



CSM (Ret) Stewart receives his Commander's Cap from PNC Max Schmidt.

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER

VETERANS, SOLDIERS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS, the 90th Annual Reunion of the 80th Division Veterans Association ETO, AEF, TASS has passed and what a good time it was. I hope all who were able to attend had a great time and hope more members will be able to attend the 91st Reunion in Washington D.C. next summer. PNC Max & PNP Alice Schmidt are working diligently on making that a memorable event.

I have to tell you when I stood up in Dayton Ohio a few years ago and agreed to be the first non-World War II Veteran to serve as an Officer in this organization, I really had no idea what was involved and where this mission would take me. As with any good Officer, if you surround yourself with subject matter experts and very good people, your chances for success are almost assured. I must say it's not that I surrounded myself with good people, they surrounded me — the very best of people stepped up and offered to help and guide me through this transition. Sincere Heartfelt thanks go out to all who aided me through this past year, especially Cecelia & Bruce Smith, Naomi & Clarence Brockman, Abe & Kay Barone, and Max & Alice Schmidt.

I am humbled and honored to serve as National Commander this next year and look forward to the challenges that lie ahead. My charge is clear: strengthen the ranks and ensure this time-honored organization we all belong to continues on for future generations to respect and enjoy.

Have a great Fall Season. Respectfully,

"Only Moves Forward"

"Strength of The Mountains"

National Commander Donald W. Stewart

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The Service Magazine**

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Public Affairs Officer	HNC George V. West (C-318)
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TRUSTEES

1 Year: PNC Walter W. Spangler (A-319)
2 Year: Laverne J. Schock (F-317)
3 Year: Paul J. Pietsch (AT-318)

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1 Year	HNC George V. West (C-319) Robert Moorhead (L-317) Robert J. McDonald (F-319)
2 Year	Paul J. Pietsch (AT-318) PNC Russell Sick (305 Eng Bn) PNC Robert Burrows (Hq-317)
3 Year	Gerald V. Myers (G-317) Laverne Schock (F-317) Tom Pappas (F-318)

EDITOR'S NOTES

As I write the editor's column for the Post Reunion 2009 Blue Ridge, I find myself in awe of the many activities our veterans and members stay involved. This issue, we not only have the report by Cecelia Smith of the 90th Reunion just held in Pittsburgh, but we also have an article by Judy Bezjak on her trip to Luxembourg for the US Veterans Friends—Luxembourg Friendship Week, held this past June 17—23, 2009. I had the opportunity to attend the Friendship Week in 2007 and vowed to go again soon (perhaps next year?)

I also want to thank Paul Zakel (L-317) for sending in this month's "Out of the Past" article about his experiences toward the end of the war in Austria in which he accepted surrender of SS troops.

I am also making a Call for Help to 80th Division Veterans Association members to help preserve history by working with their children and grandchildren in creating an oral history project. I know this has probably been done in the past, years ago, but I think this approach of involving children and grandchildren to get them motivated and interested in the 80th Division might prove worthwhile. Keep this in mind and I'll have more detailed information about how to gather this information and conduct oral interviews in the next Blue Ridge issue. Put your kids and grandkids on notice.

You'll also note the change of officers of the association, which are detailed in the Post Reunion Report. Some of the names will be familiar to you; others are new to you. What this entails is that the 80th Division Veterans Association includes not only veterans of WWII and the current 80th TASS, but also family members of 80th Division veterans. In fact, Dr. Lee S. Anthony, whose father served in Co F/317 during World War I, was elected 2d Vice Commander and LTC Grant Porter, 80th Division TASS, was elected 3d Vice Commander of the organization.

Many, many WWII veterans commented that they were very pleased with the induction of new members and new officers, knowing that the 80th Division Veterans Association will continue to thrive in future years.

I hope you enjoy this issue of the Blue Ridge Service Magazine. As always, comments are welcome.

Andy Adkins, Secretary/Editor

EUGENE O'NEIL

National Commander 2008-2009

January 9, 1926—July 31, 2009

ONLY A FEW DAYS after his nineteenth birthday, Gene found himself in a small town in Luxembourgh, with snow falling and extremely cold temperatures. He was assigned to C Company, 1st Battalion, 319th Infantry, in the 3rd Platoon, 3rd Squad. He wrote about the Seven Days in Hell, February 7th to 14th 1945. After those grueling days of exchanging fire with the Germans, and suffering from frost-bitten feet, he was sent to thaw his feet and then returned to the line for an additional eighty days, before action ended on May 7, 1945 in Vocklabruck, Austria.



When the War ended, Gene returned to his native Maryland, where he worked for the Federal Government at GSA and the State Department for nearly fifty years. He and his first wife, Hilda, were parents to Eugene, Jr., Jeffrey, Mary Kathleen, and Timothy. Some years after the death of Hilda, Gene married Ivy, a widow and mother of five children. Gene and Ivy had been school mates in their younger years, and he referred to himself as a very lucky guy, to have Ivy in his life in these latter years again. Together, they enjoyed their extended family, and Gene was a very devoted father and grandfather to all of them.

A devout Catholic, Gene attended St. Mary of the Assumption Church where he was also a member of the Knights of Columbus. He was a strong supporter of the Boys and Girls Club of Prince Georges County, and was a member of the American Legion. His greatest loyalty, other than his Family and Church, was his dedication to the 80th Division Veterans Association.

Although he attended many of the reunions of the Veterans Association, Gene was always shy about stepping forward to hold an office. That all changed at the Pittsburgh Reunion in 2004, when he and his fellow Veterans decided that the time was right to erect a monument to their Fallen Comrades. Gene accepted chairmanship of the committee that would investigate the possibility of placing such a memorial in Arlington National Cemetery. Tireless efforts on his part over the next two years to obtain permission to erect such a tribute were met with one block after another. An opportunity to place a monument in Sacrifice Field at Fort Benning, Georgia was presented, and the dedication of that tribute was accomplished in September of 2006.

In the meantime, Gene was elected to the position of Third Vice Commander, with the task of becoming

Reunion Chairman in 2008. Sufficient funds were available and continuing efforts to allow placement of a monument at Arlington were ongoing; however, when it became apparent that no progress was being made, Gene investigated placing the second monument on the grounds of the newly created Heritage Trail at the Army Heritage and Education Center in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. That facility houses more documentation for the 80th Division than for any other Army unit, and the Management were delighted to host the first such tribute on their grounds. The dedication of that monument took place on August 14, 2008, as a part of the 89th Annual Reunion, which Gene chaired. Still desirous of accomplishing his original goal of having a monument in Arlington, and as late as the week before his hospitalization, he was exploring other avenues to attain his special objective.

Gene's role as Commander of the Association was one he took seriously. Mindful of the dwindling membership and associated funding, he launched a Sustaining Membership Drive. More than \$15,000 was raised through red, white and blue level contributions. He was an early supporter of bringing descendants of the Veterans into the membership, and a strong proponent of including the current 80th Soldiers and all who have ever worn the patch of the Blue Ridge Division, as well as their family members. He was looking forward to the ratification of the Amendment to the By-Laws, which he helped draft, that would signal the first major change in membership since the end of World War II.

