

THE ARDENNES \* THE RHINELAND \* CENTRAL EUROPE

# The UB

PUBLISHED BY AND FOR

*The Veterans of the  
106th INFANTRY  
DIVISION*

*of the*  
**GOLDEN LION**

Vol 60 - No. 2

JAN - FEB - MAR

## 58th Annual Reunion of the Golden Lions



September 1-5 2004

Hyatt Regency Hotel - Milwaukee, Wisconsin (Downtown)

Registration papers will be mailed direct to you soon

# The CUB

*A quarterly publication of the  
106th Infantry Division Association, Inc.  
A nonprofit Organization - USPO #5054  
St Paul, MN - Agent: John P. Kline, Editor  
Membership fees include CUB subscription*

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11 Harold Drive, Burnsville, MN 55337-2786

952-890-3155 - jpk@mm.com

## **Business Matters, Deaths, Address changes**

Marion Ray - Adjutant

704 Briarwood Drive, Bethalto, IL 62010-1168

618-377-3674 - raybugleboy@charter.net

## **Memorial Matters and Inquiries**

Dr. John G. Robb - Memorial Chairman

238 Devore Dr., Meadville, PA 16355

814-333-6364 jrobb238@hotmail.com

## **Membership Dues**

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113 Woodshire Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15215-1713

412-781-8131 Email: rigatti@libcom.com

## **Dr. Duncan Trueman, Chaplain**

29 Overhill Lane, Warwick, NY 10990

845-986-6376 FAX 845-986-4121

email: dttrueman@yahoo.com

## **Membership Fees**

Life Vets/Associates ... \$75 Auxiliary \$15

Annual Vets/Associates... \$10 Auxiliary \$2

Annual Dues payable by June 30 each year.

Payable to "106th Infantry Division Association"  
in care of Treasurer. See address above.

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34 Brae Burn Drive, Purchase, NY 33138

Ethelbarb@aol.com Website: www.mayrsohn.com

914-428-8200

**Saul A. Newman (422/G) . . . . . (2008)**

13275 Saffron Cir, Palm Beach Garden, FL 33418

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29 Overhill Lane, Warwick, NY 10990

Tel/Fax 845-986-6367 dttrueman@yahoo.com

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400 Morse Avenue, Gibbstown, NJ 08027-1066

856-423-3511 newtruth@worldnet.att.net

I urge you to take a moment to turn back to the inside cover page of your CUB magazine.

When doing so I ask you to look at the positions listed and the names that go with those positions. These are the men, our comrades, who have offered to give of themselves to work in behalf of the 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Association.

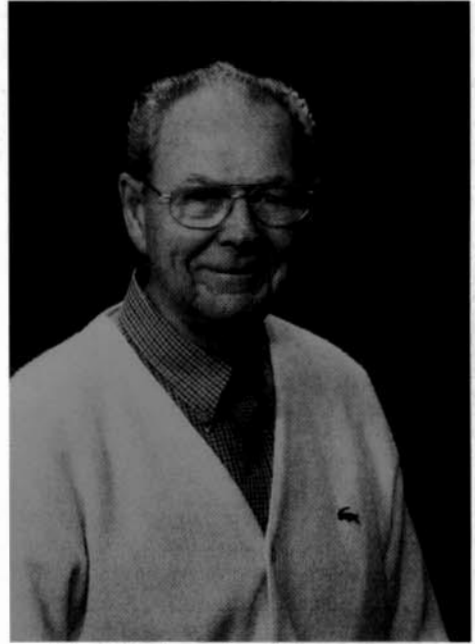
All of these men make up the work force that keeps the Association functioning so well from year to year. Since the origin of our Association in 1947 many different names have appeared under these position headings over the years. Men that you and I fought with during WWII. Men who desire not what the Association can do for them but what they can do for the membership.

I joined the 106th Association in 1987 when I learned of its existence. Then three years ago I was privileged to be elected to a five year term as a member of the Board of Directors. It was then that I witnessed first hand the dedication these men have given to our organization. Having been appointed as Nomination Chairman for three consecutive years I was impressed with my committee members and equally thrilled to see the eagerness of members who wanted to become members of the Board themselves. When I served as 2nd Vice President and 1st Vice President I was even further impressed with the quality of the men who are our leaders. Some of these men have served in their positions for many years and they are to be highly commended.

I dedicate this column to these men who serve faithfully to make our Association a great organization and one that we have all been proud to be a member of over the years. I also want to pay tribute to those men who have preceded this group in years past. Had it not been for their dedication and hard work we would not be such a sound and meaningful Association today.

The next time you open each issue of your CUB magazine and see the inside cover, I wish you would remember that these men are your comrades who do their tasks willingly to make everything happen throughout the year in order that the membership can meet annually, enjoy each others company, reminisce, break bread together, laugh at stale jokes and relive those memorable days where we, as a proud Division, fought so gallantly in our own way to defeat the enemy and contributed to maintaining the freedom of our great country.

God Bless the United States of America!



John M. Roberts, President 2003-2004  
106th Infantry Division Association  
"C" Battery, 592nd Field Artillery Battalion  
1059 Alter Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304  
Phone: 248-338-2667 Email: jmr810@aol.com

John "Jack" Roberts, President 2003 - 2004  
106th Infantry Division Association



## Chaplain's Message . . . When Old and Grey



Chaplain

Dr. Duncan Trueman, 424/AT  
29 Overhill Lane, Warwick NY 10990  
TEL/FAX: 845-986-6376

In his book entitled "*The Warrior - Reflections on Men in Battle*" Dr. J. Glenn Grey, a former combat infantry officer, makes the following observation: "The deepest fear of my war years, one still with me, is that these happenings had no real purpose.

Unless (these days) had some positive significance for my future lifetime, it could not possibly be worth the pain it cost."

Viktor Frankl would certainly have agreed with that. In those days there must have been some transcendent purpose; otherwise the cost is too great.

Compared with veterans of Korea and Vietnam, I wonder how many vets of our war are troubled by the question, "Was it worth the cost?" Far fewer, I suspect. Yet the great hope for a peaceful world in which we warriors had such confidence, seems forever thwarted. Therefore the question "was it worth the cost?" arises even in the minds of some World War II veterans.

In a communication with Lt. Col. David Grossman, long the head of the psychology department at West Point, I mentioned these concerns that veterans had occasionally confided in me. Let me share a portion of his reply. At least this has meaning to veterans of our war:

*"I was just in England....and we visited the beautiful White Cliffs of Dover, My brother, there has been love and laughter and peace ever after over the white cliffs of Dover and across Western Europe, thanks to your sacrifice and that of your generation. Now the March of Freedom moves on, the Light of Liberty is brought to new nations, and a new generation has risen to the challenge. May this generation live up to the standards of nobility, courage, sacrifice and wisdom that were set by those who have gone before us. God bless and protect all veterans, including the new generation of warriors currently being forged in the flames of combat." And may God bless America. (signed Dave)*

Did you get the meaning? "*Now the March of Freedom moves on...*" Tyrants and despots may always ravage this world's people. That is the outcome of human cupidity. Every man and woman of faith in every generation must oppose it, each in his/her own way to insure that liberty prevails. So conflicts continue. The truth is that man cannot save himself. Mankind cannot invent its own salvation. But there is a Power which can redeem the world's social ills, greed and sins. It can end warring and build a world of peace.

Only people of faith can receive, understand and live that power. No pollyanna solutions. The consecration of the living....where does it begin? It must begin where it has always begun - in people like ourselves, It must begin where it has always begun - in nations such as our own. So the prayer in Psalm 71 is a prayer of the faithful....

**"Even when I am old and grey, do not forsake me, O God, until I declare your power to the next generation, your might to all who are to come."**

I was getting tired of looking at that old guy who calls himself, "The Editor," so I thought it was a time for a fresh face. The photo goes back to those great days of May 1945. I had already gained 15 pounds.

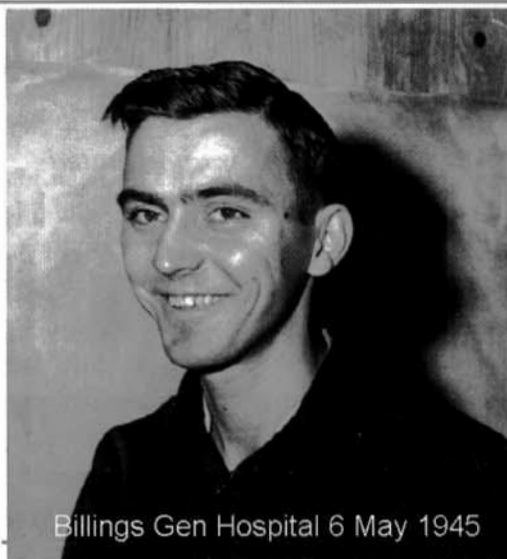
Just released from POW captivity on Friday 13 April 1945, I ended up through an Evacuation Facility to a hospital in Paris, then was flown to Billy Mitchell Field, and then on to Billings General Hospital in Indianapolis, Indiana, arriving there on May 6, 1945.

Weren't those the good days?

You bet - after those experiences nothing can go wrong.

John Kline, editor

April 29 - May 1, 2004.



