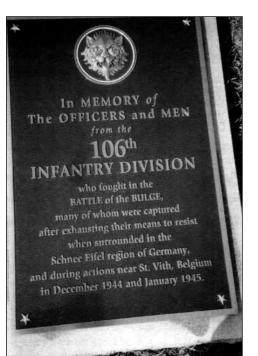


Vol. 75 - No. 1

Dec. 2018 - March 2019

Association Historian Shares the Story of the May 2003 Dedication of a Plaque to the Division's POWs at the Andersonville



National Historic Site

John Schaffner states, "I have been thinking about a visit that I made back in 2003 to the Civil War Prison Camp in Andersonville, Georgia (the Andersonville National Historic Site). It was with a group of about 20 members and vets from the 106th Association. It had occurred to us at that time, that we of the Association had shown precious little attention to those veterans in our Association who had faced the enemy and because of the circumstances found themselves prisoners of the very enemy they had been trying to kill moments before."

This issue's *Historian's Message*, on page 8, details one of the ways the Association has helped address this story of the Division.



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Greetings to all,

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season – and that your bathroom scale didn't become a casualty of war because you thought it was siding with the enemy during your own "Battle of the Bulge"!

Around my household it was a rather crazy time. I came down with bronchitis that lasted from Thanksgiving until Christmas — I don't ever remember my ribs aching this much. nor did I know I had a hundred ribs! My wife, Lisa, had knee replacement surgery at the end of November, and since my 90-year-old mother-in-law is now living with us, I knew I'd need help. My salvation quickly arrived from Arkansas in the form of Lisa's son, Ryan, who took his mom to surgery, then took care of her and his grandmother and babysat me. What a relief! Lisa's other two sons, Gregory (with wife Jen), and Grant (with fiancé Angela), stayed with us over the holidays, thus ensuring family time, fun and festivities. Our household has settled down once more, and like you, I look forward to the opportunities that allow me to celebrate our veterans in the coming year.

On Sunday, Feb. 3, past president Leon Goldberg, and his wife, Elaine, Vice-President Bob Schaffner and





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I traveled to Valley Forge Military Academy for the dedication of the monument, now in its permanent location, to honor Lt. Eric Fisher Wood, Jr. More details about that event, with pictures appearing on page 26 in this issue of *The CUB*.

By now most of you should be aware of the upcoming 73rd Annual Reunion for the 106th Infantry Division Association. This year's event will be held September 4–8, 2019, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Providence-Warwick (Airport), Rhode Island. Although registration paperwork is included in this issue and will appear in the July issue of *The CUB*, you can also register online through the Armed Forces Reunion website at: www.afr-reg.com/106inf2019/. For an overview of the planned program and

tours, you can visit our website page: www.106thinfdivassn.org/reunion2019. html. I hope everyone can join us there!

Just a reminder that this December marks the 75th anniversary of the start of the Battle of the Bulge. This year also marks the eighth annual "Flag of Friendship" ceremony, held in St. Vith, Belgium, and other locations. Tentative plans call for the activities to occur on the weekend of December 14–15. I will be making plans to attend and have received word from Carl Wouters, Doug Mitchell and associates that other members of the Association are also planning on attending. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

Tim Blixt, a 106th Associate member, has mentioned to me that the WWII Museum is organizing a Battle of the Bulge tour that will take

place in December to coincide with the 75th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge. As of this moment, I am unable to find the event listed on the WWII Museum website. When more information becomes available, we will update our Facebook page and our website. Please note that this notice is for your information only and is not an endorsement by the 106th Infantry Division Association of the tour.

I have it on good advice that an early spring is right around the corner! OK, maybe you question the abilities of a large, brown rodent, shamelessly awakened from his comfortable nap in Punxsutawney, to be able to predict the weather?

Respectfully, Wayne G. Dunn President

Make your plans NOW!!

to join us for the

73rd Annual Reunion

of the

106th Infantry Division Association at the

Crown Plaza Hotel – Providence-Warwick (Airport), Rhode Island

September 4 to 8, 2019

Registration forms and paperwork can be found in the center of this *CUB*.

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

www.afr-reg.com/106inf2019

Chaplain's Message . . .

Recently, I visited my friend Lester J. (Tannenbaum) Tanner in New York. Lester is 95 years young and full of life. He is a blessing. I'm always inspired to live better when I spend time with a Veteran.

Lester, like all of our 106th heroes, served with honor during World War II. As a 21-year-old Sergeant in the 422nd Infantry he helped defeat the Germans and slow down their march to Antwerp during the brutal Battle of the Bulge. After three days of valiant fighting against overwhelming odds, Lester was captured with thousands of others and spent 100 harsh days starving to death in Stalags IXB and IXA.

During that deadly time, he and his brave brothers never gave in the Nazi's. They survived by sticking together using their weapons of wits and willpower. We are forever grateful for their bravery and sacrifice.

Lester was born in the Bronx on August 8, 1923 in what Lester calls "the most Jewish" of New York's five boroughs. His father, Louis, had emigrated from Austria in 1911 and ran a small tailoring business on the Lower East Side. The family lived in a modest apartment in the South Bronx along the Grand Concourse, a four-and-a-half-mile boulevard sometimes called the Champs-Élysées of the Bronx.

Lester came of age as the U.S. entered its worst economic crisis. "I was six years old in 1929 when the Depression started, and I was seventeen years old in 1940 when it ended," Lester recalled. "And those eleven years were the cruelest years for the American people. I happened to be fortunate



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because my father was a businessman. Of course, his business was not very good, but he had a contract making uniforms for the policemen and firemen of New York City. He always had some money coming in and it kept us going. We were some of the lucky few. We were clothed. We had food. And we had a place to stay."