The 80th Division Family has lost a dedicated Comrade. We salute him one final time, and thank him for his service to God and Country, and for his profound sense of obligation to his friends in the Association. Donations may be made in Gene's name to either of the following:

Boys & Girls Club of Prince Georges County/Silver Hill Club
5011 Abbott Drive, Temple Hills, MD 20748

80th Division Veterans—McBride Scholarship Fund
c/o Andrew Z. Adkins III
2121 N.W. 54th Terrace, Gainesville, FL 32605-3392

Many veterans and friends sent in cards and letters in memory of Gene, which were on display at the reunion. In addition, several were received via email:

"A tribute to Gene, our National Commander, for his tireless efforts to accomplish the dedication of our two (2) new Memorials at Fort Benning, Ga. and Carlisle, Pennsylvania. "The 80th Only Moves Forward". As a result of his planning and persistence, he helped to create a financial program to continue our existence. Let this be a silent token of all we have left unspoken."—Max R. Schmidt, PNC

"We heard that National Commander Gene O'Neil passed away some days ago. We would like to send his family and friends our deepest Sympathy." Bernd Schmidt, U.S. Veterans Friends—Germany

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following was forwarded to us by Virgil Myers and may be important to some of our members:

On Sept. 23, 2008, Lou Gehrig's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis was made a presumptive condition for all vets who served in our armed forces for at least 90 days. This means that widows of those vets who died of ALS in years past are eligible for VA widows monthly benefit which is very substantial. Most people are not aware that a vet's death due to ALS is considered service-connected. For more information, contact Fred Campbell, Chairman of Vets Outreach; 3312 Chatterton Dr.; San Angelo, TX 76904. E-mail fredrev@webtv.net.

80th Blue Ridge Army Reserve Association Annual Meeting:

October 16-18, 2009—Sheraton Richmond West Hotel, Richmond VA

Join us for the 8th Annual Membership Meeting. Rooms are reserved for \$89 per night. For more information, visit the web site: www.80thblueridge.com.

Call for Help

I receive a dozen or so requests via email every month from veterans, family members, friends, and other historians regarding 80th Division history. Most of these come via email from people that have found information on the 80th Division web site: www.80thdivision.com. Most of the time, I'm able to help these people out, pointing them to various Morning Reports or After Action Reports, but every now and then I get a request that I cannot address. This month, see if you might be able to help the following:

From Malka Yarom of Jerusalem:

"We look for a commander named 'Bull' who met our mother in Lenzing bei Voeklabruck. Her name is Sidi Weiss-Spigel. She was a survivor from Slovakia and she gave him her diary. Maybe because he told her that he will keep it better, or use it for the Nazi's trials. I only know he was in the division who freed my mother in Lenzing bei Voeklabruck, so it must be the 80th Division. I would like to know to whom the soldiers gave the Jewish material they received, if possible. Maybe we can still read the diary. Can you help us? I am her daughter." Malka Yarom (Jerusalem)

If you have any information about a commander named "Bull" who was part of the unit that helped liberate Voeklabruk, please either email, call, or mail Andy Adkins. I'll get the information back to the daughter.

Tribute to Robert Murrell, PNC

After eighteen years as National Secretary, Robert T. Murrell (M-318) stepped down from this post during the 90th Reunion of the 80th Division Veterans Association. Bob has been instrumental in so many activities over the years and was honored, as well as surprised, when National Commander Donald Stewart presented him with a special plaque honoring his many years of service to the organization. As you may know, Andrew Z. Adkins III, son of an 80th Division (H-317) veteran, will be taking over his duties as Secretary.

To: Ex Sgt Bob Murrell:

Always a splendid citizen in both war and peace. Thank you for your many valuable services to the 80th Division Veterans Association.

Bob Harmon, Ex 318th AT & Reg Hq Companies, from Arizona to Austria. '44—'45



Bob and Doris Murrell

"The Blue Ridge Division Answers the Call in WWII"

by Robert T. Murrell

\$30

INCLUDES SHIPPING AND HANDLING

Send Check Payable to
Robert T. Murrell

169 Cambridge Lane • Lewistown, PA 17044

E-mail: divinf801@verizon.net

POST REUNION NOTES

By Cecelia Smith

For the ninetieth official time since they organized in 1919, the 80th Division Veterans Association met with Comrades and their families at the Airport Marriott Hotel in Pittsburgh, PA. From August 26th to 29th, 2009, this meeting marked the fifteenth time that the men had convened their Annual Reunion in the city where many of the World War I 80th Soldiers called home, and where the business of the Association was long established.

Some of the Veterans began arriving on Tuesday, the 25th, to establish their foothold on the proceedings and to prepare for the arrivals of their Army Buddies. On Wednesday morning, the registration desk was busy from 9:00 AM on, as the families arrived and received their official packages for the reunion activities. In the afternoon, the men's Executive Council met in a special session to outline the business to be discussed at the general meetings in the following days. Likewise, the Ladies Auxiliary officers met in an executive session to discuss their agenda.

Of special importance this year, the Executive Council ratified an Amendment to their By-Laws whereby any person who has worn the patch of the Blue Ridge Division, and/or members of his/her family, was deemed eligible for membership in the Association. This subject was approved at the last annual meeting, held in Carlisle, PA in 2008, and an opportunity was given for the general membership to object or approve the proposed Amendment to the By-Laws via mail during the ensuing year. Ratification of the Amendment was required, and once the Executive Council had done so, it was again submitted to the membership, and approved in that assembly at Thursday's general business meeting.

As a celebration for the 90th Anniversary of the Association, a Thanksgiving Dinner was arranged for the customary Commander's Dinner, the first official social function of the Reunion. Attendees enjoyed turkey and gravy, filling, sweet potatoes, green beans, salad and a specially decorated, patriotic anniversary cake. A movie presentation about the 80th in WW II followed the dinner.

As the Veterans and their families began gathering in the lobby of the hotel on Thursday morning, the topic of conversation was the location of the nearest place to find breakfast, other than right in the hotel. The folks like to eat and enjoy the local scenery, and there were ample offerings of local cuisine and décor in the many malls and shopping areas around the hotel. The men were back for their business meeting at 9:00 AM, and the ladies were able to enjoy a coffee social, sponsored by the Auxiliary. The Auxiliary also reopened their displays of raffle items. Proceeds of the raffle support the Auxiliary's projects at the VA Hospitals, and the winners took home some very lovely items that had been donated by the Auxiliary members.

The Descendants of 80th Division Veterans have established special displays for the past few years at the reunions, exhibiting memorabilia that the men or families have turned over for safekeeping. The displays were open for the duration of the reunion activities and this year again, were visited by many of the attendees throughout the four days.

Following the men's meeting on Thursday morning, the Board of Directors of the Descendants met in special session to discuss the proposed Amendment to the Association's By-Laws, permitting family members to become members of the Veterans Association. By unanimous decision, the Board agreed to recommend to the Descendants' membership that they accept the invitation. The Descendants of 80th Division Veterans organization will be deactivated; all obligations are to be satisfied and records turned over to the Association by the end of Fiscal 2009, or December 31st.

