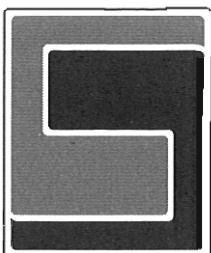


# FIGHTING 69TH INFANTRY DIVISION

## ★★★★ Association, Inc.



VOLUME 64, NO. 3

www.69th-infantry-division.com

MAY – JUNE – JULY – AUGUST  
2010

“THE THREE B’S”  
BOLTE’S BIVOUACKING BASTARDS

P.O. BOX 4069  
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## bulletin

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\*Deceased

## 69th Infantry Division Association Annual Reunion Oct 10th thru 17th, 2010



## SHERATON CHARLESTON AIRPORT HOTEL CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

### A Note from Paul & Dottie

We hope everyone is enjoying this nice summer and looking forward to attending the annual reunion in North Charleston, South Carolina in October. We are going ahead with our plans and hope to see many of you in attendance. Remember the deadline is September 9, 2010 so you might want to get your reservations in early. We will not be sending out another bulletin until after the reunion.

We are also working on plans for next year’s reunion. We will have 2 or 3 different cities to choose from at our Membership Meeting.

**Please come and join us for a good time**

# Personal Journal

*Continued from Vol. 64, No. 2*

Submitted By: **Thomas H. Clews**  
*Company L 272nd*  
317 W. Quanah Street  
Broken Arrow, Oklahoma 74011-4151  
Phone: 918-455-6262

## November 2, 1944

Today—My 19th birthday— The division arrived at Camp Kilmer, Overseas Processing Center, in New Jersey. Here I am, less than fifty miles from my home. This is almost back to square one.

Troops were given last minute processing, passes were issued during the next 12 days.

Many of the guys got to visit New York City, many for the first time. I got to go home again on an eight hour pass.

The fact that we were on the East Coast just about ruled out the South Pacific.

## November 14, 1944

The 272nd Regiment moved by train from Camp Kilmer to Jersey City, there we boarded Ferry Boats which took us up the Hudson River to Pier 80, New York Army Port of Embarkation. Here we boarded the transports, MS John Ericson and SS Santa Maria for the voyages overseas.

L and M Companies, from the 272nd Regiment were alerted to pull K.P. and Guard Duty on the voyage.

## November 15, 1944

We set sail about 1900, under cover of darkness the MS John Ericson and the SS Santa Maria moved through New York Harbor bearing members of the 272nd Infantry out across the North Atlantic.

Regimental HQ, Cannon Company, Service Company and the 1st and 3rd Battalions were aboard the MS John Ericson. The MS John Ericson was the former Swedish luxury liner Kungsholm, built by the Germans in 1928. It was built for speed and the rough seas of the North Atlantic.

The SS Santa Maria was a converted Libertyship, a much smaller ship. It carried members of the 2nd Battalion plus Anti-Tank Company.

A short distance outside New York Harbor the convoy, consisting of about 35 ships, a destroyer escort plus a small aircraft carrier, assembled.

The John Ericson was the convoy Flagship because it was the fastest ship in the convoy, the carrier was directly behind us in line. It was not operating as a carrier but rather as a transport for airplanes.

The weather has been terrible, it is either raining or snowing. The seas were midly rough and very cold.

I am so seasick I can hardly make it out of my bunk. Everyone must attend Abandon Ship Drills every day—sick or not. Training on deck has been held to a minimum because of the weather.

## November 25, 1944

The day has been very stormy, but now the sun has come out and it is quite pleasant. Destroyers have been dropping depth charges several miles behind the convoy. There is a low haze on the water so we cannot see anything but we can hear the explosions. Hope this is not a sign of trouble to come.

The weather was unsettled for the next several days.

## December 1, 1944

Docked early this morning at the Port of Southampton, England. The port is pretty beat up, there are a tremendous number of landing craft tied up in the river. They could have been part of the D-Day Armada.