Lester's father, Louis, had come to America when he was fourteen and, like many immigrant boys newly arrived in New York, he went to work right away. He didn't have a formal education, but he taught himself to be fluent in English and spoke without much of a discernible accent. Louis loved America.

Lester recalled that his older brother, while in high school, briefly "flirted" with a youth group connected to the Communist Party. One Sunday he told my father about a meeting he was going to that night. For the first time, I saw my father become truly angry and as my

Chaplain's Message . . .

brother left, my father threw his shoe at him. He said, 'You're crazy! You live in a wonderful country — you're going to support a Communist Party?'

Lester was an exceptionally bright student, and at PS 33 he accelerated several grades so that he was ready to enter high school at age twelve. His parents had set the academic bar high for all their children. "At that time the only elite high school in New York was Townsend Harris," Lester recalled, a three-year high school for which "you had to pass a city-wide test. I was one of the 100 who were accepted. By age fifteen, Lester was beginning freshman year at City College — then known as "the Jewish Harvard."

Lester's brother, five years his senior, was already in the service — ultimately commissioned as a Major with the Army Transportation Corps — and Lester was anxious to complete his course work as quickly as possible and possibly get a commission in the U.S. Army Air Force. His dream was to be a fighter pilot, in the cockpit of a Mustang or a Lightning P-38, terrorizing Messerschmitt fighters over the skies of Europe.

"When I turned 18 — in August of 1941, four months before Pearl Harbor — I registered for the service. I knew that I was going into the army, but I was at still in my program at City College. I was junior at the time. After Pearl Harbor, if you were in college you were exempt from the draft until you finished your degree. I was supposed to graduate in June of 1943, but I accelerated my program, took extra credits, so I could graduate in June of 1942, a year ahead."

After receiving his bachelor's degree, he was immediately inducted into the infantry of the United States Army at Fort Dix in New Jersey.

Lester recalled feeling elation upon his induction into the armed forces. "I felt great, couldn't wait," he said. "If anything, I was afraid I wouldn't be able to get into the war. I was nineteen years old. When you're nineteen, you think nothing can happen to you." Lester is glad he served and grateful he survived the horrors of battle and captivity.

After liberation, he returned to New York obtaining a Law degree from Harvard in 1949. He's had a successful practice for the past 70 years including representing musician Billy Joel and fellow POW Kurt Vonnegut. Lester says, "I am blessed with a large family of children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren that are the joys of my life."

Lester Tanner is another inspiring veteran from the Greatest Generation who looked death in the eye and lived to tell about it. Lester told me, "I plan on living till I'm at least 100."

I love the spirit of our WWII Vets. They reflect Psalm 118:24: "This is the day the Lord has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it."

Like Lester and his heroic tribe, I pray you will cherish every day as God's gift. And I hope you will spend time with a Veteran. You will surely be blessed.

Chaplain: Pastor Chris Edmonds

The Adjutant's Message . . .

Time flies faster and faster and it is time to start planning to attend the 2019 Reunion. It will be held at the Crowne Plaza Providence—Warwick, Providence, RI, September 4 through 8, 2019. This year we are joining the National Timberwolves — 104th Infantry Division Association. We will be a little smaller group this year in that the USS Missouri is doing their reunion at a site too small to accommodate the rest of us. They may join us in 2020.

Our accommodations are similar (less the broken elevator) as last year. The rate is \$119 per room with free breakfast for two included. The Board of Directors are scheduled for their first meeting at 4 p.m. on Wed., Sept. 4, followed by a meet and greet at 6 p.m. in the Hospitality Room for all attendees (board members and others) present.

Our first tour is Thursday to Boston. We will get to visit Old Ironsides and explore the Historic Downtown. Lunch will be on our own. Then we enjoy and explore with a narrated driving tour of Boston City. The best part about the Boston City tour is that, besides being a great historic destination, is that all registered 106th attendees will be going. We have included the tour in our registration fee. It should be a great tour.

Friday is a tour to the Mystic Seaport. This is an exploration of the 19th Century Seafaring America. It is a recreated Village from that time with role players teaching you about the way it was. That evening we will join the 104th for a party in the Hospitality Room. They call it a "Beer Bust," we call it a good time to visit old friends and make new ones. There will be items to raffle off. Anybody wanting to bring



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something for the raffle is encouraged to do so.

On Saturday, we will have our own Memorial Service honoring our fallen. We will place the Wreath of Honor and have an inspiring message from our Chaplain, Chris Edmonds.

We will have our second board meeting to discuss and plan for our future. For the first time we will have a joint Banquet with the 104th. Some of our procedures will change, however, the 106th will have the floor a significant amount of time so as to properly recognize our officers for their efforts. We will also recognize our first timers and their guests. We will have a speaker to educate us on the topic to be determined. We will honor someone from the 106th with the presentation of this year's "Order of the Golden Lion." It will be different, but it will work.

On another note, I want to let you know about one of our own, Brian Welke. You may be aware that for years

The Adjutant's Message . . .

Brian has been researching the 106th Division 423rd Regiment for a book he is writing, soon to be completed. In this process, he thoroughly researched Kurt Vonnegut, a member of the 423rd regiment who was captured on December 22, 1944, forced to march then to ride in a boxcar to Dresden Germany to the Slaughter House where he and several other 106ers were imprisoned. Brian interviewed most of the 106th veterans that were imprisoned at the Slaughter House along with him. Mr. Vonnegut survived the war and went on to become a writer. He published 14 novels, three short story collections, five plays, five works of non-fiction and several screen plays and movies. He wrote Slaughter House 5 which came from his experiences while imprisoned at the Slaughter House 5. He was born and raised in Indianapolis, Indiana. The Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library is located there. Brian has been honored with an invitation by the Vonnegut family to speak at the Memorial library

Nov. 9, 2019. There he will present his findings about Vonnegut's time in the 106th from the 106th veterans who were with him and knew him. I think that is a great honor for Brian and it would be an even greater honor if some of you could attend the event. My wife and I as well as some of our family plan to attend. More information will be available in the next *CUB* and on our website.

