

The CUB

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

of the
GOLDEN LION

Vol. 74 – No. 2

April – July 2018

Flag of Friendship — Golden Lion Families Remember the Battle of the Bulge



(Photo Doug Mitchell/Borderlands Tours)

*A report from
the Belgian Chapter
by Carl Wouters,
Association Belgium Liaison*

Burgermeister Christian Krings of St. Vith lays a wreath at the Division monument. He was awarded the 2017 Flag of Friendship for his support in organizing the commemorations in his town.

December 16, 1944 is a date forever embedded in the memories of the veterans of the 106th Infantry Division. As the German Fifth Panzer Armee struck the lines of the U.S. 1st Army, heavy fighting engulfed the Golden Lions of the 106th on the heights of the Schnee Eifel and in the valleys of the Our River. Two months of bitter fighting followed, ending with the recapture of lost ground at the end of January 1945.

Even though more than seven decades have passed since the 106th made a valiant stand at St. Vith, people from all over Europe continue to honor the men who served there, join in commemoration and perpetuation of their legacy.

(Article continued on page 24)

The CUB

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

Total Membership as of June 30, 2018 – 1,028

Membership includes *CUB* magazine subscription

Annual Dues are no longer mandatory: Donations Accepted

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the **Treasurer** — *See address below*

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Greetings to all,

It is Father's Day and I am reflecting on how blessed I am with my two wonderful daughters and two equally wonderful daughters brought into my family by my equally wonderful wife Elaine. As you can tell I am in a sentimental mood and I am counting my blessings. Like most people, I have had my share of tragedies, but I did live through them and at 95 years of age, I feel truly blessed.

In the last issue of *The CUB*, I related the story about losing my 106th Division cap. To my great surprise and pleasure, several people responded by writing to me and sending me precious gifts to compensate for my loss. I don't think it would be proper to identify the donors without their permission, but one family, active participants in our reunions, sent me not only a cap but also a beautiful jacket. Another veteran (from Tucson, Arizona) sent me a brief letter describing his experience during the Limberg bombing. He is 97 years old and was in the 424th Regiment. The 424th, as you know, escaped capture and continued to fight.

He also made a comment that made me smile. He took my name, Leon, and noted that it stands for "lion." Then he took the Gold from Goldberg to match up with the "Golden" from our insignia.



Leon Goldberg (422/D)

106th Infantry Division Association
President 2016–2018

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He's a very clever fella. He also sent me two insignias, an old one that had been removed from his uniform and a new one. I was very touched by my gifts and realized how much we veterans mean to each other.

In reviewing the last issue of *The CUB*, I realized that many of our comrades have created treasures that cannot be found anywhere else. I am talking about all the personal histories found in the books they have written about their experiences in battle and as POWs. You cannot find these stories in all the books written by historians. Take Harry Martin's *I Was No Hero in the Battle of the Bulge*, for example, which has unbelievable detail of his experiences and John Morris's *Attacked from the Rear*. Herb Sheaner's book, *Prisoner's Odyssey*, reminded me of

President's View . . .

my own experiences being in ASTP before joining the 106th in Camp Atterbury, Indiana. While I have written a short article, which was published in a local magazine, I have not written a book, even though my family encouraged me to do so. Maybe now that I have completed my second term of office as President, I will find the energy to create mine.

As you know, I could not make the last reunion, but I read the report of the proceedings in the March *CUB*. It sounds like it was very successful in spite of the storm and absentees like me. I do want to add my welcome to the new attendees who were there: veterans Al Sussman and John Beville, Carolyn Whitaker and her daughter Kathy

Spinella (daughter and granddaughter of a 106th veteran), and Ken, Marvin and Mel Rhoden (sons of a 106th veteran). I look forward to seeing them all in September. The odd thing about the Rhodens is that Ken and Randy Wood have been friends for years, never knowing that their dads fought together in the 106th.

I also want to personally thank our adjutant Randall M. Wood and our entire Board for their devotion and hard work. They keep our organization running at a very high level. It is really impressive.

Thank you and I am looking forward to seeing everyone in Dayton.

Best wishes to all,
Leon Goldberg, *President*

If you haven't done it yet —

Make your plans NOW!!

to join us for the

72nd Annual Reunion

of the

106th Infantry Division Association

at the

Crown Plaza Hotel – Dayton, OH

from

September 5 to 9, 2018

**Contact Mike Sheaner, Treasurer at sheaner1@airmail.net
for additional registration forms and paperwork**

or call Wayne Dunn at 410-409-1141 if you have any questions.

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

www.afr-reg.com/106inf2018

The Adjutant's Message . . .

We are blessed by the number of people who make this organization work but I'm afraid to start naming names because I would surely leave someone out — but thank you for your hard work and dedication to the Veterans and the Association. I would like to highlight one individual however. That is John Schaffner. He has done and continues to do a lot for us. Several times a year I get an email requesting information on a particular Veteran and his unit. I always invite them to the coming reunion and tell them that I am forwarding their request to John. Within a few hours, John replies to the one looking for assistance with his built-up knowledge of how to navigate the data base of our Veterans' years of service. Thank you, John and thanks to everyone for a job well done.

We would also like to thank Vincent Charron for his work as the Chaplain of our organization for the past few years. His new job has now made it impossible for him to continue in the position. Our new Chaplain is Pastor Chris Edmonds. He was our speaker at the last reunion talking about his father's experiences and actions during his days as a POW. He plans to attend and be a part of the reunion in Dayton. We wish to welcome him into our association.

Our official 2018 reunion is just around the corner. Wednesday, Sept. 5 through Sunday, Sept. 9. So, if you have not yet made your room reservation and registered through the Armed Forces Reunion Service, it's time to get it done. Adjutant Murray Stein once said: "All of you that fought in the Battle of the Bulge are now fighting a new enemy — Old Age." A large number of you are still active and participate in many activities.



Randall M. Wood (Associate member)
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So, get your canes, polish your walkers and oil up your chair and come see your comrades at this year's reunion.

We would encourage our veterans to get your kids motivated (even if they are 70) to get registered. We also would ask the families of the veterans to help make it possible for them to attend. Come visit your friends and enjoy life for a few days with those that saw it in color. If it is your first time, you will not regret it. Those first timers at the last reunion, said they were most appreciative of the experience and would participate again. Our first-timers last year consisted of veterans, children and grandchildren. It's never too late to be a first-timer. We are joining the 104th Timberwolves and the USS Missouri BB-63. We were with them a couple of reunions ago. We are sharing the Hospitality/Foxhole and our daily breakfast with them.

On Thursday, Sept. 6, the tour is to Wright Patterson Air Force Museum. ALL of you will get to go at no additional charge. It's a spectacular

The Adjutant's Message . . .

tour and you will enjoy it. On Saturday morning, we will have our Memorial Service and that evening is our banquet. If you live close and have friends or relatives that would like to attend the banquet, then register them as "Banquet Only" on the registration form. There is

a \$45 per person fee for this event.

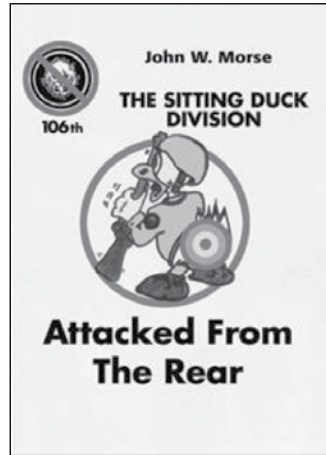
We look forward to seeing you there. Be safe.

Randall M. Wood
Adjutant 106th Infantry
Division Association
Robert Wood 423-I

The Sitting Duck Division: Attacked from the Rear

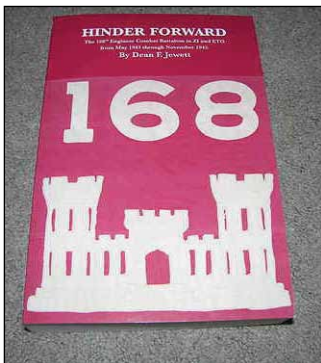
By John W. Morse (422/C)

This is the story of one boy soldier and his fellow GIs from draft to disaster and back. John W. Morse's (422/C) self-published book describes being taken prisoner in the Battle of the Bulge. This book can be ordered through your local Barnes & Noble book store. The book is priced \$9.95, plus shipping.



Hinder forward: The 168th Engineer Combat Battalion in ZI and ETO from May 1943 through November 1945

By Dean F. Jewett (168th Eng)



Note: the cover may not look like the pictured image.

Dean F. Jewett has written a book about the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion, which was attached to the 106th Infantry Division during the Battle of the Bulge. The book is 456 pages and sells for \$75, which includes postage, sales tax, etc.

New copies are only available through Mr. Jewett at P.O. Box 148, Saco, ME 04072 or by phone at 207-284-6778.

Used copies are available online through outfits, such as *Amazon.com* or *Ebay.com*.

Historian's Message . . .

A phone call this AM (April 9, 2018) from our Valley Forge Military Academy contact, Hugh Roberts, brought me up-to-date on the latest happenings at the Academy concerning the placement of their permanent Memorial to 1st Lt. Eric F. Wood, Jr. A/589. As most of you know, Lt. Wood was a distinguished alumnus of VFMA and Princeton U., graduating at the top of his class. While Executive Officer of A Battery of the 589th FA Bn he was held in the highest respect by his men. During the action of Dec. 16, 1944 to some time in Jan. 1945 he carried the fight to the enemy. Although actual eye witness details of Wood's activity in the area of Meyerode, Belgium are not available at this late date, a committee of alumnus from VFMA have been seeking a way to have the Congressional Medal of Honor awarded to Lt. Wood posthumously. Whether or not this will be accomplished depends on many factors.



John R. Schaffner 589/A,
Historian, Past President 2002-2003
1811 Miller Road, Cockeysville, MD 21030
410-584-2754, pumexim2@verizon.net

Lt. Wood's birthday was Jan. 25, 1919. The VFMA Committee is planning the permanent placement of the Memorial to occur on the Post on Jan. 25, 2019, which would be Wood's 100th birthday. Veterans of the 106th and their family members will be receiving

Following is a transcription of the wording on the Lt. Eric Fisher Wood, Jr. plaque. VFMA is most appreciative for the support of the 106th I.D. Association and Hugh B. Roberts (VFMA) offers a heartfelt thanks to all of our members.

From December 16, 1944 until about January 20, 1945, 1st Lt. Eric Fisher Wood, Jr. VFMA Class of 1937 U. S. Army, "A" Battery, 589th Field Artillery Battalion of the 106th Infantry Division was separated from his unit. With the help of local Belgians, and other so far unidentified American troops caught behind the lines, he harassed the Germans to the point where SS Jaeger Hunters were dispatched to find and kill him. His body was found with seven dead Germans surrounding his position. For his incredible valor, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. This monument is a replica of the original one placed near his last stand by the citizens of Meyerode, Belgium as a testament of his bravery.



Established by the Rudy Herzog, NE Ohio Regiment of the VFMA Alumni, other dedicated Alumni, and the 106th Infantry Division Association.

Dedicated April 30, 2016

an invitation to attend the ceremony as guests of VFMA when the plans are finalized. I fully realize that there are not that many of us who are able to jump and go even if the reason is compelling. I feel that the Staff at VFMA will be most anxious for veterans of the 106th Infantry Division to be present for the formal ceremonies when planned. If you have been there for the previous events then you know that the Academy will be accommodating us with golf cart transportation and food. We will be receiving more information in the future and it will be passed on to you all.

Source of memoirs.