## December 2, 1944

About noon the regiment started moving from the transports to trains for movement to Assembly Areas. The Division C.P. was at Winchester, Regimental HQ, Service Company and the 2nd Battalion were at Danebury Downs, near the Wallops and about 3 miles west of Stockbridge. 1st Battalion, 3rd Battalion, Anti-Tank Company and Cannon Company were at Lopscombe Corners, 6 miles east of Salisbury and about 70 miles from London.

The weather is very cold and rainy, this camp is a Mud Hole. All the buildings were half round corrugated metal buildings called Quonset Huts. For heating, they were equipped with coal burning potbelly stoves that burned red hot, the floors were dirt.

The next couple of weeks was spent in last minute training. Passes were issued to Salisbury, Winchester and London.

## December 16, 1944

The Germans launched a major offensive in the Ardennes. The allies were caught by surprise suffering heavy lose and were forced to fall back. 700 men were pulled from the Division and rushed across the channel as reinforcements.

## January 20, 1945

Left Camp Lopscombe at 0500 by train for Southampton. It was snowing very hard. We walked about 4 miles to the docks where we boarded the Polish Steamer M.S. Sobieski, we were packed in like sardines. Bunks were six high in the hole, the air was foul, the deck stayed wet all the time, all our equipment had to be hung or put on our bunks.

## January 22, 1945

The Regiment finally sailed from Southampton for the short trip across the channel to France.

## January 23, 1945

We arrived at the Port of LeHarve, France. Our ship dropped anchor in the channel, several hundred yards from shore. The Harbor is in shambles, the docks and warehouses have all been destroyed—many ships are sunk at their berths.

**CONTINUED IN THE NEXT EDITION**

## Washington, D.C. Link-Up Celebration

Submitted By: **Charles Chapman**  
Hq Btry Div Arty  
12223 Seaford Court  
Woodbridge, VA 22192-2356  
703-492-1984  
CCEAGWU@aol.com

The 65th anniversary of the Link-up between the U.S. 69th Infantry Division and the Soviet 58th Guards was celebrated April 25th, 2010 near the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

**Henry Johnson** and **Charlie Chapman**, both of Headquarters Battery, Division Artillery, made brief remarks before a crowd of about 125. One Russian official also spoke. The U.S. Marine Corps Band performed as did a band and a chorus from Moscow. The event, which was hosted by **Dr. Edward Lozansky**, President of the American University in Moscow, was coordinated by **Bill Selig** of the World Russia Forum 2010. **Dr. Antonio Betancourt**, Secretary-General of the Summit Council for World Peace, attended the celebration, as did various other dignitaries from both the U.S. and Russia. The remarks by the 69'ers were well received and a number of attendees spoke to them later.



*Henry Johnson and Charlie Chapman, HQ Btry Div. Arty, speaking on steps of Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D.C.  
25, April, 2010—65th Anniversary of the Link-up.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## Dr. Forrest C. Pogue Biographer Of General George C, Marshall

Submitted By: **Herbt Schedina**  
Friedrichplatz 3  
D-04680 Torgau  
Germany  
schedi.torgau@t-online.de

With great interest I read the article about George Marshall's visit to Camp Shelby and the 69th Infantry Division on page two of your Association's May-August 2009 Bulletin. I also saw your request for stories. I received the bulletin after the 69th Infantry Division honored me and some others here in Torgau with plaques in appreciation of our efforts to build

*(Continued on Page 4)*

## A Note From Your Past President David Theobald

Submitted By: **Mrs. Jeanne F. Theobald**  
**Wife of David Theobald**  
Company F 272nd  
8401 Moravian Court  
Sacramento, California 95826

Dear Readers, On my last opportunity to speak to you all as President. I would like to thank all of you for your fellowship and friendliness. I hope you have enjoyed my attempt at a little humor at our meetings. We have a wonderful organization and it looks like it will last way past the last of the CAMP SHELBY HEROS have had their last 3.2 bottles of beer. Some of my personal memories are also included elsewhere.

