



★ CAMP BLANDING ★ CAMP VAN DORN ★

# Blood and Fire

63rd Division Association, Inc.

• ARDENNES / ALSACE • RHINELAND • CENTRAL EUROPE •

VOL. 62, NO. 3

MOROCCO, INDIANA 47963

NOVEMBER 2010

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## *Board members make three big changes*

When the Executive Board members met for their annual meeting during the reunion held in August, they made several changes that you need to be aware of so there will be no great surprises when January arrives.

It was decided to offer the *Blood and Fire* at a subscription fee of \$15 per year, beginning January 1, 2011.

This fee is for all members - annual dues paying members, Life Members and those receiving the magazine via the internet. If your subscription fee has not been paid by January 1, 2011, you will not receive the February issue of the *Blood and Fire*.

Also changing is the membership fee for new members and for annual dues paying members. The fee has been lowered to \$10 per year instead of the \$15 per year you have been paying.

The number of days for the 2011 annual reunion was reduced to three days instead of four. Registration will take place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Indianapolis on Thursday, August 18. Meet Your Buddies will be held that evening after dinner.

Those wanting to arrive early and remain later than the three days, may do so by making their own arrangements.

You must read the article concerning the change in membership fees located elsewhere in this issue of the *Blood and Fire*. Perhaps you will more easily understand the reason for the change.

Don't put off until tomorrow what you should do today, lay this magazine down - you can finish reading it later - get out your check book and write a check to me right now!! I don't want you to forget and then blame me for you not receiving the February issue of the *Blood and Fire*.

# Blood and Fire

Published by the 63rd Division Association to perpetuate the memory of our fallen comrades, to preserve the Esprit de Corps of the division, to assist in promoting an everlasting peace.

Three Issues Annually

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## FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT ...

Edward F. Fowle, Jr.

My fellow "Hot Shots" and members,

The 62<sup>nd</sup> reunion was proclaimed by those in attendance to be one of the best and one that they will not forget.

I want to thank Judith Schaefer and her great committee for the planning and execution that it took to produce such a great outcome.

The 63rd reunion planning is now in full swing and the committee is charging full speed ahead. This reunion will be one day shorter than the previous reunions. Registration will begin on Thursday, and the reunion will end Saturday night after the banquet and dance.

The following is sad to say but I believe this will be our last National Reunion. The reason is the diminishing attendance we have experienced at the last four reunions. The cost of the reunions must be covered by those attending. The fee charged for registration and the small amount added to the cost of the activities must cover all the hidden costs. Small attendance fails to cover it all.

During the 2010 reunion, Karin Froberg-Marzano presented an offer to us from her boss at Longaberger Baskets. The substance of this is that for most of the items they make that are purchased by a member of the 63<sup>rd</sup> Division will receive 25% of the selling price. Man, what an offer!!

This issue of the *Blood and Fire* covers all the information you will need to order and be assured we get the credit.

The IMOK Chapter toured the facility a few years ago and all were impressed with the quality of their products, the great pleasant buildings, and the great working conditions for the employees. By and large, all of their products are hand-made of top-grade material. The attitude of the employees is to make their products the best in the world.

I hope you will all get behind this so we can keep the *Blood and Fire* going as long as we can. This can help to cover the publication costs, since that is the way we keep up-to-date with our comrades and to perpetuate the memory of our fallen comrades.

*Happy Holidays  
to one and all!*

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## From the editor . . .

*Donna LaCosse*

Well, I guess by now you all know about the changes the board members made during their meeting at the reunion? Something had to be done and it was. Maybe not to your liking but it was a necessary move.

Now all I have to do is sit back and open my mail! What fun that will be!! It will be more fun to watch the bank balance grow.

I also know this issue of the *Blood and Fire* is late reaching you and I am sorry about that. Reading is not good for me right now so it just takes longer to do what I want to do with the words you send me.

When you receive this magazine, and read where you need to send your subscription check before January 1 and you don't think your check will arrive here by January 1, 2011, all you have to do is call me at 219-285-2861 or email me at [haroldlacosse@att.net](mailto:haroldlacosse@att.net) and tell me your check is in the mail and I will not remove your name from the mailing list and you will receive the February issue.

Please continue to send your stories, pictures and other tid-bits for publishing in the *Blood and Fire*.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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# Philadelphia Chapter News

On September 12, 2010 thirty-seven members of the Philadelphia Chapter gathered at the Resorts Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City for their annual mini-reunion.

Following a great lunch we enjoyed each other's company, exchanged news of our group, and discussed some future planning.

Five of our members attended the Ohio reunion in August and thoroughly enjoyed it. News was shared about that event.

Thanks to all of you from our Chapter who are keeping the 63<sup>rd</sup> alive and well!

*Kitty Forrest, Public Relations*

## A Memo from the Secretary . . .

*Donna LaCosse*

You who were unable to attend the Ohio reunion were missed and I hope you are able to go to Indianapolis, Indiana in August 2011. The next reunion will start a day later and all the activities will be in the hotel.

The committee helping Judy Schaefer organize this affair has made several plans for your entertainment and the hotel they chose is super! Newly remodeled and near the airport with free shuttle service. You can't beat that with a stick!!

Rumors have been heard that this will probably be the last reunion for the Association. That makes me sad! My personal thought on this is that a reunion is for people who want to meet and eat; talk and sleep, and the reunions should continue until no one is able to travel to a location where they can meet and eat; talk and sleep for two or three days.

Well, so much for my thoughts on that subject! No one has asked me for my opinion but I have never let that stop me from having one!!

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# IMOK Chapter News

The Crowne Plaza in Indianapolis, Indiana was invaded by twenty-three IMOK members on October 6, 2010 when they gathered for their fall meeting.

The afternoon was spent visiting and munching in the Hartfield Room; dinner was from the menu in the hotel restaurant, and those who did not retire early, returned to the Hartfield Room until bed time.

Planning the 2011 reunion took most of the day on Thursday and by Friday everyone was ready to go home!

Gina Iseminger and Rhonda Wolverton, with a tip from Paul Schewene, had explored the Crowne Plaza prior to the meeting and recommended this hotel as the location for the National Reunion.

All plans were discussed and finalized except for the menus, which will be decided at a later date.

The reunion will begin a day later than usual and all activities will take place in the hotel.

This will be a special event because it will be the 63<sup>rd</sup> Reunion of the 63<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division Association!

## ANNUAL BLOOD & FIRE REPORT 2010

### NOVEMBER 2009

#### 40 pages - 1665 copies

Composition & Printing	\$ 2,575.45	Rensselaer Printco
Postage for Mailing	\$ 543.78	The Paper of Wabash
Travel to Rensselaer	\$ 59.40	Three round trips, 108 miles @ .55 per mile.
 B&F Returns & Re-mail	 \$ 41.19	

November 2009 Total: \$ 3,219.82

### FEBRUARY 2010

#### 40 pages - 1,625 copies

Composition & Printing	\$ 2,398.12	Rensselaer Printco
Postage for Mailing	\$ 538.58	The Paper of Wabash
Travel to Rensselaer	\$ 59.40	Three round trips, 108 miles @ .55 per mile
B&F Returns & Re-mail	\$ 97.80	

February 2010 Total: \$ 3,093.90

### MAY 2010

#### 40 pages - 1576 copies

Composition & Printing	\$ 2,464.30	Rensselaer Printco
Postage for Mailing	\$ 522.65	The Paper of Wabash
Travel to Rensselaer	\$ 59.40	Three round trips, 108 miles @ .55 per mile
B&F Returns & Re-Mail	\$ 58.05	

May 2010 Total: \$ 3,104.41

**TOTAL COST: \$ 9,417.72**

**Donna LaCosse**

# Welcome To Indianapolis

*Elevate Your Getaway!*

*The Circle City has it all, take a look....*

You might already know that Indy hosts the largest single-day sporting event in the world, and that our zoo is ranked Top 10 nationally. You might even know that our legendary children's museum is the world's largest. But did you know that there are over 200 restaurants, Circle Centre Mall and the beautiful Central Canal within walking distance once you are downtown?

To elaborate: Two downtown landmarks, Monument Circle (The Soldiers and Sailors Monument) and Indiana War Memorial Plaza are great urban spaces. The 24 acre plaza, like Washington, D.C.'s National Mall, gives Indy the distinction of devoting more acreage to honoring veterans than any other city ... it's second to D.C. in number of war memorials. In the Civil War, 75 percent of eligible men from Indiana joined the Union, second only to Delaware per capita ... And since then, Indiana's war casualties have numbered double the national average. So, please ... visit the Plaza!

Downtown boasts three remarkable pro-sports venues: The Lucas Oil Stadium is home to the Indianapolis Colts, Super Bowl champs in 2007; Consecro Field House is home to NBA's Indiana Pacers and WNBA's Indiana Fever. The Indianapolis Indians play AAA baseball at Victory Field, our beautiful new stadium. Nearby also visit NCAA Hall of Champions, The National Collegiate Athletic Museum.

See in close proximity, our triple accredited zoo, exhibiting exotic animals within 5 different living habitats. Also the aquarium there with the world's only underwater dolphin viewing dome!! Then just next door inside, see the Hilbert Conservatory and be amazed by free-flying butterflies each summer.

Next you might want to try out the White River Junction Train Ride ... a 10 minute ride winding all around the zoo, where you will see animals of many kinds and the other facilities that keep the zoo running.

Perhaps you'd rather enjoy the 1 1/2 mile riverside promenade along the canal, or better still, rent a paddleboat and see the city from the water, .... OR .... visit the IMAX theater which delivers 2D and 3D films to a six and a half story screen!!

Next door to the Park grounds are the Congressional Medal of Honor Memorial and the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art .... a wonderful museum, and be sure to climb into an authentic stage coach on the lower level before leaving.

Want to shop? Circle Centre Mall is just a block or two east where you can visit Nordstrom's and Carson Pirie Scott department stores as well as many specialty shops.

Hungry? If you don't want to eat in Champs or the Food Court at Circle Centre, just step outside and take advantage of the many wonderful restaurants Indy has to offer.

Feeling tired? Then take a carriage ride around the city offered by Blue Ribbon Carriage Co. and Yellow Rose Carriage.

How about taking the kids to the World's Biggest and Best Children's Museum! This is not just for kids .... see 100,000 artifacts and get this! ... a 27 foot tall water clock. The 43 foot tall Fireworks of Glass Tower will blow you away! Also, a great Dinosphere exhibit. See for yourself by going to [childrensmuseum.org](http://childrensmuseum.org)

If you are inclined to get out of the city a little way, how about visiting The Indianapolis Museum of Art? The main building contains changing and permanent exhibitions ranging from ancient artifacts to contemporary masterpieces.

Don't leave the Indianapolis area without visiting the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Capital of the World! In the Hall of Fame Museum you will see one of the most diversified collections of antique classic passenger autos and racing cars in the world! Take a look at the famous 500 mile track.

Of course, there are many more places to visit, such as Connor Prairie, a "hands on" pioneer village where families of today explore and discover what it was like to live and play in Indiana's past.

We have much, much more to offer, so please come and check us out!

## NOTICE

It is no longer necessary for Life Members to pay a surcharge of five dollars annually. That policy was in effect for one year, and that year ended in 2004.

# OUR HISTORY: THEN AND NOW

by Bill Scott, 25-Sep-10

e-mail: wjs631@comcast.net

I've been busy adding several new items that should enrich your knowledge about our years with the 63rd. Sometimes items get hidden away when I return from a reunion with new things or other things of interest are enhanced and offered to you.

On the current pages of the history order blank you will find many new items. One is a color map of the West Wall forts and the area under their control that has been shown at several reunions. It has been enhanced with better color thanks to two suppliers of ours and printed on better 11 x 17 glossy paper.

Another item is a copy of a book by a French author, Jean Scherer, and then in English translation by William C. Carter. The book, *The Battle of Jebshheim*, tells of the horrible stress the residents there suffered from the years of war. It looks like part of it is shown on our website.

The other items are DVDs created by our skilled webmaster, Fred Clinton, that were for sale at the 2010 reunion for the first time. There is an issue for each of the 253, 254, 255, Artillery, Support Bns. and Special Troops organizations. Each DVD has the Div. History, organization History, Division orders, Div. Pictorial History, WWII *Blood & Fire* issues, and the

combat months' unit morning reports for that organization.

Thomas Christianson, historian for the RSC at Moffett Field, CA attended the reunion and is coming to my town to see which items of our history they would like to obtain for their organization. He will then attend the IMOK mini reunion.

The 2010 reunion was greatly planned by Ed and Donna Fowle's daughter, Judy Schaefer, I am told. The history area had enough space to show the whole inventory of displays and history items for sale that the Fowles and Scotts have been storing.

I had great assistance from my wife, Cele, and Karin Froberg Marzano, who drove many miles two days to help us. There was also great help from Michael Thomson in getting displays in place and getting the whole inventory packed and into our SUV. Anna Weber also gave us some help in the display area for which we are grateful. Fred Clinton had his usual helpful system with his laptop computer.

As I have said before most of our new enquiries and orders come from relatives of 63rd men who have seen the details on the website, and then contact me over the internet or by mail.

## *Longaberger Basket Link is set up and ready to go!*

[www.longaberger.com/bloodandfire](http://www.longaberger.com/bloodandfire)

The Association will receive commission from all items ordered through this link. (Please be aware that Homestead Online and Factory Store Online orders DO NOT pay commissions – but they do offer some great deals!)

If anyone needs any assistance or would like to receive a catalog, please have them contact me either by phone, mail or they can email Karin Froberg-Marzano at: [hotshots63dinf@aol.com](mailto:hotshots63dinf@aol.com). You can put this email on the website as well. It is specific to the Longaberger orders and it appears in the Link.

The orders MUST be placed through this link in order for the Association to receive the commission. Karin will send order forms and catalogs to those who do not have the Internet.

The American Celebrations Large Flag Basket Set

that Karin presented during the reunion is quite limited and will be retiring once they sell out. The cost of this is \$299.00 and is designed to display a flag. If anyone is interested in this basket, please order it as soon as possible so that you do not miss out on it.

The American Valor Line is also quite popular and honors all branches of our military.

**send all articles  
and photos to:  
Donna LaCosse  
PO Box 86  
Morocco, IN 47963**

PARTIAL data compiled so far by 63rd Historians and helpers from AVAILABLE records

## -----COMPUTER DATA PRINTOUTS AND COPIES-----

PLEASE PRINT!