Quite often an email or phone call will reach me from someone seeking information about a family member who was a veteran of the Battle of the Bulge and some times he will have been a veteran of our 106th Division. The seeker would have been extremely lucky if I had known the individual they wanted information about. How many close friends or buddies did a soldier have in the division of 14,000? Not that many and the roster changed often. So, how does one help after so many years? It would be rare indeed if anyone in this day and age didn't have access to the Internet with at least one electronic device capable of searching the internet. WEBSITES are the first place I will search. One doesn't have to be a rocket scientist to learn how to use the computer or smart phone to search for just about anything. Doesn't every kid in the country know how! That's a statement, not a question! Just type in a key word or phrase, or name, or place, or anything relative and sit back. In seconds you will have results. The

following links are the ones that I go to first when information is required concerning our division:

[**www.indianamilitary.org**](http://www.indianamilitary.org)

[**www.106thInfDivAssn.org**](http://www.106thInfDivAssn.org)

[**www.106thinfantry.webs.com**](http://www.106thinfantry.webs.com)

[**www.battleofthebulgememories.be**](http://www.battleofthebulgememories.be)

There are others that exist on the net, plus many, many books about the "106th Infantry Division" and the "Battle of the Bulge." Just let your fingers walk across the keyboard. For example: recently one of our members called to tell me that she had noticed the obituary in *The CUB* concerning someone that she knew of but had never met. She had heard nice things about him and was curious about his participation in the Bulge and also his civilian life. She asked, "What do you know about this fellow? He was a member of your battalion." With that qualification I fired up my desk computer and typed in the search box [**www.indianamilitary.org**](http://www.indianamilitary.org). The screen came in with the units covered and I clicked on "106th Division." The screen then showed me a menu listing the various categories of information that was stored, "Diaries" being one. I then clicked on "Diaries" and the list expanded to an alphabetic list of those veterans who had contributed their stories to the website. Scrolling down the list of contributors I quickly found the memoirs of the veteran that I was seeking. Shazam! Here is a story of 160 pages that will sate that curiosity I mentioned. Don't pass over the books listed in this and other issues of *The CUB*. You could learn a lot about the fellow who was perhaps next to you during the battle or in the same POW camp.

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

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



Mike Sheaner, Treasurer
PO Box 140535
Dallas TX 75214
sheaner1@airmail.net
214-823-3004

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



Jacquelyn S. Coy, Membership
121 McGregor Ave.
Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856
membership@106thinfdivassn.org
973-663-2410

Treasurer's Report: Feb. 1 – May 31, 2018

Beginning Balance:	\$16,021.82
Money In:	\$2,664.43
Money Out:	\$3,108.21
Difference:	\$(443.78)
Ending Balance:	\$15,578.04

Association Membership As of June 30, 2018

Total Membership	1,028
Membership Veterans	519
Associate Membership	509

Show support for our mission by giving generously.

Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Send your contribution, check made payable to *106th Infantry Div. Association*, to:

Mike Sheaner, Treasurer
106th Infantry Division, PO Box 140535, Dallas, TX 75214

106th Challenge Coin — *Have You Gotten Yours Yet?*



**\$10 each,
plus postage**

payable to 106th Infantry Division Association

Order from

Adjutant Randall Wood: woodchuck01@sbcglobal.net, 765-346-0690 or write to:
810 Cramertown Loop, Martinsville, IN 46151.

Memorial, Honorary and Life+Contributions are Essential for Keeping this Organization Going

A suggested annual donation of \$25 to help underwrite the cost to publish and mail *The CUB* through the “Last Man Standing” and beyond is appreciated. The Association exists on donations from its members and interested individuals. Your gifts are essential to maintaining *The CUB* magazine in its current format with high-quality content and tri-annual delivery. The cost of printing and mailing each edition of *The CUB* exceeds our current level of giving. Therefore, we encourage all readers to make an annual contribution, as you are able, to help defray the cost of printing and mailing.

Those Members who contribute will have their names (only, no amounts will be shown) published in the next *CUB*. You can donate as much or as little as you can and as often as you like. By donating, you are helping perpetuate the 106th Infantry Division Association.

Planned Giving

Whether you would like to put your donation to work today or benefit the 106th Infantry Division Association beyond your lifetime, you can find a charitable plan that works for you. Popular means of life planning gifts include Wills and Living Trusts and Beneficiary Designations. Consult your professional advisor on how to extend support for the 106th Infantry Division Association to make a lasting impact.

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

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Henry E. Freedman	422/HQ	Marvin Rhoden	Associate Member
Mary J. Murray	Associate Member	Herbert A. Rosenberg	424/L
Robert E. Pope	590 FA/A	Kathy Spinella	Associate Member

NEW MEMBERS:

Norman R. Bersonsky	Associate Member
Mary J. Murray	Associate Member
Marvin Rhoden	Associate Member
Kathy Spinella	Associate Member
James Williamson	Associate Member

Returned Issues of the Latest *CUB of the Golden Lion*

Membership Chair Jacquelyn Coy asks that the following names (and partial addresses) be listed in this issue of *The CUB* in hopes that anyone reading this issue might know the people listed and can get word to them that their address listed with the Association is incorrect or outdated. If you know that they are deceased or if you know anyone on this list and can get word to them, please ask them to **contact Jacquelyn directly at the address listed on the inside cover of this issue** with an updated mailing address. Thank you.

Dr. Frank Raila, Austin, TX	W.W. (Bill) Wiggers, Benton, PA
James L. Edwards, St. Petersburg, FL	Harold K. Bratton, Poseyville, IN
Darryl Brown, Oak Ridge, NJ	Joseph A. Kersten, Buffalo, NY
Anna M. Hutchinson, Mifflintown, PA	Lynda Sykes, South Vienna, OH

PLEASE NOTE: Membership Chair Jacquelyn Coy is working to update the Association's roster with veterans and their units. If you use email, please email her directly at ***membership@106thinfdivassn.org***. In your message, please let Jacquelyn know your name and 106th Infantry Division unit. Thank you.

To the widows of Golden Lions, if you would wish to continue to receive *The CUB* after the passing of your husband please let Membership Chair Jacquelyn Coy know. Her contact information is located above, in this box.

CUB Staff occasionally receive ***requests to stop the mailing*** of their issue of *The CUB*. If you no longer want an issue to be mailed to you, ***please contact Jackie Coy, Membership Chair.***

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

MEMORIAL AND HONORARY DONATIONS:

In memory of my dad, Captain Ben Bartell, 424/L

Given by George Bartell

In memory of my dad, Lt. William H. Gordon, combat engineer with the 81st Eng/B, killed as a POW on April 5, 1945 when I was three weeks old and a month before the war was over.

Given by William H. Gordon

In memory of my dad and grandfather, John R. Mast. He served in the 81st Engineers, Company B.

Given by Sharon and Anthony Schreffler

In memory of my husband, M/Sgt. John L. Mikalauski, 424/H, who served in the WW II Battle of the Bulge and the Korean War. John died Dec. 30, 2010. We attended annual reunions for several years and had a mini-reunion in Mt. Vernon, IL.

Given by Dolores Mikalauski

In memory of William S. Vaught, 424/ Anti-Tank K Battery. Died Nov. 22, 2007. Captured in Germany on Dec. 19, 1944.

Given by Mary Louise Vaught

In memory of Newton William Weiss, 423 INF/3 BN/HQ.

Given by Gold Gerstein Group

In memory of Newton Weiss, 423 INF/3 BN/HQ.

Given by June M. Telaar

In memory of Newton Weiss.

Given by Wilma Wood and Family

In honor and memory of Newton William Weiss.

Given by Susan and the Weiss Family

In memory of Newton Weiss, my boss of 35 years.

Given by Lorraine Jones

In memory of Newton Weiss.

Given by Frank and Christine Filia

In memory of Newton Weiss. It was our honor to have known him.

Given by Sheldon and Susan Parker

In memory of Newton William Weiss.

Given by Charlene Smolkowicz

In memory of Newton William Weiss.

Given by James and Dorothy Smith

In memory of Newton William Weiss.

Given by Joseph M. Oliveri

In memory of Newton Weiss.

Given by Mary Ann and Carmelo Costa

In memory of Newton William Weiss.

Given by Shaz, Schwartz and Fentin, P.C.

A legacy tribute to Newton William Weiss, father of Ellen Weiss Freyman, a close friend and business associate of mine.

Given by Juan F. Latorre III

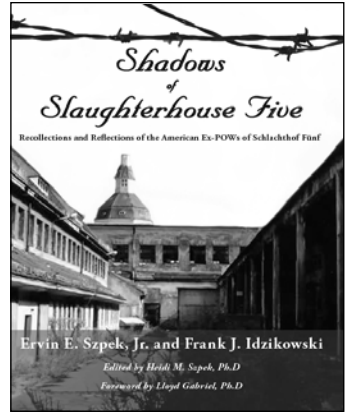
In memory of Newton William Weiss.

Given by Mark and Lynn Silverstein

Shadows of Slaughterhouse Five

From Ervin Szpek Jr., Associate Member

Ervin Szpek Jr. (Associate Member) is pleased to announce after many years of research that his and his colleagues' book on the infamous *Arbeitskommando Slaughterhouse Five* has been released. Nearly every man of this POW work camp (near Dresden, Germany) originated from the 106th Infantry Division including former 106th Association President, Gifford Doxsee. The book is their story, in their words and accounts for nearly every POW at the camp. It also chronicles the recollections and reflections of the 150 American Ex-POWs, many of whom are members of the Association. Newly released by iUniverse press at www.iUniverse.com, the book is also available at www.amazon.com and www.BarnesandNoble.com. With best wishes for 2016 and with appreciation for your efforts — thank you.



MY WAR

by Fredrick Smallwood

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

Books are \$15 plus \$4 for shipping. You can contact me at fsjs@mchsi.com or P.O. Box 1923, Bainbridge, GA 39818.



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

Mail them in today!

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

www.afr-reg.com/106inf2018

My Grandfather's War

A Young Man's Lessons from the Greatest Generation

"I, TOO, SERVED IN THE 106TH INFANTRY, WAS CAPTURED AT THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE, AND SPENT TIME IN STALAG IXB. YOUR BOOK, *MY GRANDFATHER'S WAR*, IS THE BEST P.O.W BOOK I HAVE EVER READ!"

— JAMES A. REISS, CPL. 423RD INFANTRY, 106TH DIVISION

"*MY GRANDFATHER'S WAR* WAS EYE-OPENING...I LOVED THIS BOOK."

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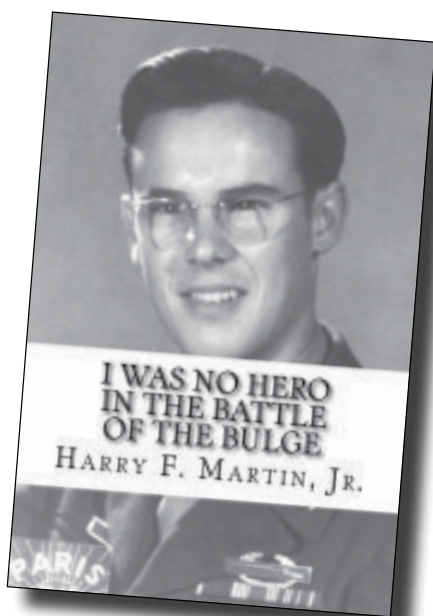
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THE 99TH DIVISION
IN WORLD WAR II
ROBERT E. HUMPHREY



Once Upon a Time in War

The 99th Division in World War II

By Robert E. Humphrey

Once Upon a Time in War presents a stirring view of combat from the perspective of the common soldier. Author Robert E. Humphrey personally retraced the path of the 99th through Belgium and Germany and conducted extensive interviews with more than three hundred surviving veterans. These narratives, seamlessly woven to create a collective biography, offer a gritty reenactment of World War II from the enlisted man's point of view. For readers captivated by *Band of Brothers*, this book offers an often tragic, sometimes heartwarming, but always compelling read.

