

# *The* **CLUB** *of the* **GOLDEN LION**

PUBLISHED BY AND FOR

*The Veterans of the  
106th INFANTRY  
DIVISION*

Vol 49 — No. 4

JUL — AUG — SEP 1993

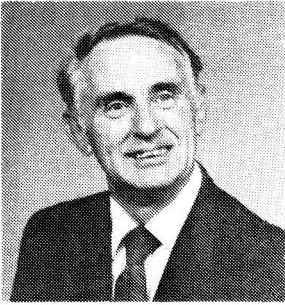


**Elmhurst, Illinois Veteran's Memorial**

**Russell and Jackie Villwock with Harry Holder family and friends**

(See Page 11)

## ***"In Whom Do You Put Your Trust? ..."***



Reverend Ewell C. Black Jr., Chaplain  
422/A – 106th Inf. Div. Assoc.  
212 Ridge St., Bishopville, SC 29010

Most of us have been familiar with the story of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego since we were children. There is even a song written by George Gershwin which tells of the event concerning these three men. In case you don't remember, the story is found in the third chapter of Daniel in the Old Testament.

The nation of Israel had been overrun by King Nebuchadnezzar and most of its population had been carried away, as was done in that time. These three men being educated were not used as slave labor but acquired positions of power in the government Babylon. As might be expected, this did not set well with the native Babylonians who held high office and they began to plot a way to bring these foreigners down.

Nebuchadnezzar had an image made of gold, ninety feet high and nine feet wide which was placed in the province of Babylon where Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were administrators. The king decreed that at the sound of music all the people were to fall down and worship the idol. Seeing that the Jews refused to follow this decree, some of the Babylonians brought it to the attention of the king. The penalty for not obeying the decree was to be thrown into a fiery furnace.

Nebuchadnezzar called the three before him and gave them the opportunity to save themselves by following the decree but they refused, saying that the God whom they served would protect them. As you remember, the three were thrown into the furnace but when the king looked to see what was happening, he found not three but four men walking around in the furnace unharmed by the heat.

I doubt that any of us have been thrown into a blazing furnace but while in combat and/or prison camp, we probably experienced some of the feeling of being in the same type of situation. I know that there were times when I am certain that an angel of God was watching over me. Most of us who shared the experiences of war have probably raised the question as to our survival when others around us were injured or died.

The faith of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego that their God would be with them brought them through and I believe that the same can be said for many of us, whether Jew or Gentile. As we have continued to follow our path through life since the dark days of December, 1944, through the ending of the War, we can probably attest to other times when faith in God has sustained us in hard situations and times of personal danger.

**Gracious God grant to each of us a faith as that of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, that in times of peril we shall know in whom we can trust and turn to. AMEN.**



## ***It has been my privilege to serve you ...***

Registrations for the 1993 Reunion at Columbia, SC, September 9-12, have continued to come in to the Reunion Chairman, Roger Rutland. It is clearly going to be a great 50th birthday celebration for the 106th Infantry Division. I am particularly pleased that my former Company Commander, Charles Zullig, my Platoon Sergeant, Bill Lacy, and our Company's unofficial alumni secretary and historian, Art Kuespert, who did so much to keep former members of the Company in touch with each other after the war, will all be attending their first Association Reunion. Coming to his second Reunion will be one of our Platoon Commanders, Oliver Patton, who retired from the Army as a Brigadier General to become a successful novelist, including one (THE



106th Infantry Division Association President  
Jack A. Sulser – 1992-1993  
"F" Company, 423 Combat Infantry Regiment

SILENT SNOW, published 1988) about our Division in the Battle of the Bulge.

Speaking of "our" Battle, I have submitted some suggestions to the Defense Department's 50th Anniversary of World War II Commemoration Committee for consideration in planning the official celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge in December 1994. The Executive Director of the Committee, Lt.Gen. [REDACTED] Klighter, has forwarded my suggestions to the U.S. European Command.

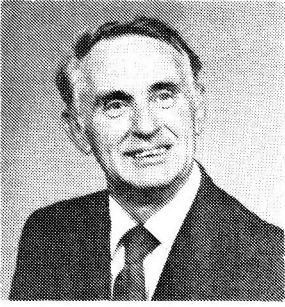
John Hall has regretfully submitted his resignation as 2nd Vice President, since his health prevents him from attending the 1993 Reunion and from assuming greater responsibilities in the leadership of the Association. John was a member of the committee appointed by the Division Commander in 1945, at Camp Lucky Strike, to help establish our Association (see the history of the Association on the back page of the roster that was included with this CUB). He was a member of the first Board of Directors. His experience and wise counsel will be missed. I wish him a full recovery and many more fruitful years.

Joe Maloney, Pete House and Charlie Rieck have selected an outstanding slate of candidates to fill upcoming Board vacancies. They are Alan Jones, Ed Huminski, Bill Malone, Tom Riggs, John Swett and Larry Weigel. They will bring a strong infusion of new blood and have long demonstrated their dedication to the interests of the 106th Division and its veterans.

The mystery of the 1995 Reunion has been clarified. The member who proposed Orlando has identified himself, but is not able to take the lead responsibility for organizing and managing the Reunion. Since the proposal was so well recieved by our membership, other Orlando-area members have gotten together and expect to be ready to host the gathering. If they decide otherwise in the meantime, I will invite new proposals when we meet in Columbia in September.

It has come as somewhat of a surprise to me that this will be my last CUB Message. The year has really flown. It has been my privilege to serve you. With men like Prewett, Kline, Rutledge, Collins, Robb, the other Board members and the prospective new Board members, the Association is in good hands. Again, thank you one and all.

## ***"In Whom Do You Put Your Trust? ..."***



Reverend Ewell C. Black Jr., Chaplain  
422/A – 106th Inf. Div. Assoc.  
212 Ridge St., Bishopville, SC 29010

Most of us have been familiar with the story of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego since we were children. There is even a song written by George Gershwin which tells of the event concerning these three men. In case you don't remember, the story is found in the third chapter of Daniel in the Old Testament.

The nation of Israel had been overrun by King Nebuchadnezzar and most of its population had been carried away, as was done in that time. These three men being educated were not used as slave labor but acquired positions of power in the government Babylon. As might be expected, this did not set well with the native Babylonians who held high office and they began to plot a way to bring these foreigners down.

Nebuchadnezzar had an image made of gold, ninety feet high and nine feet wide which was placed in the province of Babylon where Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were administrators. The king decreed that at the sound of music all the people were to fall down and worship the idol. Seeing that the Jews refused to follow this decree, some of the Babylonians brought it to the attention of the king. The penalty for not obeying the decree was to be thrown into a fiery furnace.

Nebuchadnezzar called the three before him and gave them the opportunity to save themselves by following the decree but they refused, saying that the God whom they served would protect them. As you remember, the three were thrown into the furnace but when the king looked to see what was happening, he found not three but four men walking around in the furnace unharmed by the heat.

I doubt that any of us have been thrown into a blazing furnace but while in combat and/or prison camp, we probably experienced some of the feeling of being in the same type of situation. I know that there were times when I am certain that an angel of God was watching over me. Most of us who shared the experiences of war have probably raised the question as to our survival when others around us were injured or died.

The faith of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego that their God would be with them brought them through and I believe that the same can be said for many of us, whether Jew or Gentile. As we have continued to follow our path through life since the dark days of December, 1944, through the ending of the War, we can probably attest to other times when faith in God has sustained us in hard situations and times of personal danger.

**Gracious God grant to each of us a faith as that of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, that in times of peril we shall know in whom we can trust and turn to. AMEN.**



---

## 1993 Annual Reunion.....

The 1993 Annual Reunion will be held at the Marriott Hotel, Columbia, South Carolina. Sept 9 through 12.

If you are a current member you should have received information in the mail about the reunion. If you need information or have any questions, please contact Reunion Chairman, Roger Rutland, 6632 Arcadia Woods Road, Columbia, S.C. 29206. Tele: 803-787-6996. There is a registration fee for the Reunion events, optional tours and remember that you have to make your own hotel reservations.

Rogers says there are over 700 registrations. This is going to be the the largest reunions ever held since they first started in 1947!

Some person questioned the fact that I had the date "Sept 8-12, 1993" on the cover of the last CUB.

The official dates of the reunion are from the 9th to the 12th. There are always many who sign into the hotels the day before. The reunion committee most always plan a tour and an event for the day and evening prior to the official opening of the reunion. This year there will be a "Historic Bus Tour" and in the evening a "Country Western Hoe-down Buffet" These events are optional (meaning they are in addition to the cost of registration). So if you are checking in a day early - sign up - we'll see ya-all at the Hoe-down.

Of course, there is always the official "Welcome Buffet." This will be on Thursday evening, Sept 9. That is part of your registration fees. You're on your own for the drinks.

For you who have registered, but have not yet paid the registration fees, please do so now.

---

## Future Reunions....

1994 - Rapid City, South Dakota

1995 - Orlando, Florida (Tentative)

(See President's Message on page 1)

---

## IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR 1993 DUES?

If you are an ANNUAL dues paying member- July 1 to June 30 each year, and have not paid your dues. **THIS WILL BE THE LAST CUB YOU RECEIVE.**

---

## I need your old CUBs

I invite any of you who want to dispose of your extra copies to send them to me. I am trying to build up another archive set - I would like to donate it to the **U.S. Army Military History Institute, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania.** It would be best that they be assembled in one package, so send them to me with a note to use them for that purpose.

---

## Were you on the line in defense of St. Vith??

If you were given duty that required you to be in the defensive positions as the Germans were attacking the City of St. Vith we would like to hear from you.

Colonel Thomas Riggs, commander of the 81st Combat Engineers, who was given command of the soldiers in the defensive positions east of St. Vith, said it would be interesting to know which Association members were under his command.

He is interested in identifying individual members who were drawn from or lost from their units, who at a crucial point in the defense of St. Vith were ordered to join his command in the defense positions. Certain units received Belgian and French Citations. It is not certain that individual citations could be obtained, but it would be interesting to identify those of you that were put to that task.

On a phone call to me tonight, July 20, 1993, he said that he had received several letters from men of the 106th in answer to this article which appeared in the last CUB.

Prepare a small summary of your duty and/or experiences, if you were under his command, and send them to the Colonel, along with your name, address and telephone number and name of the former 106th Inf. Div. unit that you were attached to. His address is:

**Colonel Thomas J. Riggs**

6 Olive Street

Providence, RI 02906

Telephone 401-421-4110

He will be at the Columbia Reunion and is nominee to the Board of Directors this year.

### **Snow Birds and those that change addresses..**

Please notify me of your address change. I always receive a dozen or more changes from the forwarding of The CUB. We guarantee forwarding, but you have to pay the forwarding fees on your end. The cost is not cheap to forward fourth-class mail. To save me some work, and you some cost.

**SEND YOUR ADDRESS CHANGE.**

### **Were you in BERGA ?**

The following information appeared in the MAY 1993 CUB. It aroused much interest and many members responded to the writer. If you failed to do so and have an interest in this subject, please read the following and get in contact with Ms. Biden.

In a letter to me, the editor, dated June 1, 1993 she said she had heard from 15 men who were at Berga, as well as a few who were at Bad Orb and witnessed the segregation.

She promises to keep in touch and inform us of the progress.

Janine is producing a documentary about American POWs who became victims of the Holocaust and is writing at the suggestion of a former POW, Dr. Ralph Tomases who served in our division as a 'Medic.'

The program will focus on a group of about 100 Jewish POWs from the 106th and the 28th Infantry Divisions who were segregated from other Americans in the POW camp at Bad Orb, Stalag 9-B, and along with about 250 others were deemed "troublemakers." They were sent to a slave labor camp that was part of the Buchenwald camp complex. U.S. Government documents place 351 American GIs at this camp from February to April 1945.

Affidavits have been found from men of other POW camps who said they were also segregated because they were Jewish, and in some cases threatened with deportation to other camps. In virtually every other case, this happened before liberation and the deportation was not carried out.

Ms Biden is interested in locating and talking to as many of the men that were at Berga that she can. Also, with anyone associ-

ated with the subsequent trial of the two commanders of the Berga Camp at Dachau, Germany in 1946.

She is preparing a one-hour documentary primarily about the experiences of the men of Berga, which will also cite other examples of Nazi brutality against American POWs.

Her initial discussions with PBS and A&E about their interest in airing such a documentary have been favorable.

For you men of **BERGA**.

Please contact Ms Biden as follows:

**Ms. Janine Jaquet Biden**  
**7 Pinecrest Dr.**  
**Wilmington, DE 19810**  
**Telephone 302-475-3477. ☒**

### **106th Patches & Bolo Ties**

**Bolo Ties** Last I knew BOLO TIES with the 106th Infantry Division insignia were available from LESLIE L. BROWN, 4132 East 36th Place, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74153. I do not have the prices.

### **106th Infantry shoulder patches**

Order patches from Boyd Rutledge our Adjutant. Cost including postage is \$2.00 per each patch ordered. Boyd's address on inside cover of this magazine.

### **Please Note, New Members !!!!**

Most New Members names that I received after 4 July do not appear in the Roster Booklet that was mailed with this CUB. Check the New Member column in this CUB. Sorry. John Kline, editor





## **THE LION STILL ROARS**

As the music plays  
a melancholy tune

I gaze into the eyes of these men  
who live with the ghosts of the past.  
The ghosts of the 106th.

A group of young men they once were  
and now their eyes expose their souls.

Souls in turmoil, of a past of broken dreams  
they feel they were betrayed,  
betrayed by their own commanders.

Ordered to surrender many years ago  
their hearts and souls never surrendered  
and the Bulge still wounds those very souls.

106th, Heal thy wounds.

The enemy at the Bulge outnumbered  
you by many!

Stand Proud 106th, you lived.

You won for you did not surrender  
your heart and soul.

As I look into your eyes and souls  
I see the ghosts, but also a  
Lion standing tall and strong.

Keep fighting and roaring for you are the  
**106th GOLDEN LIONS!**



The Lion Still Roars

by ROBERTA DEMEYER  
daughter of Robert Dashner

422nd Medics

106th Combat Infantry Division  
This poem written 8-27-92 onboard  
*The Majestic Queen Tour Ship*  
at the 46th Annual Reunion  
August 1992, Pittsburgh, PA.

## **A WALK THROUGH HELL**

by Carl Braaten, 422/L

in his memory - he died in July 1992.

What was once a full company  
now only nine remained,  
We had fought for six long days  
over a cold, snow covered terrain.  
We had no heavy clothing  
some had only fatigues to wear,  
We'd had no food for four long days  
our ammunition belts were bare.  
The German soldiers captured us  
at night asleep in the snow,  
We had stopped for just a moment  
to decide which way to go.  
In a war torn Belgium village  
they gave us some "sawdust" bread,  
And put us to work digging graves  
to bury the village dead.

Christmas Eve in an empty building  
sitting on a cold, hard floor,  
We thought of home and loved ones  
and Christmases gone before.  
Christmas morning we were handed  
a slice of "sawdust" bread,  
And began the march into Germany  
to a prison camp miles ahead.  
We started our march in the freezing cold  
in the winter of forty-four,  
They say it was the coldest one  
the had ever had before.  
The fighter planes got some of us  
bombers got their share,  
And the ones that fell beside the road  
they died too weak to care.

