

COL(R) Van T. Barfoot

You might remember a news story several months ago about a crotchety old man who defied his homeowners association and refused to take down the flagpole on his property and the large flag that flew on it. Now you can find out who, exactly, that old man was.

ON JUNE 15, 1919, Van T. Barfoot was born in Edinburg, Mississippi – probably didn't make much news back then. Twenty-five years later, on May 23, 1944, near Carano, Italy, Van T. Barfoot, who had enlisted in the US Army in 1940, set out to flank German machine gun positions from which fire was coming down on his fellow soldiers. He advanced through a mine-field, took out three enemy machine gun positions and returned with 17 prisoners of war.

If that wasn't enough for a day's work, he later took on and destroyed three German tanks sent to retake the machine gun positions. That probably didn't make much news either, given the scope of the War, but it did earn Van T. Barfoot, who retired as a colonel after also serving in Korea and Vietnam, a Congressional Medal of Honor.

What did make news was a neighborhood association's quibble with how the 90-year-old veteran chose to fly the American flag outside his suburban Virginia home. Seems the rules said a flag could be flown on a house-mounted bracket, but, for decorum, items such as Barfoot's 21-foot flagpole were unsuitable.

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Editor's Notes

BY Doris Wollett

SUMMER WILL BE HERE officially in just a couple of weeks. However, the hot weather has made its appearance which means we must be careful as we venture outside. Not only do we need to stay hydrated but we must also remember the sun screen on our tender skin. It takes some of us several hours to do the yard work and I know once we get started we do not like to stop. Take care of yourself and those around you.

Also, remember the additional critters and bugs that come out with the heat. Put the bug spray on to keep gnats and mosquitos and may flies from biting. Check yourself for those pesky ticks as well. And lastly, watch where you step!! I have already seen a few snakes creeping around down at the pond and boy do they make me shiver.

By now you should have received your letter from our Senior Vice Commander, COL Grant Porter, concerning the upcoming 93rd Annual Reunion for our Association. Please make your reservations and mail your checks in so that he can get a good head count and prepare properly. We don't want anyone left out. If you did not receive your letters, I have included all the information in this edition of the *Service Magazine*.

I continue to get magazines returned with no forwarding address. Please let me know when you move so that I can update the mailing list.

GOD bless each of you and remember the 80th "Only Moves Forward"!!

COMMANDERS MESSAGE

AS THIS MESSAGE IS written, we are currently enjoying an extended visit out of the USA. The Memorial Day observances at the various ABMC Cemeteries in Europe were most impressive, and it was my pleasure to represent the 80th Division Veterans Association during the laying of floral arrangements at the ceremonies at Henri-Chapelle and Margraten. Along with our good friend, Sebastiaan Vonk, we were recognized and took part in the very distinguished programs at both venues. The following day, I visited the Somme American Cemetery at Bony and left flowers at the grave of Henry Sentell.

Another special point of interest was a visit to the Bridge at Arnhem. That was the scene of a portion of the unsuccessful Allied mission called Operation Market Garden, 17-25 September 1944. Field Marshall Montgomery had anticipated forced entry into Germany across the Rhine River, and by circumventing the northern end of the Siegfried Line. Seizing bridges and canal crossings was paramount to this operation. Although several bridges were taken, The British First Airborne met extremely strong resistance at Arnhem and a fierce battle ensued, resulting in only a very small force being able to hold one end of the bridge. The failure of the mission ended Allied expectations of ceasing the War by Christmas of 1944.

While visiting the Margraten area, we had the opportunity to meet with Sebastiaan Vonk and a group of Dutch friends who have adopted the graves of American WW II servicemen. Their foundation is a non-profit and they have established a website where they now share information about more than 9,000 American Military who are buried in the foreign cemeteries. Officially, the foundation is called Stichting Verenigde Adoptanten Ameri-

kaanse Oorlogsgraven, or the Foundation of United Caretakers of American War Graves.

As part of that meeting, it was my privilege to present a plaque to Sebastiaan, as President of the foundation, for the continuing efforts to honor our Veterans. In addition, a letter of appreciation and a personal scholarship from the Veterans Association in the amount of \$500 was given to Sebastiaan, to help with his continuing education and courses in American Studies.

On another side trip, I visited the site of the November 1, 1944 battle where the 905th Field Artillery was engaged. Allen Lamar Bailey, currently a resident of South Carolina, was injured severely on that date. In recent months, we have been working with friends and family of Mr. Bailey, to obtain a Purple Heart for the Veteran. The most recent efforts on his behalf included forwarding notarized copies of the medic's report of Mr. Bailey's injuries to the Army. When I visited the battle site, I was able to obtain shrapnel that we can present to the man, along with his well-deserved Purple Heart.