	UNIT #1 Company,	UNIT #2 Battery, HQ?	COST/EACH
1943-45 Unit Roster of Men (W/rank, serial no., dates, medals, casualties, deaths, etc.).....	_____	_____	\$4 ea. _____
Today's Unit Address-Phone list (for members only).....	_____	_____	\$2 ea. _____
1945 Unit Medals List (w/WWII home towns) .....			\$2 ea. _____
1944-1945 Unit Itineraries (in Bn. group).....			\$3 ea. _____
Alphabetical List of CAMP BLANDING CADRE MEN with data.....			\$5 ea. _____
Today's Address & Phone List of CAMP BLANDING CADRE MEN (for members only) .....			\$2 ea. _____
Today's Address & Phone List by State.(for members only).....	State #1 _____	State #2 _____	\$2 ea. _____
1,030 Killed in Action, Died of Wound. & Non-Battle Death .....	ALPHA .....		\$5 ea. _____
KIA, DOW, NBD. with all known men shown and sorted by-----	ALL UNITS.....		\$5 ea. _____
KIA, DOW, NBD, best viewpoint .....	Sorted by' DATE, organization, unit .....		\$5 ea. _____
Casualty Summary compiled to date for ALL units with 8 categories.....			\$3 ea. _____
2007 Alpha list #35 with data on casualties, deaths. units, serial numbers, cadre, 70,258 names.....			\$74 ea. _____

## -----MAP COPIES-----

11" x 17" 1:1,000,000 map of entire area of 63rd combat WITHOUT trail of 63rd units. ....			\$1 ea. _____
1:200,000 1939 map of ALSACE. Lorraine, & SAAR areas thru Siegfried Line area.....			\$5 ea. _____
1:50,000 map of COLMAR Pocket & Vosges Mtn. area in France for 254th guys .....			\$5 ea. _____
1:20,000 map of SW 1/4 of COLMAR map area w/Kaysersberg. etc. for 254th guys .....			\$5 ea. _____
Three 1:25,000 maps from S. of Sarreguemines to Saarbrucken w/great detail .....			\$13 set _____
Two 1:25,000 maps of the 63rd's SIEGFRIED LINE area w/forts, from 1/45 aerial photos w/legends.....			\$13 set _____
1:27,000 colored map of the 63rd's SIEGFRIED LINE area w/forts and 103 hour battle penetration .....			\$7 ea. _____
1:25,000 BLIESKASTEL map that shows Kirkel. Wurzbach, & Biesingen .....			\$5 ea. _____
1:100,000 KAISERSLAUTERN map that shows Homburg. Langmeil & Grunstadt.....			\$5 ea. _____
1:100,000 KARLSRUHE map that shows Bad Wimpfen, Heilbronn & Stuttgart.....			\$5 ea. _____
1:100,000 ELLWANGEN map from Waldenburg & Schwabisch Hall to Oberbobingen.....			\$5 ea. _____
1:25,000 MOGGLINGEN map shows from Obergroningen to Oberbobingen.....			\$5 ea. _____
8.5" x 14" 1:250,000 map shows from Mannheim to Rothenberg and Heilbronn .....			\$1 ea. _____

## -----HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS-----

2nd Bn.-253 4-12 April 1945 events, rosters & Pres. Unit Citation award .....			\$14 ea. _____
Regimental histories for January-May 1945 in binders. copied from monthly combat reports: 253rd ___, 254th ___, 255th ___:.....			\$13 ea. _____
General Order Copies for awards to individuals, such as badges and medals .....			NEW \$2 ea. _____
Reprint of 135-page 1986 softcover book. "With the 63rd Infantry Div. in WWII" by Col. James E. Hatcher of 254th and 255th.....			\$20 ea. _____
Unbound Xerographic copy of 1945 history & index for "The Trail of 254 Thru Blood & Fire" by Harris Peel, Vernon Kile, Algernon Keith & John Sontag.....			\$7 ea. _____
Bound English copy, w/o photos, of "LA BATAILLE DE JEBSHEIM" booklet of French residents' statements about the horrors. Written by Jean Scherer, and translated by Wm. C. Carter. 140 pages.....			\$20 ea. _____
Unbound inkjet color copy of 1945 "Victory in Europe" booklet.....			\$5 ea. _____
1943-45 combat history of 263rd Engineer Combat Bn. by Bill Snyder in binder.....			\$50 ea. _____
Jan-Apr 45 Combat Unit Journals of Hq 1st Bn-254 by date, hour, minute in binder.....			\$10 ea. _____
Ray Restani's Report of A-254 Attack at Eschringen, Germany, 15-Mar-45 in binder. ....			\$8 ea. _____
Short 1943-45 History of Hq 1st Bn-255 with "after action report" in binder.....			\$8 ea. _____
Unbound Germany's Siegfried Line history, details, drawings, & photos.....			\$5 ea. _____
Unbound History 7th U.S. Army, 15-Dec-44 to 25-Jan-45, "The Other Bulge" .....			\$4 ea. _____
Unbound 1944 "I am a Doughboy" booklet on inf. co. & plt. equipment, weapons, & training .....			\$4 ea. _____
-----PATCHES, can be ironed on or sewn on caps, jackets, etc.-----			
(A) 3.5" x 2.3" 63rd Infantry Division for uniform .....			\$4 ea. _____
(B) 2.5" x 1.45" 63rd Infantry Div. with "BLOOD & FIRE" below.....			\$3 ea. _____
(C) 2.66" x 2.35" 63rd w/"BLOOD & FIRE" and "63rd INFANTRY DIV." below .....			\$4 ea. _____
(D) 2.25" high x 3.5" wide US flag .....			\$3 ea. _____
(E) 2.5" high x 3.5" wide 63rd Division Siegfried Line sign patch .....			\$5 ea. _____
(F) 3.5" high x 3.5" wide 253rd Infantry Regiment w/motto "QUINTA ESSENTIA" (The Quintessence).....			\$5 ea. _____
(G) 3.6" high x 3.4" wide 254th Infantry Regiment w/motto "DEATH BEFORE DEFEAT" .....			\$5 ea. _____
(H) 3.5" high x 3.0" wide 255th Infantry Regiment with motto "COR FERREUM" (Heart of Steel) .....			\$5 ea. _____

-----1.2" CREST PINS w/2 clutch pins-----

253rd Infantry Regiment with motto.. "QUINTA ESSENTIA" (The Quintessence).....Not avail.  
 254th Infantry Regiment with motto.."DEATH BEFORE DEFEAT" .....\$5 ea.\_\_\_\_  
 255th Infantry Regiment with motto. "COR FERREUM" (Heart of Steel).....\$5 ea.\_\_\_\_  
 Colored pin description w/honors & 63rd Div. emblems.....253rd \_\_, 254th \_\_, 255th \_\_ \$1 ea.-

-----HAT PINS & BOLATIES-----

63rd Inf. Div. Patch pin \_\_\_\_ Combat Infantryman Badge pin \_\_\_\_ Combat Medic Badge pin \_\_\_\_ .....\$4 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 Ranger Badge pin \_\_, Silver Star Medal pin \_\_, Bronze Star Medal pin \_\_\_\_ .....\$4 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 Purple Heart Medal pin \_\_, Presidential Unit Citation Badge pin \_\_, Infantry pin \_\_\_\_ .....\$4 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 MP pin \_\_, POW Medal pin \_\_, Field Artillery pin \_\_, Corps of Engineers pin \_\_\_\_ .....\$4 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 Quartermaster pin \_\_, Signal Corps pin \_\_, Ruptured Duck pin \_\_, 7th Army Patch pin \_\_\_\_ .....\$4 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 Europe Africa Middle East pin \_\_, WWII Victory Medal pin \_\_, Army of Occupation pin \_\_\_\_ .....\$4 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 Full Size Expert Infantry Badge \_\_, Full Size Presidential Unit Citation Badge \_\_ .....\$5 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 63rd Inf. Div. deluxe bola tie with black cord \_\_, gold cord \_\_\_\_ .....\$10 ea. \_\_\_\_

-----UNIT & ORGANIZATION AWARDS COPIES-----

Presidential Unit Citations copy: 2nd Bn.-253rd \_\_, 1st Bn.-254th \_\_, 3rd Bn.-254th \_\_ .....\$2 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 Pres. Unit Citation narrative for 3rd Bn. and Co. A & B-253rd Inf .....\$1 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 French Croix deGuerre w/Palm for 254th Inf:.....8.5" x 11" \$5 ea. \_\_\_\_

-----COMPACT DISKS FOR MICROSOFT WINDOWS SYSTEMS-----

95 of 1943-45 *Blood & Fire* issues \_\_, 63rd Div. General Orders for medals, etc. \_\_,.....\$10 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 853 page updated "Chronicles" history book w/photos, rosters, alpha list.....\$15 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 Histories w/photos, rosters, & other info: 253rd \_\_, 254th \_\_ .....\$12 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 255th \_\_, All Artillery \_\_, 263rd Engineer & 363 Medical Bns. \_\_\_\_ .....\$12 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 Special Troops: HQ&HQ Co., Band, MP, QM, Recon, Signal, Ordnance \_\_\_\_ .....\$12 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 Combat Months Unit Morning Reports 12/44 - 5/45: 253rd \_\_, 254th \_\_, 255th \_\_,.....\$10 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 Artillery \_\_, 263rd Engineer & 363 Medical Bns. \_\_\_\_ .....\$10 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 Special Troops: HQ&HQ Co., Band, MP, QM, Recon, Signal, Ordnance \_\_\_\_ .....\$10 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 63rd Pictorial history w/1,000+ stateside, combat & occupation scenes.....\$12 ea. \_\_\_\_

-----DVDs FOR MICROSOFT WINDOWS SYSTEMS-----

Organization histories w/63rd photos, 63rd Div. general orders, combat unit morning reports, unit rosters, 63rd Div. pictorial history, WWII Blood & Fire issues, all as listed above to get organization information together on one disk for ease of viewing and storage at a lower cost.  
 253rd \_\_, 254th \_\_, 255th \_\_, Artillery \_\_, 263rd Engineer & 363 Medical Bns. \_\_\_\_ .....\$30 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 Special Troops: HQ&HQ Co., Band, MP, QM, Recon, Signal, Ordnance \_\_\_\_ all with the "Chronicles" .....\$30 ea. \_\_\_\_

-----CAPS-----

Bright white cap and bill, with adjustable white rear net for spring, summer or fall..... NEW .....\$10 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 Light blue cap and bill, with adjustable blue rear net for spring, summer or fall.....\$10 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 The new 63rd patch emblem has "BLOOD & FIRE" and "63rd INFANTRY DIV," like the "C" patch on the other page.

-----CHALLENGE COINS-----

1.5" 63rd Infantry Division Antique Bronze Challenge Coin with plastic bag .....\$10 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 1.5" 254th Infantry Regiment Antique Bronze Challenge Coin with plastic pocket case.....\$10 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 1.5" 254th Infantry Regiment Brilliant Gold Challenge Coin with plastic pocket case.....\$10 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 3.5" x 3.5" x 1.25" Dark Blue Coin Presentation Case.....\$5 ea. \_\_\_\_

September 2010 Form #69 Check # \_\_\_\_ TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_

Mail To: BILL SCOTT, 63RD DIV. HISTORIAN, 407 S. WALNUT ST., SYCAMORE, IL 60178-2234  
 (Make check or money order to: 63RD DIV. HISTORY FUND) - - - PLEASE USE ADDRESS STICKER OR PRINT CAREFULLY

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ UNIT(S): \_\_\_\_\_  
 STREET: \_\_\_\_\_ APT. \_\_\_\_\_ P.O. BOX: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
 SPOUSE: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
 I AM THE: \_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_

(SON, GRANDSON, DAUGHTER, BROTHER?)

63RD VET'S NAME



## **63rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION HISTORIAN'S REPORT FOR 2009-2010**

The annual unit rosters that were in the main computer showed a net loss of 48 men's duplicate names with data from the recent research of the alphabetical index which has many more pages to go. The total names, including the attached units in combat, now have reached 70,132 with the 63rd section showing 97.77% with a serial number versus 97.71% last year. The research has enabled the transfer or matching of many names from the various unit unknown rosters in the data summaries to known unit rosters.

The current number of items that have been bought from us or donated by us to museums now totals over 26,000 items, and that does not include the items bought at reunions and taken home from there by members and their families. The number does not break down the number of items in the morning report inventory that have been sent to the Army History and Education Center in Carlisle, PA.

Each of the Council members in attendance are receiving printouts of data on all the units of the WWII 63rd Infantry Division as of 1-Aug-2010, and the data summary.

There will eventually be new serial number sorting and printing done after the alpha research effort. Then there will be a review and analysis of the Army Serial Numbers which may solve some more mysteries about some men. The computers will show the current roster situation, but it will be a while before more roster and alpha printouts are done.

When you view the items in the history room of this reunion you will see the changes in the frames and the covers of the military map collection that duplicate the maps offered for sale. The original ones suffered damage from the design and the front cover material.

Approximately one-half of the history items are now being ordered by relatives of the 63rd men and a lot of the initial contacts are through the 63rd website being run by Fred Clinton.

The History Fund checking account was started after the 1993 reunion in Minnesota after complications with sending and receiving money with the Treasurer was a major problem for both parties. Since then the deposits total \$79,996.11, or close to \$80,000 in round numbers.

With the cash generated with the sales of a large variety of our items we have been able to pay for a number of needed items, part of which were paid for by the Association and then refunded when we got the cash. The prime items are copies of all the available unit morning reports, a desktop computer with the Windows 98 system that lets one use both DOS and Windows programs, a 4-function machine, a 3-function machine after the other died, a large printer for 11 x 17 paper that replaced my large one that printed the greenbar printouts, a laptop computer to enhance the views at reunions and eventually replace the one with the Windows 98 system, displays for reunions, and travel cases for display items and records.