ALL THE BEST,

Your Past President, Dave Theobald

\*\*\*\*\*

## Route Across Europe Map and Combat Video Still Available

The popular Route Across Europe Map taken from the History of The 272nd Infantry Regiment still may be had so your family and friends can see where the 69th was in Europe during WWII. One map sent in a mailing tube (no folds or creases) \$10. Additional maps are \$5 each. Order maps for yourself, children and grandchildren. Frame for display.

The Combat Video with 25 minutes of scenes from Fortress Ehrenbreitstein to the Elbe River in DVD or VCR/VHS format is \$25.

**Send check or money order:**

**69th Infantry Website**  
**6314 Deerings Hollow**  
**Norcross, GA 30092-1800**

*Allow 10 days for delivery. (770) 416-7725*

\*\*\*\*\*

## Does Anyone Remember This?

Submitted By: **Raymond K. Mann**  
A&P Platoon, HQ Co, 3rd Bn 271 Inf.  
12223 Seaford Court  
18535 Melissa Springs Drive, Tomball, TX 77375-8740

In early April, 1945, some of us 3rd Battalion types evicted a German family from their home. We did this not out of meanness, but so that we could spend the night under a roof and for a lucky few of us, sleep in a bed. Infantrymen are trained to live in the field during combat, but will seize any opportunity to live like normal human beings.

*(Continued on Page 12)*

**DR. FORREST C. POGUE** (Continued from Page 3)

memorials in Strehla and Torgau in recognition of the Link-ups in those towns, April 25, 1945. We have had 69ers as guests in our home during the work on these memorials as well as on scheduled tours.

My knowledge of **General Marshall** is through my acquaintance with his biographer, **Dr. Forrest C. Pogue**.

In 1984, during the Cold War, a London-style red double-decker bus bearing the name EISENHOWER STUDY TOURS arrived in Torgau, creating quite a sensation in those times of the Cold War! Of course, they must have had an official permit from the East German authorities because this bus carried a group of journalist who had driven all the way from Normandy. There they had taken part in the 40th Anniversary Celebration of D-Day, going through the former battlefields of France and Belgium via Aachen, Remagen and other West German cities into what was behind the Iron Curtain at that time: East Germany, officially called the German Democratic Republic.

I was an English teacher in Torgau. A year before, in 1983, I had also worked as a local guide for some English-speaking tourist groups coming from Wittenberg to Torgau seemingly in Martin Luther's footsteps because it was then when we celebrated the 500th Anniversary of the birth of the Great Reformer.

But this group's visit was quite different! Along with a representative of the small Torgau museum, I had been waiting in the parking lot for a group we had been told was interested in what happened here in April, 1945, at the end of World War II. I still remember how surprised we were when we saw this big bus coming around the corner. The bus stopped, and the leader of the group, a man of about 70, stepped out and amicably introduced himself as **Dr. Forrest C. Pogue**, of Washington, D.C. He explained that he had worked as a historian and war correspondent some 40 years ago and was now showing this group, which consisted mostly of journalists, all those historic places - from Omaha Beach in June 1944 up to the Czech city of Pilzen in May 1945. Torgau had been a very special place for him because it was there where on April 25th, 1945, **Lieutenant William D. Robertson**, 69th Infantry Division, climbed over the destroyed Elbe Bridge to meet Russians on the eastern bank of the river. The Link-up was officially celebrated on the following day with **U.S. General Reinhardt** meeting **Soviet General Rusakov** and soldiers from East and West dancing with joy on the Elbe meadows. Such scenes were later called 'the Spirit of the Elbe', as everybody understood that the end of the war was near. We talked about all that with **Dr. Pogue**, and he presented to our museum an original 1945 copy of the U.S. Army journal *YANKS*. *We are sorry that it is no longer there, somebody must have taken it.*

Five years later, in June 1989, **Dr. Pogue** visited Torgau a second time. It was my privilege to once again welcome his group at the Link-up Monument; however, things had changed. Not only had I learned more details about the events of 1945, but we East Germans were living in a period of political turmoil in

this summer of 1989. While there was still that terrible wall in Berlin, and the old East-German party leadership, including STASI (state security) was still in effect, everywhere in the country people began to express their disbelief, and first protest actions had already started.