We visited the ABMC Cemetery at Epinal today, June 4th, where respects were paid to Brigadier General Searby, who was KIA on Mousson Hill. There are approximately 60 other 80th Division men buried at this cemetery, as well.

We have plans to conduct Battlefield Archeology in the week of June 11th with John Muller, who is an expert in the area of locating artifacts from the various battle sites.

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Sebastiaan Vonk and Dr Lee S. Anthony



HISTORIAN'S CORNER

BY Bruce Smith

THE MEMORIAL DAY COMMEMORATIONS that many communities include in their traditional tributes to their fallen heroes are always to be admired. Particularly in today's financial climate and restrained local budgets, it is heartwarming to see that the sacrifices of the Military are not forgotten.

Another aspect of the Holiday is the fact that so many individual families also take this time to remember their Veterans, and look to us for data to help them fill in the blanks they may have about the Veterans' service. In the past month alone, there have been thirty inquiries, and we have attempted to respond to each with any information available to us.

Since first beginning research on the 80th Division in WW I, some fifteen years ago, it was interesting to note the varied questions families asked. As WW I was ending, each company and each regiment provided a sort of diary of their war experiences, many also included rosters, so it was relatively easy to respond with accuracy. Although the Historian, Russell Stultz, completed his manuscript covering the entire Division's activities, he was never able to publish it. Dr. Anthony edited, enhanced and published the book in 2003, and copies are now available in many libraries for folks to do their own research.

There were no such unit reports requested at the end of WW II. A couple of company records were published by COL Pearson and Bill Krehbiel and PNC Bob Murrell compiled reports for the Infantry Regiments. In recent years, family members have published their fathers' stories; i.e., Jan Elvin, Jeff Wignall, Andy Adkins. The greatest source of material for the Division can be found in the digitized documents that Andy recovered from microfiche and placed on the website:

www.80thdivision.com/webarchives. We encourage the correspondents to access the site and experience the satisfaction of locating their own Veteran.

For years, we have asked the surviving Veterans to write their individual accounts of their service. We have been pleased to receive quite a few, but regret that so many of the Veterans just never were able to record their thoughts for future generations, and those stories were buried with them.

As instructed by the Executive Council, we made contact with the Army Heritage and Education Center (AHEC) in Carlisle, in order to have that facility archive and preserve the documents and artifacts that had been collected from Veterans and their families. In March, we delivered several boxes of Association documents, photographs and all of the individual stories that had been given to us. There were 45 from WW II and 13 from WW I. These items were accepted unconditionally, and will be made available to anyone who visits AHEC. We specifically asked that they be indexed for 80th Division research, rather than by name of donor, as had been the previous procedure.

A response from Michael A. Mira, Registrar at AHEC, reads in part, "On behalf of the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center, thank you for your unconditional donation of the historical papers of the 80th Division. You have enriched our collection by your generosity.

"Thank you again for your contribution. We greatly appreciate your support of the Center and its mission of telling the Army's story."

It isn't too late, Veterans! Please record your story and provide a copy to be archived at AHEC.

VAN T. BARFOOT, CONTINUED

He had been denied a permit for the pole, erected it anyway and was facing court action if he didn't take it down. Since the story made National TV, the neighborhood association has rethought its position and agreed to indulge this old hero who dwells among them. "In the time I have left I plan to continue to fly the American flag without Interference," Barfoot told The Associated Press. As well he should.

And if any of his neighbors still takes a notion to contest him, they might want to read his Medal of Honor citation. It indicates he's not real good at backing down.

Van T. Barfoot's Medal of Honor citation: This 1944 Medal of Honor citation, listed with the National Medal of Honor Society, is for Second Lieutenant Van T. Barfoot, 157th Infantry, 45th Infantry:

WE ONLY LIVE IN THE LAND OF THE FREE...

BECAUSE OF THE BRAVE! AND, BECAUSE OF OLD MEN

LIKE VAN BARFOOT!

COL Barfoot died with his flag flying at his home on March 2, 2012.

for more about Van Barfoot: http://www.californiaindianeducation.org/native_american_veterans/van_t_barfoot/

Only Moving Forward:

The Ardennes; One Man's Version

BY Walter Barthold, 80th Signal Company

EVERY 80TH VETERAN remembers the Ardennes campaign, “the Battle of the Bulge,” as the newspapers called (and still call) it. The winter of 44-45 was bitterly cold. An initially successful German counteroffensive aimed at Antwerp, the port on which the Allies depended for the bulk of their supplies, posed a constant threat of breakthroughs. For this soldier, however, the Ardennes represented a few weeks of relative ease, contrasting with tough, dangerous and uncomfortable times he had known before then.

The Germans launched their attack on December 16. At that time the 80th was lodged in old French army barracks at St. Avold, France. We were resting after an arduous push through the Maginot Line. As a radio operator in the Division Signal Company, I had just been assigned to a four-man team after having spent several unforgettable weeks on detached, front-line service with the 1st battalion of the 317th. The news of the counteroffensive reached us, I remember, via the BBC, which we considered a more reliable source than the U.S. Armed Forces Network (AFN).