By 3:00 PM on Thursday, the hotel lobby was buzzing as the reunion attendees gathered to board buses for a short ride to Station Square. There, they went aboard the Gateway Clipper for a cruise and dinner on the Three Rivers. Everyone agreed this was a tremendous adventure; the sights on the rivers at night were great and the food was terrific. More than 125 very tired Veterans and their families returned to the hotel about nine that evening.

On Friday morning, the men met in another general session, during which officers were elected for 2009-2010. For the first time in a few years, all of the offices were filled, as follows:

Donald Stewart CSM (Ret)—Commander. Don is the first of the "new generation" of 80th Soldiers to fill this position. He is a retired Command Sergeant Major with the 80th IT Division and 80th Command (TASS), having been elected as Third Vice Commander in 2007. He was rapidly advanced with the passing of Second Vice Commander, Sheldon Stanley later that same year, and recently had assumed the duties of Commander with the sudden death of Eugene O'Neil, who had been Commander for 2008-2009. Don was also the Chairman for the Pittsburgh reunion.

Max Schmidt, PNC—Senior Vice Commander. Max accepted the position of Second Vice Commander in 2008 and this is the second time Max has held this position. He brings a wealth of knowledge to the Executive Council and the position of Commander.

Lee S. Anthony, Ph.D.—Second Vice Commander. Dr. Anthony has been Commander of the Descendants of 80th Division Veterans since the organization formed in 2003. With the merging of the two organizations, Dr.

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Anthony accepted the nomination to become an officer in the Veterans Association. His father served in Company F of the 317th Infantry of the 80th Division during WW I.

Grant Porter, LTC—Third Vice Commander. LTC Porter is another representative of the “new 80th”, currently the Inspector General, 80th (TASS), and will also become a liaison with Soldiers of the Command, the Veterans Association and the Blue Ridge Army Reserve Association.

Andy Adkins, III—Secretary. Andy is the son of a WW II Veteran and published his father’s diary about his experiences during the war in Company H of the 317th. Earlier this year, Bob Murrell, PNC, and Secretary/Treasurer who held the position for 18 years, tapped Andy to be his successor. Andy also has maintained websites for the Veterans and Descendants for a number of years, and was Vice Commander of the Descendants 2008-2009.

Angelo Barone, PNC—Chaplain. Abe has held this position for a number of years, officiating at the Annual Memorial Services and other official functions of the Veterans. A POW, a Past National Commander and highly respected Comrade, Abe carries out the duties of Chaplain with great care and expertise.

Dempsey Prappas, Esq.—Judge Advocate. Mr. Prappas has been the legal advisor for the Veterans for a number of years and graciously agreed to serve in that capacity for another year.

Bruce Smith—Historian. Grandson of a Company K, 319th Infantry, WW I Soldier, Bruce has held the office of Historian for the Descendants for six years, and has worked closely with Bob Murrell, PNC and Historian in researching Veterans’ records for families.

George V. West, HNC—Public Affairs Officer. George has held the Public Affairs Officer position for several years and continues to spread goodwill for the 80th Division.

Kelly Niernberger, LTC—Service Officer. Another 80th (TASS) Soldier stepping up to take on duties with the Veterans Association, Kelly currently is in the Public Affairs Office of the 80th Command. He will assume the Association’s position, held for a number of years by HNC George West. Kelly will be responsible for press announcements, arranging for tributes overseas and at home. He is also coordinating interviews with Veterans to establish a permanent record of their experiences to help preserve the legacy of the Division.

Travis Edwards, SSG—Color Sergeant. Currently, Travis is the Public Affairs BRAC Outreach Chief at Fort Belvoir, VA; he has served with the 80th Command for more than ten years, including two tours in Iraq. His duties with the Association will be to arrange for the various services requiring the display and decorum of appropriate flags of America and the Division. He will also be working with LTC Niernberger and LTC Porter on their special projects to preserve the history of the Veterans.

Roger H. Nelson—Flag Sergeant. The son of a 305th Engineer in WW I, Roger has served as Financial Officer for the Descendants since the group organized. His duties as Flag Sergeant will be the transport of the Colors and Association Flag to the appropriate locations for any and all functions where the standards are required.

Burt Marsh—Sergeant at Arms. Burt has been a member of the Executive Council and served terms as a Trustee for the Association.

Tom Pappas—Official Photographer. Always ready with his camera, Tom has been a Reunion regular, and his presence in Pittsburgh was surely missed.

Elected as Trustees are the following: **PNC Walter W. Spangler, Laverne J. Schock, and Paul J. Pietsch.**

Elected to serve on the Executive Council are: **(1 Year) HNC George V. West, Robert Moorehead, and Robert J. McDonald; (2 Year) Paul J. Pietsch, PNC Russell Sick, and PNC Robert Burrows; (3 Year) Gerald V. Myers, Laverne J. Schock, and Tom Pappas.**

Following the business meeting, Pennsylvania State Representative Jesse White was invited to present special medals of honor sponsored by the Legislature to the Pennsylvania Veterans in attendance. Medals were prepared for some thirty men who had attended last year’s reunion, but due to health-related issues, only about half that many were in attendance this year. In addition, Rep. White presented a Condolence Proclamation for Mrs. Ivy O’Neil in the loss of Commander Gene O’Neil.

At the same time that the men conducted their business meeting, the Ladies Auxiliary held their annual memorial service for their deceased members, and conducted their business meeting. Elected to the offices for the Auxiliary for 2009-2010 were the following:

Kay Rajnicek, PNP—National President. This is the fourth time that Kay has held this office. She is the wife of Francis Rajnicek, PNC.

Helen Pietsch—Vice President. Helen is a the wife of Paul (Jim) Pietsch and is a first-time office holder.

Alice Schmidt, PNP—Secretary. Alice is the wife of PNC Max Schmidt and has held this office for a number of years.

Naomi Brockman, PNP—Treasurer. The wife of Clarence Brockman, PNC, Naomi has held all of the offices in the Auxiliary—some more than once or twice.

Kay Barone—Sergeant at Arms. Kay is the wife of PNC Angelo Barone, and in addition to her duties with the Auxiliary, she also assists Abe with the Annual Memorial Programs.

Friday evening’s event was the Fourth Annual Descendants of 80th Division Veterans Dinner. Nearly 100 attended the buffet-style dinner. Appropriate remarks were made regarding the merging of the organizations,

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followed by the awarding of a few prizes for longest married, traveling longest distance, most recent birthday, youngest attendee. Special guests of honor were Cara Lee Davis, her son Dan Davis, M.D. and granddaughters Ava and Cara. Cara Lee is the widow of Don Davis, who served the Association as Sergeant-at-Arms for a number of years before his untimely death last December. Don and Cara Lee had been staunch supporters of the Descendants and he had been guest speaker for the dinner two years ago. The programs for the evening were dedicated in memory of Don and Gene O'Neil, one of the Honorary Directors of the Descendants, and probably the strongest supporter the Descendants had. It was Gene's efforts that first effected recognition by the Veterans Association and the status of Auxiliary unit was granted to the Descendants in 2007 through Gene's auspices.

