



30th Infantry Division Veterans News

“Old Hickory”

*Official Publication of the
30th Infantry Division Veterans of WWII*



Volume:V #4

Nov 2011

Editor: Frank W. Towers

Savannah, Here We Come !!

**Hilton Garden Inn, Savannah Airport
80 Clyde E. Martin Dr.
Savannah, GA 31408
912-964-5550**

1 – 3 March 2012

If you have not made your reservation, or sent in your registration for this Reunion, NOW is the time to do it. Time is getting close, rooms will be limited, so the sooner you get your reservation in, the better chance you will have to get a room in this facility and not have to go to some other hotel for sleeping arrangements.

A great program is being arranged by our Reunion Committee, so don't miss out on this one.

We expect to have several of our Holocaust Survivors with us again this year, and as in the past years, it will be most interesting to hear their stories.

Savannah is a great city to visit, a very interesting and historical city. and if you have never been to Savannah before, this is your opportunity to visit this very historic City, which you can visit on your own if you come a day or two early, or stay a day or two after the Reunion.

We are planning on a guided tour of the City of Savannah on the famous trolley cars, and a visit to one of the old theaters for a fantastic show, one evening.

You will be sorry if you miss all of this, in addition to the great fellowship of meeting with some of your comrades and friends of the past years'

Keeping the friendship of our “Old Hickory” family alive, is one of the main goals of our reunions.

Pre-Registration Form

30th Infantry Division Veterans of WWII

National Reunion 1 – 3 March 2012

Hilton Garden Inn Savannah Airport

Savannah, GA

Name: _____

Wife or Companion (s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ***State:*** _____ ***Zip:*** _____

Military Unit: _____ ***Phone*** _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Registration Includes: Thurs. Evening Reception; Friday Breakfast; Friday Lunch; Friday Dinner; Saturday Breakfast; Saturday Lunch; Saturday Banquet; Sunday Breakfast, and Hospitality.

Please Note any Special or Dietary Needs: _____

Registration Cost will be \$140.00 Per Person. This includes All Taxes & Gratuity.

Make Checks Payable to: “30th I.D.V. 2012 Reunion Comm”.

In the amount of \$140.00 x (No. of Persons) = \$_____ (Check Amount)

Mail check along with this form to:

“30th I.D.V. 2012 Reunion Comm.”

c/o Frank W. Towers

2915 W. SR #235

Brooker, FL 32622-5167

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The Philosophy of this Organization is:

“Honesty; Accountability; Integrity & Loyalty”

HILTON GARDEN INN AIRPORT

912-964-5550

The Hilton Garden Inn, Savannah Airport, is located at 80 Clyde E. Martin Dr., Savannah, GA 31408, and is easily accessible from I-95. If you are driving, and are in doubt, please call the hotel directly for accurate driving directions. The Hotel has 290 guest rooms, all newly renovated, and equipped with: mini-fridge, micro-wave oven, remote control TV's, iron and ironing board, hair dryer, and coffee maker with supplies. The hotel offers amenities including an outdoor pool, and fitness center, complimentary auto parking and RV parking, complimentary wired & wireless Internet and remote printing in the business center. Handicapped accessible and non-smoking rooms are available. Please request these special accommodations at the time you make your reservation. Check-in time is 4:00 PM and check-out time is 12:00 Noon.

The Hilton Garden Inn offers Complimentary shuttle service to and from the Savannah Airport. After arrival at the baggage claim area, call the hotel from a phone in this area and the hotel will inform you of the next pick-up time. You may want to consider other transportation services, as space is limited on these complimentary services.

The Hotel does not allow 'live-in' parking for RV's.

*****CUT HERE AND MAIL TO THE HOTEL*****

30th INFANTRY DIVISION – HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

Reunion dates: 1 - 3 March 2012

Name: _____ Phone#: _____
(Please Print)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____

#Of Rooms _____ #OfPeople _____ Smoking: _____ NonSmoking _____

Handicap Room: _____ King Bed _____ 2 Double Beds _____

If room type requested is not available, nearest room type will be assigned. Make sure to get a confirmation # when making reservation by phone.

Rate: \$89.00 +tax (currently 13%) for King or Double. Rate will be honored three days before and after reunion dates, upon availability.

Cut-Off date: 9 February 2012 Reservations received after this date, will be processed on space & rate availability.

Cancellation Policy: Deposit is refundable if reservation is cancelled by 6:00 PM on day of arrival.

All Reservations must be guaranteed by Credit Card, or 1st night's deposit enclosed.