The Third Army, as everyone knows, was immediately dispatched to the rescue of the units that had borne the brunt of the offensive. We spent the entire night of the 18th on the road, heading north to Luxembourg. We drove with headlights on all vehicles, contrary to usual practice, such was the urgency of the situation. The team to which I had been assigned had a three-quarter ton truck, called a weapons carrier. It carried an SCR 193 transmitter and receiver in the back but had room for duffle bags, etc. and a passenger or two. It was there that I, a non-driver, spent the night. Bad weather saved us from molestation by the Luftwaffe, which by then had been largely driven from the skies anyway.

Unlike the French, the citizens of Luxembourg had not suffered serious oppression by the Germans, who treated them as fellow “Aryans.” We were not, therefore, greeted with the enthusiasm we had encountered in France. I would describe our reception as no more than cordial, but Luxembourgers were unquestionably happy to regain their independence.

By some arrangement that I presume involved compensation, we who were not actually at the front were permitted to occupy civilian homes. I must admit, therefore, that every night of the Ardennes campaign I spent indoors, usually in a room heated by the charcoal briquets that were in common use there.

Our team was stationed at Division headquarters, not exactly a safe place, but a good deal less dangerous than plenty of others. We operated as “G-2 Radio,”

receiving intelligence reports from each unit in the Division and passing them along to Division G-2. We also transmitted intelligence to those units. A cable system contrived by a Signal Company officer enabled us to operate our transmitter and receiver by remote control, that is, from within our quarters rather than outdoors in the truck. We kept our station open 24 hours a day, and I spent every fourth night awake and on duty.

Some memories of the campaign stand out. On December 25 every soldier in the Third Army received a small Christmas card signed by General Patton. I still have mine. On one side was a greeting, on the other a prayer for a halt in the rain that so far had made air support of the Allied forces impossible. That prayer was answered a few days later, when the skies cleared and the temperature dropped to a record low. I remember an enormous cloud of B-24 bombers passing overhead on the first morning of clear weather.

I remember, too, our good fortune in being able to eat at Division headquarters mess, housed in a huge, heated tent. Often the big meal of the day, served at noon in accordance with Army tradition, consisted of C-rations fashioned into burgers. The Division mess sergeant announced them on his blackboard at the entrance to the tent as “Deluxe Luxemburgers.” (You can be sure that no one lucky enough to be stationed there complained of the food.)

Yes, like the bulk of 80th veterans, I endured danger, hardship and discomfort during my 18 months in the ETO. I cannot, however, consider the Ardennes campaign as involving any such unpleasantness. For this soldier, it was a good deal.

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

The week of June 18th is American Veterans Friends of Luxembourg Week. The festivities during this annual event are always so enjoyable, and once again, we will join Virgil Myers and his contingent of Veterans for the celebrations. We're looking forward to the dedication of the new memorial in the vicinity of Mertzig, as well.

Upon our return to the States, it will be only a few short weeks until the 93rd Annual Reunion, and we are looking forward to seeing many of our friends in Baltimore during the events that COL Porter has arranged. This will also bring to a close my term as your Commander. I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the Veterans who entrusted leadership of the Association to me. It has been a pleasure to share the fellowship of the 80th Division Veterans and my wish for all is that you will enjoy a safe and healthy future.

May God's Blessings be with all of you, and with the United States of America.

Dr Lee S. Anthony, National Commander

An Incident at Argentan

BY Jeff Wignall

L COMPANY, 318, HAD moved toward Argentan from the town of Bordeaux on the 19th of August, 1944, crossing a small stream and spreading out along the road beside it to wait out the night. At 0400 the following morning the artillery began to fire on the town. The barrage ceased after two hours, and L Co began its northward advance across an open field toward a farmhouse. Three platoons suddenly came under fire from a flak gun in the house and small arms fire from positions to either side of it. They were unable to move in any direction, and remained pinned down for several hours until about 1500 when German tanks appeared on the road to their rear, cutting them off completely and forcing their surrender.

According to one account a total of 84 men were rounded up and lead to a stone quarry behind the farmhouse where they were held for about an hour. The L Company reports indicate fewer (32), but there was a large number of wounded in the company, and many of them might have been among the PWs initially. A letter from Col. McVickar relating to this incident (dated 30 December 1944) put the number at 40 and indicates they were, "Later released by allied forces."

From the quarry they were marched in column through the northern edge of the town of Argentan, a distance of about a half mile, where they came under American artillery fire at a road junction. Pvt. Walter Brush of Delaware, Ohio was killed, and Pvt. Roy Hillman, Ashland Kentucky, seriously wounded. The two men were carried into a nearby orchard where they were left along with Pfc. Wesley Brunswick who had suffered a leg wound. Pvt. Hillman had by this time died from his injuries.