Billings Gen Hospital 6 May 1945

Editor, John Kline, 423/M  
11 Harold Drive

Burnsville, MN 55337-2786

Tele: 952-890-3155 Fax: 952-707-8950

Web site: <http://www.mm.com/user/jpk>

Email: [jpk@mm.com](mailto:jpk@mm.com)

### **ZITTAU Survivors...**

"Our 40th Annual Reunion of Zittau Survivors will be held in Grapevine, Texas April 29 - May 1, 2004.

The Zittau Survivors with nine of its living members, who are also members of the 106th Infantry Division Association, continue to search for additional veterans who were with us at that Work Camp in Oberullendorf, Poland very near Zittau, Germany. For information contact me:

Cliff Austin 580/C

125 South Maple Street

Vergennes, VT 05491-1225

802-877-3451

email: [yorkbeach1@aol.com](mailto:yorkbeach1@aol.com)

### **Stalags 9A-9B-9C-13C- Berga**

Meeting of survivors of  
Stalags 9A, 9B, 13C and Berga AM  
Elster in Johnstown, Pennsylvania

### **Holiday Inn**

**Johnstown, PA**

**April 28,29,30 May 1 2004**

If interested contact:

David & Leona Hunter

417 Messenger Street

Johnstown, PA 15902

Phone 814-539-6312

email: [l.a.s.h48@juno.com](mailto:l.a.s.h48@juno.com)

### **ATTENTION: Annual Dues Paying Members**

Annual dues expire on June30, 2004. To continue membership in the 106th Infantry Division Association and to continue receiving the CUB magazine, quarterly

Please send your renewal dues, \$10 per year to

Richard Rigatti, AssociationTreasurer,

113 Woodshire Drive

Pittsburgh, PA 15215-1713

412-781-8131

**\$10 per Year**

**\$10 per Year**

## Donations

Since Oct-Nov-Dec 2003 Cub  
Your generosity is appreciated

### Andersonville Donations

Howard, John W. 10

### Donations to Association

Albert, Roy I. 10

Atiyeh, Richard A. 15

Black Ewell C. Memory of Sherod Collins 25

Bryant, Howard L. 15

Kersteiner, Don W. 10

Mayrsohn, Bernard 150

Roberts, John (Jack) 100

## Head Count 02/15/2004

Life Members (Vets) 703

Annual Members (Vets) 595

**Total Vets 1,298**

Life Associate Members 152

Annual Assoc Members 122

**Total Associates 274**

Comp Members 10

**GRAND TOTAL 1,582**

Are one of the 29,000 former prisoners of war  
who do not belong to AXPOW?

# AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR

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Fone: (817) 649-2979 Fax: (817) 649-0109 email: [HQ@axpow.org](mailto:HQ@axpow.org)

## **Front & Center . . .**

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### **Special NOTICE** **106th PX has been discontinued**

John Gilliland PX Manager, announced that the PX is closed.

He said that some items may be ordered from:

**Leslie L. Brown, 4132 E 36th Place, Tulsa, OK 75135**

**Phone: 918-742-7133**

Such items as Bolo Ties, Silver & Black; Gold and Black; with Gold and Black rope at \$19.50 each delivered. Leslie also has Miniature and Regulation Medals.

Leslie is a Ex-POW having fought in the South Pacific War.

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For those with Internet capability I found a manufacturer that Gilliland mentions:

Hoover's Manufacturing Company,

4133 Progress Boulevard, PO Box 547

Peru, IL 61354. Phone 815-223-1159.

I searched the Web: They have a website at [www.hmchonors.com](http://www.hmchonors.com) an impressive list of WWII medals and other items that would be called "PX Items."

Their website lists this: **YOUR NUMBER ONE SOURCE FOR MILITARY PINS, BELT BUCKLES, AND HATS SINCE 1963.**

**Order Toll Free 888-223-1159** Hours Mon. thru Friday 8am. to 4:30 pm CST.

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### **RAINES VIDEO PRODUCTIONS - FT MITCHELL Videos** **57th Annual Reunion of the Golden Lions Video Tape**

180 Golf Club Rd, Suite 157, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

The recent reunion was a great success.

Thanks to the large turnout the 2003 Reunion video is filled with interviews telling of their War experience. The video also features highlights for the Saturday Night Dinner banquet as well as the entire Memorial Service by Dr. Duncan Trueman.

This tape has **Reference #200473**, be sure to include that in your order. This is a great keepsake for members and their relatives, it is also a way to share your history with friends.

We have enhanced the video by adding computer graphics and music for the 1940's.

**PRICE: \$29.95 plus \$4.00 Shipping and Handling TOTAL \$33.95**

To receive this 3 hour video call **1-800-654-8277** for Credit Card purchases, or send a check or money order to the Association Treasurer at the following address:

**Richard Rigatti, 113 Woodshire Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 152153**

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### *From John Schaffner 589/A*

#### *Past-President, Historian, 106th Infantry Division Association*

In year 2003 it became necessary to pass on the responsibility of the Association's Official Historian, Sherod Collins.

I happened to be "in the right place at the right time."

So, once again I find myself in an "On The Job Training" situation as the Association's Historian.

I have acquired all of the material collected to date and will be in the process of sorting and cataloging for quite a while. It is my intention to submit an item for *The Cub* on a regular basis that will acquaint the members with what has been collected (and will eventually be deposited in the Army's archives at Carlisle Barracks.) As an example, we have at least one copy of most of the previously issued Cubs. I have to say, "most," because while inserting them in binders, I noticed a few issues missing. There are also copies of personal memoirs of some of our Association members. Personal memoirs are very much desired, so if you have recorded yours and wish to include them with our historical data, and have not as yet, please send that material along to me.

The material includes not only that mentioned, but also, various *Battle of the Bulge* video tapes, old newspaper clippings, photographs made during training, a red fabric armband with the Nazi Swastika and a (apparently handmade) guidon for an (unidentified) I & R unit. There is no written history on the armband or guidon, so if anyone knows the history of them I would appreciate a note for the records.

For a start, BINDER #1 contains the following stories or books:

1. Mike Klinkman *German Prisoner N. 25708 (2 copies)*
2. Larry Tabor *Thesis for Master's Degree 1 December 1988 (no title)*
3. John R. Schaffner, 589/A *Armydaze, Memoirs of service, plus journals of battle-field revisits 1992, 1994, 1998, 2002.*
4. Maurice deLaval, L.S.D. *The Battle Of The Ardennes G.I. Joe Pleads "NOT GUILTY" 1958*
5. "The Heroic 106th" – *Article from Indianapolis Star*
6. "The 106th" – *Small pamphlet size history, from the Army Education Uni (A&E) MG Donald Stroh*
7. *Ardennes American Cemetery and Memorial – ABMC 1963*
8. "The Story of America's 106th Infantry Division" – excerpt from Cedric Foster broadcast January 21, 1945
9. *Before The Veterans Die – by Dale Carver (2nd printing 1985)*
10. "Then and Now" magazine catalog
11. *History of the 30th Division*
12. *Paperwork for installation of 106th Memorial at Fort Jackson*
13. *Orders establishing the 106th Infantry Division (Archive copies)*
14. *The Thirty-Eighth U.S. Infantry Regiment*  
Written & Edited by Capt. Edward O. Ethell, Pfc. Paul A. Caldwell - 1945



# BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS

Association president John M. "Jack" Roberts, "C" Battery, 592nd Field Artillery Battalion, recently published a book about his experiences during the "*Battle of the Bulge*" in December 1944 where he was ambushed and captured by the Germans. The book, 237 pages, with a colorful cover, gives a detailed account of his harrowing experiences telling how he was able to escape his

German captors, while behind enemy lines, before reaching a POW compound. Early chapters in the book gives the reader an overview of his youth, including his military training leading up to his capture. The book then concludes with his adjustment to civilian life with it's rewards after discharge from the Army.

Jack's books were on sale in the "*Hospitality Room*" during the 57th Annual Reunion of the 106th Infantry Division Association at Fort Mitchell, Kentucky where many members purchased the books that were on display.

For those of you who were unable to attend the reunion, you may purchase the book directly from Jack as follows:

## *ESCAPE . . . !!!*

The True Story  
of a  
World War II P.O.W.  
The Germans Couldn't Hold

by John M. "Jack" Roberts

**John M "Jack" Roberts, 1059 Alter Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304.**

**email: jmr810@aol.com Telephone: 1-248-338-2667**

**Price: \$27.95 includes shipping and handling.**

**Payable to John M. Roberts**

## ***HINDER FORWARD (HINDER = CODENAME ON FRONT LINE)***

456 pages \$50.00 + \$6 shipping

**Author Dean F. Jewett 168th Combat Engineers, PO Box 249, Saco ME 04072**

Author made two trips to St. Vith, Rhine River, Armor School Library, Military History Institute, plus personal information from 168th Combat Veterans

168th Combat Engineer Battalion, was attached to the 106th Inf Division at St. Vith. Their three line companies were defending the Prumerberg. A battalion of 600 men suffered 335 casualties, 33 KIA, the others wounded, POWs or MIA. The 168th is credited with Normandy Invasion, Northern France, Rhineland, assault crossing of the Rhine River, Central Europe. Ending up near Czechoslovakia..