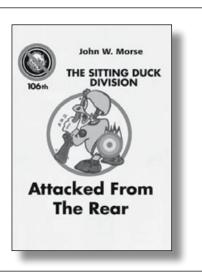
In closing, you 2nd and 3rd generation decedents of our Veterans, please begin to plan to get to our reunion. Bring your Veteran and plan to take a step back in time and honor these members of the Greatest Generation. If you can't bring your Veteran, come and spend time with some of his buddies and experience their revelations about the way it was. See you there!

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.



I have been thinking about a visit that I made in 2003 to the Civil War Prison Camp Andersonville Georgia. The Andersonville National Historic Site, located near Andersonville, Georgia, preserves the former Camp Sumter, a Confederate prisoner-of-war camp during the final twelve months of the American Civil War.

It was with a group of about 20 from the 106th Association. It had occurred to us at that time that we of the Association had shown precious little attention to those veterans in our Association who had faced the enemy and because of the circumstances found themselves prisoners of the very enemy they had been trying to kill moments before.

I cannot imagine what goes through one's mind at a time like this. With John Robb, our Memorials Chairman,



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



Presenting the wreath at the Red River Valley Fighter Pilots Association Ceremony on May 25, 2003, are left to right: 106th officiers, First V.P., John (Jack) Roberts, 592/C and President, John Schaffner, 589/A, and a Jr. ROTC Cadet as flower bearers.

we planned and executed a project to include a memorial to honor those 106th veterans who became POWs of Germany in 1944-45. A bronze plaque was designed and cast. It would be placed at the Andersonville, National Historic Site, Georgia, U.S.A. with

appropriate ceremony. Coordination with the National Park Service Administration was accomplished and a date set.

More about the event, including these photos, can be seen in *The CUB* of Vol. 59–No. 4 (Jul.-Aug.-Sept. 2003) on pages 14–24, and a little more of the story on page 9 of *The CUB*

Vol. 60–No. 1 (Oct.-Nov.-Dec. 2003). Read all of the previous *CUB* magazines online at *IndianaMilitary.org*

The following is from the National Park Service website about Andersonville: *nps.gov/ande/learn*.

What's So Special About This Place?

Andersonville National Historic Site began as a stockade built about 18 months before the end of the U.S. Civil War to hold Union Army prisoners captured by Confederate soldiers. Located deep behind Confederate lines, the 26.5-acre Camp Sumter (named for the south Georgia county it occupied) was designed for a maximum of 10,000 prisoners. At its most crowded, it held more than 32,000 men, many of them wounded and starving, in horrific conditions with rampant disease, contaminated water, and only minimal shelter from the blazing sun and the chilling winter rain. In the prison's 14 months of existence, some 45,000 Union prisoners arrived here; of those, 12,920 died and were buried in a cemetery created just outside the prison walls.

The cemetery site serving Camp Sumter was established as Andersonville National Cemetery on July 26, 1865. By 1868, the cemetery held the remains of more than 13,800 Union soldiers whose bodies had been retrieved after their deaths in hospitals, battles, or prison camps throughout the region. Andersonville National Cemetery has been used continuously since its founding and currently averages over 150 burials a year. The cemetery and associated prison site became a unit of the National Park System in 1970.

Today, Andersonville National Historic Site comprises three distinct components: the former site of Camp Sumter military prison, the Andersonville National Cemetery and the National Prisoner of War Museum, which opened in 1998 to honor all U.S. prisoners of war in all wars.

Touring the Historic Prison Site

The site of Camp Sumter (Andersonville Prison), the most famous of the prison camps of the Civil War, is preserved as part of the National Historic Site. The historic prison site is 26.5 acres outlined with double rows of white posts. Two sections of the stockade wall have been reconstructed, the north gate and the northeast corner.

Located south of the National POW Museum, a tour road encircles the site, providing easy access to the most important locations in the prison site. Roadside pull-offs and exhibits are located at the Wisconsin Monument, the North Gate, Providence Spring, the Star Fort and the reconstructed northeast corner of the stockade.

"Andersonville becomes an object lesson in patriotism. To this retired and beautiful spot will thousands resort in the long years to come, to learn again and again lessons of heroic sacrifice made by those who so quietly sleep in these long rows of graves."

Robert H. Kellogg, Andersonville Survivor

Andersonville National Cemetery was established to provide a permanent place of honor for those who died in military service to our country. The initial interments, beginning in February 1864, were trench burials of the prisoners who died in the nearby military prison. In fourteen months, nearly 13,000 soldiers were buried here. Today the cemetery contains nearly 20,000 interments. Burial locations can be located online using the Nationwide Graveside Locator.

continues on page 10

Before your visit, take time to acquaint vourself with Andersonville National Cemetery from the information found here. In order to maintain an atmosphere of reflection and respect, guidelines for visiting the cemetery and grave decoration policies have been established; please acquaint yourself with these policies before your visit.

Opened in 1998, the National Prisoner of War Museum tells the story of prisoners of war throughout American History. This facility doubles as the

park's visitor center and is the best place to begin a visit.

Former prisoners of war partnered with Andersonville National Historic Site to create and develop the National Prisoner of War Museum, the only museum solely dedicated to interpreting the American prisoner of war experience. The National Prisoner of War Museum is dedicated to all prisoners of war in America's past who have served their country with dignity and distinction, so that current and future generations will be inspired by their service and sacrifice.

