

The UB

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*The Veterans of the
106th INFANTRY
DIVISION*

of the
GOLDEN LION

Vol 70 – No. 3

August – November 2014

The 68th Annual Reunion of the 106th Infantry Division

Photos submitted by Janet Wood, Susan Weiss and many others



Although, the 68th annual reunion was the lowest attended in Association history, those that joined together in Norfolk, Virginia this past September shared memories, renewed friendships and kept alive the memory of the Division and its Association for another great reunion.

See reunion photos and stories, beginning on page 28.

The CUB

*A tri-annual publication of the 106th Infantry Division Association, Inc.
A nonprofit Organization*

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Please Note: At the business meeting on Friday, September 16, 2011, at the 65th Reunion in Baltimore, MD, the 106th Association Board members approved the new By-Laws that now allow “Non-Veterans” [as we will now be calling the formerly named Associate members] to serve on the Board and as elected officers.

President's View . . .

First, let me say how proud I am to be the President of our 106th Infantry Division. I'll do whatever I can to keep this Division going and to preserve the unique and heroic position that this Division represents.

Last month, I had the honor to bring to our friends in Belgium a plaque designating them honorary members of the 106th Infantry Division Association. The plaque commemorates their long and dedicated efforts to archive and enshrine the history of our battle and sacrifice in their museums, and for their annual tribute of placing flowers in the cemetery in Belgium for all our brethren who died in the Ardennes at the Battle of the Bulge.

We're now coming up to the 70th anniversary of that heroic battle by our 106th Infantry Division. As you know, we suffered perhaps the greatest amount of casualties when we were placed in a precarious front line position against a brutal, unrelenting onslaught. But we were the 106th... and we fought. Heroes were made, many of them still unsung. We remain, as ever, proud of the heroic efforts of our Division as we resolutely stood and fought until finally running out of food and ammunition.



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While few of us are left, we still remember those who were there. In over 70 years of friendship, we've shared memories of what we endured — by those who lived and those who fell — a lifetime of brotherhood cemented in battle.

We have our next reunion next summer in Charleston, S. Carolina. I can't tell you how few people showed up last month in Norfolk. Next year, we need every single one of you to join us in Charleston. I know it's hard for many of us to move these days, but this is who we were... warriors... and this is who we still are!! We're making every effort to make this trip possible for you, as well as worthwhile for any family members/helpers who accompany you. So if there's any help you need, let us know. This is no time for false pride. We want to make

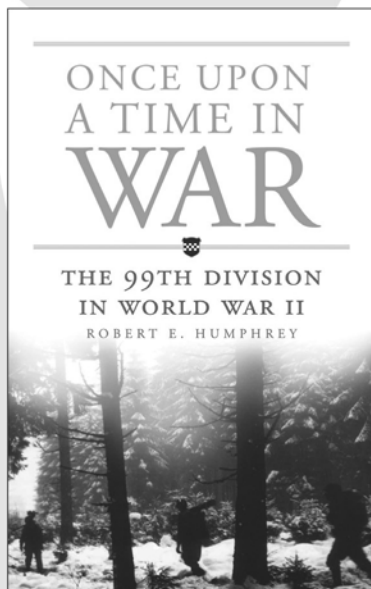
it as easy as possible for every one of you to join us. Your presence is essential — you are all a living testimonial to the sacrifice of those who fell.

I have always believed that we 106th members made an indelible contribution to our country. Because of our efforts, America didn't fall. Yes, our world is changing. Americans now speak many languages, but the strength of America, who we are — a heterogeneous nation, a nation of all religions and ethnic groups from all over the world — prevails. We're the only country that successfully absorbed so many different peoples... and by doing so forged a much stronger nation. Each one of us brought our singular strengths

to the mix and we contribute — to this day — to a never-ending dedication to making this a better world. With our ability to absorb, to educate, to develop, we Americans have maintained our ingenuity, our aspirations and our pride.

And the 106th Infantry can be proud that we few contributed in a large way to preserving this success for the country we love... each and every one of us. We should be proud that we're now in our 90s and that 70 years ago, in our young innocence, we made a major contribution to preserving and protecting our world and — by doing so — brought us all a better and brighter tomorrow.

God bless you all, Barney



Once Upon a Time in War

The 99th Division in World War II

By Robert E. Humphrey

Once Upon a Time in War presents a stirring view of combat from the perspective of the common soldier. Author Robert E. Humphrey personally retraced the path of the 99th through Belgium and Germany and conducted extensive interviews with more than three hundred surviving veterans. These narratives, seamlessly woven to create a collective biography, offer a gritty reenactment of World War II from the enlisted man's point of view. For readers captivated by *Band of Brothers*, this book offers an often tragic, sometimes heartwarming, but always compelling read.

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***From the* 2014 Annual Reunion's Memorial Ceremony**

I consider it an honor and a pleasure to be here with you all today as we come together in remembrance of and in tribute to some of our nation's finest and bravest. Thank you for this opportunity. As I was preparing for this memorial speech I was reminded of a statement by: President John F. Kennedy. He said: "A nation reveals itself not only by the men it produces but also by the men it honors, the men it remembers." I propose that we uphold our duty and honor and remember the men who have made this nation a great nation.

Upon further contemplation on JFK's statement I had to ask myself: So how does our nation reveal itself? In other words, what kind of men did our nation produce? As I look across this room I see it produced high caliber men: Men of valor, Men of integrity, Men of fortitude, Men of discipline and Men of courage. Our nation produced the type of men who willingly gave the government a blank check and said, my life is not my own, I want to live for something bigger.

One of my favorite verses in the Bible says: "Since the days of John the Baptist, the world has been advancing and forceful men lay hold of it." (Matthew 11:12) 106th, you are those men who did and continue to forcefully lay hold of this great nation. You continue to advance this nation with your continued loyalty to duty and preservation of freedom. You answered a call that many people had to answer and others would not. You did it without gripe or request of repayment and for that we are here today honoring you!



Vincent Charron
(PFC Nelson Charron 422/D)
Chaplain

Senior Pastor, Grace Covenant Church
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Today we honor, remember, a long line of patriots who died in battle, as a result of combat wounds and many more who succumbed to service-connected injuries years after their time in service was over. We remember them as comrades whose final moments of service embodied the highest values and selflessness that can be shown by any countrymen.

Throughout decades of turmoil and expeditions we've asked our young men and women to put themselves in harm's way and further our security and protect our precious commodity — freedom — at the cost of limb for some and life for others. And as a nation we have a mandate, a requirement, to remember these men and women. We have a duty, a moral obligation, to pay homage to the men and women who have and continue to stand in harm's way and protect this great nation.

As I continued to prep for today I

Chaplain's Message . . .

posed a question to myself that I want to challenge you with. How can we see fit to honor the contributions of veterans beyond the days of Memorial Day and Veterans Day? How do we ensure their contributions are remembered on more than just a single day of remembrance, gratitude and honoring? The only answer I could come up with was that we must teach others, especially the next generation, about the sacrifices that were made. We must ensure future generations understand that their patriotism is wrapped up in the loyalty of men and women who answered the call. We must ensure that future generations understand that their freedom was bore on the backs of men and women who in essence gave up their freedom, whether it was by becoming a POW or by paying the ultimate price and dying. Lastly, we must ensure that future generations understand that the debt of gratitude we owe those who have served is sacred. Not only sacred but also that it cannot be repaid, not in a lifetime, not this side of heaven.

Along with that I firmly believe that we should talk about heroism and sacrifice. If you flip through our nation's history books you will be inundated with accounts of bravery that still resonate deep within us decades later. We are humbled by the tremendous courage shown by our brave soldiers, of all services, throughout our history. There is no doubt that our veterans have paved the way for our military's reputation as the finest fighting force in the world – both in strength and in character. That's why it's important – in fact imperative – that we remember them always.

Almost 150 years ago, President Abraham Lincoln stood before a war-weary nation and uttered the most

famous words ever said about veterans. Lincoln spoke of the sacred obligation of our nation to "...care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan." Those words are inscribed on the entrance above the Dept. of Veterans Affairs in our nation's capital and spoken at almost every Memorial Day or Veterans Day event.

While we are saddened by our losses; both from the direct results of combat and as our loved ones are now aging and are going to their final resting places. Those who gave what Abraham Lincoln called the "last full measure of devotion" in the fight for our liberty. There is no doubt in my mind that Americans share a proud heritage of duty and honor forged in the heat of terrible battles and on the backs of dedicated soldiers, soldiers like the 106th. Freedom has a price and this week, while we all gathered here to enjoy good food, fun, families and our precious liberty, I think it is only appropriate that we stop for a moment to say thank you! Thank you, 106th Infantry Division for offering up yourselves to ensure that the freedom of generations to come was secured.

In conclusion I want to visit President John F. Kennedy's statement one more time. "A nation reveals itself not only by the men it produces but also by the men it honors, the men it remembers," With that being said, I want to do due diligence in making this nation great by honoring you.

106th Infantry Division, your dedication to duty and your loyalty bring great credit upon yourselves and this great nation and for that, I salute you.

Forcefully Advancing ~
Vincent Charron

The Adjutant's Message . . .

My Brothers and Sisters,

Reunion “68” is now history, with the lowest attendance in our Association history. And yet, in spite of two unfortunate incidents: Mr. William Martin of 424/C, came down with pneumonia, was hospitalized and missed most of the reunion. As of this writing, I was informed by his daughter (our Board member) Kris that he would be in the hospital until Friday Sept. 12, Kris indicated that he was doing better and would be returning home. *[Editor's note: We are sad to report that Mr. Martin did pass away on Sept. 16. Please see memorial on page 41.]*

Also, Francis Cook (422/H) fell while entering the dining hall at the Norfolk Naval Station, tore his elbow and hit his head on the concrete. He was treated at the dining hall by a lovely Naval doctor. He was doing well immediately (hard head). Yes, in spite of the low attendance — and these incidents — the Reunion was a grand success.

The tours at the Naval Yard and the MacArthur Museum, the service at the hotel and the meals were fine (as good as hotel food can be); as were the banquet, the general's speech and the love and friendship for each other! At the banquet, our Order of the Golden Lion chairman, John Schaffner (589/A) named three outstanding choices for the awards. They created a number of emotional moments to be long remembered. The awards went to Mr. Sy Lichtenfeld (422/I) — Commandeer Class, Mr. Mike Scheaner — Officer Class, Mrs. Wilma Wood — Companion Class.

Our choice of Brig. Gen. William



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Hix as our guest speaker turned out to be an excellent one. Gen. Hix and his lovely wife Sharon were gracious in meeting with almost everyone in attendance. The General's speech indicated that he researched our Golden Lion history. He made us aware of all the new innovative ideas being worked on by our Military. How fortunate we are to have men like Gen. Hix to lead and protect our country. We were honored by his presence.