The remaining men were marched to a small village in the hills north of Argentan. The two fatalities were found about two days later by French citizens returning to their homes after the battle, Brunswick having managed to find his way to safety. Statements by the French indicate that Hillman and Brush were buried there in the orchard by allied troops – it is uncertain whether American or British – and their graves clearly marked.

Their bodies were later recovered and moved to temporary cemeteries, Brush at Blossville and Hillman at Gorrion, and both returned home in 1949 at the request of their families.

Third Army at some point before the end of the year began an inquiry into the fate of Walter Brush, and - apparently missing the information on what had actually

occurred. This may have come about because Hillman was known to be at Gorrion and Brush therefore expected to be there but was not. Subsequent investigations somehow connected him to a set of unidentified remains in there marked as X-18, and they went to great lengths over the next two years - including disinterment - to confirm them as his. This was never achieved and the file lay dormant until recently discovered by a researcher.

Thinking he may have stumbled on the remains of a man who had never been found – and knowing his name and unit – he contacted us for any available information about Brush. I was able to identify Brush's hometown, and we subsequently determined that he had in fact been returned home for burial in his hometown cemetery. X-18 is presently interred at Brittany where he was reburied during the cemetery consolidations of 1948-9, and regrettably remains unknown.

It appears that some of the men who were marched away as prisoners were to have only a brief time as guests of the Reich. Among them was Pfc. Helmut Wildermann of Hasbrouk Heights, NJ, who prevailed upon a group of his captors that it might be in their best interest to quit while they were ahead, and they returned to the American lines with him under a white flag, probably to spend the remainder of the war on Cape Cod.

Wildermann was one of the wounded, and it is possible that many of the others were also released at this time and never recorded as MIA – as Wildermann was not - thus accounting for the disparity in the numbers of captured noted above. The men listed as MIA were apparently released some time before the end of December according to the McVickar letter, but do not appear to have returned to L Company.

It would be reasonable to think that the Germans would not wish to be encumbered with wounded prisoners at this particular time as they were desperately trying to free themselves from the trap that was closing around them at Falaise. In October Wildermann was promoted to Sergeant, and a month later to Staff Sergeant. At the war's end he would count a Silver Star and Croix de Guerre among his decorations - for Argentan.

At this time efforts are under way to locate any living relatives of Walter Brush in order to inform them of the circumstances of his death, which to this date would never have been more than "Killed in France."



Operation Overlord

BY Barbara Brockman

**In the wee hours of June 6, 1944,
Operation Overlord began...**

To most of us, it was always just known as D-Day. The Allied forces by the hundreds of thousands crossed the channel in boats & ships of many sizes.

As the sun rose on the beachheads of the Normandy Coastline it was the beginning of the end for the Nazi Reign of Terror.

For those that never made it to the shore or just barely onto the sand, God was with them at the hour of their passing.

For those that made it, got onto French soil & lived to fight another day, God was also with them.

For those that fought through France, into the Battle of the Bulge then into Germany then finally after the War in Europe was over, got to come home... God Bless Them, then & now.

As our Nations see the Greatest Generation pass on to their final resting place, we need to thank all who served & ask them to tell you their story, it is worth your time to know what they did to keep us FREE!



Sol Lurie, County Commissioner Larry Maggi, and Clarence Brockman

Reunion of Two War Buddies

BY Barbara Brockman

Today was another busy Day with Sol, Raja & Dad.

We traveled 10 miles West of Washington, PA to McGuffey High School for the men to speak to Mrs. Pam Stewart's German classes.

The event was also sent into each classroom.

I read a brief WWII Bio/Intro of my Dad before the WQED OnQ Segment was shown. Mrs. Stewart then asked my Dad to stand & be recognized, something that was totally forgotten the night before.

As he stood, the students also stood & gave him a 5 minute standing ovation.

Mrs. Stewart then introduced Sol & he spoke for 1 hour, the only reason why he didn't speak longer was the students had to catch their buses to go home.

The men were given bouquets of rose, a Terrible Towel & some candy before heading to Angelo's for a lovely lunch.

We came back where for a short visit then back to Beth Israel Synagogue for tonight's Shabbat Service.

Dad told the group that the Rabbi fills his heart with joy & always makes him smile. Sol spoke once again for about 30 minutes before we went into the social room for dessert.

It was an amazing day spent with 2 amazing men...I am so honored to be the daughter of one man & a dear friend to the other.