**A TEENS WAR ... TRAINING, COMBAT, CAPTURE**

**Author Hal Taylor, 423/CN, 2172 Rockridge Dr., Grand Junction, CO 81503**

**hal1271@bresnan.net 970-245-7807 Available <http://www.1stbooks.com> as a hard copy or electronic transfer.** *A Teen's War* describes the experiences of a small town boy in the latter stages of World War II. Portions originated from letters written home about induction, training, and time overseas with the 423rd Regiment of the 106th Infantry Division and that unit's short period of combat in the Battle of the Bulge.

The story is unique compared to most war books, for it contains none of the pedantic pretenses of most military histories, filled with strategy or the so-called 'Big Picture.' Instead, *A Teen's War* tells how a young, private soldier became aware of reality and the world around him despite his limited view.

All readers who have ever heard the words, 'missing in action,' will find this book interesting. Readers who were prisoners of war themselves, particularly of the Germans, will recall those hellish times and understand that recollection enables one to live and to cope with the realities of today.

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**MEMORIES OF A TOUR OF DUTY** By 1st Books Library, 1663 Liberty Drive,  
**WWII IN EUROPE** Suite 200 Bloomington, IN 47403  
**EARL S. PARKER 423/E** Tel: 1-888-280-7715 [www.1stbooks.com](http://www.1stbooks.com)  
100 Pages \$9.95

Also available through **Amazon, Barnes and Nobles and Borders** at \$14.95.

Any book store can order the book by Title, Author or ISBN Number

Here is the story of a young draftee in World War II who experienced life in the Armored Force, the Army Air Force pilot training program and the reality of combat in an Infantry Division. On line with the 106th in a quiet sector of the Ardennes, these foot soldiers were in the direct path of the massive German offensive that became known as *The Battle of the Bulge*. Overwhelmed by the sheer might of numbers and firepower arrayed against them, they managed to upset the enemy timetable until forced to surrender on the fourth day of what has been called the greatest battle of the war in terms of men and machines. This book is about an individual and his experiences under fire and as a prisoner of war; liberation by the Russian Army and his adventures on a hike across country to rejoin the American Army. Here, an attempt has been made to create the feeling of the times in addition to the problems of the moment. It is a book about real people in a tragic period of history.

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**Editor's Note:**

*We have over the years listed books in "The CUB" as a service to our 106th Infantry Division authors, as well as to other person's with a story to tell about World War II. Especially about "The Battle of the Bulge."*

*Our representation of "any book" in The CUB Magazine does not express acceptance of or an official opinion by the "106th Infantry Division Association, or it's officer's or Board of Director's or editor."*

*It's up to you to judge for yourself whether to purchase or not purchase.*

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**Helen von Erck's**

**THE WARMTH OF A SONG**

**A Love Story About Freedom Set  
During The Battle of the Bulge  
- World War II**

**About the Book:**

Check your local stores and the Internet for prices.

Available at

[www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com) and [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

Her book is also available on her website [www.warmthofasong.com](http://www.warmthofasong.com)

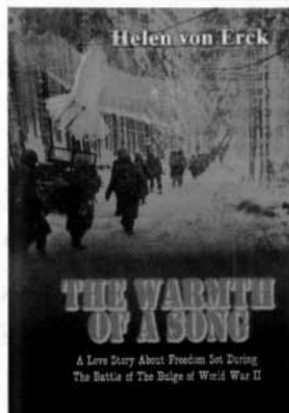
ISBN: 1-4017-9656-6 (Soft Cover)

ISBN 1-407-9655-8 (Hard Cover)

Almost as if torn from today's headlines comes the riveting story of patriotism and courage, love and comradeship, as told in *The Warmth of a Song*. Set against WWII's The Battle of the Bulge, this adventurous tale is inspired by actual eye-witness accounts. As Hawk Clarke fights for God and country, when the platoon he leads narrowly escapes from the German Panzer battalion that has them surrounded, he also learns the greatest freedom of all - the courage it takes to free the human spirit. Returning to Boston after a sniper's bullet penetrated his spine, Hawk mourns the loss of his once strong legs. Can he break free from the cage he feels his life has become in time to help an old woman release a miracle?

**Helen von Erck:** [helenve@cs.com](mailto:helenve@cs.com)

Helen von Erck lives in Atlanta, Georgia with her daughter, Hayley. While growing up in South County, Rhode Island, she began cultivating a lifelong fascination with history. She has turned that interest into a passion, and has conducted in-depth research into the life and times of the 1940's and World War II. She attended the University of Rhode Island and the University of Denver where she studied Business Management with a minor in Creative Writing. As a child, Helen started cultivating her storyteller skills, while she entertained the other kids on the playground with her stories. She later began her professional writing career as a restaurant reviewer writing for an entertainment newspaper in New Hampshire. This is her debut novel. [warmthofasong@yahoo.com](mailto:warmthofasong@yahoo.com).



**From James West, Associate  
Reference "Open Hours"  
CAMP ATTERBURY POST MUSEUM**

Jim says, "The Museum is not open a great deal and it is hard to expect all to comply with the hours. In a recent communique I received this information:

In cases like this, have the GATE HOUSE call me at 526-1112, or LTC Barrineau and we would be happy to show you the Museum.

I am forwarding this message to Major Potts, Directorate of Military Police and he will inform his soldiers of our need to allow visitors to be met at the gate and escorted to the museum.

Thanks again for your help.  
James West.

### **A TRIBUTE TO A FALLEN COMRADE.**

#### ***In a letter to the Editor.***

by Richard J. Thomas 424/C

*Subject: Re: Solemn Thoughts 106th MIA's*

*COLLINS, Robert T. PFC. NJ 17 DEC 44*

*Weapons platoon, C Company, 424th Infantry*

I commanded the first machine gun squad, and Collins, "Collie" to us, was my gunner. On the morning of December 16th, along with the rest of the regiment, we were thrown into action at St. Vith. We spent the morning under heavy artillery fire from the advancing German tanks and small arms fire from their infantry troops. Our mission, as you know, was to set up a final defensive line of fire until the rest of the company had fallen back, then to drop back and set up a new line of fire. Whenever possible, we set up in the woods at the edge of a cultivated field so that we had a clear field of fire. Things were pretty chaotic, but I can only assume that our fire helped slow the German advance, since they seemed to be concentrating much of their fire on our positions.

Miraculously, we avoided any casualties from the time of the first barrage at about 6 A.M. until about 11:30 that morning, when a tree burst behind our gun got our gunner Collie, the assistant gunner, Houston, and me. We were all hit in the legs. Houston sustained a couple of flesh wounds, and I got a piece of shrapnel through my left ankle. Collie was the most seriously wounded, with two hits in his left leg, and three in his right. After sending the two ammo bearers back to report to the platoon sergeant, a wonderful New Yorker named Charles Gribbin, ( we called him "Tech") I crawled over to check on the Collie and Houston. Both were in a lot of pain, and in no condition to continue manning the gun. It was too late, anyhow. German infantry had entered the wood and had us pinned down. We were prisoners. Their first words to us were "For you, the war is over."

The Germans were surprisingly considerate of us. They carried us to the edge of a road; then, because there was a delay in their advance, gathered canteens and D rations from our dead comrades and laid them beside us. The non-com in charge of the squad spoke excellent English, and assured me that an ambulance would be by to take us back to a field hospital "very soon." Again, I heard the phrase, "For you, the war is over." Well after nightfall, the ambulance came.

When we arrived at the field hospital, I lost touch with both the men. A medic took the boot off my foot and wrapped it in a paper bandage. Very late that night, I overheard a doctor speaking English to another wounded prisoner. I got his attention and asked him about my men. I had trouble identifying them to the doctor, but he finally went away, promising he would try to find out. He was back in a short time. "One is all right," he said, "he will be fine. The other," he shook his head, "his wounds were too severe. We had to give him an injection, we could not help him."

Collie may have had other wounds than the five I saw. Or he may have been too deeply in shock to survive. I don't know. But I do know he was euthanised that night in the field hospital. I can only assume that he was buried in a nearby grave. If the Germans did not feel they could transport him for treatment, I doubt they would move him for burial. PFC. Collins was a fine soldier, and a good human being. Like most of those who did not return, his loss was a tragedy to his family, and our country.



## New Members . . .

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### **ALBERT, ROY I. 423/E**

19341 Devonshire Rd  
Beverly Hills, MI 48025  
248-647-6982

I was transferred to the 106th from the Air Corps at Malden, Missouri and sent for Ranger, Parachute and Medical Training and at Fort Bragg, Fort Jackson etc. I was shipped to Europe with the 106th but have no knowledge of retained friendships in the 106th because I was shipped out to the 35th Infantry Division as a machine gun squad leader.

I did see several 106th soldiers at the POW Camp where I was held, but the names escape me.

I hope to renew those memories by joining the Association.

It has been hellish getting through the mental impact after deciding to investigate the times in 1944, my capture on 12 December 1944 and the POW experience. I was liberated on 9 May 1945, weighing 40 pounds lighter, but alive. I am getting there and hope this membership will help.

Also recently an architectural friend of mine said that a "memorial" for the 106th has been built in the New York City area (Maybe the Bronx?). Please send me a Division Patch.

Signed Roy

(Editor's Note: Roy, First - What POW Camps were you held in? The 106th soldiers were held in three major camps plus a variety of "Work Camps.")

Our PX has closed for lack of business and I am not sure where you can get a Golden Lion Patch. Through this "Editor's Note" I am asking any person having a spare to FIRST write or call you, to see if some other person has already responded.

Welcome back to the 106th. You have a lot of supporters in our group. Many of us experienced what you went through. I know I did.