After the meal, Dr. Anthony recognized his officers and then he was presented with a photo collage of some of the Descendants' activities over the past six years. Since the organization is to be deactivated, the official flag was also retired and presented to Dr. Anthony as a token of appreciation for his leadership and contributions. The movie, "On Hallowed Ground," the story of the American Battle Monument Commissions' American Cemeteries overseas, was shown.

The 80th Command Color Guard contingent were also guests of the Descendants and were in heavy competition among themselves to determine who could answer the most questions on the quiz provided: "How Well Do You Know the 80th Division?" The evening ended before answers were provided but the Soldiers agreed they needed to do a little more studying, anyway!

Saturday mornings during the Annual Reunions are always marked by a solemn and poignant reminder of the loss of Comrades, when the Memorial Service takes place. This year, the Service was especially meaningful since the organization had lost Commander O'Neil. From the time that registrations for the reunion had been received, there was notification that three others of the registered Veterans had also passed away. Family members of all of the recently deceased attended the services. The contingent from the 80th Command performed the moving presentation and retiring of the Colors. Guest soloist and speaker was the Reverend William Howe, pastor of Rolling Hills Baptist Church, Verona, PA. Reverend Howe is the personal minister to Bob and Doris Murrell, and he called himself a Navy "brat" who was humbled to be able to be in the company of the Soldiers of the 80th. He delivered a memorable tribute to all of the Soldiers. Appropriate piano selections and accompaniment were provided by Mrs. Beverly Howe, Pastor Howe's wife.

The reading of a special Veteran's Tribute was done by PNC Max Schmidt, and the Roll Call was accomplished by PNC Clarence Brockman, PNC Elmer Dorsten and PNC Walton Spangler. The men of the individual units

stood in respect of their deceased Comrades as each unit's roll was called. The Memorial Wreath was then borne to the front by Virgil Myers, to the bagpipe accompaniment of Elaina Moorehead, a student from Lincoln Park School. Her rendition of *Amazing Grace* was a very appropriate addition to the program. The actual placement of the wreath was accomplished by Commander of the Veterans Association, Don Stewart, and Ladies Auxiliary President, Kay Rajnicek. Playing of TAPS by Brittany Nimal, a Fort Cherry High School Student, followed. Reverend Howe's final solo was *You Raise Me Up*, accompanied by Mrs. Howe on the piano.

Angelo Barone, PNC and Chaplain, pronounced the Benediction, followed by the retiring of the Colors and the Assembly sang *America the Beautiful*. The recessional of the PNCs, PNPs, Current Officers, Soldiers of the Global War on Terrorism and Descendants concluded the program.

The Annual Ladies Luncheon followed the Memorial Service, and President Kay Rajnicek utilized the theme of poppies for her programs and decorations, a reflection of the WW I popularity of the poem "In Flanders Fields." The new officers for the Auxiliary were installed for 2009-2010 and a lunch of tri-colored pasta was enjoyed by the folks who attended this meeting. Distribution of the raffle prizes was made and Commander Don Stewart was asked to address the group. Special guests included Reverend and Mrs. William Howe.

On Saturday afternoon, many of the attendees left the hotel for shopping, sight-seeing and a pleasant time on their own. Others were seen carrying luggage to their vehicles, in preparation for an early Sunday morning departure. The lounges in the lobby were filled, too, with those who just wanted to sit and chat with their buddies.

Don and Cheryl Stewart hosted a small reception for the new officers, first-timers and special guests prior to dinner, in the Hospitality Room. About forty people gathered for a brief time before joining the other reunion attendees in the ball room for the closing social activities.

Saturday evening's dinner began with the presentation of the Colors and Prayer by PNC Barone. Don Stewart received his Commander's Cap, presented by PNC Max Schmidt and Bob Murrell received a special plaque to commemorate his retirement after serving as Secretary/Treasurer for 18 years.

Guest speaker for the evening was MG John P. McLaren, Commander of the 80th Command. MG McLaren's address was accompanied by a slide presentation depicting the make-up of the current organizational charts and the expectations of his 80th Command. In the last year alone, this Command has taken on the total training for all Army personnel in the Continental US and Puerto Rico. Budget constraints will force the closing of several of the training sites, and necessitate consolida-

REUNION NOTES CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

tion of training facilities, which also will put a tremendous strain on the manpower and equipment that is assigned to his Command.

A drawing for the cash prizes was held with the following each winning \$250: MR John Balas (Evergreen Park, IL), MS Maureen Bacon (Destin, FL), MR Robert Moorhead (Wallingford, PA), and MS Loretta Koneski (Medina, NY).

During and after dinner, music was provided by Skip Peck and his ensemble. One of the featured songs was the *80th Marching Song*. In 1942-44, the lyrics and melody were quite familiar to the GI's as they were training at Camp Forrest. Bob Murrell located a 45 rpm recording of the song a few months ago, and the Descendants were able to have it digitized so that a CD could be presented to each of the men. Mr. Peck was asked if he might be able to reproduce the sounds to play during the Saturday

dinner, and he accomplished the task with exceeding quality and to the delight of all in attendance. The young lady in the ensemble sang the words the second time it was played and heads were bobbing all around the room to the rhythm of the special song.

Following the closing flag ceremony, some stayed to listen to the music; a few ventured onto the dance floor, and others declared the evening ended. Sunday morning departures began very early, with some catching flights and others leaving by their own vehicles.

The 2010 Reunion, to be chaired by PNC Max Schmidt, will be held in the Washington, DC area. Max announced that he has negotiated with the Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington, VA. Additional details will follow in the next issue of the Blue Ridge.

REUNION ROLL-CALL

If your name does not appear below, my apologies. We tried our best to record each one present, but realize that we many have inadvertently missed a few. If so, please let me know via snail mail or email and they will appear in the next issue of the Blue Ridge.

Adkins, Andrew
Anderson, George
Anthony, Lee S
Bacon, John G
Balas, John G
Baldt, Rick
Baldt, Susan
Ballenger, Willard
Barone, Angleo J
Barthold, Walter
Basden, Bryan L
Bayruns, Francis J Jr
Bell, Wade E
Bishop, Virgil M
Blocker, Audrey M
Bloomer, Lloyd C
Borin, Leonard
Bowman, Betty
Briggs, Kathleen A
Brockman, Clarence H
Brown, William S
Burrows, Robert H Sr
Caldwell, Thomas
Chapman, Calder W
Christen, Jim
Cleary, Richard
Coscia, Joseph
Courtney, William M
Cresson, Albert
Davis, Cara Lee
Difonzo, Panfilo
Dolmovich, Mary K
Dorsten, Elmer
Dumrauf, Raymond
Eckelmann, Fred G Sr
Ellengerger, Sophia
Elvin, Jan
Falvey, Charles
Fasnacht, Robert
Finger, Benjamin