Our now past-president Randy Wood was the first non-106th veteran, Associate member to serve as our Association President. After this reunion, I'm certain that there is no doubt in anyone's mind that we made the finest choice. His outstanding, professional leadership was evident to us all. Randy's lovely wife Patty and mother Wilma prepared all those lovely packages for everyone who registered for the reunion (even my friend Myrna helped a little). Patty was a terrific “1st

The Adjutant's Message . . .

Lady.” We thank Randy and Patty for their generosity in the gifts for all the women and 106th veterans.

On a personal note, I will miss working with them as I did this past year. Randy is one of the finest young men I have had the privileged and good fortune to meet and know! His father, Robert M. Wood (423/I), would have been so proud to see him as our President. And a personal thank you to the Wood family, Wilma, Carol and Dean, Beth and Ron and especially Janet for all the hugs and kisses.

Our Board of Directors voted the new Officers for 2014–2015: President Bernard Mayrsohn (423/CN); 1st V.P.

James Forsyth (424/I); 2nd V.P. Brian Welke; and Treasurer, Mike Sheaner.

Our Board of Directors also voted to continue with our 69th reunion and chose Charleston, South Carolina, for September 16 to 20, 2015 at the Crown Plaza, near the airport as the site.

Let’s all make plans to be there. We’re counting on the GUY upstairs to watch over us until then. We’re hoping that our YOUNG members will spread the word and help keep our 106th Infantry Division Association alive and well.

I love ya’ll,
Murray

Golden Lions During World War II — A Photo Article

Requested by Association Adjutant Murray Stein (423/I)

Every so often, I see a picture in *The CUB* of one of us as a young soldier. In a previous issue (Vol. 67, No. 1) I thought it would be fun to have as many of our soldiers’ photos as are available, to be published in *The CUB*. Editor William McWhorter agreed to my request to continue this series in subsequent issues of *The CUB*. Look for photos throughout the magazine and keep sending them in!



590th Field Artillery, Service Battery – taken approximately May 1944 at Camp Atterbury

Photo courtesy of Gail Eanes Mcguire, daughter of Paul Eanes, 590th Service Battery

Note: See this picture five-times larger at: <http://106thinfdivassn.org/photos.html>

A Reader Responds

In the last issue of *The CUB* I submitted the story of the tragic event that took place at Oradour-sur-Glane, France. It was my belief at the time that no valid reason for the actions of the German 2nd SS Panzer Division, Das Reich, was ever forthcoming. Our *CUB* article was read by my good friend currently living in Germany, Edward Lapotsky, Col, U.S.A., Ret., leading member of several military organizations in Europe, and most important, knowledgeable about this event. Ed keeps up with our 106th Infantry Division veterans and is usually available to meet and assist us when visiting the battlefield. He is a member of the 106th Infantry Division Association. Please read his response below:

Dear John,

Good to have conversed with you yesterday. (27 Aug. 2014)

Regarding the massacre at Oradour-sur-Glane, More than a few years ago, when my Uncle August Basso was still living, I came across the book by Max Hastings on The Das Reich Division and read and reread it as it contained a detailed account of the move of the Das Reich 2nd Panzer Division from Moutauban where the unit was located in Southern France to Normandy to stop the Allied advance. Moutauban was not far from where my mother along with her mother and sister and my uncle were living, on a small farm near the town of Nerac. My mother and her sister were messengers for the French underground during the entire German occupation period. My uncle joined the French



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Maquis to escape deportation and survive, as he did.

He was involved in more than a few operations against the German Das Reich soldiers and units. They called him the "Man in Gray" because the story has it that he wore a long gray coat. He killed many Germans as he would say to me. A few years before he passed away — about ten years ago — he was called back to France and received honors for his service in the resistance. The return was quite controversial as he made some remarks about German sympathizers in the crowd and knew who they were... well to make a long story short he received his honors and was well received by the majority. He had mixed emotions going back after so many years but his trip made closure.

My uncle fought in one of the local maquis in the Gironne Region of France for years. Understanding the French resistance history, the French Communist forces were very strong in

Historian's Message . . .

France during the occupation and they became stronger when Germany invaded Russia in 1941. They in all actuality controlled the French countryside. My uncle was a part of the French communist organization called the F.T.P.F. They had Russians embedded in their chain of command. He and my mother spoke about them in our talks. As history shows, The FFI under DeGualle was placed into power by the Allies to counter the F.T.P.F influence as the war ended. A politically correct decision of course as the Cold War became a reality. So it went and DeGualle came to power.

John, to back track, I sent Max Hastings book to my Uncle and from there on we engaged in some long talks. He told me how the F.T.P.F militias hit the German columns moving from their staging area of Mautauban to Northern France. It was no small operation as we're talking about a column of 15,000 Waffen SS soldiers with over 200 tanks and SP Artillery moving close to 500 miles. Instead of three days it took 15 days for the Das Reich to get there, so the attacks were effective.

My conclusion is that of many others that we will never know all the facts surrounding the Oradour-sur-Glane massacre. The 642 French civilians who died there did not live to tell it and the few that did could not give a full account. My uncle confirmed that they attacked the Das Reich at every opportunity. He also mentioned that they savagely killed Germans. He stated that Germans were captured and held as hostage. The German command certainly knew of this. So for whatever reason the Germans did what they did we can say it was for all of this. The

other massacre at Tulle was a prelude to Ouradour as Germans were brutally killed and their bodies mutilated and then French civilians were killed in retaliation. So on it went.

My mother always said that the German occupation forces were very disciplined and she said any break of that discipline was severely dealt with. She told me a story of a German who raped a French woman and the German unit assembled the next day in the town square and executed the German soldier. I guess this discipline was no longer enforced as much when the occupiers felt their time was short and the war was going against them and desperation set in. The Das Reich was a ruthless division and the most decorated and battle hardened SS Waffen Division, that is a true fact. It could and did fight ruthlessly especially on the Russian Front and so it was easy to do what they did — they were use to it.

To end this narrative, let me say that my Uncle laughed when we talked about all the reasons why the Germans did what they did at Ouradour. I can still hear his laugh. He said that more than one F.T.P.F. resistance fighter became wealthy after the war as he was among witnesses to the taking of the Das Reich Division's payroll, gold, among other items that the Division moved with them. He said all was seized by maquis bands and eventually ended up in Switzerland. How would the Das Reich pay its troops? There was a concerted hunt for the stolen loot and the Germans were looking for it. The Germans did ransack Ouradour looking for something. Yes, they did find caches of explosives and

continues on page 10

Historian's Message . . .

weapons but they did not find the loot. Nobody talked and the Germans had their orders from above. I think my uncle's story has some substance and I have no reason to believe that he would make the story up. Would the Germans kill everyone because the French had captured a German officer and killed him? Perhaps, but the taking of the Division's payroll I think would have gotten the attention of the German chain of command including the Division commander General Lammerding.

John, my family were survivors. I have a photo hanging in my office of my uncle marching down the main avenue in Agen, France in 1945. He is the third man on the right side of the column of marchers. Before the column is a large banner that reads "22,000 F.T.P.F sons gave their lives for France." (The quality of the photo was not good

enough for reproducing for The CUB.)

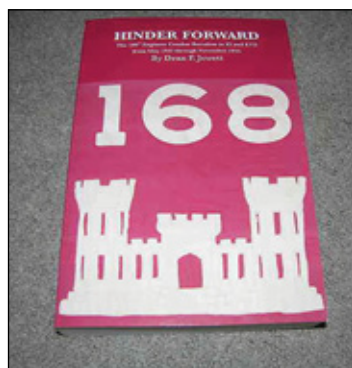
This story coming from my uncle only adds to the many twists about the reason behind the Ouradour Massacre and perhaps gives another reason why the Waffen SS acted as they did in the village. If they don't want to tell us where the payroll is they will never see it.

Last note: John how I would love to make it to Norfolk for the 68th Annual Reunion but I simply have too many irons in the fire over here. Do know how much I recall our times together over the years. I will continue to keep the history of the Golden Lions alive. Work with Carl Wouters, Doug Mitchell and others will continue... always something to do to keep your history and the memories of your comrades alive.

*Take care good friend!
Golden Lions! Airborne!
Ed*

Hinder forward: The 168th Engineer Combat Battalion in ZI and ETO from May 1943 through November 1945

By Dean F. Jewett (168th Eng)



Note: the cover may not look like the pictured image.

Dean F. Jewett has written a book about the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion, which was attached to the 106th Infantry Division during the Battle of the Bulge. The book is 456 pages and sells for \$75, which includes postage, sales tax, etc.

New copies are only available through Mr. Jewett at P.O. Box 148, Saco, ME 04072 or by phone at 207-284-6778.

Used copies are available online through outfits, such as Amazon.com or Ebay.com.

Treasurer's and Membership Chair's Report . . .

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Your Annual Dues Are No Longer Due

In 2010 the Board of Directors voted to dispense with annual dues, however, we continue to ask for donations, whatever you can give, to help defray the cost of printing and mailing *The CUBs*, which go out three times a year. For the Association to be able to meet not only yearly expenses, these donations make possible the enjoyable time at each Annual Reunion.

We will also continue to collect *Memorial*, *Honorary* and *Life Plus* donations. Any contribution that helps defray cost and sustain the association is greatly appreciated. Please consider donating to the Association.



"We were once Brothers..." and will remain so forever. Once, brother carried brother through the trials of training at Camp Atterbury and endured in battle on the Schnee-Eifel of Belgium and Germany. Support the 106th Infantry Division Association by making a Memorial or Honorary contribution in the name of your brother, friend, father or spouse.

New membership applications are available for everyone in your family. Membership is only \$10 and is open to all veterans and non-106th veterans (of every generation)

and comes with full voting privileges. We encourage all family members to join to help honor our veterans and continue the legacy of the 106th.

Contact: Membership Chair, Jacquelyn S. Coy, ***membership@106thinfdivassn.org*** or Treasurer, Mike Sheaner, ***sheaner1@airmail.net***.



Treasurer's and Membership Chair's Report . . .

Life+ and Memorial/Honorary Contributions *Essential* for Keeping this Organization Going

Your gifts are essential to maintaining *The CUB* magazine in its current format with high-quality content and tri-annual delivery. The cost of printing and mailing each edition of *The CUB* exceeds our current level of giving. Therefore, we encourage all readers to make an annual contribution, as you are able, to help defray the cost of printing and mailing.

Contributions make it possible for the Association to meet yearly expenses and host Annual Reunions. Please consider making an annual Life+, Memorial or Honorary donation to the Association today.

The *Annual Dues* of \$10 are no longer billed or collected. We are now accepting only donations for membership, memorials and LIFE PLUS. The previously-allowed payment of \$75 for Life Membership creates a financial shortfall, as our expenses exceeds our income.

Our solution? We are asking you to join the

LIFE PLUS+ Club

Those Members who contribute to the LIFE PLUS+ Club will have their names (*only, no amounts will be shown*) published in the next *CUB*.

You can donate as much or as little as you can and as often as you like. By donating, you are helping perpetuate the 106th Infantry Division Association.