To see video go to: <http://www.observer-reporter.com/or/video/holocaust/reunion/>

Dear Blue Ridge Post 50 Members:

You should all have received an invitation and registration form to attend the 80th Division Veterans Association's (DVA) 93rd Reunion in Baltimore from 22-26 August 2012. I am pleased to announce that the Blue Ridge Army Reserve Association Board of Directors approved a motion to hold our 11th Annual Meeting there as well on the morning of Sunday, 26 August, so you will get a two for one offer there. By the time you receive this newsletter, Secretary Pete Herbert will probably have sent our registration form by email as well. This is a very important meeting so please mark your calendars and plan to attend these events. During this year's meeting, we will elect four new officers to include the President, Vice President, Secretary & Treasurer, as well as eleven Board of Director positions. If anyone is interested in serving as an Officer or Board Member, please contact Secretary Pete Herbert to be nominated for a position.

Whether you can attend the 80th DVA meeting or not, you can still show your support for the organization in a number of ways. You can send in a \$5.00 contribution and have your name included in the Patron Listing of the 2012 Reunion program. You can contribute at various levels from \$10 to \$80 by placing an Ad in the program. Or, take a shot at winning a prize by participating in the Reunion Raffle contest. There will be four \$250 raffle prizes awarded and you need not be present to win! Just place mailing labels or write your contact information on the raffle tickets provided in the registration packet and send them to me now. The Registration Packet can be found at: <http://www.80thdivision.com/PDFs/2012ReunionPackage.pdf>.

The Blue Ridge Board of Directors held our quarterly conference call on 24 April 2012. The call was attended by Blue Ridge Association officers, President Grant Porter, Vice President Doris Wollett, Secretary Pete Herbert, Treasurer Ed Polonitza, and Board Members, Keith Brisson, George Croughwell, Carolyn Deverell, Paul Hoppes and John McLaren.

SECRETARY/MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Pete Herbert reported that we now have 147 Active Members, 78 Lifetime Members and 69 Annual Members. We have 26 annual members who have not renewed their 2012 memberships and our by-laws require they be removed from the active rolls. Our complete list of members is on our website at www.80thblueridge.com.

TREASURERS REPORT: Ed Polonitza reported that we have \$4,909.39 in our checking account and \$10,558.39 in a money market account for a total of \$15467.78. YTD receipts are \$2,800 from dues, merchandise sales, and raffles. YTD expenditures are \$4,029 to include as follows: \$1,830 to the 80th DVA for membership dues,

\$699 for the Christmas party (offsetting a deposit made in 4Q 11 for \$740), and \$1,500 for awards to the 80th Training Command Awards program.

George Croughwell announced the winner of the 2012 Blue Ridge Continuing Education Scholarship Fund. Emily Hardy, daughter of LTC (R) William E. Hardy, will be awarded a \$500 scholarship for her attendance at Washington & Lee University. Many thanks to George for chairing the Scholarship Committee!

80TH TRAINING COMMAND FAMILY DAY: A motion was made, seconded and approved by the Board of Directors to support the 80th Family Day activities, on Saturday, 4 August, with \$100 for the purchase of Prizes for the kids who attend. The Association will set up our display and, like last year, we will have several games for the kids. We are looking for volunteers so, please email Secretary Pete Herbert if you would like to help. As usual, it will be a great meal and a chance to meet some new and old friends.

John McLaren proposed holding the 2013 Golf Tournament in Virginia Beach, in conjunction with the 80th Division Veterans Association's 2013 Reunion, on Saturday, 7 September 2013, (the date is tentative). He was checking on the Golf Course at Little Creek and Mr. Rod Calhoun has agreed to Chair the event.

Keith Brisson said he was attending the funeral at Arlington National Cemetery for MSG Nolan, an AGR soldier who was assigned to the 80th HQ and died in Jan 2012. Chaplain Bill Manning, the 80th AGR Chaplain and Blue Ridge Member would be participating in the Service.

Vice President Doris Wollett reported on our Quarterly Luncheon that was held on 28 March at Kings Korner Restaurant, at the Chesterfield County Airport. There were 16 in attendance plus two guests. The lunch was a delicious buffet and everyone seemed to enjoy it. In fact, some stated we should come back again. The two guests we had were from the USA Dance, Richmond Chapter. They went on to honor the Veterans of the 80th by inviting us to one of their events; which included a one-hour dance lesson followed by open dancing on 2 June 2012. The next luncheon is scheduled for 27 June at the Holiday Inn at Bells Road, Richmond VA. At least 20 individuals have already signed up.

Secretary Herbert announced that Blue Ridge member, LTC (P) Terence Singleton was selected to become the new Deputy Chief of Staff, G1 at the 80th Training Command, where he is to be sworn in to his new rank of Colonel. Terence will have assumed the position following his change of command ceremony in early June when he relinquishes command of the 6-80th Personnel services Battalion at Fort Dix, NJ. We congratulate Terry



*Center Front: CSM(R) Bob Riley
 Around the Table: CSM(R) Andy Cassell, MSG(R) Joe Covolo, CSM(R) Doris Wollett, SGM(R) Ron Horton, SGM(R) Vernon King, and MG(R) John Henderson*

and thank his family for their support as he moves into the Senior leadership of the US Army.

