

The CUB

PUBLISHED BY AND FOR
*The Veterans of the
106th INFANTRY
DIVISION*

of the
GOLDEN LION

Vol 71 – No. 1

December 2014 – March 2015

The 70th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge



Photo submitted by Michael Shearner

Former 106th Infantry Division Association Officer and long-time editor of *The CUB of the Golden Lion*, John Kline (423/M) likely sums it up best when he recently shared the following about the 70th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge. “How can I say “Happy Anniversary” when we lost so many of our good buddies?

BUT it is the Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge —
one of the largest land battles of WWII.

I wish I could reach out and hug you all. You and I remember so many
good men that were lost in the battle...” ~ December 16, 2014

*See photos and stories as Association members remember the 70th Anniversary,
beginning on page 26.*

The CUB

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

Total Membership as of February 1, 2015 – 1,163

Membership includes *CUB* magazine subscription

Annual Dues are no longer mandatory: Donations Accepted

Payable to **“106th Infantry Division Association”** and mailed to
the Treasurer — See address below

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President's View . . .

Welcome to the 106th Infantry Division Association. It is my privilege to have been elected president of this Association and to represent this Association at the 70th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge in Belgium and Luxembourg on the sites that the battles actually took place.

I have just come back from our trip to the Netherlands for the annual meeting of the Brothers of the Battle of the Bulge which was very expansive and I am pleased to give you a report on those meetings.

The importance of these meetings in the countries and cities where the battles were fought to the people who remember and continue to honor our service is underscored by the very special receptions we received from the king and queen and the leaders of the individual cities we visited.

The ceremonies at each individual city that were occupied by the German army celebrated our liberation of these cities from the German occupation. These events were indelible on the minds and thoughts of all those who attended to greet us. Undergoes by liberating their villages from the Germans and permitted them to live their lives in freedom not speaking German. This was a theme throughout our visit.



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Ceremonies took place in Malva Dean in Belgium, the location where the German troops killed several American POWs. Another visit was to the city of Bastogne — where the American General, while surrounded by the German army, was asked to surrender and his response was “nuts,” — was also liberated by General Patton. These villages built a monument to the occasion honoring General Patton and his troops.

The last village we visited was Saint Vith. In that village, we the 106th Infantry Division have a monument honoring our division in battle. I was asked to speak at that ceremony.

The ceremonies in each of the villages included the mayors and all of the dignitaries of each village. Each presented beautiful bouquets of flowers and expressed their enduring gratitude for all that had been accomplished by

all of the American troops that had served so bravely and achieved such success. The bands and parades and banners assured the sincerity of their gratitude for this uplifting and memorable time shared 70 years ago.

In addition to the ceremonies, we visited the historic museums honoring the American soldiers in multiple cities surrounding the battlegrounds. In Belgium we were asked to visit a school and ask the children if they had any questions. We were pleased that the children were all so intelligent, knowledgeable and interested about the events of the Battle of the Bulge. We are comfortable that their interest and sincerity will assure us that the knowledge of this great battle will remain in the hearts and minds of our friends in the region.

We were invited to visit the Luxembourg–American Cemetery where General George S. Patton is buried. His burial site stands alone

with a single modest cross in front of 5,000 other American forces of the same size, we were further honored by his granddaughter, Ellen Patton.

After the events of this week, we and ten other American veterans of this battle felt tremendous pride, not only for those in attendance, but also for those who gave their lives and who were otherwise unable to attend the ceremonies. They were all in our thoughts and prayers during these occasions, and they were all memorialized with those of us who survived and remember.

I cannot help but feel the enormous satisfaction for the heartfelt memories of our collective success at the Battle of the Bulge, but much more important to me is the preservation of our American society that we help to maintain in this land of liberty and freedom for all. Thank you very much.

Barney Mayrsohn

***Fill out the enclosed paperwork and
make your plans to attend!!***

**Join us for the
69th Annual Reunion
of the
106th Infantry Division Association
at the
Crown Plaza Hotel
Charleston, SC
from
September 16 to 20, 2015**

Chaplain's Message . . .

Welcome to 2015, a new year and a time for new beginnings. As tradition would have it I made my New Year's resolution. My New Year's resolution is to remain in debt! Most people set a New Year's resolution to reduce their debt or to become debt free, and these are great goals to have. For me, I want to remain so far in debt that I can never catch up and nobody will be able to help me. I am not speaking of financial debt but rather the indebtedness to people.

This past fall I had the utmost privilege of attending the 106th convention in Norfolk, VA. I went, not knowing what to expect. When I arrived I was warmly welcomed and introduced to some of the most amazing men and women.

So, why do I want to remain in debt to people? It all started when one of our veterans had been taken to the local hospital there in Virginia and I went to visit him. I had just met this gentleman the night prior and I was told that he was celebrating his 96th birthday. I learned who he was by talking to his daughter, since his speaking skills had diminished. As I sat in the hospital and watched him I began to write:

"There he lies, 96 years old, cannot speak and is very tired. He communicates through blinking and through some writing on a small dry-erase board. The years have made their mark on him making him mostly bald. What hair he did have was snow white. He had a frail body, crooked fingers, and no teeth. The wrinkles on his neck and face were vivid for all to see and described the soldier as a hard working man who has lived life to the fullest. He is lying in the bed, with



Vincent Charron
(PFC Nelson Charron 422/D)

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nurses going to and fro keeping him comfortable and tending to his every need. I do not know him but for one other introductory meeting, but yet the connection I have with him seems very strong, more than likely due to the memories of my own grandfather."

I remember feeling connected to this soldier, not because of what he is going through but more so what he went through. Ninety-six years of living of which a small portion of those years he gave for the betterment of mankind. You will not find his name in history books, there are no statues erected in his image and as a matter of fact, he passed away shortly after the conference, and the world barely blinked. The people who did know him and the soldiers who fought with him will never forget.

As I continued to sit there I could not help but try and replay what I would

Chaplain's Message . . .

consider bits and pieces of his life. As a young man I could see him working or playing hard or even enjoying a bottle of brew with some army buddies. Maybe standing looking dapper in his army greens before a mirror, reflecting not only on how good he looks but also reflecting upon all he has achieved in his life so far. If I could look into his young eyes at that moment they would give way to the thought that he was going to live forever.

Fast forward time and now he has a family, the echo of war in his ears and images flashing on the private screenplay of his mind.

Fast-forward yet again and our paths cross at a hospital where he lies totally

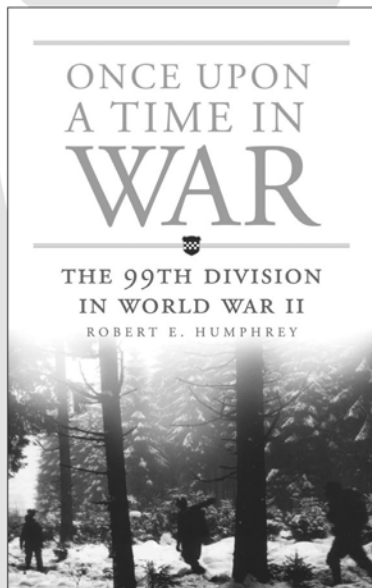
dependent on others to take care of him.

Then his passing is delivered to me by E-mail and it was at that moment where I reevaluated my life and decided to make some changes. I decided that I am going to do everything I can to remember the debt that was paid and the men and women who put there lives on the line so I could enjoy what I have today.

Won't you join me in making a New Year's resolution to remain in debt, in debt to the people who paid the price?

May we never forget — Freedom is not Free!

Forcefully Advancing
~ Vincent Charron



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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The Adjutant's Message . . .

My Brothers and Sisters,

I am writing this message on Wed. Dec. 10, 2014. "THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE, Dec. 16, 1944. We will be celebrating the 70th Anniversary all around America and especially in Belgium. Our President Barney Mayrsohn is attending the celebration in Belgium, representing our 106th Division. How is it possible that those of us who were there, are still here! While we are thankful for our being blessed, we can't forget that we lost more than 18,000 of our young Brothers, who never came home!

For the past 15 years, I have been the coordinator for the former POWs speakers bureau, at the V.A. in West Palm Beach, FL. In a recent visit with my group of WWII POWs, at a Library in Boynton Beach, FL, I was approached by a young lady from the audience who asked if we could help find some information about her father, a pilot who was killed in Holland in 1944? I looked at her and asked, "do you mean your grandfather?" She said, "I was only one year old when he was killed. He was my Father!"

We were able to connect her with a group that works at locating MIAs and possible Histories of Americans Killed in Action. My group has been blessed with meeting so many beautiful people — so many stories (some very emotional).