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### **ANDREWS, JOHN CRANE 589/A**

7501 SW Canyon Dr.  
Portland, OR 97225  
503-292-9564  
swiftlake@netzero.net

Please sign me in as a LIFE Member

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### **BROWN, MICHAEL A. ASSOCIATE**

207 So. Kroeger St  
Anaheim, CA 928905  
714-776-2076  
mabrown@kcc.com

My father, Allen W. Brown, PFC, 39272552 was in "D" Co., 424th Infantry Regiment. I have an interest in my father's role in the 106th Infantry Division in WWII. My wife Sandra and I are joining as LIFE Members.

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### **CORMIER, CLARENCE 422/HQ 2BN**

55 Vernon Street,  
Grand, MA 01440  
978-632-4257

Please sign me in as a LIFE Member.

Sergeant, in Headquarters 2Bn, 422nd Infantry.

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### **DRISCOLL, DONNA B. ASSOCIATE**

219 East 28th St #5D  
New York, NY 10016

My cousin Thomas Driscoll was with the 106th.

My father Lt. Col. Thomas D. Driscoll was with the Tank Destroyers. I am organizing our Family History,

I found John Kline on the Internet.

Donna Driscoll Bionca (I use Driscoll for any military organization.)

Editor's Note: I send every new member a packet. Donna received her's and we had some email correspondence. She obviously had some "writing" experience and with her cousin and father being in the service, she is "service oriented." Here is what she wrote. Thanks Donna.

(To the 106th Vets: This may track with some of your experiences.)

## New Members . . .

Hi John - I've been thinking about what you wrote all day today.

First, I am continuously amazed about your ability to organize. I loved reading that you organized your basement to function for your 106<sup>th</sup> activities - and that you are computer friendly. Your magazine is a delight to read - it is well planned visually - as if you were an art director with years of experience working on magazines. You also come across as highly motivated - which is always rare!

I've wondered about the severe vitamin deficiencies that you might have experienced - loss of teeth was probably due to that. And socks at bedtime makes sense just living in the north - but I can imagine that getting cold in the night - while asleep - might effect your "dreams" - perhaps causing a neurological flashback that, when experienced in sleep, might cause nightmares that your awake mind can repress but your sleeping mind cannot prevent.

Actually your war experiences became lifelong - even if your mind could forget - your body could not.

How did you connect with the other POWs? Especially the Bataan Death March POWs? Was this arranged for you - or did you do the seeking out? (Through the VA Peer Group that I have attended for years J Kline)

There must be some comfort in this shared experience - by that I mean that only those who have had this experience can understand what is not said. Once, before I worked in hospitals, I was in publishing and a company I worked for published a book called **"The Art of the Holocaust."** It was made up of sketches done by those in concentration camps during WWII. This book was published in the early 80's as our Vietnam POWs were just beginning to come into print. These pictures looked almost the same as POW experiences described by our Vietnam Vets. I did some research into Korean and WWII POW experiences. There was a documentary aired on, again, the History Channel, about British WWII POWs, that gave me the clearest glimpse into this horror.

And I've been thinking about surrender - I've only read about it from the commander's point of view - your history is the first I've ever read from the soldier's perspective. I thought it was a positive thing that you did in re-searching how this decision of command was made - and thought that I read that you gave your commander a "not guilty" decision. (This

concept here of a soldier reviewing his commander's decision is a story in itself)

The other concepts I'm wondering about are the ethnic ones - in your experience - the enemy was German - and concepts of territory. The weather made the land itself an enemy - along with the armed humans. Yet, ethnically, these Germans were not as unfamiliar to you ancestrally as the land was physically.

When bad things happen at home in what had been good and safe and familiar territory - then what was good and safe gets destroyed in what becomes bad and dangerous. In your case, bad and dangerous happened in unfamiliar territory but in familiar weather conditions (which was why I asked about what happened to you ever after when it snows). Bataan was Japanese captors - different than your experience.

Margot is German, born and raised in Germany, yes? And I'm guessing that your own ancestors are German.

None of this was easy to digest - but I'm wondering if it was just a little easier to bear when the punishment isn't coming from anything familiar to you.

Self-hatred makes the punishment that begins with another self-perpetuating - what another starts the self continues. Perhaps his German part became a hidden protection in that you might not have been able to accept - or agree to - hatred and/or fight to the death from anyone ethnically the same as your self - this inability might have become a hidden strength - somewhat like an immunity. These are questions I have - not truths and/or beliefs.

I hope I haven't been intrusive - there's no right way to stop writing now - so I'll just stop - and wish you and Margot a nice weekend!

With Affection- Donna

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**HUBER, DAVID A. 422/A**

1478 S. Valhalla Drive  
Upland, IN 46989  
765-998-7134  
dnjhuber@bpsinet.com

David I apologize for not getting you membership information into the November CUB. I simply buried the papers and came across it, after I had the CUB printed. J Kline, editor

On my application for membership in the association it was suggested that I submit a write up of some of my

## **New Members . . .**

experiences while in the U.S. Army 1944-1946. The following is a 'thumb-nail' sketch.

I want to emphasize that I don't have any exciting or heroic events to report. I hesitate to even write about my experiences since they don't begin to compare with the actual battlefield "life and death" experiences that you older veterans encountered. I've always been proud to have been a member of the 106<sup>th</sup>, but more so now since I have read of first hand accounts by some of the survivors.

I was 18 years old in Sept. 1944; went to Indianapolis for my physical in Oct. ; signed up for immediate induction; was sent to Camp Atterbury and then to Ft. McClellan, AL for sixteen weeks. Thus began my military service. After basic training we were sent to Ft. Mead. MD and then to Camp Shanks, NY where we boarded the flag ship of the convoy, the USS ??? . The only name that comes to mind is the Lawton or Lawson. If anyone can get me straightened out on this please let me know. I remember the sister ship was loaded with nurses.

We departed for the ETO 23, Mar. 1945. The convoy was a magnificent sight which I will never forget. There were ships in all directions as far as the eye could see. We arrived at LeHavre, France on April 5, 1945. The following events are not necessarily in the proper sequence. I remember assembling in a large field with thousands of other GI's near Rennes. This is probably where I joined the 106<sup>th</sup> Inf. Division. I remember the impressive ceremony at an air field near Rennes when the 106<sup>th</sup> Division was back to full strength.

Also, being near St. Nazaire getting ready to relieve the 66<sup>th</sup> Inf. Division. I remember going on a long train ride on 40/8 box cars all the way around Paris. One big job we had later on in Germany

was processing German POW's. One prisoner asked if there was anyone there from IN.? He had worked with Standard Oil Company, Campbell Soup Co. and in the Gary Steel Mills. He had gone home to Germany for a visit and was put in the German Army.

During one period of time we had to search some German towns for weapons. What usually happened was that besides finding a few weapons, wine cellars were emptied by some thirsty GI's. Some could hardly make it back to camp.

When VJ Day arrived our combat training came to a halt. I remember guarding a DP camp near Ulm, Germany. These people were mostly Polish. In Ulm we lived in German houses even had beds but no mattresses just springs. I climbed the old church steeple several times and did it again in 1983 when my wife and I were in Germany visiting my son and his wife. He was in the Air Force at the time.

I am not sure when the 106<sup>th</sup> Division was actually deactivated. The older veterans had already gone home on the point system. We who were left had become part of the Army of occupation. I don't recall when but I was transferred to the 79<sup>th</sup> FA Group. I remember being in Ludwigsburg and finally in Heidelberg. I will never forget the funeral procession of General George Patton going through town. While with the 79<sup>th</sup> FA Group I was a truck driver, a dispatcher, and finally a mail clerk.

It finally came time for me to go back to the good old USA. We were trucked to Bremerhaven where we boarded the PAMONA VICTORY. Nine days later after a big storm we arrived at New York, saw the Statue of Liberty and later headed for Fort Sheridan, IL and separation. This was in AUG. 1946. I stayed at home, helping my father on the farm, one

## **New Members . . .**

mile west of Warren, IN for the next year. In the fall of 1947 I enrolled in the School of Agriculture at Purdue University.

The GI Bill put me through college for which I am grateful. More grateful, in connection with this, Purdue is where I met my wonderful wife, Joanne. We have been married 52 years, have 6 children, and 14 Grandchildren

I was employed by the USDA for a few years but most of my life has been with Purdue University as assistant Farm Director and for 30 years the manager of an outlying experimental farm conducting pasture and beef cattle research. I retired in 1989 and have lived in Upland, IN for the past 13 years. I spend my time gardening, fishing, church work, and reading.

In closing, I will say that I wish I had kept a better record of my time in the 106<sup>th</sup>. Since I have become a member of the association I have received several e-mails and a few phone calls which I appreciate. I wish I had known about the association several years ago. I returned home without any battle scars, just a few unpleasant memories. I am glad I survived, but I will never know whether I would have been a live coward or a dead hero but I hope I would have been a live hero.