We recently welcomed three new Lifetime Members to the Association since our last newsletter. Thank you and welcome back to the Blue Ridge Association to CSM (R) Ron Horton whose many years of dedicated service as the Chief Executive Officer and as a Sergeant Major of the 80th Division left a lasting contribution to the command. Thank you also to MSG Walter M. Detrinidad, our 2011 AGR of the Year awardee for joining as a Lifetime Member following the end of his assignment to the 800th Logistical Support Battalion in Lancaster, PA. Last, but not least, thank you kindly to our Division Surgeon, Colonel Sridhar Natarajan for joining us as a Lifetime Member.

Doris Wollett reported to the group about her trip with several 80th alumni to see CSM (R) Robert "Bob" Riley. "On 2 April 2012, I met SGM (R) Vernon King (former G2 SGM) and MSG (R) Joe Covolo (former PAO) at the home of MG (R) John Henderson (former 80th Division Commander) in the west end of Richmond very early in the morning. We then drove west on Interstate 64 to meet MG Henderson in Staunton, VA. After picking him up we headed south on Interstate 81 to meet CSM (R) Andrew Cassell (former 2nd Bde CSM) in Abingdon, VA. We had lunch and then headed further south to Johnson City, TN to visit CSM (R) Bob Riley (former 80th Division CSM). When we arrived at the hotel in Johnson City we were met by SGM (R) Ron Horton (former 80th Division CXO and G1 SGM). Not wanting to waste any time, we then proceeded to the home of CSM Riley. He was tickled pink to see us all. He knew we were coming and welcomed us with open arms.

Being a true southern gentleman, CSM Riley had snacks ready for us, which no one turned down. We sat around and talked about the way things were in the "old days" and then I brought them up to date with how some things had changed and how the 80th is now a national command. After a little while we headed out to dinner to the local Logan's Steakhouse. Knowing we were coming, CSM Riley had coupons for us to save on our expenses. We enjoyed a delicious dinner and solved more problems and talked about Soldiers that we had not seen or heard from in a very long time. This was a great evening. Not wanting to keep our dear friend out too late, we drove him back home and said good night.

The next morning after checking out of the hotel, we met CSM Riley for breakfast at Shoney's which is just up the road from the hotel. We all had plenty to eat and shared in more camaraderie. After breakfast, we said our "Goodbyes" and headed home. We are looking forward to our next visit which we hope to be in the fall."

Thanks to all who contributed to the newsletter. We hope to see everyone at the 80th DVA Reunion and Blue Ridge Annual meeting this August!

Grant Porter
 President

80th Blue Ridge Army Reserve Association

313th Field Artillery Battalion

I am writing this at my son's home in Bethel, CT where I am now living. It has been quite a change for me, but a good one. I have not heard from anyone lately and would really love to hear how you all are doing. I was quite busy getting my home ready to sell and half the time did not know whether I was doing right or wrong. But I sold it in April and thank goodness that is over. It is nice having family around again.

Time is going by, and there will come a time that we may not be able to attend a reunion. Let us try to get as many of us we can to go this year. It is in Baltimore, MD and most of us live not too far from there. You will see some of your old friends and hear about those unable to attend.

Spoke to Kay Barone and she sounded great, and told me they will be attending the reunion, and looking forward to it.

Heard from Hilda Latusik who was visiting her daughter, Patty, in Manassas, VA. They are all doing well and it was so nice talking with them. They plan to attend the reunion and asked if I was going.

Called Manny Gonzalez, but there was no answer. Spoke with Ed Hargraves, he is taking it easy, works in the Museum as a sub. Walks to keep in trim and is doing well. He says we are lucky we can still do it at our age.

Alice Noxon is also doing well keeps busy and also walks to keep trim. Keep it up Alice, I am with you. Had a nice talk with her and she intends to attend the reunion and hopes there will be a good turnout for it.

Also had a nice conversation with Jim Phillips, he and Ruth are both doing well. Jim keeps in touch with all of his friends from the 80th. They both sounded great and it was so good talking with them.

Talked with Lou Shirey for a while and he told me Warren Burkhart's son Gene passed away at age 64 and that Fran Bettincourt in California is not feeling so well and has been on pain pills and our friend Bob Sproul says he is hanging in and he has had a hip replacement. They are now both doing well.

Frances Poletti

15 Castle Hill Drive, Bethel, CT 06801

203-826-0783

Florida Post #47

Well summer is here and we hope everybody is enjoying themselves with their family and friends.

We are looking forward to our Fall Meeting in Ocala. This will now become our yearly meeting. We voted in Melbourne to have one meeting a year and it was decided that Ocala in the fall would be the most economical place to go. We will miss all the friendly staff at the Crowne Plaza, we have known them for over ten years.