Fitzgerald, George P
Flegel, SS
Flick, Doug
Francis Rajnicek
Freeze, Jack
Futch, Archer H
Gallagher, Cornelius E
Gentry, James OC
Gibbons (Sayre), Tonyia
Goldberg, Albert
Gorse, Thomas B
Grof, Joseph J
Hanline, Leonard T
Hanna, Phyllis
Hart, Edward B
Hatcher, Ann
Herklotz, Robert
Hopkins, Gene H
Hovey, Richard
Ingles, John S
Johnson, LeRoy A
Kane, George
Karr, Alfred
Kelly, William P
Kenetski, Frederick
Kline, Leonard A
Kluge, William
Knorr, Sally & Katie
Koerber, Charles E
Koneski, Pat
Krehbiel, Bill J
Kutch, Donna
Kutch, Rita
Laing, William
Latusek, Hilda (Albert)
Leonard, Raymond H
Link, Albert
Lowenstein, Donald S
Lowman, John D, Sr
Luthman, John

Mahoney, Marion F
Marsh, Burt R
Marshall, Mary
Mascuch, John
Matheny, Thomas G
McCormick, Milton G
McDonald, E D
McDonald, Robert J
Meyer, Henry
MG McLaren, John
Moberg, John
Morrison, James E
Murrell, Robert T
Myers, Gerald V
Nelson, Roger H
Newman, Robert B
Nicholas, John W
LTC Niernerger, Kelly J
Norry, Gerald
Noxon, Alice W
Nutting, Kenneth A
Oldham, Martha
Palmietto, Rosemarie
Palombaro, Dominic F
Patterson, Raymond
Peterson, Carroll E
Phillips, James W
Pierce, Leroy K
Pietsch, Paul (Jim)
Poletti, Frances
Poletti, Frances
Polvere, Sarah
LTC Porter, Grant
Rehling, Arthur
Reilinger, Eric
CSM Riggs, Robert
Riley Terence P
Ritchie, William
Robinson, Irvin
Rupp, Benjamin

Russell, Alexander E
Schmidt, Max
Schmidt, Melda
Schock, Laverne J
Schoo, Donald P
Schultz, William
Shoemaker, Howard C
Shoemaker, Judy L
Shuford, John A
Sick, Russell P
Siebert, Bill
Simpson, Robert
Smith, Bruce W
Snyder, Willard
Sonnenfeld, Frederick J
Spangler, Walt
Spellman, Jerry
Stewart, Donald W
Stewart, Patrick R
Stockman, Theresa
Tarbay, John
Teerlinck, Constant
Troutman, Henry L
Waller, Allen D
Warman, Clayton
Warman, Clayton
Wenzel, Ray W
West, George
Wettig, John T Sr
Wheeler, Marion W
Wignall, Jeffrey
Wilkinson, Donald
Williams, Elbert L
Williams, Walter H
Wojciechowski, Irvin J
Wolfe, Leonard C
CSM Wollett, Doris M

National Ladies Auxiliary

by **PNP Naomi R. Brockman**

The Ladies Auxiliary congratulates 80th Division Veterans Association National Commander Donald Stewart in his new office for this year. We think he did an outstanding job as this year's annual meeting chairman and letting Cecelia Smith do so much for him and myself to help find the things he needed to make this another successful meeting. I think everyone enjoyed the reunion. And, of course, the weather was great!

I hope everyone enjoyed the Thanksgiving Dinner; it was different and the food was good. Many people came and said how they enjoyed seeing Pittsburgh from the dinner cruise aboard the Gateway Clipper. Weather was marching with us, as the sky was clear and the air was cool! The food was again outstanding at the Captain's table.

Friday, we had a special affair for the Pennsylvania members who left for WWII from Pennsylvania. Our friend, Rep. Jesse White, gave out medallions and certificates to these men. Jesse is a friend of ours and Brock was honored last year. Friday night, everyone enjoyed themselves at the Descendant's Dinner. Cecelia did a great job as always.

Saturday morning, our Memorial Service was very special honoring our passed members. The music was provided by Reverend Bill and Beverly Howe. And our young bagpiper, Ms. Elaina Moorehead and our bugler, Ms. Brittany Nimal did a great job.

Following the Memorial Service, we had our Ladies Luncheon for 50 people. The food was great and our commander, Don Stewart, had his pecan pie! Kay Rajnicek became President of the National Ladies Auxiliary for the coming year. Good luck for the coming year, Kay.

Saturday night was the banquet and everyone was all dressed up in fancy clothes, including Commander Stewart and fellow officers. A fine dinner was served. Commander Don received his Commander Cap from Max Schmidt. The music by Skip Peck and ensemble was great. The money tickets were drawn and unfortunately, none of the four winners were present. Everyone seemed to retire a little early after dinner for leaving for home on Sunday.

An additional note: the Ladies Auxiliary money went to the following: Mary Marshall, Joanna Moorehead, and Russ Sick—the big winner. He returned his money back to the Ladies Auxiliary for next year—thanks, Russ!

On a sad note, we lost Laura Love, a Past National President of the Auxiliary—1975-76. Her husband was PNC Thomas Love who served 1979-80.

Hope everyone had a safe trip back home. We'll see you all next year in Arlington, VA.

313th Field Artillery Battalion

by **Frances Poletti**

28 Arnold Lane, Rowayton, CT 06853
203-855-1928

I'm writing part of this before the reunion and will finish it when and if I attend the reunion in August. I try to keep in touch with as many of you as I can, but if you do not send me your new addresses and new phone numbers, it is difficult for me to update a new address listing which I have been wanting to get together for all of you.

I like to hear about what your families are doing, and how everyone is getting along. I received a wonderful clipping from Mary Brinker about her granddaughter who is going into the Sisterhood. She must be so proud of her, and thank you Mary for sending it to me.

Also received mail from Walter Stec's daughter, and she sent me Walters' new address: The Pavilion Forrestal Village, 1000 Windrow Drive, Princeton, NY 08540.

I have received a few more changes, and I will include them in my next address listing, but in the meantime please let me know any changes you have made so that I may update the listing. (I know I am repeating myself, but sometimes it is needed).

On Monday, May 4, there was a wonderful writeup in the Reading Eagle about our old friend Lou Shirey, and it talks about his days as a cook in the service. One of the writings was about Lou telling stories that involved slapstick events and dancing with USO girls. And he spoke about the concentration camp at Ebensee, Austria which the 80th liberated in 1945. Thanks Lou for sending that to me.

I lost my sister, Emily in June this year. She was 91 years old and the last of my siblings. We were very close and since her stroke a few years ago, she was bedridden and unable to do things for herself and had to have an aide with her at all times. I guess time heals all, but she will be missed.

It was also very nice of Andy Adkins to introduce himself to me by letter on June 15. He will be taking over for Bob Murrell as Secretary/Editor of the Blue Ridge. It was so nice of him to do that I really appreciate it very much. I will certainly work with him to continue with the Blue Ridge and anything related to the 80th Division.

Received a great letter from Max Wheelwright, it was nice and lengthy, but of course the news inside was not so good. Max has not been well and has been in a hospital and nursing home since we last heard from him. He will need help when he gets home. In his letter, he told

POST NEWS CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

me about his trip in 1991 with friends to Europe to visit the places he had been during the war. He must have been there almost the same time Ed and I were there. I guess it is good that we were able to do these things before anything happened to us. It was a great letter.