To those Members from whom we haven't heard for a long time — please take the time to join this exclusive club. *Thank you!*

Send your contribution, check made payable to *106th Infantry Div. Association*, to:

Mike Sheaner

Treasurer, 106th Infantry Division, PO Box 140535, Dallas TX 75214

Treasurer's Report:

June. 1, 2014 – October 15, 2014

Beginning Balance:	\$16,189.92
Money In:	\$4,963.70
Money Out:	\$4,643.16
Difference:	\$+320.54
Ending Balance:	\$16,510.46

Treasurer's and Membership Chair's Report . . .

Association Membership As of October 15, 2014

Total Membership	1,129
Membership Veterans	660
Membership Non-106th Veteran	469

LIFE PLUS and REGULAR DONATIONS:

422/D	James P. Adsit
Non-106th Veteran Member (28th Div)	Kachadour "Kracker" Avedisian
Non-106th Veteran Member	Louise Awalt
Non-106th Veteran Member	Connie Pratt Baseman
424/A	Donald Beseler
422/A	Rev. Ewell C. Black, Jr.
422/D	Willis Bouma
423/K	William B. Busier
424/C	Christopher C. Christ
424/HQ	Andrew G. Chuvarsky
423/I	Brig. Gen. John W. Collins III
422/HQ	Henry E. Freedman
589/B	Briggs A. Hoffmann, Jr.
422/A	David A. Huber
Non-106th Veteran Member	Beatrice F. Keeber
589 FA/B	Harold J. Kuizema
423/F	Stanley Kurek
106 Recon	Michael W. Liskiewicz
424/C	William T. Martin
423/G	James O. Mason
423/CN	Bernard Mayrsohn
106 Recon	William C Mitchell
422/AT	Donald B. Prell
423/1stBN	Glynn Raby
422/SVC	Donald Regier
424/L	Herbert A. Rosenberg
423/C	Irving S. Schrom
Non-106th Veteran Member	Daniel A. Simone
422/C	Ed Slotkin
422/H	Robert I. Snovel
423/1stBN/HQ	John H. Stamataky
423/I	Murray Stein (twice)
591/HQ	Vincent V. Suppan
424/I	Alvin P. Swanson

continues on page 14

Treasurer's and Membership Chair's Report . . .

LIFE PLUS and REGULAR DONATIONS:

Non-106th Veteran Member
Non-106th Veteran Member
Non-106th Veteran Member
106 Recon
590/C

Victor V. Vaade
Jeanne Walker
Brian J. Welke
Rishel White
Henry C. Wittenberg

NEW MEMBERS:

Non-106th Veteran Member	Robert L. Sharrow, son of Robert J. Sharrow 424/E
Non-106th Veteran Member	Connor W. Smith, grandson of Robert J. Sharrow 424/E
Non-106th Veteran Member	Kristine Tempinski, niece of Carl Himberg 592 FA/B
Non-106th Veteran Member	Alex D. Gossett, nephew of Zenas Fairrington 422/K

MEMORIAL DONATION:

In memory of my husband, Jacques W. Bloch, 422/K - Stalag XI-B. Deceased 9/20/11 at the age of 91.

Jean H. Bloch Living Trust

In honor of my Dad, Staff Sgt. Charles S. Garn, 422/H who is deceased.

Jeff Garn

In honor of William T. Martin, 424/C on his 92nd birthday.

Kristina L. Rice & Family

In memory of William T. Martin, 424/C.

Wayne Dunn
Linda Hanson
Shanon Hanson
Nursing Unlimited, Inc
Mr. and Mrs. Pete Iannozzi
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Haddad
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Ager
Mr. and Mrs. R. Michaels
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Skiba
Mrs. Beverly Avery
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Martin
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Lineberry

In memory of my uncle, Thomas D.

Reda, 422/Medics

Robert J. Faro

In memory of my father, Richard L.

Rigatti, TSgt, 106th, 423/B, POW, past 106th president, Golden Lion recipient.

Mark J. Rigatti

CORRECTIONS:

Donald Regier

In the last issue of *The CUB*, Vol. 70, No. 2, under the Life Plus and Regular Donations section, Golden Lion Donald Regier was incorrectly listed as "Non-106th Veteran Member." In fact, Mr. Regier is a proud Golden Lion, having served in the 422nd Regiment, Service Company. He was also taken POW during the Battle of the Bulge.

Returned Issues of the Latest *CUB of the Golden Lion*

Membership Chair Jacquelyn Coy asks that the following names (and partial addresses) be listed in this issue of *The CUB* in hopes that anyone reading this issue might know the people listed and can get word to them that their address listed with the Association is incorrect or out-dated. If you know anyone on this list (or if you know they are deceased) and can get word to them, please ask them to **contact Jacquelyn directly at the address listed on page 11 of this issue** with an updated mailing address. Thank you.

Keith Friesinger, Cincinnati, OH
45239-6350

Jack Belina, Burnsville, MN
55337-2017

Irvin M. Schecter, Naples, FL

Robert F. Walker, Cincinnati, OH
45246-6995

Rev. Ron Mosley, Marietta, GA 30067

Dennis Wright, Lawson, MO 64062

James C. Leonare, Issaquah, WA
98029-6247

Gordon B. Pinney, Chadron, NE
69337-0309

Richard Fergusen, Milford, CT
06460-4862

Dr. Ernest Purkey, Neosho, MO
64850-9005

Robert Dumont, Casselberry, FL
32707-3521

Pat N. Westfall, Gatesville, TX 76528

George C. Marcum, Independence,
MO 64052

Raymond S. Szyzewski, Oscoda, MI
48750-1435

Sol Monter, Toms River, NJ 08755

PLEASE NOTE: Membership Chair Jacquelyn Coy is working to update the Association's roster with veterans and their units. If you use email, please email her directly at ***membership@106thinfdivassn.org***. In your email, please let Jacquelyn know your name and 106th Infantry Division unit. Thank you.

Ms. Coy would like to acknowledge Rick Barrow (Non-106th Veteran), who has been researching names for her, as well as Herb Eidelman (424/SV) for his continued assistance. Ms. Coy asks, "If anyone else wants to join in, it would be most helpful."

To the widows of Golden Lions, if you would wish to continue to receive *The CUB* after the passing of your husband please let Membership Chair Jacquelyn Coy know. Her contact information is located on above in this box.

CUB Staff occasionally receive ***requests to stop the mailing*** of their issue of *The CUB*. If you no longer want an issue to be mailed to you, ***please contact Jackie Coy, Membership Chairman.***

Please Let us Know Your Preferences!

To reduce the cost of communicating with members, we would like to take advantage of using email delivery whenever possible. General correspondence (i.e. annual reunion paperwork) and sending *The CUB* as a PDF, or link to the website, are two examples where an impact can be made. In addition, we would like to gather your email address. Please respond to the following:

1. Preferred delivery method for general correspondence:

MAIL _____ or Email _____

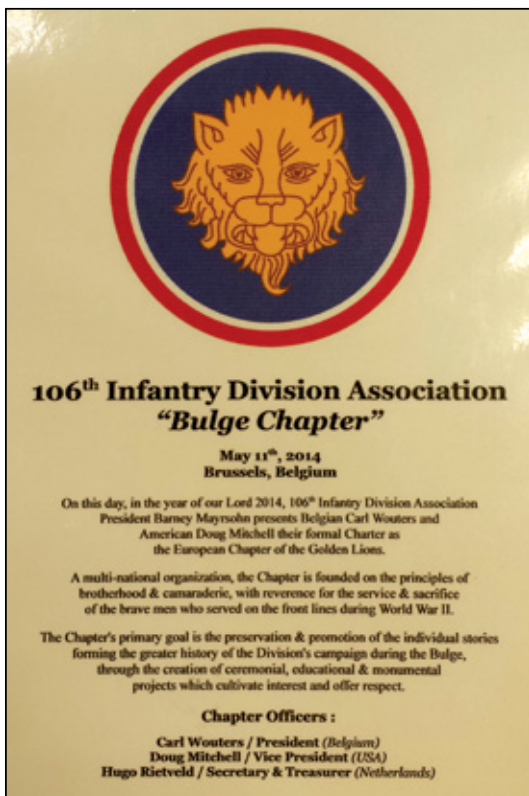
2. Preferred delivery method for *The CUB*:

MAIL _____ or Email _____

3. Email address: _____

You can let us know your preference by emailing:

membership@106thinfdivassn.org



First European Chapter of the 106th Infantry Division Association

Our new President, Barney Mayrsohn, traveled to Belgium in May, 2014, to present a certificate for the installation of the First European Chapter of the 106th Infantry Division Association.

The new officers of that branch are: Carl Wouters — President; Doug Mitchell — Vice President and Hugo Rietveld — Secretary & Treasurer.

To the left: A copy of the certificate presented in Belgium establishing the new European Chapter.

From the editor of The CUB of the Golden Lion

Hello, my name is William A. McWhorter and I am the editor of *The CUB of the Golden Lion (The CUB)*. I am an admirer of your outfit and hope that I can assist in keeping open the lines of communication for our Association. Please send news items that you would like reviewed for

potential inclusion in upcoming issues of *The CUB* to me. Whenever possible please send them to my email address (***williammcwhorter17@gmail.com***). If you do decide to send them via postal mail, if possible, please **TYPE OR PRINT** your messages (it helps me get names spelled correctly). Thank you.

Just a reminder . . .

If you have pictures, an article, or some other form of information you would like included in a future issue of *The CUB*, the due date is as follows:

January 1, 2015 — mail date March 1, 2015 (issue will include reunion paperwork)

May 1, 2015 — mail date July 1, 2015 (in time to have reunion info included)

October 1, 2015 — mail date November 15, 2015 (to include reunion photos and remembrances)

Articles and pictures can be mailed or emailed to:

CUB Editor: William McWhorter
166 Prairie Dawn, Kyle, TX 78640
512-970-5637

CubEditor@106thInfDivAssn.org
or williammcwhorter17@gmail.com

CUB Publisher: Susan Weiss
9 Cypress Point Court
Blackwood, NJ 08012
856-415-2211

CubPublisher@106thInfDivAssn.org

106th Association has a New Website!

By Wayne Dunn

To complement the wonderful websites that are already out on the Internet, including our own members' Jim West (www.IndianaMilitary.org) and Carl Wouters (www.106thinfantry.webs.com) the association has just launched our own website at ***www.106thInfDivAssn.org***.

This is where you can find: info on upcoming events; copies of the membership application for your family to join; the complete latest issue plus additional photos and articles from *The CUB*.

Also look for our Facebook page at ***Facebook.com/106thInfDivAssn***.

This is where you can find up-to-the-minute information and where you can connect with friends and make plans for the next reunion.

If you have any additional reunion photos or information that you would like to see on the website or Facebook page, please contact the new Webmaster, Wayne Dunn at ***Host106th@106thInfDivAssn.org*** or 410-409-1141.