**William J. Scott,**

**3rd 63rd ID Association Historian 02-  
August-2010**

**63rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION HISTORIAN'S  
FINANCIAL REPORT TO COUNCIL FOR 2009-2010**

From 30-Jun-2009 to 30-June-2010 I have recorded the following:

30-Jun-2009 Checking Account balance .....	\$2,250.99
Orders for books, printouts, maps, patches, pins, CDs, etc., plus included postage donations, new patches and caps, and refunds .....	\$2,160.00
Available cash .....	<u>\$4,410.99</u>
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Postage & shipping out .....	\$357.13
Bank charges .....	\$39.50
Book copies .....	\$387.30
Office supplies such as paper, printer & copier cartridges, envelopes, and binders .....	\$405.07
Repair old 63rd computer .....	\$35.00
Patches and caps .....	\$462.50
Compact disks from Fred Clinton .....	139.78
Long distance phone calls .....	\$50.22
Transfer to Treasurer and refunds .....	\$15.00
Travel to DeKalb, & Champaign for moving stuff to Karin Marzano for the Boston reunion .....	<u>\$376.10</u>
Expense total .....	<u>\$2,267.60</u>
 30-Jun-2010 Checkbook balance .....	 <u>\$2,143.39</u>

Sales of historical items was only 63.8% as much as the sales in the previous fiscal year, and the cost of travel for the History Dept. was 7.86 times as much because I could not go to Boston. and history display and sale items needed to be transferred to Karin Marzano for her attendance.

Other costs were under control so the bank balance did not suffer very much.

William J. Scott, 3rd 63rd ID Association Historian  
1-Aug-2010

## **ANNUAL BLOOD & FIRE REPORT 2010**

### **NOVEMBER 2009**

**40 pages - 1665 copies**

<b>Composition &amp; Printing</b>	<b>\$ 2,575.45 Rensselaer Printco</b>
<b>Postage for Mailing</b>	<b>\$ 543.78 The Paper of Wabash</b>
<b>Travel to Rensselaer</b>	<b>\$ 59.40 Three round trips, 108 miles @ .55 per mile</b>
<b>B&amp;F Returns &amp; Re-mail</b>	<b>\$ 41.19</b>

**November 2009 Total: \$ 3,219.82**

### **FEBRUARY 2010**

**40 pages - 1,625 copies**

<b>Composition &amp; Printing</b>	<b>\$ 2,398.12 Rensselaer Printco</b>
<b>Postage for Mailing</b>	<b>\$ 538.58 The Paper of Wabash</b>
<b>Travel to Rensselaer</b>	<b>\$ 59.40 Three round trips, 108 miles @ .55 per mile</b>
<b>B&amp;F Returns &amp; Re-mail</b>	<b>\$ 97.80</b>

**February 2010 Total: \$ 3,093.90**

### **MAY 2010**

**40 pages - 1,576 copies**

<b>Composition &amp; Printing</b>	<b>\$ 2,464.30 Rensselaer Printco</b>
<b>Postage for Mailing</b>	<b>\$ 522.65 The Paper of Wabash</b>
<b>Travel to Rensselaer</b>	<b>\$ 59.40 Three round trips, 108 miles @ .55 per mile</b>
<b>B&amp;F Returns &amp; Re-Mail</b>	<b>\$ 58.05</b>

**May 2010 Total: \$ 3,104.41**

**TOTAL COST: \$ 9,417.72**

**Donna LaCosse**

## ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT 2010

### JULY 31, 2009

Checking Balance	\$ 3,259.39	includes compound interest
Certificate of deposit	\$ 27,052.62	includes interest

### AUGUST 15, 2010

Checking Balance	\$ 9,156.16	includes compound interest
Certificate of Deposit	\$ 17,529.82	includes interest

**TOTAL ASSETS: \$ 26,685.98**

**Deposits: \$ 9,014.00**

**Income (interest) \$ 1,513.78**

**Expenses \$ 13,976.84**

### INCOME LISTED

Interest from checking account	\$ 1.92
Interest from certificate of deposit	\$ 1,511.86
Dues Paid	\$ 2,760.00
Donations	\$ 3,841.00
Ad Book Ads	\$ 1,975.00
Received from Boston reunion	\$ 438.00

**TOTAL INCOME: \$ 10,527.78**

### EXPENSES LISTED

Blood & Fire Printing	\$ 7,437.87
Blood & Fire Mailing	\$ 1,605.01
Morocco Post Office	\$ 183.51
Envelopes & Letterheads	\$ 186.90
Karin Marzano	\$ 700.21 Boston Reunion travel & food
Donna LaCosse	\$ 688.40 Boston Reunion travel & food
Bond Insurance	\$ 233.89
Charter Renewal	\$ 15.00
Judy Schaefer	\$ 625.00 Reunion 2010 deposits to vendors
Donna LaCosse	\$ 44.10 Blood & Fire returns and remails
Donna LaCosse	\$ 171.75 Office Supplies
Donna LaCosse	\$ 178.20 Travel for Blood & Fire
Donna LaCosse	\$ 500.00 Stipend
Ad Book Printing	\$ 703.00 2009 Reunion

**TOTAL EXPENSES: \$ 13,976.84**

*I removed \$10,000 from the Certificate of Deposit on March 17, 2010 and placed that amount in checking account.*

**Donna LaCosse**

## ANNUAL REUNION REGISTRATION ... 2010

Carl Anderson, E 253 - & Kathleen (Kit), 876 Cherry Lane, Waterville, OH 43566

Ralph F. Altman - K 255 - & Betty, 555 Demmler Drive, Pittsburgh, PA. 15237

Debbie Altman, Jerry Pattmye

Wayne Armstrong - C 255 - 271 Burns Drive, Westerville, OH 43082

Bertie Beeks - Assoc. - 1734 E. Cook Rd., Ft. Wayne, IN 46825

Ginger Ouwenga

William E. Byrnes - I 254 - 9645 So. Kedvale, Oak Lawn, IL 60453

Daughter Mary Fran Collier - Assoc. - 19812 So. Kenneth Ave., Oak Lawn, IL 60453

Leroy Bird - M 254 - & Karol, 4255 Sycamore St. S.E., Iowa City, IA 52240

Fred Clinton - D 254 - 102 S. Jenkins, Alexandria, VA 22304

Henry H. Combs, Assoc. - & Marilyn, 169 Quinn Rd., West Alexandria, OH 45381

Tom Christianson, RSC Historian, Moffett Field, CA

William Davis Jr - G 254 - 5131 Tippecanoe Rd., Canfield, OH 44406

Alfred Diaz, USAR, 1254 Camino Del Sur, San Dimas, CA 91773

John Dietrick, HQ 253, 788 Deerwood Drive, Defiance, OH 43512

Robert Dick - G 253 - 2030 Chester Blvd., Richmond, IN 47374

John Downs - F 254 - PO Box 254, Gilmanion, NH 03237

John Erhardt - M 254 - & Ruth, 8248 Sunfish Lane, Mainville, OH 45039

Kenneth Erickson - AT 255 - & Bonnie, 35373 West Creek Rd., Wallace, NB 69169

Mary Jo Hagge

Edward Fowle - FA 862 - & Donna, 332 Dayron Ave., Springfield, OH 45506

Hugh O. Fox - H 254 - & Ann, 1264 Stone Hill Lane, Lancaster, OH 43130

Julia Gable, Associate, 320 S. Jackson, Bluffton, OH 45817

Clarence Gerity - E 253 - 9841 Oxford Circle, Powell, OH 43065

Steven Glovas - K 254 - 2218 Covington, Bethlehem, PA 18017

Gale Hammond - C 863 - 4171 Marquis Way, Salt Lake, UT 84124

Beverly Houghton USAR - & Milton, 11307 Martha Ann Drive, Los Alamitis, CA 90720

Gina Iseminger - Assoc. - 2414 E. Southport Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46227

Michael Jugan - Moo 253 - & Jane, PO Box 74 Prier Rd., Kimberton, PA 19442

Mary Klimek - Assoc - 14060 Henry Ruff Rd., Livonia, MI 48154

Pamela Koski

Al Klingler - B 254 - 26509 Leslie, Euclid, OH 44132

Archie Kumasaka - FA 863 - & Ruth, 2002 Windrow Drive, Prioston, NJ 08540

Harold LaCosse - F 254 - & Donna, PO Box 86, Morocco, IN 47963

Mark Lindemann, Assoc. - 14513 South Shore Dr., Valders, WI 54245

Jack Linscott, A 253, 18290 Timber Trail, Marysville, OH 43040

Mariam Looker

Janet Malouin, Associate, 6 A West Hill Dr., Westminster, MA 01473

Gregory McKeon - L 253 - 10388 Tophill Drive, Hartland, MI 49353

David Montgomery - E 255 - & Betty, 114 E. Buckthron Rd., Derby, KS 67037

Jennie Montgomery

Joseph Palmer - C 255 - & Nancy, 1802 Norwood, Midland, MI 48640

Domenick J. Pecchia - H 255 - & Mae, 8550 W. Grand Ave, #402, River Grove, IL 60171

Peggy von Pentz - Assoc. Box 110 Hasbrouck, Goshen, NY 10924

William A. Pink - D 254 - 168 Pink Road, Slippery Rock, PA 16057

Delsie Pink, Donna McKee, Carol Snyder

# Annual Board Meeting

The Executive Council of the 63<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division met at the Holiday Inn in Fairborn, Ohio on Friday, August 20, 2010 for their annual meeting.

Edward Fowle called the meeting to order at 9 a.m.

Officers attending were Ed Fowle, president; Donna LaCosse, secretary/treasurer; Bill Scott, historian; Fred Clinton, webmaster and Mike Thomson, Assistant web master.

Board members present were Wayne Armstrong, Bill Byrnes, Al Diaz, Kenneth Erickson, Gale Hammond, Archie Kumasaka and David Montgomery.

Guests attending were Tom Christianson, Historian of the Regional Support Command in California; Beverly Houghton, president of the 63<sup>rd</sup> Unit in California; her husband, Milton Houghton and Harold LaCosse.

The minutes of the 2009 meeting were read and the following correction was made: "Robert Capasso was the Reunion Treasurer for 2009." Al Diaz made a motion the minutes be approved as corrected, Bill Byrnes seconded the motion and it carried.

The treasurer's report was given with one correction being made. The money received from the Boston Reunion was money left after all bills had been paid, except the seed money given to the Boston Reunion committee to use as they planned the 2009 reunion and was not a profit from the Boston Reunion. Al Diaz made a motion the report be approved, Archie Kumasaka seconded the motion and it carried.

Bill Scott presented his historian's report, which was approved by Al Diaz, seconded by Bill Byrnes and carried. Fred Clinton explained how Bill gathers his material and praised him for all the work he does, and is doing in order to keep the history up-to-date.

The *Blood and Fire* report was given and was approved when Al Diaz made the motion to accept, Bill Byrnes seconded the motion and it carried.

Proposals to host the reunion in Nebraska and/or in New Jersey in 2011 were withdrawn. Ed Fowle volunteered the IMOK Chapter as a host for the 2011 reunion that would take place in Indianapolis. The length of the reunion will be shortened one day, members will register on Thursday instead of Wednesday. All voted to accept this proposal.

Following a lengthy discussion concerning the publication of the *Blood and Fire* and the financial difficulties facing the Association, the board

decided a subscription to the magazine would be the best solution.

Al Diaz made a motion the *Blood and Fire* be sent to only those members who pay a subscription fee of \$15 yearly. Wayne Armstrong seconded the motion and it carried with only one "no" vote. To receive the magazine, members must remit their subscription fee before January 1, 2011. This includes annual dues paying members, life members, widows of life members, new members, and those receiving the magazine over the internet.

Al Diaz also made a motion the annual dues be reduced to ten (\$10) per year instead of the \$15 they have been paying. David Montgomery seconded the motion and it carried.

The secretary was asked to amend the By Laws to show these changes as having taken place.

Other business conducted by the Board included the future of the Association owned flags that are always on display at the reunions. It gets more difficult each year for these flags to be transported from one location to another and storing them from one year to the next is also becoming a problem.

After much consideration, all agreed to donate the flags to the National Infantry Museum in Georgia. Al Diaz made a motion to send the flags to the Infantry Museum; Gale Hammond seconded the motion and it carried. Fred Clinton volunteered to see that the flags reached the museum.

The following slate of officers was presented: president, Edward Fowle; first vice president, Judy Schaefer, second vice president, Jack Linscott; National secretary/treasurer, Donna LaCosse and reunion treasurer, Mary Fran Collier.

Bill Byrnes made a motion the slate be accepted, Gale Hammond seconded the motion and it carried.

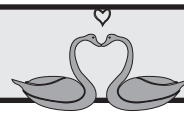
Appointed officers nominated were Bill Scott, historian; Karin Froberg-Marzano, assistant historian; Fred Clinton, webmaster; Mike Thomson, assistant webmaster and Donna LaCosse, Editor of the *Blood and Fire*. Al Diaz made a motion to approve the appointments. Gale Hammond seconded the motion and it carried. Al Diaz was also appointed assistant treasurer and it will be his responsibility to report to the IRS each year.

All motions will be presented to the men for final consideration and voting at the Business Meeting on Saturday morning.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 A.M.