**Dan Bied;**

## **Reporting from West Burlington, Iowa**

My offer last spring to provide "cold injury" bulletins from the VA to members of our association resulted in about 25 requests via letters and phone calls.

It was good to be in contact with a number of vets from the 106th I hadn't met. We have a lot in common, of course, and some of the phone calls lasted 15 or 20 minutes.

Chester Wroblewski, commander of the Barbed Wire Assn. of Northwestern Pennsylvania, said he planned to make copies of the bulletin for distribution to members of his EX-POW organization. He said he would also provide copies to members of the American Legion, DAV and VFW at Youngsville, Penna.

Victor Breite, of St. Louis, phoned for a copy of the bulletin (which is nearly an invitation for vets with disability from frozen feet to file for claims) and we got to talking about some of the TV shows and movies dealing with the POW experience over the years, "These shows don't begin to tell it like it really was," Vic remarked. I agreed, recalling the time around 1963 when, as a newspaper reporter, I wrote a review panning "The Great Escape." There was a lot more humor in the POW movies than in real life, of course, and there's simply no way a 90-minute movie or a 30-minute TV show can convey the monotony and mental depression that dominated the experience for most of us in the months following "The Bulge."

My conversation with John Beaver, of Kingsland, Ga., was more light-hearted. John, who lives just 11 miles from the ocean now, recalled the hot, dry weather we endured at Camp Wolters, near Fort Worth, and later on at Camp Atterbury.



Dan Bied, "A" Co., 422nd Combat Inf. Reg.  
108 Leffler Street, West Burlington, Iowa 52655  
(319) 752-5708

John and I didn't know each other early in 1944 but both trained at Camp Wolters an infantry replacement training center (IRTC) that had graduation training sites known as Hell's Bottom and Pinto Ridge. After his training, John had a chance to stay with the camp's cadre but he preferred to move on with his infantry pals.

Anytime Camp Wolters is mentioned, I told John, there's no way I can avoid mentioning the beer garden, I was just 18 when I went into the Army and wasn't exactly a "pro" when it came to drinking beer. One night, in fact, the guys had to carry me home after I'd over-consumed. "It looks like Bied's been to the beer garden again, our platoon sergeant grumbled as he walked past my bunk, We had a great bunch of guys at Camp Wolters and many of them knew how to be comedians. Once, a gent from the "boonies" who always retired early and was a loud snorer, was carried onto the roof of a nearby building, bunk and all. He, was, to say the least, disoriented when he awoke at the crack of dawn.

Ralph M. Coble wrote from Marysville, Penna., to mention his experience



on frozen feet. Ralph asked If anyone in our association could remember a Capt. St. John who, he thought, was in the 422nd. Ralph met him on a ship returning from Europe and recalled that St. John had been injured Dec. 15, 1944, then hospitalized in Antwerp. "He was an outstanding officer and gentleman," Ralph Wrote, "but he refused to answer my questions." If anyone remembers a Capt. St. John, please write or phone me at 1-319-752-5708.

**AQUITANIA:** This will always be "my ship," because it was the first ship I ever rode in heavy water. I was on the Aquitania with many of you in the fall of 1944

and, as I've recalled in this space before, the experience deep in the ship's bowels (FF Deck) will never be forgotten.

A friend whose outfit, the 69th, who liberated my group in Eastern Germany, recently sent me a detailed article about the *Aquitania*, which was launched on Apr. 21, 1913, and scrapped in 1950 after 3 million miles and 35 years of service.

I'll quote more from this article later on. The ship was a favorite of the Hollywood set in the twenties and, as many of us recall, was converted to carry nearly 7,800 men, pressed together like so many flowers in a book, to duty in WW-2. ■



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

Office of the Director

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. ARMY MILITARY HISTORY INSTITUTE  
CARLISLE BARRACKS  
CARLISLE, PENNSYLVANIA 17013-5008

June 1, 1993



Mr. John P. Kline

Editor *The Cub of the Golden Lion*

Dear Mr. Kline:

The U.S. Army Military History Institute recently had a visit from Colonel Leo McMahon, Jr., USA Ret., who brought us copies of the current issue of "*The Cub of the Golden Lion*," Volume 49, Number 3. April-May- June, as well as two copies of the lovely volume, *The Cub of the Golden Lion Passes in Review*. We are most appreciative to receive these items and add them to our collection.

As the central repository for historical materials for the U.S. Army, the Institute is interested in receiving future issues of "*The Cub of the Golden Lion*" on a regular basis. Unit publications include some very good information, and to our knowledge, we are one of the few repositories that collect them. Therefore, we would be grateful to you and the 106th Infantry Division Association if you could provide us with a complimentary subscription to your quarterly publication.

An increasing number of veterans associations are providing the Institute with courtesy copies of publications pertaining to their unit or units and with a courtesy subscription to their periodical or newsletter.

The military heritage of the 106th Infantry Division, like the heritage of all units, should be preserved and made available to future generations. In that regard, your association's publication represents an important aspect of your unit's heritage. Therefore, I sincerely hope that your association will favorably consider our request.

Signed

Thomas W. Sweeney

Colonel, TC

Director

**Please Note: Carlisle Barracks has been added to our roster as an Honorary Associate member. Please see my request for back issues of The CUB in "Front & Center," page 3, 2nd column... editor**

# ***Nominees to the 1993-94 Board of Directors***

The following 106th Infantry Division Association members have been selected to become members of the Board of Directors. For the benefit of the overall membership, their names and partial biographies are listed here.

Joseph P. Maloney, Chair-Nominations

---

## **Col. Thomas J. Riggs 81st Eng., CO**

6 Olive Street  
Providence, OH 02906

Commanded the 81st Combat Engineers.

Born 1 January 1961 at Logan, WV. Entered active duty 31 July 1941. Relieved from active duty 17 Nov 1947. MOS Division Engineer; Intelligence Officer. Wounds received 22 Dec 1944, Belgium. Attended Engineer School, Officers Course; Instructors and cadre Course; C&GS School; Ground Liaison School. Service decorations: Silver Star, Purple Heart, Distinguished Unit Emblem, Distinguished Unit Emblem, American Defense Service Medal, WWII Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal, Army of Occupation Medal w/Germany clasp; European African Middle Eastern Medal w/4 Bronze Stars; French Croix de Guerre w/ Silver Gilt Star; Belgian Croix de Guerre w/palm; Mexican Merito Militar Third Class. (refer to The CUB Aug 1988 for the story of Col Riggs' odyssey, traveling through eight countries (5,000 miles) to rejoin the 81st, after escaping from an Oflag in Poland.. editor)

Graduated from the University of Illinois' College of Engineering February 1941 as a 2nd Lt in the Army Corps of Engineers reserve. He was first cheered on an Illinois football field in 1938. That year he earned the first of his three varsity letters. In 1940, his final season he was elected the team's captain. He also captained the Blue team that year in the annual Blue-Gray college all-star game. At 6'3" and 225 pounds he was considered a large tackle in his day. The 1940 edition of Football Illustrated rated him as a star of the west and called him "one of those rock-ribbed, natural tackles who instinctively knows what to do, and does it. He was offered \$250 per game to play with the Washington Redskins in the fall of 1941, but could not accept because he was by then in the Army. In November 1989 he was proclaimed "Illinois University 'I' Man of the Year."

Business: exec officer Lawson-Hemphill, Inc, Central Falls, RI, 1975-83; Industrial Con-

sultant 1983; Board of Directors: International Paper Box Machine Company, Nashua, NY; Rawcliffe Corporation, Providence; Multifold International, Millford, OH. Chairman National Advisory Council Commission SBA 1983-86. Member of Textile Machinery Assoc. (bd of dirs. exec committee 1978-83); Smaller Business Association, New England (bd of directors exec com. 1980-85; Nat Assoc Corporate Directors, NY Society; Military and Naval Officers of World Wars; Reserve Officers Assn, Sigma Chi, Episcopalian.. Clubs: Army-Navy (Washington); Hope, Agawam Hunt (Providence); U.S. Seniors Golf Assoc.

Personal Philosophy: Three dimensional to achieve and maintain the following priorities: 1. a business climate based on mutual respect and recognition; 2. the financial wherewithal to insure domestic comfort and educational requirements of my family; 3. the necessary time to enjoy and serve my home, friends, church and chosen community.

---

## **Col. Alan W. Jones, Jr. 423/HQ**

9100 Belvoir Woods Pkwy. 223  
Fort Belvoir, VA 22060

Born 1921 in Manila. Attended University of Hawaii. Graduated West Point June 1942. Weapons Platoon in the 42nd Division.

Joined rifle platoon, Co. E, 423d Infantry, July 1944, to S-3 in August. Captured in the vicinity of Schönberg 19 Dec '44. Box car to Bad Orb 21 Dec. Bombed in rail yards at Diez-Limburg 23 Dec, arrived Stalag IX-B 28 Dec. Shipped out in a box car to Oflag XIII-B, arriving Hammelburg 11 January 45. Free a few hours when the camp was overrun by a 4th Armored Division unit 27 March. Recaptured the next day. Joined last column marching from camp toward Austrian Redoubt. Bombed by B-17s in Nurnburg 5 April, escaped late April for two days and was recaptured. Free by 14th Armored Division unit in Kloster Gars on the Inn River 2 May 1945. Evacuated via Stag VII-A, Moosburg; Camp Lucky Strike, LeHavre; by ship to New York and Camp Shanks, N.J.

Within the year returned to Germany for three year occupation duty. To the 2nd Infantry Division and the 9th Infantry for the Korean War July 1950. Wounded by Chinese in Kummuri Pass, evacuated to Japan 2 Dec 1950.

Career routine thereafter. Military and civil-

# Nominees to 1993-94 Board of Directors

Schools. Four years on faculty at West Point, four years with 25th Infantry Division in Hawaii including duty with the 14th Infantry and the 21st Infantry. Pentagon twice on Army and Joint Staffs. Command of 3rd Brigade, 2nd Division on DMZ in South Korea 1966-67. NATO Headquarters in Holland for three years. Retired after 30 years service.

Since 1974 I have lived in Northern Virginia. Married Lynn McGaw June 1943, three children, Nan; Alan and Steve. Two grandchildren.

---

## Ed Huminski 424/F

Rd 2, Box 258  
Rockwood, PA 15557

Charter member F Co, 424th Ing Reg, Fort Jackson, SC 13 March 1943, Tenn Maneuvers, Camp Atterbury. POE list February 1944 to Fort Meade, MD and Camp Myles Standish, Mass. Sailed out of Boston aboard the French auxiliary cruiser *S.S. Columbié*. Arrived Glasgow then on to Wexham, Wales, then to Royal Tank Corps barracks at Warminster, then to South Hampton for the cross channel landing at Normandy-Utah Beach. Got as far as St. Lo and received the million dollar wound July 13. Evacuated to England then sailed aboard the maiden voyage of the *U.S.S. St Olaf* hospital ship, Liverpool to Charleston, S.C.. By hospital train to DeShon US Army Hospital, Butler, PA. Wound up at Station Hospital Camp Omza, California. Discharged 13 Dec 45.

The next 18 months as a sea-going cowboy transporting horses and cows to Poland. Married my wife Elizabeth September 1948, we have three children, four grandchildren. I am a life member DAV.; Post Commander Post 735 Amer. Legion; Civil Air Patrol Squadron 603; member Post 554 VFW, Somerset, PA; Post Faithful Navigator 4th DZ, K of C; Graduate City of Pittsburgh High School, attended Duquesne (?) Univ, Pittsburgh. Retired 1990 from the US Postal Service to a 40 acre farm in Somerset, PA. I enjoy hunting, fishing, gardening, home repair and hiking.

---

## Col Lawrence Weigel 422/H

1380 Democracy Ave  
Melbourne, FL 32940

Levene J. Weigel was born on 26 November 1915 in Collyer, Kansas. He attended St. Joseph's College and Military Academy Hays,

Kansas 1932-1936. He graduated from Fort Hays Kansas State college in 1940 with a B.S. in Education. He was Commandant of Cadets and taught Public Speaking and International Relations from 1940 to 1942 when he entered the Army at Camp Wolters, Texas January 12, 1942. In June 1942 he went to Infantry officer Candidate School and was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant 17 September 1942. From there he went to the Aleutian Islands and was stationed at four different locations in the Chain.

He returned to the States in May 1944 to Camp Shelby, Mississippi. From there he went to Camp Atterbury, Indiana and was assigned to the 106th Infantry Division where he was platoon leader of a heavy machine gun platoon of "H" Company 422 Infantry. He went overseas to Europe with the division and had his introduction to combat at the Battle of the Bulge, where he was taken prisoner. While he was held at several POW camps in Germany, Bad Orb, Nurnburg, Hammelburg and was liberated at Moosburg, near Munich 6 May 1945. A great portion of his POW time was spent on foot through Bavaria.

After WWII he served as PMS&T at St. Joseph's College and Military in Hays, Kansas 1945 to 1949, after which he attended the Advanced Infantry Course at Fort Benning, Ga. From there he and his family returned to Germany where he served with the 26th Infantry Regiment 1st Infantry Division. His duty assignments included Heavy Weapons Company Commander, Battalion S-3 and Regimental S-3. In 1952 he returned to a three year tour at Fort Monroe, Va. in the Reserve Component Division of the office Chief of Army Field Forces.

In 1955 he was assigned to the 24th Infantry Division in Korea, as Infantry Battalion Commander, then as G-3 of the Division. In December 1956 he returned to the States and attended the Command and Staff Course at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. From there he returned to Fort Monroe, Va. After a three year tour there he returned to Europe as the Deputy Headquarters Commandant and Executive Officer, Special Troops, United States Army Europe and the Central Army Command. In 1962 he was assigned to the Office Chief of Army Reserve as the Chief of Organization and Training Division, where he was also promoted to Colonel. His final active duty assignment was as PMS (Professor of Military Science) at Creighton



# Nominees to the 1993-94 Board of Directors

University where he retired after 30 years continuous active service on 1 February 1971.

From there he went on to be the Director of Army Instruction (JROTC) in the Denver public schools until 1979. While there he was a Director of Denver Boys, a non-profit organization to help boys without fathers, sponsored by the Denver Rotary Club. He was also designated a Colorado Schoolmaster. Is a member of the Infantry Officer Candidate Hall of Fame and received the Minute Man of the Year award for the state of Nebraska, 1970. His military awards include the Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal, Bronze Star, Combat Infantry Badge and various campaign ribbons.

---

## John N. Swett 423/H

19 West 229 Tavern Rd.  
Oak Brook, IL 60521

Born and raised in LaGrange, Illinois. At age 17 enlisted and was assigned to ASTRP unit at Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison, WI. After Basic Training at Fort Benning was assigned to H Co, 423rd, was waiting in Camp Atterbury when the division arrived from Tennessee maneuvers. Stayed with H Co. until captured 19 Dec 1944.

After returning to U.S.A. was re-assigned to cadre at the Engineering School, Fort Belvoir, VA, from which I was discharged in November 1945.