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From the editor of The CUB of the Golden Lion

Hello, my name is William A. McWhorter and I am the editor of *The CUB of the Golden Lion (The CUB)*. I am an admirer of your outfit and hope that I can assist in keeping open the lines of communication for our Association. Please send news items that you would like reviewed for

potential inclusion in upcoming issues of *The CUB* to me. Whenever possible please send them to my email address (williammcwhorter17@gmail.com). If you do decide to send them via postal mail, if possible, please **TYPE OR PRINT** your messages (it helps me get names spelled correctly). Thank you.

Just a reminder . . .

If you have pictures, an article, or some other form of information you would like included in a future issue of *The CUB*, the due dates are as follows:

October 1, 2018 — mail date November 30, 2018 (to include reunion photos and remembrances)

January 31, 2019 — mail date March 30, 2019 (issue will include reunion paperwork)

May 1, 2019 — mail date July 15, 2018 (issue will include reunion paperwork)

Articles and pictures can be mailed or emailed to:

CUB Editor: William McWhorter
200 Morrell, Kyle, TX 78640
512-970-5637
williammcwhorter17@gmail.com

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

Visit the 106th Association's Website!

By Wayne Dunn

To complement the wonderful websites that are already out on the Internet, including our own members Jim West (www.IndianaMilitary.org) and Carl Wouters (www.106thinfantry.webs.com), the association has launched our own website at www.106thInfDivAssn.org.

This is where you can find: info on upcoming events; copies of the membership application for your family to join; the complete latest issue plus additional photos and articles from *The CUB*.

Also look for our Facebook page at [Facebook.com/106thInfDivAssn](https://www.facebook.com/106thInfDivAssn).

This is where you can find up-to-the-minute information and where you can connect with friends and make plans for the next reunion.

If you have any additional reunion photos or information that you would like to see on the website or Facebook page, please contact the Webmaster, Wayne Dunn at Host106th@106thInfDivAssn.org or 410-409-1141.

Jim West and the *www.IndianaMilitary.org* Website

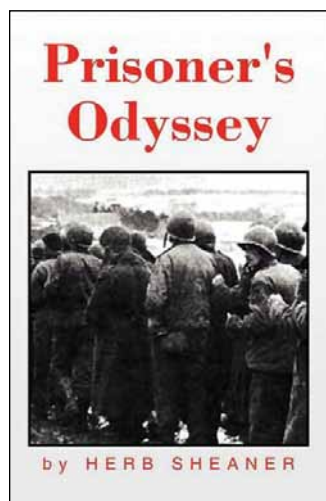
Additional 106th Infantry Division information can be found on Jim West's (OGL 2000) website at *www.IndianaMilitary.org*. It includes the following:

- Reconstructed Roster of the 106th at <http://tinyurl.com/106th-Roster> with 18,902 entries to date, including more than 300 individual photos
- Every issue of *The CUB* from 1946 to present (searchable)
- Every issue of the *Camp Atterbury Camp Crier* with articles on the 106th
- Local Columbus, Indiana, newspaper articles featuring the 106th
- 106th member diaries and accounts
- Articles include – Battle of the Bulge, Important dates, Unit publications, Photo Albums, After Action Reports, General and Special Orders and much more
- Information on the 106th guarded PWTE (Prisoner of War Temporary Enclosures)
- The official history site for Camp Atterbury, Indiana.

Prisoner's Odyssey

by Herb Sheaner (422/G)

Prisoner's Odyssey is a story of survival, hunger and reflection from a teenaged prisoner of war inside Germany near the end of WW II. From capture at the Battle of The Bulge to the final escape from his German guards, Herb Sheaner allows us a glimpse into the despair and agony of being a prisoner in a foreign land. During World War II, Herb Sheaner served as a private first class in Company G, 422nd Regiment of the 106th Infantry Division. After receiving ASTP training at University of Alabama, he joined the 106th at Camp Atterbury in Indiana where he earned Expert Rifleman honors and was designated Co. G Sniper and Regimental Scout. Fifty years later he recalls his experiences.



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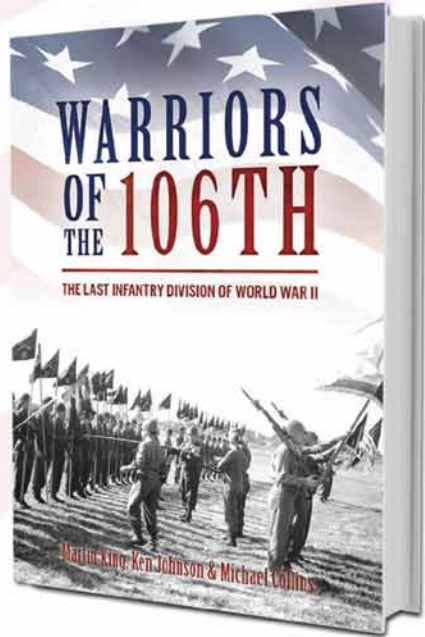
A new book on the 106th Infantry Division was recently published and is now available. Association Historian John Schaffner reports that the authors, Martin King, Ken Johnson and Mike Collins have decided that partial proceeds will be contributed to the 106th Association.

WARRIORS OF THE 106TH

THE LAST INFANTRY DIVISION OF WORLD WAR II

Martin King, Ken Johnson & Michael Collins

The 106th were fresh, green and right in the pathway of the German 5th Panzer Army when the Battle of the Bulge began at 0530 hours on December 16, 1944. This book covers the history along with the individual stories of the incredible heroism, sacrifice and tenacity of these young Americans in the face of overwhelming odds. These stories are heartwarming, heartbreaking, nerve-wracking, and compelling. They aim to put the reader right there on the front lines, and in the stalags, during the final months of WWII.



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"There haven't been many books about the 106th and those that are out there are quite scathing about the division. It's time to give these indomitable men the credit they are long overdue. They were brave, stouthearted and tenacious warriors... The American public should be rightfully proud of them."

—Martin King, author of *Warriors of the 106th*



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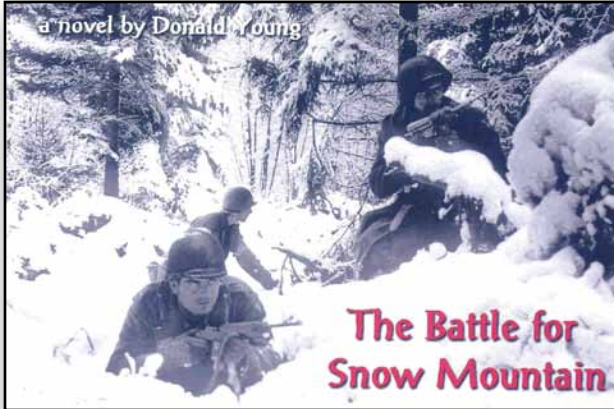
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THE BATTLE FOR SNOW MOUNTAIN

by Donald Young

The Battle for Snow Mountain is a comic novel — based on Young's experience — which gives a surreal picture of the German attack on the 106th Division in the winter of 1944.



The story deals with two soldiers, their odd love affairs at home, their war experience in the Battle of the Bulge, their accidental capture, escape from POW camp and return to freedom.

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WALLACE WOOD, BOOK REVIEWER

The Battle for Snow Mountain by Donald Young
can be purchased by April 1, from Pocol Press, 6023 Pocol Drive,
Clifton, VA 20124, 1-703-830-5862.

It can also be ordered at *Amazon.com*, \$17.95, ISBN 978-1-929763-48-1

Order of the Golden Lion Committee

This award is provided in three classifications depending on the qualifications of the recipient. The most prestigious is “**Commander Class**” issued in gold finish. This award is usually provided to someone who has served the Association faithfully over an extended period of time.

The second is “**Officer Class**” issued in silver finish. This award is usually provided to someone who has served the Association faithfully over an extended period of time.

The third is “**Companion Class**” issued in bronze finish. This award is usually provided to someone who has served the Association faithfully in the capacity of assistance in the operation of the Association.

The specifications for making the award are intended to fit many instances where an individual is deemed worthy. *The award should be determined by the recipient's contributions to the Association.*

The Co-chairs of the Order of the Golden Lion committee will poll the members of the Board of Directors for recommendations for the OGL awards. The President or Co-chairs may select additional members to the committee.

Nominations will be submitted in a format suitable for composing a formal citation to accompany the award of the medal. This must be done in ample time prior to the next Reunion in order for the manufacturer to produce the medal(s) on time.

All citations should be kept confidential between the nominator



and the Committee Chairman prior to the actual awarding ceremony.
LEAD TIME — 3 WEEKS, MINIMUM

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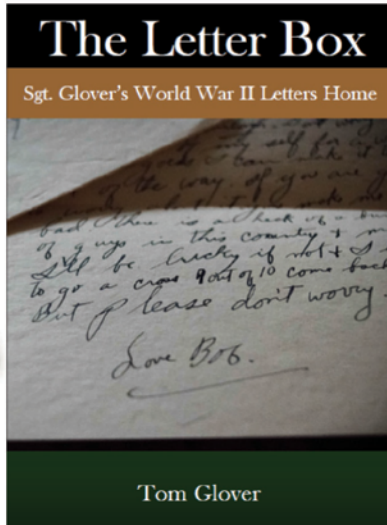
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THE LETTER BOX

Sgt. Glover's World War II Letters Home



The Wartime Journey of Sgt. Robert "Bob" Glover U.S. Army, 106th I.D.

Written in his own words to his family from 1944–1946, this collection of hundreds of personal letters are virtually a "daily diary" chronicling one young man's desire to serve his country in Europe while staying connected to his family's daily life back home and, in the process, to imagine and value life's goals.

"I believe anyone who has served in the Armed Forces, at any time, will feel an immediate connection with Bob's writing about his best friends, questioning his future after the service, and his constant longing for home."
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The Letter Box is now available on Amazon in print and Kindle

<http://www.amazon.com/Mr.-Tom-Caccioppoli-Glover/e/B00SLM1I82/>

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Golden Lion Thomas Wilson Morgan (423/L) Honored Posthumously

Submitted by Brian Welke

On Feb. 24, 2018, United States Congressman Brian Mast of Stuart, Florida presented Carolyn Whitener with her father's medals and badges. Her father, PFC Thomas Wilson Morgan, L Company 423rd, died Dec. 16, 1944. Because of the confusion that ensued the events of Dec. 16–19, 1944, there was uncertainty as to how he died. However, when the Battle of the Bulge ended, Morgan's brother, Jack, a member of the 17th Airborne, was in the area of the 106th Infantry Division. Knowing of his brother's death, he traveled to the 106th's location to get information first hand. He was told that a mortar round Morgan was



U.S. Congressman Brian Mast presenting Thomas W. Morgan's medals to Carolyn Whitener, daughter.

The ceremony was attended by nearly two dozen family members and Brian and Teresa Welke representing the 106th Infantry Division Association. U.S. Congressman Brian Mast is an Army veteran who lost both of his legs in an IED attack in Iraq.



World War II Victory Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Expert Combat Infantry Badge 12 and European, African and Middle Eastern Campaign Medal.

handling unexpectedly exploded resulting in severe shrapnel wounds to the abdomen. He was evacuated, but died at the regimental aid station. Thomas W. Morgan was temporarily buried at Foy, Belgium. Subsequently he was reinterred at Henri-Chapel. He was survived by his wife, Sara, and daughter, Carolyn.



Left to right: Kim Givens (granddaughter), Brian Welke (106th ID Assoc.), U.S. Congressman Brian Mast, Carolyn Whitener (daughter), Kathy Spinella (granddaughter), Tim Morgan (nephew/ grandson of Jack Morgan).

Thomas W. Morgan's daughter Carolyn and granddaughter Kathy attended the 106th Infantry Division Association Reunion in Orlando, Florida January 2018.