Donna LaCosse, Secretary

# Happy Anniversary



## November

- 2: Louree & Joseph T. Scales, HQ 862 – 1942  
 4: Barbara & Wilford E. Wachter – G 255 – 1950  
 11: Florence & Gennoro Parrella – FA 817 – 1961  
 12: Rita & Arnold D. Perko – F 254 – 1962  
 17: Elsie & Serge H. Freeman – H 255 – 1987  
 21: Lillian & Gilbert J. Pasquini – 1942  
 22: Ann & Hugh Fox – M 254 - 1986  
 30: Susan & Gerald A. Geuss – L 253 – 1947  
 30: Mary & Elton H. Rogers – E 253 – 1957

## December

- 1: Diana & Larry Moore – Associate – 1973  
 8: Mary & Robert S. Olney – HQ 253 – 1984  
 9: Catherine & Vernon S. Morgan – L 255 – 1946  
 11: Mary Lou & Russ DeMar – HQ 255 – 1948  
 12: Helen & George Spaeth – MED 253 – 1939  
 17: Yolanda & John F. McKenna – M 255 – 1949  
 17: Sue & Tim Wade – MED 363 – 1939  
 18: Inge & Harold A. Steffens – M 253 – 1948  
 19: Mary Lou & William E. Taylor – HQ 253 – 1947  
 23: Louise & Bill Ahlvers – B 255 – 1961  
 30: Betty & Moses R. Box – HQ 253 – 1951

## January

- 1: Doris & Herbert Cameron – FA 862 – 1949  
 3: Bonnie & Ken Erickson – AT 255 – 1945  
 7: Jane & Mike Jugan – MED. 253 – 2006  
 7: Josephine & Vincent Tramuta – K 255 - 1950  
 11: Bonnie & Edward Bundick – D 254 – 1946  
 21: Marian & Merlin L. Myers – FA 861 - 1939  
 27: Ginny & Wayne Lawrence – HQ 253 – 2001

## February

- 2: Rhea & Lloyd Philipps – C 253 – 1949  
 6: Joan & William R. Creamer – HQ 253 – 1944  
 9: Caryl & Herbert Hubble – B 255 – 1952  
 10: Barbara & Roy Lermond – HQ 254 – 1946  
 14: Cortlun & Robert Clayton – C 255 – 2000  
 14: Debbie & Warren F. Neumann – C 253 – 1978  
 14: Yvette & Curtin Delahoussaye – HQ 253 – 1998  
 14: Jean & Elmer Chalcraft – D 254 - 1948  
 18: Jana & Edward Phillip – Associate – 2000  
 21: Edyth & Kenneth R. Mancini – G 254 – 1943  
 22: Jane & Howard L. Hannum – AT 255 – 1957  
 26: Frances & Charles Rhodes Jr. – H&I 253 – 1960  
 27: Elva & Walter L. Stoner Jr – MED 353 – 1949  
 28: Karin & David Marzano – Associate – 1986

**Lost Sheep  
 Need To  
 Be Found**



*The following members have moved and left no forwarding address or they have expired and their death has not been reported. Their May issue of the Blood and Fire was returned with "Not Deliverable" on the address page. Listed is their last known address. If you have information about any of these members, please notify the secretary.*

James Merritt, G 253, 903 Lynn Ave.,  
 Clarksdale, MS 38614.

John Plattner, Med 253, 3929 Ferie Ave.,  
 Cincinnati, OH 45208.

Jerry Garner, Associate, 60 Breance Dr.,  
 Corbin, KY 40701-4377.

Josephine Vento, Associate, 1 Acorn Rdc. #A,  
 Manahawkin, NJ

Norman Bromley, MED 253, 229 Spring Dr.,  
 Huntington, WV 25705-3533.

## – Notice –

Please support the reunion committee by sending an ad for the Souvenir Book. There is an Ad Book Reservation Form in this issue of the *Blood and Fire* for you to use and the address of Donna LaCrosse.

**Merry Christmas  
 To One And All!**

## NEW MEMBERS

Kevin R. Antink, Associate, and his wife Lynn, live at 87 S. 800 W., Crown Point, IN 46307. He is the nephew of Harry S. Antink, C 253.

Thomas Christainson, USAR, lives with his wife at 406 Riverside Ct. #506, Santa Clara, CA85054. He is the new Historian for the California group.

Michael Collier, Associate, is the husband of Associate member, Mary Fran, who is the daughter of William Byrnes, I 254. He recently retired from the military.

Ben Colcol, USAR and his wife, Helga, live at 2518 Alki Place, Anaheim, CA 92806-5002.

Patricia DeClercq, Associate, is the sister of Richard Noble who was killed in action on April 7, 1945. She and her husband, Roger, live at 3609 Elwood Avenue, So. Bend, IN 46628.

Bunny Godrick, Associate, 1566 S. 175 W., Pendleton, IN 46064. She is the granddaughter-in-law of the late Max Gourley, C 253. She drives a school bus for the local school system. She and her husband have two grown sons.

Stephanie Goodrich, Associate, lives at 4832 SR 9 N., Anderson, IN 46012. She is the granddaughter of the late Max Gourley, C 253. She and her father have a Masonry business and her husband has a catering service.

Claude Henry Golden, M 254, PO Box 414, Sharon, CT 06059.

Mary Jo Hagge, Associate, is the daughter of Kenneth Erickson, AT 255. She lives at 54010 - 884 Road, Bloomfield, NE 68718.

Milton Houghton, USAR, is the husband of Beverly Houghton, president of the California group. He and Bev live 11307 Martha Ann Drive, Los Alamitos, CA 90720-3805.

Jaman Iseminger, Associate, lives at 135 South Street, Indianapolis, IN 46227 with his wife, Amanda and their daughter, Belle, who will be a year old on December 7. Jaman is the Pastor of the Bethel Community Church of Southport. He is the grandson of Harold LaCosse, F 254.

Louis Pacey, Associate, is a handicap friend of Ralph Altman, who thought Louis would enjoy reading the *Blood and Fire*. He resides at Bendview Personal Care Home, 1168 Herman Road, Butler, PA 16002-9315.

Ronald W. Tressler, Associate, lives at 1099 Riverside Dr. # E, Beaver, PA 15009. He is the grandson of the late James R. Hyde, K 254.

Frances West, widow of the late Frank West, C 253, has returned as an Associate member. She lives at 6053 Goldmine Hwy, PO Box 36, Kershaw, SC 29067.

## 63<sup>rd</sup> 2010 Reunion Final Balances

### CREDIT

Registrations 52 at \$35.00 each	\$ 1,820.00
Monies for Activities and Donations	\$11,135.00
IMOK Contribution/Silent Auction/ 50/50	
Drawing	<u>\$ 1,046.82</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$14,001.82</b>

### DEBIT

Refunds for Illness of attendees/gas for drivers	\$ 938.00
63 <sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division Association National Treasury for Seed Money, Donations, Miscellaneous	\$ 810.00
Hotel/Entertainment Supplies	<u>\$ 9,953.82</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,701.82</b>

Credit Total	\$14,001.82
Debits Total	<u>\$11,701.82</u>

REMAINING BALANCE \$ 2,300.00  
Check #997 Issued to Donna LaCosse for balance to the 63<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division Association

**PLAN NOW  
TO ATTEND THE  
2011  
REUNION**



# *Short stories are also good reading material*

## The answer is “Yes”

*(Written by Harry Wolverton, F 254, some time before his death in 2003)*

Hi, my name is Harry Wolverton, and way back in 1943, I was single and patriotic. So what better thing to do than join the service and fight a war? I was 21 at the time, certainly old enough and man enough (a 119 pound weakling), to go to war.

So I answered my draft call and didn't pass my physical. I was 4-F, had calcium deposits on my lungs. If you had a certain quantity of a specified size, you were automatically 4-F; if you have the spots, you can't get rid of them.

So that took care of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines. I wasn't going anyplace, anywhere - but I wanted to.

My next move was the Merchant Marines.

Only two problems: they couldn't take a 4-F and their best facility closest to Indiana for reading X-rays was in New York. No problem: I bought an X-ray at a local hospital and enlisted through my local draft board to get my 1-A classification back. So, I was off to the Merchant Marines.....well, not exactly.

My local draft board called, said, “Thanks for enlisting, report to Ft. Benjamin Harrison for induction into the service of your choice.”

Naturally I failed to pass the physical. As the Navy was turning me down, the Army asked, “What's his problem? He's got spots, we'll take him!”

The result? Camp Van Dorn, Mississippi, the 63<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, F 254. So when you ask the question...“Did you enlist or were you drafted into the service?”... the answer is “yes!”

## Final patrol for Liviola

*Submitted by Delbert Conroy*

April 6, 1945; the day started off with bright sunshine. We were out in the woods up in northern Germany and we got orders to go on patrol down through the woods to see what may be ahead of us.

Sergeant Mel Thomas was in charge with Pete Liviola, George Boatner and myself going on the patrol. We started off through the woods, walking along with no problems, when all of a sudden we heard someone moaning and we came upon a German soldier lying on the ground holding his intestines with his hands. He had been sliced all across his stomach by someone. I felt like shooting him to put him out of his misery, but Sergeant Thomas said “no” so we continued down through the woods.

Finally we came to a small clearing and Sergeant Thomas told us to wait for him as he went ahead to scout the area.

After a few minutes, he returned and told us that there was a troop of German soldiers with horses ahead of us and he thought we had better get out of there.

We started back and as we looked ahead, we could see German soldiers dodging from tree to tree. I don't know how we got past them and finally got back to the Company. Somehow I got separated from the guys I was on patrol with and so I went looking for them. A Lieutenant stopped me and told me I had better stay where I was as all hell was breaking out in the

woods where my company had gone. I just stayed where I was and waited until the rest of the company came back.

They finally came back and we found out that we had orders to pull off the lines. We were going back for some rest and recuperation. That sounded real good to us!

We started down the road until we came upon some trees the Germans had cut down across the road and we had to climb over the trees. My platoon guide, who was leading our group, climbed over the trees. George Boatner followed him and I was next in line and I climbed over with no problem. Pete Liviola was next after me and I don't know what happened, but Pete must have either set his BAR down on a trip wire or something but he set off one of these Bouncing Betty mines designed to come out of the ground just high enough to hit the legs of the person who set off the mine. The explosion was enough to knock me down, although it didn't hurt me, I stood up and I could hear Pete crying, “Mama, Mama, Mama”. Pete's legs had both been blown off and our medic rushed up and shot Pete full of morphine to kill the pain. The words “Mama, Mama, Mama” were the last words Pete ever said. We had to leave Pete there and he died on that road that night. Some of our men went back to retrieve his body.

I will never forget Pete Liviola. I don't know

# Final patrol for Liviola . . .

- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

where his home town was or if his body had been sent home, or if he was buried overseas. I have tried to find out the whole story throughout the years but have not been able to. I asked Smitty, our first Sergeant, if he knew but I never got an answer.

I met Pete shortly after I joined the company and I remember seeing Pete cleaning his BAR in front

of a house that he was staying in there in Germany. I had stopped and talked to Pete and he asked me if I wanted some souvenirs from Germany and he gave me some old, worthless German Marks that he had. I still have those Marks today.

I believe that Pete was our last casualty of WWII from our company.

## *Baskets for* *Blood* *and Fire*

[www.longaberger.com/bloodandfire](http://www.longaberger.com/bloodandfire)  
Order From Longaberger & 100% Commission  
Goes To The Association

A Longaberger consultant is donating 100% of his commission back to our Association. You, your family and friends can log on to our link above and all of your purchases will give back to the association.

If you are not computer savvy or need assistance placing an order, please contact Karin Froberg-Marzano and she will send you a catalog and order form - or walk you through placing your order online.

Please consider taking advantage of this great offer as Christmas is near and it benefits our Association.

For those of you not familiar with the Longaberger Company, it is an American Craft Company and all of our baskets, WoodCrafts, Protectors, Framed Prints, Mirrors, Candles and Collectors Club products are made with pride in America by American workers.

When Nancy Bonifield Cone found out about the Longaberger donation she wrote the following:

"This is wonderful news. I'm not sure how many of you knew, but my dad, Dayle Bonifield - IMOK, was born in Dresden, Ohio (home to the Longaberger family). He actually knew them as a young boy and even had some "hanging out" time in their garage back in the days when they just made baskets to take

things to market in. Until they died several years ago, he had two aunts still living in Dresden. We used to visit there often when us kids were young. In fact, after her death, the Longaberger family bought Aunt Florence's house and turned it into a Bed & Breakfast. I'm so thrilled that now Dad's beloved 63rd will benefit from Longaberger sales. He would have been very pleased with this news and it comes just one day before what would have been his 86th birthday. Love and Thanks to you all." –Nancy Bonifield Cone

Please make sure that you order through the [www.longaberger.com/bloodandfire](http://www.longaberger.com/bloodandfire) link in order to get the commission back to our Association. All of the catalogs and flyers may be viewed online. You will know that you are on the correct site as it will state that it is the *Blood and Fire* Fundraiser in the top left hand corner.

For questions or assistance, please email:  
[hotshots63dinf@aol.com](mailto:hotshots63dinf@aol.com)  
[magsdaughters@aol.com](mailto:magsdaughters@aol.com)  
[karin.froberg-marzano@longaberger.com](mailto:karin.froberg-marzano@longaberger.com)  
or call Karin Froberg-Marzano at: 740.587.1705

## Ads needed for Souvenir Ad Book

Ads for the 2011 Reunion Souvenir Ad Book are needed.

It always helps when ads arrive early, so please help support this project by using the form found in this issue of the *Blood and Fire*, and send greetings, honorary messages, memorials, or for a reason of your own, real soon.

# Annual business meeting

The annual business meeting of the 63<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division Association took place at the Holiday Inn in Fairborn, Ohio on Saturday, August 21, 2010.

Rev. Vin Stratton gave the invocation and president Edward Fowle called the meeting to order at 9 A.M.

The minutes of the 2009 meeting were read and Bill Byrnes made a motion the minutes be approved, John Earhart seconded the motion and it carried.

The financial report was read and one correction was made: The money received from the Boston reunion was not a profit, but the money remaining in the bank after all the expenses were paid. The seed money given to that committee to use as operating funds prior to the reunion was not returned to the Association because there was not enough money to do so. Mike Jugan made a motion for approval, Gale Hammond seconded the motion and it carried.

The historian's report was given by Bill Scott. Wayne Armstrong made a motion the report be approved, Al Klingler seconded the motion and it carried.

The *Blood and Fire* report was given, including a summary of what it cost to publish each of the three issues. A motion to accept the report was made by Howard Van Schoor, seconded by Greg McKeon and carried.

President Fowle announced the 2011 reunion would not be held in Nebraska nor would the 2012 reunion take place in New Jersey. Both proposals have been withdrawn for various reasons, declining health, age, traveling distance and no one willing to help plan the affair.

Tom Christianson, new historian for the Regional Readiness Command at Moffitt Field in California, informed the group that the new Headquarters would be opened early in 2011. He is interested in artifacts belonging to 63<sup>rd</sup> veterans he could place on display in this new facility. Those who have items he can use in the display cases, or elsewhere, need to contact Tom.

Following a lengthy discussion concerning the Association flags, and what the board suggested be done with them, John Earhart made a motion the 63<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division Flags be donated to the National Infantry Museum in Fort Benning, Georgia. Fred Clinton seconded the motion and it carried. Fred volunteered to deliver the flags to the facility in Georgia.

Karin Froberg-Marzano informed the group

that the Longaburger Basket Company, where she is employed, has agreed to give a percentage of the basket sales made by members of this Association, in hopes of financially benefitting the Association. More information regarding this offer will be placed in the November issue of the *Blood and Fire*.