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### **PAPPAS, JAMES 423/K**

603 63rd Ave W M-2  
Bradenton, FL 34207  
514-753-7305

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### **REIDER JR, GEORGE S. 590/B**

277 Highland Road  
Hershey, PA 17033  
717-533-3506

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### **STAINO, CARMEN J. 422/I**

228 W Red Lion Drive Bear, DE 19701-5902  
302-832 8474

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### **STEWART, WILLIAM J. 106<sup>TH</sup> RECON TROOP**

PO Box 368  
205 E Main Street  
Durand, IL 61024  
815-248-2243

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### **WALKER, PAUL E. 331 MEDICAL HQs**

11029 Cutter Road  
Meadville, PA 16335  
814-337-2635  
PandJWalker@surferie.net

Please sign me and my wife June, in  
as LIFE Members

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### **WRIGHT, NEIL LIFE ASSOCIATE**

33 Northumberland Ave  
Kidderminster  
Worcestershire DY11 7AN  
United Kingdom  
Tel: 0044 (0) 7801 884103  
Neilwright103@msn.com

November 18, 2003.

(email from Neil Wright)

Hello Mr. Kline. In another 28 Days we'll be heading off back down to the Ardennes again, for the anniversary of "The Battle of the Bulge." What I would like to do, this time, is stay a few nights in one of the foxholes. In no way can I imagine what it would have been like when you had to do it 59 years ago, knowing that at moment could be your last. But I want to be able to say that I stayed there.

I can't begin to explain what draws me to do such things. It's as close as I can get to the real thing I guess.

What would be the general location of your position on the road between Schönberg and Bleialf, as we go there each year and the foxholes are pretty much in good order.

Hopefully you will be coming over for the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary next year. If so I



## **New Members . . .**

would like to meet you.

(Editor's Note) I didn't give Neil the location he asked for on Hill 504, outside of Schönberg, but did give him my machine gun position on the Schnee Eifel (Snow Mountain.) I looked for that position, myself, on my trip back in September 1995, when we met at AUW, Germany with German veterans of the 18<sup>th</sup> and 62nd Volksgrenadier Divisions. I couldn't find the my machine gun position on the Schnee Eifel. Darkness came and we were headed elsewhere the next day. Later, I realized I was very close to my positions, but was too far north and was looking in the area of the 422<sup>nd</sup> positions.

I was the left most heavy MG position on the 423rd left flank. There was one 423<sup>rd</sup> rifleman on my left, then a long empty stretch to the 422<sup>nd</sup> positions to the north.

In our 1999 Overseas group meeting (Again at Auw - a repeat of the 1995 meeting) I went back to the Schnee Eifel with friends and found my MG positions.

The first night on line we were positioned lower on the hill. The emplacement was very wet and was well forward of the rifle line. The captain pulled us back up the hill about 150

yards after the next day. That alternate position was the one we stayed in, until we pulled out on our "**Strategic Withdrawal**" on 18 December 1944. The outline of both MG positions is still apparent, even though filled with dirt and debris from the various "harvests" of trees that the Germans do on a regular basis. There was no doubt in my mind that I stood right on top of my old MG position. It is a thrill to do so, more than you realize. The emotions were pretty strong.

That position is the one I directed Neil to. I sent him very detailed maps of the area to work with. I am waiting on an answer from him, whether or not he found it.

Welcome to the 106<sup>th</sup> Association  
Neil.

John Kline

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### **WEINER, BERNARD ASSOCIATE**

5110 N Casablanca #30

Scottsdale, AZ 85253

602-912-8790

I am the son of Milton Weiner, "M"  
Company, 424<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment.

I wish to join the Association as a  
LIFE member.

***From our Washington D.C. Correspondent -Jack Sulser, 423/F  
Past-President, OGL and current board member.***

### ***World War II Memorial Dedication Ceremony May 29, 2004***

On <[www.wwiimemorial.org](http://www.wwiimemorial.org)> you can apply for tickets to the dedication ceremony on the Mall on Saturday afternoon, May 29, and to one of several "Salute to Veterans" performances by DC-area military music groups at the MCI Center. A special seating section will be available to those (and wives) who can identify themselves as WWII vets. However, the service at the National Cathedral on Saturday morning will be by invitation only because of limited space.

In addition, the Battle Monuments Commission and Smithsonian will collaborate on exhibits of WWII interest on the Mall for four days Thursday-Sunday, which will be open to the public and include an opportunity for WWII vets to tape record their experiences. Large crowds are expected, and private cars will not be able to approach the dedication ceremony. Hotel/motel space is already difficult to find. The Web site above has info on lodging near the subway stations, which would be the advisable way to go. It will not be an easy event for oldsters, especially those who may have limited mobility.

## Mini-Reunions . . .



### **New Jersey - December 10, 2003**

Harry Martin, Jr. 121 McGregor Ave, Mount Arlington, NJ 07856 973-663-2410 martinjr@localnet.com

The New Jersey Mini-Reunion took place on December 10, 2003 at the Picatinny Arsenal in Morris County, New Jersey. We had 14 from the 106th and 26 from the local chapter of the Veterans's of the Battle of the Bulge group.

During lunch we enjoyed interesting "Bulge" stories that continue to be amazing about what each individual went through. Despite the hardships we are all glad that we did it.

After lunch Santa Claus visited and had a present for each of us. We drew numbers for the gifts and had an enjoyable time.

Each year, many of us look forward to our "National Reunion," but we also eagerly await the December Mini-Reunions.

**Back Row l/r:** William S. Blaher, 422/I; Dr. Duncan Trueman, 424/AT; Alvin Sussman, 422/HQ 2Bn; Jerry Mount; Ralph Richter, 331/Med/D; Vince Sziber, 81st ENG/C; Floyd Elston, 589/A; Josef Krafchik, 331 Med/HQ; Harry Martin, 424/L

**Front Row:** l/r: Jean Brensinger; Marion Blaher; Grace Trueman and Muriel Sziber

Many thanks to William Blaher for providing the photo.

Missing from phot, but attending: Glenn Lockenvitz, 106th Recon.

### ***To all Mini-Reunion Chairmen:***

***We are proud to include the Mini-Reunion reports in this issue of "The CUB" for this year's activities. I wish to thank all the chairmen and helpers who made this all possible.***

***It is vital that we continue the Mini-Reunion programs. For there are many of us that are unable to travel to the National Reunions.***

For those of you who were unable to attend the 57th Annual Reunion of the 106th Infantry Division Association at Fort Mitchell, your certificates were mailed to you with a letter of appreciation for the fine work you are doing.

For those that have not yet reported their **Year 2003 Mini-Reunions**: The next CUB will be available for a display of your photographs and the results of your Mini-Reunion.

Please continue to send your photos to the CUB Editor for publication. Also send a report to me in order that I can summarize the year's reunions to report to the Association Board. Thank you.

Harry Martin, 121 McGregor Avenue, Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856-1032  
or email me at: martinjr@localnet.com

## ***Mini-Reunions . . .***

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### ***Madison, WI - Oct 18, 2003***

Charles Rieck, 424/H, 7316 Voss Parkway, Middleton, WI 53562 608-831-6110

The Wisconsin 14th Annual Commemorative Meeting of The Battle of the Bulge was held at CJ's East, In Madison, Wisconsin. on October 18, 2003. We had 29 people in attendance and they were:

Mr./Mrs. Jerome Miller; Mr./Mrs. Robert Homan; Mr./Mrs. Edward Nagle; Mr./Mrs. Raymond Kurth;  
Mr./Mrs. Howard Jones; Mr./Mrs. Al Kath; Mr./Mrs. Edmund Podloski; Mr./Mrs. John Hendrickson;  
Mr./Mrs. Florian Frank; Mr. Ralph Moore; Mr. David Post; Mr. Peter DiBenardo; Ms. Nina Spenle;  
Mr Fred Broussard; Mr. Victor Fuchs; Ms. Jean Meredith; Mr./Mrs. Michael Zych; Mr. Don Handel; Mr.  
Mike Cunningham; Mr. Charles Rieck

David Post was the photographer. No program, just lots of social interaction. By group action the 2004 meeting will be held on October 16, 2003 at CH's East in Madison, Wisconsin.



## Mini-Reunions . . .



### **Mesa, Arizona - Dec 2003**

Dean Childs, 106 Signal, 245 South 56th St. # 75, Mesa AZ 85206 - 602-985-3687 [elede3@cox.net](mailto:elede3@cox.net)

Arizona had their Mini-Reunion in Mesa on December 16, 2003. Had a nice group of ten veterans, wives and guests. Dick Beaudreau from the Eleventh Armored Division, who was in Schönberg area, spoke about his experiences in the *Battle of the Bulge*. Everyone enjoyed visiting and rehashing the *Battle of the Bulge*.

Men front row l/r: Richard Behr; Tom Bugner; Toby Anderson and Jim Stamm

Men back row l/r: Dean Childs; Luther Strunk; Herman Van de Bogart; Donald Barsema; William Smith and Dick Beaudreau (Speaker)

Ladies - front row l/r: Lorraine Barsema; Pam Bugner; Amy Anderson; Margaret Strunk

Back row l/r: Bea behr; Kelly Helm; Gloria Beaudreau; Helen Van de Bogart; Eleanor Childs





## Mini-Reunions . . .



### **Northern California - Dec 16, 2002**

John A. Gregory, 4624 Ashton Drive, Sacramento, CA 95864 916-481-3353 [oldshoesac@juno.com](mailto:oldshoesac@juno.com)

The Northern California 106th Mini-Reunion held December 16, 2003 at the Firehouse Restaurant in Sacramento had 15 in attendance. Charles Hunter, a first time attendee from Eureka, California traveled the furthest distance and brought his wife Thelma, son Dale and daughter-in-law Judy. Jim Forsythe from Chico, California was a first-time attendee. The event was hosted by John and Shirley Gregory, although John was unable to attend because of ill health..