My POW group has been meeting on the first Monday of every month for more than 20 years at the V.A. in West Palm Beach, FL.



**Murray Stein, 423/I,
Ex Comm, Adjutant**
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I have an update on the "DOG" program that we POWs started in 2006. Our 106th Association donated funds at that time, and we did name one of the service dogs "CUB." One of our group, Mr. Irwin Stovroff, took it national and we have now raised more than \$4 million and we have placed 120 dogs (both seeing eye and service) at this time. I believe that the Good Lord kept many of us around, to do good things for our communities, for our Country.

Mark the dates, September 16–20, 2015. We will be celebrating our 69th reunion at the Crowne Plaza hotel, Charleston S.C. Start making plans now — come with your wheelchairs, your walkers, your canes, your kids and your friends — BUT COME!!!

I love ya all,
Murray

One of the most memorable days of history for me, and a great many other Americans, was a sunny day in a “tent camp” near Le Harve, France on August 14, 1945. We tend to forget a lot of history but, of course, that was a special day. An L-4 airplane flew slowly overhead with pieces of paper floating down having been tossed into the slipstream by the passenger. Printed in large type were the words, “JAPAN KAPUT!!” On the other side was a report on the unconditional surrender of all Japanese armed forces. President Harry Truman’s decision to unleash the atom bombs on Japan saved uncountable lives for both the United States, and Japan as well.

I have owned the volumes titled, “Memoirs” by Harry S. Truman, for more than 50 years and though I am ashamed to say it, just now started to read them. The day that President Franklin D. Roosevelt died Vice President Truman was presented with problems of monumental proportions where he would have to be making decisions affecting most of the civilized world. Until this time the Vice President was overseeing the massive production effort supporting America’s part in WWII. The Manhattan Project was shrouded by such tight secrecy that even he did not have any knowledge of what was going on behind those closed doors. Now it suddenly became a very important part of his responsibility. Truman’s “Memoirs” reveal his feelings about this decision and, of course, all of the other events happening that he had to learn about on the job. My respect for President Truman came about initially



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when I realized that his decision to use the bomb most likely saved my life as I was heading west to participate in the assault on Japan. I am only into reading the “Memoirs” a short way but I am fascinated with the story and certainly will be reading to the end. Harry S. Truman has earned his place in history.

Judging by what is happening in Europe relative to the history of WWII, I would have to say that we need not worry about those nations the Americans liberated ever forgetting about our participation and sacrifices. If you are a veteran of the battle I fully know how old you are. And, the older you become the harder it is to get up the energy to travel far, especially overseas. Fortunately I made my first return to Europe in 1992, while I was able. Visiting Belgium and Luxembourg again was a real eye opener when I began to meet more people. As an American veteran of the war in Europe I was accepted as one who contributed

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to the liberation of Europe. Domination by the Nazis over about four years had to be a hardship impossible for us to imagine. Those folks appreciate their freedom like you can't imagine. If you have never gone and wish to go I urge you to consider it. Contact our good friends there or participate in an organized tour. You can get assistance either way. Just do it!

It is through the ease of corresponding nowadays using the latest electronic social media that the younger generations of Europeans have become almost family members with some of our veterans. Just go back and browse through your old *CUBs* and you will easily see what I mean. Those of us who have visited the battleground and published our experience for you to read have come away with solid friends on that continent. These are a few—

A young man in Belgium wrote to me some years ago. His name is Carl Wouters, now familiar to you all as the President of the Belgian Chapter of the 106th Infantry Division Association. There is an American, Doug Mitchell, now living in Germany in the village of Grosslangenfeld, who has made himself available to any of you who would like to visit the area of the Bulge. There is Xavier and Clotilde Bryche, a couple in France who have restored a jeep that once served the 422nd IR/2Bn Hq. Xavier is searching for the soldier now who was once the driver of the jeep named Annabel on one side, and Snooky on the other side. There is Patrick Dahlberg in Sweden who restored a jeep that once served the 590th FABn. Eddy

Monfort in Malempre who has written and published three (yes, 3) books about the 106th fighting in the area of his home village. Eddy also has a ¾-ton Weapons Carrier that he brings to all of the ceremonies. The family that owns and operates the Auberge du Carrefour (Parker's Crossroads) always welcomes 106th veterans and their families with open arms. Eddy Lamberty is President of the C-47 Club, an organization that is always active with visitors and participates in the establishment of monuments and memorials honoring the American units and individuals have fought in their area. The local organizations of CRIBA in Belgium and CEBA in Luxembourg are comprised of members who will act as your guides and make arrangements in their areas for your accommodations. I can go on and on with this and would like to mention all of the names I know but it would fill this issue for sure. I hope that my good friends not mentioned will understand.

Perhaps you haven't noticed but all of those interested folks I have just mentioned, and a lot more besides, are all of a second and third generation from the war. Our Association has been maintained and operated by its veterans since its inception. Changes have been made to pass on that responsibility that is imperative for the continuance of the Association. Whether the Association continues on (or not) now depends on you to grab the banner and carry it on into the next generation. The heritage is yours. You can do it!

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

Make checks payable to ***"106th Infantry Division Association"*** and mail them to the Treasurer:



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214-823-3004

Please report all changes of address and deaths to the Association Membership Chair:



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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 people (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***.



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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:

October 15, 2014 – February 1, 2015

Beginning Balance:	\$16,404.27
Money In:	\$4,330.41
Money Out:	\$3,840.37
Difference:	\$+490.04
Ending Balance:	\$16,894.31

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

Association Membership As of October 15, 2014

Total Membership	1,163
Membership Veterans	705
Associate Membership	458

LIFE PLUS and REGULAR DONATIONS:

422/D	James P. Adsit
Associate Member	Louise Awalt
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Treasurer's and Membership Chair's Report . . .

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424/G	Ralph A. Swisher
423/I	Ervin Szpek, Jr
Associate Member	Donna Szpek
422/AT	Louis Tarantino
423/G	Jack H. Watters
424/M	Milton Weiner
Associate Member	Wilma E. Wood

NEW MEMBERS:

Associate Member	Tom Glover, son of Robert Glover HQ, 13th Tank Battalion
Associate Member	Bruce Haas, son of Milton G. Haas 422/HQ/3BN
Associate Member	Gwen M. Melisi, daughter of George Call 424/B

MEMORIAL DONATIONS:

*In memory of Morton A. Barrow, S/Sgt.,
Co. F 422nd Inf. Regt 106th
Robert A. Barrow (422/F)*

*In memory of my husband, Walter
(Wally) Martin, 423/E
Marguerite (Peggy) Martin*

*In memory of John Frank Bludworth,
Sr., Co. F 422 Regiment.
David H. Bludworth*

*In memory of Frederick A. Pilkington,
422/HQ
Mary Pilkington*

*In memory of William Harold Hale,
Div/HQ, Pfc. Deceased Feb. 12, 2009
David and Rebecca Hale*

*In memory of my uncle, Thomas D Reda,
422/Medics
Bob Faro*

*In memory of William T. Martin, 424/C
Steven and Debra Steinway
Florene Mashburn
Susan Weiss
Newton (423/HQ) and Ruth Weiss*

*In memory of the "Golden Lions"
who fought and died for our freedom
70 years ago.
Edward B Lapotsky, President 82nd
Airborne Division C-47 Club and life
member of 106th Inf. Div. Assn. USA,
Ret.*

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

HONORARY DONATION:

In honor of my husband, M/Sgt. John L. Mikalauskis, 424/H, who passed away Dec. 30, 2010. My husband was in WWII Battle of the Bulge and Korea conflict.

Dolores Mikalauskis

CORRECTIONS:

John Starmack (423/SV Co) was a group leader in the Specifications Dept. for many years. We have learned that, on the 106th Infantry Div. Association's website, "The Disposition of Capt. Russel A. Freass" has an extra "s" in it. Freass should be spelled **Freas, Jr.**

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 9 of this issue** with an updated mailing address. Thank you.

L. Martin Jones – Lawrence, KS

James L. Ulrich – Gibsonia, PA

Raymond J. Twardzik – Bradenton, FL

Pat N. Westfall – Gatesville, TX

Helen Matson – Independence, MO

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 message, please let Jacquelyn know your name and 106th Infantry Division unit. Thank you.