Two films, shown on the hour and half-hour, provide an excellent introduction to the story of the Andersonville Prison and the experience of American prisoners of war. "Voices



Carl Canup, 422/C, left, and 106th Association Memorial Chairman, John Robb, 422/D, in front of the newly dedicated POW plaque.

from Andersonville" shown on the hour, this 28-minute film focuses on the history of the Andersonville Prison. "Echoes of Captivity," shown on the half-hour, this 27-minute film is an introduction to the experience of prisoners of war throughout American history.

Exhibit Hall — The first exhibit gallery answers the question "What is a POW?" This is followed by exhibit areas exploring the themes of capture, living conditions, news and communications, those who wait,

privation, morale and relationships, and escape and freedom.

Throughout the exhibits there are touchable items and exhibit drawers that may be opened to find out more about prisoners of war. In order to conserve the artifacts on display, the exhibit areas of the museum have reduced or dim lighting.

Burials.

Burial arrangements will be made after death, as with all national cemeteries. The park does not reserve grave space. Veterans or spouses wishing to be buried in national cemeteries should have the veteran's military separation papers available to establish eligibility, which requires an other-than-dishonorable discharge.

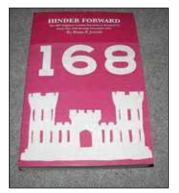
Dependent children may also be buried.

You may know that there were other prison camps established during the Civil War where conditions were equal to those at Andersonville. For instance, in Maryland, where I have spent most

of my life, there is Fort McHenry and Point Lookout. POWs anywhere, any war, had no guarantee of survival. Honor those who have bourne the heat and burden of the day.

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*.

Mark your Calendar NOW!!

for the 106th Infantry Division Association's 73rd Annual Reunion at the

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Providence-Warwick, RI September 4–8, 2019

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/106inf2019

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



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



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973-663-2410

Treasurer's Report:

October 1, 2018 - January 31, 2019

Beginning Balance:	\$15,020.87	
Money In:	\$4,734.88	
Money Out:	\$3,309.98	
Difference:	\$1,424.90	
Ending Balance:	\$16,445.77	

Association Membership As of January 31, 2019

Total Membership	1,008
Membership Veterans	490
Associate Membership	518

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?



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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.

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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.

LIFE PLUS and **REGULAR DONATIONS:**

Louise Awalt Associate Member Calvin W. Shifley Recon Ronald A. Chiverella Associate Member Carol Starmack Associate Member Margaret R. Dowden Associate Member Harry D. Stumpf Associate Member Henry E. Freedman 422/HQ Walter S. Tyler 423/A Sharon Schreffler Associate Member

Jack & Patricia Vallely

Jean Schutte

Associate Member Associate Member Dr. Owen K. Youles, Jr. 424/CN

NEW MEMBERS:

Shelley G. Krakovitz Associate Member Loren Shifley Associate Member Rick Shifley Associate Member Tennyson Shifley Associate Member Harry D. Stumpf Associate Member

MEMORIAL AND HONORARY DONATIONS:

Memorial donation in honor of our recently departed friends Cline Hohnstein (422/A), Juan Mejia (424/L), and Donald "Bill" Beseler (424/A). Gone but not forgotten.

Given by Carl & Sofie Wouters, Belgium

Memorial donation in honor and memory of T5 Bill Borst (106th Recon, 3rd Pit, POW IV-B & VIII-A). Given by Ed Strand

In Memory of my Dad, Staff Sgt. Charles S. Garn of the 106th 422/H. Given by Jeff Garn

In Memory of William Harold Hale, Div/HQ, Pfc., February 12, 2009. Given by David and Rebecca Hale In Memory of Stanley Anthony Kluckowski Jr.

Given by Wayne and Lisa Dunn

In Memory of M/Sgt. John L. Mikalauskis, 424/H, who served in WWII Battle of the Bulge and 13 months in the Korean War. John died Dec. 30, 2010.

Given by Dolores Mikalauskis

In Memory of Richard L. Rigatti, 423/B. Prisoner of war, Purple Heart recipient, past 106th Infantry Division Association President, Treasurer and Order of the Golden Lion recipient.

Made in honor of his service to the 106th Infantry Division, his service to his country and all veterans, by Mark J. Rigatti.

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/106inf2019

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.



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

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.

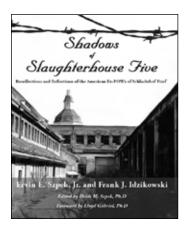
Books are \$15 plus \$4 for shipping. You can contact me at *fsjs@mchsi.com* or P.O. Box 1923, Bainbridge, GA 39818.



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.

The Importance of a Mini Reunion

Our veterans will always remember December 16, 1944, when they were thrust into the chaos of war. The years may have thinned the ranks, but those that remain still have the pride of knowing they played an instrumental part in slowing — and ultimately defeating — the German war machine.

As it becomes more difficult to travel, it is of critical importance that mini-reunions be held wherever our vets can join in. Any city, town — or even in someone's home — would be a fine place to gather to honor, cherish and remember all of our veterans. *Plan one in your area today!*

Golden Lion, **Don Prell (422/AT)** has reached out to the Association's officers about how many members of the 422nd Regiment are still members of the Association. Mr. Prell would like to hear from any 422nd Veterans or their family members that might be interested in joining him in planning and hosting a Mini-Reunion for the 422nd Regiment either in person, **or through email** so no one needs to travel. You can reach Mr. Prell with your thoughts at **dprell@dc.rr.com**.