After service returned to school receiving a B.S. from Northwestern Univ., graduate studies psychology and honorary Doc. of Engineering. With my wife, Virginia, we have raised three daughters and one son. all on their own now and living on the West Coast.

Have been involved in local government, schools and church work since the early sixties. Started a community bank in 1968 and have been involved in Illinois banking ever since. After 40 years as electric motor manufacturing representative, retired at the end of 1991. Now spending most of the year in Tuscon, AZ, where I expect to move within the next two years.

---

## William Malone 423/B

3911 Thackery Dr.  
Nashville, TN 37207

Drafted out of East Nashville High School. Participated in Football and other sports. Two years of ROTC training. Finished education af-

ter getting out of the Army. Completed Training for two years.

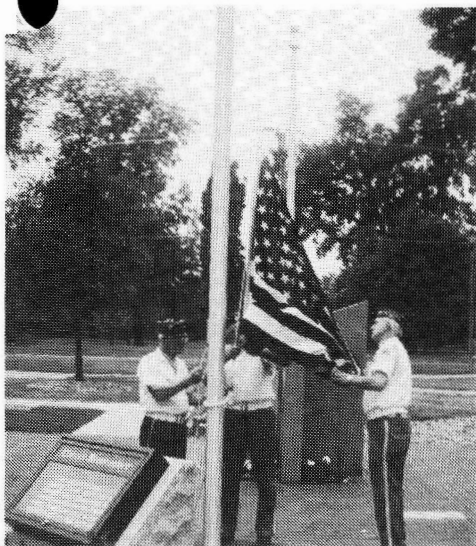
Married to Margie Frances Kemp Malone, August 21, 1943 in Franklin, Tennessee. Margie was an Aircraft Assembler for Avco/Textron Aerostructures for 36 years. Will celebrate 50th wedding anniversary this year.

Two children, Linda Malone DeSirey and Judy Malone Crouch. Linda attended The University of Tennessee and she is a full-time florist with her own business. Linda is married to Jimmy DeSirey and they have one Son, Shannon who is 27. Judy attended Vanderbilt University and graduated from Limestone College with post graduate work done at Clemson University. She is a Technical Skills Instructor for Textron Aerostructures. Judy is married to Richard Crouch and they have one daughter, Lottie who is 7.

Worked for the United States Postal Service for 40 years. A member of the National Safety Council and the Million Mile Club. Retired April 13, 1984.

Was drafted into the United States Army, March 13, 1943. Assigned to the 106th at Fort Jackson, South Carolina as it was being "activated" Was assigned the rank of Tech. Serg. Following Spring Maneuvers in Tennessee, spent a short time at Camp Atterbury, Indiana. Fought war with Company I, 3rd Battalion, Reg. 422, 106th Division. Saw action at "The Battle of The Bulge." Was captured December 18, 1944. First camp, Stalag 9-B, Bad Orb, arrived by train December 25, 1944. Second camp, Stalag 9-A, Ziegenhain. Liberated by American troops. Was shipped back to the United States from Le Havre, France on the *USS Richardson* and disembarked in the Port of New York

A charter member of St. Luke Cumberland Presbyterian Church and served as an elder. Member of EX-POW'S of War, Inc., Middle Tennessee Chapter. Volunteered as a Scout Master for the Boy Scouts of America. A Thirty-second Degree Mason and Past Master.



Elmhurst, Illinois has a Veteran's Memorial dedicated to veterans of all branches of the services. It consists of five granite monuments, each representing the five branches of service, Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard. Each has its seal, with names and dates of all military conflicts. From the Revolutionary War to the Persian Gulf Conflict. Each has a flag pole, flying that branch of service flag. In the center is a 35 foot flag pole, with a glass case at the base.

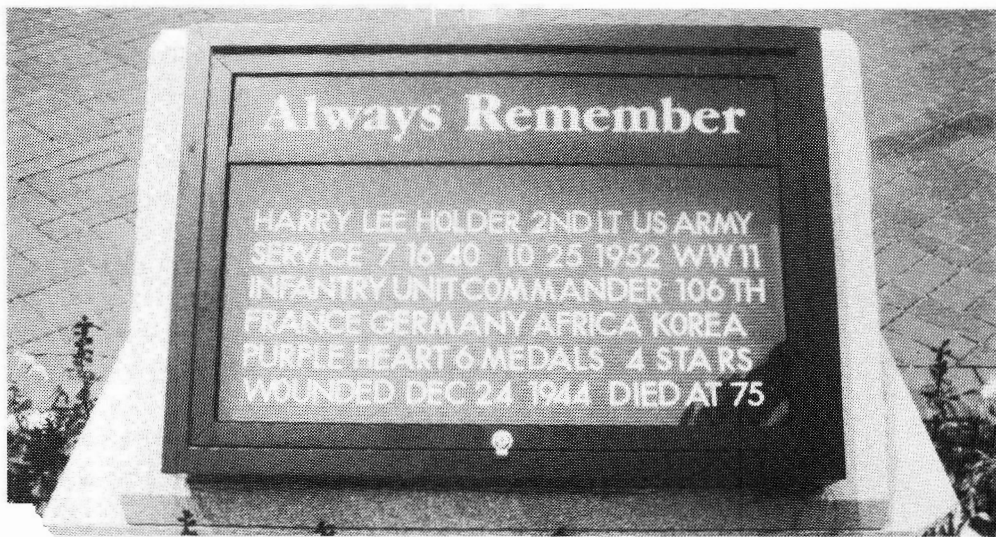
The unique thing about this memorial is that each week they fly the casket flag of the deceased veteran, who has lived in the Elmhurst area. His name and a brief history of his service is displayed in the glass case. Sunday, June 13th 1993, they raised the flag of Harry Lee Holder, 2nd Lt. Commanding H Co., 424th Combat Infantry Regiment, 106th Infantry Division.

Harry was a member of the Association, his wife has been an Associate member since his death. Harry attended reunions and was always at the Chicago Area, December 16th dinners.

The last few years he was in and out of Hines Veterans Hospital, but you could always count on his wife, Mildred, to be at our dinners.

On Sunday June 13th, when the Honor Guard raised Harry's flag, his wife, family and friends, were there, along with Jackie and me. We were very impressed with the service, that honored a friend and fellow comrade.

( Pictures above, Harry's wife, Mildred, back of the showcase, and the Honor Guard raising Harry's flag. Picture, below, Showcase display for veteran's history. See cover photo showing family and friends with Russell and Jackie Villwock )





## ***Gleina Revisited. . . .***

by Hal Beam, 423/G  
407 Deerhaven Ln  
Hendersonville, N.C. 28739-8613

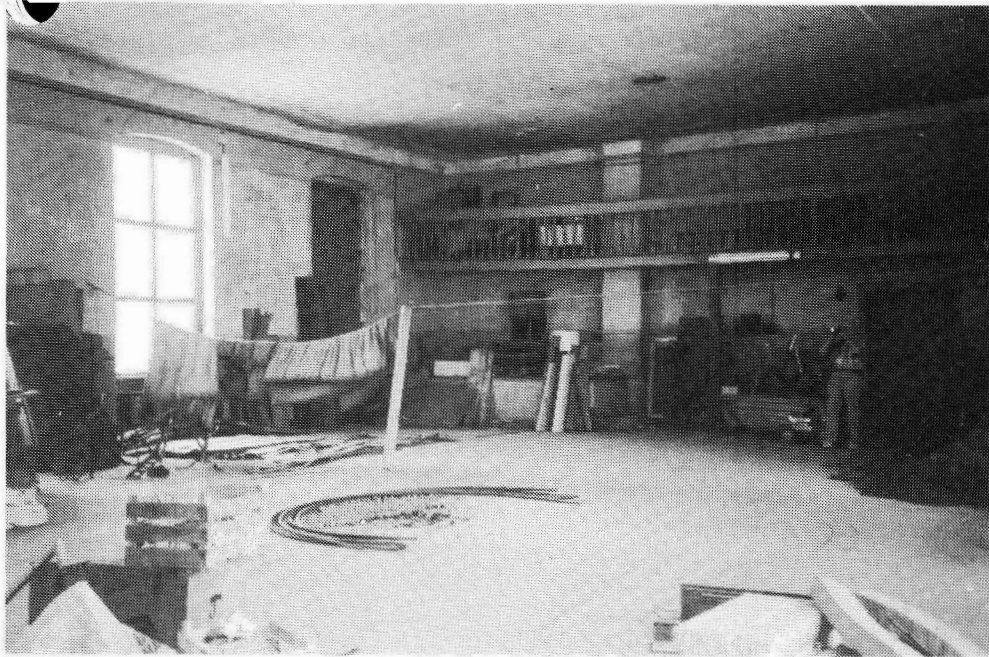
As the Bugler in Company G, 423rd Infantry, I was quartered in Born, Belgium, as part of the reserve battalion of the 106th Division. On the morning of December 16th we were alerted for a move to the front lines, and just before departing, our captain ordered me to blow "CHARGE" and get on the truck. We moved through Schönberg to the front lines, and subsequently were captured on December 19th. Along with thousands of others, we were marched from Schönberg Prüm and Mayen, sleeping in snow-covered fields, to Koblenz where we all experienced what it was like to be on the wrong end of an Allied bombing attack. We were then hurriedly marched to Limburg where we were separated out by rank. Many of us were then placed in cattle cars for the long trip to Stalag IV B where we were issued our German POW dogtags.

After a short time a little over 100 of us were selected to be sent as a Work Party

to Gleina, a small town of around 100 persons just east of Zeitz and just south of Tröglitz, Germany. Arriving at Gleina, we were taken to a building in the center of town, led through a small courtyard to the rear of the building, and sent up a narrow flight of stairs to the room on the second floor. At the top of the stairs, on our left, was a very small room with two toilets that were actually located on the outside of the building. Opening the door, we found a large, flat-floored room perhaps 150' long, 40' wide and with a ceiling about 20' high that obviously was a theater. It had a rather large stage at one end with an old grand piano on the floor on the right side. Placed around the room were three-decker bunks with one large pot-bellied stove located just off center in the room. I was fortunate to get a top bunk close to the stove for my new home, with my POW buddy Jack Naslund, G/423, without whom I would never have survived, in the bunk right under me.

We soon learned the routine at Gleina. Up early with a cup of ersatz coffee for breakfast, we then walked 5 kilometers to





the town of Tröglitz where we worked along with Jewish and Polish prisoners rebuilding the petrol factory that had been bombed out by our planes. Late in the afternoon we walked back to our quarters to be given our 1/8th loaf of bread and a bowl of rutabaga and carrot soup that had been prepared by British prisoners in an old brick garage across the street from our building. There we lived and died, got sick and survived, and existed until Patton's Third Army came along on April 14th and set us free.

In the spring of 1993 my wife Jan and I made a trip to Germany, and while in Dresden suddenly decided to visit Gleina. I was at first reluctant to do so for it was in the Eastern Zone that had been occupied by the Russians, and I was fearful of just what I might find. While I knew that the town had never been bombed, it was after all now 48 years since all that had happened.

We drove from Dresden, found Gleina, and entered the little village. In minutes I found what I thought had to be "our building." I had remembered that there used to be a little shop ( or pub) at the front of the

building that now housed a small grocery store. Since no one in the town spoke English, Jan and I had to try to make do with our very poor German. I kept asking the woman running the store if American prisoners had once been kept in that building, and said that

I had been one of those persons. Suddenly she understood us, closed up the store, and took my hand and led us out the door around the building and into a courtyard. When I saw that courtyard, I knew that this was the place. She went to the apartment door in the back of the building and finally a woman came to the door. It turned out that the woman had lived there as a young girl while we were held there. she then took us up the stairs, past the little room where the toilets had been and into the large room itself. There was the stage, and the hole in the ceiling where the stove pipe had been, and the room looked as if we had vacated it only months before. I could hardly believe that no changes had been made with the exception of the removal of the toilets and the stove. I imagined what the room would look like with

all those bunk beds in place, and I was overwhelmed with memories. I saw where my bunk would have been, and remembered trying to cook on that old stove. And I thought of all the men that had been there, and of those who just had not made it through. I wondered what all of the survivors were doing now.

Outside the place looked the same. The garage where the British did our cooking was still there but the worse for wear. The owner of the building asked about two persons who had apparently guarded us, one whose name was Max, but our limited ability to speak German never helped me to understand what she meant about them.

We then drove the route to Tröglitz which we had walked many, many times, and today a petrol factory still stands there in that town, scheduled to be closed soon.

Why did I want to go back? That 4+ months stands as the absolute low point in my life. Why relive it? I guess seeing that little town now, seeing the building where we were kept, and being received so graciously by the two women in the town has



softened my feelings about that time. Seeing a nice benign little town rather than an ugly prison has sort of put my mind at rest. Maybe it's time for the other survivors to go back, too. ■



## Memorial.....

by Dr. John Robb  
Memorials Chairman

William H. Alexander, 423/E was a faithful Association Member. He had planned to attend the **Camp Atterbury Memorial Dedication**. Unfortunately, he died on April 21, 1992 before the dedication.

In his obituary, the family suggested memorials be made to the Camp Atterbury Memorial Fund. There were many generous contributions on his behalf.

This photo shows : left- Mike Thome, Association President 92-93; middle- Carolyn Alexander (Bill's wife); L/R of Carolyn are Caroline and Marilyn her daughters. I am on the right.

My dad was a boilermaker with the railroad. He wrote this poem in the early 40's while my brother and I were in the service. He wrote over 35 such poems over his lifetime.

### DEAR MOM and DAD

We get a letter now and then  
And I am always happy when,  
One comes to us; Oh yes, I'm glad  
For when the letters come for "Free"  
I know that part is meant for me  
For all begin - "Dear Mom and Dad."

And when our kids in civil life  
Address their letters to my wife  
They do not make me feel bad.  
For though they barely mention me  
The first few words are sure to be  
As in the past- "Dear Mom and Dad."

Now with a brain too tired to think  
And trembling fingers spilling ink  
This writing drives me nearly mad  
Oh, how glad I am to see  
The letters come to her and me,  
When they begin- "Dear Mom and Dad."

*W.A. Oxford*

### Paul G. Oxford 424/F

818 SE Sanchez Ave  
Ocala, FL 34471-3835  
(904) 732-5997

I was with 424/F from the beginning, up to mid April 1945, when I went to an Armed Services School and was appointed as a 2nd Lt. At that time instead of sending me back to the 106th, I went with the 78th Division, then on to the 36th Infantry. I got back to the States in June 1946.

We were on the right flank of the 424th Regiment, the 28th Division's 112th Regiment was to the right of us. On the night of the 15th of December as Communications Sergeant, I was monitoring the SCR300 from midnite on. When things started popping on the morning



Sgt Paul Oxford, 424/F, 31 Mar 1945  
Photo taken at St. Quentin, France, he  
had just turned 21 on March 28th.

of the 16th I twirled the channel dial and heard someone from the 28th say that they were being over-run. Maybe it was Charlie Haug's Co. B. 112th Reg down near Lutzkampen (The CUB page 31 Vol 40-No.1). I was on the ridge with 1st Platoon Sergeant Ramsey, T/Sgt Victor Chapple and some other 1st Platoon men. When the anti-tank gun knocked out the 5 German tanks coming out of Lutzkampen at angle of about 2,000 yards. A bit later the anti-tank gun crew leader said, "they have to get out of here." They hooked the gun to a truck and went off. Most of our phone lines were out and I was busy splicing wire....