**Dr. Pogue** and I frankly discussed the situation and exchanged addresses, hoping for more freedom but not knowing how things would develop. I gave **Dr. Pogue** a booklet that had been published in Torgau in 1985, with texts full of the old Communist ideology, but containing interesting photos. He told me how he had crossed the Elbe River with mixed feelings in a row boat on that April day, 1945, and that he would never forget the enthusiastic atmosphere there. I also learned that years later, he had become the biographer of **General George C. Marshall** and how glad he was to contribute in keeping up the legacy of that great man.

A few weeks later, in November 1989, I wrote a letter to **Dr. Pogue**, in which I was able to express my thoughts about the peaceful revolution going on in my country. I also mentioned our hope to see more American people in Torgau in April and May 1990 to commemorate the 45th anniversary of the end of WW II. **Dr. Pogue** answered in December, and in his very personal letter he stated: "I have been wondering, since I saw you in June, how I could be sure that a copy of my book would reach you. Now that there is this wonderful opening of communication between East and West, I am sending you volumes III and IV of my biography of **General Marshall**."

In his dedication he added: "With the hope that events of the past few months may bring greater understanding and unity among countries of the world." He also enclosed a Christmas card drawn by his wife, Christine. Some more letters were exchanged, despite his bad eyesight and the fact that he was still busy lecturing at various places. With pride he also told me that he had been presented the U.S. Army's Award for Distinguished Service, and I was able to speak of my first experiences traveling to the States.

Years later in October 2000, my family together with **Karl-Heinz Lange**, a retired teacher and an outstanding historian, visited the United States to take up an invitation of 69er veterans, **Bill Beswick** and **Bill Snidow**, who had become our friends on their numerous trips back to the Elbe. It was unforgettable stay with them.

We went to Arlington Cemetery and then to the Pentagon where we were treated like VIPs. Later we visited the George C. Marshall Museum at Lexington, Virginia. It was there where I gladly remembered **Forrest C. Pogue**, who had been the director of the museum and the George C. Marshall Research Foundation. I learned that he died in 1996 at the age of 84. The museum honors **Dr. Pogue** with a beautiful portrait, in front of which I was photographed.

When we in Torgau celebrate the events of April 1945 with Elbe Day every year, I always think of **Forrest C. Pogue**, a first rate historian of the war in Europe and a man who served the ideals of worldwide freedom and peace.



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## 69th INFANTRY DIVISION ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

Listed below are all registration, tour, and meal costs for the reunion. Please enter how many people will be participating in each event and total the amount. Send that amount payable to ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC. in the form of check or money order. Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. Returned checks will be charged a \$20 fee. You may also register online and pay by credit card at [www.afir-reg.com/69inf](http://www.afir-reg.com/69inf). All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before September 9, 2010. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing. Please do not staple or tape your payment to this form.

**Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.**  
**322 Madison Mews**  
**Norfolk, VA 23510**  
**ATTN: 69th INFANTRY DIVISION**

OFFICE USE ONLY	
Check # _____	Date Received _____
Inputted _____	Nametag Completed ____