AMEX _____ DINERS _____ VISA _____ MASTERCARD _____ DISCOVER _____

Card Number: _____ Exp.Date _____

Signature: Regardless of Payment _____

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Tentative Program

Wednesday February 29

Open Day

Early Registration

All time and events on Your Own

Thursday March 1

Breakfast

Early Registration – All day

Lunch

6:00 PM Reception

Friday March 2

Breakfast

Memorial Service

At Mighty Eighth Museum

Lunch

Tour of City of Savannah

Dinner

Saturday March 3

Breakfast

General Meeting

Lunch

Holocaust Survivors Discussion

Banquet

Taps – 2011

BAKKEN , Stewart E.	117-B	2/02/09*	Fargo, ND
BARTLEY , Robbie M.	120-C	11	Denton, TX
BENSON , Howard M.	230 FA Svc.	7/31/11	Hatfield, PA
BRADY , Jeffery C.	118FA-Svc	/11	Lagrange, GA
CAMPBELL , Theodore	120-G	6/10/11	Lynnbrook, NY
CHURCH , Ivy E.	120-C	5/17/11	Fostoria, OH
COX , Henry "Jim"	230 FA Hq	5/11/11	Battle Creek, MI
CRAGO , Dr. John A.	118 FA Hq.	4/28/11	Gainesville, FL
DILL , Albert Andrew		3/05/11	Loveland, CO
DUKOVICH , Joseph	113 Svc .	2/09/11	Wampum, PA
EPSTEIN , Dr. Jacob M.	105 Med.	3/12/11	Laguna Hills, CA
FARRIS , George E.	117-I	10/31/10*	Mt. Pleasant, TN
FRANKLIN , Rudy	119 D	6/14/11	Paducah, KY
GEBHART , Raymond E.	120 2BnHq	1/17/11	Miamisburg, OH
GOSS , Wilbur A.	119-I	2/14/10*	Old Lyme, CT
HALDEMAN , Charles J.	120-K	11	Reading, PA
HELLEN , Robert R.	117 HQ	9/14/11	Hudson, MA
HERRIG , Cletus W.	119-G	5/21/11	Dubuque, IA
HIPPEL , Donald A.	117-C	7/01/11	Tucson, AZ
HOLLOWELL , Ernest L.	105 Med D	3/25/11	Edenton, NC
HUDDY , Margaret	Widow	7/29/10*	Brea, CA
HUMPHREY , Ralph F.	30 Sig. Co	9/25/10	Sims, IL
JENNEY , Douglas	30 Sig. Co	3/06/11	Belgrade, ME
KAMENA , Dr. Marshall	Div. Hq AG.	6/21/11	Livermore, CA
KARAMBELAS , John	120 2BnHq	11/17/10*	Oak Brook, IL
KUEHNE , John E.	119-H	/10*	St. Cloud, MN
LEDBETTER , Harold W.	120-F	5/27/11	Astatula, FL
LONG , George C.	120-K	11/16/10*	Clio, MI
LOPER , George G.	120-A	11/25/11	Pittsgrove, NJ
LOWTHIAN , James C.	730 Ord Co	2/13/11	Sequim, WA
MAIDEN , Ray K.	120-B	2/21/11	Grass Valley, CA
MANSFIELD , Walter	105 Engr C	11/06/11	Muncie, IN
MARGOLIS , Morton	230 FA Hq.	/10*	Novi, MI
MILANESE , Raymond	119 Can	1/18/11	Rochester, NH
MOORE , Jack M.	119-F	2/26/11	Alva, OK
MORRIS , Paul W.	118 Inf-E	1/07/11	Spartanburg, SC
MORTON , Doris	Widow	9/28/10*	Morton, IL:
MOSS , Arthur D.	117-C	5/04/10*	Iuka, MS
PETERSON , Robert C.	120-K	5/31/10*	Elmhurst, IL
ROSE , J. Kirby	113 FA HQ	8/30/11	Selma, NC
ROSE , Jack D.	120-M	11/20/10*	Monterey, TN
SAWYER , M/Sgt. Will J.	117 I	8/05/11	Memphis, TN
SHEARER , Louis N.	105 Engr "C"	1/17/11	Howell, MI
STANLEY , James	117 2BnHq.	/10*	Brandon, MS
SWEIGERT JR. Harvy	119-E	9/07/11	Anncville, PA
TREMBLAY , Raymond H.	120-AT	1/03/11	S. Burlington, VT
VAFEAS , Dr. William P.	120-M	2/11/11	La Crosse, WI
VERRETTE , Philias J	.119-I	10/26/09*	Salem, MA
WARNICK , Robert S.	120 H	1/22/11	Londonderry, NH
WEST , Sam	117-L	/10*	Lawton, OK
WHITLEY , Heber T.	113 C	/11	Burlington, NC
WICHTERICH , GeorgeH.	823 Tk Bn.	3/18/11	Metarie, LA
WILKES , Charles "Paul"	Assoc.	1/11/11	Oakland, TN
WYATT , Wid W.	120-B	1/26/11	Waynesville, NC

Those indicated with an asterisk "*" were reported too late to be included in the previous "Taps" list.