Ms. Coy would like to acknowledge Rick Barrow (Associate member), 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 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.***

continues on page 14

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 _____

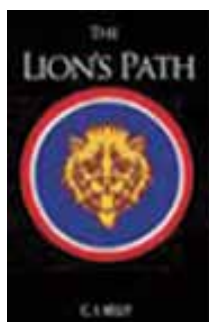
3. Email address: _____

You can let us know your preference by emailing:

membership@106thinfdivassn.org

Thank you to all who have responded so enthusiastically to our call for financial support of the association. We are off to a great start in the “*Last Man Standing*” campaign with contributions this quarter exceeding expenses for the first time in more than two years. If you have not already made a Life+, Memorial or Honorary contribution this year look for the self-addressed envelope inside this issue of *The CUB*. Let's keep it going.

**Mike Sheaner, *Treasurer* and Jacquelyn S. Coy, *Membership Chair*
for the 106th Association members**



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

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.

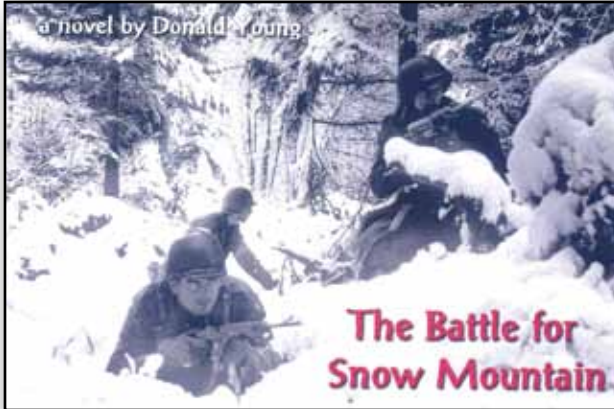
If the envelope is missing or if you or someone you know would like to make an additional contribution, please mail a check made payable to *106th Infantry Division*

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

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 WWII 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

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:

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)

January 1, 2016 — mail date March 15, 2016 (issue will include reunion paperwork)

Articles and pictures can be mailed or emailed to:

CUB Editor: William McWhorter
166 Prairie Dawn, Kyle, TX 78640
512-970-5637
williammcwhorter17@gmail.com

CUB Publisher: Susan Weiss
9 Cypress Point Court
Blackwood, NJ 08012
856-415-2211
CubPublisher@106thInfDivAssn.org

Visit the 106th Association's 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 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 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/106th-INFDIV-Roster> now contains information on 17,481. 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 imo@indianamilitary.org.

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.



Indiana Military Website being Reviewed to Help Locate Battle of the Bulge MIAs

By Jim West

After meeting several 106th members at the recent 70th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge — 12/15/2014 — namely Richard Lockhart and Carl Wouters — representatives of the “Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO)” located at the Pentagon, are actively reviewing our Indiana Military website at www.IndianaMilitary.org and all of the re-constructed rosters in an attempt to help locate men still MIA. More than 200 men are still listed as unaccounted for in the Battle of the Bulge alone.

The website, in addition to 127 106th members’ personal diaries, which include “After Action Reports,”

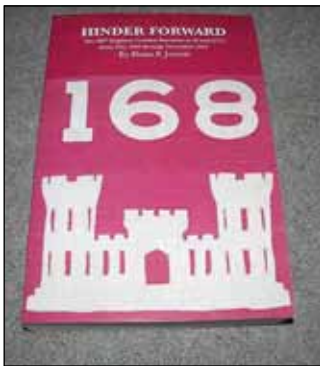
“Morning Reports” and various other battle accounts, will be studied to help in this effort.

All of the rosters currently on the site contain detailed information on more than 76,500 individuals. Rosters are also being prepared for the 28th, 30th, 31st (both WWII and Korea), 83rd and 92nd Infantry Divisions. In other words, all units that trained at Camp Atterbury.

The 106th Roster stands today at 17,481. See it at <http://tinyurl.com/106th-INFDIV-Roster>. It will truly be an achievement if our work helps bring closure to some missing Veteran’s family.

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*.

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

Restoration of the 424th Infantry Regiment Memorial at Spineux, Belgium

By Lt. Don Beseler (424/A) with contributions by Carl Wouters

So often there are memorials for units of the 106th Infantry Division mentioned in *The CUB*, but I do not recall the one at Spineux, which was constructed by that village for the members of the 424th Regiment. After all, the 424th Regiment was the survivor and participated in pushing back the Bulge. We were at Losheim and moved forward to the small community of Berk. I think that was sometime in March of 1945 when we were taken out of the line. I think the people of Spineux deserve a little attention for their efforts to construct the memorial for the 424th.

Carl Wouters shared that the memorial was inaugurated in September 1989, and had suffered somewhat from being exposed to the Ardennes weather over the past 25 years. Belgians Claude Orban and Christian Meurice removed the wooden GI silhouette and restored it where necessary. The feet were skillfully



Belgians Claude Orban and Christian Meurice restored the memorials for units of the 106th Infantry Division at Spineux.

replaced as they suffered from mildew and wood rot. A fresh coat of olive drab makes it like new and ready for at least another 25 years. It was reinstalled in December 2013, in time for all of the 70th anniversary commemorations taking place during 2014.



Above, Christian Meurice or Christian Meurice working in his wood shop. Right, the restored wooden GI silhouette from the memorials for units of the 106th Infantry Division at Spineux.



See additional material at http://106thinfdivassn.org/photos/spineux/photos_spineux.html

“Cherish Memories and Stay Strong,” Say Veterans Honored at Mobile luncheon

Published in www.al.com,

written by Theresa Seiger | tseiger@al.com, (reprinted here with permission)

Mobile, Alabama — A crowd, including multiple judges, state senators, active duty personnel, World War II veterans and the entire Mobile City Council gathered at Fort Whiting Armory on Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2014 to celebrate the 2014 Patriot and Veteran of the Year.



The Veterans Day Honors Luncheon is held Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2014, at Ft. Whiting Armory Mobile, Ala. (Mike Brantley/mbrantley@al.com)

“Mobile is a military city,” said Mayor Sandy Stimpson at the Mobile Bay Area Veterans Day Commission’s annual honorees luncheon. He serves



Seymour “Sy” Lichtenfeld (left) accepts the Mobile Bay Area Veteran of the Year award, and Maj. Gen. Carl H. McNair Jr. (right) accepts the Patriot of the Year award during the Veterans Day Honors Luncheon Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2014, at Ft. Whiting Armory Mobile, Ala. (Mike Brantley/mbrantley@al.com)



Above, Seymour “Sy” Lichtenfeld, winner of the Mobile Bay Area Veteran of the Year award, salutes during the Veterans Day Honors Luncheon is held Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2014, at Ft. Whiting Armory Mobile, Ala. (Mike Brantley/mbrantley@al.com)

as the chairman of the Commission’s Board of Trustees. “This country is making forward progress for many reasons but one of the primary reasons is the veterans sitting here today,” he said.

His sentiments were echoed by Seymour “Sy” Lichtenfeld, a Mobile resident named the 2014 Veteran of the Year, and later by retired Maj. Gen. Carl McNair, a Pensacola, Florida, native named the 2014 Patriot of the Year. “All of you, no matter what service branch... have made a down payment on our cost of freedom,” Lichtenfeld said. Lichtenfeld has called Mobile home since 2011. He served in the U.S. Army from April 1943 to November 1945. He was 19 years old when he was captured at bayonet-point while serving in World War II. He spent five months in a German prisoner of war camp which was later taken over by the Soviet Army. He and six of his fellow



Seymour "Sy" Lichtenfeld, winner of the Mobile Bay Area Veteran of the Year award, speaks with Mobile Mayor Sandy Stimpson during the Veterans Day Honors Luncheon Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2014, at Ft. Whiting Armory Mobile, Ala. (Mike Brantley/mbrantley@al.com)

prisoners later hiked 75 miles to return to American lines.

In 2001 he wrote a memoir titled "**Kriegie 312330.**" He urged fellow veterans to do the same. "Make the time to record or write your oral history," he said. "Every 90 seconds throughout the country a veteran is dying and history is lost."

McNair served in the U.S. Army for more than 32 years, holding positions in research and development, infantry and Army aviation positions. On Tuesday, his work to make the Alabama State Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Spanish Fort a reality was highlighted. "For those of us that will spend eternity there, in the company of our fellow comrades and their families, the memory of Gen. McNair will outlive everyone in this

room," said Dr. Barry Booth, a Vietnam War veteran honored in 2009 as Veteran of the Year. For his part, McNair focused on the need for a continually strong military. "Not one generation of Americans has ever missed the opportunity to serve in this nation's defense," he said. "It's a privilege... Preparedness is the key to strength." He praised Alabama, noting the enthusiastic families waving flags behind barricades at the Veterans Day parade. "The history of this great state reinforces the history of this great nation," he said.