**CUT-OFF DATE IS 9/9/10**

	PRICE PER	# of PEOPLE	TOTAL
<b><u>TOURS</u></b>			
WEDNESDAY: BOONE HALL	\$ 45		\$
THURSDAY: CRUISE / CITY TOUR	\$ 57		\$
FRIDAY: PATRIOTS POINT / CHARLESTON CRAB HOUSE			
<i>(Please make your lunch entrée selection below)</i>			
She Crab Soup and Salad	\$ 62		\$
Grilled Chicken Sandwich	\$ 62		\$
Fried Flounder and Shrimp Platter	\$ 62		\$
<b><u>MEALS</u></b>			
THURSDAY: EARLY BIRD BUFFET	\$ 27		\$
FRIDAY: BEER PARTY <i>(Please indicate # of people attending)</i>	No Charge	# of ppl	
SATURDAY: BANQUET <i>(Please select your entrée)</i>			
PRIME RIB	\$ 32		\$
GRILLED CHICKEN	\$ 25		\$
BAKED SALMON	\$ 29		\$
<b><u>MANDATORY PER PERSON REGISTRATION FEE</u></b>			
Includes entertainment and administrative expenses.	\$ 15		\$
<b>DUES—NEW DUES YEAR IS AUGUST 1, 2010 — JULY 31, 2011</b>			
REGULAR MEMBERSHIP	\$ 10		\$
LADIES MEMBERSHIP	\$ 5		\$
POSTAGE AND BULLETIN DONATION (UP TO YOU)			\$
<b>Total Amount Payable to <u>Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.</u></b>			<b>\$</b>

PLEASE PRINT NAME AS YOU WANT IT TO APPEAR ON YOUR NAMETAG

FIRST \_\_\_\_\_ LAST \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
 UNIT \_\_\_\_\_ NEXT GENERATION? \_\_\_\_\_ FIRST TIMER? (YES ) OR (NO )

SPOUSE NAME (IF ATTENDING) \_\_\_\_\_

GUESTS NAMES \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, ST, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PH. NUMBER ( ) -

DISABILITY/DIETARY RESTRICTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

*(Sleeping room requirements must be conveyed by attendee directly with hotel)*

MUST YOU BE LIFTED HYDRAULICALLY ONTO THE BUS WHILE SEATED IN YOUR WHEELCHAIR IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN BUS TRIPS? ☐ YES ☐ NO (PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CANNOT GUARANTEE AVAILABILITY).

EMERGENCY CONTACT \_\_\_\_\_ PH. NUMBER ( ) -

For refunds and cancellations please refer to our policies outlined at the bottom of the reunion program. **CANCELLATIONS WILL BE TAKEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 9:00am-5:00pm EASTERN TIME (excluding holidays).** Call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion.

# SHERATON CHARLESTON AIRPORT HOTEL – CHARLESTON, SC

**(800) 325-3535** **(843) 747-1900**

The Sheraton Charleston Airport Hotel is conveniently located at 4770 Goer Drive, North Charleston, SC 29406, strategically located near the historic downtown district and the Charleston International Airport. The hotel is approximately 3 miles from the Charleston International Airport. If you are driving, please call the hotel directly for accurate driving instructions. This hotel offers 289 spacious rooms. Each room features a coffee/tea maker, iron/ironing board, hairdryer, microwave, and free wireless high speed internet access. Recreation enthusiasts will enjoy an indoor/outdoor heated pool, fitness facility and golf courses nearby. The Sheraton Charleston Airport is a non-smoking hotel. Handicapped rooms are subject to availability. Please request these special accommodations when making your hotel reservations.

The hotel provides complimentary parking for its guests. Check-in time is 3:00pm; check-out time is 12:00pm. *Monikers*, open 6:00am-2:00pm and 5:00pm-11:00pm, features a hearty full breakfast and lunch everyday with à la carte dining available as well. *Bogies Bar*, open 4:00pm-12:00am, offers American cuisine and local favorites. Enjoy your favorite libations in a fun and inviting pub-like atmosphere.

The Sheraton Charleston Airport offers complimentary airport shuttle service to and from the Charleston International Airport. The shuttle runs every 20 minutes on the hour to and from the airport. Please call (843)747-1900 upon arrival then wait by taxi/shuttle stands outside of baggage claim for the shuttle to arrive. Space is limited on complimentary services, so you may want to make other arrangements. The hotel shuttle takes all guests to and from the Tanger Outlet area, if desired. The hotel also provides a complimentary shuttle service to and from Downtown Charleston for SPG members. You may sign up upon check in. The 11 passenger seat van runs 4 times a day.