Front row l/r: Jean Barrick; Mac Barrick; Charles Hunter; Thelma Hunger

Back row: l/r: Dale Hegenbart; Jim Forsythe; Duke Monroe; Shirley Gregory; Michael Thome; Elaine Epling (partially hidden); Reddi Prewett; Judy Hegenbart; Ed Prewett; Fritx Kinney and Mac Kinney.

This CUB magazine sadly announces the death of Association Past-President Edward Prewett.



### **Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania - Dec 16, 2004**

Joseph P. Maloney, 424/HQ 1120 Warren Ave, Arnold, PA 15068 412-335-6104 [maloney@salsgiver.com](mailto:maloney@salsgiver.com)

Once again we met on Dec 16, just 59 years to the day of the beginning of the *Battle of the Bulge*. We gathered at the Elks Fountain Room, spent time getting acquainted and then had a sumptuous meal prepared by the Elks staff. Those present for muster were Frank Lapato; 422/HQ; Dick and Pat Rigatti, 423/B; Albert and Marge Yelochan, 422/HQ; Francis and Jean Langham; 422/A; Joe and Viv Maloney, 424/HQ; Edwin and Betty Huminski, 424/F; Zane and Dorothy Lowenberg, 423/E; Jim Wiggins, 331 MED/A. David and Leona Hunter, 423/D were planning on coming but weather interfered. Pete and Dianne Yanchik, 423/A, for the first time, had a previous engagement.

## Mini-Reunions . . .



### **Bradenton - Sarasota, Florida - Dec 17, 2002**

Ray Twardzik, 106 Signal, 5518 Garden Lakes Oak, Bradenton, FL 34203 Phone: 946-756-1440 raytwar@msn.com

The Sarasota/Manatee area mini-reunion was held at the Forest Lakes Country Club, in Sarasota, The 2003 106 Mini-reunion for West Florida was held on December 16, 2003 with 55 in attendance. Parts of a video of the last 106 Div Reunion held in September were shown to give those who did not attend a view of what transpires at a reunion.

An excellent speech which touched the hearts of all was given by Associate David Ford

**1st row left to right** Rocco Sergi, Gene Saucerman, John Fritz, Charles Fehnel, Ray Twardzik-Chairman, Fred Parks, Boris Stern..... **2nd row** Jim Cram, Col. Robert Fisher, Lyle Beeth, Nelson Charron, Rev Sam Tenbrink, Clifton Capshaw.... **3rd row** Ken Smith, Leonard Turgeon, John Hall, Bill Mangold..... **4th row** Milton Cram, David Ford, Bob Eldridge, Sid Ziring, Don Sholten, Bob Snovel, Ed Creel, Dick Brokaw, Les Helmich

**106 Gals 1st row** LaVerne Sergi, Marie Parks, Isabel Twardzik, Margery Stern, Vickie McCall....

**2nd row** Margerie Ferrar, Jody Brokaw, Anna Hall, Margurette Hellmich, Pauline Fehnel, Lael Snovel, Mary Ann Tenbrink..... **3rd row** Sally Saucerman, Gloria Ziring, Marie Beeth, Mary Ann Scholten, Arline Ford, Martha Fritz, Lois Charron, Frances Capshaw, Evelyn Turgeon



## Mini-Reunions . . .



L/R

Mary Lou Marsh  
Randy Marsh  
Becky Kelly  
Ted Litvin  
Joe Litvin 423/D



Morris Chester  
422/HQ  
Miriam Morris  
Donna Wente  
Chic Wente 423/I



Bella Weiner  
Frieda Vanderhorst  
Eric Vanderhorst  
423/F  
Leo Krueser  
81/MED



Dr. James Yamazaki  
590/MED  
Milton Weiner  
424/M  
Larry Heider  
Bernard Weiner

### **Southern California - Dec 14, 2003**

Milton Weiner, 424/M, 28121 Ridgethorne Ct, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275 - 310-544-0470

This was the 17th Annual Southern California "Bulge Commemoration" event. We started by reading about "heroics" of Americans who fought in WWII from John McCain's book *"Worth Fighting For."*

Seventeen attended including seven 106th Veterans who each gave a brief summary of their experiences in the *"Battle of the Bulge."* The 2004 event will be on December 12, 2004. Please write or call me to be added to the mailing list. My address and phone number above.

## Mini-Reunions . . .



### **Atlanta, GA - December 14, 2003**

Frankie Burkes, Associate, 7114 Forest Lane, GA 30291, 770-774-9745

The Atlanta Mini-Reunion was held on December 14, 2003 at the Steak & Ale Restaurant, 1477 Virginia Ave, College Park, GA 30337

**Men - Seated l/r:** Carl C. Camp 424/C; Rev Ewell Black, 422/A; David Black; Sherod Collins 423/SV **Standing l/r:** Stanwood Portnoy 592/HQ; Lee Darby 423/G; Robert Peters 422/K; Bill Jenkins 422/H; Frederick Smallwood 423/HQ 1Bn and Douglas Coffey 590/C

**Ladies - l/r:** Peggy Kelly; Elaine Darby; Jean Shirley; Frankie Burkes, Associate; Dorothy Stanwood; Lorraine Peters; Sue Canup; Martha Brocato and Kathy White Front: Isabelle Coffey.

Missing from photo: Mary Ruth Kimsey





## Mini-Reunions . . .



### **Maryland, D.C. and Virginia - 11 Dec, 2003**

John Schaffner, 589/A, 1811 Miller Rd, Cockeysville, MD 21030 - 410-584-2754

The Mini-Reunion covering Md., Va., & D.C. area was held 11 December 2003 at the Club Meade at Ft. G.G. Meade, Md.

Guest speaker was Peter Masters, author of "*Striking Back*," a true story of an Austrian Jew, who along with 87 other refugees from the Nazis was recruited into the British Commandos. This unit, 3 Troop, 10 Commando, landed on D-Day and fought through to the end of the war.

Peter gave us a great story about his unique experiences as a soldier.

There were a total of 59 that attended, including guests. Dang me! Dang me! They should take a rope and hang me, but I can't those guys to stand still for a picture! I get no respect!

Next year we close the bar! But anyway, here is some of them.

**Men above** l/r: Earle Valenstein, 81st ENG/B; Stan Bachmurski, 401 Field Artillery; John Gatens 589/A; Dick Tennant 422/K; Phil Hannon 81st/ENG/A; Walter Snyder 589/A; Harry Butler II; Ed Christian-son 331/MED and Milton Bromberg 79th Inf Division. Seated is Ed McGinty 589/C; John Schaffner 589/A and Clark Dovell. Missing from the photo is Grayson Bishop 424/L; and Don Regier 422/SV (I think)

**The lower photo** L/R; At the table -Jean Hannon, Ed McGinty, Phil Hannon, Harry Butler, Jr 424/HQ and Harry Butler II.



## Mini-Reunions . . .



### **Michigan November 2, 2003**

**John M. Roberts (592/C) Association President 2003-2004**

**1059 Alter Rd, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304 248-388-2667 jmr810@aol.com**

This was my second year as Chairman of the Michigan Mini-Reunion. It was held at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Livonia, Michigan. The late afternoon dinner was provided with excellent service and superb food. We all agreed that we must return here in 2004. Reservation have already been made.

Our guest speaker was Randy Talbot, Staff Historian of the U.S. Army Tank and Automotive Command in Warren, Michigan. Randy was the gentleman that wrote such a great article , for The CUB, about the Year 2002 Michigan Mini-Reunion.

His talk this year was based on his experiences and observation during a six month's assignment in Kuwait. He was very informative with facts and figures on our American troops in Kuwait and Iraq. His talk was enhanced by 60 "Computer generated slides." He was given a thunderous applause for his interesting and captivating presentation.

**Men front row l/r:** Bill Keeber 424/G; Harold Ortwine 592/C; Mario Angelo 423/D; Bill Martin 424/C and Bob Scranton 424/K

**Men back row l/r:** Rudy Aittama 106/Recon; Chuck Reeber 423/D; Tony Rand 589/B; Jack Roberts 592/C; Harold Kuizema 589/B; Gene Timm 423/D and Ed Bohde 422/L

**Ladies front row l/r:** Audrey Ortwine; Jessica Kuizema; Ruth Rand; Lois Timm and Beatrice Keeber

**Ladies back row l/r:** Julie Roberts; Mary Lou Roberts; Cynthia Carroll; Coventry Harris; Norma Aittama; Mildred Scranton and Jacki Bohde.



## Mini-Reunions . . .



### **Alton, Illinois - St Louis, MO - Dec 17, 2003**

Marion Ray, 424/D, 704 Briarwood Drive, Bethalto, IL 62010 618-377-3674 Email: RayBugleboy@charter.net

The group met on December 17, 2003 at the *Memories Banquet Center, 144 Ferguson Avenue, Wood River, Illinois*. Association Past-President 2001-2002. Marion Ray, acted as Chairman. Grace was given by Paul Boschert 590/HQ. Don Hinrichs 81/C lead the group in the *Pledge of Allegiance*. Marion Ray then introduced, Illinois' 12th District U.S. Congressman Jerry F. Costello, who, because of another commitment spoke before the luncheon. His discussion was concerning the recently passed "Medicare Drug Law and several changes in Veteran's Affairs. He explained what the law would mean to most seniors. He spoke of several changes in Veteran's Affairs. In closing, he stated that another limping change had been made in the "Concurrent Receipt Law" affecting retired/disabled veterans.