Our Most Sincere Condolences to the Families of these lost Heroes.

N P R C Military Records

National Personnel Records Center new address is:
National Personnel Records Center
1 Archives Drive
St. Louis, MO, 63138-1002

In the event that you are still searching for any military records, this is the place to go now.

Please be reminded, that all of the known official records of the 30th Infantry Division were sent to this facility in 1945. However, in 1973, they had a tragic fire at this facility, and most all of the 30th Division records were destroyed. Some fragments of these records have been salvaged, and may be obtainable, in part, if not fully. For full information about the NPRC, those of you who have computer access, can just enter N.P.R.C, and a full website will come up.

For those who wish to try to access some of their records, enter:
vetrecs.archives.gov and you may have some success in obtaining perhaps some fragments of your old military records.

Donations

In the past few years, several of our veteran/members have not been keeping up with their Annual donations. Although you may be Life Members, the \$50 that you paid in many years ago, has long ago been used up and we are operating on 'fumes' now, as our membership is declining due to many deaths of our veterans in the past few years. In order to keep on functioning, and keeping up with our commitments of support to other organizations that support us, we need your continued support, and any donations that you can send this way will be appreciated. Our donations for 2011 have slowed down considerably, so we are looking to each of you to pay your Annual Donation in a timely manner. Please do not forget that ALL donations are IRS Tax Deductible on your Income Tax for each year. We are an IRS Tax Exempt Organization under the provisions of the IRS Tax Code: 501 (c) 19, so, please keep this in mind when considering your donation.

Wanted !!

Your Editor has to scrounge for "news" to put in the 30th Division News, so it would be appreciated if any of you will send me articles of timely interest that I can put in the News that would be of interest to many of our readers. Articles must be legibly printed or typed, or sent to me by e-mail attachments, and approx-imately ½ page in length.

Special Requests

If anyone needs special assistance at our upcoming Reunion, such as wheelchairs for improved mobility, please let us know ASAP and we will try to accommodate your needs.

Also, if anyone needs any form of a Special Diet, please let us know.

To accommodate these needs, please contact: Ms. Carol Thompson, Reunion Chair: 912-925-7919

Legion of Honor Medal

As a veteran of the 30th Infantry Division, you are entitled to the award by the French Government, the award of “Chevalier de la Legion d’Honneur”, (commonly called the Knight of the Legion of Honor), provided, that you have served during military action on the soil of France, between the dates of 6 June 1944 and 8 May 1945.

This is a very prestigious medal, and it is the highest award offered to non-French veterans, by the French Government.

Proposal Memory – application forms - must be completed in ‘block print or typed’, and listing your military history and all awards, particularly a ‘Purple Heart Medal’ award, that were earned during their time on French soil, and sent to the nearest French Consulate. It may take 6 – 8 months for this award to be made. Awards of this medal will NOT be made post-humously.

Here in Florida, it is: French Consulate; 1395 Brickell Ave.; Miami, FL 33131; Attn: Ms. Laura Sastre – Legion d’Honneur.

Application Forms may be obtained from your nearest French Consulate. If you cannot access your local French Consulate on Internet, contact “The Editor” and an appropriate address and Form will be sent to you.

Auction Items

Please do not forget to bring some appropriate item to be auctioned off, following the banquet on Saturday evening. The more items available, the more interest and fun we all will have. This is one of the main sources of funds for maintaining the goals of our organization.

Les Fleurs de la Memoire

The Le Fleurs de la Memoire is continuing to grow each month, with the following statistics on the grave adoption:

Normandy Cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer:	8,613
Brittany Cemetery at St. James:	2,153
Total Graves adopted:	10,766

This is well beyond expectations at this time, and the number continues to grow each month. It is an indication as to how the people of Normandy respect and honor our Heroes who lie at rest in these cemeteries. They are constantly visiting these cemeteries and paying tribute to “their adopted son” whom they visit and honor, as often as they can throughout the year.

We can be thankful that every 30th Division veteran’s grave has been adopted, as well as those whose names are on the Wall of the Missing. All of these graves were among the very first to be adopted under this program.