Contact Mini-Reunion Chair Wayne Dunn at host106th@106thInfDivAssn.org and he can assist you with members in your area.



"I Was No Hero in the Battle of the Bulge"

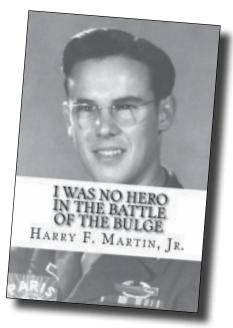
One Step to Hell: Letters From My Father Telling Me I Was Too Weak & Too Frail to Face the Enemy

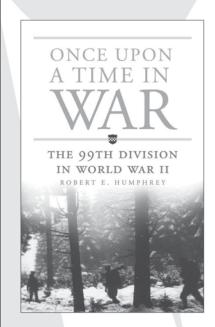
A new book by Harry F. Martin, Jr.

This is the story of Harry F. Martin, Jr., in L Co 424th Regiment of the 106th Infantry Division who fought in the Battle of the Bulge in World War II. In his own words: "We were going to a quiet sector on the front lines. This was an area where combat troops were sent to rest and green troops like us were sent to gradually break in. The Germans did the same thing in this sector. The Americans had gone into combat at the Normandy invasion on June 6, 1944 and fought their way just inside Germany, securing a foothold in the Siegfried Line in the Ardennes."

Find it at: createspace.com/6329426

List Price: \$10.95





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.

\$24.95 HARDCOVER · 978-0-8061-3946-3 · 376 PAGES



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Email Bag ...

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:

May 1, 2019 — mail date mid-July, 2019 (issue will include reunion paperwork)

October 1, 2019 — mail date November 30, 2019 (to include reunion photos and remembrances)

January 31, 2020 — mail date March 30, 2020 (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*.

This is where you can find upto-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.

Email Bag . . .

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.

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://l06thdivision.proboards.com/index.cgi

There were no Tattoo Requests submitted for this issue.

^{*}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*)

Support the Association — and Get a Great Book!

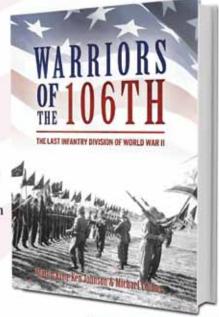
A new book on the 106th Infantry Division was recently published and is now available. Association Historian John Schaffner reports that the authors, Martin King, Ken Johnson and Mike Collins have decided that partial proceeds will be contributed to the 106th Association.

WARRIORS 能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.



\$32.95

9781612004587 May 2017 Hardback, 6.25 x 9.5, 336 pages

To place your order visit www.casematepublishers.com or call our customer service team at (610) 853-9131



"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

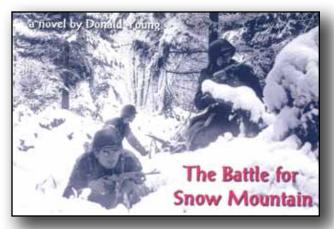
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THE BATTLE FOR SNOW MOUNTAIN

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.

"I've never read a more powerful WWII novel than *The Battle for Snow Mountain.*"

JOHN DIZIKES, FORMERLY PROFESSOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ

"Young's novel is an instant war classic, much like Vonnegut's *Slaughter House Five* and Heller's *Catch 22*." 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

Send nominations to any of the Co-chairs of the Order of the Golden Lion Committee at:

Carol J. Faulkner 3179 Kestrel Court, Martinsville, IN 46151 765-342-1872 faulknerskeepe05@yahoo.com

Beth Garrison 618-628-4733 7766 Haury Road, Lebanon, IL 62254 rgbg75@att.net

John Schaffner (589/A) 1811 Miller Road, Cockeysville, MD 21030-1013 410-584-2754 pumexim2@yerizon.net

Forced March from the Bulge to Berchtesgaden

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

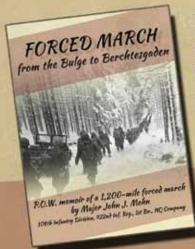
Major John J. Mohn (then Captain) was taken prisoner at the Battle of the Bulge in December 1944, along with 7,000 other men. As prisoner camps were too full and the German officers were unsure what to do with so many prisoners, Mohn's POW group was forced to march 1,200 miles.

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.

Until now.



Now available on Amazon or call Mohn's granddaughter Mandy by phone: 330-704-7631

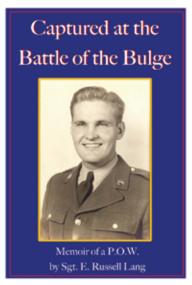
\$22.95 +tax

for more info visit johnmohn.com

Announcing the publication of

CAPTURED AT THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

BY RUSS LANG



In December 1944 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 launched Germans the great counterattack that came to be called the Battle of the Bulge. Russ Lang and his regiment were encircled. They attacked soon until their supplies 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

Captured at the Battle of the Bulge
by Russ Lang

Send your check for \$11.95 payble to
Personal History Press to:

Personal History Press
59 South Great Road
Lincoln, MA 01773.
or order online from Amazon.com.



Russ Lang

Dedication of Monument to Lt. Eric Fisher Wood, Jr. (589FAB/A)

By Association President Wayne Dunn

Members of the 106th Infantry Division Association were invited to Valley Forge Military Academy (VFMA) to participate in the dedication of the monument to honor Lt. Eric Fisher Wood, Jr. (589/A). The monument, a replica of the monument that stands in the woods of Meyerode, Belgium, has now been installed in its permanent and honored location adjacent to the steps leading into the chapel. Also in attendance were Eric Fisher Wood, III, his son Aaron and grandson Landon. From the 106th, past president Leon Goldberg, and his wife, Elaine, Vice-President Bob Schaffner, and I attended. We were honored by being seated in the front rows of the congregation during the service, and later were on the reviewing stand as the cadets marched past. This event took place on Sunday, Feb. 3, 2019, which is approximately one week after Lt. Wood's 100th birthday on Jan. 25. Lt. Wood is buried with honors at Henri Chapelle American Military Cemetery in Belgium.