The hotel offers complimentary RV parking for guests staying at the hotel. Should you need full hook-ups contact the Charleston KOA Campground at (843) 797-1045 or (800)562-5812. They are located at 9494 Highway 78, Ladson, SC 29456, which is approximately 11 miles from the hotel. Make your reservations as soon as possible due to limited space and availability.

Should you need to rent a wheelchair for the reunion, ScootAround rents both manual and power wheelchairs by the day and week. Please call their toll free number at (888)441-7575 for details. All prices quoted include delivery fees.

**Sponsors, Schedules, and Prices are subject to change.**

----- CUT HERE AND MAIL TO THE HOTEL -----

## 69th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION REUNION - HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

**REUNION DATES: OCTOBER 12-17, 2010**

NAME	SHARING ROOM W/	
ADDRESS	ZIP	
TEL. NUMBER (        )	STARWOOD PREFERRED GUEST #	
ARRIVAL DATE	APPROX. TIME	DEP. DATE
# OF ROOMS NEEDED	# OF PEOPLE IN ROOM	HANDICAP ACCESS
KING BED        2 DOUBLE BEDS		
In the event room type requested is not available, nearest room type will be assigned.		

**RATE:** \$105 + tax (currently 12.5%) Rate includes breakfast buffet for two people. Rate will also be offered 2 days before and after reunion dates, based on availability.

**CUT OFF DATE:** 09/09/10. Late reservations will be processed based on space availability at a higher rate.

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** Deposit is refundable if reservation is cancelled 72 hours prior to arrival.

All reservations must be guaranteed by credit card or first night's deposit, enclosed.  
 AMEX       DINERS       VISA       MASTER CARD       DISCOVER

CREDIT CARD NUMBER EXP. DATE

SIGNATURE (regardless of payment method)

**MAIL TO:**  
**SHERATON CHARLESTON AIRPORT HOTEL • 4770 GOER DRIVE • N. CHARLESTON, SC 29406**  
**FAX TO: (843) 744-2826 ATTN: RESERVATIONS**

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# 69th Infantry Division Association 63rd Annual Reunion

## October 12th thru 17th, 2010

### SHERATON CHARLESTON AIRPORT HOTEL CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

#### Tuesday, October 12th

	Complimentary Breakfast Buffet
	Hospitality and Souvenir Rooms open
2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	<b>Reunion Registration open</b>
	Dinner and evening on your own
7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.	Hospitality Room open

#### Wednesday, October 13th

	Complimentary Breakfast Buffet
8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	<b>Reunion Registration open</b>
	"Next Generation"
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	BOONE HALL (description follows)
12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Hospitality Room open
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	<b>Reunion Registration open</b>

#### Thursday, October 14th

	Complimentary Breakfast Buffet
7:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.	<b>Reunion Registration open</b>
8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.	CRUISE / CITY TOUR (description follows)
12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Hospitality Room open
3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.	<b>Reunion Registration open</b>
	"Next Generation"
6:30 p.m.	Cash Bar
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Early Bird Dinner

#### Friday, October 15th

	Complimentary Breakfast Buffet
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	PATRIOTS POINT / CHARLESTON CRAB HOUSE RESTAURANT (description follows)
12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Hospitality Room open
	"Next Generation"
3:00 p.m.	Board Meeting
	Dinner on your own
7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	PX Beer Party

#### Saturday, October 16th

	Complimentary Breakfast Buffet
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Membership Meeting
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Hospitality Room open
	"Next Generation"
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Cocktail Hour with Cash Bar
7:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Memorial Service
7:30 p.m.	Banquet served, followed by music and dancing

#### Sunday, October 17th

Complimentary Breakfast Buffet  
Farewells and Departures

#### Cancellation and Refund Policy for Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.

For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cut-off date, Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. (AFR) shall process a full refund less the non-refundable AFR registration fee (\$7 per person). Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cut-off date will be refunded to the fullest extent that AFR's vendor commitments and guarantees will allow, less the non-refundable AFR registration fee. **Cancellations will only be taken Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, excluding holidays.** Please call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion. Canceling your hotel reservation does not cancel your reunion activities.