He Walked by Her House: *A Story of Frank and Grace Agule*

Written by their daughter Marjorie Grace Agule Wiseman

Frank Irwin Agule was born in New York City on April 16, 1898. His father, Samuel, died in 1910 when Frank was 12. Times were tough in New York in the early 1900s. Trying to make a little money after school, Frank got a job sweeping out the theater where Al Jolson was performing. At 17, in 1915, he lied about his age and joined the Army.

Frank served with the 5th Infantry and during World War I they were sent to Panama to guard the Canal. He smoked at the time and used to tell the story about how all the cigarettes that the men received were moldy and tasted terrible. He quit and never smoked again.

After the war ended, the Army transferred Frank, in 1921, to the University of Oregon in Eugene to teach military science and tactics. He was assigned to the University's ROTC (Reserve Officers Training Corp.) program as an instructor. He had taken courses to prepare him for this task.

It was in Eugene that Frank met his wife-to-be Grace McMaster Orr. She was attracted to him because he walked by her house every day so straight and tall on his way to work. One day they met on the sidewalk. They were married in August of 1921. Frank continued to teach at the University and rise up in rank. Frank and Grace had a daughter born in 1926 that died at birth. Marjorie Grace was born in 1928 and Dorothy Ann in 1931.

When World War II broke out, Frank was called to active duty in 1941 as a Captain. He remained at the University as an assistant professor



until 1942. He soon became a Major.

His promotion to Lt. Colonel came in 1943 when he was sent to Fort Jackson, Columbia, South Carolina as the Adjutant General of a new unit, The 106th Division, The Golden Lions. They were later sent to Camp Atterbury, Indiana for further training before going overseas.

The 106th left for Europe (Greenock, Scotland) from New York on the Queen Elizabeth in October of 1944. The Queen Elizabeth had been converted for use as a troop ship. During the stop in Scotland they rested up a bit, were outfitted and then were sent to Belgium by way of the North Sea and the English Channel. The 106th entered the war near Luxembourg in Belgium in an area called Schnee Eifel. They were spread thin and when the Germans hit them with all they had, the 106th lost over half their men. Two regiments of the 106th were wiped out before this — The Battle of the Bulge finally turned around.

Frank told the story about how once when they had to move quickly, he emptied his field desk of all his papers but hadn't been able to take the heavy socks and sweaters that Grace had sent him. When the area was later reclaimed by U.S. forces, Frank returned to find his desk minus the socks and sweaters that he had left.

Frank was awarded the Silver Star with cluster and later the Legion of Merit. While the 106th Division was on its way to Paris, the war in Europe ended.

Frank was sent home when the war ended. Grace and the girls had moved from Indiana, back to South Carolina. By this time Marge was in High School and Dorothy in Junior High.

Soon after Frank was sent to Ft. Sam Houston in Texas with the Fourth Army. It was there in 1946 that Marge graduated High School and Dorothy graduated from 9th grade. Soon after Frank was assigned to the 2nd Infantry Division at Fort Lewis, Washington. Frank retired from the Army in 1949 after 34 years of service. He had obtained the rank of Colonel.

Dorothy graduated from High School in 1949. Marge attended the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington where she met Blaine L. Wiseman, a geologist. They were married in 1950. Frank and Grace moved back to Eugene, Oregon in 1951,

where they had lived for many years and had many friends. In 1955, Dorothy married Nick Tomanelli, a New Yorker. They had two sons, Nick Jr., born in 1960 and Frank, born in 1964.

While Frank and Grace lived in Eugene, Grace suffered from Alzheimer's and it was getting difficult as she was losing her memory. They decided to move to Tacoma to be near Dorothy. They sold their home and moved to a retirement village. Grace continued to get worse and soon had to be put in a full-care facility.

In 1986, Frank, who had been very healthy all his life, had a stroke. He could not speak or move and had to be fed through a tube. He died six months later at age 89. Grace died in 1989. Frank and Grace had requested that they be cremated, their ashes mixed together and their urn placed in The Military Cemetery in Portland, Oregon. They had been married for 66 years.

*Marjorie Grace Agule Wiseman
(1928–2002)*

The Importance of a Mini Reunion — *One is Being Planned NOW!*

Of corollary importance to the Annual Reunion are the individual “mini-reunions” which are held throughout the year in various locations around the country. In the past, a reunion provided a social event whereby men of the 106th and their families gather close to that infamous date of Dec. 16 1944 to remember fellow men with whom they served.

Southern California

Lt. Donald B. Prell (age 94) of the Anti-Tank Company, 422nd Infantry would like to hold a mini-reunion for 106ers living in California, Nevada and Arizona. Contact him at P.O. Box 1927, Palm Springs, CA 92263 or at 760-835-4080.

Flag of Friendship — Golden Lion Families Remember The Battle of the Bulge

A report from the Belgian Chapter, by Carl Wouters, Association Belgium Liaison

Dec. 16, 1944 is a date forever embedded in the memories of the veterans of the 106th Infantry Division. As the German Fifth Panzer Armee struck the lines of the U.S. 1st Army, heavy fighting engulfed the Golden Lions of the 106th on the heights of the Schnee Eifel and in the valleys of the Our River. Two months of bitter fighting followed, ending with the recapture of lost ground at the end of January 1945.

Whereas the rumble of artillery, machine gun fire and bitter fighting was prevalent when the battle raged, 72 years later the sound of Jeep engines, the drop of tailgates and the crunching noise of army boots in the snow once again filled the St. Vith air. This time it was used to set the scene for a remembrance of the critical events that had taken place there during the cold winter of 1944. No whizz of artillery nor the crack of a rifle was heard, but rather a moment of solemn silence was observed to remember the lives that were lost on both sides and among the civilian population, caught in the middle of the terrible fighting.

Even though more than seven decades have passed since the 106th made a valiant stand at St. Vith, people from all over Europe continue to honor the men who served there, join in commemoration and perpetuation of their legacy. For a country that has seen war ravage towns, homes and lives twice in less than fifty years, there is a sacred duty to remember the past so it won't happen again.

As the numbers of the Greatest Generation continue to decrease, it is up to the family members and next generations to step up and keep the flame of remembrance going. Part of our duty is to connect people and families with this history. For that reason, three 106th Division families were present for the sixth annual Flag of Friendship ceremony at St. Vith and other commemorations that took place that same day.



Vicky DeSalvatore, Harry Stumpf, Gino DeSalvatore and Carl Wouters at the Division memorial in St. Vith. (Photo Doug Mitchell / Borderlands Tours)

Harry “Gino” DeSalvatore and his wife Vicky came to Belgium to bring a story full circle. The story started a few years ago when Association officer and Past-President Harry Martin (424/L) told me about one of his best friends in the service, a young GI by name of Harry A. Arpajian. On the morning of Dec. 16, 1944, Arpajian became one of the Division’s first combat fatalities. While in an outpost with Pvt. Juan Mejia outside the village of Heckhuscheid, Germany they suddenly found

themselves attacked by the first wave of infantrymen of the 62nd Volksgrenadier Division. Arpajian left the cover of the outpost and ran back to alert the rest of the Company. He never reached them.

In 2016, we had the good fortune to bring Juan Mejia back to Heckhuscheid, where he told the story from his perspective. To that day and until we told him, Juan never knew the name of the soldier who was with him. After Arpajian left the outpost, Mejia remained there alone, as artillery dropped all around his post. During one of the subsequent withdrawals, he was separated from the rest of his unit and wandered alone through the woods. After finally running into friendly troops, he was hospitalized with a severe case of trench foot. After connecting Juan with the story, the last missing piece was finding Arpajian's family. After some research, I got in touch with Gino DeSalvatore, son of Harry Arpajian's younger sister. One letter later a connection was made and the rest of the story unfolded. Gino learned about the planned commemorations at St. Vith and expressed an interest to visit to honor his uncle, after whom he was named.



Harry Stumpf and Gino DeSalvatore during the flower presentation in honor of the Golden Lions. (Photo Doug Mitchell / Borderlands Tours)



On the battlefield outside Heckhuscheid, where Harry A. Arpajian was KIA on Dec. 16, 1944. (Photo by Doug Mitchell / Borderlands Tours)

Over the course of two days in December 2017, we visited the Heckhuscheid area where his uncle served and made a poignant and emotional visit to his grave site at the Military Cemetery in Margraten, Holland. There he rests with 8,300 other



The gravesite of Pvt. Harry A. Arpajian (424/L) at the U.S. Military Cemetery in Margraten, Holland. (Photo Carl Wouters)

servicemen and women. Gino and Vicky were the only family members to have visited the grave site since 1944. The 2017 Flag of Friendship ceremony was appropriately dedicated in the honor of Pvt. Arpajian.

The day of the ceremony we were joined by two other 106th Division family members. Shawn Stringham, a retired USAF Master Sergeant living in

continues on page 26

Germany, came to honor his uncle Pfc. Clifford Bobo, who was one of the 424/A casualties on Dec. 17, 1944 at Winterspelt.



Harry Stumpf and Gino DeSalvatore unveiling the new monument at Manhay, Belgium. (Photo Doug Mitchell / Borderlands Tours)

Lt. Col. Harry Stumpf (U.S. Army, Ret'd) attended the ceremonies in honor of his father and grandfather, respectively Colonel Robert H. Stumpf (424/HQ) and Major General Donald A. Stroh (106 DIV/HQ). Colonel Robert Stumpf took command of the 424th Infantry Regiment in February 1945. His father-in-law, Major General Stroh had been appointed Division Commander that same month. Stumpf and Stroh were both veteran officers of the North African, Sicilian and Normandy campaigns. For the occasion of the December commemorations, Harry Stumpf donned the original helmet his father wore during his WW II service.

As in the past five years, this Flag of Friendship is presented to someone who has helped preserve and perpetuate the story of the 106th. The 2017 Award was presented to outgoing Burgermeister of St. Vith, Christian Krings. He has been a loyal and most supportive ally in regards to the annual Battle of the

Bulge commemorations in his city and especially towards the 106th Division. He receives our gratitude for his assistance and dedication in this task of remembrance.

Eddy Monfort led a column of American WW II vehicles across the icy and snow-covered roads of the Ardennes to St. Vith. His vehicle group also led the way to the next ceremony, which was to take place at Rencheux (Vielsalm) by the Ardennes Salm River Chapter of the C-47 Club. Eddy Lamberty and Claude Orban inducted Harry Arpajian posthumously as a member of the Gallery of Giants. Juan Mejia (424/L) received the same distinction two years ago during his return trip, along with an honorary citizenship of Vielsalm.



Eddy Monfort explaining about the battle and the units involved in the fighting around Manhay. (Photo Doug Mitchell / Borderlands Tours)

Many military vehicles, a new monument and new museum in Manhay, Belgium

During the Battle of the Bulge commemoration weekend, the village of Manhay was the place to be for lovers of history and vintage military hardware. Eddy Monfort, Philippe Dessaucey and the crew of the Ardennes History Remember association had



Gino DeSalvatore holding the portrait of his uncle Harry Arpajian. Carl Wouters holds the portrait of Juan Mejia. Both men of 424/L were on outpost duty on the morning of 16 December 1944. Arpajian was killed in action that morning. Mejia survived and returned to Belgium in 2016. (Photo Doug Mitchell / Borderlands Tours)

worked hard in 2016 to get a military vehicle assembly and reenactment event organized in Manhay and Grandmenil. Their initiative created new opportunities and generated public interest in this important battle, which often lies in the shadow of the events surrounding Bastogne. Manhay and Grandmenil will be especially familiar to veterans of the 424th Infantry, which was part of the heavy fighting there on and around Christmas 1944.