**Men, Front row, l/r:** Ken Bryan 423/HQ; Victor Breite 422/I; Emil Perkop 422/H; Don Hinrichs 81/C; Marion Ray 424/D; John Rain 589/B; Victor Bauswell 422/B

**Men, Back Row l/r:** Carl Goering Associate; Gilbert DeGerlia 422/HQ; Paul Boschert 590/HQ; John Mikalauskis 424/H; William Kronmueller 423/E

**Ladies, front row: l/r:** Avis Breite, Dolores Mikalauskis, Fran Ray, Emma Boschert; Nelda Bauswell; Margary Bryan and Betty Rain **Ladies, back row:** Debbie Bryan Hensley, LaDon Adams; Jean Perko; Helen Kronmueller; Pat Hinrichs

It was noted that of everyone in attendance Jophn and Dolres Mikalausks had driven over one hundred fifty miles to attend.



## Mini-Reunions . . .



### **Long Island, NY - 2003**

Ephraim Goldberg, 555 Franklin Blvd., Long Beach, NY 516-432-7136 Email: edg555@juno.com

The fourth annual Long Island area Mini-Reunion was held on November 2, 2003 in Lambrous' Restaurant, Island Park, New York. Most of our regulars attended and we also added a few new faces. We memorialized our departed comrades, as well as those who lost their lives in Iraq. It was hosted by Natalie and Ed Goldberg. Many of those attending were also National Reunion participants. The warmth and friendship was evident.

In attendance were: Costas Anifantakis 423/G; Preston Barnes Div/HQ; Jean & Jacques Bloch 422/K; Gerry & Julius Brandi 423/CN; Charles Condikey 9th Air Force; Natalie & Ed Goldberg 423/C; Mary & Sal Grasso 423/SV; Ruth & Harold Hoffman 424/CN; Adele & Charles Johansen 592/SV; Charles Kortlang 106 MP; Ann & Sol Kravitz 424/MED; Ninette & Al Lukashok 424/H; Neva & Eugene Powell 422/A; John Stamatakis 423/HQ/1BN; Grace & John Starmack 423/SV; Lynda & Al Sussman 424/G and Vernon (Chick) Wood 423/C.





## **Mini-Reunions . . .**



### **New Mexico - Dec 13, 2003**

Dr. Ralph J. Nelson, DDS 422/Cannon, 1 Acoma Lane, Los Alamos, NM 87544, 505-622-9787

The New Mexico contingent of the 106th Infantry Division Association, held its Mini-Reunion in Albuquerque, New Mexico. A very good time was enjoyed by all socializing and reminiscing.

Front row l/r: Robert Soloday 422/SV; Ralph Nelson 422/CN; James Twinn Div/Arty; Lou Baca 422/L

Back row l/r: Christine Nelson Lee; Rhoda Nelson; Mrs. Twinn and Tillie Baca



### **Nebraska-Western Iowa - Dec 15, 2003**

Dean & Della Sandahl, 3041 N 61st Street, Lincoln, NE 68507 402-466-3546 [sandydandd@juno.com](mailto:sandydandd@juno.com)

We met at the USA Steak Buffet Lincoln Nebraska. Opening with the Pledge of Allegiance, reading a couple of Dale Carvers great poems and the invocation. Then a moment of silence for our fallen comrades and family. In a private room we enjoyed a delicious steak buffet. Our reminiscing included what we were doing 59 years ago at the start of the Battle of the Bulge and the days following. As always we ran out of time to visit and catch up.

l/r: Dean & Della Sandahl 422/B (Hosts) Lincoln; Harold & Lorraine Hawkins 423/D Omaha; Charles & Jane Henning 424/B Peru, NE and Leonard & Evelyn Tyser 423/I Wilbur NE

## Mini-Reunions . . .



### **Reading, Pennsylvania - Nov 18, 2003**

John J. Gallagher, 81st /ENG/C, 4003 Francis Street, Temple, PA 19560 Tele: 610-929-2887

We had our Memorial Dinner early this year. The Dutch Colony Inn was not available in December due to renovations.

It was great being together, unfortunately some could not attend due to illness, Jack McDevitt and Don Showalter. Two members had died this year. Bill Harris and Walter Shirk.

**Men's photo l/r:** Standing - Ed Christianson; Ray Hinkle; Daniel Eisenbon; Joe Yourkavich; Stephen Hadock; Charles Datte; Vince Sziber.

**Seated:** Joe Tarantino; William Crossland; Fred Carr and John Gallagher

**Ladies photo l/r** Standing: Ava daughter of Ida Frank; Mary Christianson; Connie Tarantino; Maria Hadock; Nancy Datte; Betty Carr and Wanda Fava

**Ladies Seated:** Ida Frank; Norma Crossland; Stella Gallagher and Muriel Sziber.

**The next Mini-Reunion our 60th Anniversary - Friday November 12, 2004 at The Dutch Colony Motor Lodge.**



## Mini-Reunions . . .



### **106th Recon Meeting - Oct 25, 2003**

Maurice Bombar 106th Recon 10031 NE 30th Place, Bellvue, WA 98004 425-822-6497 [caroline@bombar.com](mailto:caroline@bombar.com)

Maurice said, "This is a photo of our October Recon Reunion (my first ever) held at Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas.. I am sorry I missed the 106th Infantry Division Reunion at Fort Mitchell, KY.

**Left/Right:** Dale Sweet; Bill Selje; Earl Liston; Paul Thompson; Joe Haines; Bob House and Maurice Bombar.



### **Oklahoma Area - Dec 16, 2002**

Clint McClure 423/HQ - 8607 E 77th Place Tulsa, OK 74133-3710 918-252-7777

The area members and their wives attended a noon luncheon at the Fountain Restaurant in Tulsa, OK, on 16 December 2003. Health problems reduced the attendance this year.

**Left/Right:** Lyle & Pauline Russell, Ochelata. 422/I; Clint & Peggy McClure, Tulsa, 423/HQ

Donald & Joan Herndon, Oklahoma City, 424/. Donald is Director the 106th Inf Div Assoc Board; David Deffenbaugh, Claremore, 423/D.

**Cooper, C. L. 423/H**

*131 Wyndhurst Drive, Jackson, TN*

Date of death: 12/19/2003 reported by his wife Sarah. No other details known.

**Collins, Sherod 423/Service Company**

*448 Monroe Trace, Kennesaw, GA 30144*

Date of death: 01/31/2004 Sherod Collins, 89, of Kennesaw, GA, died in a Statesboro, GA, nursing facility. Born in Waycross, GA, on October 3, 1914, to the late Sherod and Nannie Speir Collins. He served in the 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division during World War II. He joined the 106th Infantry Division Association in 1949. He served as Historian from 1961 to 2003, Adjutant from 1964 to 1968, and as Treasurer from 1964 to 2003. He was elected to the Presidency for the year 1975-76. As president he hosted the 29th Annual Reunion of the Golden Lions, 1975, in Atlanta, Georgia, with John Gallagher and Charles Walsh. He was awarded the coveted *Order of the Golden Lion*, Commander's Class in 1973. Sherod was always called on at the Annual Board meetings as a person who could recite "*Roberts Rules of Order*."

Mr. Collins was a widower. He is survived by his sister, Mrs. Edith Jacobs and her husband, Dr. Cecil Jacobs of Statesboro, GA; his brother, James Speir Collins and wife, Nina Collins of Nokomis, FL and several nieces and nephews. He will be remembered by many friends and colleagues.

Mr. Collins was educated in the public schools of Waycross, GA, and was a graduate of South Georgia College in Douglas, GA and the University of Georgia in Athens, GA, where he earned a degree in accounting. He worked in that field for a number of years. A graveside service was held on Wednesday, February 4, 2004 at Pine Ridge Memorial Park in Kennesaw, GA. The family suggests donations to the 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Association, c/o Dr. John Robb, 238 Devore Drive, Meadville, PA, 16355.

**Gillespie, John M. "Jack" 422/C**

*3526 Darcy Drive, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301*

Date of death: 12/16/2003 Our condolences to his wife Shirley and their family. Jack was a Past-President (1949-50) of the 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Association. A frequent Reunion attendee. I was advised of his death by Dr. Juan G. Rodriguez, 422/C, Lexington, Kentucky, a long time buddy and comrade of Gillespie. Dr. Rodriguez said he was called by Jack's son Marty. Rodriguez and his wife had visited Jack and Shirley after the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion in Fort Mitchell, Kentucky.

John "Jack" Roberts, our current Association president, who knew Gillespie well, and visited often, was also called by Gillespie's son Marty. Roberts said, "What a remarkable date to die, on the anniversary of the start of the *Battle of the Bulge*. He could have met his maker on this day 59 years ago, but he waited to accomplish a wonderful life, marrying a great lady and fathered wonderful children and cherished his grandchildren. He built a successful business and enjoyed every minute of his life."