(Later in Paul's letter...) On Christmas Day with E & F Companies abreast, about dusk, Manhay, Belgium was attacked. The elements were severely cut up by enemy fire of all kinds, and our own artillery TOT. Withdrawal was necessary. **Manhay** was an important Cross-roads junction on Hiway N-15, Liege to Bastogne and another which crossed it. I think that this was the deepest point that German troops came. F Co. ended up withdrawing quite a ways back and from 1 January '45 spent sev-



## Excerpts from a letter — Paul Oxford 424/F

eral days in and around the small, friendly village, of Warzee, Belgium. Later F Co. on 14 January made an unsuccessful attack on **Ennal** with two platoons. They were going down a heavily snow-covered hillside when severe fire forced most of them down to the shelter of a small creek where they were able to make their way back up the Levaux where they spent the night.

The next mid-day Of the 15th with the 1st and 2nd platoons, went in again along the road to from Levaux. We had been getting lots of fire after clearing two houses, when Col Reid and Gen. Perrin showed up where Capt. Cassidy and I were, with a Platoon Sergeant behind a house. A burst of enemy fire hit Col. Reid in the buttock. I radioed for his medical evacuation. Then Gen. Perrin took the two platoons, one at a time, behind a hedgerow cover and explained the big picture to the troops.

Then it was clearing house to house on each side of the street. About half way through a rear-guard German cut loose with auto fire and I turned to get behind a building. A bullet grazed my top lip and one went through my field jacket, tearing apart my whistle, Thunder and my packages of bouillon. I told the Captain and General that I had been hit, but I was O.K. Lt. Marcinkowski had just stepped out of a doorway and took a slug in the chest which took him back to the hospital....

I went back next morning with the chow crew to a Battalion Aid Station. After clearing the serious cases Captain (medic) Antrim shaves my top lip, medicated it, put a bandage on it and handed me a purple heart. I stuck it in a rear pocket and went to our CP, on the edge of Lavaux. I was eating a candy bar when a Signal Corps Sergeant took my photo and wrote down my name.



U.S. Signal Corps picture taken of Sgt. Paul Oxford, near **ENNAL**, as he was leaving the 424/F CP, eating a candy bar.

He had just come from the aid station where the doctor had shaved his lip and bandaged it.

This photo appeared in *Star's* and *Stripes* in an editorial dedicated to the **INFANTRYMAN**. The article, in part, stated. "In place of the usual picture, we went into our file for this shot of an infantryman in combat.

"The picture chosen was that of Sgt. Paul Oxford taken as the fighting there was progressing.

"This is a typical photo of a fighting man, regardless of what you might say.

"The photographer snapped the picture just after the sergeant had finished munching a candy bar, probably the first he had eaten in several weeks.

"Gen Geo. Marshal says, "... the decisive element of which remains is the same little advertised, hard bitten foot soldier...."

An editorial in the *Washington Post*; "...And when the war is won, it will be the infantry that will have won it.... "

## Ausum, Philip 423/K

521 Santa Rosa Lane  
Santa Barbara, CA 93108  
805-969-1431

## Bond, Howard 423/M

2190 Gateway Terrace # 305A  
Easton, PA 18042  
215-252-3038


(Editor's Note - Howard, nice to see your name among the 423/M members that have joined. You are number 43 from this unit. There have been four others that have passed away since I joined in 1987., so 423/M has is is now well represented. Hopefully a few more of those that I contacted in February will still decide to join... J. Kline)

## Fitzgibbons, Charles F. 424/E

8447 Hampstead Dr  
Afton, MO 63123  
317-631-8786

## Fusco, George E. ASSOCIATE

13599 Skyview TER  
Mount Airy, MD 21771  
301-831-0114

 was born February 13, 1931, and the youngest of the family of two girls and four boys. My brother **Alphonso Fusco** was a member of the 106th Infantry Division. He was captured during the *The Battle of the Bulge*. He died in '59 of Cancer.

My other two brothers served in the Army, one with the 88th Division in WWII, one with the 32nd in '51-'53, and I served with the 101st Airborne from '52 to '54. I was injured in a Basic Training accident and transferred to the Armed Forces Police and served 18 months in Frankfurt, Germany. I am now a retired Police Chief with 35 years of experience.

I am searching for some of my brother's buddies. **Pfc James B. Fretwell, S/Sgt. Charles Monteverdi and 1st Sgt. John P. Riley.** Would appreciate a call or card from anybody who could help.

## Grooten, Ralph R. 81st ENG/C

2376 E. State Rte 37  
Delaware, OH 43015  
614-363-1553

I recently learned of the 106th Infantry

Division Association from a member of the VFW Post in Cape Coral, Florida. I would like to make contact with any person from "C" Company. 81st Combat Engineers. I have a copy of the Division Book printed while we were at Camp Atterbury in 1944. I am standing second from the left in the back row of the picture located in the lower left hand of the page depicting "C" Company. I am the tallest guy in the picture.

My time with the 106th was short, but it carries many pleasant memories of Camp Atterbury and the folks in Indiana. I still have quite a collection of pictures of the girls I met in Indianapolis. My wife doesn't seem to object, she says that they are old gray grandma's by now.

I came to the division from the Aviation Program when it was closed down in April 1944. Took Basic all over again and shoved off for the paratroopers in August 1944. Several of my friends from the 81st went with me to Fort Benning, but I lost track of all of them. After completing airborne training and rigger school I was assigned to the parachute maintenance in Fort Benning. Then in January of 1945 when the Bulge was heating up they shipped most of us overseas as replacement. The 3rd week of January found me at Antwerp in a Repo Depot. In the chow line were several walking wounded and I noticed one soldier had a 106th Lion Patch on his overcoat. We struck up a conversation and he told me a pretty graphic story of what happened to the division. My thought went immediately to my friends in "C" Company 81st Combat Engineers. I wondered what fate had befallen them. I however did not have time to ponder on that as I was shipped, the next morning, to the front and joined "C" Company of the 139th Airborne Eng. 17th ABn Division.

We stayed on the front until the 2nd week of February, then went back to Chalons, France for a rest camp. Then on March we embarked on the largest airborne operation of World War II, the crossing of the Rhine. Our division stayed in combat until VE Day. I earned three battle stars and the bronze arrowhead, among other things.

Oh yes, I was married on December 23,

# New Members

1944 and still have my lovely wife, Mary. We have one daughter and one granddaughter. I spent 32 years of my life as a Marine Dealer and am now fully retired. I remain active in veteran's organizations and collect old cars. Hope to meet some of the 81st Eng. as time goes along.

---

## **HENRI, Hannon G.** **CRIBA (Associate)**

Rue de La Trompette, 11  
4680, Hermee-Oupeye, BELGIUM

(Editors Note - Hannon joined November 1992. Unfortunately I misplaced his membership papers. In a recent letter to me Hannon inquired about the status of his membership. He had received the Oct-Nov-Dec 1992 CUB, but nothing since. I have forwarded the last two CUBS to him and now have the matter corrected. My apologies, Hannon. I hope you have received the book *The CUB of the Golden Lion: PASSES in REVIEW* which I sent in January 1993. We appreciate our CRIBA friends.... J. Kline)

---

## **Harrington, Ralph A. 422/HQ 1BN**

321 Glenhaven Dr.  
Milledgeville, GA 31061  
912-452-2609

Married, four children, two boys and two girls. Wife and I are graduates of the University of Georgia. Retired from National Guard with 31 years of service as Lt. Col. Farming was my occupation.

---

## **Haynes, Charles E. 423/CN**

115 W. 3rd St.  
Waverly, OH 45690  
614-947-5435

Early 1944 I transferred from the 53rd C.A., Camp Pendleton, Va to the 106th and was assigned to "M" Company, 423rd. I was later assigned to the 423rd Cannon Company. Captured 12/19/44 and spent my time in Stalag 9-B, Bad Orb. I would like information on Phil Wilcox, William Conneway, Bruce Carpenter and Sergeant Frank Belloti.

(Editors Note - Charles was one of then men from 423/M that I contacted during the month of February 1993. I would like to add him the the 423/M roster to increase it to 44 members, but he did spend most of the time with the Cannon Company. Charles, I have since

contacted you and I have no trace of the men mentioned above. Bruce Carpenter does appear on the KIA list. Take a look at the 423/M list in the roster that came with the CUB, you will recognize many of your old buddies. February 3, 1993 out of nineteen phone calls I found or accounted for 16 423/M men. I then mailed over 100 letters to various parts of the country in addition to the 19 phone calls that I made. You see, I would have several names from my CDrom disk that matched the same person, such as yours. I was only successful in finding one person the mail list and that was you. Most of my success came from matching names that still lived in the same city or state as in 1944, as I explain later in John P. Phalen's letter in this same column. Nice to see you signed on to the association. Good Luck ... J. Kline)

---

## **Jordan, Clayton G. 423/I**

1086 Wexford Way  
Port Orange, FL 32119  
904-788-4470

I became a member of the 106th at Fort Jackson. I remained with the division until I was captured in December 1944. When I was captured I received German dog tag # 31 at Stalag IV-B. After being shuffled around during the early part of my incarceration, I finally arrived at Stalag III-A, Luckenwalde, where I remained until liberated in late May 1945.

---

## **LeClair, William J. 424/CN**

5686 Delta Ct  
Hale, MI 48739

---

## **Lewis, Perry T. 81st ENG/C**

7882 Las Palmas  
Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

I was in Fort Jackson in 1992 for the 50th wedding anniversary of **Mrs. Avery**, Community Relations Officer at Fort Jackson, there I gave my name to **Roger Rutland** (an association member). He sent me a copy of The CUB and an application. Here is my membership fee. Hope to see you all in Columbia in September.



## MacDonald, William M. 591/HQ

342 Hutchinson Ave  
Haddon Field, NJ 08033  
609-546-2916

I was forward observer for the 424th, joined 591st in Columbia, South Carolina, Fort Jackson. Battle of the Bulge, four battle stars. Graduate of Georgetown University (1949)

Retired as Vice-President of Prudential Insurance Company, Investments Department, 35 years of service. Married with three grown children. My hobby is golf and traveling. This is the first I ever heard of the 106th Inf. Div. Association.

## Matthews, Joe N. 423/D

2621 Western Hills Dr  
Nashville, TN 37214

I joined the division at Camp Atterbury and went overseas with "D" Company, 423rd Regiment.

## Oxford, Paul G. 424/F

818 SE Sanchez Ave  
Ocala, FL 34471  
904-732-5997

I was a draftee at the activation of the 106th Infantry Division and was with them through early April of 1945. I had become Communications Sergeant of "F" Company, 424th Infantry during Basic Training. I was acting in that position during the Bulge carrying that wonderful "heavy" SCR300 radio (39 pounds). I am interested in getting back copies of The CUB, at least the one (JUL\_AUG\_SEP 1992) that has the story by **Milton Schober** of the 424th, "F" Company.

Another friend, **Malcolm Lord** sent me some CUBs. Here is my check for my membership and a copy of *The CUB of the Golden Lion: PASSES in REVIEW*.

(Editors Note - Paul, It has been nice corresponding and talking with you. I hope you enjoyed the information I passed along. Am looking forward to meeting you. If you are going to the reunion, look me up. I'll be the one with all the papers and information tucked into my pockets, given to me by the troops. I take two suitcases to the reunions, one for my clothes, the other for the collection of papers I accumulate during the reunion... J. Kline)

## Parsons William

### ASSOCIATE (78th Div)

224 Myers Corners Rd  
Wappinger Falls, NY 12590

(Editors Note - Bill is the editor of the 78th Infantry Division publication. It is a fantastic piece of work. I think he was in the newspaper business most of his life. It always amazes me when I read the volumes of information he writes. Seems as if some of the divisions had a good records section - he always has excellent photos of the division personnel. Maybe ours got lost during the Bulge, but I can't seem to get much in the way of historical photos for The CUB. Thanks, Bill, for passing along your publication. We made you an honorary Associate member to reciprocate for the publications you send me... J. Kline)

## Phalen, John P. 423/M

137 North Battin  
Wichita, KS 67208  
316-682-2233

John, Thanks for the phone call. I was not aware and was sure surprised to learn that the 106th Infantry Division association existed.

I entered the Army in July of 1943 and received Basic Training at Camp Edwards, Massachusetts. I was then assigned to an AAA Group at Camp Edwards. After entering Air Cadet Training I was transferred to Freeman Field, Seymour, Ind. The Air cadet Program was canceled, I was sent to Atterbury summer of 1944.

I was captured near Schönberg with others from the 423rd Infantry, walked and rode a box car to Stalag 9-B, Bad Orb, Germany. Liberated in April '45 I was back in the states before VE Day.

I continued my education under the GI Bill and graduated from Butler University, Indianapolis, Indiana in 1949. Married Mary Ankenbrook of Indianapolis in 1947. I met her while we were stationed at Atterbury. We have three children and eight grandchildren. I retired July 1992 after a very successful sales career with Abitibi-Price Corporation.

I just completed the book (on tape 1-800-626-333 -Books on Tapes) "Death of a Division" by Charles Whiting. A very interesting book about the 106th during the Bulge. John,

# New Members

again thanks for taking the time to contact me.

(Editors Note - John, it was my pleasure. You were one of the 16 "M" Company men that I contacted around February 3, 1993. I had purchased the "National Telephone Directory" on CDrom disks for my computer. (See my editor's column "Front & Center.") After browsing through a 1944 "M" Company roster I had a list of 53 "suspects" from "M" Company. I narrowed my search down to contact only those that lived in the same town as 1944, or in the same state. Out of 19 phone calls I found or identified 16 "M" Company men. "Identified" indicates that I verified that they had been with "M" Company, but such as life is, several had passed away. When I first joined the 106th Association in 1987 there were 6 "M" Company men on the roster. There are now, as of July 4, 1993, forty-three (43), the largest single unit represented in the association. There have been in that time, since 1987, five deaths.

It has been an exciting time of my life and very fulfilling to be associated with the 106th Infantry Division Association. It has grown from 745 members in September of 1987 to 1,663 as of this date. Considering those that died and some that just dropped out, it is a fantastic growth rate. I am happy to have had something to do with its growth, along with Gil Helwig, another 423/M man who has sent hundreds of letters to former 106th men. As a matter of fact I just talked to Gil, one of our regular week-end calls. Since 1988 he has sent over 1,500 letters to former 106th men. Most of the names were taken from the American Ex-Prisoners of War Association roster. 406 of those that were solicited joined the association. The reasons for the rest not joining are various. Who knows what impression the experiences of 1944 left with some of them As for myself, I cared less about associating myself with the war, that is up until 1987 when I read Charles MacDonald's excellent book on the Bulge. It is entitled *A TIME FOR TRUMPETS: The Untold Story of the Battle of the Bulge*.