In that respect, a new monument honoring the units of the 106th Infantry Division and 7th Armored Division was inaugurated near the field through which the 424th attacked on Christmas Day 1944. It stands as a poignant memorial to the men who fought there. (GPS coordinates 50°17'40,3"N 5°40'15,6"E.) After the success of the 2016 and 2017 editions, which drew large crowds, this year the third edition is in preparation, featuring mock battles and military vehicles of WW II but naturally placing

the emphasis on commemorating the sacrifices made by Allied troops during the Battle of the Bulge.

There is more. A new museum, the "Manhay History Museum 44," is slated to open its doors in September 2018. Currently still under construction, the museum will feature the collection of owner Patrice Dalrue. A Frenchman with Belgian roots, Dalrue spent the past 30 years collecting items related to the Battle of the Bulge, especially focusing on units that fought in and around Manhay and Baraque de Fraiture. Full scale accurate reconstructions of WW II era scenes, historical objects, combined with audiovisual scenes will vividly depict the story of the 75th and 106th Divisions, 7th and 3rd Armored and 82nd Airborne units, who fought in the area. The museum can be found opposite

continues on page 28



An impressive WW II vehicle column is staged at the Rencheux bridge. Compare with the next photo which shows the exact same location in December 1944. (Photo Carl Wouters)



the German Panther tank in Grandmenil, in itself a unique relic of the fighting. Having had a chance to preview the set-up of the museum recently, I will add that visitors will certainly be impressed. The museum will very much be presented in the new style, following along the lines of the Baugnez and La Gleize museums.



French reenactors in German uniforms pose in front of the Panther tank at Grandmenil. The tank was left behind by the 2nd SS Panzer Division on Christmas 1944 when the offensive stalled at Manhay. (Photo Carl Wouters)

2018 Commemorations scheduled

As every year, we encourage veterans and their families to join us in this weekend of commemoration and celebration. Commemorating the lives that were lost and the sacrifices that were made and celebrating the freedom that was secured and preserved thanks to the valiant

service of the men of the Golden Lions.

If you have an interest to be part of the commemorations taking place on Dec. 16, 2018, contact Doug or myself at: carl_wouters@hotmail.com or doug.mitchell@t-online.de

Remembering Sergeant Charles Rizzoli (422/H)

A report from the Belgian Chapter, By Carl Wouters, Association Belgium Liaison



Sergeant Charles Leo Rizzoli was one of the squad leaders in the 2nd machine gun platoon of Company "H." He originated from Edwardsville, Illinois. He cut short his college education in mechanical engineering in California to join the army on March 10, 1943. Rizzoli joined the 106th Division as one of the initial recruits while stationed at Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

On Dec. 19, 1944, the heavy weapons company of the 2nd Battalion, 422nd Infantry set up mortars and heavy machine guns on a bare hill outside Schönberg, Belgium, to support the attack of several rifle companies. Their objective was to cut the Schönberg-Andler road and recapture the town and its vital bridge across the Our River. As history points out, that objective was never

L-R: Charlie Sturm, Mary Rizzoli-Sturm and Carl Wouters at the approximate site of Sergeant Rizzoli's death, on the hillside between Schönberg and Andler, Belgium. Flowers were left at the spot by the family. (Photo Doug Mitchell / Borderlands Tours)



Sergeant Charles L. Rizzoli, squad leader, 2nd machine gun platoon, Company "H," 422nd Infantry Regiment. 1924-1944. (Photo Doug Mitchell / Borderlands Tours)

reached because of overwhelming German strength in the valley. The German troop column grinding its way west towards St. Vith caused carnage within the ranks of the 422nd men making their way down the exposed hillside. The fight of the 422nd ended right there that afternoon.

Around noon that day, German artillery and mortars opened up on the Company "H" positions, systematically taking out the HMG and mortar emplacements. The men kept up the fire until they were literally blasted out of their position. Many individual acts of courage and distinction were observed, but casualties in the company were heavy. Lieutenants Harman and Hammond were both killed while correcting fire. Platoon Sergeant Sam 'Searchlight' Baxter was mortally wounded while trying to repair a

jammed machine gun. Sergeant Rizzoli tried to retrieve the machine gun, but a mortar burst cut his life short. He died at age 20 on the hill outside Schönberg. For his actions Rizzoli's parents received their son's posthumous Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart. His remains were brought home in 1949, where he rests at Woodlawn Cemetery in his hometown of Edwardsville, IL.

In April 2018, Rizzoli's 90-year-old niece Mary and her family came to Belgium to pay tribute to their fallen relative. Doug Mitchell and I helped them retrace the steps of Company "H" and Sergeant Rizzoli's final days in the Eifel. The day ended in Bastogne, Belgium, where Rizzoli was buried between 1945-1949 in the Temporary Military Cemetery in Foy before being repatriated back to the States.

Family Ties Joined at Baraque De Fraiture

A report from the Belgian Chapter, by Carl Wouters, Association Belgium Liaison

The Battle at Baraque de Fraiture, Belgium is considered to be one of the most important holding actions of the Battle of the Bulge. From Dec. 19 till 23, 1944, a blocking force under the overall command of Major Arthur C. Parker III of the 589th Field Artillery Battalion stopped the German 2nd SS Panzer Division and units of the 560th Volksgrenadier Division and so denied them access of the Bastogne-Liège highway.

Three howitzers were all that remained of the original twelve-gun Battalion after a narrow escape at Schönberg, Belgium, on Dec. 17, 1944. Five officers of the 589th played a crucial part in the defense. Major Parker had overall command of the makeshift force. He was assisted by Major Elliot Goldstein. Captain Arthur C. Brown, originally commanding Battery "B," was put in charge of the three howitzers. The other two were Captain George Huxel, the assistant battalion S-3 Officer and Lieutenant Thomas Wright of Battery "C." Over the course of the next few days, other small units joined the defense line: Sherman tanks of the 3rd Armored, anti-aircraft artillery halftracks of the 7th Armored and two infantry companies of the 82nd Airborne Division (325 GIR and 509 PIB). On Dec. 23, the crossroads finally fell in hands of the German army. Nevertheless, the



Carl Wouters, George and Betty Huxel with Bernadette Lejeune at the Auberge du Carrefour. In front is a scale model of the area showing the post 1944 destruction.
(Photo Doug Mitchell / Borderlands Tours)

defenders had enabled the First U.S. Army to stabilize the Manhay front to their rear, which eventually led to the failure of the drive of the 2nd SS Panzer Division towards the Meuse and their ultimate goal, Antwerp.

Two inns at the crossroads of Baraque de Fraiture, owned and operated for generations by the same family, overnight became command posts, medical stations and shelters against the harsh winter weather. The once quiet crossroads became a battleground. Several attacks were thrown against the defenders of "Parker's Crossroads" but were repulsed time and time again. Major Parker was seriously wounded and evacuated on Dec. 22 and Major Goldstein assumed command. Goldstein later went to Manhay to request reinforcements and was subsequently unable to return to the crossroads. In his absence,



Marjorie and Vallie Brown with Bernadette in front of the memorial at Parker's Crossroads. The 589th Field Artillery was equipped with 105mm Howitzers like the one on outdoor display here. It is emplaced in the position occupied by late Association member John Gatens (589/A) (Photo Carl Wouters)

Captain Arthur Brown assumed overall command. Captain Huxel had also been wounded by a mortar shell but could not be evacuated as the crossroads was now surrounded. As the final hours of the battle unfolded, the building that housed Captain Brown's command post was set ablaze by mortars and artillery. Tanks and infantry breached the defense line and finally overwhelmed the crossroads. Those who could sought means to evade capture. Captain Huxel and several men roused out cows from the adjacent barn of the command post and used them as cover to reach a roadside ditch and the nearby woods. Captain Brown also made a dash for the woods, but ran smack into German infantry. He spent the rest of the war as a prisoner of the Germans. Captain Brown passed away in 1994, followed by Captain Huxel in 1995.

George Huxel Jr. and his wife Betty visited Belgium in the Spring of 2017. In the early spring of this year, Captain

Brown's daughters, Vallie and Marjorie, chose a similar path to retrace their father's steps at Baraque de Fraiture. The inns that once were the command posts for the 589th are still owned and operated by the same family, now the sixth generation. Both Golden Lion families were welcomed with open arms at the Auberge du Carrefour by Bernadette Lengler-Lejeune and her daughter Esméralda as part of their own family, continuing a shared history that started 72 years before when their ancestors found themselves at Baraque de Fraiture. For Bernadette, the visit of the Brown family was very meaningful. In fact, it was Captain Brown who, during his return trip in 1983, had generated awareness for the history of what happened there. Many veterans would follow in his wake. Association historian and Parker's crossroads veteran John Schaffner will certainly agree. To this day, Bernadette and her family carry on the promise that her mother made in 1944, to honor and care for the American "libérateurs." A promise well kept.



The Crossroads and inns at Baraque de Fraiture, before the war. The building on the left was used as Captain Brown's command post during the fighting. Both structures were completely destroyed during the Battle of the Bulge and rebuilt postwar.

O.D. History — Colonel Stumpf's Helmet Liner and Wool Shirt

By Carl Wouters, Association Belgium Liaison

Robert H. Stumpf was born in Barberton, Ohio in 1915. After graduating from high school in 1932, he attended Akron University for one year while competing to be admitted to the United States Military Academy at West Point, for which he later received a Presidential appointment.

With a towering height of six feet, he was an avid football player while at the Academy. Stumpf graduated as a member of the Class of 1937 and received a commission as a Second Lieutenant. After a short stint at the Army Air Corps flight training center, he transferred back to the infantry at Fort Benning, GA. Soon after, he met and married Imogene Stroh, daughter of (then) Major Donald A. Stroh.

In 1942, Stumpf was promoted to Major and became a staff officer in the 76th Division. As part of the Allied invasion of North Africa, he served as assistant ordnance officer of the Western Task Force, commanded by Major-General George S. Patton Jr. In search of a combat assignment, Stumpf

transferred to become executive officer of the 66th Armored Regiment, part of the 2nd Armored Division. In May of 1943 he received a promotion to Lieutenant Colonel. For the invasion of Sicily, he was selected to be X.O. of the 2nd Armored's Task Force "A." When fighting on the island came to an end, Stumpf accepted the offer to command a Battalion in the 39th Infantry Regiment of the 9th Division in preparation to the invasion of France. Stumpf's Battalion came ashore on Utah Beach on D-Day +4 and captured the town of Quineville. For this action, he received his first Bronze Star Medal. The 9th Division continued to drive across France towards the port city of Cherbourg, and by the end of June 1944, Stumpf's command led mopping-up operations in the Cotentin peninsula, for which he was awarded another Bronze Star Medal.

The drive across France and into Belgium in September necessitated a night crossing of the Meuse River under enemy fire, for which Colonel Stumpf received the Silver Star. His unit was then deployed in the Hürtgen Forest, a costly campaign which lasted until early 1945. During the Battle of the Bulge, the 9th Division held out in the sector Monschau-Elsenborn and finally crossed the Ruhr River in early February 1945 to capture the Urftalsperre Dam. Meanwhile Stumpf's father-in-law, (now) Major-General Donald Stroh, was asked to take command of the remnants of the 106th Division. The



Display of helmet and shirt worn by Colonel Robert H. Stumpf.



Portrait photo of Colonel Stumpf.

424th Infantry Regiment had lost its regular leader, Colonel Alexander D. Reid on Jan. 15, 1945 to wounds received in action during the capture of Ennal, Belgium. The Regiment was in need of an experienced combat commander and for that reason it was offered to Lt. Colonel Stumpf. Although at first reluctant to accept command, given the fact that the Division was led by his father-in-law, he accepted and took command of the 424th in early February 1945. The Regiment was then engaged in operations to breach a belt of pillboxes and minefields of the German West Wall (Siegfried Line) in the area around Berk and Neuhof. After completing this mission in March, the Regiment was brought to France for refitting before being deployed along the Rhine River in April 1945 to begin the gargantuan task of processing millions of German POWs. In June 1945, Colonel Stumpf was promoted

to the rank of full Colonel and awarded the Legion of Merit.

