

TARO



LEAF



Letters to Ann

Korea, 1951



The Taro Leaf



Vol. 63, No. 1 Winter 2009 The Official Quarterly Publication of the 24th Infantry Division Assoc.

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Gene E. Spicer	2006-2008	19 th Inf. Regt.	812-273-6996	IN
Wes Morrison	2003-2006	21 st Inf. Regt.	831-883-2156	CA
James F. Hill	2000-2001	19 th Inf. Regt.	770-998-3749	GA
Thomas Cochran	1997-1998	34 th Inf. Regt.	931-647-4793	TN
James F. Hill	1995-1996	19 th Inf. Regt.	770-998-3749	GA
Vincent Gagliardo	1993-1994	5 th RCT	415-467-2316	CA
Albert McAdoo	1991-1992	5 th RCT	813-837-2728	FL
Donald C. Rosenblum	1987-1988	Div. HQ	912-233-6717	GA
Warren C. Avery	1986-1987	21 st Inf. Regt.	203-239-3406	CT
Richard C. Watson	1985-1986	19 th Inf. Regt.	317-378-3721	IN
John R. Shay	1983-1984	21 st Inf. Regt.	708-724-5133	IL
John E. Klump	1977-1978	34 th Inf. Regt.	812-623-4336	IN
Paul F. Wisecup	1971-1972	34 th Inf. Regt.	813-936-6103	FL
William C. Muldoon	1970-1971	19 th Inf. Regt.	941-743-7179	FL
Donald C. Williams	1968-1969	34 th Inf. Regt.	586-566-4627	MI

The Taro Leaf is the official quarterly of the 24th Infantry Division Association, a 501(c)19 non-profit organization, and is published by and for its members. Opinions expressed or implied are solely those of their author(s), and not necessarily those of the Editor, the Association, or the Department of the Army. The **Taro Leaf** is printed in Leesburg, Florida, and mailed from the Leesburg Post Office.

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Publication Guidelines: Please send all **TAPS notices, Manuscripts, and Articles to the Editor** at above address. You may send either electronically as email attachments in text (word processor) format, or by USPS as typed or printed originals. Short handwritten material is acceptable, but may be incorporated as is in a graphic image. Articles may be limited to **two or three pages typewritten**.

PHOTOGRAPHS are desired for **TAPs and all articles**, and may be submitted in electronic format (300 dpi resolution or higher) as email attachments, or as prints (Note that *Xerox* or *Newspaper* Photos do not copy well; prints are much preferred). For all photos please provide the photographer's name and where they appear in the article, identify each person or other subject in the photo, and if you wish it returned. Copyrighted material should have permission to reprint. **Please include your current correct full name, address, phone number and email with all submissions.**