The Mobile Bay Area Veterans Day Commission's annual luncheon was sponsored by BAE Systems, the City of Mobile, the Mobile County Commission, the Baldwin County Commission and the Mobile County Public School System.



Mobile Mayor Sandy Stimpson presents Seymour "Sy" Lichtenfeld with the Mobile Bay Area Veteran of the Year award during the Veterans Day Honors Luncheon Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2014, at Ft. Whiting Armory Mobile, Ala. (Mike Brantley/mbrantley@al.com).

**See enclosed Reunion paperwork and
Registration forms in the center of this CUB!**

At 90, Illinois' Oldest Lobbyist Not Slowing Down

Published February 2014 in www.nwitem.com

By Chacour Koop, Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Since spending a bitter-cold winter at a German prison camp during World War II, Dick Lockhart (423/AT) said his feet have ached more when lying in bed on cold nights than when moving around. This may explain why the 90-year-old lobbyist can still be found wandering the halls of the Illinois Capitol on behalf of clients more than 55 years after getting into the influence game.

The state Senate recognized Lockhart on the chamber floor for the decades he has devoted to representing his clients, many of which advocate for better mental health care and services. And a party occurred later Wednesday to honor Lockhart, who said he works seven days a week and is at the Capitol just about every day that the Legislature is in session.

Lockhart said he doesn't plan to slow down, which isn't surprising to those who know him. "He is simply somebody that you knew was formidable if he opposed you and a good ally if he was with you," said Jim Fletcher, a lobbyist who has known Lockhart since the late 1960s. Lockhart was in high school when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. He went to Purdue University for a semester before he joined the Army. In the middle of December 1944, Lockhart's regiment surrendered to the Germans during the Battle of the Bulge, and he was a prisoner of war for four months in a German camp. He said he didn't have winterized footwear, which led to the



Veteran Illinois lobbyist Dick Lockhart, 90, right, jokes with friend and fellow lobbyist Bill Luking while talking about being the oldest practicing lobbyist in Illinois, and possibly the nation, in Springfield, Ill. (Photo by Seth Perlman)

aching he still feels today when his feet aren't moving. "I tell people they have a very effective weight reduction plan," Lockhart said. But he notes that he weighs the same today as he did his senior year of high school.

Lockhart said many things have changed since he first began lobbying in 1958, including increasing amounts of legislation every year and constant fundraising or campaigning for lawmakers. But he said the importance of integrity and honesty hasn't changed. That's one lesson his firm's vice president Gael Mennecke said she learned right away from Lockhart. At any one time, Lockhart's firm, Social Engineering Associates, has about 15 clients whom he lobbies for in Springfield, many of which Mennecke described as "do-good" groups. "He burned into my mind when I was lobbying to always tell the truth. That has served me well not only in lobbying but in all walks of life,"

said Mennecke, who has worked with Lockhart since 1974.

Lockhart said his greatest accomplishment was lobbying for mental health insurance parity in Illinois, which he did by garnering the support of some Republicans and making it a nonpartisan issue.

Perhaps it's because Lockhart keeps steadily moving that he stays younger than his years indicate. The work is repetitive he says, with slight changes here and there. But many things stay the same. "It's a never ending plotless plot," Lockhart said. "You're not going to hit a home run every time you come up to bat."

MY WAR

by Fredrick Smallwood



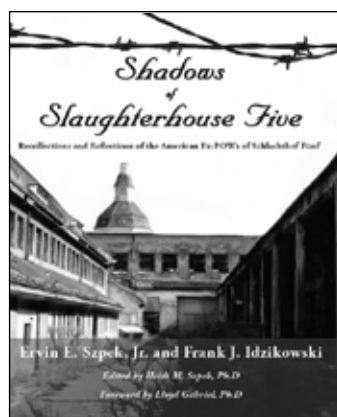
This is the story of my experiences as a young boy from a small town in south Georgia with the 106th Infantry Division during World War II. I was initially in the A&P Platoon of 1 Bn. Hq. Co. of the 423rd Regiment. I was one of the few who made my way through the German lines back to the Allied lines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

Shadows of Slaughterhouse Five

From Ervin Szpek Jr., Non-Veteran Member

Ervin Szpek Jr. (Associate 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.



Remembering the Battle of the Bulge: 70th Anniversary FLAG OF FRIENDSHIP

By Carl Wouters

As yesterday (December 16, 2014) marked the 70th anniversary of the beginning of the Battle of the Bulge, I want to take the opportunity to thank all our veterans for your service during WWII. Over the weekend, commemorations took place in almost every town, village and hamlet in the Ardennes in honor of you — the men and women who fought the battle as young soldiers in the winter of 1944.

The sacrifices made by the men of the 106th Infantry Division were remembered at the Division Memorial at St. Vith with the Flag of Friendship ceremony. Four Golden Lions were

The perpetuation of their memory and stories is a key objective of the newly chartered BULGE Chapter of the division Association here in Belgium.



Recipients of the 2014 Flag of Friendship were Marcel and Mathilde Schmetz (M&Ms) of the Remember Museum at Thimister-Clermont, for all of their efforts in perpetuating the history of the division and the soldiers who fought in the Battle of the Bulge.

Included here are a few pictures of the ceremony and the day's celebration. A luncheon was organized in the



present: (*in photo above, left to right*) Barney Mayrsohn (423/CN), Dave Bailey (422/F), Dick Lockhart (423/AT) and Herb Sheaner (422/G). We were missing 424/G veteran Floyd Ragsdale, who was expected to attend, but unfortunately passed away on December 10, 2014 at his home in Illinois. The ceremony was dedicated in memory of Floyd and all the GIs who lost their lives during the war and those who have passed away since. A moment of silence was held in their honor.



Bernard Mayrsohn (423/CN) enjoyed talking with the participants at the reception following the ceremony.

Feature Stories . . .



Biermuseum in Rodt, where a display of 106th Division items provided a historical backdrop. After a convoy of vintage WWII vehicles moved along the exact route taken by the troops from St. Vith to Vielsalm, a second ceremony at the Rencheux bridge commemorated the events that took place there on December 23, 1944 in the vicinity of the Rear CP of the 106th division. The people of Belgium remember. Thank you for your service and God bless the Golden Lions.



Moment of silent prayer at Flag of Friendship Ceremony in St. Vith.



Barney speaking at Flag of Friendship Ceremony in St. Vith.



Reception hosted by Mayor Christian Krings in St. Vith following Flag of Friendship Ceremony.



Carl Wouters, Barney Maynard, David Bailey

continues on page 28

Feature Stories . . .



**St. Vith
Reception**



**Convoy from
St. Vith to
Vielsalm**



**Military re-enactors
participating in the Flag
of Friendship Ceremony
in St. Vith**



**Doug Mitchell
at the Flag of
Friendship
Ceremony in
St. Vith**



A full set of pictures covering the St. Vith event can be found at:
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/52822413@N05/sets/72157649780549475/>
and extra photos at <http://106thinfdivassn.org/events/20141216fofevent.html>

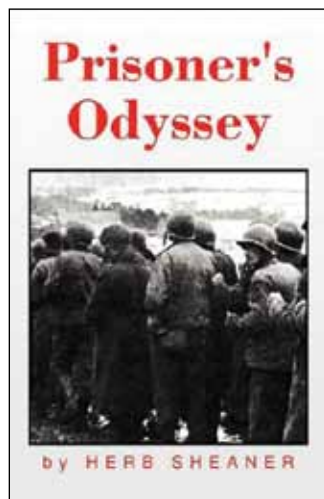
***Fill out the enclosed paperwork
and make your plans to attend!!***

**Join us for the
69th Annual Reunion
of the
106th Infantry Division Association
at the
Crown Plaza Hotel
Charleston, SC
from
September 16 to 20, 2015**

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.

The First Seven Days, the Webcast

By Kenneth Johnson

There is a new look at the Battle of the Bulge with interviews from actual participants and footage of the battle at the following link:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=_350F3nnoLI

The producer is Kenneth Johnson, 63, named after Ken Johnson, a soldier of the 424th Regiment who was KIA at Winterspelt, Germany on 16 Dec. 1944, and Kenneth's uncle. Ken's service was the initiative for the research that gave rise to a book, "The Last Infantry Division," (unpublished) by Kenneth Johnson and that eventually grew into



the webcast, "**The First Seven Days,**" alluding to the German attack on the 106th Infantry Division in the area of the Schnee-Eifel that began the morning of 16 Dec. 1944. The thread of the webcast features researchers, a battlefield guide, file film and veterans relating their personal experience under fire.

Narrator Martin King pictured (left and above)

**You are receiving your REUNION paperwork
and Registration forms in this CUB!**

Fill them out and mail them in today!