After the war, Colonel Stumpf was a member of the Military Mission to observe the 1946 Greek elections and later became an instructor at the Command and General Staff College, a staff officer of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and senior advisor to the South Korean Army, as well as commander of the Virginia Sector of the 21st Army Corps. He retired in 1967 and passed away in 1971. Colonel Stumpf is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

After the recent commemorations in St. Vith, Colonel Stumpf's son Harry (himself a West Point graduate and retired Lt. Colonel of the 82nd Airborne Division) donated his father's WW II era helmet liner and wool shirt with sown lion patch. These items were worn by his father while he served as commander of the 424th Infantry Regiment.

Veterans and Family of the 106th Infantry Division TATTOO* Requests

With space in *The CUB* at a premium, yet Reunited Buddies and Their Families an important commodity, the editor of *The CUB of the Golden Lion* created the following list [*In Their Own Words, most often*] of inquiries submitted to him in hopes of helping people get in touch with the 106th I.D. Association Family. The following are requests for information. Feel free to contact them if you believe you can be of assistance. *The CUB* staff has received permission from all listed below to print their inquiry and their contact email (phone and address when available).

In addition, Non-Veteran member Connie Pratt Baesman, daughter of Lt. Gerald Pratt (Field Artillery), has been one of three people helping to manage the 106th's online "message board" (set up by Jim West) for people to write an inquiry, looking for comrades, or for people who might have known a relative who is now gone. Sadly, some inquiries sit unanswered when the answers may be out there with a reader of *The CUB* who doesn't use a computer. The list has gotten quite long and Connie has asked that whenever there is room in *The CUB* we add a few of the requests. You can find messages like these below, along with other searches on the 106th Message Board at the following Web address: <http://106thdivision.proboards.com/index.cgi>

*The original meaning of **military tattoo** was a military drum performance, but subsequently it came to mean army displays, or a form of gathering more generally. For our Association, letting members know that someone would like to speak with them is "why we do this! So keep sending in your stories, as an old friend may find you!" — Susan Weiss (Publisher of *The CUB*) and William McWhorter (Editor of *The CUB*)

Anita Froelich

I desire information about a true veteran who was captured during the Battle of the Bulge, Germany. He returned to the United States mid-June 1945. William Skinner turned 19 in a prison camp somewhere there. Upon return, there was little conversation with my mother of this time. I was born the following year. They



divorced in 1949. He trained at Camp Atterbury, IN. He was returned to my mother's care at Ft. McPherson in Atlanta, GA. Where his ship docked I have no idea. I believe he possibly was in a hospital in NJ before coming home. If anyone has information they care to share I would appreciate having the knowledge. He did talk once he was in a box car and the car next to him was bombed. He was severely emaciated. He was shell shocked. His feet and hands were frost bitten. God rest his soul. He served in the 106th Golden Lion's 423rd. Thank you in advance.
wabuford@bellsouth.net

Mary Murray (widow of William Murray, 422)

A few months ago, a friend of mine (a Vietnam Veteran) offered to help me obtain my husband's army medals. I have always wanted to learn more about his experience in the Battle of the Bulge during World War II. My husband, William B. Murray was in the 422nd Infantry Regiment and was captured, I believe, on Dec. 16, 1944. I sincerely regret that I did not learn more from him before he passed in 2005. I just know he had been a POW and it was a very cold winter in Belgium and Germany and that he was freed by the British after five months in boxcars and in prison camps. I am using the links on the 106th Infantry Division Association's website to learn more about the Battle of the Bulge. Thanks for all that your Association has done and continues to do. I would love to learn more about the 422nd and my husband's service during the war. If any Veterans, Association members or historians have information they are willing to share, would you please email me at mjmwbm1024@fuse.net or by phone at 513-232-4634. Thank you.

Information requested about Golden Lion Richard Thomas

My name is Harry Ziegler; I am a Retired Marine. For the last 10 years, I have been doing Oral Histories of WW II Veterans at the Palm Springs Air Museum. In the last month, I interviewed 100-year-old SSGT Richard Thomas, holder of the U.S. Army Distinguished Service Cross. He was in the 106th Infantry Division at the Battle of the Bulge. We have determined that he was interviewed for the Medal of Honor but after being captured and forced to walk for over 400 miles with little or no food, he was just unresponsive. When he, along with some 200 prisoners, were found, the men were skin and bones. From the time he was found by the Americans until he arrived on the West Coast of California (three months) he, to this day, has no memory of that time. His Medal of Honor interview occurred during this "blacked out" period. He has mentioned there were stories about him while in the 106th Golden Lions. We are trying to revisit his receiving the MOH. If you have copies of past issues of *The CUB of the Golden Lion* that mention him, we would like to get a copy.

Mr. Thomas said he kept copies for years but can no longer find his own. For our research we would like to know if any members of the Association have "the story" (stories) of the veterans of the 422nd and 423rd after they were captured. We know they were marched to a rail yard and spent a night or two in box cars, which were strafed at night by Spits. Then they were marched to Stalag IV-4 a prison camp north of Dresden. The town at the prison camp was Muhlberg. They were there less than a week and then marched for over four months through, we think, Czechoslovakia. We need "the rest of the story." Your assistance is most appreciated. Harry Ziegler can be reached at: 760-324-1197; harryziegler45@gmail.com, as well as: 18 Kavenish Drive, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270.

If you haven't done it yet —

Make your plans NOW!!

to join us for the

72nd Annual Reunion

of the
106th Infantry Division Association
at the

Crown Plaza Hotel – Dayton, OH

from

September 5 to 9, 2018

Contact Mike Sheaner, Treasurer at sheaner1@airmail.net
for additional registration forms and paperwork
or call Wayne Dunn at 410-409-1141 if you have any questions.

For additional information about the reunion or
to register online visit:

www.afr-reg.com/106inf2018

NEW Release!



Warm Memories of Cold Spring

by Beatrice Fulton Keeber

A Golden Lion's war experiences forged a boy into a man. But what really defined him as the person he became was his "happily ever after" with his family and his 60-year love story. *Warm Memories of Cold Spring* is not a war story! It's a smile-producing tale of "what came next" that reminds other vets of their own "afters," their children and grandchildren of Dad's and Mom's or Grandpa's and Grandma's lives.

Pfc. Willard H. Keeber, with Co. G, 424th Infantry Regiment, 106th Infantry Division, was placed on-line December 11, 1944 near St. Vith, Belgium, two months past his 19th birthday, five days prior to the German Tank Assault that smashed directly through his position, launching the Battle of the Bulge.

This is the story of a *veteran's* legacy that left his world better than he found it.

Online at ***www.amazon.com*** (simply type the title in the search bar)

Print copy – \$9.99; Kindle – \$4.99

ANNOUNCING THE PUBLICATION OF
CAPTURED AT THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

BY RUSS LANG

**Captured at the
Battle of the Bulge**



Memoir of a P.O.W.
by Sgt. E. Russell Lang

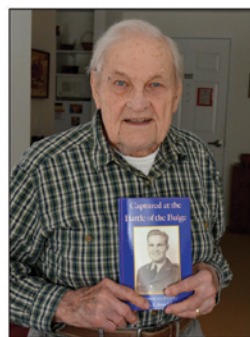
In December 1944 a young American soldier's division, newly-arrived in Europe, was sent to the front line to a quiet position on the Belgian- German border. Days after their arrival the Germans launched the great counterattack that came to be called the Battle of the Bulge. Russ Lang and his regiment were soon encircled. They attacked until their supplies and ammunition were exhausted, then held out until circumstances forced them to surrender.

Captured at the Battle of the Bulge is Russ Lang's memoir of his service before and during the battle, the hardships he encountered in a series of German stalags, and the joy of liberation as the Germans were overcome. The diary Lang kept as a prisoner of war is included, with additional notes that could not be written down while he remained in the power of his captors. *Captured at the Battle of the Bulge* is a fascinating personal and historical document.

To order your copy of
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by Russ Lang

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Russ Lang

Forced March from the Bulge to Berchtesgaden

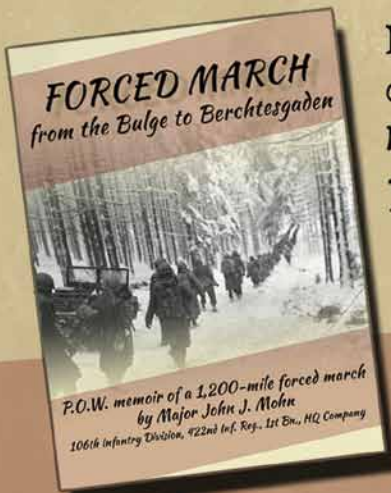
Major John J. Mohn
106th Division, 422nd Infantry,
1st Batalion, HQ Company

Major John J. Mohn (then Captain) was taken prisoner at the Battle of the Bulge in December 1944, along with 7,000 other men. As prisoner camps were too full and the German officers were unsure what to do with so many prisoners, Mohn's POW group was forced to march 1,200 miles.

He was liberated three times, twice recaptured. His final liberation was on May 2, 1945 at Gars-am-Inn. Of the 7,000 men he was only liberated with about 100 men.

John Mohn recorded his POW experience in a memoir. Unfortunately Mohn passed away in January 2005. His book was never published.

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PLEASE REPORT ALL CHANGES OF ADDRESS AND DEATHS TO: ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP CHAIR:

Jacquelyn Coy

121 McGregor Ave., Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856

Phone: 973-663-2410

Email: membership@106thinfdivassn.org

ANDERSON, ARTHUR FRANCIS “BUZZ” Unit Unknown

—*Date of Death: February 2, 2018*



Golden Lion Arthur Francis “Buzz” Anderson, 95, of Edgewater, MD, passed away on Friday, Feb. 2 at his home. Born in Glen Ridge, NJ, Art

was a 1941 graduate of Glen Ridge High School. He enrolled in Newark College of Engineering but was called to active military service in 1943. He spent part of his training at Texas A&M University and was later sent to Germany with the 106th Infantry Division just as that portion of WW II ended. He served in Germany with the Occupation Forces. After the war, Art earned an engineering degree and worked with General Electric for 30 years. His specialty was designing radar antennas for the military. He finished his engineering career at IITRI in Edgewater, MD. Art was a member of Sigma XI, The Scientific Research Society of North America. He enjoyed golf, advanced mathematics, tennis, gardening, playing bridge and reading. He also enjoyed hiking, camping and fishing with his niece and nephews in New York’s Adirondack Park and studying the ecology of Adirondack beaver bogs. Art was preceded in death by his wife of 46 years, Patricia Evans, who died in 2011. They were married

in February of 1965. Art is survived by his three nephews, Bill, Tom and Bob Barber and his niece, Linda Domino. He also had numerous great and great-great nieces and nephews. Funeral services will be private.

Reported by Jim West

BARRATT, GEORGE B. 424

—*Date of Death: May 16, 2018*

George B. Barratt, age 97, of Sebring, FL passed away Wednesday, May 16, 2018. He was born Nov. 1, 1920 in East Templeton, MA to Thomas and Edith Barratt. George moved to Ashburnham, MA, in 1940, where he met and married his wife Florence. He enlisted in the Army in August 1944 and served with the 424th Regiment, 106th Infantry Division in England, France, Belgium and Germany. He worked as a heavy weapons crewman, a machine gunner and also as a military policeman. He served as an Honor Guard for General Eisenhower. He was active in the Ashburnham VFW, serving as Treasurer and was a member of the Color Guard. George was the owner/operator of George’s Barbershop in Ashburnham from 1946 to 1974. He reopened his business in 1975 in Winchendon, MA, until May 1986 when he retired. He enjoyed people throughout his career and retirement

continues on page 40

years. He possessed a quick wit and a dry sense of humor. He is survived by a son and daughter, four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife, Florence.