I will not be able to add much to this writeup, since it has to be in by September 1. I am looking forward to seeing those that will be attending the Reunion, and of course missing those who were not able to attend.

I called John Ingles in July and had a short chat with him. It was so nice to hear that he and Audrey are doing well, and he sounded so good. I am sure everyone is happy to hear that.

Attending the reunion in Pittsburgh were Jack and Patty Fleming, Hilda Latusek, Audrey Blocker and daughter, Alice Noxon and her daughter, Susan Ambrosic, Jerry Tristano, and of course I was there.

Keep well and in touch.

Company L - 319th

by **Hank Einolf**

9218 Twin Hill Ln, Laurel, MD 20708

Maria and I are so sorry that we had to cancel our commitment to the Reunion. We had looked forward to spending a few days with our dear friends from Company L.

In July, I had a Metronic Spine Stimulator implanted in my body and developed severe complications. A few hours after the operation, part of it had to be removed because I had developed a Hematoma and it was pressing on my spine and paralyzing me. Six days later, I had another operation and everything that had been removed was put back in place. Because the implant is controlled by a remote device, it takes some time to get it programmed properly and my doctor did not want me out of the area in case the remote needed changing so we had to cancel the Reunion trip.

Billie Krehbiel called on Thursday the 27th, and I learned that in addition to Bill and Billie Krehbiel, John Balas and his son and Fred Eckleman Sr and Jr both were there along with the aide who assists Fred Sr at the Nursing Home. Hope you all had a great time we missed you.

I talked to Betts Flynn and she told me that John is suffering from severe arthritis of the neck. She also told me that on September 13, her son, Doctor Rick Hodes, will be honored in Dallas at the Akiba Academy Annual Gala for his Humanitarian actions which has saved countless lives. His Humanitarian accomplishments include Operation Solomon in May 1991, which airlifted over 14,000 Ethiopians to Israel in 14 hours. In a non-sectarian program, Dr. Hodes is attending physician at Mother Theresa's Mission working with heart disease, spine disease and cancer patients, many of them children.

In 2007, CNN selected Dr. Hodes as one of its "CNN Heroes" category.

Dr. Hodes is a single Dad and has five adopted Ethiopian children as well as 15 more living with him and providing them with medical care and education.

Again, we are sorry we couldn't be with you at the Reunion but hope to make it next time.

Florida Post #43

by **Francis Rajnicek**

4850 Swelland Blvd, Richmond Heights, OH 44143

We have lost another member of our Post. Eugene O'Neil, Commander of our National Organization passed away July 31, 2009. Our sincere condolences to his family.

By the time you read this, our National Reunion will be a thing of the past. I am sure that those who were able to attend had an enjoyable time.

Our Fall meeting is scheduled for October 29—31, 2009 at the Hampton Inn, 3434 College Road, Ocala, FL, 34474; phone number is 352-854-3200. Room rate is \$79 per night plus tax, single or double. We hope to see you there, especially you Floridians. Our time is getting shorter and our ranks smaller. This is a good time to talk over old times and just have fun. If you can't make this get together, maybe our February meeting in Melbourne would be better for you. But whichever one, try to stop by and see your fellow comrades.

We will have the date and place of the Melbourne meeting in the next issue of the Blue Ridge.

Have a good and healthy winter.

New York Post 43

by **Burt R. Marsh**

1897 Fontenay Court, Columbus OH 43235
614-725-2573

Thank you Donald Stewart for an enjoyable 90th Reunion at Pittsburg PA. Barbara, daughter Tina and I had a great time, especially, the boat ride up and down the Three Rivers, it was beautiful. Thanks for your help guiding Barbara, wheelchair and all, to the riverfront.

Again, Angelo and Kay Barone put on a spectacular and inspirational memorial service. To me, that program is the highlight of the reunion.

Had a message on my answering machine from Ken Nutting, Harry's son, when I arrive home Sunday from Pittsburgh. He reports that they have taken Harry to his son, David's home, to rest more peacefully. He is being tended to by Hospice. He is no longer receiving dialy-

POST NEWS CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

U.S. VETERANS FRIENDS: 2009 LUXEMBOURG TRIP

by Judy Bezjak

In June 2009, I traveled to Luxembourg City, Luxembourg via Frankfurt, Germany to attend the US Veteran Friends of Luxembourg Tour. Luxembourg is a tiny country of approximately 400,000 in population which is tucked in between Germany and France with Belgium bordering on the north.

During WWII, Luxembourg, which was a neutral country, was invaded and annexed by the Nazi forces. The major trade unions in Luxembourg responded by going a nationwide strike. As a result, the Nazis rounded up and summarily executed the chief officers of the unions and also instituted mandatory conscription into the German Army of all the country's young men. Many young men hid in cellars and in woods to avoid conscription. They were aided by citizens who risked their lives to hide them and to form resistance groups.

The citizens of Luxembourg looked upon the coming of the American soldiers as their deliverance. The American units liberated Luxembourg twice—first in September 1944 and then again in December-January 1944-45 after very bitter fighting in extreme weather conditions (15 inches of snow, 18 degrees below zero) during the Battle of the Bulge.

As a result, the Luxembourg people have never forgotten the American veterans who crossed an ocean to come to their aid. They warmly welcome back all veterans and their families and are most kind, generous and hospitable. They love Americans! The veterans and family members of those lost in battle were honored and treated like royalty.

A very kind member of the Vet Friends, Denise Thill, whose parents were active in the resistance during WWII, drove me from Luxembourg to eastern France. As a result, I was able to visit the graves of my two uncles who were killed in action in Luxembourg and Austria. One uncle is buried at the Luxembourg Cemetery which is located in the town of Hamm, a suburb of Luxembourg City. The other uncle is buried an hour and twenty minutes away by car at the Lorraine Cemetery in St. Avold, France which is in the Moselle area of eastern France.

Some members of the tour had lost their fathers during WWII and are members of AWON (American War Orphans Network). It was evident how much they have been affected by not having their fathers in their formative years and are still affected by their loss to the present day.

We were accompanied on our tour by members of the US Army 80th Training Command headed up by Major General John McLaren, formerly a commander in Iraq. These members of our military acted as honor guard for the numerous ceremonies at monuments commemorating battles and the units involved during WWII. Each town would then host us for lunch or dinner. In addition we were honored to have Helen Patton-Pluczyk, the granddaughter of General George S. Patton, spend time with our group on several occasions. Helen is married to a German pediatric surgeon. She and her husband and two young sons reside in Saarbrücken, Germany. Helen cares greatly for the veterans and greets visiting groups of veterans whenever possible. She has established the Patton Trust to further her work in this regard.

There were two incidents that occurred during the trip as I spent time with the veterans which I would like to share with you. At the town of Dudelange, Luxembourg, one of the veterans who helped liberate that town spoke at the ceremony held there. He mentioned that the military forces of the United States come as liberators and not as conquerors and once the mission is accomplished, the country was returned to its inhabitants and rightful owners.