If you need additional forms contact:

Mike Sheaner, Treasurer at *sheaner1@airmail.net*

**For additional information about the reunion and
to register online visit:**

www.afr-reg.com/106inf2015

Golden Lion Commemorates the 70th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge

Submitted by Herb Sheaner (422/G) and Mike Sheaner

On December 14, 2014, four veterans of the 106th Infantry Division, Barney Maynard (423/C), David Bailey (422/F), Herb Sheaner (422/G) and Dick Lockhart (423/AT) returned to St. Vith and nearby Rencheux to participate in the 3rd annual Flag of Friendship ceremonies. Our thanks go to friends Carl Wouters, Doug Mitchell and Eddy Lamberty for their meticulous planning and execution of the day long events that included formal ceremonies and receptions in both towns along with a convoy of vintage WWII vehicles and lunch at the Biermuseum in Rodt. Their generosity, hospitality and total devotion to preserving the history of the 106th truly honors all veterans.

A full week of activities with the



Left to right: Barney Mayrsohn (423/C), David Bailey (422/F), Herb Sheaner (422/G) and Dick Lockhart (423/AT)

broader aim of commemorating the 70th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge began the day before in Bastogne



where each veteran was personally greeted by King Philippe and Queen Mathilde of Belgium. The King and Queen's thanks and appreciation for America and her veterans who sacrificed so much

70 years ago was genuine and sincere, sentiments shared by every Belgian and Luxembourger we met.

Following the day long events of the Flag of Friendship ceremony on Sunday, our friend Doug accompanied Barney (423/C) and David (422/F) along with other Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge (VBOB) to their scheduled stops in Belgium and Luxembourg while Carl guided Herb (422/G) and Dick (423/AT) on a personal tour of the St. Vith region.

continues on page 32



Herb Sheaner (422/G) with Queen Mathilde of Belgium in Bastogne



Monday morning began with Herb, son Mike, Dick and son David joining Carl and our new friend Freddy Theissen, owner/chef of Hotel Steinewieher, on a journey to the past where a group of dedicated re-enactors had set up an encampment of the 106th Division on the Prümerberg ridge. This area had been valiantly defended by the 168th Engineers in defense of St. Vith. The re-enactors spared no detail down to appropriately marked vehicles, fully operational field kitchen, command post, fox holes and culminated in a 15-minute live battle.

After being interviewed by a journalist from the *Stars and Stripes*, we returned to St. Vith where we said farewell to Freddy and continued our trek to two interesting museums in the small towns of Ennal and Joubiéval, Belgium. Ennal was of particular interest because of the intense fighting encountered here by the 424th Regiment who liberated the town on January 15, 1945. Herb and Dick laid a wreath at the new monument dedicated to the 424th

during a ceremony before rejoining the VBOB group in Luxembourg.

With each trip to Europe we meet new friends who have their own stories and personal ties to the events of 1944-1945 that have been so etched into our memories. This time was no exception as we met Freddy Theissen and his mother, Annie, during our stay at the Hotel Steinewieher in St. Vith.



On January 25, 1945, at the age of 10, Annie's image (see above) was captured by a *Life* Magazine photographer on the streets of St. Vith as she crowded around a horse drawn cart full of loaves of bread supplied by the U.S. Army to starving citizens who remained in the ruined village of St. Vith. As we listened to Annie describe the scene, we realized that although the official Flag

of Friendship ceremony began just three years ago, the seeds of friendship were sown many years ago.

The week's activities culminated in Luxembourg with a series of events including a personal audience with HRH the Grand Duke of Luxembourg at the



Left to right: Herb Sheaner (422/G) and Dick Lockhart (423/AT) at the 424th memorial in Ennal.

Feature Stories . . .

Grand Ducal Palace, official ceremony at the Luxembourg American Military Cemetery, ceremony at the Luxembourg National Liberation Monument, Schumann's Eck and dinner at the Grand Hotel Mercure provided by the Luxembourg Government with musical

arrangement by the Luxembourg Military Band.

Once again we cannot thank enough our friends Carl Wouters and Doug Mitchell, who among their other responsibilities, are also organizers of the Bulge Chapter of the 106th Infantry Division. Together with others in Belgium, Luxembourg and Netherlands, they are dedicated to preserving the memory and legacy of the 106th Infantry Division.



Above: wreath laying ceremony in Bastogne

Left: Annie Theissen and Herb Sheaner (422/G)



Veteran recalls harrowing Christmas week 70 years ago **“I’m a Survivor”**

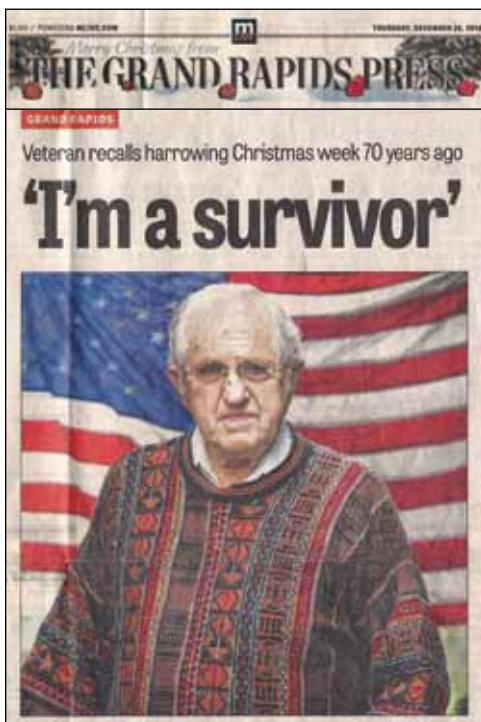
By Steve Kaminski skaminski@MLive.com

Harold Kuizema, of Grand Rapids, pointed out his living room window at nothing in particular. “It was only from here to across the street, so it wasn’t a great distance,” said Kuizema, 89.

But the distance seemed to stretch forever during that Christmas week 70 years ago, when Kuizema was being shelled by German tanks, his left leg numb after being hit by shrapnel and his feet so cold it was painful for him to walk. Kuizema’s only hope for survival was to scramble that distance and into the woods.

Kuizema, who was 19 at the time, was serving in the 106th Infantry Division that had traveled across France with no resistance in the fall of 1944 before it reached the Belgian/German border in early December. That’s where Kuizema was when the Germans surprised the Allied forces with a massive attack Dec. 16, 1944, cracking the frontline and signaling the beginning of a campaign known as the Battle of the Bulge. The Germans had the Allies in retreat. But the 106th slowed the Germans at the crossroads at Baraque Fraiture, which became known as the Battle of Parker’s Crossroads after 589th group commander Major Arthur Parker, just long enough to give the Allies a chance to regroup. It was the Germans’ last major offensive of the war.

The crossroads eventually fell into German possession on Dec. 23, 1944, and that evening, Kuizema and his fellow troops were stationed in a farmhouse.



Grand Rapids resident Harold Kuizema, a World War II veteran who served in the Battle of the Bulge, stands for a portrait outside of his home Dec. 15. (Emily Rose Bennett/MLive.com)

They were under fire from German tanks, which had surrounded the building. But Kuizema managed to escape the crumbling building and raced across a field — which was about the distance from his house to across the street. “I crawled on my stomach under a fence when I was hit in my left thigh by shrapnel,” Kuizema said. “It was numb. I was seriously wounded and I needed help.”

The 82nd Airborne came to his rescue, where a medic dressed his wounded leg in an aid station in a field. He was eventually put on a train and transported to Paris, then flown to a hospital in England, where he spent the

next four months recovering.

According to the U.S. Department of Defense, the Battle of the Bulge, which lasted six weeks, was one of the bloodiest in World War II. Nearly 19,000 U.S. soldiers were killed, over 47,500 wounded and 23,000 more were captured or missing before it ended on Jan. 25, 1945.

It proved to be the only combat Kuizema saw because he wasn't drafted until after graduating from Grand Rapids Christian in 1943. And by the time he recovered, the war in Europe was wrapping up. Kuizema said he didn't realize how fortunate he was until he started reconnecting with former troops nearly three decades later.

"When I was in the hospital, I had no idea what was happening to them," Kuizema said. "Prisoners of war were put into boxcars and transported. They weren't given any food or water and a lot of them died. Most of them lost about half of their weight.

"I was spared all of that. I was wounded twice, froze my feet, escaped three times, and the last time, I was seriously wounded. My folks received a notice that I was missing in action. But I'm a survivor. That's all I can say."