Our meeting in Ocala will be November 1st thru the 4th, 2012 at the Hampton Inn, 3434 College Rd., Ocala, FL. Reservations can be made by calling (.352) 854-3200 be sure to tell them you are with Florida Post #47. The room rate will be \$79.00 plus tax per night. This has been our rate for the past several years. This rate includes a nice breakfast buffet.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Kay Rajnicek, Sect.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Brown, DeWayne (A-317 Annual to Life Membership)
Horton, SGM(R) Ron (HQ 80th Div G1 and Former CXO)
Natarajan, COL Sridhar (HQ 80th TC Surgeon)
Wheeler, Marion (K-318 Annual to Life Membership)

NEW MEMBERS

Cassell, CSM(R) Andrew (80th Div 2nd Bde)
Lau, Jean (Daughter of Ray Patterson)
Moseley, SFC Tracey (80th TC)

Check Your Address Label

Doris M. Wollett
5101 Hurop Road
Sandston, VA 23150-5406

PAID 2012

*Membership
Expiration Date*

*You have paid
through Dec of the
indicated year*

Check your name and address (Apt., Bldg., Lot No.).
Notify the Secretary if you find an error.

TAPS

Cicchini, Flordor I-318th
 134 Edison Ave
 Cherry Hill, NJ 08002-3701
 DOD: Apr 23, 2012
 Rptd by: Paul Cicchini, Son

Dumrauf, Raymond G-317th
 2509 Mount Troy Road
 Pittsburgh, PA 15212
 DOD: Apr 2, 2012
 Rptd by: Abe Barone

Huwer, Victor B-317th
 14595 State Route 127
 New Weston, OH 45348
 DOD: Unknown
 Rptd by: Marilyn Huwer, Wife

John, Parke H. 319 Med Det
 57 Virginia Ave
 Red Point Beach
 North East, MD 21901-5663
 DOD: Apr 12, 2012
 Rptd by: John Jr, Son

McDonald, Edward D. F-318th
 17 Cobble Road, J-1
 Salisbury, CT 06068
 DOD: May 9, 2012
 Rptd by: Ellen McDonald, Wife and
 George Anderson

Skaggs, Wilcie E-319th
 423 Club Circle
 Daniels, WV 25832
 DOD: Apr 4, 2012
 Rptd by: Wife

Taleos, Arthur K-319th
 3140 Main St
 Mineral Ridge, OH 44440-8709
 DOD: Sep 4, 2005
 Rptd by: Kathleen Taleos, Daughter

Williams, Walter H. 319th
 1211 Washington Drive
 St Michaels, MD 21663
 DOD: Dec 3, 2011
 Rptd by: Jean Williams, Wife

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Eightieth Division Veterans Association

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Wiesbaden • Kassel • Erfurt • Jena • Austria. • Global War on Terrorism Since 09-11-2001 — Kuwait • Afghanistan • Iraq

“Call to the Reunion”

Dear 80th Division Comrades, Friends, and Families,

You are cordially invited to attend the 93rd Annual Reunion of the 80th Division Veterans Association. This year's event will be held at the Baltimore-Washington International (BWI) Airport Marriott Hotel in Baltimore, Maryland from 22 to 26 August 2012. Please complete the enclosed registration form and return it to me no later than July 15th, 2012.

The BWI Marriott Hotel is located at 1743 West Nursery Road, Baltimore MD 21240. Hotel reservations must be made by Friday, July 27th to receive the group rate. The reservation number for the hotel is 1-800-228-9290. The nightly room rate for lodging is \$100.00 plus tax. An extension of this room rate is available for a limited number of rooms for one additional week on a first come, first serve basis. This special rate for our block of rooms can be obtained by referencing the "80th Division Veterans Association Reunion."

Marriott provides a lovely full service facility that features two fine and reasonably priced restaurants, an indoor pool with a whirlpool, an exercise room, free Internet access in the lobby, a complimentary shuttle to and from the airport as well as free parking for those traveling by car.

In addition to all of the regularly scheduled events and business meetings, this year's highlight includes a dinner cruise aboard the Spirit of Baltimore Cruise Ship that will set out on a three hour tour of Baltimore's Inner Harbor and beyond on Thursday night with transportation provided from the Hotel. The motor coach, dinner and cruise are all included in the price of \$49. The ship is handicap-accessible (ground level boarding & dining and handicap-friendly restrooms) with friendly personnel and entertainment provided. If we get enough participation, we will have our own private deck, customized entertainment and fun so let's get all aboard.