After the review of the cadets, we were invited to a luncheon hosted by



Left to right: Eric Fisher Wood, III, Landon Wood, Wayne Dunn, Aaron Wood and Bob Schaffner.

General Walter Lord, President VFMA, and his wife Grace. Other members of the staff that we met included Colonel Stuart B. Helgeson, USMCR, Colonel Kenneth M. DeTreux USMC (Ret.). Colonel Kenneth R. Seitz, Coast Guard Chaplain Gerald Hale USCG (Ret.), and many cadets. Also at our luncheon were three VFMA alumni: Hugh Roberts (our liaison), Tom Goldblum (VFMA Historian), and Arthur Lambert. In addition to the pictures from the ceremony included in The CUB, several other pictures can be found on our website at: http://106thinfdivassn.org/ slidesvfma.html



Seated left to right: Leon and Elaine Goldberg, Hugh Roberts, Eric Fisher Wood, III Standing left to right: Cadet Second Captain Kim, Tom Goldblum, Arthur Lambert, Mrs. Grace Lord, General Walter Lord, Robert Schaffner, Landon Wood, Aaron Wood, Cadet Drum Major Band Kim, Wayne Dunn.

An Open Call for the Next Publisher and Editor of *The CUB*

Submitted by Susan Weiss and William McWhorter

Dear Association, it is with a profound sense of excitement that Susan and I let you know that after 15 years, we will be retiring as the Publisher and Editor of *The CUB*. We are excited because we know the next two people will have a wonderful and enthusiastic Association to work with and their own rewarding experience in helping keep the lines of communication open for our members. Often, veterans and associate members have told us *The CUB*, is the "Glue" that helps keep the Association together and moving forward! We could not agree more.

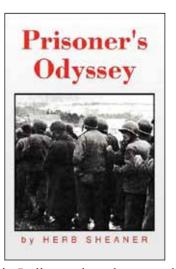
At the September 2018 annual reunion, we shared our announcement with the board. Together, we have produced nearly 35 issues of the magazine from 2007 to present. Susan and I will finish producing *The CUB* through the end of the current board's tenure that ends in September 2019. Afterward, we will retire from producing the publication. For now it's business as usual, but the sooner we find volunteers to serve as editor and publisher, the more time we will have to talk over the process of creating *The CUB* three times a year!

If you're interested, email us, our information is at the top of page 1!

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 WWII. 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



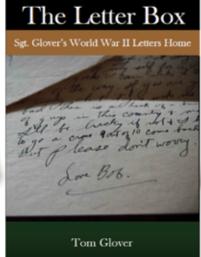
Alabama, he joined the 106th at Camp Atterbury in Indiana where he earned Expert Rifleman honors and was designated Co. G Sniper and Regimental Scout. Fifty years later he recalls his experiences.

Available through Barnes & Noble, Amazon.com and Xlibris online.

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."

Colonel. USAF

"An excellent read ... I feel I am right alongside with him ..."

Storekeeper, U.S. Coast Guard Retired

The Letter Box is now available on Amazon in print and Kindle

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

For every purchase a donation will be made to a charitable military-related organization!

Visit our website and Facebook page!

https://sites.google.com/site/gloverletterbox/ https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Letter-Box/389777271201056

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: *JSC164@aol.com*

BENEFIEL, JAMES A. 401/FAB

—Date of Death: November 13, 2018
"I wanted to inform you that my father, James A. Benefiel, of Warren, IN, passed away recently. He has really appreciated your publication over the years. Thank you for bringing him joy and keeping him involved through the years."

Submitted by his daughter, Carol Secttor

BESELER, DONALD W. 424/A

—Date of Death: October 27, 2018 Donald "Bill" Beseler, age 95 of Woodruff, WI passed away at his home. He was born on April 22, 1923 in Marshfield, WI. Bill had been a member of the Lions, the Rotary Club, and served on the Nicolet College Board for 10 years, and the Tri-County Health and Human Services Board. He was a United States Army veteran, having served during WWII, and was a member of the American Legion Post 89 and the 106th Division Association for veterans of the Battle of the Bulge. Bill attended Ripon College and worked as a teacher for several years following the war. After receiving a graduate degree, he became a school administrator and served as a Principal and eventually a School Superintendent. Bill was Superintendent of Lakeland Union High School for many years.

He enjoyed many outdoor activities such as hunting, fishing, boating, and gardening, and also enjoyed making things in his woodworking shop. He was predeceased by his wife, Marcia and son Russell, and is survived by two children, Richard and Vicky, 6 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

