charles and Polly Griffin**  
**Leonard and Corky Halpenny**  
**Bill and Betty Foster**  
**Luis and Mary Rivera**  
**John and Elizaeth Hawley**  
(Daughter and Son-in-law)  
(The Howlands)



*The gang outside of Sam's Place, Bourbon Street, New Orleans.*

Many were missed this year at the Reunion. Maybe, next year???

We thoroughly enjoyed every minute of the Reunion, including: our trip down to beautiful New Orleans, where the old melds with the new; the French Quarter with their great eating places; and Bourbon Street (what an experience); the fantastic Superdome; trolley ride; the Natchez Boat Ride on "Ole Mississippi"; the moving Memorial Service (complete with Marine Band and Van's bagpipes); but the best for last — who will soon forget:

Boarding the four busses; the five and one-half mile long bridge across Lake Ponchartraine; the seventy-five mile ride to Camp Shelby in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Imagine!!! Being escorted by the Sheriff's Department from Wiggins, Mississippi, then by Highway Patrol and then by the Hattiesburg City Police — from our arrival to our departure — and a really "Red Carpet Treatment," in between!!!

A very warm welcome and refreshments at Theater No. 1. Short talks given by Colonel Stuart, and President Bob Myers. Looked over all of the memorabilia display of by-gone-days: pictures, maps, old three-day passes, even an old license tag of Camp Shelby.

**Lorne F. Mennell [U.S. Army retired]**, monitored our quick bus tour all around Camp Shelby. Well known area to the 269th Engineers was at 4th Avenue and 34th Street.

Had a sumptuous luncheon in the cafeteria at the William Carey Baptist College. Secretary of State Pittman spoke to the group, thanking them for leaving a legacy of patriotism and

[Continued on Page 21]

[Continued from Page 20]

honor, and duty. Many door prizes were donated by the merchants of Hattiesburg and distributed by the VFW Auxiliary ladies.

Had a police escorted mini-tour of historical Hattiesburg (Bill Foster pointed out where he and Betty lived on Short Katie Street). A short stop at the El Agave Cantina (which was Jules Landry's of the 40's) — had refreshments and a couple of dances to the great band of the "Jay Walkers."

Got back to New Orleans tired, but happy to be back safely.

A very big "THANK YOU" to President Bob Myers, and down the line to each and every one who worked so hard, behind the scenes, for giving us such a wonderful time at the Reunion.

*Chuck Herring*

[Editor's Note: It would be nice to not only know the members and his lovely lady's name, but also the city and state they are from. You know we get 'em from all over these great states of ours, and possibly another member close-by, might just check in and share a ride or expenses to come to our great Reunions. You know Host Inn, Dutch Country of Pennsylvania, will be a nice place for all 269th Engineers to join hands, once again, along with all the good Buddy members of our 69th Infantry Division Association. An Engineer, Bill Foster, will be Chairman of this coming Reunion in 1981, and John Hawley, another Engineer, is the Chairman for the Central Pennsylvania Branch of our Association, which will Host the Reunion].



*Sergeant Gene Huggins*

#### COMPANY-B, 269th ENGINEER BATTALION

Well, another year has gone by and another Reunion also. For those who couldn't make it, you sure missed a good get-together, in a fine town, New Orleans.

After checking the "B" Company Roster, I think I can say, I've found our oldest "B"-Company man. I'm sure many of you will remember that tall wirey "Sergeant" with the big deep voice, who was in charge of the First Platoon. His name is **Sergeant Gene Huggins**, who we used to call "**Hug**" (when he couldn't hear us), and now lives in Texas, in a town called Honey Grove. "Hug" will be seventy-five years young, come next July 27th, and I wish him and his lovely wife, Mary, many more years of Happiness and Good Health. "Hug" says to all his friends, "*The latch string is always out.*"

Next year, the Reunion will be at the Host Inn in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on August 9 to August 16. We should have a large turnout of 269th-er's and in "B"-Company alone, I've counted over twenty-five guys within one hundred miles of Harrisburg. It's a nice modern Motel, with a lot to do in it, and also in the area. So make plans now to be there, and I'll see you there!!!