Taro Leaf Deadlines and Publication Dates

VOL	NO	ISSUE	DEADLINE	DELIVERY
63	2	Spring	Apr 1 2009	May 2009
63	3	Summer	Jul 1 2009	Aug 2009
63	4	Fall	Oct 1 2009	Nov 2009
64	1	Winter	Jan 1 2010	Feb 2010



~~~ President's Letter ~~~



The new year is upon us, the Minnesota Vikings won the Northern Division, the election year politicking is over, and it's time to turn our

thoughts to the South Dakota Reunion.

My talks with the Reunion Program Chair leads me to believe we are looking forward to one of our finest reunions ever. To be held in the beautiful area near Mt. Rushmore, our reunion planners have some great events lined up for us. Pack your cowboy boots, your jeans and 10 gallon hat. As long as we are at the "Gateway to the West" let's dress like it, and use the Thursday night Chuckwagon "Western Night" to get into the spirit of the old west. This would also be a good trip to spend some extra time in the area as there is

so much to see and do in the area—Deadwood, Crazy Horse Monument, The Badlands, 1887 train, horseback riding in the mountains, trout fishing and much more. There are so many activities we had a difficult time narrowing them down.

Also, get ready to work as we have some serious business to attend to. Our membership is declining at a time when our costs are escalating (read that as donations are accepted and appreciated) and we have some decisions to make. Please vote on the changes (page 22) to the Constitution and By-laws so any changes can be put in place for the coming year.

I am saddened to learn that our Editor's health will not permit him to continue. He will be missed! We must find a replacement. Also we need a new Secretary/Treasurer in the near future.

So, if anyone has any talents in either of these areas, please step forward as the Association needs you now! You all answered the call when Uncle Sam needed you so, forget the rules about never volunteering and step forward. The Association needs you!

The 24th Infantry Division has a long and glorious history of service to our great country. In its lifetime, the division has had 14 Medal of Honor recipients, two in WWII and the rest in Korea. Our Reunion Committee has decided it's past time for the Association to honor these men, so, part of our 2009 reunion will be devoted to honoring these great patriots and heroes.

Please join us in Rapid City August 26-29, 2009— and bring your buddies.

Mel Frederick

And a word from Vice President Sal

I urge all members to attend our Division Association Reunion on August 26-30, 2009 in Rapid City, South Dakota to honor the memory of Medal of Honor recipient Woodrow Wilson (Woody) Keeble.

We are all aware of the ceremony that we conduct in many, if not all, veterans' organizations when one of our own passes away. We honor them by being at their side, as they were at our side in war, and in life. Woody was one of ours, and though many of us were not there at his passing, we now have the op-

portunity to be there to honor his memory.

I also join Dan Rickert in asking for your contributions to provide accommodations for our guests of honor (please see page 25).

Thank you; I look forward to seeing you in Rapid City.

Sal Schillaci



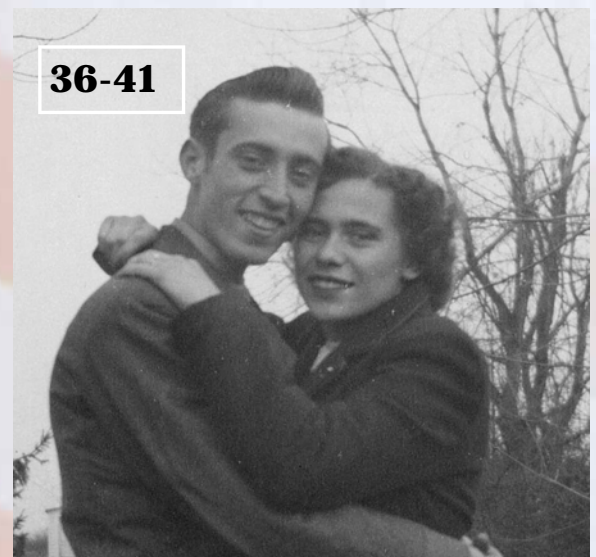
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Secretary-Treasurer's Report

by Don Maggio

New Members			
		Company/	
Name	Regiment	Battery/Troop	Sponsor
Boyles, Bob	2d Inf	A	John Dunn
Clements, Clyde	2d Inf	A	John Dunn
Den, Jr., Arnett	21st Inf	F & H	Robert G. Shipley
Dull, Jack	2d Inf	A	John Dunn
Epperson, Paul	2d Inf	A	John Dunn
Foster, Louis R.	21st Inf	B	John Dunn
Gilkerson, Ralph	21st Inf	E	Anonymous
Hofman, Tony B.	5th RCT	E	Albert J. McAdoo
Houghton, Robert J.	21st Inf	E	Anonymous
Janca, Frank T.	3rd Eng	H & S	William M. Arnold, Sr.
Knight, James	2d Inf	A	John Dunn
Kohler, Richard	2d Inf	A	John Dunn
Mathis, Jackie C.	Assoc		Widow of James E. Mathis, 34th Inf WWII
Packer, Vernon	21st Inf	E	Anonymous
Petersen, Donald	2d Inf	A	John Dunn
Power, Gale	Assoc		Son of Jerold Power, Sponsor Terri Seifert
Power, Jerold	21st Inf	I	Joe Sproul
Seay, David	2d Inf	A	John Dunn
Stokes, William S.	34th Inf	HHQ	Tom Thiel (Began Life Membership)
Thibodeaux, Lionel	2d Inf	A	John Dunn
Thompson, Harold	19th Inf	F & H	Harold A. Smith
Vesper, John W.	21st Inf	E	Anonymous
Vincent, Loyal	2d Inf	A	John Dunn
Ziobron, Zachary	19th Inf	C	Tom Thiel

See You in

Rapid City

August 26-29

24th IDA Reunion

**Honor our MOH
Recipients**

— W A N T E D —
Secretary/Treasurer (Member of BoD)
Computer skills needed
August 2009

24th Infantry Division Association Statement of Income & Expenses 01 August through 31 December 2008

Income:

40 Membership Dues	\$4,875
41 Full Life Pmts	\$600
4100 Reunion Donations	\$3,705
4180 Interest Income	\$438
42 Partial Life Pmts	\$420
43 Donations	\$4,470
44 Assoc Mbr Dues	\$300
45 Dan's Keeble Drive	\$324
8105 QM Sales	<u>\$2,042</u>
Total Income	\$17,174

Expenses:

50 Gen'l Ofc	\$1,883
51 Taro Leaf Pub	\$14,806
510 Returned Taro Leafs	\$26
54 Reunion Exp	\$671
54 Drawing Payout	\$5,000
58 Misc	\$18
6150 Liability Ins.	\$750
8160 QM Expenses	<u>\$2,291</u>
Total Expenses:	\$25,444

Net Income: **-\$8,271**

24th Infantry Division Association Statement of Financial Position As of December 31, 2008

Assets:

1100 HomeTrust Bank-Checking	\$17,416
1101 HomeTrust-Money Mkt	\$5,911
1112 Fifth Third Bank-Checking	\$55
1113 Fifth Third-Svngs	\$3,256
1115 Chase Bank-QM*	\$1,600
1210 Wells Fargo-CD	\$33,203
1500 QM Inventory	<u>\$7,230</u>
Total Assets	\$68,672

Liabilities:

3000 Opening Bal Equity	\$15,068
3900 Net Assets	\$61,874
Net Income	<u>-\$8,271</u>
Total Liab & Equity	\$68,672

* QM bank statement of 16 Dec 08 not available