Kuizema returned to the U.S. after the war. He and his wife, Jessica, celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary this year. They have four daughters, six grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Kuizema graduated from Calvin College and eventually took over his family-owned business, a hardware store that his father opened in 1905 on Oakdale Street and Eastern Avenue, and operated it until he retired at age 75.

Jessica Kuizema said her husband

refused to discuss the war at first. But that changed when he attended his first reunion in Grand Rapids in 1973. "After the war he said, 'I am home, and I'm not talking about it,'" Jessica Kuizema said. "It wasn't until he started meeting with the men that he served with, men that he could trust, that was when he was comfortable to talk about it."

That first reunion in 1973 was a 106th Infantry Division Association meeting in Grand Rapids. It went so well that he began attending more. He even returned to Belgium in 1994 for the 50th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge and walked the battlefield.

He also was asked to share his experiences in a book that was published in 1999 — "On the Job Training: The Battle of Parker's Crossroads."

"Even though I still carry the scars of my injuries and all of us will carry our mental scars to the grave, I know the sacrifice was worth it," Kuizema wrote.



A telegram sent in 1945 notified Harold Kuizema's family he was missing in action during the Battle of the Bulge in Belgium. The telegram got to his family Jan. 13, 1945. A letter from Kuizema notifying the family of his safety arrived two days later. The telegram hangs framed on a wall of the WWII veteran's Grand Rapids home. (Emily Rose Bennett/MLive.com)

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*)

The 422nd Unit Crest

Can anyone confirm if the 422nd Infantry Regiment had a unit crest issued to its soldiers from 1942 to 1945? The crest was issued as a left and right facing pair, consisting of three triangles or arrows on a blue shield; then underscored by a scroll with the Latin motto "Flos Exercits" Manufactured by the Uris company as a pin-back. According to Col. Sawicki, the 422nd Infantry (Heavy Tanks) the sample was approved 5 Apr. 43, a year after the designation to 422nd Infantry (Heavy Tank). Final designation was 790th Tank Bn (Medium). There is similar info in older Armor Cavalry SI Catalogs. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Ray Younger at rlyoun3@yahoo.com or 2210 Rogers Rd. #102, San Antonio, TX 78251.

423rd Infantryman's Dog Tag Found in the Schoenberg Region

During the last week of November, 2014, a dog tag was found by a friend of mine while searching 423rd Infantry positions. It belonged to Francis J. Casey (Asn: 33808484). This soldier is a 423rd member and survived the war. I found him in the 106th roster as well on N.A.R.A. and a Stalag list.

Best regards, Stefan van Dissel. diktrom82@hotmail.com

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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**](mailto: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**](mailto: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.

Tattoos, continued

Seeking Information about Pvt. Robert L. Watson, (423/ B)

Pete Schreiber, WWII researcher and Life Associate Member of the 106th Infantry Division Association, is seeking information on the whereabouts of Pvt. Robert L. Watson (#36837740) who was in Co. B, 423rd. Pvt. Watson enlisted in Milwaukee, WI and his place of separation upon returning from the war was MGH Galesburg, IL. Pvt. Watson had been seriously wounded and captured during the first week of the Battle of the Bulge (12-21-1944), and ultimately was transported to a German POW camp/lazarette at Stalag IV-G Leipzig-Wahren, Germany. Researching my father's WWII documents, I determined that my father and Pvt. Watson were in the same ward of the Stalag IV-G lazarette. The POW camp/lazarette was liberated by U.S. forces on 4-20-1945. Pvt. Watson recovered from his wounds and may have gone on to become a doctor. Thanks in advance to the 106th members for any assistance that you could provide me in my research. I can be reached at [**pschreiber@virtualaw.com**](mailto:pschreiber@virtualaw.com) or 909-798-6745.

Patch Request [*note received by CUB publisher; can anyone help?*]

Hello my name is Arthur. I am in a wheelchair and I have muscular dystrophy and I am a patch collector. I am looking to get a military patch or autographed military pictures from you.

Thanks, *Art Samel, 1700 Tuckerstown Rd., Dresher PA 19025; Avram911@aol.com*

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

BAUER, CALVIN D. 81ST ENG.

—*Date of Death: unknown*

Reported by Kris Rice

COFFEY, DOUGLAS 590 FA BN/C

—*Date of Death: December 15, 2014*

Douglas Coffey of Marietta, GA, passed away after a brief illness of December 15, 2014, the day after his 97th birthday. Douglas served his country in the 106th Infantry Division in World War II. Captured in Belgium, he survived being a prisoner of war and was decorated with two Purple Hearts, a World War II Victory Medal, an American Service Medal, and a Good Conduct Medal. Douglas worked in finance for the Town of West Orange, NJ, until retiring in 1974. He is survived by daughters Jane McLemore, Christine Wolf and Virginia Coffee; seven grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and stepchildren, Jane Giorgio Brugger and Bernard Giorgio.

Reported by Harry Martin

DUMONT, ROBERT F.

Unit unknown

—*Date of Death: July 19, 2012*

Robert F. DuMont of Maitland, FL, age 89 passed a few years ago. He will be reunited with his loving wife of 65 years, Ruth and two daughters. Robert led a very productive and full

life. His many accomplishments include service to our country in WWII and raising eight children. He was very active in community service including his commitment to his churches both in Columbus and Florida. He shared with his family and friends a belief that with perseverance and belief in the Lord one could obtain their aspirations. He was very active in helping those less fortunate. He will be sadly missed by family, friends and all those that crossed paths with him. Robert knew no strangers.

*Reported by Rick Barrow
and the Orlando Sentinel*

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, including Allen C. Mason Junior High School and Lincoln High School. He later attended the University of Nevada. During World War II, he served as a combat infantryman with the U.S. 1st Army in the Anti-Tank Co./424 Regiment of the 106th Infantry Division in the European

continues on page 40

Theater of Operations. During his military service he received numerous citations and awards including the Combat Infantry Badge, The European Theater Campaign Ribbon with four Battle Stars, the Bronze Star, a written commendation from the Defense Minister of France, the Belgian Fourragere Decoration, including a written commendation from President Nicolas Sarkozy. Doug capped a 20-year firefighting career, serving an eight-year tenure as assistant fire chief of SeaTac International Airport. He also capped a 20-year maritime career retiring as Chief Engineer in 1978.

Doug was a member and past senior vice commander of Nuell Curtis Post #5372, Veterans of Foreign Wars. He was also a charter member of Local 1257 International Association of Fire Fighters, charter member of the Military Sea Transport Workers Union, member of the Inland Boatman's Union of the Pacific, Journeyman member of the International Union of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, the National Rifle Association and the Tacoma Rifle and Revolver Club. Doug was a long time Civil Service Employee working for the U.S. Department of Defense, the Department of Atmospheric Administration, the U.S. Department of Commerce and finally retiring in 1983 from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Doug is survived by his wife, Magdalene, sons Robert J. Elms, Franklin T. Elms, daughter Elizabeth Erb, daughter Victoria Lockhart,

six grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. Doug was preceded in death by his daughter, Carole Heegle of Vernonia, Oregon.

Reported by his daughter, Liz Erb

ELSTON, FLOYD L. 589/A

—Date of Death: November 4, 2014

Services were held for Floyd L. Elston, 98, of the Haskell section of this community, who died on Tuesday, November 4, 2014. Mr. Alston was a lifelong resident of Haskell. He was the Police Chief of Wanaque Borough before retiring. A U.S. Army veteran of World War II including the Battle of the Bulge who was a prisoner of war and a recipient of the Purple Heart, he was a member of the Midvale Veterans of Foreign Wars. He was a member of the Retired Police Chief Association as well. Mr. Elston is survived by his wife, the former Marie Hardy; his son, Phillip of Parsippany; his daughter, Jane of Haskell; his sister, Margaret Hubert of Pompton Lakes; his five grandchildren and 10 great-children.

Reported to John Schaffner by John Gatens

EVANS, WILBER 422/I

—Date of Death: March 11, 2012

Golden Lion Wilber Evans passed away at his home in Burlington, NC. He was 99 at the time of his death.

Reported by his son, Alan Evans

FERGUSON, RICHARD C. 592/A

—*Date of Death: February 3, 2013.*

“Richard Charles Ferguson, age 93, passed away in Milford (CT). Husband of the late Emma Ferguson, he was born in Bridgeport and was the son of the late David and Flora Ferguson. After graduating from Hardin High School, he studied tool making in Bullard Havens Technical School and went to Bridgeport Engineering Institute, then transferred to the University of Bridgeport where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering. He also took courses in electrical engineering and worked for General Electric Co. in Bridgeport.