Reported by Jim West

BETHEA, FLORENCE MANNING

—*Date of Death: November 29, 2017*

My mother passed away on Nov. 29, 2017 at the ripe age of 101-3/4. She was known as Mrs. William S. Bethea on *The CUB* label and Florence Manning Bethea to others. She was a Life Associate member and the sister of Capt. James L. Manning, KIA in Bleialf and CO/423rd Cannon Co. She received a number of letters from soldiers who had served with Capt. Manning over the years. Following our trip to Henri-Chapelle, Belgium over the Thanksgiving weekend in 1996 to visit Capt. Manning's grave, John Kline placed a fine article about our visit and it being the trip of a lifetime.

Reported by her son, Charles A. Bethea

BLADEN, JOHN ANTHONY 423/C

—*Date of Death: November 26, 2017*

On Sunday, Nov. 26, 2017, John



Anthony Bladen, Sr. age 97, died peacefully in his sleep with his beloved son, Johnny, by his side. Born May 9, 1920, in Washington DC to the late Thomas and

Gertrude Bladen, SSgt. Bladen enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1943 and was subsequently transferred into the Army serving in the European-African-

Middle Eastern Division until 1946. As a Bronze Star recipient, SSgt. Bladen was captured by the Germans and held prisoner until his rescue some months later. Toward the end of his enlistment, John met the love of his life, the late Mary Virginia, whom he married in 1950. He is survived by his son, John “Johnny” Anthony Bladen, Jr.

Reported in the Thibadeau Mortuary Service, P.A.

BUGNER, THOMAS F. 590/FABN

—*Date of Death: March 15, 2018*

Thomas F. Bugner, age 97, passed away on March 15, 2018, in Glendale, AZ. He was born to the late Ruth Smith and Fred Bugner on Dec. 14, 1920 in Chicago, IL. Thomas was a resident of Brookfield, IL from 1953 until he moved to Phoenix in 1978. Thomas was a lifetime and Past Commander of the Ex-Prisoners of War Chapter I of Phoenix, as well as a lifetime member of the VFW 7500 and DAV. In addition, for many years, both he and Lucille were volunteers at the Veterans Hospital. In recognition of his service during and after World War II, Thomas received many commendations from the United States Veterans Administration, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, former Mayor Rimsza, Friends of Phoenix, the U.S.A. Soldiers 5 Freedom Fighter and the Battle of Normandy Foundation. Most notably, Thomas had the great honor of receiving the Prisoner of War Medal in 1988 from Senator John McCain. He also received two Purple Heart Medals for injuries sustained during the war. Thomas was fortunate to have had his experiences as a soldier and POW during World War II documented at the

Arizona Historical Society Museum in Tempe and in a documentary produced for *Veterans Today*. He is survived by two daughters, two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife, Lucille and his son, William.

Reported by his daughter, Pamela Bugner

COHEN, ROBERT 106th Sig Co

—*Date of Death: March 10, 2018*

Robert Cohen was born in Northampton, MA, on July 18, 1924 to Louis M. and Lena Cohen. He leaves three daughters, a brother, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his beloved wife of 65 years, Ruth, whom he met while he was a student at the University of Pennsylvania (UPenn). Robert graduated from Northampton High School in 1941 and was always proud that his class was the first to graduate from “the new high school.” That fall, he started at UPenn but his studies there were interrupted by World War II. He entered the Army in 1943 and saw action in France, Belgium and Germany as a lineman with the 106th Infantry Division. His war service included fighting in the Battle of the Bulge. After the war, he returned to the University of Pennsylvania and graduated in 1947. He also studied at various points in his life at Auburn University, UMass (Amherst) and Smith College Graduate School, where he received a graduate degree. Following college, he was first affiliated with his family’s Main St., Northampton retail business. While there, he was active in the Chamber of Commerce and the United Way and he

was a Cooperator of the old Northampton Institution for Savings and its successor. In 1966, he embarked on a new career. After obtaining his Master’s degree, he joined the faculty at Greenfield Community College and was a professor of Mathematics there until his retirement in 1989. Several years into his tenure at GCC, he also became chairman of the Mathematics department. Robert and his family lived in Northampton until 1973 and in South Deerfield from 1973 until 2003 when Robert and Ruth moved to Loomis Village in South Hadley. He was a devoted and expert skier from age 35 until his mid-eighties, skiing at almost every ski area in Vermont and New Hampshire. He also volunteered for a number of years at Mt. Tom Ski Area in Holyoke skiing one-on-one to accompany blind skiers. After he retired, his skiing included a yearly trip to Colorado and a once-in-a-lifetime vacation in the Swiss Alps with his grandson.

Reported by Jim West

CROWELL, EDWARD R. 423/B

—*Date of Death: May 9, 2018*

Edward entered the Army in December 1944 and was trained as a military policeman, but was sent overseas to Germany and was captured and spent four months as a POW working in a block factory and locked in a train boxcar. The Russians freed them. His arrival home in July of 1945 was celebrated with a Christmas dinner with all the trimmings. Edward was an auto mechanic for 42 years. He traveled for 10 years throughout the United States after his retirement. He was a lifetime member of the American Legion. He is

continues on page 42

Memoriam . . .

survived by a daughter and son. He was predeceased by his wife of 46 years.

Reported by his daughter, Teresa Perigo

DOHONEY, DR. WILLIAM “PAT” 422/C

—*Date of Death: May 2, 2018*

Dr. William “Pat” Dohoney, 94, of Carlisle, PA, and formerly of Mechanicsburg, passed away on Wednesday, May 2, 2018 at Cumberland Crossings Retirement Community, Carlisle. Pat was born on Oct. 23, 1923 in Harrisburg. He was the son of the late William D. and Eva E. Dohoney. He was a graduate of William Penn High School in Harrisburg and went on to attend Pennsylvania State University where he was a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity. He was a graduate of Lebanon Valley College and the University of Pennsylvania School of Dentistry. Pat was a POW Veteran of the U.S. Army. During his military service, he was awarded the Prisoner of War Medal, a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star. He was also an officer in the U.S. Air Force and served both domestically and abroad. Pat was a retired dentist and the owner of Dohoney Family Dentistry that started in Harrisburg and eventually moved to Camp Hill. He was a Mason with membership at the Valley of Harrisburg, A.A.S.R., the Harrisburg Consistory, A.A.S.R., the Blue Lodge and Zembo Shrine. He was also proud to be a member of Mensa International. Pat loved to read, travel in his RV with his wife, attend Penn State football games and play a round of golf at the West Shore Country Club. He was a history buff and was a Lutheran in faith. He is survived by his wife, Josephine M., of

Carlisle, a daughter, a granddaughter and two great-granddaughters.

Reported by Myers-Harner Funeral and Cremation Services, Camp Hill, Pa.

EIDELMAN, HERBERT 424/SVC

—*Date of Death: February 13, 2016*



Herbert Eidelman, 91, of Southfield, Michigan, died on Feb. 13, 2016.

The Funeral was held at graveside on Sunday, Feb. 14, 2016 at 3:30 p.m.

Rabbi Jennifer Kaluzny officiated.

Reported by Jackie Coy

FRIEL, MYLES B. 424/I

—*Date of Death: March 18, 2013*

He will be laid to rest next to his beloved wife Dorothy at the Zanesville Memorial Park Cemetery where full military honors will be presented by the United States Army in conjunction with VFW George Selsam Post #1058.

Reported by Jackie Coy

GEHNER, LA MOINE HENRY 422/L

—*Date of Death: March 7, 2015*

La Moine was born Sept. 23, 1925 in Mt. Olive, IL. He was a member of the United States Army serving during WW II. He attained the rank of Corporal in the Military Police, was a prisoner of war and received the Good Conduct Medal, the European-African and Middle Eastern Campaign Ribbon, the American Theater Ribbon, the WW II Medal, a Bronze Campaign Star and a Combat Infantryman’s Badge. In 1950, he married the late Maria Gabriella Strini in Pocahontas,

Arkansas. He enjoyed yard work and gardening. He was an avid Cardinals fan. He especially loved taking the Veterans Honor Flight in June of 2010. He is survived by his companion, Vi Fischer and one sister.

Reported by Jackie Coy

GIBSON, JAMES B. 591/HQ

—*Date of Death: unknown*

Reported by Jackie Coy

GUNVALSON, RUSSELL 590/FABN

—*Date of Death: May 23, 2017*

Russell Gunvalson, 93, of Rochester, formerly of Spring Valley, died Tuesday, May 23, 2017 at his home. He was born July 11, 1923 in Spring Valley, Wis. He graduated from Spring Valley High School in 1941. He worked for a time in Spring Valley until he enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1943. Cpl. Gunvalson was a forward artillery spotter in Battery A, 590th Field Artillery Battalion, 106th Infantry Division. His location was overrun by German troops on Dec. 19, 1944, and Russell was one of 6,697 troops in the 106th captured by the Germans. Russell spent from Dec. 19, 1944 to March 30, 1945 in three different prisoner of war camps in Germany. His war experiences were published in a book he wrote. Russell was a frequent guest speaker to many high school history classes in Rochester and the surrounding area. He was also regularly interviewed by students for their historical research papers. Russell was a member of the American Ex-POW organization, belonging to the Wisconsin Indianhead Chapter and a founding member of the Minnesota

Hiawatha Chapter of the organization. He was a member of the Ex-POWs, DAV, American Legion and the 106th Infantry Division Association. On April 23, 1947, he married Idelle E. Larson at St. John's Lutheran Church. They made their home in Spring Valley where Russ was a clerk in the Post Office and became a rural carrier until his retirement in 1977. In 1985, Russ and Idelle moved to Rochester. Russ ran a busy handyman business in Rochester until 1995. Mrs. Gunvalson died in 2013. Russ is survived by their two children, nine grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Reported by Jackie Coy

HAYES, DR. W. MERRICK, JR. Unit Unknown

—*Date of Death: April 29, 2018*

Dr. W. Merrick Hayes Jr., a dentist in the City of Tonawanda, NY for 40 years, died April 29 in Northgate Health Care Facility, Wheatfield. He was 91. Born in Lockport, his father and uncle were dentists. He was a graduate of Kenmore High School, earned a bachelor's degree from Canisius College and served in the Army in the 106th Infantry Division. After graduating from the University at Buffalo Dental School in 1953, he joined his father's practice on Delaware Street in the City of Tonawanda and took it over when his father retired. He continued to see patients part-time after he sold the practice in 1993 and went on working cruises as a ship's dentist for Holland American Lines. Dr. Hayes was chief of dentistry at DeGraff Memorial Hospital in North Tonawanda and served on the hospital's

continues on page 44

executive board. He also was a staff member at Millard Fillmore Hospital, Buffalo General Hospital and Erie County Medical Center. A member of the Dental Service Corp. of the Eighth District Dental Society, he was executive board chairman of the peer review committee. He was a director of Blue Shield of Western New York and a member of the International College of Dentists. Beloved husband of 60 years to the late Mary A. (nee Howard) Hayes; dear father of W. Merrick "Rick" Hayes III, Katherine (Robert) Meyer, Jeffrey (Melinda) Hayes and the late Christopher H. Hayes; grandfather of five grandchildren; brother of the late Margaret Hayes. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Merrick and his wife Mary on May 31, at St. Rose of Lima Church, Parkside and Parker Ave., Buffalo. If desired, contributions may be made in Dr. Hayes' memory to Niagara Hospice. Share condolences at www.denglerrobertspernafuneral.com.