Fowle informed the group that the Board had determined the 63<sup>rd</sup> Reunion of the 63<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division would take place in Indianapolis in 2011. Bill Byrnes made a motion to accept this reunion location, Fred Clinton seconded the motion and it carried.

It was also decided the reunion in 2011 would be one day shorter than it has always been. Registration will start on Thursday instead of Wednesday.

Officers elected for the ensuing year include: president, Edward Fowle; first vice president, Judy Schaefer; second vice president, Jack Linscott; reunion treasurer, Mary Fran Collier and National secretary/treasurer, Donna LaCrosse. Al Diaz was elected to serve as assistant treasurer and his responsibilities will be to keep the IRS informed of the financial status of the Association. Al Klingler made a motion the slate be approved, John Earhart seconded the motion and it carried.

Appointed officers suggested for the year 2011 were Bill Scott, historian and Donna LaCrosse, editor of the *Blood and Fire*. Fred Clinton made the motion to accept the appointed slate, Gale Hammond seconded the motion and it carried.

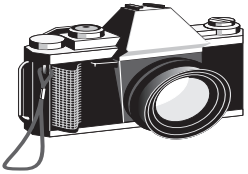
Fred Clinton was approved to continue as the webmaster and Mike Thomson was approved as his assistant.

In the matter of what to do with our old records, Tom Christianson volunteered to take all records and pictures for use at the new facility in California.

Fred Clinton made a motion Bill Scott be given permission to dispose of all the records in his department as he determines. Al Klingler seconded the motion and it carried.

After Fowle reported to the membership the change the Board made concerning the dues for the Association, Al Diaz made a motion all members pay a subscription fee of \$15 per year in order to receive the *Blood and Fire*. Fred Clinton seconded the motion and it carried.

Al Diaz also made a motion the annual dues be reduced to \$10 per year. Fred Clinton seconded the



## BLOOD AND FIRE PHOTO GALLERY



**THE ENGLISH HOUSE** – This 100-year-old English House is the home of George and Victoria English in Pleasantville, New Jersey. George was born 86 years ago in this house his grandfather Leeds built.

Grandfather Leeds named the street in front of the house “Leeds Avenue”. It is now West Leeds Avenue.

The Leeds came from Leeds, England and settled in New Jersey in 1629. The English family came from England to New Jersey in 1678.

George is very proud that his ancestors, on both sides of his family, who served in the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, World War I and George in World War II.

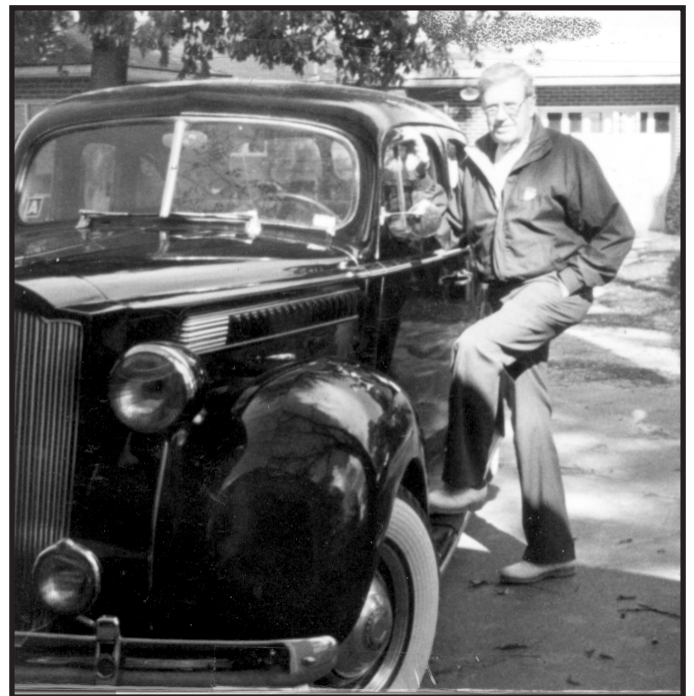
The Pleasantville City Council has just renamed the Pleasantville Park, The George John English Park. John, who is deceased, was the twin brother to George.

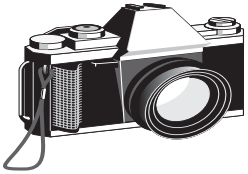
**ME AND MY PACKARD** – This is the picture of me, Jack Verling, and my Packard.

I was in the Bridge of Madison County with Clint Eastwood and Meryl Streep but I was driving a blue ‘52 Chevrolet.

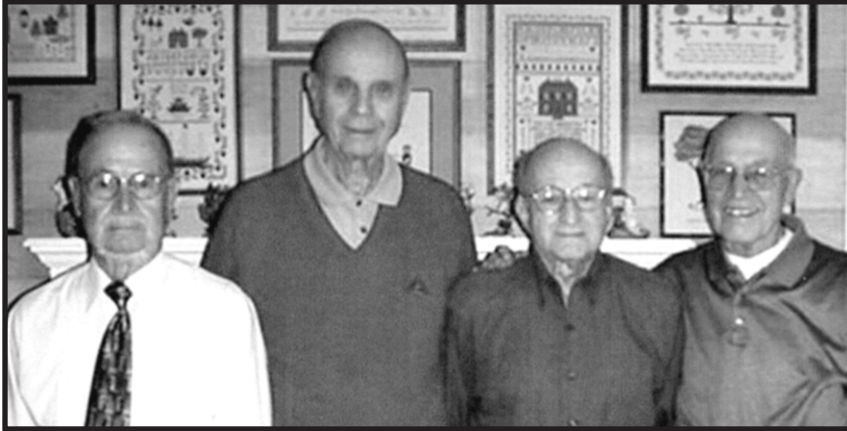
After the movie, I used the Packard to take people to be married in the bridges.

In the Packard ‘39, the gas rationing ticket is still in the windshield. (A) allowed so much gas.





## BLOOD AND FIRE PHOTO GALLERY



**SERVED IN SAME ACTION –**  
Pictured here in 2002 are, left to right, Sgt. Ernest Howard, Capt. Herb Houghtaler, T/Sgt. Aubrey Rogers and Lt. Bill Taylor.

All four men were all in Hq 1st Bn. 253 Hq. from Camp Blanding, Camp Van Dorn and Europe.

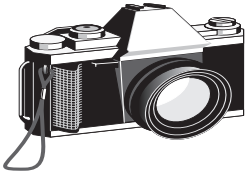
**MY SPECIAL DRESS –** Anna Weber in the dress she fashioned for her home township Bicentennial celebration in 2008.

The quilt behind her was constructed by ten or more ladies especially for this event that was celebrated from February until November in Pickerington, Ohio.

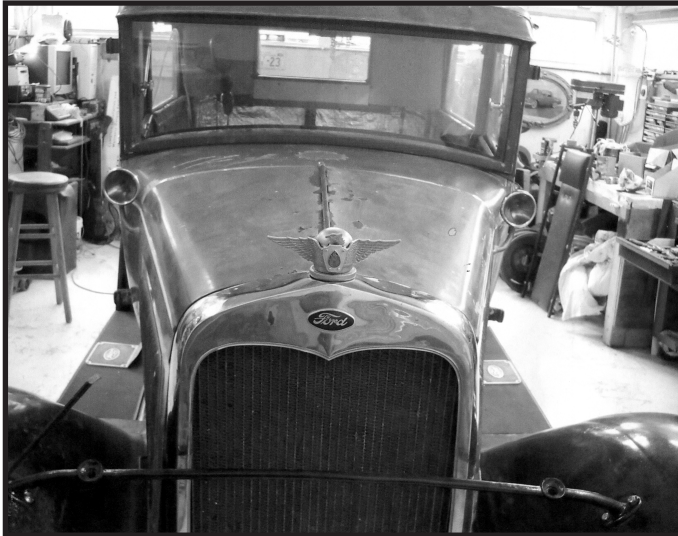
Anna was chairman of the Garden and Landscape Committee.



**2011 REUNION  
AUGUST 18-19-20  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN**



# BLOOD AND FIRE PHOTO GALLERY



**THE 63RD IN PERPETUITY** – Art Keith, son of Arthur Keith, is a combat disabled veteran of the Vietnam War and enjoys the hobby of restoring old cars – classics, antiques and relics.

He is currently restoring a Model A Ford Tudor 1930 sedan and has incorporated the 63rd Division emblem into the ornate radiator cap assembly installed on the car.

The second picture reflects the emblem up close. Given the historical aspect of an 80-year-old car, one could imagine, and the 63rd Division emblem will be catapulted into perpetuity.



**MARRIED 67 YEARS** – Ovide and Dorothy Mallo, who were married August 7, 1943, just celebrated their 67th anniversary.

Ovide, who served in Company A, 254 Regiment, was 89 on September 25, 2010.

In the group picture all nine of their children were together in January to help Dorothy celebrate her 85th birthday.

It was the first time in 16 years the family had all been together at the same time. The oldest child is 65 and the youngest is 47 years old.

# *Attention! All Members . . .*

This message is for all members!

Annual dues paying members, Life members, widows of Life members, prospective members and those who receive their *Blood and Fire* via the internet. No one is being excluded.

Please read this message so you will know the changes made by the Executive Board when they met at the Holiday Inn in Fairborn, Ohio during the annual reunion in August.

So far, annual dues paying members and generous donations have kept the *Blood and Fire* alive, BUT, each year we lose members by death, or members move and don't send a forwarding address, thus no dues are paid, no extra money arrives and the till is running dry!

A long discussion ensued concerning the future of the *Blood and Fire*. Board members did not make a hasty decision; they considered several options before making the change that needed to be made.

Not publishing the *Blood and Fire* was not the answer; fewer pages didn't seem to be the answer either and the suggestion of offering only two issues a year did not receive a standing ovation!

Due to the financial status of this Association, and knowing they had no choice but to settle on a decision. Board members decided to offer the *Blood and Fire* Magazine by subscription only. Everyone is being asked to pay \$15 per year and they will receive three issues of the magazine. The subscription fee is to be paid by January 1, 2011 for the year 2011 and a renewal will be due by January 1 of each year. If the subscription fee is not paid, the person who did not send a check to cover their subscription will not receive the February issue of the magazine.

All dues and subscription fees are to be sent to Donna LaCosse, PO Box 86, Morocco, IN 47963. This includes those members who read the *Blood and Fire* over the internet.

So, don't waste another minute! Lay this issue of the *Blood and Fire* aside, get your check book out, write a check for \$15 and send it before you forget to do so! You can always pick this issue up and continue reading it - if you don't pay a subscription fee, you won't have the next issue to read!

Board members also decided to reduce the annual dues to \$10 per year. Annual dues are also due by January 1.

Another change was made by the Board, hopefully for the good of the Association. The 2011 reunion will be shortened by one day and will take

place in Indianapolis. Registration will be held on Thursday followed by Meet Your Buddies Thursday evening.

It is the responsibility of the Secretary to notify all the members of changes when they are made by the Board. Hopefully this message will be read by all the members and all the members will understand the need to subscribe to the *Blood and Fire* in order to receive the February issue.

If you want to see the reunions continue, please consider attending the 63<sup>rd</sup> Reunion of the 63<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division Association in August 2011.

*Donna LaCosse, Secretary*

## *Business meeting ...*

- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

motion and it carried.

Board members whose term of office ended in 2010, were asked to remain on the Board, with the term of office ending in 2013. Beverly Houghton will replace Donald Wirth as the USAR representative.

The group thanked the Fowle family and the IMOK members for hosting the reunion, after which Rev. Stratton adjourned the meeting with prayer.

*Donna LaCosse, Secretary*

## *Only in church . . .*

*A visiting minister offered the opening prayer:*

*"Dear Lord," he began with arms extended and a rapturous look on his face, "Without You we are but dust. . ."*

*He would have continued, but at that silent, awkward moment, when he paused for breath, one very obedient young girl, who was listening carefully, leaned over to her mother and asked quite audibly in her shrill little voice:*

*"Mommy, what is a butt dust?"*

*Church was pretty much over at that point!*

## They served with honor .... let's not forget them!

The veterans of this nation deserve our attention and pride. They did the job of protecting and preserving our freedom through wars and peace, and they did it courageously.

We all owe them a debt of gratitude, so on Veteran's Day, we need to say "thank you" in the grandest way.

**DEADLINE FOR  
THE  
FEBRUARY 2011  
ISSUE OF THE  
BLOOD AND FIRE  
IS ON OR BEFORE  
JANUARY 1, 2011**

## OOPS! I GOOFED!!.....

*Like all human beings, I can goof big time! Even with proof reading, I don't always find all the mistakes before we go to press, so please excuse the following "goofs" that appeared in the May 2010 issue of the Blood and Fire.*

On page 13 of the May issue in the anniversary column, Mae and Garritt Hueksema is incorrect. The correct spelling is Gerrit Hoeksema, and he was in M 254 instead of 255.

On page 35, the "s" was left out of Landsberg.

Happy Holidays  
to one and all!

Please send in your old or recent photos to be placed in the *Blood & Fire* photo gallery each quarter.

Send to Donna LaCosse, PO Box 86,  
Morocco, Indiana 47963.

## *Changes to our regular web site notice*

Visit the 63rd Infantry Division Website at <http://www.63rdinfdiv.com> to find a detailed history of the 63rd Infantry Division. Included in the over 580 pages of the website is a listing of unit awards, descriptions of battles, a listing of battle and non-battle deaths, a description and view of all 63rd Infantry Division memorials and many other items of interest.

There are also over 2800 pictures of 63rd Infantry Division soldiers in training, combat and on occupation duty.

You will also find a list of memorabilia items for sale, information about reunions and inquiries from members and relatives searching for information about members and buddies. There is also an alphabetical listing, by unit, of active 63rd Infantry Division Association members, a listing of related websites and other information of interest to veterans.

Webmaster, Fred Clinton (D 254th Inf.) is seeking photos and memorabilia images to be added to the website. Send photos by e-mail to [joyclint@comcast.net](mailto:joyclint@comcast.net) or by regular mail to:

Fred Clinton,  
102 S. Jenkins Street  
Alexandria, VA 22304.

Fred's phone number is 703-751-7548.

All items will be returned when processing has been completed.