The Detroit Free Press reported, "John M. "Jack" Gillespie of Bloomfield Hill, age 82, died December 16, 2003. Beloved husband of Shirley for 55 years. Loving father of J. Martin "Marty," Carol (Rich) Black, Marilyn "Mig" (Dave) Young, Matthew (Lynne) Rees. Grandfather of the late Sr. Steve (Kay) Gillespie, Mary (the late Bert) Harrigan and the late Patsy Ann Gillespie. Memorial were made to the University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy, Detroit, Michigan.



**Langham, Francis 422/L**

*114 Colins Avenue, Uniontown, PA 15401*

Date of Death: February 9, 2004 Jean L (Guyer) Langham, wife, reported that Francis passed away suddenly at home He will be missed by his buddies. Francis was active in both the local Ex-POW groups as well as attending 106th National Reunions. He also has attended all the December Mini-Reunions and always provided prizes for the ladies as well as door prizes.

**Loudermilk, Teddy L. 423/B**

*28604 Cty Rd 2, Bingham Lake, MN 56118*

Date of death 12/03/2003. Death listed in the Minnesota AX-POW Bulletin. CUB magazine returned. No other details known.

**Nagle, Col. Frederick (US (Ret)**

*1518 Pheasant Ridge, San Antonio, TX 78248*

Fredrick W. Nagle, Executive Officer of the 423rd Regiment, died January 10, 2004. He was 89. Graveside services were scheduled for 9 a.m., February 5, 2004, at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia. Donations to his memory may be made to: Odyssey Health Care Hospice, 4415 Peidras Drive West, Suite 100, San Antonio, TX 78228 or to the Heritage Foundation, 214 Massachusetts Ave N.E., Washington D.C. 20002

In addition to being the regimental executive officer, Nagle had been in command of the Provisional Battalion formed mostly from the regiment's Anti-Tank Company and the 2nd Platoon of Cannon Company, all quartered at Bleialf, Germany, to allow the division to cover its long front.

Nagle as, Executive Officer, 423rd Infantry Regiment, was designated to execute the "surrender" on Hill 504 outside Schönberg, Germany. He was wounded, captured and treated rather rough. Later, he was hauled back to a farm house where he and several other officers were lined up against a brick wall to be shot. A German officer driving up to the scene stopped the execution. He was later imprisoned at Stalag 13 in Germany. He escaped but was captured several days later and taken to another POW camp near Nuremberg where he was liberated at the end of World War II. In 1946, he was awarded the Silver Star for Valor and soon promoted to full Colonel.

Colonel Fredrick W. Nagle was the son of pioneer parents who were early settlers in both American and Canadian new lands in the late 1890's and early 20th Century. He entered the Army in 1936 upon graduation from the University of North Dakota. Colonel Nagle served in both the Pacific and European Theatre during World War II. After serving with the 106th Infantry Division in World War II, he was assigned to the Seventh Mountain Division and the "C" Army corps of the Royal Greek Army 1948-49 during the communist war. He served in the Korean War 1953-54. He was on the war department general staff in Washington, DC, and held numerous command and staff assignments during his 31 years of service in the regular army. He served with Airborne troops of the 101st airborne division at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky, and with the 8th Division, (Airborne) in Germany. His many assignments included service with the British Army, Greek Army, Korean Army and Indian Army. Throughout his career, he was awarded the Silver Star, Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. He was authorized to wear the Combat Infantry badge, Parachutist Badge, the Greek Defense Service Medal, and the Korean Chung Mu.

## **Memoriam . . .**

He is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Larry Welch, (Pamela) Newport Beach, CA, and Annette Latshaw, Grapevine, TX, and two grandchildren Jamey & Christine Latshaw.

In a tribute to Colonel Nagle, his son-in-law Larry H. Welch has written: "...almost without exception, Colonel Nagle spoke of one year in his life. That year began in December of 1944 when Lt. Colonel Nagle, not even 30 years old, was the Executive Officer of 423rd Infantry Regiment. The 423rd was located in the cold snowy forests of the Ardennes forests in France when in the early hours of 16 December 1944, the German Army made its last great offensive. By the morning hours of the 17th, [most of] the 423rd Regiment was overrun and captured on the 19th.

"This brave American, this young officer with such promise, lived a year that no human should experience – a year that would haunt him for the rest of his natural life". The war never ended for Colonel Nagle."

### **Prewett, Edward A. 424/B**

*7831 Lone tree Way, Brentwood, CA 94513*

Edward A. Prewett died Friday, January 30, at his home on Lone Tree Way at the age of 82. Prewett was a PFC. in Company "B" of the 424th combat infantry regiment of the 106th division of the Army during World War II. He served in the Battle of the Bulge (St. Vith area) during the winter of 1944-1945 and was decorated with the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. He continued to attend annual gatherings of this division throughout his later life.

Survived by his wife of 56 years, Reddie Prewett, his 3 children and 6 grandsons.

From his daughter, Vonnice Lemke: "One of dad's last requests was for us to display his 106th reunion picture and his medals at his memorial service. He also asked us to print copies of the article he wrote in The Cub (April/May June 2002). He was proud of his service to his country and his affiliation with the 106th. He was president of the 106th division association in 1993-1994 and he and mom hosted the first reunion west of the Mississippi in Sacramento in 1990. The Association honored dad and mom with the *Order of the Golden Lion* in 1996."

### **Scheffel, Robert W.**

*2219 N. Park Avenue, Grand Island, NE 68803*

Date of death: 04/18/1998 According to Robert's widow, Viola, he died April 18, 1998. Captured in the Bulge, his POW Camp or location was Bad Schandu. He escaped in a bombing raid and walked toward the American lines and liberation.

### **Stoehr, Martin G. 422/M**

*415 Iris Lane, Inverness, FL 34452*

Date of death: 12/13/2003 We heard of Martin's death through J Stewart, the Honor Guard Commander of VFW Post 4252, Hernando Florida.

He wrote: "Martin, 79, died Saturday December 13, 2003. He was a Senior Draftsman. He graduated from ACHS in 1942. He also received the Joe Cohen Blanket Award, a very special award, details available at <http://wms.com/blanket.htm>

His brother, Father Edward Stoehr and a sister, Genevieve Stoehr Huber preceded him in death. Survivors include his wife of 57 years, Dorthy J. Bottomfield of Inverness, two sons Marty Stoehr of Colorado Springs, and Curt Stoehr of Lake George, Colorado, two daughters: Ronnie (Stoehr) Stanley of Colorado Springs and

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Cherie Jones of Port Richey, Florida, two brothers Bernard and Vincent, Altoona, PA, six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

I was contacted by his grandson Martin Douglas Stoehr who has an excellent website at <http://home.adelphia.net/~mtstoehr/mgs.htm>.

He wrote: "There were four "Martin" Stoehr's in his family.

The following is a copy of my Grandfather's memories from childhood through the beginnings of his family.

Here is the URL for those pages: <http://home.adelphia.net/~mtstoehr/mgs.htm>. The following is a small portion - the lead paragraphs - from that web site of 16 pages. You would enjoy the family history that is displayed.

**Martin Gerald Stoehr  
(1924 - 2003)**

On the evening of 12 December 2003 I was on my way to meet my family in Breckenridge to spend the remainder of the week with them and the Krauss family, relaxing in the mountains. During the drive from Colorado Springs I was also attempting to locate someone to have a good time with me at the Broncos game that coming Sunday. I would not have my dad as usual company because he was battling that overwhelming monster we all seem to lose to on occasion—work. With third-hand information I learned that Pap-Pap was not doing well and had been having a difficult night. I decided to wait until the next morning to find out how things were with him. As fate would have it, my cell phone showed me the next morning that my father had called with what turned out to be the bad news I hoped would not come. Pap-Pap had died that morning. This was not completely an unexpected event, but it was more sudden than I had anticipated.

Nanny and Pap-Pap had been planning for months to make what would likely be a final visit to Colorado to spend the holidays with the whole Stoehr family. Nanny was going to fly out while Sherri and Ed were to drive back from Florida toting Pap-Pap with them. Only a few weeks prior to everyone's departure Pap-Pap came down with a respiratory infection and his numerous doctors had recommended he not travel to such a high altitude. That was a major disappointment for me because, not only would we not be able to share a good time with him during the holidays, but I had hoped to show him my efforts with his memoirs. As you can see, I had transcribed his writings and had compiled this collection of history and drawings into a set of digital documents that I wanted to post on the web as a small gift to Pap-Pap. My intent was to pick up where Aunt Candy had left the Stoehr Genealogy and to maybe fill in some holes in my understanding of Pap-Pap's life. That, however was not to be. With great regret, I am left with honoring him posthumously. Martin Douglas Stoehr, Grandson

**Schwarz, Burt P. 424/A**

*1257 Government St Apt 106, Mobile, AL 366604*

Date of death: 12/15/2003 CUB returned, marked "Deceased." Wife died earlier..

**Thirlwell, E.C. 423/G**

*2005 Starmont Road, Louisville, KY 40207*

Date of death 3/4/2003 Joined the Association in 1998.

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# NOTE !

Annual dues paying Members

"Annual Association Dues"

\$10 a year  
\$2 for Auxiliary  
are due and payable  
by July 1, each year

Annual Members not paid  
by July 1, 2004  
will be removed from  
the Roster

Help the cause - Pay up for LIFE  
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Send your membership fees to:

Richard Rigatti, Treasurer

113 Woodshire Drive

Pittsburgh, PA 15215