***Register online & pay by credit card at [www.afr-reg.com/69inf](http://www.afr-reg.com/69inf)***

## **69th INFANTRY DIVISION REUNION - TOUR DESCRIPTIONS**

### **BOONE HALL PLANTATION**

**Wednesday, October 13th**

Arrive at America's most photographed plantation, Boone Hall Plantation. Drive down the famous three-quarter mile avenue of massive, Spanish moss draped live oaks. Step back in time and relive the grandeur of the Old South when you tour the mansion, smokehouse, gardens, original slave quarters, and cotton gin house. There will be an approximate two block walk to the house from where the buses must stop. Level walking, but please wear comfortable shoes.

**9:30 a.m. board bus, 12:30 p.m. back at hotel**  
**\$45/Person includes bus, guide, and admission.**

### **CRUISE / CITY TOUR**

**Thursday, October 14th**

Begin the day with a two-hour guided tour of the Holy City, named for its many picturesque churches. Favorite sites include the Battery overlooking Charleston's harbor and Fort Sumter, colorful Rainbow Row, the Citadel, and White Point Gardens. Arrive for an early lunch and shopping on your own in the Market Area, Charleston's historic marketplace surrounded by restaurants and eateries of all types. Reboard the bus for a short ride to the marina. Enjoy a one and a half hour harbor cruise that cruises by Fort Sumter, Fort Moultrie, Patriots Point, the U.S. Naval Base, waterfront mansions, commercial docks, and more.

**8:30 a.m. board bus, 3:15 p.m. back at hotel**  
**\$57/Person includes bus, guide, admission, and harbor cruise. Lunch on your own.**

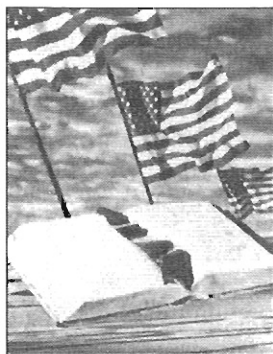
### **PATRIOTS POINT / CHARLESTON CRAB HOUSE RESTAURANT**

**Friday, October 15th**

Start the morning touring Patriots Point, home of the largest naval and maritime museum in the world. Visit the carrier USS Yorktown, the submarine Clamagore, and the replica of a Vietnam Support base. Priceless war planes used during wars and conflicts spanning from WWII to Desert Storm are featured aboard the Yorktown's 40,000 square foot hangar bay and atop the 888 foot flight deck. Patriots Point is also the home of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society and their official Medal of Honor Museum with tons of interactive exhibits. Reboard the bus for lunch at the Charleston Crab House. You'll be given a lunch voucher to exchange for Fried Shrimp Salad, Grilled Chicken Sandwich, or Fried Shrimp and Flounder Platter with chef's choice of accompaniments and beverage.

**9:00 a.m. board bus, 2:00 p.m. back at hotel**  
**\$62/Person includes bus, escort, admission, and lunch.**

Driver and guide gratuities are not included in the tour prices.  
Please plan to be at the bus boarding area at least five minutes prior to the scheduled time.  
All trips require a minimum of thirty people, unless otherwise stated.



## “Taps”

The melody of TAPS was composed by a non-musical (musician with no formal knowledge) nor the technical names of any of the notes. Union General Daniel Butterfield whistled it for Brigadier General Oliver Norton who wrote the notes on the back of an envelope July 2, 1862. The plaintive bugle notes that bring an involuntary lump to the throat typifies our loss and feelings of these two great buglers.

## THE WORDS TO “TAPS” SAY IT ALL

**Day is done, gone the sun  
From the lakes, from the hills,  
from the skies.  
All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.  
Thanks and praise for our days  
'neath the sun, 'neath the stars,  
'neath the sky.  
As we go, this we know. God is nigh.**

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Co. I - 272nd

## South Carolina Gets Cruise Liner

Submitted By: **Lester E. Hart**  
Co. C - 881st  
7916 Hayes Road  
Williamsfield, OH 44093-9718

Thought you would like to know about a new cruise ship just in at Charleston (something to see). They call Charleston “an amazing city”. Maybe we will find out during the 2010 reunion.