## Gale Hill shares photos

# Hill goes on honor flight



*Gale R. Hill (on the right) in his WWII uniform at age 18 with his father, Robert A. Hill, 43, in his uniform.*



*Jack Verling (left) with Gale Hill in Germany around 1945. Jack was 30 years old at that time and Gale was 19.*

I went on an Honor Flight on May 2, 2009 from Rochester, Minnesota to Washington, D.C. Over seventy-three vets were on the flight. I saw WWII and Korean Monuments. The memorials were wonderful.

I visited six schools and told the students of my experiences. When I was ready to leave, the students stood up and shook my hand. I almost had tears in my eyes.

I had my picture taken with Senator Bob Dole, who was also in WWII. I sent him the picture, he autographed it and said, "To Gale, thanks for your service, Bob Dole" and he returned the picture to me.



*Gale Hill, on the left, Jack Verling on the right. The sign says "You are passing through the Siegfried Line courtesy of the 63rd Infantry".*



*Breaching the Siegfried Line, hailed as impregnable, the Siegfried Line on the western German frontier stalled the American advance despite numerous attacks on its heavily armed fortifications. Not until spring 1945 were troops able to walk right through the dreaded dragon's teeth concrete barriers.*

## *Reunion registration . . .*

- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

**Jackie Potts - Assoc - & Tom, 327 West First Street, Springfield, OH 45504**

**Brian Potts and Angie Potts**

**Jerome Pottmeyer, Associate, 281 Wagon Street, Wexford, PA 15090**

**Arthur Russell - H 254 - 219 Vorager Drive, Dayton, OH 45427**

**Ruth Sandbrink - Assoc. 809 Westside Drive, Aurora, IN 47001**

**Barbara Elder - Assoc.**

**Judy Schaefer, Assoc. - & Ron, 6152 George Foc Dr., Galloway, OH 43119**

**Dorothy Richards - Assoc. - 4806 NW 26 Terr, Tamarac, FL 33309**

**John Sawran**

**Jennie Riedel - Assoc - 2948 W. First St., Springfield, OH 45504**

**Kelly Riedel, Eryn Smith, Ried Smith, & Kennen Smith**

**Edmund Schmitt - E 253 - & Patricia, 6009 E. Walnut St., Evansville, IN 47715**

**William Scott - B 254 - & Cecelia, 407 S. Walnut, Sycamore, IL 60178**

**Vin Stratton - B 254 - 981 Kathryn St., Indiana, PA 15701**

**Sam Sue - K 255 - & Ban, 1935 West Drive, New York, NY 11566**

**Paul Schewene - Assoc. - 608 Oak St., Newport, KY 41071**

**William Taylor - BQ 253 - 141 Vemon W., Manchester, CT 06040**

**Clark Taylor**

**Michael Thomson - Assoc. - 6748 Laker Sdhore Drive, Quinton, VA 23141**

**Howard Van Schoor, SIG 563, & Elsie - 8192 Forest Lane, Mentor, OH 44060**

**Anna Weber - Assoc. - 11069 Ravenwood Ct., Pickerington, OB 43147**

**Marvin West - Assoc. - 561 Dawn Drive, West Columbia, SC 29170**

**Henry West, guest, Great Falls, SC**

**Melvin West - Assoc. 110 Melody Lane, Caycee, SC 29033**

**Raymond Wise, D 254 - 393 Kenna Drive, South Charleston, WV 25309**

**Robert Zeinke**

**Rhonda Wolverton - Assoc. - 210 N. Pointe, Danville, IN 46122**

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**Fred Clinton,**

**102 S. Jenkins Street**

**Alexandria, VA 22304.**

**Fred's phone number is 703-751-7548.**

**All items will be returned when processing has been completed.**

# - *Letters and Opinions* -

## I WON'T WRITE AGAIN

I won't be writing any more for the *Blood and Fire* Magazine. I didn't like the way you left out most of my writing, and changed the words around so that they didn't make sense.

I went to communication school while the new replacements were taking basic. Captain Lenig chose me as his messenger after "were in combat." I was a rifleman MOS 745 all the time I was in the service. I did not say, "Sargent Osborn said, "cover me, I'll takeover weapons." He said "cover me while I take their weapons." They were all infantry man. Their artillery was still coming in big time.

I said we told the priseners they would have to use their own Medics because Co. G had only one Medic and he was very buisey. I didn't report to the company. I was in the Company, I reported to Cpt. Lenig.

Vernon Worster

*(Editor's note: The above article has been typed exactly as Mr. Worster submitted it. I am sorry the previous article was not done correctly.)*

## THANKS FOR YOUR KINDNESS

The family of Jack Edward Bender is grateful to God for his life, for your friendship, and for your kindness and prayers.

Thank you for the beautiful sympathy card. Jack always looked forward to the 63<sup>rd</sup> reunions and being with all of you. He was looking forward to coming to the Ohio reunion this year but he was ready to be with God and his other friends.

God Bless you all.

Barbara Neitzel

## YOU ASKED FOR INFORMATION

You asked for information about our members. I am almost 89 years old and blessed with good health. I still bowl and golf (not well) and go to the office once a

week. We have been married for 62 years.

Charles Rudibaugh

## 63<sup>RD</sup> PAPER IS GOOD READING

It was nice talking to you on the telephone. You have a nice telephone voice.

As always, the 63<sup>rd</sup> paper is good reading. You do a good job.

I will never forget my time with the great 63<sup>rd</sup> - they were a great group of soldiers.

Eddie Kelly

## ENJOY READING BLOOD AND FIRE

I am 84 years old and still working.

I enjoy reading the *Blood and Fire*. Keep up the good work!

Robert Williams Sr

## MY FATHER WAS IN 63<sup>RD</sup>

My father was Pfc James L. Nelson and was assigned to A Battery 861 Field Artillery.

James L. Nelson, Jr.

## THERE WAS A CAMPLANDSBERG

Having read Michael Hirsch's *The Liberators*, I find Ray Peterson's complaint in the May *Blood and Fire* confusing.

Jirsch recognized Landsberg and gave it plenty of attention in his book. He must have dismissed Peterson's account of his experience there for some reason.

Many of us still alive know there was a Camp at Landsberg. As Hirsch states in print. I was there on April 29, 1945, and would so testify.

Howard L. Hannum

# A word from your buddies . . .

## Regiment 253

Charles Crowley, Company C: Belinda and I celebrated our 62<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary on May 29, 2010. We are doing fairly well for an old couple.

Michael Cairo, Company L: I am 89 years old and in fairly good health. Hester and I will soon be married 63 years. I enjoy getting the 63<sup>rd</sup> magazine. It helps me keep in touch some of my buddies. I've lost a few, Eddie Zareski, Gus Sletani and Joe Triala.

## Regiment 254

Morris Passo, C Company: My wife Stella, and I will celebrate our 63<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary on February 21, 2011. My grandson is an anesthesiologist at North Shore Hospital. Hope all my fellow G.I.'s are well and happy.

John J. Best, Company L: We were married 57 years on July 3. We have five "great" children and six grandchildren. We still travel in a motor home.

## Regiment 255

Joseph Palmer, Company C: Nancy and I celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on April 9, 2010. We are looking forward to attending the 62<sup>nd</sup> reunion in August. Hoping everything works out!

Elmer Bellor, Headquarters: I turned 91 the 21<sup>st</sup> of May and Lorene and I were married 64 years on May 25. I go every day - have a garden and do our own lawn work. We go gambling with the gang on a bus all over the state of Michigan two times a month.

## FA 718

John Toom; We moved to Houston, Texas last November. Leota and I will celebrate our 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on April 11. Any 63<sup>rd</sup> Division men in this area? I would like to hear from you.

## FA 861

Eugene Moore: I celebrated my 85<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 9, 2010 and Rachel and I were married 61 years on June 11, 2010. I am unable to attend reunions because of health problems.

## Associate Members

Emma Zell Knightton: Enclosed are my dues - I don't want to miss an issue of the *Blood and Fire!* I take my copy to our Camp Van Dorn Museum and we all enjoy it.

## Date set for opening

February 16, 2011 has been determined as the opening of the 63<sup>rd</sup> RSC Headquarters at Moffitt Field in California. Tom Christianson, the new Historian at that facility is also a member of this Association and was present at the August reunion in Ohio. He also attended the I M O K Chapter fall mini-reunion in Indianapolis and interviewed several of the members for information to place in the new Headquarters building.

The USAR (United States Army Reserves) Unit in California would like to see "faces" from this Association at the opening.

For more information, contact Tom at his address listed in the New Member column.

## Wright Museum in New Hampshire

If ever you are traveling in or near Wolfeboro, New Hampshire, be sure you visit the Wright Museum, and don't miss seeing their new exhibit, *Helmet To Boots: The Combat Gear of The WWII Infantryman*.

This Wrights Museum is not connected to the museum in Ohio. Wright is the name of the man who started the museum and it has a lot to do with the home front in World War II and what the women did during that time.

# 2010 Reunion Highlights



**REGISTRATION SIGN** – No one could miss this sign that told them where to go to register for the 2010 reunion. The Hospitality Room was right across from the hall. *(Submitted by Bill Davis)*



**DID HER JOB WELL** – Bertie Beeks, a member of the IMOK Chapter, helped all those registering for the reunion by giving them a packet of information and answering a zillion questions! *(Submitted by Bill Davis)*



**READY TO GO HOME** – (Left to right) Harold LaCrosse, Rhonda Wolverton, Gina Iseminger and Donna LaCrosse, all packed and ready to go home on Sunday morning following the reunion. – *(Submitted by John Downs)*

# *2010 Reunion Highlights*

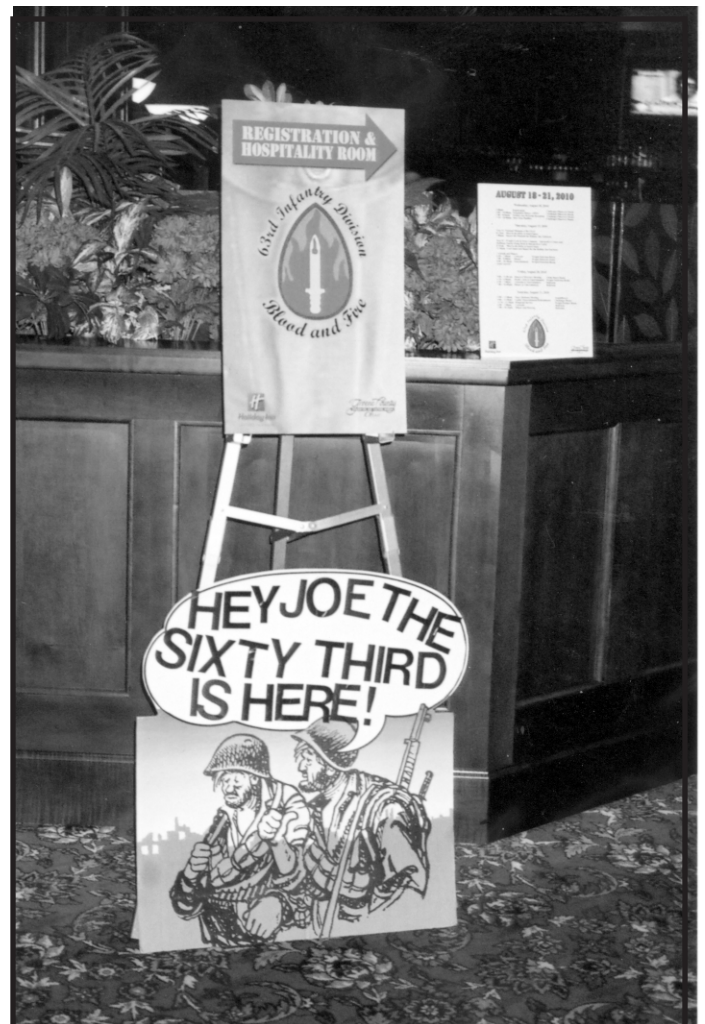


**BOSS AND HER COHORT** – Judy Schaefer, standing, was the lady responsible for planning the 2010 reunion and her sister, Jackie Potts handled the money.

Good job done by both. – *(Submitted by Bill Davis)*

**MEMORY BOOSTER** – This picture was submitted by John Downs.

The sign was posted in the lobby of the Holiday Inn in Fairborn, Ohio and all the men enjoyed quite a chuckle because they remembered the characters in the poster.



**2011 63rd  
Reunion To  
Be Held  
August 18-19-20  
In Indianapolis**

# War is a terrible thing

...by *John J. Morgan*

As General Kroesen (255 Infantry) had stated, "War is a terrible thing..." The most tragic of man's legitimate endeavors. It is a waste of man, of property and of the future that must be spent in rebuilding lives and reconstructing culture.

Nevertheless, given that truth, wars have been useful, they have settled things for good or evil, they have other human pursuit and are rivaled only by religion and medicine in their impact.

The future of our world, we the living of today who enjoy liberty and the pursuit of happiness, was guaranteed by the victories of World War II.

As I reflected back in time, when I was a young man, I attempted to remember those faces and places I once knew very well many decades ago. It was at times difficult and painful. I will attempt to describe my tour in France during World War II and how it affected my life.

After Basic training in Camp Van Dorn, Mississippi, I was shipped out to the staging area in Camp Shanks, New York because troops were being assigned to the European Theater. All of us were very apprehensive about going out but we were all there to serve our country because it was our duty.

As part of the U.S. Army, 63<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division, 255<sup>th</sup> Regiment, we were shipped out by Liberty Ships to the old port of Marseille, France. As I entered the port, I noticed many sunken and disabled

ships from previous battles there. The wind and air were very cold as it hit my face.

The bitter cold was felt by all of us (internally and externally) as we embarked into the city. In Marseille There were no battles to be fought but we knew what lay ahead. We waited there until we took a long and cold boxcar ride to fight in the battles that were going on in the area of Oberhoffen, France,

Once in Sarreguemines we were instructed to relieve the existing rifle company. The Germans were on the outer parameter of the city. At night we could hear the sound of German Burp guns firing off. The instruction was given to not fire back as it was a ploy to find out where our troops were located. The Germans stayed in the outer woods and never approached the town.

I can remember another instance in the area of Sarreguemines in which a German reinforcement company accompanied by two Panzer Tanks attacked our unit. The German Company ran over our position but we did secure them with a counter attack. I remember the battles very well since I relived them in many of my nightmares after the war. I remember while in attack finding a bazooka and some rockets

taking refuge in an abandoned pillbox.

After being there a few hours in battle an American Sherman Tank appeared and their tank commander came over to us speaking French. They were French troops - our comrades and our friends. One of my friends I was with spoke French so we all gathered together that night sharing rations and drinks. We also had succeeded in crushing the Germans back further, which we shared in this victory and toasted - Viva La France!

Our division was also assigned to liberate a

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 33



## Celebration of Life



### Annual Deaths - 2009-2010

Harry S. Antink, E 253 - 1999  
 Jack Bender, D 254 - July 2, 2010  
 Carroll Black, D 253, May 16, 2009  
 Harold G. Booth, M 253, date unknown  
 Wilbur Braithwith, A 255 - April 12, 2010  
 Wayne Briggs, SV 63, August 4, 2009  
 Edward H. Bundick, D 254, Feb. 18, 2010  
 John Burney, A 254 - April 10, 2010  
 Lewis Campbell, QM 63 - April 11, 2009  
 Angelo Christopher, D 254, Oct. 21, 2009  
 Robert W. Clayton, C 255, July 30, 2009  
 J.C. Cooley, E 255, January 14, 2010  
 Walter V. Cowley, B 254, date unknown  
 Alf Crutchfield, I 254, April 26, 2010  
 Albert Edwards, Ord, date unknown  
 Daniel P. Elledge, L 253 - Sept. 13, 2005  
 Charles Eubanks, C 253, date unknown.  
 Leo Feagin, D 254, date unknown  
 Lyle P. Geeting, F 253, Oct. 14, 1995  
 Jacob F. Gesek, SV 861 - July 31, 2010  
 Max Gourley, C 253, March 3, 2010  
 Victor A. Goyette, E 255, Sept. 3, 2009  
 Curtis G. Grant, I 253, April 18, 2009  
 Michael Grib, B 255, October 6, 2009  
 Saul Hanin, E 254, July 19, 2009  
 Russell R. Hill, HQ 253, July 15, 2009  
 Boice Hodges, FA 862 - Dec. 19, 2007  
 Frank N. Holton, F 253, Oct. 22, 2005  
 Robert J. Jackson, HQ 254, July 1, 2009  
 Forrest L. Keever, E 255, Nov. 13, 2009  
 Leon B. Keller, A 254 - May 9, 2010  
 George Kiska, A 253, Jan. 6, 2010  
 Ernest Klimek, D 255, January 29, 2010  
 Peter C. Kohler, A 253, July 10, 2009  
 Walter Krul, K 255 - May 1, 2010  
 Seymour Kunis, F 255, August 12, 2009  
 Alfred Lachman, HQ 255, Dec. 29, 2004  
  
 Henry Lauchley, FA 718, April 6, 2010  
 Howard J. Loucks, D 254, Sept. 22, 2009  
 Frank Magyer, MED 363, June 22, 2009  
 Arlie V. Mayfield, E 254, September 2008  
 August J. Mazzerello, C 253, April 1968  
 Harry McIntosh, M 255 - Feb. 2009  
 John Meehan, L 254, Dec. 14, 2000  
 Eric E. Meinzinger, G 253 - Nov. 24, 1989  
 Olaf E. Miller, AT 253, November 1, 2009  
 Vernon Morgan, 255, Oct. 27, 2007

Robert Olney, HQ 253, Oct. 8, 2009  
 Andrew Oreschak, I 254, Oct. 27, 2009  
 Earl F. Parker, MED 254, Jan. 23, 2010  
 Gennaro E. Parrella, FA 718, Nov. 4, 2009  
 Willie B. Pickette, G 255, Dec. 14, 1999  
 Arthur Pinkham, MED 363 - May 10, 2010  
 Van Poccia, M 254 - November 22, 2009  
 M. George Putnam Jr, HQ 718  
 Norman Rappaport, K 254, 2008  
 Stanford Rayne Jr., B 253, Nov. 10, 2009  
 Melvin Risley, ENG 263 - 2008  
 John Rittner, I 254 - 2006  
 Robert Ronk, FA 718, Sept. 1, 2009  
 Stanley Rustinek, AT 254, Aug. 12, 2009  
 Herbert Schneiderman, A 254, Mar 13, 2010  
 Norman J. Schuett, SV 861, Feb. 20, 2010  
 Melvin "Jack" Slopey, B 255, Nov. 25, 2009  
 George E. Spaeth, MED 253 - 2008  
 Samuel Spangler, HQ 254, Jan. 31, 2010  
 Alexander Strecker, K 255, June 2, 2008  
 Joseph E. Straka, L 254 - Feb. 27, 2010  
 Richard Wanamaker, K 254, Oct. 3, 2009

### DEATH OF SPOUSE

Florence Aqyillard, August 2008  
 Dolores Davis, November 25, 2009  
 Mrs. Frank Duva, January 1, 2003  
 Gloria Edmondson, 2008  
 Helen Glovas, November 2009  
 Dorothy McGrath, Feb. 5, 2008  
 Nina Metzger, November 22, 2008  
 Louise Mulcahy, March 30, 2010  
 Alice Thomson, January 5, 2010  
 Louise Worster, March 8, 2009  
 Sue Yarbrough, December 26, 2009

## *Need to replace your DD 214?*

A website has been established to provide veterans information on how to replace lost, destroyed, or never-issued DD 214's.

The website is:

[www.members.aol.com/forvets/dd214.htm](http://www.members.aol.com/forvets/dd214.htm).

## RECEIVED TWO COPIES?

If you received two copies of this issue of the *Blood and Fire*, please notify the editor as soon as possible. You don't need two copies and we don't need the added expense.

Thank you so much.

Donna LaCrosse



# War . . .

- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31

small village (Riming) northeast of Sarreguemines. We arrived in the village going area-to-area securing the village with minor gun skirmishes and gun battles. I can remember that while I was on night guard duty occupying a machine gun position, I heard a faint sound of bells approaching. The sound was getting louder as all of us on night guard duty were thinking the Germans were coming out of the woods. As the bells got louder, it was a sheep herder, who was welcomed to pass by. Because of these battles in France, I was awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

After that our division crossed the Saar River into Germany. I spent the rest of my tour of duty in

head to head battle with the enemy, guarding bridges, clearing mine fields, performing demolition on bridges and other strategic points. For these and other instances, I was awarded the Bronze Star.

My eighty-sixth birthday was April 24 and I have more time to reflect on my duty in service. During the period of December 1944 and May 1945, my division suffered over 1,000 killed, more than 5,000 wounded, over 1,000 missing in action, 63 captured by the enemy and over 4,000 non-battle casualties. I lost, but made many friends who returned with me. I have both the good and horrific memories from battle and am glad I helped win the wars of all wars.

## *The year was 1945*

### USA

B-25 crashes into Empire State Building . . . Shirley Temple marries flyer John Agar . . . Manufacturers of artificial limbs indicted for price gouging.

### WORLD

FDR, Churchill and Stalin meet at Yalta . . . Red Army captures Warsaw, races toward Berlin . . . Battle of the Bulge . . . Mussolini and mistress shot by partisans . . . FDR dies, Truman sworn in . . . 5th Army breaks through in Italy . . . Air raids destroy Dresden . . . Western allies cross the Rhine . . . Berlin falls to Red Army . . . Iwo Jima taken . . . Troops land on Luzon . . . Germany surrenders . . . B-29 fire raids on Tokyo kill 20,000 . . . Philippines liberated . . . Churchill and Stalin confer at Potsdam . . . U.S. drops A-bomb on Hiroshima, Nagasaki . . . Civil War erupts in China . . . Japanese surrender . . . DeGaulle elected president of France . . . Ghandi, Nehru call for British withdrawal from India . . . Arab League formed to block Jewish state of Palestine . . . War crimes trials start in Nuremberg.

### SONGS

"It's Been a Long, Long Time" . . . "Autumn Serenade" . . . "For Sentimental Reasons" . . . "June is Busting Out All Over" . . . "If I Loved You" . . . "It Might As Well Be Spring" . . . "It's A Grand Night for Singing" . . . "Dig You Later" . . . "Till The End of Time" . . . "On Atchison Topeka and the Santa Fe" . . . "Laura" . . . "Give Me The Simple Life" . . . "Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow" . . . "Oh, What It Seemed To Be."

### MOVIES

Story of GI Joe . . . State Fair . . . Bell For Adano . . . Objective Burma . . . The Corn Is Green . . . Leave Her To Heaven . . . The Keys of the Kingdom . . . Saratoga Trunk . . . The Lost Weekend . . . The Bells of St. Mary's . . . A Tree Grows in Brooklyn . . . Anchors Away . . . Mildred Pierce . . . A Song To Remember . . . Spell Bound . . . Blitche Spirit.

### STAGE

The Glass Menagerie . . . Carousel . . . The Hasty Heart . . . Deep Are The Roots . . . State of the Union . . . Dream Girl . . . Billion Dollar Baby . . . Up in Central Park . . . Are You With It.

### BOOKS

"Animal Farm" . . . "Brides Head Revisited" . . . "Cannery Row" . . . "Captain From Castile" . . . "The Black Rose" . . . "Age of Jackson" . . . "Christ Stopped At Eboli" . . . "Daisy Kenyon" . . . "The Thurber Carnival" . . . "Stuart Little".

### FIRSTS

A-Bomb tested at Alamogordo, New Mexico . . . Grand Rapids, Michigan fluorinates water supply.

(Submitted by John Downs, F 254)

*Happy Holidays!*

## Celebration of Life



Walton A. Campbell, B 253, Life Member 325, died September 14, 1994. No further information available.

Curtis Delehaussay, HQ 253, died June 30, 2010. His widow, Yvette, lives at 148 Beverly Road, Nashville, NC 28805.

Kay Parrish DeVane, L 253, Life Member 1139, died November 3, 2009. His widow, Betty, lives 867 So. Coffee Rd., Nashville, GA 31639.

Hartwell H. Edmonson, M 254, died May 8, 2010. No other information available.

Jacob F. Gesek, SV 861, died July 31, 2010 in Plymouth, PA. No further information available.

Vincent Immel, FA 863, died November 26, 2009. No further information available.

Bartow Kelley, HQ 253, Life Member 337, died May 3, 2004. No further information available.

Joseph Mack, K and L 254, died September 5, 2007. No further information available.

Edward Meusburger, C and E 254, died September 20, 2010. No further information available.

George F. Murchio, Jr, A 254, Life Member 1187, lived at 21 Mandville St., Pompton Lake, NJ 07442. Date of death was not given.

Leonard Mote, G 255, Life Member 1330, died September 24, 2010. He lived in Kokomo, IN. His wife died in August 2010.

Gordon Rintoul, L 255, Life Member 1923, died October 23, 2010. His widow, Naomi, lives at 7280 Vilamaurer Rd., W. Bloomfield, MI 48322.

Roy J. Rock, HQ 253, died September 8, 2010. His widow, Sue, lives at 305 Snawnee Dr., Hodgenville, KY 42748.

Sam Shaw, L 253, Life Member 630, died October 20, 2010. His wife, Faye, died in 2009. No further information available.

Harold Spector, ENG. 253, Life Member 896, died November 2, 2010. He lived at 1643 Lilac Ln., Mendota Heights, MN 55118. His son, Mitch, reported his death.

Edward Wallace, H 253, died 2003. His grandson, Matt, reported his death. No further information available.

Millard Zeigler, I 255, died 1987. His son, Art, reported his death. No other information was given.

George Putman Jr., FA 718, died August 6, 2009. He was 89 years old. His widow, Helen lives at 4106 N. Richmond St., Arlington, VA 22207.

## In Memoriam

### Leonard E. Mote

Leonard E. Mote, 84, of Kokomo, Indiana, died September 24, 2010 at his home. His wife, Sharon, whom he married in 1949, preceded him in death on August 9, 2010.

He retired from PPG Industries in 1991 after 35 years of service.

He graduated from Kokomo High School and served in the Army from 1944 to 1946. He received two Bronze Stars.

Survivors include, Rick and Janet Harris, Darlene and Jim Dowden, Larry and Kim Mote, David and Sue Mote, Ron and Carrie Mote, Rita and Jim Bretl, Jimmy and Tish Mote; 31 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

### Gordon E. Rintoul

Gordon Edward Rintoul, 84, of West Bloomfield, Michigan, died October 23, 2010. He and the love of his life, Naomi, were married 27 years.

He attended Lutheran School, had one year at the Fort Wayne Seminary, and after serving in the Army, he worked as a mechanic at Ford Motor Company. He was an avid gardener and loved flowers.

While serving in the Army he received Bronze Star, Central Europe Victory Medal, European African Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon (with one Bronze Battle Star), two overseas Service Bars, Army of Occupation Medal in Germany and the Good Conduct Medal.

Other survivors include two sons, Gordon and Steven Rintoul; Step-father of Robert Smith and wife Carol, Stephen Smith, Patty Milkvich and husband Butch, Edward Smith and wife Cindy; Grandfather to Rachel, Melissa and William, Kristina, Matthew, Benjamin, Jacob and Tori and a great-grandfather to Nathan and Anna.

### Roy J. Rock

Roy J. Rock, died September 8, 2010 of a massive heart attack while a patient in the VA Hospital in Louisville, Kentucky. He would have been 85 on November 13, 2010.

## In Memoriam

- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 34

He was drafted at age 18, injured in Germany at age 19 and was unconscious in a Nancy, France Hospital for 30 days. He never knew what happened; his dog tags, as well as all personal things, were missing.

He took his Army training at Camp Van Dorn in Mississippi and Fort McClellan in Alabama.

He and his wife were married in 1952 and were the parents of two sons, grandparents to four, and great-grandparents to six.

Roy was disabled several years and had lost the hearing in one ear.

### Kay Parrish DeVane

Kay Parrish DeVane, 85, died November 3, 2009 at his residence in Nashville, Georgia. He had been suffering with cancer for the past year.

He served in the Infantry from September 1944 until August 1946, serving with the 4<sup>th</sup> Platoon, Company L, Regiment 253 as a machine gunner. His basic training at Camp Croft in South Carolina was short lived because of the Battle of the Bulge when he was sent to Europe as a replacement.

When he returned home, he and his wife, Betty, who survives, bought a farm, where they lived until he retired from farming and she retired from teaching.

Other survivors include two daughters and their husbands, Vanne and Leon Tucker and Mary Kay and Chris Welsh; four grandchildren, John Tucker, Kethryn Tucker, James Welsh and Margaret Welsh.

### John Jay Burney, Jr

John J. Burney, Jr, A 254, died April 10, 2010 at his home in Wilmington, North Carolina.

He was a retired Trial Lawyer and he served in the Senate in 1967 until 1972.

He graduated with a BS Degree from Wake Forest College in 1950 and from Wake Forest Law School in 1951.

When he returned to Wilmington, he formed a partnership with Colonel R.S. McClelland, known as McClelland & Burney.

Survivors include his wife, Catherine (Betty) Evans Burney; three children, Deborah Salinda Burney, John Jay Burney III and wife, Zina, and

William Shaw Burney; four granddaughters and one great-granddaughter.

### Leon "Brian" Keller

Leon "Brian" Keller, A 254, died May 10, 2010 in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii.

After serving in the Army, he returned to New York where he finished his degree in Chemical Engineering at Columbia University.

Survivors include his wife, Charlene and children, Keith Keller, Diane and Scott Grogin, Laura Keller, Gregory Keller and Jeffrey Mulvaney.

Also surviving are his grandchildren, Jessica Atreides, Gabriel Pinel, Austin Grogin and Thomas Brewer.

## *Suggested new column*

A new column has been suggested as a feature in the *Blood and Fire* to begin in the February issue of the magazine.

In order for this to work, we will need your cooperation. That means you will need to put on your thinking cap, and send your answer to the editor as soon as you finish your holiday celebrations!

"The reunion I enjoyed the most was" \_\_\_\_\_  
Now, you complete the sentence by telling us where the reunion took place and why the reunion was so special to you. Details will be appreciated, so "kick it up a notch" when you send your answer.

With 62 reunions to select from, there should be a huge response from the readers and we should have enough information to use in several issues of this magazine.

As mentioned, the column won't develop, nor will it be successful, if you do not write and let us know, so get busy and send that letter off to the editor as soon as possible.

## Celebration of life ...

- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 34

Joseph Straka, HQ, 2nd Bn, 255, died in mid-April 2010. Death notice was sent by Ralph Smith.

John Jay Burney, A 154, died April 10, 2010. His widow Betty lives at 1130 Forest Hills Drive, Wilmington, NC 28403.

Leon Brian Keller, A 154, died May 29, 2010 in Hawaii. His widow Charlene lives at 77-255 Maliko, Kalua-Kona, Hawaii 96740.

# Read article, took action

By Jack Mayrsohn

I want to thank the *Blood and Fire* for the May 2008 article sent in by Jim Stephens, F 253, called "Honor Flight April 2008." Because of this article, I called all over to locate a Florida Group.

One year later I got a call from a South East Group out of Stuart, Florida. They work very hard getting donations and said I would have to wait one more year.

Fast forward to May 2010! I was picked up at 4 a.m. at the Veterans Hospital at West Palm Beach, about half an hour north of where I live. Two buses, half filled, with the Stuart Group and a police escort took us to Fort Lauderdale Airport.

We were met with a Military escort and civilians waving flags and thanking us for our service. As the plane went down the runway we even had a water cannon sendoff.

Our arrival at Washington D.C. was even more memorable. Many more people waving flags and Army and Navy Officers and men, complete with honor guards. We were 55 veterans, one guardian for each wheel chair vet and one guardian for every two other veterans. They stayed with us for the entire trip and brought us over boxed meals and drinks.

They gave us a honor flight cap, a T-shirt, a carrying bag and an official catalog of the World War II Memorial.

We spent most of our time at the WWII Memorial. May 8 was the date of the German surrender but we managed to avoid the speeches. Then we went to the Air Force Memorial and Arlington Cemetery where we saw the changing of the guard.

After touring the Capitol City, we went back

to the airport and boarded our plane and flew back to Fort Lauderdale. Our buses and police escort were waiting for us, took us back to the Veterans Hospital and the balance back to Stuart, Florida.

I got home at 10 p.m. after a long 20-hour day, but it was worth it.

I can't thank the Stuart South Florida Honor Flight Network enough. They took care of everything, the guardians, the doctor, nurses, all transportation, food and it all went smoothly.

I urge every veteran who has not been to the WW II Memorial to contact the Honor Flight Network in their area.

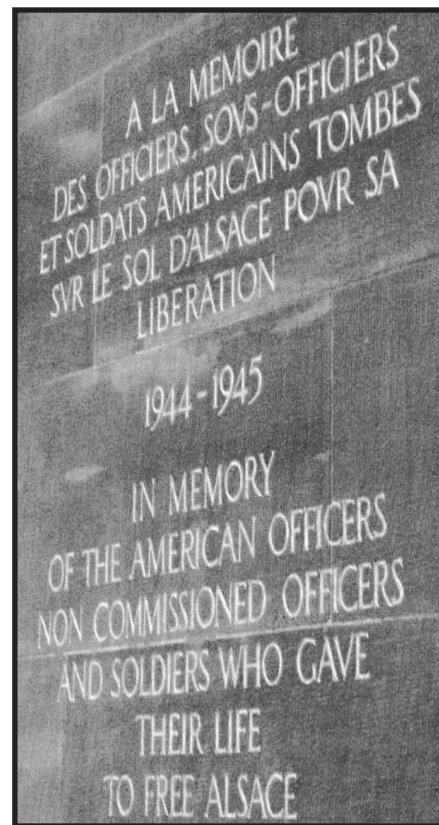


Honor Guard at the Honor Flight May 8, 2010

## Visited Strasbourg Cathedral

By Javier Tome

I do not know how to consider Veteran's Day – like a wedding or like a funeral. Happiness for the victory and sadness for all that was left behind. Last summer I was in the Cathedral of Strasbourg, where I found the inscription of the pictured enclosed. I thought it was a good idea for Veteran's Day.



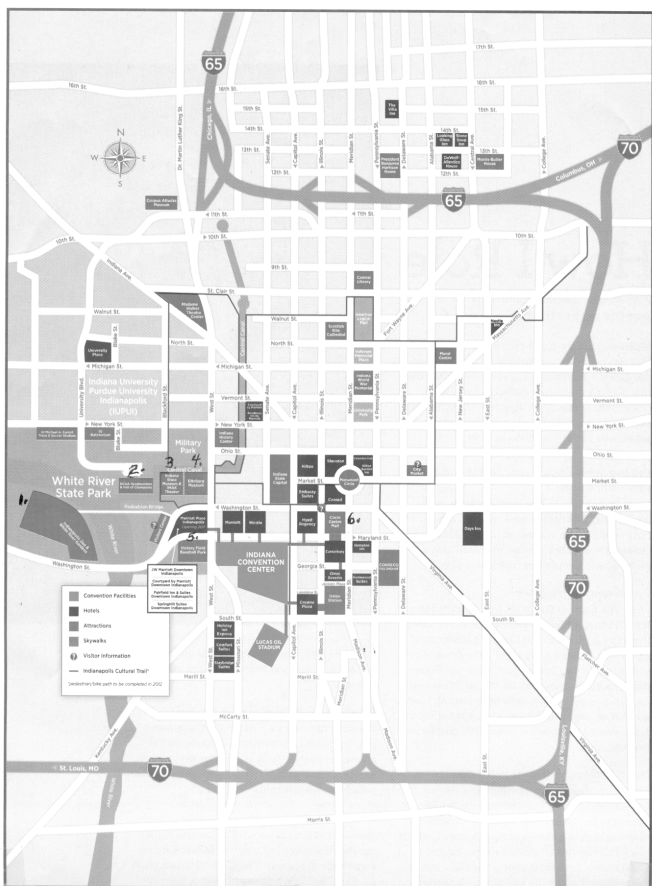
Happy Holidays

**Welcome To Indianapolis**  
*If You Had a Great Time at the 62<sup>nd</sup> Reunion  
 then just wait until August 18<sup>th</sup> –20<sup>th</sup>, for the  
 2011 63<sup>rd</sup> Reunion*

**63<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division  
 Association Reunion  
 63<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary  
 August 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
 Crowne Plaza – Indianapolis  
 Airport  
 2501 South High School Road  
 Indianapolis, Indiana 46241**

The following is a thumbnail sketch of what is being planned for the 63<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary reunion of the 63<sup>rd</sup>

downtown indianapolis.



1. Indianapolis Zoo 2. NCAA Hall of Champions 3. Indiana State Museum--IMAX theater 4. Eiteljorg Museum  
 5. Victory Field 6. Circle Centre Mall

Infantry Division Association. More details will follow in the February issue of the *Blood & Fire*.

The Crowne Plaza Indianapolis Airport is the site of our 2011 reunion. It is a newly remodeled hotel near the Indianapolis Airport. The hotel offers a free shuttle to and from the airport. The room rate will be \$99.00 plus state and city tax. This price includes a hot breakfast buffet in the hotel restaurant.

As mentioned in the President's Letter, you now know that the 63<sup>rd</sup> Reunion will be one day shorter than in the past. The reunion will be as follows:

**Thursday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**Registration  
 Meet Your Buddies**

**Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**An Afternoon of Entertainment  
 Remember Vaudeville? Get ready for an entertaining afternoon followed by fun and games  
Cocktails and Dinner Theater with a few surprises**

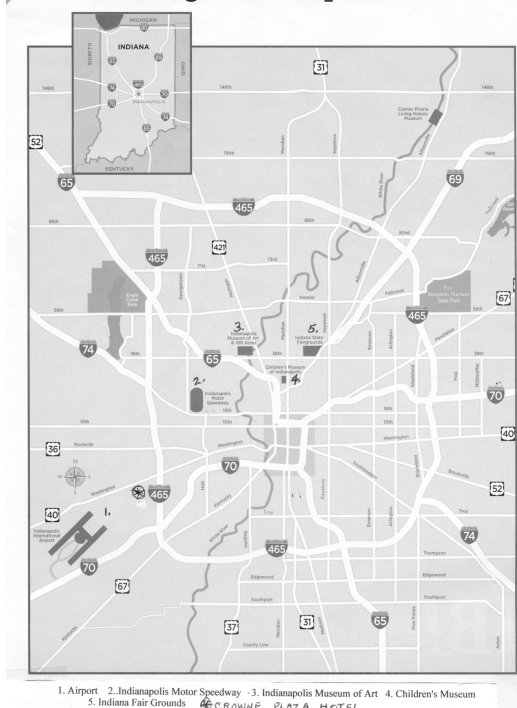
All will take place in the beautiful Crowne Plaza Hotel

**Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**Men's Meeting  
Women's Meeting  
Memorial Service  
Cocktails, Dinner, Dance**

Registration Forms for the hotel and events will be printed in the February issue of the *Blood & Fire*. Driving directions will also be included.

surrounding indianapolis



1. Airport 2. Indianapolis Motor Speedway 3. Indianapolis Museum of Art 4. Children's Museum  
 5. Indiana Fair Grounds 6. CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL

# AD BOOK RESERVATION FORM


*August 18 - 19 - 20, 2011*

CUT-OFF DATE  
JULY 1, 2011

PRINTED BOOK SIZE ( 5-1/2" x 8-1/2")

**FULL PAGE ..... \$60.00**

**1/2 PAGE ..... \$35.00**



**1/4 PAGE ..... \$25.00**

FULL PAGE = \$60.00	(4¾" x 7¾")
HALF PAGE = \$35.00	(4¾" x 3¾")
1/4 PAGE = \$25.00	(4¾" x 1¾")
1/8 PAGE = \$20.00	(2-3/8" x 1¾")

<b>1/8 PAGE \$20.00</b>	<b>3 LINE BOOSTER \$10.00</b>
	<b>SPONSOR NAME (EACH) \$2.00</b>



## "HOT SHOTS" WE NEED YOUR HELP

As you may know, the money collected from the Ads in the Souvenir/Ad Book is used to help off-set some of the reunion expenses.

Most of the money defrays the cost of the band, free beer, soda and entertainment during the reunion.

With prices constantly increasing, we are asking for your support to help us keep the reunion cost down for our retired members.

So would you please place an ad in the Souvenir Ad Book?

**Make check(s) payable to:  
63RD REUNION 63rd DIVISION ASS'N.  
and mail to:**

*Donna LaCosse  
Post Office Box 86  
Morocco, Indiana 47963*

Ad Copy: (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY) \_\_\_\_\_ Ad Size: \_\_\_\_\_

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit Served With: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized By: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Moving?

**P**lease let us know six weeks before you move what your new address will be. Be sure to supply us with both your old and new address. Copies we mail to your old address will not be delivered by the Post Office and we must pay 70¢ for each returned *Blood & Fire*, and pay \$1.36 to mail a copy to your new address.

*Please remember to notify the Editor when you send out your "Change of Address" Cards.*

**Important -  
Change of Address, etc.**

*Please send ALL CHANGES, (address, zip, phone, death notice, new and discontinued membership, etc.) to:*

*Donna LaCosse, P.O. Box 86,  
Morocco, IN 47963*

**Did You  
Remember To Pay  
Your Dues?**

## STAMPS FOR VETERANS

Tear off all stamps - yes, the cancelled ones from envelopes, etc. and save them in a bag.

When you have a pouch of postage, mail it to: "Stamps for Veterans" send to:

SO. ARIZONA VA HEALTH  
CARE SYSTEM VETERANS  
NATIONAL STAMP & COIN CLUB SC #135  
3601 S. 6th Ave., Tuscon, AZ 85723

**63RD REUNION  
AUGUST 18 thru  
AUGUST 20, 2011**



**CROWNE PLAZA, INDIANAPOLIS**



**HELPFUL  
TELEPHONE  
NUMBERS**

**DEPT. OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
VA BENEFITS - 1-800-827-1000**

**VA LIFE INSURANCE  
1-800-829-8477**



### 63rd DIVISION ASSOCIATION DUES FORM

PLEASE PRINT OR USE MAILING LABEL

**TO: DONNA LaCOSSE, P. O. BOX 86, MOROCCO, IN 47963**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ 63rd Unit \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ P.O. Box \_\_\_\_\_ Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Wife's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Dues \$10.00  \$20.00 2 yrs.  One (1) Year Subscription \$15.00

**BOTH ARE DUE ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1 EACH YEAR**

Tell us about yourself \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Annual 63rd Infantry  
Division Association**



**63rd  
Reunion**



**August 18-19-20  
2011**

**63rd Division Association**

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Donna LaCosse, Secretary/Treasurer  
Post Office Box 86  
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