Jim West and the *www.IndianaMilitary.org* Website

Associate member, Jim West (OGL-Officers, 2004) has created an excellent website at <http://www.indianamilitary.org>. It is hoped that this website will increase awareness of the 106th Infantry Division Association and perhaps our membership. The site has had 1,674,874 visitors to date. It is rated as the largest private site in Indiana at more than 50 gigabytes of unaltered history and is the largest depository of local historical photos. Check it out at your earliest convenience.

In addition to a very large section devoted to the 106th Division, it also contains information on Camp Atterbury (Indiana) and all the divisions that trained here in World War II and Korea.

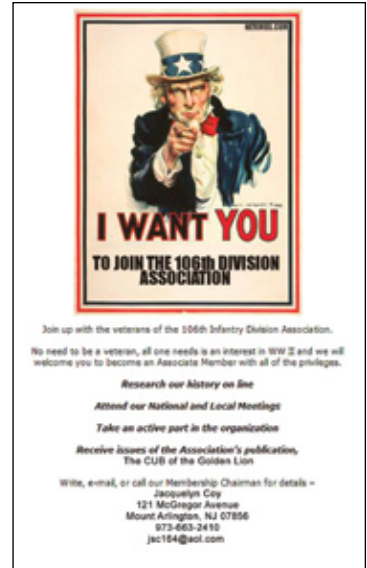
They include the 28th, 30th, 31st, 83rd and 92nd Infantry Divisions, plus Fort Benjamin Harrison, Freeman AAF, Atterbury/Bakalar AFB, the German and Italian POWs held at Camp Atterbury and Wakeman General Hospital. There is also a section for the several German Prisoner of War camps where some 106th members were held. There are dozens of 106th diaries and personal remembrances.

The 106th Roster at <http://tinyurl.com/106thRoster> now contains information on 16,934 Veterans with 363 individual photos. If you visit the website, listed above, and a photo is not shown for an individual and the family has one available, all they need do is email a scan of him to Jim West.

All 106th General Orders have been reviewed and all the information has been added to the Roster. These General Orders allowed for the addition of 513 previously unknown names to be added and a huge amount of service numbers and other data were added. All the original General Orders are available for viewing on the website. These were made possible by a friend, John Bowen, of the 31st Division Association (Camp Atterbury, Korean War).

Every available issue of the 106th *CUBs* are available on the site, in addition to the Camp Atterbury *Camp Crier*, published when the 106th was there. Find the *Camp Crier* under the section for Camp Atterbury. You can email Jim at jimdwest@centurylink.net.

Jim would like to thank the "AmVets of Indiana." Through their generosity of support and hosting of the entire website, they are making it possible for the 106th to have a presence on the Web.



Order of the Golden Lion Committee

This award is provided in three classifications depending on the qualifications of the recipient. The most prestigious is “**Commander Class**” issued in gold finish. This award is usually provided to someone who has served the Association faithfully over an extended period of time and is a Veteran of the 106th Infantry Division.

The second is “**Officer Class**” issued in silver finish. This award is usually provided to someone who has served the Association faithfully over an extended period of time and is not necessarily a Veteran of the 106th Infantry Division.

The third is “**Companion Class**” issued in bronze finish. This award is usually provided to someone who has served the Association faithfully in the capacity of assistance in the operation of the Association.

The specifications for making the award are intended to fit many instances where an individual is deemed worthy. *The award should be determined by the recipient's contributions to the Association.*

The Chairman of the Order of the

Golden Lion committee will poll the members of the Board of Directors for recommendations for the OGL awards.

The President or Chairman may select additional members to the committee.

Nominations will be submitted in a format suitable for composing a formal citation to accompany the award of the medal. This must be done in ample time prior to the next Reunion in order for the manufacturer to produce the medal(s) on time.

All citations should be kept confidential between the nominator and the Committee Chairman prior to the actual awarding ceremony.

LEAD TIME — 3 WEEKS, MINIMUM

John Schaffner is the Chair of the Order of the Golden Lion Committee. Send nominations to:

John Schaffner (589/A)
1811 Miller Rd., Cockeysville, MD
21030-1013
410-584-2754
pumexim2@verizon.net



As noted in this issue's Adjutant's Report, at the 2014 reunion there were three Order of the Golden Lion medals presented. Pictured are: Commander Class, Sy Lichtenfeld (422/I); Companion Class, Wilma Wood and Officer Class, Mike Sheaner.



THE BATTLE FOR SNOW MOUNTAIN

by Donald Young

The Battle for Snow Mountain is a comic novel — based on Young's experience — which gives a surreal picture of the German attack on the 106th Division in the winter of 1944.



The story deals with two soldiers, their odd love affairs at home, their war experience in the Battle of the Bulge, their accidental capture, escape from POW camp and return to freedom.

"I've never read a more powerful WW II novel than
The Battle for Snow Mountain."

JOHN DIZIKES, FORMERLY PROFESSOR
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ

"Young's novel is an instant war classic, much like
Vonnegut's *Slaughter House Five* and Heller's *Catch 22*."

WALLACE WOOD, BOOK REVIEWER

The Battle for Snow Mountain by Donald Young
can be purchased by April 1, from Pocol Press, 6023 Pocol Drive,
Clifton, VA 20124, 1-703-830-5862.

It can also be ordered at *Amazon.com*, \$17.95, ISBN 978-1-929763-48-1

Knight of the Legion of Honor Medal

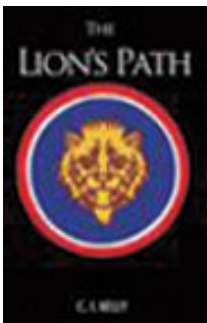
Submitted by James Anthony Reiss (423/L)

At a reception on March 2, 2014 in San Clemente, California, Golden Lion James Anthony Reiss (423/L) was awarded France's Knight of the Legion of Honor medal. The award is France's highest distinction for those



who risked their lives during World War II to fight on French territory by fighting in one of the three main campaigns of the Liberation of France: Normandy, Provence/Southern France or Northern France.

Pictured: Jim Reiss, photos from the Sun Post News (San Clemente), a part of the article, "In Good Company" by Fred Swegles, February 27, 2014.



The Lion's Path

By C.J. Kelly

In December 1944, a raw American infantry division has its baptism of fire in the Battle of the Bulge. Caught up in this maelstrom of death and destruction are two very different Americans. Trapped behind enemy lines, they experience the horror of war and a humanity borne of sacrifice.

Available at Amazon.com or barnesandnoble.com

Their Country Called, They Answered!

Submitted by Henry 'Hank' E. Freedman (422/HQ)

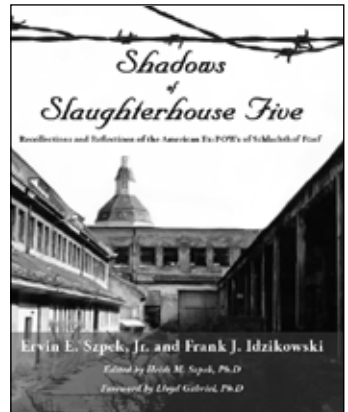
As a member of the “Greatest Generation” and a former prisoner of war, my thoughts have forever been with the men and women who gave of themselves to assure our country’s future. This is my acknowledgement to them for a job well done.

We watched from afar at a world at war;
Not for us did we say, until Pearl Harbor Day,
Our Country was in need for it had a job to do,
From California to Maine we awoke, but the days were few,
Men and women, Americans all, never hesitated:
They were answering the call, and millions came from
North, East, South and West showing the world how we can be
At our best,
It took a while but who’s to complain, victory was our but too
Many suffered the pain, now as we get ready to remember them all,
Bow your head and pray at our Capitol’s Mall, history will show,
That they, who are being honored here, didn’t hesitate to go,
So, God bless this generation and honor them,
Please, and for generations to come for all eternity.

Shadows of Slaughterhouse Five

From Ervin Szpek Jr., Non-Veteran Member

Ervin Szpek Jr. (Non-Veteran Member) is pleased to announce after many years of research that his and his colleagues’ book on the infamous *Arbeitskommando Slaughterhouse Five* has been released. Nearly every man of this POW work camp (near Dresden, Germany) originated from the 106th Infantry Division including former 106th Association President, Gifford Doxsee. The book is their story, in their words and accounts for nearly every POW at the camp. It also chronicles the recollections and reflections of the 150 American Ex-POWs, many of whom are members of the Association. Newly released by iUniverse press at www.iUniverse.com, the book is also available at www.amazon.com and www.BarnesandNoble.com. With best wishes for 2014 and with appreciation for your efforts — thank you.



A Very Important Message from the Treasurer and All Members of the Board

Please read and take action now, thank you.

With each issue of *The CUB* magazine the incoming mail box swells with letters of appreciation from readers who express thanks and encouragement for us to “*keep up the good work.*”

The Last Man Standing

It is our wish to continue the Association at a minimum through “The Last Man Standing.” Since eliminating annual dues several years ago the association has relied largely on reserve savings to continue *The CUB* and other services at its present level. Your support is necessary to complete the mission of honoring our veterans and continuing the legacy of the 106th through education, reunions and publication of *The CUB*.

Keep up the Good Work

We need your help to meet basic financial needs of the Association. If we reach our annual goal of \$20,000, we will be able to preserve our savings and keep up the “*good work*” for many years to come. Use the enclosed envelope to return your contribution marked “***Sustentation Fund***” in whatever amount possible. Any amount is appreciated, \$10 – \$1,000 or more.

Also, please tell us how you wish to receive future issues of *The CUB*. Email to ***membership@106thinfdivassn.org*** and indicate a delivery preference; Mail (paper in black and white) or Email (PDF in color). Approximately 65 percent of Association expenses are directly related to printing and shipping *The CUB* each year. Your choice to receive *The CUB* by email will help defer expenses and enable us to continue to deliver *The CUB* until “The Last Man Standing.”

Show support for our mission by giving generously. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

If the envelope is missing or if you or someone you know would like to make an additional contribution, please mail a check made payable to *106th Infantry Division*

**to: 106th Infantry Division, Life Plus Contribution
PO Box 140535, Dallas TX 75214**

Golden Lion Gets a Head Start on Commemorating the 70th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge

Submitted by John Gatens (589/A)

On May 22, 2014, Golden Lion John Gatens (589/A) and his family traveled to Brussels, Belgium. There they were met at the airport by Doug Mitchell, who served as their tour guide for the next five days. While Mr. Mitchell took members of Gatens' party on a tour of Brussels, Gatens and Mary Vandermast met with Carl and Sofie Wouters. For what those two have been through in recent months, Sofie looked as beautiful as ever. Please say a prayer for her as she continues to recover. During this visit Gatens was able to see another old friend, Jurgen Raedts and his family, followed by a visit from Vincent Gerard, who has come over to the U.S. for a number of Reunion visits.

On May 24, Mr. Mitchell introduced Gatens group to Walter and Betty Driggs who would join their traveling group. We traveled to the World War II-era Fort d' Aubin-Neufchateau. This is where the 740th Armored Tank Battalion fought during the Battle of the Bulge. When we arrived a large crowd was waiting for us. There we were also met by Mathilde and Marcel Schmetz the owners of the M&M Museum. Chairs had been set up around a monument and a ceremony began. A few names had been added to the monument and a number of Belgium and U.S. speakers provided the ceremony with excellent speeches. Afterward the group was invited to a lunch in the Fayer Aubinois Hall.