Richard was a foreman in the Rotary File Co., prior to entering the United States Army where he was taken as a prisoner of war in WWII during the Battle of the Bulge while acting as a forward observer in the Field Artillery. Following the service, he worked in the Engineering Dept. at Sikorski Aircraft Corp., then at Wallace Metal Products in New Haven as a tool and die designer and as an estimator for Moore Tool Co. in Bridgeport. He embodied all phases of numerical control – namely: quoting, designing, selling and building. Before his retirement in 1985, he moved from Manager of Numerical Control to Chief Engineer. He was a member of: The Tool, Die & Precision Machining Association, the American Society of Manufacturing Engineers, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, a charter member of the Numerical Control Society, YMCA Industrial Management Club. Prior to going into the Army, he was the treasurer at St.

Paul’s Episcopal Church in Bridgeport. He was an avid golfer and was a member of the many clubs. He studied oil painting in Fairfield Adult Education and was a member of the 106th Infantry Division Association, and the American Ex-Prisoners of War. He is survived by his daughters Barbara Harris and Pam Fagan, four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren as well as several nieces and nephews.”

Reported by Rick Barrow, excerpted from the “Connecticut Patch”

FRIEDLAND, LEO M. 106th Signal

—*Date of Death: January 3, 2015*



Leo M. Friedland, passed away at the age of 91 after a brief illness. Mr. Friedland lived in Elizabeth, NJ, for 73 years before moving to Palm Beach Gardens, FL.

A child of the depression and immigrant parents, Mr. Friedland was owner of David Friedland Painting Company in Elizabeth. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the 106th Infantry Division and fighting in the Battle of the Bulge. He was an avid golfer and a lifelong fan of the New York Giants, but what he loved the most was his family. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Neysa Weitzner Friedland, four children, ten grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Reported by Jim West

continues on page 42

Memoriam . . .

GUILDER, ROBERT A.

424/HQ 1BN

—Date of Death: unknown

Reported by Kris Rice

HAAS, MILTON G.

422

—Date of Death: October 4, 2014

Milton G. Haas, 91, of Millstadt, IL, born Thursday, October 4, 1923 in Millstadt, IL, died at Memorial Hospital in Belleville, Ill. Milton was a retired foreman for Monsanto Chemical Company. He was a member of Zion Evangelical Church of Millstadt, IL, St. Clair Lodge 24 AP & AM, Scottish Rite Bodies, Almad Shrine, Drum Corps., Southern Illinois Court 86 ROI, VFW Post 502 of Millstadt, IL, Millstadt Fire Department, Millstadt Commercial Club, Fairview Height Elks Lodge and Mascoutah Moose Lodge. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and served in the army reserves total time of 28 years.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Wilmas Haas; parents, Adolph E. and Ella E. Haas; brothers, Oliver Haas, Edward Haas and Kenneth Haas, and a sister, Marie Semmler. Surviving are his children, Bruce (Susan) Haas, Sherry (James) Valerius, Danny (Kathleen) Haas, Donna (Harry) Kimmle and Garry Haas of Millstadt, two brothers, two sisters, 12 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Reported by his son, Bruce

HELWIG, GILBERT

423/H

—Date of Death: November 21, 2014

Gilbert Helwig passed away at 91 years of age. He was with the 423rd Infantry Regiment of the 106th I.D. and for a long time was the unofficial membership recruiter of the association.

*Reported to Jim West
by Pam Helwig, daughter.*

HOUSE, ROBERT D **106/RECON**

—Date of Death: November 14, 2014

Robert D. House, age 90, passed away. Bob was a decorated WWII Veteran and Purple Heart recipient from the Battle of the Bulge. He moved to Albuquerque in 1954 to work at Sandia Labs and retired in 1980. He was preceded in death by his wife of 42 years, Helen Marie House. Bob is survived by his children, Linda, Robert, James, Pamela and Carol; 11 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren, and his longtime friend Terri Thorpe.

*Reported by Rick Barrow
and the Santa Fe National Cemetery*

JAMES, St. Sgt. WILLIAM HALEY

423/H 2BN

—Date of Death: September, 2011

Reported by his wife, Naomi

Memoriam . . .

JONES, ALAN WALTER, JR. (COL.) 422/HQ

—Date of Death: November 5, 2014

Known by loved ones as “Bunt,” Alan died in Falls Church, VA. Colonel Jones, the son of an Army general officer, was born at a military hospital in the Philippines and grew up on Army bases around the world. He graduated June 1, 1943 from the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York. Two days later, he married Lillian “Lynn” McGaw in Washington, DC.

Alan served in the U.S. Army for 30 years. He was awarded two Combat Infantry Badges, the Distinguished Service Medal, two Legion of Merits, three Bronze Star Medals, and two Purple Hearts. He served as a captain in the 106th Division at the Battle of the Bulge after which he became a prisoner of war for 20 weeks in Stalag XIII-B. He served as captain in the 2nd Infantry Division in the Korean War where he was wounded in the battle at Kunu-ri Pass. Alan retired from the army in 1973. He was preceded in death by his wife, Lynn of 62 years. Survivors include his three children Anna, Alan, III, Stephen, and two grandchildren. Alan will be buried at the Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

Reported by Jim West

KIPNIS, DR. MERVYN BRUCE 422/F

—Date of Death: June 15, 2010

Dr. Mervyn Bruce Kipnis died at age 85. Dr. Kipnis was born in San Francisco, CA. He graduated with honors from the University of California at Berkeley, and also with honors from the University of the Pacific School of Dentistry. He was a World War II veteran and POW at the Stalag 9B in Germany. He received the Bronze Star and a Purple Heart.

He practiced children’s dentistry in San Francisco for 28 years. He was also adjunct professor at UOP School of Dentistry, and one of the founders of the specialty of Dentistry for Children. He owned and managed with his wife, Portola Valley Thoroughbred Training Center in Portola Valley, CA. He also bred and raced thoroughbreds at K.K. Farm in Woodside, CA.

He was a member of the Los Alto Hunt, San Mateo County Mounted Patrol, the Shack Riders, and a member of the California Dental Association. His great loves were free diving at Catalina Island and flying his T-Tail Arrow. He loved taking friends up and allowing them to fly the plane through the twin towers of the Golden Gate Bridge.

He will be remembered as a mentor to the myriad of young men who worked for him. He helped so many obtain citizenship, an education and the tools to lead successful lives. Upon retirement he was able to fulfill a lifetime dream, purchasing a sea going cabin cruiser. He and his wife sailed the “Paradigm” on a two-year cruise, visiting every major port from San Francisco to Acapulco,

continues on page 44

Memoriam . . .

Mexico. Before settling in Aiken, SC, they resided in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico for six years.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 56 years, Ruth Ellen Gould Kipnis, a daughter, Kyle; a son, Brian; a stepdaughter, Kathy; four grandchildren and his faithful greyhound, Slapshot.

*Reported by Rick Barrow and
Shellhouse Funeral Home*

KEGERREIS, RAYMOND D., JR **423/E**

—Date of Death: December 4, 2012

Raymond D. “Jake” Kegerreis, Jr., 91 died at home. He was born October 15, 1921 in Chambersburg, the son of the late Raymond D. and Mary Catherine Kegerreis. Raymond was a member and church treasurer of the Presbyterian Church of Falling Spring who very much enjoyed serving on both the Board of Review for Boy Scout Troop #127 and the Board of Trustees.

A 1939 graduate of C.H.S. and a 1943 graduate of Shippensburg Teachers College, he then became the Assistant Manager of Chambersburg Laundry and later the Domestic Relations Officer of Franklin County. During World War II, he served in the 106th Infantry Division before he was captured at the Battle of the Bulge in December of 1944. He served the remainder of the war as a German POW at Bad-Orb Camp.

He is survived by his daughter, Lucy Chambers Kegerreis; two beloved granddaughters and a number of nieces and nephews. His wife preceded him in death.

*Reported by Rick Barrow and
“Public Opinion,” Chambersburg, PA*

LANE, WILLIAM M. 423/HQ 2 BN

—Date of Death: unknown

Reported by USPS

LEONARD, JAMES C. 489/A

—Date of Death: October 28, 2010

Reported by Rick Barrow

MATLOCK, WILLIAM E. “BILL” **424/M**

—Date of Death: December 31, 2013

Mr. William “Bill” Elbert Matlock, age 88 of McEwen, TN, passed away Tuesday, December 31, 2013, at his home after an extended illness. Mr. Matlock was born November 2, 1925 in McEwen, TN, to Lush M. and Laura Peek Matlock.