Submitted by Carl Wouters

HIMBERG, ROBERT (Bob) A. Non-106th Vet

—Date of Death: August 20, 2018 Robert A. Himberg was the brother of Cpl. Carl A. Himberg, Jr. 592/ FABN/B, who died while a prisoner of war. After the loss of his brother, Bob kept a Golden Lion Medallion with him every day of his 91 years. Upon his passing on August 20, 2018, in the emergency department of South Shore Hospital, Weymouth, MA, the medal was lost by the staff. His family is distraught over the loss of Bob and the medal, as he kept it in his pocket and clutched it daily to remember his brother. If anyone can assist in finding another Golden Lion Medallion, please email the McNamara-Sparrell Funeral Home in Cohasset, MA at

bmcnamara.sparrell@gmail.com

Reported by Brendan McNamara, Funeral Director

MEJIA, JUAN

424/L

—Date of Death: September 29, 2018 Juan Mejia, born in San Antonio on September 13, 1925, passed away at the age of 93. Juan entered the Army at the age of 18 during WWII and fought in the Battle of the Bulge. He was awarded many medals, including the Bronze Star and the Combat Infantry Badge. The experience serving his country gave way to a deep patriotism, which he passed on to his family, in particular impressing upon them the importance of voting. After 34 years of service at Kelly Air Force Base, Juan retired to start his own business, working into his early 80s. Mejia Lawn Service indulged Juan's green thumb and served as a first job for many grandchildren, nurturing a strong work ethic and sense of pride. For decades, Juan's house in Fresno was easily identified by the immaculate lawn and colorful rosebushes. His spirit for adventure only grew with age as he traveled across Mexico, Europe and even as far away as Beijing, China. Never one to shy away from a chance to sing or dance, Juan enjoyed all types of music from mariachi to country to contemporary. This past Labor Day, Juan was honored as a member of The Greatest Generation by the Houston Astros baseball team at Minute Maid Park. With his family in attendance, he received a standing ovation and said it was one of the highlights of his life, capping off a wonderful family weekend celebrating his 93rd birthday. Juan was preceded in death by his wife, Enedina R. Mejia. He is survived by his five siblings, seven children, 18 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

Submitted by Carl Wouters

ORTWINE, HAROLD W. 592/C

—Date of Death: December 7, 2018

"We wanted to let the Golden Lions know of my father's passing at his home in Novi, MI. He always looked forward to reading *The CUB*. He was a very proud soldier and veteran.

Reported by the Ortwine Family via Mike Sheaner

PENCHECK, FRANK P. 423/G

—Date of Death: May 25, 2017 Frank P. Pencheck, Sr., 90, of Fawn Township, passed away at home. He was born July 17, 1926 in Pittsburgh, Pa., the son of the late John and Ludviho Pencheck. Frank lived in Fawn Twp since 1958. He retired after 35 years as a machinist for the former Westinghouse Electric Corp. He was also employed at Allegheny Steel and American St. Gobain Window Glass and received his machinist apprentice from Hughes Aircraft in California. Frank was a WWII veteran, serving in the Army, inducted in Pittsburgh on Nov. 6, 1944. He received his basic training at Camp Blanding, FL. He was a light mortar crewman 60mm mortar. He left Ft. George G. Meade as a Staff Sergeant bound for Glasgow, Scotland on the Queen Elizabeth, as a replacement unit for the men in the Battle of the Bulge. After the war he received a Good Conduct Medal, European Theater of Operations Campaign Medal, WWII Victory Medal, and Army of Occupation medal. He was a member of the Natrona Heights VFW and the Holy Martyrs Church, and attended trade school at Pittsburgh Diesel and Automotive

school and Los Angeles Trade Technical School. He was a member of Local 1914 IBEW retirees club. He enjoyed helping other people, gardening, traveling to to the beach and working around the house and yard. He was predeceased by his wife, Josephine "Jody" Pencheck, and is survived by his children, Irene Kuntz and Frank P. Pencheck, Jr., and a grandson, Frank P. Pencheck, III.

Submitted by his daughter, Irene

ROSS, REECE M.

423/A

-Date of Death: February 26, 2018 "My name is Michael Ross and I need to tell you that my pop died on Feb. 26, 2018. He was a staff sergeant in the 106th Infantry Division. He was a very proud member of your organization and he looked forward to receiving his CUB magazine. My dad was 94 years old when he had a massive heart attack and died after a few days. He told us lots of war stories. He had a couple of yearbooks from just before he went overseas. He kept in touch with a few of the guys in his platoon and company, so I just wanted to let you know. He is buried in West Virginia right outside of Charleston and Coco Halo in our family cemetery. We had a military funeral for him, which he would have liked if he were still alive. My pop was a proud American, and proud of what you all did in the war. Thank you."

Submitted by his son, Michael

SELLEN, JOHN AUGUST 424/I

—Date of Death: October 12, 2018 My father, John A. Sellen, passed away at 93 years of age. He was a resident of Elmcroft Assisted Living of Fairborn, Ohio and a former resident of Dayton, Ohio. Born in Syracuse, NY on August 25, 1925, John was a WWII Army veteran, a member of the 106th Infantry, 424 Regiment, Company I that fought at the Battle of the Bulge. After the war, he re-enlisted in the Army Air Corps which became the US Air Force in 1947. John spent 21 plus years in the military, traveling to places all over the globe, including Japan and England. He retired from the Air Force in 1966. His second career in civilian life began with working for NCR as a developmental electrical technician. John received two awards from NCR for devices that the invented which they patented. He also worked on homing devices for downed pilots in Vietnam. When NCR left Dayton, he worked for Dayton Waither Corp briefly and then began working at Wright Patterson AFB in the Civil Service for the rest of his working life. John and Doloris ("the love of my life") met in St. Louis, Missouri when he was stationed at Scott AFB in Illinois. They married 68 years ago on September 2, 1950 in Pocahontas, Arkansas, John loved music and was an accomplished musician. From playing piano as a child to being a bugler during WWII and playing and performing with the harmonica from the time he was a young man until his later years. John was a member of several local harmonica groups that

continues on page 32

entertained at public events and senior centers. He was also accomplished on roller skates, dancing and performing with a partner in the 1940s. A man of many interests, he loved travel, coin collecting, rock hunting, photography, carpentry, building airplane and car models and daily crossword puzzles. He is survived by his wife Doloris, daughters Kathleen, Michele and Debra and son James, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Submitted by his daughter, Kathleen

TERZI, LIONEL P.