You mention Charles Whiting's book *The Death of a Division*. I threw that one in the waste basket after reading it, years ago. I understand Whiting is writing another book, in sense apologizing to the 106th for the gross errors he committed in reporting the retreat of the division. His new book is about the first three days of the Bulge. He claims to have brand new revealing information

about how the 106th and the 28th Div were set up for the Bulge. You would think what with all the information that Charles MacDonald and other historians made available in the past years, plus all the info in the last few years due to the Freedom of Information Act that most all of the facts would have been revealed. Hope to meet you one of these days... J. Kline)

---

## Reid, N. W. 424/M

3811 Canterbury RD APT 703  
Baltimore, MD 21218

I was a member of the Association, years ago, but lost track of it somewhere along the line. **Oliver Lothrop** tells me that you have about 1,300 members now. Enclosed is my membership fee.

(Editors Note - Our membership as of this date is 1,663 and growing. Thanks for joining... J. Kline)

---

## Rosen, Seymour 423/HQ 2BN

1 Roger Place  
White Plains, NY 10605  
914-997-8321

Joined the Division at Camp Atterbury. Served as a radio repairman (MOS 684). Went through Basic at Atterbury with the 106th and shipped out overseas. I moved up with 423rd Battalion Headquarters. I was captured on December 19, along with the others, in a group that included Lt.Col Pruett. I was interned at Stalag 4-B, Mühlberg, transferred to Stalag III-A and III-B, Luckenwalde. I was liberated by the Russians April 1945.

After discharge I went into the manufacturing of ladies handbags (a long way from radio repair). Married, with three children and two grandchildren. Retired since 1986. I belong to the EX-POW Unit at West Point.

---

## Thornley, Cleo C. 590/C

1118 Joe Quick Rd  
Hazel Green, AL 35750  
205-828-9036

## Walter, Henry K. 424/B

211 Lilac Lane  
Delanco, NJ 08075

## Warner, George H. 424/D

240 Forest Ave  
Glen Ridge, NJ 07028  
201-744-8430

I was a Staff-Sergeant in "D" Company, 424th Infantry. Retired from business. Was an Infantry Major in the Army Reserve.

## Weiss, Jr. Dr. Paul 423/M

222 S. Brookfield Rd  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034  
609-795-8227

(Editors Note - Paul's application came to late to be included in the roster that accompanied this CUB. Sorry about that Paul. It was nice talking to you on this evening (Monday 7/12/93). You like many others made it through the bad days of the winter of '44-'45, but the memories are still, as you and I agree. I am sending you a packet of information and will keep in touch with you, as one of my 423/M buddies.

We now, including you, have 44 "M" Company, 423rd Regiment Association members. The largest single unit group in the Association. I just, this evening, sent 17 letters to other members of 423/M that have not yet, for one reason or another, joined the Association. Hopefully a few more will eventually join. I forgot to ask if you had planned on coming to the 47th Annual Reunion in September. Hope to see you there. If not we will still keep in touch. I will send a copy of my diary as I promised in our telephone conversation - I must get a few extra copies made. I am still down to one last "original" of the 300 I had printed in 1987. I'll try to get to that after I get this CUB to "press." Good Health!... J. Kline 423/M)

## Woodman, Ruth B. ASSOCIATE

74 Pine Street  
Dover, MA 02030  
508-785-0712

(Editors Note - Ruth thanks for all the information you sent. I appreciate the little booklet that was prepared by the Armed Forces Educational Services with information given to them by Major General Donald Stroh, the 106th commanding general at the close of

the war. I had a copy but it was torn and ragged. The extra copy is appreciated.

Ruth is the widow of the late Raymond J. Woodman, a member of "M" Company, 423rd Infantry. She informs me that he was interned at Stalag 4-B, Mühlberg. She was one of the 16 contacts that I contacted in February, as I mention as an editor's note to **John Phalen's** letter above.

Ruth sent me her husbands diary. It is well written and illustrated with hundreds of news articles. John Woodman died January 31, 1963. He had been a Brookline, MA teacher since 1946 and Director of English in the schools since 1957. As a student in Boston University he was particularly proficient in Latin and acquired his B.A. degree *cum laude*. He later received a Master of Arts from Boston University. His competence in education resulted in his election to Phi Delta Kappa, honor society for professional educators.

Thanks Ruth for sending the diary. It must be comforting for you to have such a book. It is most interesting. I will copy a few articles for inclusion in The CUB as time goes on. I will guard this book well and get it back to you soon. Margot's and my blessing to you... J. Kline)

## Yovan, Al 591/HQ

261 Painter Hill Rd  
Roxbury, CT 06783

(Editors Note - Thanks to **Merrill E. Bookheimer** for submitting a membership for Al.)



Who says we weren't Gung-Ho ????

(cartoon from the 106th Picture Book)

---

**Ahrens, Raymond L. 424/C**

1419 Marion St.  
Boone, IA 50036

John, I thank you and commend you on the good job you are doing on The CUB. Following a suggestion from the November 1992 CUB, I sent a eleven page typewritten account of my battle experiences in around Winterspelt in December 16-17, 1944 to Nikko van Kerchhoven, in Belgium. No answer has been received.

My son was in Belgium in 1980. The Belgians are very vocal in their appreciation of the Americans driving the Germans out.

I have talked to eight grade students at the local school for two years. Both times I got more back than I gave. Thank you letters were extra bonuses.

I have been searching for my platoon sergeant **John J. Gribbin** and my squad leader **Sgt Spence**. Can you help? Also a GI named **Leetz**.

(Editors Note - Raymond, I found a **T/Sgt John J Gribbin** 32084310, a **Pfc George E Spence** 34972857 and a **Pvt Lester V Lietz** 36319486 in the 424th Combat Infantry Badge orders that were written 4 January 1945. Maybe Spence made Sgt later. Are these the guys you are looking for? I have written you a separate letter with some information, let me know if it helps... J. Kline)

---

**Allen, Harold D. 424/A**

332 Ellis Avenue  
Trumann, AR 72472

My wife, Edith, and I celebrated our 50th on June 16. That's enough to slow an old timer down. Then on July 4th week-end we attended the Allen family reunion near Cookville, Tenn. Saw kin folks I didn't know existed.

Still enjoy reading The CUB, you guys do a good job.

---

**Augerinos, Steve 423/K**

6201 Lakemont Ct  
Catonsville, MD 21228

Paying my annual dues brings back memories. I was assigned to the 106th at Camp Atterbury. I had been assigned to the 10th Armored Division and spent years in Georgia. I nearly would have lived there the rest of my

life, except for the transfer to 106th and events that followed.

---

**Barbsis, Alban DIV/HQ**

280 Arlington St.  
Mineola, NY 11501

I certainly appreciate receiving The CUB and reading the interesting tales of the front line men in World War II. Since I was assigned to a point in the rear, it makes it more interesting.

---

**Beaver, Johnnie R. 423/H**

360 E Colerain Rd  
Kingsland, GA 31548

John, My wife and I decided to move to a warmer climate. Since my quad by-pass, pace-maker and all that good stuff I had to give up my wood-working and take life easier.

We found a nice place in the retirement village near Kings Bay Sub base at St. Mary's Georgia.

In reading one of The CUBs I noticed that you had presented a slide show, maps, photos and hand-outs to a group of the Minnesota 106ers. Since I cannot do any work, I am looking for something to do. I would like a set of the slides so that I can use them in some schools and meetings here.

I am planning on being at Columbia in September.

(Editors Note - In a later letter, Johnnie, you said that you had received the slides. I hope you can make good use of them. They went over very well at the 106th meeting in December 1992, and also at a later meeting of the local Rotary Club here in Apple Valley, Minnesota. I also hope to make some use of them in the local schools. More needs to be said about that era of life that we survived. The younger generation are not aware of what those of us in that age group went through. I hope they do not have to go through it, but those memories must be kept alive. Thanks Johnnie... John Kline)

---

**Betlach, Donald A. 423/HQ 3BN**

417 Crestview Dr  
Ojai, CA 93023

(Editors Note - Don, thanks, so much, for the bundle of old CUBs that you sent. I have already put them to good use. There are newer members who want past issues, a



Ie are also trying to build up an archive set for the U.S. Military Institute at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. Any of you men or widows that have CUBs and want them put to good use, send them to me. They will be put to use... John Kline)

---

## Bied, Dan 422/A

180 Leffler St.  
West Burlington, IA 52655  
(319) 752-5708

John, I received about two dozen phone calls and letters in response for my offer to send copies of the VA's "Cold Injury" bulletins to readers of The CUB. Several of the phone calls were of some length and it was a good feeling to get acquainted that way with some guys of the 106th that I had never met.

This is, I think, another example of the outstanding service provided by The CUB. It seems to get more interesting with each issue. I appreciate being able to contribute my articles.

(Editors Note - Thanks Dan for your letter above. I appreciated the copy of the "Sunrise Section" of the Indianapolis Star that you passed along from Richard McKee, one of our 422/A buddies. It is nice to see that Indianapolis admires and respects Colonel Stachel's work in preserving Indiana Military history at Camp Atterbury. To our readers - Dan has, since 1987, contributed an outstanding article for each CUB. He has never missed. I like his "style" as much today as I did the first day, in 1987, that I read one of the many articles he wrote for his local newspaper. At that time I liked what I read, called him, and asked him to be a regular contributor. His stories have enhanced The CUB. You will usually find his column right after my editor's comments in my column, "Front & Center." Read it, you'll like it. Again Dan thanks for your contributions... John Kline)

---

## Bradford, Harvey D. 424/SV

71 Rosemont Ave  
Aston, PA 19014

Sherod, I would like to say hello to you and all of the 106th. I was in the hospital for a 5 by-pass operation and had a heart valve replaced with a valve from a pig. A week later I had a mini-stroke. I am now on the road to recovery.

(Editors Note - Harvey, reading your note to Sherod Collins, reminded me of the excellent article you wrote about the *Aquitania* that carried the 424th Regiment overseas. That article appeared in the August 1988 CUB. Of course, the 423rd, the regiment I was in, went over on the *Queen Elizabeth*. Colonel Dupuy in his book *St. Vith: A Lion in the Way* says the 423rd went over on the *Queen Mary*, which was either his or the publishers mistake. Those big ships were really something else, if you think about it. Hope you have fully recovered from your operations, it is always nice to hear from you... John Kline)

---

## Bricker, James H. 423/K

1800 SE St. Lucie Blvd #8-306  
Stuart, FL 34996

John, Please accept my thanks for all the great and helpful information you passed on to me. I have forwarded it to **Jim Edwards, 423/K** who is trying to organize a trip for us.

I have also written to **Andre HUBERT, CRIBA** about a stop I will make in Belgium this August during a freighter cruise. That trip will start in Montreal, Canada to Zeebrugge and return to Canada. The ship will spend four to seven days in Zeebrugge. During that time I hope to take an early morning train to Liege and meet with one of the men from the C.R.I.B.A. organization.

As you know I was in command of Company K, 423rd Combat Infantry Regiment. I am going to try to arrange for a tour for a small group of my "K" Company men and hope that C.R.I.B.A. can assist. I am going to try to arrange it for early September 1994 - I never want to see snow in the Ardennes again! I have checked on many of the 1994 tours that have been planned and find them too comprehensive and hectic for a group of 70 year old men.

You are a generous and dedicated man to devote so much time and effort to the 106th Organization. I appreciate and respect your fine work and wish my health would allow me to assist you in some way.

(Editors Note - Thank you Captain Bricker. It was a pleasure to me and to your men to have you appear on the roster of the 106th Infantry Division Association. I hope you are successful in your efforts. That freighter trip

## Mail Bag

sounds like an interesting idea. Give us a little story about it when you return.

In Captain Bricker's letter to Andre HUBERT, President of C.R.I.B.A., he said, "During the Battle of the Bulge I was commander of K Company, 423rd Combat Infantry Regiment. During the fighting, as luck would have it, our Company lost few men, but after we obeyed our Regimental Commander's fully justified order to surrender, we unfortunately lost more, mainly to starvation and ill treatment.

"I learned of and joined the 106th Division Association just a year or so ago and have been able to get in touch with a few members of My Company. One man suggested that we try to make a visit to the places where we fought, surrendered, and were imprisoned to coincide with the 50th Anniversary of the *Battle of the Bulge*.

For you newer members who may not have know, C.R.I.B.A. is the short name for Center for the Research and Information on the Battle of the Bulge. In Belge, *Centre de Recherches et d'Information sur la Bataille des Ardennes*. The C.R.I.B.A. Association was formed in 1980 and this group of devoted men are dedicated to the preservation of the history of the battle. One of their most important activities is to welcome American Veterans who visit their country. They are well known to many men of the 106th who have re-visited the battle-ground. They are

undertake another such large project, after produce the 496 page book, *The CUB of the Golden Lion: PASSES in Review*, but it would be great if you did.

(Editors Note - Clifford, yes I probably have enough "POW material and several personal diaries to draw from. I am still working full time and it seems that there is never enough time. Especially in the summer, because I like to play a little golf, and the days are longer and the basement seems to be the last place I want to go. But, as winter approaches (in Minnesota that is a few days after the two days of summer we have) the evenings are long - I may just start on another using the above mentioned material.

We have given Honorary memberships to Bill Parsons, editor of the 78th's FLASH and Gene Solfelt, a local friend, who contributes to the 84th Inf. Div publication. This is a complimentary exchange, since they furnish me with their publications. Both are great guys who, like all of us, suffered and survived the dark days of the *Battle of the Bulge*. But for a flip of the coin, many of us could have been in those divisions... John Kline)

---

**Broussard, Fred J. 423/L**

4218 No. Murray Ave  
Shorewood, WI 53211

Thanks for the letter referral from Mr.

## Califf, Jr., John W. 423/HQ

1442 Idalia Rd  
Columbia, SC 29206

John, Excuse the delayed answer. I hope you enjoyed the video tape *A Midnight Clear*. I am enclosing an article that appeared in *THE NEW YORKER*. It is about the death of **Peter Fleischman**, who served with our division as a forward observer in the artillery. One of his frequent companions after the war was a man known to one and all as **Mousie**, who had been a Battery Sergeant for the 106th. A son of one of the founders of *The NEW YORKER*, he was a diligent worker. In 1953 he made a director of the magazine, then in 1969 was named chairman of the board. The paper reached new peaks of success under his and William Shawn's care. In 1986 after the purchase of *The NEW YORKER* by Advance Publications, Fleischman retired. He did not talk about the separation from his beloved magazine; he simply became quieter. He died during the last week of June 1993 at the age of 71.

(Editors Note - John, it is always a pleasure to hear from you. You, as always, have been informative. That was an interesting article in the May 3, 1993 *The New Yorker*. It is too bad that our Association missed having and knowing such a talented man.

You mentioned the video tape *A Midnight Clear*, in your Sept 1992 letter. I rented it from BLOCKBUSTERS video store. I thought it reflected, as you said, "the way it was." For the benefit of the readers - *A Midnight Clear* is about WWII, about a patrol that is sent forward just before the *Battle of the Bulge* broke. The snowy setting and scenery is reminiscence of the area we fought in. It brings back memories. It looks like the 106th was used as the basis for the story, at least when it comes to the ages of the men on patrol. It must have brought back memories of the 423rd I&R Platoon to John Califf. The action and objective of the patrol, in the video, was similar to the actions taken by an our I&R Platoon...