Your Ole Buddie  
*Frank Nemeth*

#### COMPANY-H, 273rd INFANTRY

**Jake Stark, Jr.**  
691 Dunkle Street, Enhaut  
Steelton, Pennsylvania 17113

My wife, Violet, and I drove to **Helen and Ray Szkudlarek's** home in Toledo, Ohio. Ray also was in the 3rd Section of Mortar, in Company-H, 273rd. The four of us left Toledo in Szkudlarek's car and arrived two days later in Brookhaven, Mississippi. We finally located **Ray Thames**, Company-H, 273rd. I was Squad Leader and Thames was my First Gunner on an 81MM Mortar. He and I were together for twenty-seven months. We were like Brothers.

This was the first time we have seen each other for thirty-five years (1945). Thames is in the Carpet-Linoleum Business since 1947, and is doing very well. We also met his wife, daughter and son-in-law, all in the family business. It sure was nice talking with them. Hope we can meet again in the near future. I had never heard from Thames.

He also knew that Ray Szkudlarek was hit in Bonafort, and did not know if he was still living. Thames and his wife took us out to dinner. Thanks! We took some pictures and then took-off for New Orleans so that we could get registered in. Sorry, Thames, and wife, that you could not make the Banquet on Saturday night. Szkudlarek and I went to Camp Shelby on the Bus Trip (air conditioning breaking down). We ran into **Audrey and Van Pittman** (69th M.P.'s). They made the Banquet Saturday night. We stopped at Pittman's Sunday, and they sure gave us the "Southern Hospitality" treatment. We stayed at their home overnight. They put enough food on the table Sunday and Monday to feed the whole 69th Division.

Van Pittman attended his first Reunion in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, in 1971. While there he had a heart attack, and was in the Harrisburg Hospital for sixteen days.

"Thanks a Million" to Audrey and Van, our own parents could not have treated us better. This Reunion was worth a million bucks. Thanks! See you in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, next year.

*Jake Stark, Jr.*

#### \*\*\*\*\* 661st TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

**William "Bill" Beswick**  
P.O. Box 576  
West Point, Virginia 23181

Another year's Reunion — August 1980, has come and gone. All of those who attended surely enjoyed themselves, especially those who went to Hattiesburg. I'm very sorry that Jo and I were unable to attend. I understand the Reunion was terrific. I heard more comments about that than anything else.

All of us went on the Natchez River Boat trip, up the Mississippi River. Jo and I had the pleasure of being invited up to the Captain's Bridge. You can see everything that moves on the river from that point. We really enjoyed it.

I believe that the most memorable events of the New Orleans Reunion was the magnificent Memorial Services, in this order: the presentation of Our Flag, "Old Glory"; the inspiring prayer for all of us and our fallen Comrades, given by our Associate Chaplain, William "Bill" Snidow. Last, but not the least, was the rendition of several pieces by the Marine Corps Band, they were the greatest.

The 661st T.D. Group was small, but we all had a delightful time. We got together and took a late night ride on the "Trolley." In fact, it brought back memories to some of us. We then went up to "Bourbon Street" to watch the world go by . . . boy how it goes by, there. In fact, I got a big kick out of peeking in the doors of the, "Hootchie Kootchie" (Burlesque) shows. I just wish I had **Garland O'Roark** with me.

The only thing that I found wrong with the Reunion, was the terrific heat at that time of year, and of course it had to set the record temperatures while we were there. But, of course, we always carry the records with us. Didn't we take rain to Arizona, broken air conditioners to Virginia Beach, and rain to

## TRI-STATE GROUP

Earl E. Witzleb, Jr.