Reported by Jim West

HOHNSTEIN, CLINTON D. 422/A
—*Date of Death: April 27, 2018*

Clinton D. Hohnstein, of Cozad, Neb., passed away April 27, 2018 at the Cozad Community Hospital at the age of 94. Clint was born March 20, 1924 in rural Clay County, Nebraska to Henry and Esther Hohnstein. He grew up in rural Clay and Hamilton counties and attended school in Stockam for six years and moved with the family to Harvard at the age of twelve. He graduated from Harvard in 1941. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in March of 1943 and served 32 months until late November of 1945. He served in the European Theater with

the 106th Infantry Division and was taken as a prisoner by the German Army on Dec. 19, 1944. Hohnstein served as a BAR gunner with Co. "A" of the 422nd Infantry during the Battle of the Bulge and was a POW at Stalag IVB, later joining an Arbeitskommando in Leipzig. He eventually was brought to a hospital in the town of Halle, which was heavily bombed. He escaped from there and reached the lines of the 69th Division. He made his way to friendly troops on April 24, 1945. He was discharged in late November of 1945. Within a week of his discharge, he went to work for Kansas Nebraska Natural Gas Co. in Hastings. On Sept. 22, 1946, he married Donna Rauscher in Harvard, Nebraska. In June of 1947, they were transferred to Cozad where he worked for the company until his retirement in 1985. He enjoyed time with his family as well as Cozad High School sports and Cornhusker football games. He was a longtime member of the Cozad United Methodist Church. He served on boards of the church, Cozad Country Club, United Way, Dawson County American Red Cross, as well as 10 years on the Cozad Fire Department. He also was lifetime member of the American Legion, VFW, American Ex-Prisoners of War and the Combat Infantryman's Association. His real passion for many years was golf and spending the winters in Florida with his wife.

Reported by Carl Wouters

HOWELL, ROBERT FOSTER, JR 424/H

—*Date of Death: February 12, 2018*
Retired Col. Robert Foster Howell, Jr., age 96, of Griffin, Georgia, passed

away on Monday, Feb. 12, 2018. Mr. Howell was born on Oct. 20, 1921 in Buffalo, South Carolina. He is preceded in death by his parents, Princess Thelma Felton Howell and Robert Foster Howell, Sr. He is a 1939 graduate of Griffin High School and Clemson University, Class of 1943. Mr. Howell is a retired Colonel from the United States Army, a recipient of the Bronze Star and the Combat Infantry Badge, having served in World War II and the Battle of the Bulge with the 106th Infantry Division. Following his military career, he began working in the textile industry, traveling and living in many locations. In 1962, he and his family returned to Griffin and in 1964, he founded his company, R. Howell Enterprises, which began with him bringing the first of many self-service car wash facilities to much of the southern United States. After retirement, he and his wife continued their love of traveling around the world. Mr. Howell is survived by his loving wife of 71 years, Louise, his daughter, Nancy, sons Robert and Charles, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Reported by Mike Sheaner

JEWETT, DEAN F.

168th Combat Engineer Battalion

—*Date of Death: May 5, 2018*

Golden Lion Dean Jewett passed away at the age of 99. He served with the 168th Combat Engineer Battalion, which supported the 106th Division during the early days of the Battle of the Bulge. He wrote and published the book *Hinder Forward* in 2001, detailing the story of his unit and the men who served with the 168th.

Reported by Carl Wouters

MAST, JOHN RUSSELL

81st ENG/C

—*Date of Death: February 28, 2018*

Golden Lion John Russell Mast was born in Chester, PA on Jan. 1, 1921. John joined the Army in July 1942. He never talked much about his war experiences. I learned through paperwork I found that he was captured on Dec. 21, 1944 near St. Vith during the Battle of the Bulge. He was held prisoner at Stalag XII A in Limberg, Germany and again moved to Stalag XI B in Fallingbomel, Germany. The prison camp was liberated by an Allied Rescue Party on April 16, 1945. He was awarded a Purple Heart Medal, Good Conduct Medal and a Bronze Star. After being hospitalized in England, he returned to the United States. When the ship entered New York Harbor and the Statue of Liberty came into view, there wasn't a dry eye on board. John said, "I never thought I would see home again. Seeing the Statue of Liberty was a thrill of a lifetime. All the emotion was overwhelming. To this very day, the memory of returning to the United States and my love for our country returns every time I see the Statue of Liberty." He was discharged from the Army in November 1945. He returned home, went back to work, built a home, a life and a family. He was loved and respected by every person who knew him. He was the widower of Blanche Peglow Mast whom he married in 1945. He is survived by this daughter, Sharon Lea Schreffler and grandson, Anthony Schreffler.

Reported by his daughter, Sharon Schreffler

MCLEOD, DONALD ROBERT

423/F



—*Date of Death:*
January 25, 2018

Donald Robert McLeod, 94, of Nixa, Missouri, died Thursday, Jan. 25, 2018, after a recent fall and declining

health. He was born May 19, 1923 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. After graduating from McKinley High School in 1941 and working for a time, he joined the Army, serving during World War II. He became a prisoner of war during the Battle of the Bulge, was awarded a Purple Heart and was a Bronze Star recipient. After returning from the war, he married Hilda Allender and had three daughters. Like his father, he was a master carpenter and worked as a construction superintendent for much of his career. In 1985, he married Evelyn Heefner Derflinger. In retirement, Don and Evie traveled in their RV, visiting their children and seeing the country. He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Olga McLeod, his first wife, Hilda, stepson Jon Derflinger, stepdaughter, Jane McKie and sister, Mary Ellen Stone. He is survived by his daughters, Linda, Bonnie and Donna, and too many grandchildren and great-grandchildren to count.

Reported by Jackie Coy

SCHLEUSENER, ROLAND E. “ROLLIE”

423/C

—*Date of Death:* *May 21, 2018*

Roland E. Schleusener, 94 years old, of Antioch, IL, passed away Monday, May 21, 2018 at his home surrounded

by family. He was born the son of the late William C. and Emma Schleusener on Jan. 24, 1924 in Bancroft, NE, where he was baptized at Zion Lutheran Church. Roland served his country in the United States Army during World War II from 1943 until 1945. He fought at the Battle of the Bulge and was a Prisoner of War. On June 3, 1950, Roland married Betty Ann Bernthal in Pilger, NE. He taught high school for more than 40 years before eventually retiring from Antioch Community High School after 26 years. Roland also coached football for 25 years and had worked as a field representative for the Antioch Township Assessor’s Office for 18 years. He had many hobbies and especially loved clock building, gardening and golf. He enjoyed building houses and drafting construction plans. Roland was a man of deep faith and believed that Jesus Christ was his Lord and Savior. Roland is survived by his wife of 68 years, Betty Ann, five children, 11 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

Reported by Carl Wouters

SHOFFIT, ALFRED WALTER

423/HQ



—*Date of Death:* *May 12, 2018*

Alfred Walter Shoffit was born March 28, 1925 on the Four Sixes Ranch near Guthrie and

grew up in Felors, Texas. He served in the Army from 1943 to early 1945. Originally assigned to an accelerated training program for civil engineers, he was transferred to the I & R Platoon, 423rd Infantry Regiment, 106th Infantry

Memoriam . . .

Division and sent to Europe shortly before the Battle of the Bulge. He was taken prisoner during the battle and spent six months as a POW, mostly at Zittau on the German/Polish border. After discharge from the Army, he returned to his hometown of Lefors, where he met and married Syrene (Jackie) Patterson. A.W. finished college on the G.I. Bill and became Math and Science teacher. He began his teaching career with three years in Cuero, TX, spent six years teaching at Lefors High School and then served twenty-one years as a Chemistry and Physics teacher at the high school in Andrews, Texas. After retirement, A.W. and Jackie moved to a small farm in Bowlegs, Oklahoma, later relocating to Cedar Creed Lake, south of Dallas. In 2009, they moved to Hereford and resided at King's Manor until his passing. A.W. had a lifelong love of woodworking and building. He built two houses "from the ground up;" and substantially remodeled many others during his lifetime. He served God faithfully through local church membership in every community he lived in. He was a man of outstanding intellect, humor and integrity. He will be greatly missed.

Reported by Jim West

THEILEN, HAROLD J.

422/MEDIC

—*Date of Death: September 6, 2007*

Reported by Jackie Coy

WARD, EB

Unit Unknown

—*Date of Death: May 1, 2018*

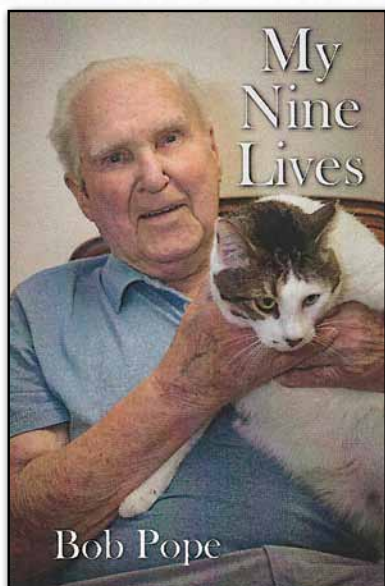
Eb Ward, 97, of Bartlett, TN, passed away on May 1, 2018. Mr. Ward served in the Army with the 106th Infantry during WW II. He retired from the City of Memphis in 1979 and was a member of Grimes Methodist Church where he was a part of the Methodists Men's Club. He enjoyed his retirement — fishing, RVing and living at Robinwood Retirement Resort. He is preceded in death by two wives, Louise Ward of 47 years and Dorothy Ward of 11 years. He was also preceded in death by four brothers, Lewis, Ira, Forest and James A. Ward, and three sisters, Ada, Geneva and Ludicia Ward. He is survived by his children, Charles Ward (Lisa), his daughter Wanda Ward Duke, Mike Howles (Merry), Richard Howles (Joann), and his grandchildren Amy Ward Cope (Chris), Sam Ward, Michael Howles Jr. (Rebecca), Amy Thompson (Danny), John Schommer, Bob Schommer (Kathy), Pam Nakoa (David), Angela Rawlings, and Karen Briske. The family received friends on May 4, 2018 with a funeral service on May 5, 2018 at Memphis Funeral Home and Memorial Gardens, 3700 N Germantown Pky, Bartlett, TN 38133. The family requests in lieu of flowers memorial donations be sent to Make-a-Wish, tinyurl.com/y9dcho66 or Ranken Jordan Pediatric Bridge Hospital, <https://rankenjordan.org/give-now/>.

Reported by Jim West

PLEASE NOTE:

To the widows of Golden Lions, if you would wish to continue to receive *The CUB* after the passing of your husband, please let Membership Chair Jacquelyn Coy know. Her contact information is located on the inside cover of this *CUB*.

ANNOUNCING THE PUBLICATION OF *My Nine Lives* BY BOB POPE



Excerpts from *My Nine Lives*:

Early on the morning of December 16th, 1944, just before dawn, German shells began exploding in front of us, behind us, and on our flanks. Later that morning our position was hit hard by German 88s. Our Battery Commander, Captain Luzzi, became our first casualty.

When the order to fall back was received, the fog was so bad that even with our field glasses it was difficult to tell if the shadowy figures we saw were our soldiers retreating or German soldiers advancing. A German ME109 suddenly appeared out of the fog and strafed us. I have no idea how many of our guys were killed or wounded.

The German advance was so swift and met such little resistance due to the lack of fire power and experience that it was already too late. We were bivouacked in a valley on the night of December 18th when word came that we were surrounded. We were told to dispose of all gun firing pins and all vehicle rotors because we were going to surrender.

To obtain your copy of

My Nine Lives

by Bob Pope

send your check for \$11.95
plus \$2 shipping and handling to:

Personal History Press
59 South Great Road
Lincoln, MA 01773

or order online from
[Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)



The Date is set and the final arrangements are made!

Make your plans *now* to join us for the

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of the

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to be held at the

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**For additional information about the reunion or
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www.afr-reg.com/106inf2018

If you more information or additional forms contact:

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

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**To see a *full-color* version of this issue of *The CUB*,
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