



63rd Infantry Division Newsletter

Issue Number 61

AUGUST 2016

All information in this Newsletter is developed by Fred Clinton, Webmaster, 63rd Infantry Division and does not necessarily reflect the views of other individuals and is in no way an Official Publication of the 63rd Infantry Division or 63rd Infantry Division Association.

Well I finally received word from the Staff of the 63rd Infantry Division Association advising me that as of the end of this month our Association will be a thing of the pass. Just remember that "Old Soldiers never die, they just fade away". So I guess that is what we did, "fade away". I was told by Mary Fran Collier, Association Treasurer that after all outstanding checks are cashed we will have exactly \$6.33 left in the account. Sounds like someone could at least have a "Happy Meal" with that amount. With regard to Mary Fran Collier and Judith Schaeffer I want to give them a big thanks for their untiring efforts in keeping the Association afloat for as long as they did. THANK BOTH OF YOU!!!!

63D INFANTRY DIVISION AND 254TH INFANTRY REGIMENT CHALLENGE COINS.

I still have a few challenge coins for the 63d Infantry Division and the 254th Infantry Regiment. You can view an image of those coins at the following address:

www.63rdinfdiv.com/memorabiliapage3.html

THINGS LEFT TO DO TO REALLY CLOSE OUT ALL ACTIONS AND ADMINISTRATION RELATING TO THE 63D INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION:

Mary Fran advises me that we still have to provide some input to the National Army Museum and the Freedom Foundation to tell them what to place on some memorial bricks that will be installed at each of those locations. This is based on the donations that we provided them.

The bricks can be either 8"x8" or 4" X 8". If anyone is interested in suggesting inscriptions on the bricks, please contact me at joyclint@comcast.net before the end of August

SON OF 254TH INFANTRY REGIMENT VETERAN IS OFFERING TO PROVIDE A COPY OF HIS FATHER'S MEMOIRS TO ANYONE INTERESTED

Dave Ritner has journal available from his fathers (John W. Ritner) war time experiences in the 63rd Division. Dave requested the following information be included in the Newsletter.

"My father wrote a journal of his experiences as 1st Scout in the 1st Squad of 1st Platoon, "I" Company, 254th Regiment, 63rd Division. I scanned many of his photos and added photos from the places and events he saw. I have created a .pdf of that journal and will share with anyone who would like to see it. About 75 pages long. My father passed away April 3, 2006.

You can contact me (Dave Ritner) at daveritner@gmail.com and I can e-mail you a copy of the journal."

THANK YOU LETTERS FROM THE CAMP VAN DORN WWII MUSEUM AND THE CAMP BLANDING, FLORIDA MUSEUM

In my last newsletter I covered the distribution of funds from the 63rd Infantry Division Association Treasury. As you may recall the Association donated \$5000 to the Camp Blanding Museum and \$5000 (included purchase of a Bronze Memorial Plaque) to the Camp Van Dorn WWII Museum. Acknowledgement and thank you letters from the directors of those museums now appear on [Miscellaneous Photos Page 138](#).

I AM STILL RECEIVING PHOTOS AND OTHER IMAGES RELATING TO THE 63D INFANTRY DIVISION- GO TO THE FOLLOWING PAGES TO SEE SOME OF THE LATEST ENTRIES:

2016 for additional details.

**AT THE RISK OF BORING YOU I AM AGAIN
STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF
REQUESTING AWARDS OF THE BRONZE
STAR MEDAL AND THE FRENCH LEGION OF
HONOR.**

It is not too late to submit your request for the award of a Bronze Star Medal based on your earning the Combat Infantryman or Combat Medical Badge. The request does not have to be made by the serviceman, it can be applied for by the next of kin. Go to the following address for details: _

www.63rdinfdiv.com/bulletinboardpage2.html

If you meet the qualifications for award of the French Legion of Honor you can still submit an application to request the award. This award must be requested by the service member. Go to the following address for details:

www.63rdinfdiv.com/LegionofHonorpage1.html

Pictorial History Pages:

[74- Heidelberg photos- 253d Inf and 254th Inf](#)

[75- 253d Inf, 254th Inf, 861st FA](#)

[76- 255th Inf](#)

[77- 263d Engr and 254th Inf](#)

Occupation Photo pages:

[72- 253d Inf, Hq 63d](#)

[73- 254th Inf](#)

[74- 254th Inf](#)

[75- 254th Inf](#)

Miscellaneous Photo Pages:

[136- Military graphics](#)

[137- 253d Inf and 254th Inf](#)

[138- 254th Inf, Hq 63d, 253d Inf, Cp Van Dorn](#)

[Museum and Camp Blanding Museum.](#)

[Internet Newsletter #60](#)

[Home](#)

[Internet Newsletter #62](#)