R.D. No. 1, Box 477

Acme, Pennsylvania 15610

Telephone: 412/ 455-2901 (Evenings and Weekends)

The Summer Picnic, for the second year, was held on Sunday, July 27, 1980, at the cottage of Clarence Marshall, our 69th Division Membership Chairman, located along the Clarion River, Clarion, Pennsylvania. Weather wise, this year, we couldn't have asked for anything better, as it was a hot sultry day. After finishing the picnic lunch on the outside patio, the group settled back for a little relaxation and sociable discussions, which only lasted about an hour, as one of Pennsylvania's torrential rain storms blew in, in a hurry. Shelter was just a few steps away, so you might say, we had a little bit of the 'Luck of the Irish,' as no one got wet, and the remaining goodies were finished indoors. Clarence is looking forward to another Picnic next year, with a perfect day, as last year was (1979), although a little on the cool side. Those in attendance for the outing were:

Mr. & Mrs. John Suprano, New Kensington, Pa., 881st F.A., A-Battery

Mr. & Mrs. Enrico D'Angelo, Saltsburg, Pa., 880th F.A., C-Battery

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Buttermore, Rochester, Pa., 69th Div. Hq.

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph George, Pittsburgh, Pa., 69th Recon

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Shadle, New Kensington, Pa., E-Company, 271st Regiment

Mr. & Mrs. Earl Witzleb, Jr., Champion, Pa., E-Company, 273rd Regiment

Mr. Noble Casey, Akron, Ohio, C-Company, 273rd Regiment

Mr. Clarence Marshall, [Host], New Kensington, Pa., 69th Div. Hq.

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Braun, Clarion, Pa., [Sister and Brother-in-law of Clarence Marshall]

Mr. Bill Harmon, Clarion, Pa., [Co-worker of Mr. & Mrs. Braun]

Our Fall Weekend, November 7, 8, and 9, 1980, will be over before this issue of the Bulletin reaches you, but a report will be given in the next issue.

Looking ahead to our Spring Weekend, May 1, 2, 3, 1981, will find the group meeting at the Sheraton Inn, Belden Village, Canton, Ohio. Room rates will be \$35.00 for Singles, and \$42.00 for Doubles. A Saturday morning Breakfast Buffet for Two is scheduled for 9:00 A.M., and will cost \$4.00, and then at 10:00 A.M. a Caravan will travel to the Football Hall of Fame for a tour. This cost will be \$2.00, per person. For those having no interest in football, the Belden Village Mall is just across the street from the Inn.

The Saturday night Banquet, at 7:00 P.M., will cost \$15.00 per person, and we will have two menu choices, Boston Strip Steak or Filet Mignon. The Banquet Dinner will be a full course dinner with appetizer, salad, baked potato, vegetable, bread, butter, dessert and beverage.

A Registration-Hospitality Room will open Friday at noon, thru Saturday night. Meals Friday and Saturday are on your own, at many very good restaurants in the area.

Bob and Vivian Kurtzman are Chairpersons for the Spring Weekend of the Tri-State Family, assisted capably by Noble Casey and Homer Rager, who say we will have one hundred plus for the weekend. Yes, if all Eastern Ohioans and Western Pennsylvania members turn out, we will double our fine family of 69th members. We do have a nice, fine group of members, who joined with us, coming as far as Egg Harbor, New Jersey, Wilmington, North Carolina, and New Cumberland, Pennsylvania.

Our Tri-State Family, hearing of the death of Marie Rager, wife of Homer, G-Company, 273rd, express our Sympathy to him. She will be missed by all of us, as the couple were new-comers to us, last May, at the Willows for our Spring Weekend.



*Round Table Discussion of the Tri-State Group, at Willows Motel, Industry, Pennsylvania, on May 2, 1980.*

## CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH

John T. Hawley

330 East Fort Street

Shippensburg, Pennsylvania 17257

This group's Fall Dinner Banquet Meeting will be passed by the time this Bulletin is published. They met on Saturday, November 1, 1980, at the Host Inn.

The Central Pennsylvania Branch will Host our 1981 69th Division Reunion at the Host Inn, on August 9 thru 16, with the main attractions beginning on August 12.

Several more meetings will be scheduled, along with the group's Spring Banquet in April, at the Host Inn. All good members of the 69th Division wishing to help operate this Reunion, and are from the Central Pennsylvania Area, Maryland, and West Virginia, should contact John at his address printed above, or check-in with William "Bill" Foster, Reunion Chairman.