## Clark, Herbert H. 422/CN

3686 Leonard Rd W.  
Oshkosh, WI 54904

John, while going through my old papers I ran across the enclosed General Orders No. 39,

Headquarters 422nd Infantry, AWARD OF COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE, dated 4 Sept 1945 by Cpt. M.N. Crank, 422nd Infantry Adjutant. This late order changed the date of the award to December 16, 1944, bringing along some extra pay as a result. It was unfortunate that the date wasn't changed earlier - it would have put me over the hump on "Points." Instead of a discharge in February 1946 I would have been home for Thanksgiving in 1945. I also recently received all my World War II medals from the authorities. They will give my five year old grandson something to look at someday. Keep up the good work on The CUB, I read every word from cover to cover.

## Coble, Ralph M. 422/A

3 Spruce Rd.  
Marysville, PA 17053

Sherod, Thanks again for the May 1993 CUB. I found several interesting reading items, one - **Dan Bied's** article about **Harold Allen's** frozen feet experience. His was similar to mine, except his foot inspection was by a German POW doctor, while I had a GI doctor in Czechoslovakia in 1945... and the City of Columbia "Proclamation" by **Robert D. Coble**, Mayor — yes, he is a cousin of our family from the North Carolina tribe. Sorry, I cannot make the Columbia Reunion. I will be teaching in college then.

## Conner, Mick (Pappy) 592/B

2601 W. Randall Mill Rd.  
Arlington, TX 76012

To Boyd Rutledge, Adjutant, I am sending a check for two 106th patches which I will send to two young men in Belgium, **Gena Paul LINDEN** and **Olivier SCHANDOFF**. I received for my "83rd" birthday a 106th Patch, but it was all metal. It came from Halleux, Belgium. The Lion's head is mounted on a gold plated back, then that on silver, with an engraving on the back saying "*To my Friend Mick.*" I wish every one could have one.

To **John Kline**, editor, I received a letter from a man in Belgium, **Andre HUBERT**. He said some real nice things about you. He wanted to know where I was when the battle for PARKER'S CROSSROAD took place.

# Mail Bag

My guess is that we were back somewhere, out of gas/ammo.

(Editors Note - Mick, thanks for the letter. I also received a copy of the one you sent Boyd Rutledge, our adjutant.

There are several articles about the division artillery groups in the Association's book, *The CUB of the Golden Lion: PASSES in Review* from page 81 through 125. The Parker's Crossroad story, actually took place at Baraque de Fraiture, a hamlet on the heights of the crossroads leading from Bastogne to Liege. Major Arthur C. Parker, III commanded the 589th in that action. The unit was down to three 105mm Howitzers, some machine guns, trucks and about 100 officers and men. Starting at about 3:00 pm on 19 December, he and his valiant men held back the 2nd SS Panzer group for two days and prevented them from penetrating the 82nd Airborne's thinly-held right flank. Because of that, that battle is referred to as "Parker's Crossroads."

There are several references to action. Check the well known publications: *A Time for Trumpets: The untold story of the Battle of the Bulge*, by Charles B. MacDonald, published by William Morrow and Co. New York; *The Ardennes—Battle of the Bulge*, U.S. Army in World War II, by Hugh Cole, published by U.S. Government Printing Office; *Our Division History, St Vith: A Lion in the Way*, (page 182) by Col R. Ernest Dupuy, reprints available from Battery Press, PO Box 3107, Uptown Station, Nashville 37219.

Also, in our association - The above mentioned *CUB PASSES in Review*, The CUB Jan-Feb-Mar 1990, pages 13 through 15, a story by **John Gatens**, of the 589th - who was there; Page 4 of The CUB Apr-May-Jun 1991.

The way I see it, using the information from *The CUB PASSES in Review* "AFTER ACTION REPORT" pages 115 through 120: The 592nd FAB, on 18 December (page 118) was on an overnight bivouac at **OTTRE**. At 0630 on 19 December the battalion moved west to **LAROCHE** and **MARCHE**. Amidst some confused orders, the 592nd FAB moved into an overnight bivouac at 1530 hours (3:30 local) in the vicinity of **SERVILLE** eight miles west of **DINANT**. So, you can safely say that you were not near Parker's Crossroads. None of the above intends to draw a conclusion that you spent the

Battle of the Bulge in bivouac, for the details read the article.

You mention **Andre HUBERT** as my friend. Our association with Andre goes back to 1988 when I contacted C.R.I.B.A. See pages 337 through 344, also in *The CUB Passes in Review*. He is now president of the organization, has been to the states several times. Ed Prewett, who will be president of the 106th Association for the coming term, has had several contacts with Andre. I only wish I could get the opportunity to visit him (Andre) and the other C.R.I.B.A. members, for I have had a lot of correspondence from them. They are TRUE FRIENDS of the 106th. Maybe when I retire (next year?) I might get to travel to Belgium. I have only been back once - that was in 1980, at that time I did not know of the 106th Infantry Division Association or C.R.I.B.A. Oh yes, C.R.I.B.A. was, at my suggestion, appointed LIFE ASSOCIATE membership a couple of years ago. I send five copies of the CUB each quarter to them. Another interesting story on them is the "heart-warming" story of the dedication of a monument to the 424th Combat Infantry Regiment at **SPINEUX**, Belgium. This appears in The CUB Jan-Feb-Mar 1990, pages 16 through 21. The villagers of **SPINEUX** were so grateful to the 424th and the 112th Regiment of the 28th Division, that they erected a beautiful memorial in their village. Helping them all the way were the men of C.R.I.B.A. A true show of appreciation and friendship between the Belgians and the Amis (Americans).. John Kline)

---

## Croucher, Norbert 424/B

216 Greenbrier Dr.  
Palm Springs, FL 33461

I reported to the 106th Division in February 1943 after graduating from OCS at Ft Benning. I was assigned to Co. B 424th Inf. and my first job as a new 2nd Lt. was to paint the inside walls of the latrine with the help of the platoon sgt. while we waited for the filler replacements to report.

I was very fortunate to have Captain Charles Peyser as my CO, He taught me many important facts among which was the attention to the smallest detail and to be aware of the welfare of the men in your unit. We also had a number of very knowledgeable and dedicated Non-Commissioned Officers, First-Sgt **Roger**



**Ireland** was one of the best Top Sgt. I have ever served with in my 33 year military service. Mess Sgt. **Riley Meeks** also was tops in his field with his high standards.

I left the 106th in September and ended up assigned to Co.F 156th Inf. with duty as security troops for Gen. Bradley's in the heart of London. The men of the unit performed their duties so well that in February 1944 Co. F along with rest of the 2nd Bn. was assigned as security troops for Supreme Hq. Co. F became the security around General Eisenhower and his staff's personal living quarters.

In July 1944 I took the 1st and 2nd Platoons over to Normandy as security for the advance CP near the front lines. I saw many of the civilian and military leaders of the Free World as they came to confer with Gen. Eisenhower.

I left SHAEF in late November 1944 and again was assigned to a Co. F but with the 12th Inf. 4th Division. CO. F defended the little town of Berdorf for five days during the Bulge and was able to deny the Germans a critical road junction leading to Luxembourg City and the important radio station.

I was wounded January 21, 1945 and spent about nine months in various hospitals. The last one was familiar place for the 106th Division, Camp Atterbury Ind. 30 miles from my home. I was discharged from the service at Fort Sam Houston Texas in Feb. 1946 and returned to my job at the Indianapolis Post Office.

I had served six years before WWII in HG Co. 151st Inf- 38th Division Indiana National Guard and in July 1947 I was contacted to activate my old unit as Company Commander and I jumped at the chance.

We trained for several years during field training at Camp Atterbury before going to Camp Grayling Mich. I retired as a Lt. Col after 33 years of combined active and Guard service. I also retired from the Post Office in 1971 as a Carrier Station Supt. and moved to Palm Springs, Fla. with my family. I have been married for 56 years and have one daughter, two sons and five grandchildren.

I am proud to be a member of the 4th Infantry Division since it was the unit I served in while in combat. I also am proud to have been

a member of the 106th Division. It along with several units bore the brunt of the German offensive. They slowed the attack enough for the commanders to have time to move some blocking units in position to stop the Germans.

I had a good friend who passed away last year who always seemed to live with a somewhat guilty feeling since he had to surrender Co. E 12th Inf at Echternach Luxembourg since after a few days they were completely surrounded and further resistance and possible death was senseless. I told him at one time that his action resulted in the creation of about 24 families with children which would never have happened if he had allowed their future fathers to have been killed without reason. I have noticed the same feeling of guilt in some of the articles of the Cub that I received recently. These people have every right to hold their heads high because without their effort the German drive might have reached the sea and cut off a large part of the Allied Forces. This would had not only resulted in larger loss of life but would had extended the war much longer. I hope they feel as I do. I AM PROUD TO HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF THE 106TH INFANTRY DIVISION.

I had hoped to attend several reunions but medical reasons and conflicting schedules have prevented it. This year I am hoping to attend at least five different unit reunions. One is the 38th Infantry Division Indiana National Guard which is to be at Camp Atterbury Sept 24th. We had the 151st Infantry there two years ago. We return to Indianapolis often and I have to pass through Atterbury to visit my brother at Neneveh Indiana. I have seen the Division Memorial with the 106th insignie along with the others a number of times.

---

**Daniell, James W. 424/HQ 2BN**

200 Frosti Way  
Eustis, FL 32726

I am writing to thank you for sending me a roster of my former unit. I didn't realize there were ten members of our unit who belonged to the association. I am going to write a few of them to see if they can refresh my memories of the days gone by.

# Mail Bag

## DeBlase, William 106 MP

17340 Hart St.  
Van Nuys, CA 91406

Sherod, here are my 1993-94 dues. Even though I joined the 106th after the Bulge, I was in camp from D-Day on. They kept me in a replacement depot from D+5 to when I joined the 106th. I was a member of the 5th Corp MPs before that. I hope to get to France next year to celebrate the 50th Anniversary.

## Everett, Thomas J. 422/D

37933 Date Palm Dr.  
Zephyrhills, FL 33541-5663

I am 80 years old, 33 years old on the line, and lucky to be alive. I sort of lost track of the 106th. I heard about a meeting in Pittsburgh, they were members of 422/D but not from my crew. I would like a list of the men in my Company.

(Editors Note - Tom, there is a complete roster that was mailed with this issue of The CUB. I hope it helps you. It has the complete count by unit by table of organization; Names and addresses; listings by unit and listings by state and city. Look for 422/D, then go to the "Alphabetically list" to find the address. Good Luck - did they call you "Gramps" while you were in the service?? John Kline)

## Farris, Philip B. 423/H

2251 W. Washington #906  
Springfield, IL 62702

John, Thanks again for the information on **Edward Mageria**. He was with me in 423/H along with **Swett, Peterson, Kurzeja, Harris and Cooper**, that I have seen since I joined in 1988.

Mageria and I wound up at a **ZIETZ**, Germany POW work camp with about 160 others. I have written to **Slim Bozema 422/C** who was also with us at Zietz.

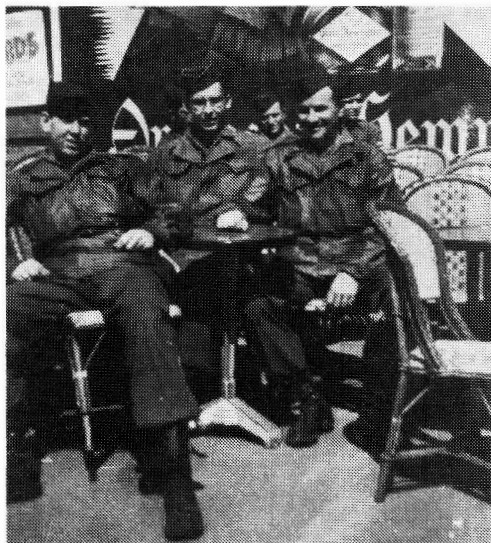
There must have been at least four Arbeit Camps in the town of Zietz (approx 45,000 population).

Mageria, Bozeman and I were billeted above a beer hall in what was a dance floor. We had an organ in there and Bozeman did singing. As American troops got close the 11th or 12th of April '45 what supplies we had were loaded onto a wagon and they started marching

us out of town. I believe it was April 14 (Saturday) some one shouted that Eleanor's husband had died.

We stopped in a small town for a break. We could hear American artillery and a P-47 was flying around. We were waving and near a school house. We decided to go into the basement of the school, which was on ground level. The plane that was flying around hit the school with a small shell. No one was hurt and we scattered over the town. When they tried to round us up, Mageria, Bozeman and I and three others took off - hid by a hay stack for a while, then in a grave-yard. That night we decided to form a column of two's. Germans were all over the town refueling etc. We marched right through the town like good soldiers. We had Mageria ready to talk, since he spoke some German. The Germans didn't ask us to stay since the war was about over. We went back into the town under cover of darkness and stayed until the American tanks (I think the 6th Armored) came into the town. We didn't hear them, a German lady told us they were there.

I just remembered I had a picture of Bozeman and I taken in Paris after we were liberated. "Red" Stone is with us. I haven't located him yet. (editor - Pvt Stone, Clarence K 34 799 957, from the CBI order 1945)



Paris April 1944 — former Zietz Kommando prisoners. L/R Red Stone, Oklahoma; Philip Harris and Ed Mageria 423/H

---

## Men, Howard ASSOCIATE

1716 7th St NE  
Rochester, MN 55906

Sherod, We had our 106th MID-YEAR meeting for this area on Saturday May 1. There were 13 members plus their spouses for a count of 26. Had a real nice time and enjoyed the afternoon. This was the first year we meet during the summer. The winter December meetings will still be held, but it is nice to get together during the good weather in mid-year.

---

## Gasses, Joseph J. 422/HQ

1420 Franklin St  
Grand Haven, MI 49417

Sherod, Tell the gang to have a good time at the reunion. I hope you all have a wonderful time in Columbia.

---

## Goldberg, Ephraim 423/C

555 Franklin Blvd  
Long Beach, NY 11561-2498

Enclosed is my answer to **Ms Janine Jaquet Biden** in response to your article in the May CUB concerning Jewish POWs.

I'll be at Columbia and hope to meet you there. I look forward to The CUB each quarter keep up the good work.

(Editors Note - Thanks Ephraim - I have listed Ms Biden's plea once again in my column "Front & Center." She was pleased with the number of answers she received from 106th men. See you Columbia.... John Kline)

---

## Greve, Walter C. 423/HQ 1BN

13102 E. Florida Ave  
Aurora, CO 80012

John, Thanks for your letter of March 9 giving me some information I was seeking. In order to try and find **Robert Peak** I sent a letter to the Boston Globe for help. Regrettably I found that he had died in February 1982. I would like to say that this method (newspaper search) seems to be a very effective system.

In a recent visit to Illinois I located **Sgt Walter McGoogan**. He lives at 2553 W. Vermont Blvd, Blue Island, IL. I called him and he had just gone through and operation. He lacked memory of the unit when I spoke to him, maybe it was due to the recent trauma he went through.