If any 30th Division family has a loved one buried at either of these cemeteries, the name of the adoptive family or organization can be furnished by contacting the Editor for the appropriate name and address. Many of our veterans have been adopted by a local organization or the town/village near where they fell in battle. These families or organizations would appreciate hearing from any of the next-of-kin of these Heroes.

S.S. Argentina

As most of you know, the 120th Regiment and the 230th FA Bn. sailed to Europe on this ship from the port of Boston, Mass, on 12 February 1944, landing at Gourock, Scotland on 22 February 1944. It was a part of the largest convoy to ever cross the Atlantic up to that time. Here is an interesting history of the Argentina.

The Argentina was one of the best and most active transport ships that served in World War II.

On December 27, 1941, The S.S. Argentina completed her last pre-war voyage in the “Good Neighbor Fleet”. On her first voyage as a troopship, she left New York on January 23, 1942, via the Panama Canal, and sailed for Australia, and then she made another trip to Australia from San Francisco, returning to New York on June 20, 1942. After her return, the S.S. Argentina departed the first of July on the first of two successive trips to England. These were followed by two trips to Casablanca in early 1943. In April the ship departed for Algiers, Oran, Gibraltar, the Clyde, Freetown, Durban and Casablanca, then in August, she went, via Argentina, to the Mersey and Liverpool.

In October 1943, the vessel left for the United Kingdom, Augusta, (Sicily), Bari (Italy) and Algiers. Following her return to New York in December, she was operated from Boston, for three voyages to the Clyde, (One of which transported the 120th RCT), and returning from the last to New York in April 1944.

Thereafter, the ship next made six more voyages to the U.K. In December of that year, she departed on a voyage to Naples, Marseilles, Oran and Gibraltar, and then returned to Boston in January 1945. She next made four trips to Le Havre and Southampton, returning from each voyage to New York, except for the last, from which she returned to Boston.

After another voyage to Southampton, (returning to Baltimore), one to Taranto and Naples (Italy), and one to Le Havre only, then the Argentina finally returned to New York on New Year’s Day 1946. During the first four months of 1946, the ship made one trip to Southampton and two to Le Havre and Southampton, the last one being as a “Dependent Transport” for 564 passengers.

Her last wartime trip ended August 1946. During this time, she steamed approximately 335,906 miles, and carried about 200,000 troops. Her last few voyages were made as a “War Bride Ship”.

Source: Troopships of WWII, ATA 1947

WWII Troop Ship Crossings

30th Infantry Division

1944-1945

Departures from the U.S.A. and return, of the units of the 30th Infantry Division.

Advance Party, under the command of Brig. Gen. Wm. K. Harrison, departed New York City on 7 February 1944, aboard the ship HMS Queen Mary, bound for Southampton, England.

The various units of the 30th Infantry Division departed the U.S.A. as follows:

117th Infantry Regimental Combat Team

Departure

SS John Ericsson

Departed: Boston, Mass. POE 12 February 1944

Arr: Liverpool, England 24 February 1944

Return to the U.S.A.

HMS Queen Mary

Departed: Southampton 17 August 1945

Arr. New York City 21 August 1945

119th Infantry Regimental Combat Team

Departure

SS Brazil

Departed: Boston, Mass. POE 12 February 1944

Arr: Bristol, England 22 February 1944

Return to the U.S.A.

USS Gen. Black

Departed: Southampton, England 12 August 1945

Arr: Boston, Mass 19 August 1945

120th Infantry Regimental Combat Team *

Departure

SS Argentina

Departed: Boston, Mass. POE 12 February 1944

Arr: Gourock, (Glasgow) Scotland 22 February 1944

Return to the U.S.A.

HMS Queen Mary

Departed: Southampton, England 17 August 1945

Arr: New York City 21 August 1945

*Included 230th FA Bn; 105th Engr. Bn, Co C; 105th Med. Bn. Co. C.

2.

Crossing English Channel on return trip home:

All units except the 120th RCT

USS Exchequer

Depart: Le Harvre, France 2 August 1945

Arr: Southampton, England 2 August 1945

120th Infantry Regimental Combat Team

USS Marine Wolfe

Depart: Le Harvre, France 3 August 1945

Arr: Southampton, England 3 August 1945

30th Infantry Division Veterans of WWII
2915 W. SR #235
Brooker, FL 32622-5167

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“Don’t Forget These Dates”

<i>Hanukka</i>	<i>21 December</i>
<i>Christmas</i>	<i>25 December</i>