William and Betty Foster

803 Elkwood Drive

New Cumberland, Pennsylvania 17070

Telephone: 717/ 774-2396 (Home)

717/ 774-0870 (Office)

## MOVING

Please print your new address below:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this form and your old address label to National Headquarters, 101 Stephen Street, New Kensington, Pennsylvania 15068.

Please allow six weeks advance notice.



# CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS AND COMMUNICATION SCHEDULE

May I just make a note to all Leaders of Chapters, Groups, Branches, Companies, Regiments, Recons, Artillery, and T.D.'s to get your Activities Schedules in to Box 69, Champion, Pennsylvania, as early as possible. We try to work at least a year ahead, as we only put out three Bulletins a year. When mailing in this information, do send your organization name, person in charge (Chairman), address, city, state, zip, telephone numbers (including area code), dates, location, and anything else that you feel might be of interest for the outfit to know. This may also bring a new face, or two, to your group.

## JANUARY 15, 1981

**Deadline for News Material and Pictures for Bulletin, Vol. 34, Number 2**

**ALL 1981 HOST INN REUNION INFORMATION — LAST CALL**

## APRIL \_\_\_\_\_, 1981

**Central Pennsylvania Branch Spring Banquet Meeting**  
Host Inn — Exit 19, Pennsylvania Turnpike

**John and Elizabeth Hawley**  
330 East Fort Street  
Shippensburg, Pennsylvania 17257  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

## APRIL 13 to 19, 1981

**661st Tank Destroyers**  
**Ramada Inn West**  
3052 Richmond Road [U.S. Route 60]  
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

**William "Bill" and Jo Bestwick**  
P.O. Box 576  
West Point, Virginia 23181  
Telephone: 804/ 843-2696

## MAY 1, 2, 3, 1981

**Tri-State Spring Weekend**  
**Sheraton Inn, Belden Village**  
Canton, Ohio

**Robert and Ann Kurtzman, Chairpersons**  
610 West Maple Street  
Wilmot, Ohio 44689  
Telephone: 216/ 359-5487

### Committee:

**Homer Rager**  
2469 28th Street, S.W.  
Akron, Ohio 44314  
**Noble P. Casey**  
1094 Himelright Boulevard  
Akron, Ohio 44320

## MAY 15, 1981

**Deadline for News Material and Pictures for Bulletin**  
**Vol. 34, Number 3**

## MAY 23, 24, 1981

**Arizona Group**  
**Hilton Inn**  
Tucson, Arizona

**Leonard and Corky Halpenny, Chairpersons**  
3938 East Santa Barbara  
Tucson, Arizona 85711  
Telephone: 602/ 327-7412

## AUGUST 9 to 16, 1981 [All Week]

[Main Attractions Begin — August 12, 1981]

**69th Infantry Division Association Annual Reunion**  
**Host Inn**

**Exit 19, Pennsylvania Turnpike**  
[Dutch Country of Central Pennsylvania]

**Routes L-283 and 441**

**Hershey — Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17111**

**Thursday — Early Bird Dinner Show**

**Friday — PX Beer Party - Dance**

**Saturday — Banquet Dinner Dance**

**W. "Bill" R. and Betty Foster, Chairpersons**  
803 Elkwood Drive

**New Cumberland, Pennsylvania 17070**

**Telephone: 717/ 774-2396 (Home)**  
**717/ 774-0870 [Office]**

## AUGUST 15 to 22, 1982

**69th Infantry Division Association Annual Reunion**

**Ramada Inn — Airport**

**6401 South 13th Street**

**Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53221**

[Cheese and Beer]

**Vernon Wirth, Chairman**

**8339 West Concordia Avenue**

**Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53222**

**Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_**

## MAY 22 to 29, 1983 [Month Change]

**69th Infantry Division Association Annual Reunion**

**Mountain Shadows**

**Scottsdale, Arizona**

[Relax With Us at Pool Side]