I retired in 1985 after years of service as a claims branch manager for a casualty company and since have been a member of the Ax-POW and 106th organizations. This got me interested in finding other members of my company. I reached **Sgt C. Wesley Caldwell** in Natchez, Mississippi and hope to get together with him at one of the gatherings.

Excuse my typos, I won this typewriter at a raffle after a golf outing. We must have a gold outing at one of the reunions. I'm not good (a 19 handicap) but I enjoy it. I just sent a brief history to **Roy Bigger**, one of the Association Directors, who was quartered in the same building in **Buchet**. Neither he or I remember meeting then.

(Editors Note - Sounds like you are making some progress in accumulating information on your old buddies. I have located, or accounted for, 77 423/M men since 1987. I am happy to say 44 of them now belong to the 106th Association. When I joined in 1987 there were seven 423/M men, one has died, as well as three others who joined in the interim.

Walt, the two page summary you sent to Roy is interesting. I have to keep this CUB a little less size because of the annual roster that will be enclosed. I will reproduce your comments to Roy in another CUB, if there is lack of room here. Committing "triage" on the incoming articles is the hardest part of my job, it personally gives me the most frustration. I want to print everything, but it just cannot be done. Then, before you know it more info comes in and some of the old gets buried. I hope everybody understands that I do my best, but at times it snow balls. It is all interesting and a shame that I have to play around with the space restrictions. So much for that. Thanks for the nice letter... John Kline)

---

## Gross, Joseph 591/C

7782 Topaz Lake Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92119

John, I am enclosing a list of the original addresses of the officers of the 591st FAB showing their addresses as they entered service. Thought it might be helpful if some person inquires about them. Looking forward to seeing you in Columbia in September.

(Editors Note - Thanks Joe, I did receive

# Mail Bag

those pictures you sent of the display of World War II weapons that were shown at the meeting you attended. Maybe we can use them in some related story... John Kline)

## Hanson, Robert J. 81st ENG/B

2707 Pt. Breeze Dr.  
Wilmington, DE 19810

My wife and I have recently returned from tracing my army steps in France, Belgium, and Germany, and while in St. Vith, we had such a good experience that I thought I should pass it along for the benefit of any other Golden Lions who visit St. Vith.

While looking for a road map of Germany, I went into a travel agency near our hotel, and there met a wonderful native of St. Vith who was 8 years old, living there during the war. When he found out what I was doing there, and of my interest in Schönberg, where his parents were originally from, he insisted that we come to his house for lunch, and that he personally drive us all around the Schönberg and Bleialf areas. His knowledge of the area was unbelievably helpful, and he even located a bridge across the Our, where the remnants of my platoon were captured. He knows just about everybody in St. Vith and also in Schönberg, and his story of how he, his mother and sister fared during the Bulge was informative. I didn't realize what utter destruction St. Vith underwent, because I never got back there during the battle. He said that the only remnant was part of an ancient tower, which still remains. St. Vith now is a delightful little city, with one of the 10 best restaurants in Belgium, at the Post Hotel. [Expensive !!]

This gentleman's name is Christian LOU-VET. He owns a travel agency called the Reiseburo Olympia located on Buchelstrasse, just around the corner from the entrance of the Post Hotel. I know that he would be glad to talk to any Golden Lions visiting there, and am sure that he would be of great help to them.

The only negative of my visit there was in noting the absence of an American flag on the flagpole of the 106th Memorial. I don't know if the people in charge in our Association are aware of this or not. See you in Columbia.

(Editors Note - Bob, thanks for the nice summary of your visit. I am sure this will be

beneficial to others who travel that way. to the American Flag: The 106th Infantry Division Memorial is not controlled by the U.S. Monuments Commission. It is a private monument erected by the 106th Infantry Division Association. I suggest you read the "Memorial" section of *The CUB of the Golden Lion: Passes in Review*. Pages 345 through 374. There you will find that through the tireless effort of association member Douglas S. Coffey, that the monument is in existence. It sits on the private grounds of a school in St. Vith. The American flag is only raised for special occasions, such as an annual remembrance day in December. Aside from that, I am told that it takes a ladder to get to the base of the staff that holds the flag. The picture on page 355, one of the few pictures I placed in this book, shows the flag. That photo was taken by the U.S. Signal Corps at a special event. I am pleased that you found the friendly young man in St. Vith... John Kline)

## Hawkins, Harold W. 423/D

4935 So. 129th St  
Omaha, NE 68137

Here is an interesting article that appeared in the Omaha World Herald on Memorial Day. **Pfc Kenneth Plummer** is listed in the 106th Infantry Casualties list that was enclosed in one of the CUBs.

### Excerpts from the news article:

Pfc Kenneth Plummer was killed on Christmas Day 1944 when a shell from a German tank tore off his left leg at the hip. A nephew, **Joel Fritz**, a printer by trade, has spent years assembling the 161 letters that had been written home by Plummer. Along with the 161 letters which were found in a suitcase Joel found a primitive recording, "wax" that Plummer had made which allowed him to send his voice home. On that 49 year old scratchy record, Plummer's voice lives on, even though it is only a minute and 25 sec long. Harold Paddeck, a member of the 424th Regiment was alongside Plummer when he was hit. He visited the Plummers in Council Bluffs and told them what had happened.

Joel Fritz assembled the 161 letters, retyped each letter and arranged them into four binders. Now Bernard and Frank Plummer, Kenneth's parents can pass along the memory of



henneth to future generations.

Joel says he put this project onto the back burner for about five years. Then, one day, as he was reading a Louis L'Amour book, it hit him. He had a gold mine of information about Kenneth, he could get to know him personally, through the letters. He plunged into the project, knowing that this would be a special gift to his grandparents.

L'Amours, the novelist had written: "Without the written word, a man knows nothing beyond what occurs during his own brief years and, perhaps, in a few tales that his parents tell him

"How much do you know of your own family, who they were, how they lived and what they thought?"

The picture that is printed with the story, shows Joel Fritz; Kenneth's brother, Bernard; Kenneth's mother and father, Frank and Hazel and his sister, Vernelle Fritz, Joel's mother.

Pfc Kenneth Plummer is buried in the Henri Chapelle Cemetery in Belgium. I am sure that would be proud of his nephew for conserving his memory.

Editors Note - Harold, what a tremendous story. What a warm feeling this article gave me as I read it. There is some compassion in the world after all. I will contact Joel, as you requested. Also I will try to get you a copy of my diary after I finish this CUB. I know I have promised it before, but I am down to one copy and just don't want to go to the expense of printing another series at the printer. It costs \$367 to print 150 copies, (I originally printed 300 copies) and if you know the printing business you don't order a few copies, if you did they would be \$5.00 a copy or much more. I have about eight other 106ers that I make the same promises to. I think my best bet is to print out individual pages (55) and have them photo copied. I have never welched on a promise yet, and I will not on this one... John Kline)

### **Holcomb, Roy F. 331 MED/B**

2989 US Hiway 41 SW  
Calhoun, GA 30701

I was in the 331st Medical Unit since day one, until I was captured. Keep up the good work.

### **Jobe, G. Harvey 424/A**

8839 Manda Ln  
St. Louis, MO 63126

From a letter written to Sherod Collins by Jewel, Harvey's wife: "Harvey's physical condition is excellent, but the mild dementia has progressed to where he is a 24 hour a day case. Thank you for all the work you do in keeping the organization going."

(Sherod Collins suggests, "I am sure Jewel could use some support. Maybe our members could drop him a line, in care of his wife, Jewel.")

### **Jones, L. Martin 423/G**

1133 Hilltop Dr  
Lawrence, KS 66044-4531

John, please be informed: My telephone number and address as listed in the CUB was incorrect. My telephone number is (913) 843-3039 and the zip code is as listed above.

M. L. Kessinger, 120 College Ave, Carlinville, IL 62626, was a second Lieutenant with 423/E from June to December 1944, when he was captured. I first met him at Camp Wallace, Texas in June 1943, when we were both in the Coast Artillery Corps. He and I have kept in touch for fifty years now. I sent him an application for the Infantry Division Association.

I read the May issue of The CUB from cover to cover. Thanks for doing such a great job as editor of "The CUB." I appreciated all the information you sent me.

(Editors Note - Thanks, I ran out of the MAY CUB shortly after the membership mailing, it was a matter of me not ordering enough ahead. I have only one archive copy left. I have not seen Kessinger's name come across my desk as a new member. Maybe you should check with him. There are times when the members will send me some of the CUBs to be used as extras for new members. If I receive a copy I will forward it to Kessinger. Sorry about the address mistakes, these old eyes get tired at times, and my asst. editor "Oliver" is usually crouched over the cat-food bowl and pays little attention to the mistakes I make in the text... John Kline)

## Lauman, Clarence (Pete) 592/HQ

6399 Smiley Ave.  
St Louis, MO 63139

Thanks to you, John, I have located one of the Liaison pilots that was shown in the picture (March 1988 CUB). It was **Ray McClure**. He called me today from Maitland, Florida. He was surprised to hear from anyone of the 106th (pilots). He thought we were all dead.

I'm going to send him the picture taken in Namur. John, you have no idea of how we felt talking about those dark days.

He asked about the others and was pleased to hear that **Lt Stafford** and **Lt Scotty** are still alive. He was a very good buddy of Stafford and wants his address.

(Editors Note - Pete, I am glad to be of help. Where are these pilots that you mention are still alive? I don't see them on our roster. Is McClure joining? I am so happy that you found him. Yes Pete, I know the joy of finding one who I have not heard of for nearly fifty years. I have located or found, sometimes through others, 77 of the former 423/M company men. Unfortunately about ten of them have passed away. 44 of them are current members of the 106th Association. I know the thrill and anticipation of waiting for a person to answer the phone, then finding that he was in fact from my unit. No greater thrill have I ever witnessed. See you in Columbia. Oh yes, you asked who to contact about the KIA in Korea. I really don't know, maybe some person reading this will let you know. I would try calling information in Washington. You may have to ask one of your local telephone supervisors how to get to the right party... John Kline)

## Lawson, William J. 423/H

96 Skyview Terrace  
Syracuse, NY 13219

I had some extra time so I was looking over some of the old memorabilia that I had. I came across a newspaper articles. Most of the stuff is in copy form, newspaper articles from the mid-forties. Maybe you can use them.

(Editors Note - Thanks Bill, those old news articles are always interesting. I have a lot of repeats, but once in a while I get a copy of something I never heard of before. That May 10, 1945 article on Father Hurley in the Michigan Catholic newspaper is one. I did

have a copy of the letter he wrote the Christmas after we were all liberated. I was not in Bad Orb, but I know from the many men that have praised him, that he was one of the fibers that held things together as well as they were. Another is that letter to Ed Sullivan. I think it is worth repeating. Your copy doesn't show which paper to give credit to, possibly the New York Times, anyway here goes. In a column entitled "**Behind the Scenes**" a GI is writing to Ed Sullivan (I assume this since there is a picture of Ed Sullivan in the column).

### Behind the Scenes

From somewhere in Belgium, Pvt Gabe Schwager speaks of the dead of the 106th Infantry Division: "It must be frightful enough, Ed, for a family to receive word that a son or husband or father has been killed in action. It must be particularly frightful when they are told falsely by a Washington Correspondence that those dead displayed cowardice, broke and ran before the enemy. I feel that I am qualified to appraise this action because I was attached to the famous "Fighting First" in Normandy, well named because they performed miracles. Similar, the 106th given an impossible assignment against Von Rundstedt stood firm and traded the Wermacht blow for blow in spite of the fact that they were outnumbered and outgunned.

**In no instance did they falter or flinch—they fought and they died fighting! The official casualty reports will collaborate this, Tell the families that their boys did not die in a mis-performance; these recruits performed like veterans and covered themselves with honor before they fell. I was there.**

Parents and relatives of boys in the 106th were loading the phones with calls thanking Pvt Gabe Schwager, in Belgium, for that letter to us defending the heroic dead against the charges of that Washington Correspondence...

Father of a Lieut Frank Shea, Jr, missing in action since 19 December, sent along a copy of Cedric Foster's magnificent broadcast, Foster pointed out that the 106th was spread out thinly over a 27 mile front but fought like wildcats as indicated by the 8,663 casualties.

**A final repudiation the 106th was cited by Gen. Montgomery for heroism.. Last**

**D**rd from the outnumbered 106th, shrouded in heavy fog: a fruitless appeal for ammunition, water and food.. Then a last message "We are now destroying our equipment."

**LeClair, William J. 424/CN**

5686 Delta Ct  
Hale, MI 48739

I was with the 106th when it was activated in 1943., so I feel like a charter member. I was transferred after Tennessee maneuvers from Camp Atterbury, along with a few other men. We were shipped overseas as replacements. We, when I say that I mean **Edward J. Johnson** and myself were put in a reinforcement depot and trained as cooks. We were with the 359th Repo dep, 72nd Battalion and spent the rest of the war there. We were in Vervier, Belgium when the 106th went through and we stood on the sidewalk and waved. We saw a lot of our former comrades. It made us proud to see the old division again.

My only regret is that I am sorry I did not hear about the 106th Infantry Division Association until this year. I felt like the 106th was my mother and father and we left home after we learned everything. The 106th will always be dear to my heart. I feel proud as to what they did and what they accomplished. We were not too far from the action of the Battle of the Bulge. We had been in Malmedy prior to moving to the Vervier a week before the breakthrough. They then moved us back to Warren. After the battle E., J and I went to visit our old company the 424th Cannon Company. We were happy to see that so many of them came through it all Okay.

**Oliver Libman** was the one who told me of the association. I discovered that **Dan O'Farrell** lived only a few miles from me. I stopped to see him and his wife and had a nice 4-5 hour visit. He supplied me with a lot of information. My wife and I are looking forward to this reunion. I am hoping to locate **Jim Kenyon** and **Dean Berthiaume** before coming to the reunion.

(Editors Note - Bill, in your follow up letter you mentioned a **Edward J. Johnson** that you have been in contact for years. Why don't you write him and ask him to join?

**Looney, James M. 423/CN**

4109 Holly Street  
Fairfax, VA 22030

My wife, Ruby, and I have made reservations for the upcoming reunion. Gosh the hotels filled up early. We finally got a room at the Comfort Inn. That was May 17, sounds like a great turn out. I do hope that **Virgil Collins** and wife will be there.

**Myers Jr., Dr. Lawrence 591/B**

151 Cambridge St  
Syracuse, NY 13210

May I suggest a correction: On the last Page of the May CUB, in the Memorials, Col Carl H. Wohlfeil was identified as commanding officer of the 591st FAB. He in fact assumed command of the 590th FAB. I became Asst. S-3 at the same time (1 Apr 45), transferring from B Battery, 591st FAB.

Perhaps our greatest moment of personal satisfaction occurred early one morning a couple of months later. Wit rumors of Nazi capitulation rife, Major Wohlfeil took myself, the battery commander of A Battery, the first artillery piece from A Battery south to the Lorient Pocket (still occupied by Germans), and fired three 105mm shells into the submarine pens. We proceeded to go forward and disarm the enemy, who by that time had heard via radio that an armistice was due at 11:00 a.m. It was the 590th FAB's re-entry into the conflict, if for only a brief June moment. Lawrence Myers, Jr. COL-USAR Retired (then 1st Lt)

**Neufeld, Ernest 423/M**

98-15 65th Rd  
Forest Hills, NY 11374

Boyd, Thank you for forwarding my check and letter to the right person.