The Associated Press Charleston, S.C.

A new era in tourism opened in South Carolina as the first cruise liner to be permanently based on the state's coast arrived.

The gleaming white Carnival Fantasy operated by Carnival Cruise Lines arrived in port as the sun broke through the morning clouds, a sail boat fired a cannon in salute and a tug boat sent arcs of water spraying into the air.

In the past, only a handful of passenger cruises have sailed from Charleston in the winter.

But Jim Berra, Carnival's chief marketing officer, said Charleston is a good place for summer cruises, which is a growing market.

“We think it is, simply because the draw in the summer in Charleston is so strong,” he said. “You're offering the guests time either pre- or post-cruise in an amazing city and then you have the chance to do a five, six or seven night cruise onto the Bahamas or Key West,” he said.



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## DOES ANYONE REMEMBER?

(Continued from Page 2)

I was inside the house when I was startled by a burst of small arms fire from outside. I apprehensively approached the open back door, my carbine at the ready. I was surprised to see GIs in the back yard with their weapons pointed skyward. By the time I stepped outside, they had ceased firing and explained that they had been shooting at a low flying German plane. It turned out to be a Messerschmidt 109, one of Germany's two best propeller driven fighter planes, the other being the Focke-Wulfe 190. I was acquainted with the ME109, having constructed a small scale model as a 15-year old boy some five years earlier.

As we stood discussing the incident, we heard the plane approaching again. When it came into view, it was so low that we could plainly see the pilot. He was flying at an unusually slow rate of speed, not appearing to take any aggressive or evasive action. This did not deter my comrades from emptying their clips at him again. Neither did the fact that it was next to impossible to being down a WW II aircraft with rifle fire. That was the last we saw of the ME109 -- almost.

The next morning, we were loaded onto trucks to resume our push across Germany. As we were leaving town, our driver asked if we wanted to see the ME109 that came down the previous evening. We all responded almost in unison "Did someone shoot it down?" "Nah!" the driver said, "it flew into some high wires near the railway station."

After pulling off the road, the driver pointed out the plane in an open field, wheels up, with steel cable wrapped

around the bent prop. We all bailed out for our first close-up glimpse of the feared machine. Someone asked the obvious question: "Was the pilot captured?" The driver said yes, but he really wasn't a pilot, rather an aircraft mechanic from a Luftwaffe airfield to our east who had no desire to become a prisoner of the rapidly approaching Soviet army. He had evidently concluded that it was time to go home! He was flying by dead reckoning and was circling our little town trying to read the name on the railway station. We all had to laugh at that, but I imagine more than one of us was thinking to himself, "Give that man a 'E' for effort."

\*\*\*\*\*

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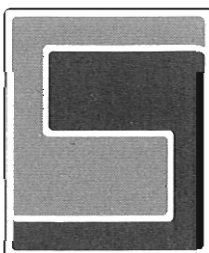
**Send Address Changes,**

**New Members**

**and Deaths to Paul**

# FIGHTING 69TH INFANTRY DIVISION

## ★★★★ Association, Inc.



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MAY – JUNE – JULY – AUGUST  
2010

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## 69th Infantry Division Association 63rd Annual Reunion October 12th thru 17th, 2010



## SHERATON CHARLESTON AIRPORT HOTEL CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

### A Note from Paul & Dottie

We hope everyone is enjoying this nice summer and looking forward to attending the annual reunion in North Charleston, South Carolina in October. We are going ahead with our plans and hope to see many of you in attendance. Remember the deadline is September 9, 2010 so you might want to get your reservations in early. We will not be sending out another bulletin until after the reunion.

We are also working on plans for next year's reunion. We will have 2 or 3 different cities to choose from at our Membership Meeting.

**Please come and join us for a good time**