**Robert "Bob" and Elva Myers, Chairpersons**

**10453 Cumberland Drive**

**Sun City, Arizona 85351**

**Telephone: 602/ 977-1952 [Home]**

**602/ 975-2270 [Office]**

# 1981 Appointed Committees

## RESOLUTIONS/BY-LAW COMMITTEE

**Charles Herring, Chairman, [269th Eng.]**

**214 North 22nd Street**

**Wilmington, North Carolina 28405**

**Phone: 919/ 763-3198**

**Leonard A. Lushbaugh, Funkstown, Md., I-Co., 272nd**

**William Beswick, West Point, Va., 661st T.D.**

**Davison Dunlap, Winter Park, Fla., E-Co., 273rd**

**John Suprano, New Kensington, Pa., 881st F.A. Bat.**

**Guy N. Rogers, Jackson, Miss., 69th Div.**

**Walter Doernbach, Egg Harbor, N.J., 69th Div. Hq.**

## FUTURE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

**Frank See, Chairman [777th Tk. Bn.]**

**3003 Moss Avenue**

**Midland, Texas 79701**

**Phone: 915/ 697-5222**

**Ances Barakat, Dallas, Pa., Co.-G, 272nd**

**Herbert Callaway, Crockett, Tex., Co.-F, 272nd**

**Walter Doernbach, Egg Harbor, N.J., 69th Div. Hq.**

**William Matlach, West Islip, N.Y., Co.-E, 273rd**

**Robert Silberg, Wheaton, Md., 272nd At. Co.**





the 69th

INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC.

101 stephen st., new kensington, pa. 15068

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Mr. and Mrs. William Sheavly  
218 Sacred Heart Road  
Reisterstown, Maryland  
21136

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*

**Leroy H. Tobias**  
1409 North 13th Street  
Reading, Pa.  
H&S-269th

**J. C. Maddux**  
P.O. Box 1154  
Panama City, Fla.  
H-272nd

**Donald A. Krum**  
1604 W. Alcott  
Mesa, Ariz.  
K-271st

**Lawrence C. Timberlake**  
206 Sage Road  
Louisville, Ky.  
Ser.-272nd

**Robert Stopher**  
P.O. Box 427  
Lexington, Ky.  
H-272nd

**Henry Krajnik**  
42 E. Champlain Avenue  
Wilmington, Del.  
A-269th

**J. W. Freda**  
R.D. No. 1, Toad Pasture Road  
Westtown, N.Y.  
B-881st

**Peter Sedlaczek**  
4512 Alamosa  
Dallas, Tex.  
B-269th

**Arthur L. Lamberson**  
1602 - 18th Street  
Mitchell, Neb.  
C-269th

**Lt. Col. George C. Knight**  
157 Ridgewood Road  
Buffalo, N.Y.  
Hq.-273rd

**Leonard J. Small**  
135 Willow Street  
Hanover, Pa.  
H-273rd

**William R. Barlup**  
9014 Hogans Bend  
Lutz, Fla.  
D-273rd

**Reford B. Burney**  
168 Parkwood Avenue  
Macon, Georgia

**Donald H. Cooley**  
R.D. No. 2, Box 169  
Waterloo, N.Y.  
661st Recon

**Thomas Dalton**  
300 Sandra Drive  
Belleville, Ill.  
D-271st

**Dale Downing**  
Route 2  
Guthrie Center, Iowa  
L-271st

**Earl J. Edwards**  
400 Indiana Avenue  
Eaton, Ind.  
879th F.A.

**Harley J. Elliott**  
Box 244  
Tioga, Pa.  
C-271st

**George A. Francis, Sr.**  
Boothby Park  
Saco, Maine  
A-661st

**Claude N. Moore**  
Newbern, Tenn.

**Glenn Smith**  
757 S. Walnut  
Howell, Mich.  
H-273rd

**Steve Szabo**  
3740 Sharon Street  
Harrisburg, Pa.  
69th Recon

**Hugh M. Walker, Sr.**  
Box 143  
Wolcottville, Ind.  
A-879th

**Dudley "Shorty" Reynolds**  
611 Watson Avenue  
Winchester, Va.  
G-271st

**George E. Nadeau**  
171 Red Stone Hill  
Plainville, Conn.  
Hq.-661st