I was greatly interested in the information you gave me about the GIs who were sent to Bergen Belsen and the inhuman conditions under which they had to live and work. You can imagine how worried I was when I, along with others, were told to report for "Kommando Work." I had just begun to come out of the grippe when I got notice. I had frostbite. It was a bitter cold January, so I feared the worst, especially since I was Jewish.

## Mail Bag

Yet, I was one of the fortunate ones. Our group of 18 were assigned to work as lumberjacks in Prussia. We each had a bunk with a straw mattress. There was a stove for heat and plenty of work. You could heat water in the kitchen and wash - if you wanted to - and keep clean. And Jerry started to give out Red Cross parcels regularly, so we didn't starve.

I am curious about those GIs who proceeded us at Neubrandenburg who asked incoming prisoners for their religion besides their name, rank and serial number. They obviously violated Army regulation and collaborated with the enemy.

---

### Parquette, Jean C. ASSOCIATE

410 Super St  
Mosinee, WI 54455

Sherod, please send me five copies of *The CUB of the Golden Lion: PASSES in Review*. I am using this as a gift to each of my five children in memory of their father.

---

### Pierce, Waldo B. 422/F

530 East St  
New Britain, CT 06051

I will not be attending the reunion, but hope that all there will have an enjoyable time. I am still in reasonably good health, still active as an American Legion officer and volunteer with the local Red Cross. I attend most all of the Ax-POW meetings.

---

### Rauscher, Anthony A.

**3d INF/6987 GRD**

139 Lakeview Dr.  
Haines City, FL 33844

Thanks, John, for remembering who I was looking for. I didn't have any luck finding **Paul Tauber**. My outfit the 789th AAA will have its 50th Anniv at Fort Stewart, Georgia. We still call it the "Old Swamp Hole." It all started back in April 10, 1943.

My wife and I will be going back to the Ardennes next year. We will visit the St. Vith Memorial. Another reason we are going is having a memorial put up for all the units at Antwerp and "Buzz Bomb Alley." The reason for the Bulge was to destroy the port. Its not as big as the 106th Memorial, but it is something. By the way, the 789th was close to your outfit

in the Ardennes. Thanks for letting us get out of that mess. We were not mobile. We got in the Ardennes December 16, 1944 left to go back to Antwerp on January 28, 1945.

(Editors Note - Anthony, that was a nice article about "BUZZ BOMB DEFENDERS TO BE HONORED." I hope I can get most of it in the next CUB.

---

### Rickard, William 422/HQ 2BN

5500 Pineland Rd  
Richmond, VA 23234

(Editors Note - Bill, the hotels filled up fast. I guess these old guys are getting savvy in their old age. All the rooms at the Marriott filled practically overnight. No person had any advantage over the other, it is just a fact that some people started making their reservation right after the last reunion. Sorry you missed the Marriott, but I hope I see you their. Please look me up - I am the guy with papers stuffed in my pocket to take home and 25 men around me. It's not quit that bad, but it is one reason that it would do me no good to take my wife - she would never see me. I love it... John Kline)

---

### Solfelt, Gene

**HON. ASSOC.IATE (84th Div)**

3425 W 102nd St  
Bloomington, MN 55431

I wish to thank you for the honor of being accepted as an associate member.

There is a strong bond forged between infantrymen in all armies and especially those who have been in conflict. As you know I was in "Easy" Company, 333rd Infantry, 84th Division, and we landed in Europe about the same time as you. It was kind of you to permit me to use the article concerning your personal experience recently printed in the Minneapolis Star-Tribune.

I believe sharing those experiences are helpful to those who shared their reality.

Author Richard Kolb wrote in the August 1991 VFW Magazine that only 20% to 25% of the Army Personnel were involved in the European shooting war. This includes Air Force Personnel. Riflemen make up 11% of the typical WWII division, and comprises on 5% of the US Army. We are indeed a very elite group, as a friend of mine always says.



I hope the chapter from our division history, "The 84th Infantry Division in the Battle of Germany," sent to you concerning our experience in the Ardennes will give you another perspective of that awful battle. We do share the victory, and the regret of the terrible cost. It is hard to believe some have learned nothing from these miserable experience as is evident in the daily headlines. Someday, perhaps, wars will not be considered any kind of a "solution" to Mankind's problems.

Thank you again, John, for your kindness. I wish for all of us simply, Peace!

(Editors Note - Gene thanks for the history of the 84th Division, what a proud outfit. Whoever put the history together did a good job. It's been a busy summer. Would still like to get together sometime.. John Kline

---

**Summar, H. Frank 589/SV**

312 N. Twin Oak Rd.  
Murfreesboro, TN 37130

I enclose my check for a LIFE MEMBERSHIP. I was drafted on March 5, 1943 and sent to Fort Jackson, South Carolina. I was in the 589th Service Battery then Tennessee maneuvers, on to Camp Atterbury. I was captured on 19 Dec 1944 along with the rest. Sent to Stalag 9-B, Bad Orb, liberated on April 17, 1945. After 60 days of furlough went to Miami Beach for updating records then to Camp Rucker, Alabama. I was discharged Dec 11, 1945.

I worked at Alvin York VA Medical Center, Murfreesboro, TN for 30 years. Now retired. Will soon be married 49 years with one daughter, one son and three granddaughters

---

**Taylor, Alexander 422/D**

PO Box 7597  
Jacksonville, NC 28540-2597

Here's some information in response to your new member request in the April-May-June 1993 issue of the Cub.

My tenure with the 106th began in late March 1944 along with several hundred other ASTP men from the University of Alabama. My assignment was with the 423d Service Co. where I became a reporter of Special Court Martial Trials for Regimental Headquarters. In September, I was transferred to the 2d Platoon,

Cannon Co. of the 423d. We went to England before most of the division and were the acting division quartermaster company until the rest of the division arrived. Just before the Bulge we were made part of a special unit quartered in Bleialf, Germany, where we were when the Germans attacked on December 16.

After my capture, the Germans sent me to Stalag IV-B, via Limburg where several thousand of us sat on a railroad siding for several days and endured a Christmas Eve bombing. At Stalag IV-B-A transient camp for American POWs- I lost contact with all members of my unit and was assigned to a work party at Halle with 19 other men mostly from the 28th Inf. Div. We 'belonged' to Stalag IV-D near Torgau, although we never saw the place. In early April the Germans decided to take us to Torgau, but we had other plans. Eighteen of us got away and were picked up by elements of the 104th Inf. Division near Selden, south of Delitzsch. My discharge notes that I escaped from the Germans.

After the war, I went to the University of Missouri where I received a degree in Agricultural Journalism. From then on, except for my marriage in 1950 to Margaret Kallsen of New Mexico and graduate school at Michigan State University where I received a Masters in General Communication Arts, I reported agricultural activities for several land grant universities and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In 1980 I retired as Director of Public Affairs for USDA in Washington, DC, and began 8 years of work for myself as an international communication consultant. Then I had a heart attack and moved from the Washington, DC, area to Grand Junction.

Now I write-have published a genealogy and have been working on memoirs of my army experiences and collect rejection slips! Oh, one more thing might be of interest: In 1986, my wife and I were in Frankfurt and drove through Limburg, Gerolstein, Prüm, and on to Bleialf- a reversal of the tour the Germans provided in 1944. Much was changed, of course, although almost any one of us who had been there would remember Bleialf. Even a pillbox remained, outside a stone building where our platoon was quartered, although now the pillbox is being

## Mail Bag

used as a garden shed. I also found the exact spot where I had been captured and searched.

My wife and I spent the night in a guest hotel in Gerolstein. There, I asked some questions about where the Americans had been held before boarding trains. At first the modern Germans were wary of answering my questions but eventually treated us royally- even gave us a free dinner that evening!

---

**Vanderheyden, Donald P. 591/HQ**

7802 Mallard Rd SW  
Huntsville, AL 35802

I have not been in touch with the 106th since leaving in 1945.

**Ray Panice**, who lives in Chicago, got to me on the phone and I sent him a letter indicating an interest in the Reunion. As a member of the 591st FAB from the beginning I was most interested in the article that appeared in *The CUB Passes in Review* by Lt, Crank. P 110

I was in the operations section and ended up as the Battalion Sergeant Major of the 591st. Left the division at Gosgatorch in May of '45 as a volunteer for the Far-East. In July I joined a unit going to the Pacific but the war ended while we were at sea. I was discharged and re-enlisted in the regular army. Got a commission in Oct of '448 and went to serve with the 52nd FAB of the 24th Division in Korea and Japan in 1951-53 time frame. Had a tour of Germany in 1955-58 and then back to USA to retire in 1963.

Worked for the Army in Civil Service Redstone Arsenal, Alabama for 16 years.

My wife and I want to make the Columbia Reunion, but we have a problem involving care of the aged.

Thank you for the great job you are doing for the Association. I knew both Col Wohlfiel and Captain Gaggin listed in the last CUB "Memoriam." Sorry that they passed away.



---

From John Gallagher 81st Eng/C  
I recently received a copy of the 50th Anniversary of Bulge emblem, from Belgium

---

**Walker, Jr., Neff 423/M**

Rte #3, Box 594  
Shermans Dale, PA 17090

I am looking forward to seeing a lot of the 106ers at the Columbia Reunion. It will be a great reunion, as I took my Basic at Fort Jackson with M Company, 423rd Infantry.

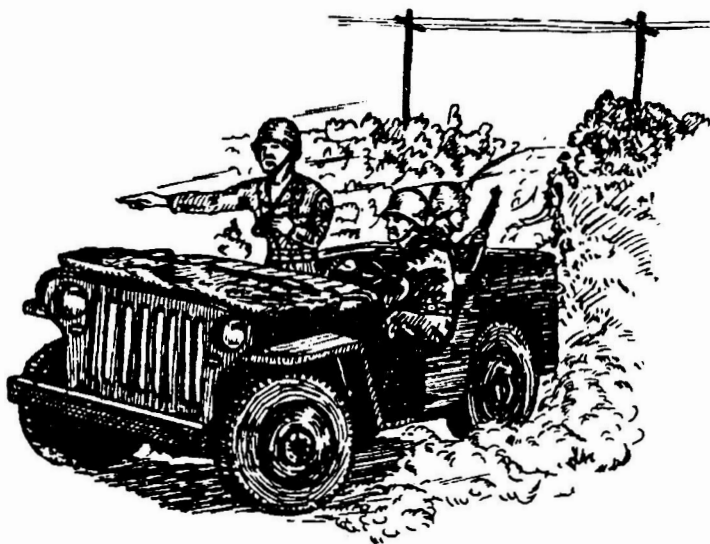
I really enjoyed the picture on The May CUB. M Company stands out well, the lower section of barracks, top row, second from left - my home away from home. I also liked the picture of the Division in Review, where many did not pass in review, but passed out because of the heat.

---

**Wojahn, Edward C. 81st ENG/B**

1553 West Young Dr  
Onalaska, WI 54650

(Editors Note - Ed, that was a great article that you had in the LaCrosse Tribune. I wish you would have sent the original picture of you holding the 106th Picture Book. It showed up well in the paper but I don't know if it will print well in the CUB without having the original. I will ask the technician at the print shop. Maybe we can do it in the next CUB. You should get some new members with that article... John Kline



Head for the MARRIOT, that's where the HOE-Down is going to be held.



Golly-gee, not two pieces of bread jammed together again!!  
I thought they were going to serve some good chow at the HOE-Down.

---

**See you all at the 47th Annual Reunion for the  
50th Anniversary of the 106th Infantry Division  
Fort Jackson, South Carolina, Sept 9-12, 1993  
COLUMBIA MARRIOTT HOTEL**

# *In Memoriam; Rest in peace...*

## **Braaten, Carl 422/L**

Box 492, Osceola, WI 54020

Carl died July 1992. We just learned of his death and no further details are available. Carl was a contributor to The CUB. He loved to write poetry. See page 6.

## **Clark, Felix B. 422/E**

1735 31 West Hiway, Goodlesville, TN 37072

A phone call was received saying that Felix had passed away. No details were given.

## **Davis, William E. 423/E**

21 Dennis Drive, Belleville, IL 62223

Rosemary, his wife writes "Just a note to tell you my husband, William E. "Bill" Davis, passed away May 13, 1993. He was looking forward to the upcoming reunion at Columbia. He really enjoyed the fellowship at the last two reunions. He died of a heart attack.

"Bill and I were married 43 years, there was never a better husband and father. Please remember Bill in your prayers. Best of all at the reunion. Rosemary"

## **Goldberg, Arnold 331 MED/HQ**

19 Belmont Circle, Uniontown, PA 15401

George F. Phillips, a member of Division Headquarters, a resident of Uniontown writes, "I am enclosing the death notice for one of our comrades, Captain Arnold Goldberg, 331st Medics. Since his retirement in 1981 he enjoyed good health. I have known Arnold since our school days. We graduated High School in 1931.

"Our ranks thin - one by one - the young men of the 106th have aged.

"Arnold, age 79 died June 4, 1993. He began his newspaper career as sports editor of The Evening Standard. After World War II, he returned as City Editor of The Evening Standard and advanced to Editor of the Herald-Standard, a position he held until retirement.

"He is survived by his wife, B.J. Goldberg, and a sister Reeve Perr of Lagauna Hills, Calif. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Jules and Bernard Goldberg."

## **Hänke, Ralph 423/F**

2384 Sun Valley Circle, Wheaton, MD 20906

Died February 15, 1993. In a letter from Bette, his wife, "Ralph died peacefully after a long illness. He was buried at Maryland Veterans Cemetery, Cheltenham, MD. In his hands I placed a small "New Testament" given to him by a comrade from "F" Company. His flag was given to a grandson, Robert H. Hartman III, who following a family tradition, is serving his country in the Air Force, 7001 Special Security Squad, Ramstein, Germany."

## **Prince, Robert 422/HQ**

654 Woodland Ave, Pottstown, PA 19464

M. Ardell Prince, Robert's wife writes, "This is to inform you of Robert's death on January 10, 1993. He was a member of the 106th and a POW in Germany in '44-'45. His funeral involved participation by the local VFW and American Legion. He was proud to have served our country in World War II."

## **Schutte, Phillip 424/F**

2415 Otter Dr., Warren, MI 48092

Jean Schutte, wife of Phillip is an active Associate member, she writes, "With sadness I am informing you that Phillip died April 3, 1993 at the Veteran's Administration Nursing Center in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He was terminally ill for many years.

"Phil served proudly with the 106th Infantry during his time in service. He was a member of the Association Board of Directors for several years. He enjoyed that tremendously. He is survived by me and a sister, Marie."

## **Condolences to:**

D.B. (Pete) Frampton, 422/CN on the loss of his wife Nancy.

Sam E. Davis, 423/HQ CO, on the loss of his wife Myra, April 22, 1993.

Cebert V. Turner, 81st Eng/A on the loss of his wife Mary Jane, April 20, 1993.