Then on June 22, we visited the beautiful town of Vianden and were taken to view SEO, a hydro-electric plant on the Our River. I was in a van with several veterans which descended into a dark tunnel hewn out of rock so that we could view the nine turbines which generated the electric power beneath the Our River. As we descended deeper into the tunnel, one of the veterans said, "This is like descending into the bowels of the earth." Another veteran said, "More like descending into the bowels of Hell." Slowly and solemnly another veteran at the back of the van said, "No guys, we've already been there."

I would like to invite you to view some of the pictures from the tour which include scenes from Luxembourg including the Luxembourg Cemetery, the Lorraine Cemetery in St. Avold, France, and Bastogne in Belgium where the 101st Airborne "Band of Brothers" were surrounded and defied an ultimatum for surrender by the German forces. You may double click on the first picture icon to enlarge it. The explanation of the picture will appear above the picture. On the right-hand side of the screen you will see a panel of three small thumbnail sized pictures. You can double click on any picture you wish to enlarge to view or simply advance through the thumbnails by clicking on the arrow.

I hope you find the pictures interesting. Go to this link to view the pictures: <http://tinyurl.com/oeseul>

US Veterans Friends of Luxembourg Activities—June 17–24, 2009

by Gerald Virgil Myers, Co. G. 317th Reg. 80th Division Veteran will appear in the next issue.

Contributions

Flag Fund

The last date I have entered a name is Sept. 1, 2009.

Cistolo, Felix (G-317)
Koerber, Charles (M-317)
Spangler, Walter (A-319)

Robert Murrell Fund

The last date I have entered a name is Sept. 1, 2009.

Cistolo Felix (G-317)
Phillips, James (A-314 FA Bn)

McBride Scholarship Fund

The last date I have entered a name is Sept. 1, 2009.

Anthony, Lee (In memory of Eugene O'Neil)
Cistolo, Felix (G-317), (In memory of Eugene O'Neil)
Davis, Cara Lee (In memory of Eugene O'Neil)
Descendants of 80th Division Veterans (In memory of Eugene O'Neil)
Frongello, Robers (In memory of Eugene O'Neil)
Price, Lynne (In memory of Eugene O'Neil)

Sustaining Membership Fund

The last date I have entered a name is Sept. 1, 2009.

Borin, Leonard, (E-318)
Brockman, Naomi & Clarence
Hege Jr., Joe H., (80th Rcn)
Jester, Mrs. William J., (A/Sv Co-319)
National Ladies Auxiliary
Palmietto, Rosemarie, (PNP Ladies Auxiliary)
Russell, Charles A., (E-317 Assoc.)
Waller, Allen D., (M-318)

Life Membership Fund

The last date I have entered a name is Sept. 1, 2009.

Beckman, Charles F. (C-318)
Daniels, Gerald S., (L-319)
CSM Riggs, Robert D. (80th TASS)
Tweten, Henry G. (E-319)
Wollett, Ard D.

In Memory of Ivan Downs

The last date I have entered a name is Sept. 1, 2009.

Wayne & Chris Barner
Lester & Betty Doyle
Liz & Lou Elesie
Rosanna Donnelly
Jean L. Elesie, Keith Elsie & Family
John & Sharyn Soper
Pennsylvania Assn School Business Officials
Judy Follin
James Eagan, Kathryn Eagan
Wesley R. Waugh
Marian D. Waugh
Linda M. Hardy
Dolores M. Downs
Robert A. Slavick, Grace Slavick
Virginia Scrafini & Rosalie Conti
Kerry & Charlene Straw
Terry & Winnie Kostoff

In Memory of Laura Love

The last date I have entered a name is Sept. 1, 2009.

National Ladies Auxiliary

NY POST 43 CONTINUED

ses treatment and from an MRI they discovered a tumor on his liver. Ken states that he is not in pain and mostly bed ridden. Our prayers are with you Harry and may our blessing assist you.

Haven't heard anything from our Post 43 members, so I take it that no news is good news. Give me a call at 614-725-2573 if anything exciting has occurred at your home.

I received a call from Bill Miller 9-2-09, A Co. M 319th and member of the 80th Association from Tracy, CA. He is doing well, has a part time job, plus his hobby, restor-

ing old cars, so he keeps busy. Says he needed hearing aids – join the crowd, Bill. Says he is thinking seriously about attending 2010 reunion in Arlington, VA. Let's hope so, for we have a lot to talk about.

Don't forget our Post 43 meeting at Ramada Lake Front in Geneva, NY May 17 – May 20, 2010. Besides our winery trip on Tuesday, I expect to have a trip planned for Wednesday with departure time of 10:30 A.M. We need participants; any of the 80th Division Assoc. members are welcomed. We all have a good time and it's just a beautiful place to enjoy the friendship with the Post 43 family.

Out of the Past

By Paul Zakel

On or about the cessation of action in WWII, I was provided with a jeep, driver, and German interpreter with orders to proceed to a distant mountain location to bring back to our Company HQ a group of SS troops that issued a request to surrender.

Upon arriving at their encampment, I came upon a completely armed group of troops commanded by an officer. As I approached him and stated my instructions, he noticed my S/Sgt stripes and immediately requested an officer to negotiate with. My response was that we did not have enough officers in our company due to casualties and I was sent in their place.

After further discussions, he finally relented and gave the order for the troops to board their vehicles. Perhaps after 20 kilometers we approached a small Burgh when suddenly the officer shouted an order and all vehicles stopped. Fearing he had changed his mind, I went to a defensive mode. Fortunately what he wanted was to enter a bakery with his troops and they all came out with loaves of bread. Without further disruption, we proceeded to our Company CP and I was gladly relieved of my duty.

Locations and names of Burghs have long since left my memory, however I would assume that my report of this caper could be verified by the records of Co L, 317th Infantry of the 80th Division. The German interpreter has long since deceased and the jeep driver was unknown to me. All of the events listed in this report occurred somewhere in Austria because the 80th Division was the leading division to penetrate that country and also where the 80th Division ended the war.

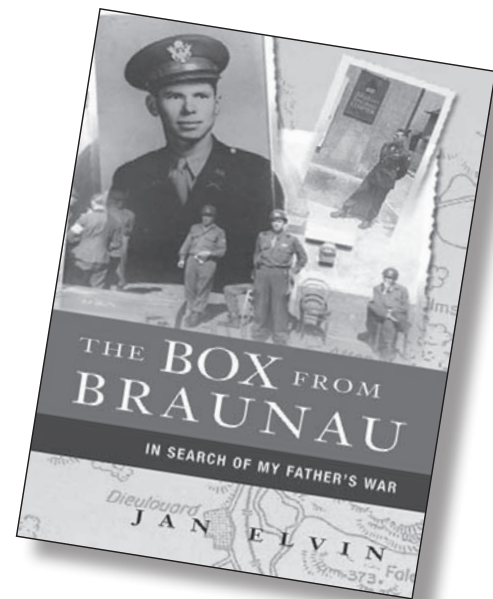
S/Sgt Paul Zakel
Co L 317th Inf, 80th Division

Care to share your story?