He was married to Ethel Irene Simpson Matlock. He was a member of the Blue Creek United Methodist Church. He was a U.S. Army WWII veteran and a member of the VFW. Preceded in death by his wife, he is survived by his son, Larry Eugene Matlock, three grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandson.

*Reported by Rick Barrow
and Luff-Bowen Funeral Home*

McMICHAEL, BRYCE D. 422/AT

—Date of Death: March 27, 2008

Reported by Rick Barrow

PINNEY, GORDON B. 424/B

—Date of Death: December 23, 2010

Reported by Rick Barrow

PURKEY, DR. ERNEST 423/A

—*Date of Death: December 29, 1996*

Reported by Rick Barrow

RAGSDALE, FLOYD 424/G

—*Date of Death: December 10, 2014*

Golden Lion Floyd Ragsdale was ready to fly out to Belgium to join us for the 70th Anniversary FLAG OF FRIENDSHIP commemorations. I had spoken with him on the phone only a week before. He was honored and really looking forward to his time in Belgium. Sadly it was not to be. He passed peacefully at his home in Illinois. We made special provisions for a remembrance of his life, service and memory at the ceremony. So that he got to be there with us — even if it is in spirit.

In 2010 he made his first return trip to Belgium since the war. He was accompanied by Connie Baesman (daughter of Lt. Gerald Pratt 529 FA) and Gayla Holmes (daughter of Capt. Clark Worrell 3rd Armored). We took him back to the former battlefield and he actually found his old foxhole from December '44. Along with Eddy Monfort, we then went to Ennal where he was wounded in January 1945. He was a very fine gentleman and will be dearly missed.

Reported by Carl Wouters

ROOD, EUGENE ELLIOT 424/HQ

—*Date of Death: May 27, 2014*

Eugene so looked forward to receiving his *CUB* magazine! He was born in Janesville, WI on August 25, 1925. He spent most of his life in Green Bay, WI where he died May 27, 2014. He attended the 50th Reunion in St. Louis and also had the opportunity to go on an “Old Glory Fight” last year! He is survived by his wife of 65 years, one daughter, two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Reported by his wife, JoAnn

RODRIGUEZ, JUAN G. “LUPE” DR. 422

—*Date of Death: October 28, 2014*

Dr. Juan Guadalupe. “Lupe”



Rodriguez passed away peacefully on October 28, 2014. He was born on December 23, 1920 in Espanola, New Mexico, the oldest of seven children. He graduated

from Santa Fe High School and received a B.S. from New Mexico State University and an M.S. and Ph.D. from Ohio State University. He was a Professor of Entomology at the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture from 1949 until his retirement in 1989, where he specialized in the nutritional ecology of insects and mites.

Lupe was inducted into the U.S. Army in the fall of 1943. He had obtained a civilian pilot's license while in college and initially trained as a pilot, intending to join the Army Air Corps.

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He was then placed into the 422nd Infantry Regiment, 106th Division as a technical sergeant because the U.S. had an increased need for ground forces.

He was deployed to Belgium in November 1944 and then wounded and captured at St. Vith by the Germans in the Battle of the Bulge six weeks later. He spent the next four months as a prisoner of war in prison camps and being force-marched around Germany by the German Army. He was liberated on April 16, 1944 by Allied Forces.

During his teaching career, he was active in many professional organizations and received many awards and honors. In the 1960s, his laboratory housed the first scanning electron microscope on campus where some of the first moon rocks from NASA were inspected. Three newly discovered species of mites were named after him by other acarologists and he received an honorary doctorate from the University of San Carlos in Guatemala. In all, he published 142 articles in reference journals, contributed to and edited/co-edited six books and held 15 professional offices. After retirement, Lupe and Lorraine enjoyed traveling in the Americas and abroad.

*Excerpts from his obituary,
reported by Jim West*

STAHL, WILLIAM ‘BILL’ 422/I

—Date of Death: September 15, 2014

William F. “Bill” Stahl, 89, of Junction City, KS, died at Valley View Senior Life in Junction City. Bill was born March 4, 1925 in Junction City, the son of Edward John and Reta Mae (Cline) Stahl. He attended schools in Junction City and graduated from Junction City High School in 1943. He immediately entered the U.S. Army and served in WWII. His military service included fighting with the 106th Inf. Div. at the “Battle of the Bulge,” where he was wounded and for which he received the Purple Heart. For five months was a POW in Germany.

After his discharge from the military, he entered Washburn University and graduated from Washburn School of Law in 1950. He came back to Junction City and practiced law for 60 years. During that time he served one term as Geary County Attorney and as County Counselor for a number of years. Bill was a member of the First United Methodist Church, where he was awarded an 80-year membership certificate. He served on various committees and boards of the church over the years, and taught Sunday school classes.

Bill was also a member of the Earl C. Gormley Post #45 of the American Legion, having served as Commander and State Judge Advocate, the B.P.O.E. Lodge #1037 of Junction City, Kansas Bar Assn., the Geary County Historical Society, and he helped establish the Northeast Kansas Chapter of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge,

Memoriam . . .

the 40/8, the Union Lodge #7 A.F. & A.M., the ISIS Shrine Temple of Saline, the Scottish Rite of Salina, and was a longtime recruiter and supporter of American Legion Boys State of Kansas, for which he received the prestigious “Friend of Boys State” award.

Bill married Mary Lou Wall in Colorado Springs, CO, on June 16, 1961. She survives. Other survivors include: a son, Eric A. Stahl, two daughters, Jill D. Shaw and Marsha Ann Mechtley and one grandson.

Reported by his daughter, Marsha

STEWART, DOUGLAS LEE **81st ENG.**

—Date of Death: not reported

Golden Lion Douglas Lee Stewart was a lifelong resident of Bay Minette, Alabama, except for the three and a half years he served with the United States Army as a T5/CPL with the 106th Infantry Division, 81st Engineering Battalion.

He lived with his wife, Annie Lucile Stewart, for 65 years in this quiet community, 30 miles north of Mobile, Alabama. He is survived by his wife, his sons Larry Douglas and Kevin Lee, and his daughter Kathy Stewart Hollingsworth, seven grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

He seldom spoke much of the time he spent in Europe during World War II, but when he did, he talked about the experience of surviving the Battle of the Bulge, the courage of the men he went into battle with and how proud he was to have served his country.

*Reported by his widow, Lucile Stewart and
his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Larry Stewart*

SZYCZEWSKI, RAYMOND S. **589/HQ**

—Date of Death: February 7, 2013

Reported by Rick Barrow

WALKER, ROBERT F. **423/M**

—Date of Death: September 14, 2011

Reported by Rick Barrow

WHEELER, JOHN NEWTON **423/AT**

—Date of Death: December 31, 2013

John Newton Wheeler, 89, passed in Newberg. John was born in Stillwater, Oklahoma, and graduated from Independence High School in 1943.

John honorably served in the U.S. Army 423rd Infantry Regiment as an antitank gun crewman from 1943 to 1945. John endured capture and confinement in a German POW camp and received two Purple Hearts, the American Campaign Medal, the World War II Victory Medal and the European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal.

John lived many years in Albany and retired from the Burlington Northern Railroad after 35 years of building and inspecting rail bridges and crossings.

John was preceded in death by his son, Gary Wheeler, and is survived by his children Patricia, Evelyn, Dennis, Lonnie and Connie, and grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

*Reported by Rick Barrow
and the Albany Democrat-Herald*

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Memoriam . . .

WOODWARD, JACK 590 FA/HQ

—*Date of Death: December 14, 2014*

Jack Woodward, of Louisville, M, passed away at the age of 92. He served in the 106th Infantry Division, 590th Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery. He was captured in the Battle of the Bulge and held in Stalag 9B and 9A. He was a pipeline welder most of his life after he was discharged. He leaves his wife, Hildreth, of 57 years, one daughter, Neah Kathryn Bryan and son-in-law Jennings Bryan. His son, Richard, preceded him in death on February 28, 2014.

Reported by his wife, Hildreth

WRIGHT, DENNIS LEO 423/C

—*Date of Death: October 4, 2013*

Dennis was born on October 4, 1924 in Lowry City, Mo., to Taylor and Catherine Wright. He was a World War II veteran and a prisoner of war, captured at the Battle of the Bulge. He was a lifetime member of VFW #9997, and he was also a 32nd-degree Mason. He was a lifetime member of the American Ex-Prisoners of War.

Dennis retired from Richards & Conover Steel Division after 45 years. On August 20, 1957, he married Mary Jean Tompkins, who passed away April 22, 2013. He was also preceded in death by two sons, Bill and Taylor Wright. He leaves behind two sons, two daughters, one brother, one brother-in-law, and many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Reported by Rick Barrow

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