It was now time to drive to the Henri Chapelle Cemetery for the wonderful Memorial Day Ceremony. There were



Pictured left to right are: Heather Vanness, Helen Daly, Mary Vandermast, Tom Daly (in back row), John Gatens, Annemarie Barone, Carl Wouters (in back row), Walt Driggs, Madeleine Bryant. John Gatens' Howitzer was in the group of trees behind them when the Bulge started.

many wreaths presented from different countries and units; we had great seats to view it all. The superintendent of the cemetery gave one of many speeches; in his he called out the 106th Division, presented by John Gatens and family. That made Gatens feel very proud. Then came the beautiful moment of the ceremony when the flyover took place; a big tanker plane came from behind us and over our heads. Then the veterans assembled on the field, Gatens felt honored to join them. He spoke with a three star NATO general,



Stalag XII A, when John Gatens was there.



John Gatens and Mary Vandermast at the 740th Ceremony.

David R. Hogg, who shook his hand and gave him a NATO challenge coin. Next the U.S. Ambassador to Belgium, Mark Storella, shook Gatens' hand and presented him with two flags: a U.S. and Belgium. Also at the ceremony were Henri Rogister, Vincent Gerard with his aunt, Carl Wouters and his father-in-law, and Eddy Lamberty. Afterward Mathilde held a champagne lunch with a toast and an orchestra playing music. The local mayor provided Gatens with a greeting and a beautiful pin of the U.S. and Belgium flags. The town provided him with a beautiful plate with the communities' names and the town's Coat of Arms.

On May 25, the group traveled through the Huertgen Forest. Mr. Mitchell provided a fine account of the battle. The group stopped and toured the German Huertgen Cemetery. Then they moved on to the Memorial Day Ceremony at the American Margraten Cemetery. This is where Lt. O'Toole from the 589/A is buried. The ceremony

was the same as the Henri Chapelle Cemetery. At the end came an even more beautiful flyover of the Air Corps and the Missing Man Formation. Afterward we traveled to the M&M Museum for dinner, where we were joined by members of the 740th Tank Battalion. Afterward Gatens presented Mathilde with the Golden Lion Challenge Coin from John Schaffner and himself.

On May 26, Carl Wouters met the group again and toured more battlefields with them. Both Carl and Mr. Mitchell are very knowledgeable of the battlefields. The group eventually made it to the Band of Brothers monument.



John Gatens talking to General David R. Hogg (N.A.T.O.)

Mr. Mitchell and his wife Anita invited the group to their house for coffee and pastry. One of the things that Gatens has always wanted his family to see was his first position for his howitzer on December 16,

1944. After leaving the Mitchell's home that is just where they went. I explained to the group after we arrived how we were very busy firing most of the first day of the battle. I showed them, where at about 3 p.m. a German tank appeared at our front, about 400 yards from where we were. Luckily, Gatens spotted him before the German tank spotted him; with two high explosive shells Gatens stopped the tank, finishing him off with an armor piercing shell.

The group toured more of the battlefield

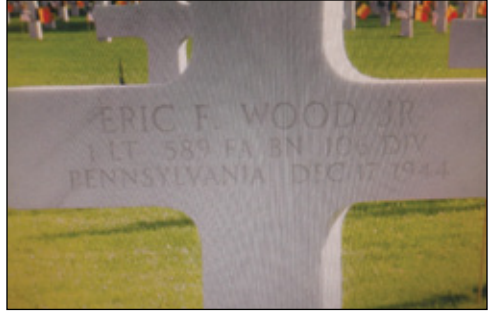
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**John Gatens
with Vielsalm
Mayor Elie
Deblire at
106th Infantry
Division
Monument at
St. Vith.**

and arrived at St. Vith for lunch. The group proceeded to the 106th Memorial, where the mayor of St. Vith was waiting for them to give a speech. Afterward, Annemarie placed a very nice wreath in honor of the Gatens family at the monument. Then Heather placed a monument in honor of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge.

On May 27, the group visited the bridge where the 84th Infantry Division (Rail splitters) stopped the German advance. Mr. Mitchell placed a small bouquet of flowers where the monument is. After lunch, the group made their way for Bastogne. Shortly thereafter we were met by Bernandette LeJeune, owner of the Restaurant Hotel at Parker's Crossroads, and one



Eric F. Wood, Jr.'s tombstone

of my dearest friends. With her was Eddy Monfort. In Bastogne a few of Mr. Mitchell's reenactor buddies were waiting for us with their vehicles. We were then driven to the Peace Woods so Gatens family could see his tree planted there years ago. The group then proceeded for Parker's Crossroads, where the group met even more friends. The ceremony and flower laying did not go as planned and this was rather disappointing for Gatens. This combined with a rushed feeling at their meal and a need to get back to their bus, because the driver had a limited amount of hours he could drive. Gatens was upset, as were his Belgium friends, that this visit was rushed and he could not spend more time with his friends, telling his family more about their positions during the fight for Parker's Crossroads.



Dauchau when in full activity.



Ovens in Dachau



Courtroom where Nuremberg War Crimes trial was held.

On May 28, Mr. Mitchell's tour guide assignment had come to its end and the group was now led by Patrick Hinchy. The group was set for a Rhine cruise, but Hinchy informed them that the cruise was cancelled.

There was no room on the boat, which greatly disappointed Gatens and his group. Instead they took a bus ride to the Remagen Bridge, as Hinchy detailed the battle. The group moved on to Munich, with a side trip to the former site of Stalag XIIA

Limberg. A friendly local German officer escorted the group through the grounds. This was mostly a day of travel.

On May 29, the group's first stop was Nuremberg for a full sightseeing tour including the famous war crimes tribunal courtroom. All the walls are full with pictures about the rise and fall of Hitler. There are handheld audio tours and TVs with documentaries about the war. Gatens could have spent a week there. The group then went to the ruins of the Nazi Rally Stadium,

site of Hitler's speeches and the 1936 Olympics.

On May 30, the group headed for downtown Munich to tour the city. After lunch they headed to Dachau Concentration Camp. Gatens said this place gives you goose bumps, when you realize what went on there, you just can't believe that one human being could do that to another. The pictures of the bodies piled up is very moving. As a POW, Gatens saw many of these poor people, either piled up in a truck or walking in the opposite direction than we were. That night the group had a farewell Bavarian dinner planned,

but those plans fell through. Gatens really enjoyed his tour guides Mitchell and Hinchy and would travel with them any time. The following morning, the group was up early and flew out on May 31 for Newark, New Jersey.



Heather VanVess, Helen Daly, Mary Vandermast, John Gatens, Tom Daly, Bernadette LeJeune, Annemarie Barone, at the tree planted for John Gatens.

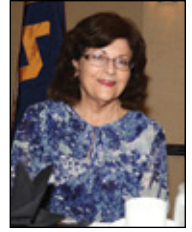


Walt Briggs, Tom Daly, Heather VanVess, Mary Vandermast, Annemarie Barone, Helen Daly, John Gatens, Betty Driggs at a small monument erected by Doug Mitchell's father-in-law, a German soldier, in honor of the 106th Infantry Division and his own.

First-Time Reunion Attendees

By Susan Weiss and photo by Janet Wood

There were quite a few first timers to this year's 68th annual reunion and Association member Janet Wood took a great group picture of three of them and their guests in front of the wreath.



Pictured left to right: Ron and Sharon Chiverella, representing her father, Wassil Pogar, 422/C, Elaine and her husband Leon Goldberg, 422/D, and John Mast, 81st Eng/B and his daughter Sharon Schreffler.

Also, first-time attendees pictured above are Vincent Charron, Chaplain, and Janet Mayrsohn, daughter of the new association president.

Our Family's Wonderful Time at the 2014 Reunion

Submitted by Elaine Goldberg

We came to the 2014 annual reunion of the 106th Infantry Division to find someone Leon served with, especially Lt. Houghton, who had barked an order at him that surely saved his life: "Get the hell out of here!" Instead, we found men he didn't know he'd served alongside... who'd had similar experiences, who understood... and families!



There were children who'd come from as far away as Malaysia, adults who'd been coming since before they were teenagers, retirees who



came as a memorial to 106ers who were no longer here. One family brought a dozen people!

Some vets had been meeting since 1947. We only heard about it in 2012. We arrived as one of three or four "first timers" and left with a hoard of new friends. Leon had not recognized anyone but he surely will next year.

Photos from the 68th Annual Renion, Norfolk, Virginia

Submitted by Susan Weiss and Janet Wood



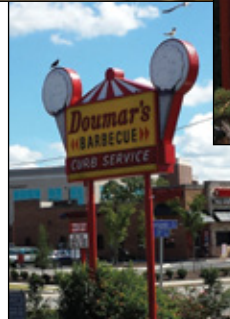
The Woods with the beautifully wrapped gifts that they presented to all of the female attendees at the Reunion luncheon and all of the attending veterans at the banquet.



Above, Gloria Sheaner shows off her wooden medallion, the gift from the Woods.



Left, a close up of the hand carved and painted wooden medallion.



Some of the locations Reunion attendees visited on the tours and personal excursions while in Norfolk. They include: the Woods family at the USS Wisconsin, the Moses Myers House, Newt (423/HQ 3Bn) and Ruth Weiss at Fort Norfolk, the Freemason Abbey restaurant and Doumar's—home of the first waffle ice cream cone.

Feature Stories . . .



Above: The honor guard from Norfolk, presenting colors at the memorial service.



Above: Presenting the wreath at the memorial service are John Schaffner (589/A) and John Gatens (589/A).



Below: Chaplain Vincent Charron, John Gatens (589/A), John Schaffner (589/A), and Murray Stein (423/I).

Below: Standing left to right are Veteran members Anthony Rand (589/FA Bn) and Richard Idstein (424/C) view memorabilia that was on display in the hospitality suite at the hotel.



Above: The paddle-boat ferry that took passengers across the Elizabeth River to Portsmouth, VA, located at the back of the hotel.

Feature Stories . . .



Below: Lillian Schaffner, Mary Vandermast and Jean Himberg visit during the cocktail hour of the Banquet.



Banquet speaker, Brig. Gen. William Hix and his wife speak with Murray Stein (423/I) and in-coming president Barney Mayrhoon (423/CN).



Treasurer Mike Sheaner, center, visits the table of Roland Schleusener (Company C) and his wife Betty at the banquet.



Randall Wood, out-going president and Murray Stein (423/I).



Mike Sheaner receives Order of the Golden Lion from his father Herb Sheaner (422/G), as John Schaffner (589/A) looks on.



Order of the Golden Lion current and past recipients in attendance.