NON 106TH VET

Son of 106th veteran Lionel Terzi

—Date of Death: November 30, 2018 Beloved husband, step-father, brother-in-law, friend, patriot and avid golfer, Lionel P. Terzi, SMSgt. Ret. USAF of Fishers, IN slipped into eternity on Friday afternoon November 30 during a round of golf. He was born Nov. 8, 1942 in West Orange, NJ to Lionel and Katherine Terzi. In 1960, upon graduation from high school, he entered the USAF and retired with 25 years of service, including one tour in Vietnam. After retiring from the military, he enjoyed multiple careers in both executive level and the skilled labor trades. He was both a coordinator and regional field director with the John Birch Society from 2000 to 2012. After "retiring" he went to work at his favorite

golf course. He and his wife faithfully attend Moody Church in Chicago where services are live-streamed every Sunday morning. Lionel had been a part of Christian Business Men's Connection and participated in the Operation Timothy ministry where he was mentored by his dear friend, Lynn Howell. He loved this beautiful country with a great fervor and was a true American patriot. He became a member of the John Birch Society in the early 1970s and when he passed, was still an active member. He fought hard to preserve our Judeo-Christian values and Constitutional heritage. He was predeceased by his dad, Lionel, 423/F, 106th Infantry Division, who fought in the Battle of the Bulge. He is survived by his loving wife and best friend, Janet and his step-daughter, Heather.

Submitted by his wife, Janet

THOMAS, HENRY WHEATON

423/M

—Date of Death: October 20, 2018

Henry Wheaton Thomas, 94, died
October 20, 2018 in Laconia, NH. He
was born on July 5, 1924 in Fall River
MA. He married Carolyn Morgan from
Bristol, RI after returning from WWII.
Wheaton attended Durfee High School
in Fall River, the University of Rhode
Island, and Brown University (class of
1947). He was a Corporal in the 106th
Infantry Division, 423rd Regiment, M

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*.

Memoriam . . .

Company of the U.S. Army where he was machine gun squad leader. He was captured in the Battle of the Bulge and received the Purple Heart. After WWII, he completed his bachelor's degree and then joined AMICA. In 1950, he joined the LGF Balfour Company of Attleboro, MA, rising to Vice President in charge of the Commercial Division before leaving to start a joint venture in North

Carolina in 1977. He continued working in the jewelry business part-time into the early 1990s. Wheaton enjoyed spending time with family and friends on Lake Winnipesaukee, NH. Predeceased by his wife of 57 years, he is survived by his three sons Ralph W., Richard M., and Frank W., and his granddaughter, Jennifer A.

Submitted by his family

"POW Pledge of Allegiance."

I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG...

I am an American, I was a Prisoner of War. I have served my country. I need no one to tell me what allegiance I owe to my flag, to my home...

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

This is my country, I have fought for it, I have been imprisoned for it, I have died for it...

AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR WHICH IT STANDS

This flag stands for me, for love. My love for my friends. I did not forsake it when I was beaten, when I was starved, when I was killed...

ONE NATION UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE

I am one man, I have one country.
I worship one God. Under God, I was captured, under God I was saved, under God I have no fear...

WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL

My allegiance is to Liberty, to Justice.

My flag represents the best of myself, my effort,
my home, my country. I will pledge allegiance to the flag.

I will pledge under the love of God.

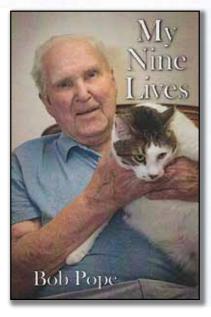
It is my right, my privilege, my duty,
I have earned it. Tell me not how!

I have given you much. I am an Ex-Prisoner of War.

Take nothing more from me.

I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG...

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



The Date is set and the final arrangements are made!

Make your plans now to join us for the

73rd Annual Reunion

of the

106th Infantry Division Association

to be held at the

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Providence-Warwick, RI September 4–8, 2019

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/106inf2019

If you more information or additional forms contact:

Mike Sheaner, Treasurer at sheaner1@airmail.net

or call Wayne Dunn at *410-409-1141* We are all feeling the effects of the current financial upheaval, including the 106th I.D. Association. The *Annual Dues* of \$10 are no longer billed or collected. We are now accepting only donations for membership, memorials and LIFE PLUS. The previously-allowed payment of \$75 for Life Membership creates a financial shortfall, as our expenses exceeds our income.

Our solution?

We are asking you to join the

LIFE PLUS+ Club

Those Members who contribute to the LIFE PLUS+ Club 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.

To those Members who we haven't heard from for a long time—please take the time to join this exclusive club. *Thank you!*

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

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

To see a *full-color* version of this issue of *The CUB*, please visit our website at:

www.106thInfDivAssn.org

Pass It On

Perpetuate the legacy of the 106th Infantry Division by giving every family member of all generations access to the rich history, news and stories of veterans found in each issue of *The CUB*. You can now "pass it on" to as many friends, heirs and family members as you wish at no cost!

Those you designate will be recognized as members of the association on the "CUB Level" with the following benefits:

- 1. Receive an electronic copy of *The CUB* delivered by email complete with color photos and graphics
- 2. Access to the association website and Facebook pages
- 3. Receive timely notices and information regarding reunions and special announcements

Enroll all family members — sons, daughters, sisters, brothers, grandchildren and others — by submitting their Name, Email, Address and relationship to a 106th veteran to sheaner1@airmail.net

106th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

* THE ARDENNES



* CENTRAL EUROPE * THE RHINELAND Jacquelyn Coy — Membership Chair

121 McGregor Ave. Mount Arlington, NJ 07856

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED