

45th Division News

Vol. 6, Number 2

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Spring, 1984

Edison Reber Is Museum Chairman

Edison A. Reber has been elected chairman of the board of directors of the 45th Infantry Division Museum, replacing Judge Fred A. Daugherty.

Named Vice chairmen were Herbert C. O'Neil and Harlos V. Hatter. Scott Wells is the new secretary, and Eddie A. Cope is treasurer.

The board oversees the state military museum, operated by the Oklahoma Military Department at 2145 NE 36 Street.

Named to the board of directors are Hal H. Adamson, Jr., Mrs. Hal H. Adamson, Jim B. Bruno, James M. Bullock, Alvin H. Chance, Jack Clapp, Robert E. Clark, Eddie A. Cope, Judge Fred A. Daugherty (emeritus), Neil Dodds, Joe L. Garrett, and Gillette Griswald.

Others are Harlos V. Hatter, William H. Henderson, Edward A. Johnson, Donald Kerr, Mr. and Mrs. James A. Maker, Jack Moses, Forrest G. Munson, Samuel E. Myers, Stanley F. H. Newman, William E. Nichols, Herbert C. O'Neil, Albert A. Pegram, and Arthur E. Peters.

Also Oren Lee Peters, Bruce E. Rey, Charles Richmond, Vincent Riggs, Paul Robinson, O'Dell T. Shaw, Robert L. Shoffner, Ron Stewart, Roy P. Stewart, James T. Styron, Charles H. Thompson, Charles W. Wilett, Robert A. Wilson, Mrs. Robert A. Wilson, William R. Wilson, Mrs. William R. Wilson, Erman E. Winner, Pendleton Woods, and Perry Woolridge.

Library Plaque Honors Murphy

A plaque is being installed in the library of the 45th Infantry Division Museum honoring Colonel Preston J. C. Murphy, who commanded a regiment of the 45th both in World War II and Korea and who served as division Chief of Staff. Colonel Murphy died last year.

Mike Jackson and Steve King Head 1984 Reunion Committee

Michael Jackson and Steve King have been named co-chairmen of the 1984 Reunion of the 45th Infantry Division Association, to be held August 23-25 at the Hilton Inn West at Interstate 40 and Meridian in Oklahoma City.

The two, along with other members of their committee, are underway with plans for the best reunion ever.

Although the principal functions will not get underway until Friday, a command post will be open all day Thursday for early arrivals, and there will be a reception Thursday night for those who are on hand.

Principal activity will begin Friday morning when the mass of Thunderbirds will be registering. All com-

mand posts will be open to receive visitors, and rides will be available to the 45th Division Museum, Enterprise Square, Cowboy Hall of Fame and other points of interest.

A buffet dinner will be held Friday, with dancing and bingo following.

Saturday morning will mark the traditional memorial service, followed by the annual business meeting of the association.

It will all be climaxed with the banquet in the Hilton Ballroom Saturday night, followed by a dance.

Your next issue of the 45th Division News will provide full details. Mark down the date and make your plans now to attend.

Scotty Wells Named Curator of 45th Division Museum

Scotty Wells, a long-time Thunderbird who retired as a lieutenant colonel from the Oklahoma Army National Guard, has been named



Scotty Wells

curator of the 45th Infantry Division Museum, replacing Clifton Chappell, who resigned.

Colonel Wells came to the

museum after a career in public school teaching and administration, first in Atoka, and later in Edmond. His last school assignment was as principal of Orvis Risner Elementary School in Edmond.

He joined the Oklahoma National Guard in September, 1940, to go on active duty with the division for a year. This year stretched out through World War II, where he served with Co. B, 180th Infantry.

He was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1950 and served as a military police officer throughout the Korean War.

Following the war he continued as a member of the division, moving up to division provost marshal in 1957, then up to state safety director and state provost marshal.

He has an undergraduate degree from Southeastern Oklahoma State University and a master's degree from the University of Oklahoma.



Former Chaplain Ken Metcalf admires Thunderbird emblem on Memorial Quilt.

Chaplain's Memorial Quilt Gift Has Thunderbird Patch

Ken Metcalf, who was the Battalion Chaplain, 1st Battalion, 179th Infantry, from the date of the landing on Anzio Beachhead until the end of World War II in Germany, retired from the ministry recently, and received as a gift a memorial quilt which included a Thunderbird emblem.

During his wartime service he was awarded two Bronze Star medals, one for gallantry in action and one for meritorious service.

Museum Volunteer Chairman Recruits 27; Seeks More

Harlos Hatter, chairman of volunteers for the 45th Infantry Division Museum has recruited 27 volunteers for visitor assistance and is seeking 17 more, in order to be staffed with four volunteers at all hours when the museum is open.

In addition, the volunteer force includes 21 others who serve as committee chairmen or staff members.

Former G-1 Ill

Woodrow W. Cook, who served in the Adjutant General's section of the division during World War II, and who was division G-1 in Korea before finishing a career in the regular Army, is critically ill at Perry Point Veterans Hospital, Perry Point Maryland. He is a past president of the 45th Infantry Division Association.

Subsequently, he served churches in Onawa, Cedar Rapids, Davenport and Muscatine, Iowa. He served two terms as District Superintendent, one in the Sioux City district and one in the Des Moines district of Iowa. He retired on June 12, 1983 from the Wesley United Methodist Church of Muscatine, Iowa, after 47 years of service in the ministry.

The Metcalfs now reside at 4331 Glenrale Court, Beltenday, Iowa 52722.

Any person interested in the museum and willing to participate with other Thunderbirds four hours weekly, should call Harlos at 947-1827, between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. any day.

The museum is open from 9 to 5 Tuesdays through Saturdays and from 1 to 5 Sundays. It is closed Mondays.

Sales Chief Named

Alvin Chance has been named chairman of the gift shop at the 45th Infantry Division Museum, with O'Dell Shaw as his vice chairman. The two are involved in major changes which will help the gift shop to better serve visitors and, hopefully, to increase sales volume.

Former Army Boss Praises Museum

The former top boss over the 45th Infantry Division two years ago, made a surprise visit to our museum when he came to Oklahoma City to attend a meeting.

The distinguished guest was General James A. Van Fleet, formerly Eighth Army Commander in Korea.

Some time following his visit, he wrote the following letter to MG Fred Daugherty, then museum chairman:

"I have been on the go almost constantly since my return from that wonderful visit to Oklahoma City and the beautiful museum of the 45th Infantry Division.

"I have wanted to thank you for your gracious hospitality in showing me that magnificent museum. I only regret I did not have a full day, rather than being forced to hurry on to another appointment.

"I shall always remember the great contribution of the 45th Division to the success of the U.S. 8th Army in Korea. I wish all National Guard units had a home and a museum like the one of the 45th Division!

"May I congratulate you as Chairman, and all those who have contributed so much to making it so complete and beautifully displayed."

Engineers Hold Unit Reunion

A reunion of former Thunderbirds, members of Co. A, 120th Engr. (C) Bn. (World War II) was held in Albuquerque, NM on Saturday, March 17. Guest of honor was then wartime commander, Captain James Rickey of Glenview, IL. The meeting was organized by Lowell Hughes, Roswell NM, and George Leavitt of Albuquerque, with assistance from Ambrose Chavez.

Attending the reunion were Captain Rickey, Lt. Herbert Holcomb of Alamogordo NM, First Sgt. Al Moraga, S/Sgts. Leavitt, Chavez and Luz Sanchez, Sgt. Isaias Gutierrez, Cpls Eulogio Sanchez and Teles for Garcia, and Technicians Lowell Hughes (Roswell), and Alfredo Garcia, Manuel Herrera, Nick Armenta and Heraclio Lucero, all of Albuquerque. A great time was enjoyed by everyone, along with the wives who were able to attend. The group is looking into the possibility of making this an annual affair.



Thunderbird Deaths Reported

LEONARD P. BRADY

Leonard P. Brady, who lived in Stoughton, Mass., died recently. He was a member of Co. L, 157th Infantry.

ROBERT H. BURNS

Robert H. Burns, a member of H. Company, 157th Infantry, died at Traverse City, Mich.

SALVATORE F. CAMARDELLA

Salvatore F. Camardella, Medical Detachment, 157th Infantry, South Ozone Park, N.Y., died recently.

ARGYLE M. CAMPBELL

The death has been reported of Argyle M. Campbell, Co. F, 157th Infantry, who was living in Louisville, Colo.

ORVILLE DOUGLAS

Orville Douglas, who was in Hq. Btry, 160th Field Artillery, died July 4.

HERMAN L. GLASBY

Herman L. Glasby, a former member of Hq. Btry., 160th Field Artillery, died January 23 at Fountain Hill, Ariz.

EUGENE P. GERRIOR

Eugene P. Gerrior, who was a member of Co. L, 157th Infantry, died in Massachusetts.

LOWIS J. HARNESS

We are sorry to report the death of Lowis J. Harness, B Company, 157th Infantry, in Danville, Kentucky.

LEROY A. JOHNSON

Leroy A. Johnson, a member of Company D, 157th Infantry, died recently in Denver, Colo.

LESTER L. JOHNSON

Lester L. "Lum" Johnson, a member of Co. K, 180th Infantry, during World War II, died July 18 in Krebs, Oklahoma. He has attended reunions of the Association. His widow lives in McAlester.

ROY J. JONES

Roy J. Jones, whose home was in Colorado Springs, Colo., died recently. He was a member of Company A, 157th Infantry.

GEORGE D. KESSLER

The death has been reported of George D. Kessler, Company A, 157th Infantry. His home was in Springfield, Va.

WILBERT KRUSE

Wilbert Kruse, Fort Brand, Indiana, died of a heart attack February 1. He had been disabled since 1974. He was a member of Company C, 158th Field Artillery in France, where he was wounded in 1944. He was a life member of the 45th Division Association.

GEORGE W. NIKKEL

George W. Nikkel, a former member of Service Btry., 158th Field Artillery of Weatherford, died in late 1982 in Lawton.

PAUL L. PETERSON

Paul L. Peterson, who was commanding officer of Co. E, 180th Infantry, died late in 1982. His widow, Virginia, lives in Orlando, Fla.

CARL R. PIERCE

Carl R. Pierce, Burlington, Pa., a former member of the 157th Infantry and a life member of the 45th Infantry Division Association, died May 29.

JOE SARAN

Joe Saran, who was first sergeant of Btry. A., 160th Field Artillery, in World War II, died July 12 in Wewoka, where he had been a long-time resident. He was a 32nd degree Mason and a member of the American Legion.

LEONARD R. STRIGNER

Leonard R. Strigner, who was a lieutenant in Btry. B, 171st Field Artillery, died late in 1982. His wife writes that he spoke often and with great pride of the 45th Division, his combat days and his fellow soldiers.

LEONARD R. STRIZVER

Leonard R. Strizver, who was a lieutenant in the field artillery in World War II, died early this year. His home was in Orlando, Fla. His widow, Gertrude, survives him.

WALLACE TERREI

Wallace Terrei, of Chandler, Okla., who served with the 160th Field Artillery Battalion, died August 8, of a heart attack. He is survived by his wife, Frances.

JAMES W. THUMSER

James W. Thumser, Hq. Third Battalion, 157th Infantry, whose home was in Baltimore, Md., died earlier this year.

RICHARD TYE

Richard "Dick" Tye, Arlington, Texas, a former member of the 45th Infantry Division, died April 24.

FRED VASATURO

Fred Vasaturo, Medfield, Mass., who served during World War II in Co. D, 180th Infantry, died in December, 1982.

ALMON G. WILSON

Almon G. Wilson, a former member of Co. D, 179th Infantry, died in May at his home in Roca, Neb., L. G. DeLay, our Nebraska membership chairman, writes. Almon was a prisoner of war in Germany during World War II.

45th Division News

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Paul Robinson President
Leon Shackelford Secretary
Pendleton Woods Editor

Address news contributions and other correspondence to Editor, 45th Division News, 45th Infantry Division Association, 3501 Military Circle NE, Oklahoma City, OK 73111.

Granite Monument to 45th Will Move to New Location

The granite monument to the 45th Infantry Division, which had been located on Couch Drive in downtown Oklahoma City for nearly 30 years, is being erected at the west entrance to the atrium of Leadership Square, a large, modern office and retail mall in downtown Oklahoma City.

The monument was removed for the building of Leadership Square, which occupies nearly one full block downtown. Its new location will be about 40 feet west of its previous spot.

The mosaic map, which tells in granite the story of the major war-time movements of the 45th Division,

has been renovated and improved.

Its new location will receive more traffic than ever, because the several story glass atrium connects the north and south entrances to the two huge office and retail buildings of the complex.

The funds to build the original monument were raised in a campaign conducted by the Oklahoma City Business and Professional Women's Clubs. The refurbishing of the monument was done by Leadership Square as part of an agreement made with the 45th Infantry Division Association at the time of its removal.

Galaxy Plans European Tours

Galaxy Tours is conducting a trip to battle areas of Europe in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of D-Day and the final full year of the war.

Five options are offered on the trip, ranging from \$2,840 for the complete tour, to \$1,716 for one of the partial options.

The total trip runs from August 2 to 22, beginning in the Rome area, and including Italy, France and Germany.

Members of the 157th Infantry Association are making a 10 day trip from August 12-22, covering France and Germany. For details of the trips write Galaxy Tours, PO Box 326, King of Prussia, PA 19406.

Battlefield Tours

Battlefield Tours, Inc., 1501 Gause Blvd., PO Box 357, Slidel, LA 70459 is conducting European tours important in the history of World War II. Folders on tours planned by this organization are available by writing the company.

D Plus 40 Trips Are Scheduled

Dittman Tours, Inc. PO Box 199, Northfield, MN 55057, is conducting several D-Day & 40 Special Anniversary Tours between June and September, commemorating various anniversaries of milestones of the war during that crucial period in which the 45th and other divisions were engaged in heavy fighting.

Eight tours are involved, and because of the myriad of details, we are not reprinting them, but recommend that those interested in considering such a tour write directly to the travel agency for a folder, giving details.

Engineers To Meet

Plans are progressing toward the biannual reunion of the 120th Engineers (C) Battalion in Stillwater, Oklahoma, to be held July 21 and 22. For information, contact Woody Harris 26 Preston Circle, Stillwater, OK 74075 (405) 372-4098.



*"I need a couple guys
what don't owe me no money fer
a little routine patrol."*

157th Infantry Plans Reunion

The 157th Infantry Association will hold its 1984 reunion at the Valley Forge Stouffer's Inn, in King of Prussia, PA from August 8 to 12.

The battlefield tour of France and Germany will be taken by those desiring, and will be conducted between August 12-23. Final date for trip deposit is June 30. The trip is handled by Galaxy Tours. Thirty-one people had already signed up for the European trip by March 31.

179th Will Meet At 45th Reunion

The 179th Infantry Regiment Association will hold its annual reunion August 23-25 at the Hilton Inn West in Oklahoma City, concurrent with the 45th Infantry Division Association reunion. For information, contact Harlos V. Hatter, national secretary, 3205 NW 52, Oklahoma City, OK 73112.

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