**For additional pictures from the reunion, please visit the website at:
www.106thInfDivAssn.org**

Stories of the Men of the 106th Infantry Division

In the Vol. 69, No. 2 issue of *The CUB*, then Association President Herb Sheaner (422/G), initiated a *very successful* effort to increase the attendance, especially of 106 veterans, at the 67th annual reunion in New Orleans (2013). Along with this effort came this new section in *The CUB* and the stories continue below.

Rudy Hirsch (part 2) **589th Field Artillery, Bronx, NY**

On page 39 in Vol. 69, No. 3 of *The CUB*, Golden Lion Rudy Hirsh talked about his ‘Story’ of serving the 106th Infantry Division. Mr. Hirsh wanted to share a few more recollections here. The 589th Field Artillery participated in combat at the Lorient-Pocket in French Brittany. We helped the French Resistance with shooting our 105mm into the German Navy’s submarine pens area, which later surrendered. I was very busy during this time, being that I was wonderful Colonel Parker’s interpreter of German and French. We were stationed at Camp De Quetquidan (maneuver ground of France’s ‘West Point’).

You can read Mr. Hirsh’s 127-page memoir, “*My Life: The Diary of Rudy Hirsch*,” online at this link:
<http://www.indianamilitary.org/106ID/Diaries/None-POW/Rudy%20Hirsch/Hirsch-Rudy.pdf>



Juan G. Rodriguez **422nd, Lexington, KY**

I was born in Espanola, New Mexico and graduated from New

Mexico State University in 1943.

During my junior year I took civilian pilot training courses and obtained a pilot’s license. This served to place me in the U.S. Army’s A.S.T.P. program at Fort Benning, GA, while awaiting transfer to the U.S. Army Air Corps. Before it took, I was ordered to Camp Atterbury and assigned to the 106th Infantry Division. I served as a sergeant in the 422nd Regiment, with the 106th Infantry Division in Belgium when the German offensive began on December 16, 1944. I was slightly wounded and captured on December 23 [my birthday]; held prisoner until April 16, 1945 when we were liberated by U.S. forces. After the war I continued my studies in entomology at Ohio State University and earned a Ph.D. in 1949.

Glynn G. Raby, Jr. **423/1st BN, Memphis, TN**

I was with the 423rd/HQ Co./ 1st Bn from March 1943 to April 1944. I served in the European Theater of Operations as a replacement in May 1944. Soon after D-Day I was in Normandy and joined Company H of the 9th Infantry Regiment, of the 2nd Infantry Division and served the rest of the war with them. The 422nd Regiment is the unit that replaced us (9th Regiment) in the line before the Battle of the Bulge.

continues at top of next page

Archie Ross

424/CN, West Palm Beach, FL

I joined the 106th Infantry Division at Ft. Jackson when it was organized. When we were sent overseas, we sailed on the Acquitainia. It took us 10 days to arrive in Scotland and two days of travel to Banbury, England. I lost 20 pounds on the voyage and I thought I was going to die. Later we crossed the Channel and remained on LCIs, popping around like corks for hours. We raced across France in the back of 2.5 ton trucks. When we arrived at the front the 2nd

Division came down in single file and we went up the hill in single file. We were in Steinbruck, Belgium. There was a battalion ammo dump set up nearby and I handled the crates of ammo. A few days later, when the Germans attacked, I remember looking out at a vast opening in the forest. The Germans had it flooded with spotlights, they were playing music and talking to us, making all kinds of noise. All Hell Broke Loose. I went over to Europe with the Headquarters Company, 1st Bn, 424th Regiment. I spent time with 424/A.

Camp Atterbury Remembrance Ceremonies

Submitted by Jim West

Jim West and Golden Lion James W. Gardner (422/HQ) (*pictured right*) attended the annual Camp Atterbury Remembrance Ceremonies. Mr. West said, "Turn out this morning was pretty depressing. Just a handful of people in attendance. The museum is still closed for repairs after a pipe burst in the attic at the beginning of last winter. I seriously doubt the ceremony will be repeated much longer. Both the Army ceremony and the Italian POW

ceremonies, formerly a two day affair is down to one day."

Mr. West added, "Mr. Gardner represented the POWs in the ceremony and I am not sure who did the 106th honors, but I don't think he was 106th. Mr. Gardner was held at Stalag II-A and VI-G and was liberated by the Russians 04/29/1945."



MY WAR

by Fredrick Smallwood

This is the story of my experiences as a young boy from a small town in south Georgia with the 106th Infantry Division during World War II. I was initially in the A&P Platoon of 1 Bn. Hq. Co. of the 423rd Regiment. I was one of the few who made my way through the German lines back to the Allied lines at St. Vith.

Books are \$15 plus \$4 for shipping. You can contact me at fsjs@mchsi.com or P.O. Box 1923, Bainbridge, GA 39818.

My Grandfather's War

A Young Man's Lessons from the Greatest Generation

"I, TOO, SERVED IN THE 106TH INFANTRY, WAS CAPTURED AT THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE, AND SPENT TIME IN STALAG IXB. YOUR BOOK, *MY GRANDFATHER'S WAR*, IS THE BEST P.O.W BOOK I HAVE EVER READ!"

— JAMES A. REISS, CPL. 423RD INFANTRY, 106TH DIVISION

"*MY GRANDFATHER'S WAR* WAS EYE-OPENING...I LOVED THIS BOOK."

"JESSE COZEAN'S CONFIDENT VOICE TOES THE LINE BETWEEN NOSTALGIA AND HISTORY AND STEEPS EVERY PAGE IN RESPECT. HIS HUMOR AND CYNICISM CAPTURE THE VOICE OF HIS GENERATION."

"A CROSS BETWEEN *FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS* AND *TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE*."



The exciting story of 106th member Robert Cozean's capture at the Battle of the Bulge, imprisonment in a Nazi POW camp, and liberation by the tanks of General Patton. Informative and emotional, the book is filled with information on the 106th Division, the Battle of the Bulge, and the prison camps that many Golden Lions found themselves in.

Includes a complete history of America's POWs from the Revolutionary War to World War II.

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Veterans and Family of the 106th Infantry Division TATTOO* Requests

With space in *The CUB* at a premium, yet Reunited Buddies and Their Families an important commodity, the editor of *The CUB of the Golden Lion* created the following list [*In Their Own Words, most often*] of inquiries submitted to him in hopes of helping people get in touch with the 106th I.D. Association Family. The following are requests for information. Feel free to contact them if you believe you can be of assistance. *The CUB* staff has received permission from all listed below to print their inquiry and their contact email (phone and address when available).

In addition, Non-Veteran member Connie Pratt Baesman, daughter of Lt. Gerald Pratt (Field Artillery), has been one of three people helping to manage the 106th's online "message board" (set up by Jim West) for people to write an inquiry, looking for comrades, or for people who might have known a relative who is now gone. Sadly, some inquiries sit unanswered when the answers may be out there with a reader of *The CUB* who doesn't use a computer. The list has gotten quite long and Connie has asked that whenever there is room in *The CUB* we add a few of the requests. You can find messages like these below, along with other searches on the 106th Message Board at the following Web address: <http://106thdivision.proboards.com/index.cgi>

*The original meaning of **military tattoo** was a military drum performance, but subsequently it came to mean army displays, or a form of gathering more generally. For our Association, letting members know that someone would like to speak with them is "why we do this! So keep sending in your stories, as an old friend may find you!" — Susan Weiss (Publisher of *The CUB*) and William McWhorter (Editor of *The CUB*)

424th Regiment 19th Reinforcement Depot

I recently met a veteran that was a member of the 106th I.D.'s 424th Regiment, 19th Reinforcement Depot which was located in Etampes, France during WW II. I am looking for any photos or documents that may be available for this unit. Any help is greatly appreciated. Please contact Brent Spencer at brent.spencer@cox.net.

Kachadour Avedisian

Kachadour Avedisian, a member of the 28th Infantry Division and a prisoner of war held in Barracks 24 at Stalag IX-B, recently wrote the staff of *The CUB of the Golden Lion* and had the following question to share: "My barracks at Stalag IX-B was full of 106th Division men. I'd enjoy hearing from any of the guys held with me." You can reach out to Mr. Avedisian at 84 Armington Street, Cranston, Rhode Island 02905-4035.

Willard "Willy" H. Keeber (424/G)

From Beatrice Keeber, "My late husband, PFC. Willard H. Keeber (then known as "Will" or "Willy") served in the 106th's Company G, 424th Infantry Regiment in the Battle of the Bulge. The next two companies were captured that first night of the German "Punch," but Will's unit of Company G was scattered when tanks

continues on page 36

threatened to run them over. Will and 8 to 10 others met up later behind enemy lines. For the next approximately three weeks, they dodged falling trees, Allied artillery fire, German tanks and snipers. Somehow, they survived all that and the vicious cold weather in which so many froze to death. Without losing a single one of their group, they eventually met up with an American tank unit and were transported back to the tank base from which they were sent to an Army hospital for treatment of trench foot, then returned to active service. After the war, Will was discharged at Camp Dix in November, 1945. He was so eager to arrive home in time for his mom's Thanksgiving dinner that he left the Army with nothing but his discharge papers, not waiting for his ribbons and service badges. Years later, our sons convinced him to write to his Congressman for them. He was astonished to find a Bronze Star among them. For a couple of weeks, he occasionally, with a small smile, patted the top of that box on the table beside his chair, but then, he put it in his drawer along with the other badges and ribbons and I doubt he looked at any of them again.

Our sons managed to learn a bit more sketchy information from him, but we never learned anything regarding the reason for the awarding of that Bronze Star. Can any readers of *The CUB* offer suggestions as to how to learn more? Or might any of the readers of *The CUB* be surviving members of that cold, ragged, hungry bunch with Will for those weeks? I would so like to hear from them! My husband, who passed away in 2007 at the age of 82, was 19 at the time of that wartime experience, so any possible survivors of that group must be a great age by now. Nevertheless, the Golden Lions are a hardy bunch so I hope I might hear from some of them (with that group or not) regarding my questions. I may be reached at bkeeber@frontier.com, or by mail at 131 River Drive, Milford, MI."

Alex Gossett

My name is Alex Gossett from High Point NC. My uncle Zenes (Pam) Fairrington served in the 422/K from August 1942 until October 1945. I am interested in what the 422nd INF did during that time. I would like to eventually follow the movement of the 422nd from their entry in France to the Rhineland and central Europe. If you can point me in a direction of research, stories, or anything would greatly be appreciated. Thanks. Alex Gossett Phone 336-848-2712 and email magossett@northstate.net

Dog Green Productions

Dog Green Productions is developing an interactive timeline of the buildup of American forces in Great Britain during World War II for the American Battle Monuments Commission. The interactive timeline will eventually be installed at the Cambridge American Cemetery and also online. We are in need of photographs of the 106th Infantry Division, primarily in Great Britain but are also accepting photos from across the war. If you have any photos that you are wanting to share please email Sarah Cahlan, Associate Producer/Researcher at sarah@doggreenproductions.com or call the office at 646-290-6931.

Mini-Reunions are an Important Part of the 106th!