For those interested in taking in additional local sightseeing, group transportation can be coordinated upon request. Baltimore offers many fun and educational opportunities. The Orioles will be in town and sports fans may want to visit the birthplace Museum of Babe Ruth. The Naval Academy is just a short drive away in Annapolis. The National Aquarium and Fort McHenry are located on the Inner Harbor and this year marks the bicentennial of the War of 1812. For more information about things to do in Baltimore, I urge you to visit the website: <http://starspangled200.org/>. To see the menu for the Dinner Cruise, and for more information about the tour, please check the 80thdivision.com/Reunions website and visit the website <http://spiritcruisesbaltimore.com/>

Sincerely,

Grant R. Porter
Reunion Chairman

Eightieth Division



Veterans Association

93rd Annual Reunion

BWI Marriott Hotel, Baltimore, Maryland, 22 to 26 August 2012

Please print all information clearly on Registration Form and return by 15 July 2012

Name of Veteran or Attendee: _____ Telephone: _____

Name of Spouse: _____ Auxiliary Member: Yes () No ()

Additional Guests: _____

Unit of affiliation: _____ Period: _____ First Reunion: Yes () No ()

Address: _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

e-mail address for central point of contact: _____

	<u>Quantity</u>	x	<u>Total</u>
Registration Fee: _____	_____	\$40 per person	\$ _____
Prize Tickets, (sign each of the 10 tickets per sheet, attached): _____	_____	\$ 2 each ticket	\$ _____
Wednesday Night Commander's Reception Buffet: _____	_____	\$20 per person	\$ _____
Thursday Night Inner-Harbor Dinner Cruise: _____ (Includes dinner buffet and all transportation on handicap-accessible Bus & Cruise ship (lower-deck HC Restrooms))	_____	\$49 per person	\$ _____
Friday Night Dinner Buffet: _____	_____	\$35 per person	\$ _____
Saturday Night Dinner Buffet: _____	_____	\$35 per person	\$ _____
Patron Listing _____ (Print Names – Use back if necessary)	_____	\$ 5 each name	\$ _____
Program Ads: (Rates by inches: 1" x 4" - \$10; 2" x 4" - \$20; 4" x 4" - \$40; 4" x 8" - \$80. (Deadline for ads – 15 July 2012. Please place your ad on the reverse of this form)	_____		\$ _____

Note: All meal prices above are inclusive of tax and tips. **TOTAL ENCLOSED:** \$ _____

Make Checks Payable to: "The 80th Division Veterans Association"

Mail Registration/check to: Grant R. Porter, 6730 Manor Gate Drive, Midlothian, VA 23112

Hotel Reservations: EACH INDIVIDUAL GUEST MUST MAKE HIS/HER OWN RESERVATION BY CALLING TEL: 1-800-228-9290 NLT Friday, JULY 27, 2012. They must identify themselves as members of the Group "The 80th Division Veterans Association." All reservations must be guaranteed and accompanied by a first-night room deposit or guaranteed with a major credit card. Guestroom cancellation must occur by 4:00 PM the day prior to arrival. If guest does not check-in OR has not cancelled the reservation by 4:00 PM the day prior to arrival, one (1) nights room and tax will be charged to the guests credit card.

**80th Division
Veterans Association
93rd Annual Reunion
Baltimore, MD
22-26 August 2012**

Four x \$250 Prizes to be awarded.
If you are unable to attend, awards will be mailed. (Affix mailing labels or print below on each ticket.
\$2.00 donation per ticket.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ___ Zip _____

=====
Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ___ Zip _____

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Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ___ Zip _____

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Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ___ Zip _____

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Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ___ Zip _____

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City _____ State ___ Zip _____

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Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ___ Zip _____

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Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ___ Zip _____

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Name _____

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City _____ State ___ Zip _____

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Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ___ Zip _____



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

80th Division Veterans Association
Doris M. Wollett
5101 Hurop Road
Sandston, VA 23150-5406

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

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PLEASE SPECIFY BATTLE / CAMPAIGN: _____

NAME: _____ UNIT: _____
IF FAMILY MEMBER, PLEASE ALSO PROVIDE THE NAME AND UNIT OF VETERAN

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP +

4: _____ PHONE(s): _____

_____ E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

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80th Division WWII Veterans

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- Life Membership: \$50

80th Div. Veterans, Family Members

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

New Members (80th Div. Veterans, Family Members)

- New Membership: \$20/Year
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New Members—Associates Friends of 80th Division, Non-Voting

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- Life Membership: \$150

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

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Website Updates

- www.thetroubleshooters.com
- www.80thdescendants.com
- www.80thdivision.com
- www.abmc.gov

What you will find at www.80thdivision.com:

- General Orders (August 13, 1944 thru October 31, 1945) containing awards for Silver Stars, Bronze Stars, Air Medals, Distinguished Service Cross, Purple Hearts
- Morning Reports for almost all units August 1944 thru May 1945, including rifle regiments, field artillery units, medical battalion, 80th Division headquarters units
- Many After Action Reports and Unit Histories for 80th Division, 317, 318, 319 Infantry Regiments
- Many other Miscellaneous Reports