Send it to:

Andrew Z. Adkins III
Secretary/Editor
80th Division Veterans Association
2121 N.W. 54th Terrace
Gainesville, FL 32605-3392

— PAID ADVERTISEMENT —



JAN ELVIN, a member of Descendants of 80th Division Veterans, spent four years researching and writing a memoir about her father, Bill Elvin. The book is called *The Box From Braunau: In Search Of My Father's War*.

Bill Elvin served as a First Lieutenant in 318-E who landed at Omaha Beach on D-Day plus 60 as a replacement officer. In early November he was awarded a Silver Star after leading a patrol into enemy territory in Rouves, France, destroying enemy positions, and returning to his patrol carrying a casualty. Five days later he was wounded and evacuated to a hospital in England. Elvin rejoined his company in early February and remained with E Company until he was appointed Company Commander of 318-F on June 19, 1945. He led F Company during the Occupation and returned home safely to his wife and son in early January 1946.

Jan interviewed World War II veterans (including many from the 80th), family members and friends of her father. She also spent an emotional three days at the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the concentration camp at Ebensee, Austria and interviewed survivors of the camp.

She was able to include Lieutenant Elvin's letters from the front and excerpts from his war diary. Part history and part memoir, *The Box From Braunau* unfolds in chapters alternating between Bill Elvin's war experiences and his family life. It is a tribute to her remarkable father.

Copies will be available at the reunion in Pittsburgh.

Available in bookstores.

TAPS

Arnold, Walter E., B-318
3773 Amherst Dr.
Lafayette, IN 47905
DOD 5/1/2009
Rptd by daughter Mary Ann Johnson

Ball, Floyd, M-317
158 Highland Avenue
Bellville, OH 44813
DOD 4/7/2009
Rptd by daughter Sharon Hollar

Brooks, Donald E., 80th Signal
16740 SW Royalty Parkway
Portland, OR 97224-2356
DOD 2/16/2007
Rptd by wife

Chitwood, Marion C., F-318
57 Crosscreek Dr.
Charleston, SC 29412-2545
DOD 10/23/2008
Rptd by John Bier

Davis, Ernest R., I-317
125 E Grant Street
Latrobe, PA 15650-3105
DOD 3/2/2009
Rptd by wife Helen

Downs, Ivan E., C-318
910 Willcliff Drive
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
DOD July 2009
Rptd by Ivy O'Neil

Dunnaway, Jesse M., 2d Bn Hq
Co-317
Rustburg, VA
DOD 3/18/2009
Rptd by Vic Muller

Elzeer, William M., 80th Hq AG
7444 Spring Village Drive #202
Springfield, VA 22150
DOD 10/21/2008
Rptd by wife

Gehman, Warren E., 3d Bn
Hq-318
2031 Centerport Road
Morhsville, PA 19541
DOD 6/22/2009
Rptd by daughter Dianna

Giordano, Carlo F., L-317
118 W Arnold Street
Crestline, OH 44827
DOD 4/28/2009
Rptd by daughter Diana

Griesbaum, Edgar J., B-318
2 Sugar Creek Trail
St. Louis, MO 63122
DOD 2009
Rptd by letter returned
"deceased"

Laing, William, G-319
1395 Glencoe Avenue
Highland Park, IL 60035
DOD January 2009
Rptd by daughter Bonnie Ferrara

Lilley Jr., Emerson, 80th MP
548 Woodland Road
Coal Center, PA 1543-1319
DOD 12/16/2006
Rptd by daughter-in-law Barbara

Masten Lilley
Long, Harry B., 3d Bn 318 Surg
9531 Fintry Street
Bristow, VA 20136
DOD 7/31/2009
Rptd by son Richard

McCaleb, Rassel L., Cn-319
1040 SW Old Dogwood Terrace
Lake City, FL 32025-5875
DOD 5/27/2009
Rptd by daughter Pamela

O'Neil, Eugene, C-319
4718 Col Darnell Place
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-2801
DOD 7/31/2009
Rptd by wife Ivy

Siegrist, Robert, E-319, B-305
Eng Bn
116 Creekside Terrace
Boerne, TX 78006-5631
DOD 6/16/2009
Rptd by wife Frances

Storkman, August A., G-318
3825 Spadoni Ln
Gig Harbor, WA 98335-4914
DOD 5/15/2009
Rptd by wife Beverly

Sword, Orville, F-319
1081 Ratliff Creek Rd
Pikeville, KY 41501-2146
DOD 5/13/2009
Rptd by son John

Teerlinck, Constant, Hq-305
Med
RR2—Box 2405
Canadensius, PA 18325
DOD 3/16/2009
Rptd by Mel Lepofsky

Umbarger, Howard R., A-317
7429 E. Clinton Trail
Eaton Rapids, MI 48827
DOD 8/11/2009
Rptd by Abe Barone

Winey, William K., C-317
1516 Brandt Ave
New Cumberland, PA 17070
DOD unknown
Rptd by Jan Elvin

Visit the 80th Division Veterans Association Site on the Internet:
www.80thdivision.com

- History of the 80th Division, including WWI & WWII
- Photographs: Hundreds of images from veterans' personal collections
- Blue Ridge: Previous copies of the Blue Ridge Service Magazine
- Publications & books about the 80th Division
- WWII Research Resources
- Digital Archives: Morning Reports, After Action Reports, Oral Histories, Unit Histories



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

80th Division Veterans Association
ATTN: Andrew Z. Adkins III
2121 NW 54th Terrace
Gainesville, FL 32605-3392

*Desiring to maintain liaison and comradeship
with Veterans and soldiers of the 80th Division,
and receive the Blue Ridge Service Magazine.*

DATE: _____

SERVICE PERIOD: WWII POST WWII CURRENT ACTIVE

PLEASE SPECIFY BATTLE / CAMPAIGN: _____

NAME: _____ UNIT: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP + 4: _____

PHONE(s): _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

Please make checks payable to the 80th Division Veterans Association. PLEASE CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX:

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- Life Membership: \$50

80th Div. Veterans, Family Members

- Renewal: \$10/Year
- Life Membership: \$150

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- Life Membership: \$150

New Members—Associates Friends of 80th Division, Non-Voting

- New Membership: \$20/Year
- Life Membership: \$150

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LIFE MEMBER

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Pittsburgh**

Bruno Inselmini, Commander

322 Carolyn Avenue
Latrobe, PA 15650-1012

**305th
Engineer Battalion
Post No. 40**

Russell P. Sick, Commander

3131 Pleasant Avenue
Hamilton, OH 45015-1740

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

*Robert Moorhead
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CINCINNATI POST #34

Jack Wettig, COMMANDER

Art Rehling, TREASURER
4656 McNeil Ave.,
Cincinnati OH 45212-2541
(513) 631-0031

**Company "H"
319th Inf. POST #33**

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*Irv Robinson,
Secretary*

FLORIDA POST #47

George Bell, COMMANDER

*Francis Rajnicek
SECRETARY*
215 Bill Allen Circle, W
Sabastian, FL 32958

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Post News

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



**80TH DIVISION
MONUMENTS:** Sacrifice
Field, Fort Benning,
Georgia (left) and
Heritage Trail at the Army
Heritage and Education
Center, Carlisle,
Pennsylvania.