Our veterans will always remember December 16, 1944, when they were thrust into the chaos of war. The years may have thinned the ranks, but those that remain still have the pride of knowing they played an instrumental part in slowing — and ultimately defeating — the German war machine.

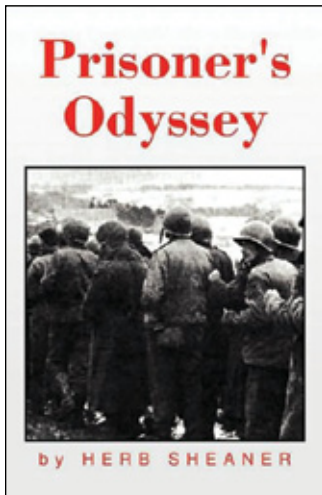
As it becomes more difficult to travel, it is of critical importance that mini-reunions be held wherever our vets can join in. Any city, town — or even in someone's home — would be a fine place to gather to honor, cherish and remember all of our veterans.

This is a monumental year as it marks the 70th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge. If there is no gathering planned in your area, please reach out and invite someone! If you need the names of members that live in your town or state, please contact membership@106thInfDivAssn.org.

As you make plans, please share them and we will publicize your event on our website and Facebook pages to help get the word out. Send emails to: Host106th@106thInfDivAssn.org about your event.

After the event, please remember to share pictures and the names of the attendees with *The CUB* editor for their inclusion and recognition in the next issue.

No mini-reunion reports were reported for this issue of The CUB.



Prisoner's Odyssey

by Herb Sheaner (422/G)

Prisoner's Odyssey is a story of survival, hunger and reflection from a teenaged prisoner of war inside Germany near the end of WWII. From capture at the Battle of The Bulge to the final escape from his German guards, Herb Sheaner allows us a glimpse into the despair and agony of being a prisoner in a foreign land. During World War II, Herb Sheaner served as a private first class in Company G, 422nd Regiment of the 106th Infantry Division.

After receiving ASTP training at University of Alabama, he joined the 106th at Camp Atterbury in Indiana where he earned Expert Rifleman honors and was designated Co. G Sniper and Regimental Scout. Fifty years later he recalls his experiences.

Available through Barnes & Noble, Amazon.com and Xlibris online.

Memoriam . . .

PLEASE REPORT ALL CHANGES OF ADDRESS AND DEATHS TO: ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP CHAIR:

Jacquelyn Coy

121 McGregor Ave., Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856

Phone: 973-663-2410

Email: *membership@106thinfdivassn.org*

BISHOP, GRAYSON A. 424/L

—*Date of Death: July 20, 2014*

Golden Lion Grayson Bishop received a Battlefield Commission to 2nd Lieutenant during the Battle of the Bulge. He was the President of Bishop Equipment Company, a fourth generation family business, the employees of which he cared for as family for over 50 years. He was the loving and faithful husband of Laura Bishop for 65 years; caring and generous father of six, beloved grandfather of nine. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at Saint James Catholic Church, 905 Park Ave, Falls Church, Virginia with interment at Saint James Cemetery.

*Submitted by Jim West,
reported by John Schaffner*

BRATTON, HAROLD KENNETH 590/FA

—*Date of Death: November 25, 2013*

“My Dad so looked forward to receiving his Cub magazine. He was born in Bellmont, Illinois on August 26, 1923. He served in the US Army and fought in the Battle of the Bulge. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Farrol Bratton, one daughter, two sons, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.”

Reported by his daughter, Donna Hogan

CALL, GEORGE 424/B

—*Date of Death: March 16, 2014*

Golden Lion George Call, also known as Calathopulos has passed away.

Reported by his daughter, Gwen Melisi

DONALDSON, ROBERT W. 423/B HQ

—*Date of Death: July 25, 2012*

“Bob never attended a reunion because he was run over in Indiana by the communications jeep on bivouac two weeks before the unit went to England in 1944, I think it was. The driver went to sleep in the jeep, against regulations, and Bob spent the rest of the war stateside on limited duty. Therefore, he didn’t feel he had shared the nitty gritty with the guys who fought and, even when the reunion was in Baltimore and local, he didn’t feel like he belonged. And now the generation is rapidly being depleted by the ravages of years.”

Reported by his wife Anne

ELMS, DOUGLAS COLBY 424/AT

—*Date of Death: September 20, 2014*

Golden Lion Doug Elms was born on November 1, 1920 on a farm near Milaca, Minnesota. He moved to Seattle and attended school in 1928 to 1933.

Reported by his daughter, Liz Erb

FARRAR, JOSEPH A.

Unit Not Reported

—Date of Death: July 28, 2014

A veteran of World War II, he fought in the Battle of the Bulge and was captured by the German Army in December, 1944. After liberation by the Allies in 1945, Joe returned home and attended Siena College. He soon met Sally Alberto, the love of his life, and they began a half century of marriage. Joe's successful career in broadcast radio took him from Albany to Boston and finally to Rochester in 1962 where he became general manager of WHAM. He retired in 1981.

His friends were invited to a Memorial Mass at BLESSED SACRAMENT CHURCH (534 Oxford St., Rochester, NY). Interment was held at White Haven Memorial Park where full Military Honors were accorded.

Submitted by Jim West

FORSYTHE, JAMES D. 424/I

—Date of Death: October 7, 2014

Born in Manila, March 28, 1923, Golden Lion Jim Forsythe was the son of Floyd Lee and Allie Mae McCain Forsythe. He attended several country schools in the area, graduating from Leachville High School in 1942. Following high school, like so many young men of the era, he didn't wait for the draft call, he volunteered to serve in the U.S. Army. Assigned to the 97th Infantry Division, he would report to Camp Atterbury, Indiana for training, then on to San Luis Obispo, CA, for amphibious training. When his training was completed, Forsythe was transferred to the 106th Division and was soon on his way to the European Theatre. At

Lomerswieller, Belgium he was assigned as a runner in Company A, 1st Bn, 424th Regiment. In the early evening of Dec. 16, 1944, his unit was scattered sparsely in a holding action and armed with only 40 rounds of ammunition per soldier when Germans attacked. Most of his squad was killed in the first few minutes of the battle. Five survivors, including Forsythe, hid in a root cellar. They were soon discovered and captured by the German SS Troops. The prisoners were eventually taken to a train station and loaded in boxcars. Most of the prisoners came down with severe dysentery and many did not survive the trip to Stalag 12-A at Limburg, Germany. In less than a year, he went from a healthy 178 pounds to a 105-pound man in very poor health. He was among the liberated prisoners taken to Reims, France and after many weeks in the hospital he eventually made his way home to Leachville. His many commendations and medals include three Bronze Stars, European African Middle East Campaign with Bronze Star, Combat Infantryman Badge, Sharp Shooter Medal, Sniper Medal, Missing Prisoner of War Medal and the Purple Heart.

Following his discharge, Mr. Forsythe relocated to California and made a successful life. He received a degree in mechanical engineering and spearheaded challenging tasks including starting a company known as Applied Pyrotection, which was a fire protection and safety engineering firm. He had over 8,000 documented designs and installations, including projects on atomic energy, sawmills, lumber camps, power stations and other industrial giants located within Silicon Valley. Not

continues on page 40

only a scholar, Jim was an accomplished ballroom dancer, gourmet cook, played classical mandolin and had won many awards for hydroponics gardening.

Submitted by Thomas L. Delcre

HAAS, MILTON G. 422/3BN/HQ

—Date of Death: October 4, 2014

Golden Lion Milton G. Haas from Millstadt, IL passed away. He served with the 106th Infantry Division at Fort Jackson and Camp Atterbury. He was an overseas replacement and came ashore in Normandy on D+4. He spent the remainder of the war as part of Company I of the 60th Infantry Regiment, 9th Division and served a total of 28 years in various U.S. Army reserve units. He is survived by his son Bruce Haas and four other children.

Submitted by Carl Wouters

HARTMAN, RICHARD A. 590/HQ

—Date of Death: February 28, 2014

Golden Lion Richard Hartman from Baltimore, MD, passed away two months short of his 92nd birthday. Dick was the Battalion survey sergeant of the 590th Field Artillery and was a prisoner of war at Stalag IV-B. He was the beloved husband of the late Claire Cullinan Hartman, cherished father of Richard A. Hartman, Jr., Claire T. Hartman, Elise Hartman Ford, Suzanne W. Hartman and Mary Louise Hartman; dear father-in-law of Rosemary Hartman, James Ford and Cliff Sloan; devoted brother of Willard Hartman and brother-in-law of Elizabeth Cullinan and Margaret Cullinan; also survived by eight grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Submitted by Carl Wouters

JOHNSON, JOHN C., JR. 423/H

—Date of Death: March 2, 2012

“Belatedly, I write that John C. Johnson, Jr. died on March 2, 2012 after a long and fruitful life. He and I were married for 60 plus years. He was seriously wounded in the Battle of the Bulge and was later awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge and the Purple Heart. He was fiercely proud of have served his country and remained in contact with his army buddies throughout his life. After getting his Ph.D. in Zoology at the University of Oklahoma, he served as Professor of Biology for over 30 years at Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kansas. Dr. Johnson was honored to have given the address on behalf of veterans at the dedication in 2004 of the Pittsburg State University Veterans Memorial Amphitheater.”

Reported by his wife, Dorothy

JURASKOVICH, MICHAEL 820th ‘Panther’ Tank Destroyer Battalion

—Date of Death: August 3, 2014



A resident of Heritage House of Greensburg, formerly of Columbus, Indiana, Golden Lion Michael Juraskovich passed away this summer. He was born March 14, 1921, and raised in Tamaqua, PA. Mike was the son of Abraham and Mary Recnock Juraskovich. He married Donna Mae Martin October 27, 1945. She preceded him in death in 1999. A U.S. Army World War II veteran, he served as a tank mechanic with the 820th ‘Panther’ Tank Destroyer

Memoriam . . .

Battalion, attached to the 14th Cavalry Group, part of the 106th Infantry Division at the beginning of the Battle of the Bulge. He was honorably discharged in 1945. His funeral was held at Barkes, Weaver & Glick Funeral Home in Columbus, IN, with internment at Bethel Baptist Cemetery. He is survived by children, Deborah (Gary) Wilkerson, Martin (Dawn) Juraskovich and Bethann (Doug) Giles; 10 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

Submitted by Jim West

KERR, ALLEN W. 81st Eng.

—Date of Death: 2012

Reported by his daughter, Lucy Kerr Lee

MARTIN, WILLIAM 424/C

—Date of Death: September 26, 2014

Golden Lion William “Bill” Martin was a beloved father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He was proud to be a member of the 106th Infantry Division Association and so looked forward to the National and Mini Reunions.

His family has asked that donations be sent to the Association in his memory in lieu of flowers. Thanks to his local VFW, he received full Military Honors at his funeral.

Reported by his daughter, Kris Rice

MIDDLEBERG, JOSEPH

106th Signal/32nd Armored Regt.

—Date of Death: June 19, 1998

Golden Lion Joe Middleberg passed away at the age of 74 in New Brunswick, NJ. Born in Brooklyn, New York in 1923, Joe entered active service in March 1943 and served first in the 106th Signal and later in the 32nd Armored Regiment. He saw service at Fort Jackson and Camp Atterbury. He received a bronze star. He was fellow Golden Lion Murray Stein’s friend from Brooklyn, N.Y. After his discharge in January 1946, Joe spent 50 years in the office furniture business as a salesman and business owner in New York City. His wife of 47 years, Adele passed in 2009. He is survived by three children and three grandchildren.

*Submitted by Murray Stein (423/I),
via Sharron Long*

NAJARIAN, JOHN 423/I

—Date of Death: June 17, 2014

*Submitted by his wife Mrs. Yoko Najarian,
via Murray Stein (423/I)*

NICOL, JAMES S. 424/HQ 2BN

—Date of Death: September 28, 2009

“I must say even though he didn’t talk much about his experiences in the Bulge at age 19, he and several buddies stayed in touch through the written word and Internet. You all were truly the Greatest Generation. Blessings to you all.”

Reported by his wife, Carol

PARKS, FRED DALEY 423/K

—*Date of Death: August 26, 2014*

Golden Lion Fred Daley Parks of Eustis passed away. Born in Jackson, MI, he moved to Eustis from Ann Arbor, MI in 1981. He was a self-employed tool and die maker. A veteran of World War II, he served in the Battle of the Bulge and was taken prisoner. After the war he served as a president of VBOB. He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Viva Marie Parks and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held on August 29 at Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell with military honors. Online condolences may be made at www.beyersfuneralhome.com.

Submitted by Jim West

RAY, MARION 424/1BN/D

—*Date of Death: August 3, 2014*

Golden Lion Marion Ray was a Past President and Adjutant, as well as a long time member of the Board. He served 25 years in the United States Army. He survived being a Prisoner of War in World War II, served in Korea and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel. Residing in Crofton, MD, Mr. Ray was 90 years old when he passed away at Mandrin Hospice House. He was born April 4, 1924, in West Frankfort, son and third child to John Marion and Mary Ann (Buster) Ray. He married the former Marilyn Jean Sullivan on March 19, 1955 in College Park, Maryland. She passed away August 4, 1996. Surviving are two daughters, Susan M. Freer of Hopewell, PA and Pamela Jean Owings of Crofton, Maryland; four grandchildren, Lindsey Borges,

Ray Foster, Amanda Dick and Katelynn Nesbit; and five great-grandchildren, Gregory and Charles Borges, Hailey and Juliana Nesbit and David Isaiah Dick. His funeral service was held at Robert E. Evans Funeral Home, 16000 Annapolis Rd. Bowie, MD 20715, with interment at Arlington National Cemetery.

Submitted by Murray Stein (423/I)

ROBBINS, CLIFTON H.

Unit Not Reported

—*Date of Death: July 7, 2014*

Golden Lion Clifton Robbins passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family. Born on September 3, 1921 in the Appalachian Mountains, Lee County, VA, in Keokee, he was the oldest of nine children born to John Clint and Maggie Robbins. He worked in the Civilian Conservation Corps. He enlisted in the U.S. Army at the age of 18 during the Great Depression, one year before the draft started. Throughout his army career, Clifton was assigned many jobs; he was a Squad Leader, Provost Sergeant, Heavy Truck Driver and a Staff Car Driver. He was fortunate to meet President Theodore Roosevelt while stationed at Fort Monroe. His final assignment was in Heilbronn, Germany where he was a Sergeant with the 106th division and helped manage 125,000 prisoners who were mostly German and Polish. At the end of the war, while in Europe, he drove convoys of prisoners to the towns closest to their homes. Memorial donations may be made to American Legion Post 31, 4020 Victoria Blvd., Hampton, VA, 23669.

Submitted by Jim West

**SCHANERBERGER, ELLSWORTH
HOWARD 331/MEDIC**

—*Date of Death: June 27, 2014*

Golden Lion Ellsworth Schanerberger was the loving husband of Audrey for almost 67 years. He is also survived by his children: William, Cathy and Michael, 7 grandchildren: Justin, Evan, Ryan, Andrew, Ben, Lauren and Connor and 2 great-grandchildren: Brandon and Ashton. He was preceded in death by his daughter Mary. Ellsworth enjoyed bowling and watching Lions football. He was a season ticket holder for the Lions for over 70 years. He was a committee officer for ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials) and was involved in fuel and lubricant standards and research. He was a proud veteran of the United States Army, having served in the Battle of the Bulge. He received many medals including: American Campaign Medal, Europe-Africa-Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon with 4 Bronze Battle Stars, Good Conduct Medal, World War II Victory Medal and 1 Service Bar. Ellsworth was a member of the Moslem Shriners for over 35 years and a Life Member of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite N.M.J., USA. Ellsworth was a member of Grace Lutheran Church for over 50 years. Funeral service were held at Grace Lutheran Church of Redford Charter Township, MI. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Michigan Humane Society or the Vietnam Veterans of America.

Reported by Jack Roberts

SMITH, ROBERT W. 423/B

—*Date of Death: unknown*

Reported by Dianne Moore

SOLFELT, GEORGE 423/I

—*Date of Death: July 13, 2014*

Reported by his daughter, JoAnn Solfelt

SWETT, JOHN ALBERT 422/H 2BN

—*Date of Death: September 10, 2014*

Golden Lion



John Swett was born October 17, 1925 in Chicago, Illinois to Wilhelmina and Floyd Swett. He passed away in Tucson,

Arizona on September 10, 2014 after a brief illness. He was preceded in death by his parents, sister, Ruth and brothers, Robert and Phillip. John was a distinguished veteran of World War II having served in the 106th Infantry Division during the Battle of the Bulge in which he was captured. He spent the remainder of the war as a POW in a German stalag. In 1949 John received a BS from Northwestern University and embarked on a successful career in the design and sales of electric motors. A community leader, John was active in the local Jaycees, was a Trustee on the Lombard Village Board, President of the Glenbard School Board and President of the Midwest College of Engineering. After moving to Tucson in 1994 John was an active member of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge. His passions were his family, travel, antique cars and piloting single engine airplanes. He also had a life-long love of classical music and played the piano, French horn and trumpet. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Virginia Baker Swett; his four children, Margaret Swett Johnston (George), Charles Edward Swett,

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Carolyn Swett Mamach, Andrea Virginia Joscelyn and his sister, Ann Marie Swett Newman. He is also survived by five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. John was a positive, loving spirit and will be missed by his family and many friends. The Memorial Service was held at Immanuel Presbyterian Church in Tucson, AZ. Donations in his memory can be made to the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona.

Reported by Carl Wouters

THOME, MICHAEL N. 422/IBN

—Date of Death: September 23, 2014

The son of a blacksmith, Golden Lion Michael Nicholas Thome was born in 1917 in Dobie, WS. He was the eldest of 10 children, including five who served in the armed forces in World War II. He and a brother and sister were in the Army, a sister was in the Marines and another sister was in the Navy. Inducted into the Army in 1942, commissioned as a second lieutenant, he trained in military intelligence and military government and was assigned to the 106th Infantry Division in Europe. He became a prisoner of war in the Battle of the Bulge. He was taken prisoner and placed on stock cars. After he was freed, Mr. Thome recovered at home and was assigned to the Eighth Army in Japan. He was promoted to captain and worked as a civilian Army employee in Japan from 1946 to 1950. He lived for many years in East Sacramento and enjoyed gardening, attending cultural events and traveling. He was a former chief executive officer of the California state Teachers' Retirement System.

He previously served since 1955 as chief executive officer of the Minnesota state employees retirement system, where he began his career as a purchasing agent. He belonged to many veterans groups, including Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, American Ex-Prisoners of War and the Military Officers Association of America. He attended 106th Infantry Division Association reunions and helped organize the group's gathering in Sacramento in 1990. "He was one of the most patriotic people you would ever meet," his daughter said.

Reported by AJ Saladena

TRAUTMAN, FRANK S. 422/D

—Date of Death: June 16, 2014



Mr. Trautman was the 106th Association's Camp Atterbury Representative for many years and a very active member. He was an Order of the

Golden Lion recipient in 2006. Murray Stein says, "He recruited more members than anyone in the organization, as far as I know." Mr. Trautman passed away in Zionsville, IN where he had lived for the last years to be near his son, Michael. He was born on October 1, 1922 to Stone and Mary Engle Trautman in Belpre, OH. He attended Ohio University until called to active duty in WW II. He fought and was captured in the Battle of the Bulge and remained a POW in Stalag IX B Bad Orb until

Memoriam . . .

liberated by Allied Forces in the spring of 1945. Once discharged from the military, he returned to complete his education, graduating from Marietta College. Frank worked as a petroleum engineer early in his career before becoming a teacher. With an additional degree from Antioch College, he then taught math and science in both private and public schools systems until retirement. Frank was an active Mason and a proud member of the Sons of American Revolution, Sons of Union Veterans and the Order of Cincinnatus. He remained active in many community and civic projects in his hometown of Belpre throughout his life. The widower of the late Nancy Jean Keener Trautman, Mr. Trautman is survived by their

children, Susan Lee Trautman, Michael Stone Trautman and Jonathan Keener Trautman; and four grandchildren, Bryan, Erik, Neal and Ellen. Friends may leave a message of condolence for the family by visiting www.arnmortuary.com.

*Reported by his son, Michael,
Submitted by Dr. John G. Robb (422/D)
and Murray Stein (423/I)*

TYSER, LEONARD 423/I
—Date of Death: April 2, 2013

He was captured on December 19 during the Battle of the Bulge and was a POW. He received the Bronze Star, Purple Heart and two Clusters.

Reported by his son, Dave

We are all feeling the effects of the current financial upheaval, including the 106th I.D. Association. The *Annual Dues* of \$10 are no longer billed or collected. We are now accepting only donations for membership, memorials and LIFE PLUS. The previously-allowed payment of \$75 for Life Membership creates a financial shortfall, as our expenses exceeds our income.

Our solution?

We are asking you to join the
LIFE PLUS+ Club

Those Members who contribute to the **LIFE PLUS+ Club**
will have their names (*only, no amounts will be shown*)
published in the next **CUB**.

You can donate as much or as little as you can and as often as you like.
By donating, you are helping perpetuate the 106th Infantry Division Association.

**To those Members who we haven't heard from for a long time —
please take the time to join this exclusive club. Thank you!**

Send your contribution, check made payable to **106th Infantry Div. Association**, to:

Mike Sheaner
Treasurer, 106th Infantry Division
PO Box 140535, Dallas TX 75214

Save the Date!!

Make plans *now* to join us for the

69th Annual Reunion
of the
106th Infantry Division Association
at the
Crown Plaza Hotel,
Charleston, South Carolina
from
September 16 to 20, 2015

For additional information about the reunion and
to register online visit: www.afr-reg.com/106inf2014

106th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION



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GOLDEN LIONS

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