From your Editor's Computer



Hello. I need to discuss two important issues with you, our Constitution and Bylaws, and the Editor's Position.

Constitution and Bylaws:

During last September's Convention at Springfield, a recommendation was made from the floor to form a special C & BL Committee to study our current document and to propose changes to the members. President Spicer asked for volunteers, to which Dan Cretaro, Joe McMahon, Dan Rickert, Mario Izsoni, and I offered; Pres. Spicer then appointed us as the Committee, and asked me to be Chair.

We examined our existing C & BL thoroughly, studied those from some sister organizations, and came up with relatively simple changes rather than a wholesale physical restructuring. We also edited the existing document to improve readability and remove redundancies.

The major change that we propose is the addition of two members to the Board of Directors who are elected for two year terms on an alternating basis. Our primary reason for this is to improve the likelihood that a quorum will be met at the BoD Annual Meetings and that business can be conducted; this did not happen at the 2008 BoD meet-

ing because only four were there.

We propose some other minor changes and/or additions as well, including adding a non-discrimination clause, further defining that no member may accept any form of compensation for their services (including no longer receiving so-called free or complementary hotel rooms from the hotel at our Reunions), defining that the BoD shall act as an entity, changing the Sec/Treas audit to a detailed report (the audit has become prohibitively expensive since Enron), etc.

There was sentiment for more sweeping change, e.g., adding five new directors on a regional basis, and giving Membership total authority over the organization. But we chose to not do that.

Dan, Joe, Dan, Mario and I ask that you read the proposed C & BL starting on pages 15, 17, 19 and 21, *and then make your decision.*

Please complete and cast the ballot on page 22. Thank you for voting!

The Taro Leaf Editor:

I have been doing the *Taro Leaf* since President Spicer called in August 2007. When I began, I had no idea what the job really entailed, or even if I could do it. Now I know.

It is a heavy job; 12-15-hour days back to back are common.

My heart is willing to commit to doing it, but my legs and general physical condition are not!

Too much time seated at this computer console is the real culprit! And I don't know how to reduce this.

I'm truly sorry, but for my own health, I must not continue being your editor.

I have given a lot of thought to our Association, particularly the "heavy load" positions of Secretary-Treasurer and Editor. We are becoming an "old man's group" with serious deficiencies in the computer skills that are needed to keep us going. Volunteers are difficult to find. There are, however, organizations that specialize in doing these grunt jobs—for a fee of course. I recommend the Association investigate these.

I am most privileged to have been able to serve as your *Taro Leaf* Editor, and sincerely appreciate your tolerating my learning curve.

And I am most honored to have followed names like Ross, Mullins and Johnson. I'm proud of the two plus volumes I've done, and am honored to have been the recipient of your overwhelming calls and letters of appreciation and support, and your financial support of the *Taro Leaf* and the Association.

I wish all of you; my good friend and fellow "E" 19th comrade, President Mel Frederick; and the Association the very best.

(Continued on page 45)



VP Schillaci asks for Verbeck Award Nominations

Association Vice President Sal Schillaci is seeking member nominations for the member you think should be recognized with our Association's prestigious Verbeck Award at the 2009 Annual Reunion.

Schillaci says he would like to offer the entire membership an opportunity to nominate a member for the Verbeck Award. He will soon be appointing a committee to make a recommendation on the award, and would appreciate input from the general membership. So please send Sal your recommendation and a brief write-up on why you believe your nomi-



nee deserves to be honored.

Sal is also looking for members to serve on the Verbeck Nominating Committee.

Contact Sal at: Salvatore Schillaci, 59 Endicott Drive, Amherst, NY 14226-3323, ph: 716-837-1635.

A list of the past Verbeck Award

recipients is shown in the *Taro Leaf*, Vol. 61, Nos 3&4, Summer-Fall 2007, page 49. Please add last year's recipient, Dan Rickert, to that list.

Verbeck Guidelines: The Verbeck Award is presented to that Association member who best displays the ideals of Bill Verbeck – an unabashed love for the Division and its Association; a member who most furthers the interests of the Association and the Division. It is not intended to reward mere popularity, but more to acknowledge hard work in helping to make the Association more successful. ###

President Frederick Calls for 2009-10 Officer Nominations

Association President Mel Frederick asks that you give some thought now to our Association Officers for the coming year – 2009-10.

If you would like to serve, or would like to nominate a fellow member to serve, please so advise the Chairman of the Nominating Committee right away.

The formal election of Association Officers will be conducted at the Annual Corporate Convention (Membership Meeting) which will be held at the Reunion in Rapid City, SD on Saturday, August 29, 2009 after the 9:00 am Members Breakfast.

Only an Active Member as defined by our Constitution and Bylaws may be nominated. "Active Membership. All persons who have served as members of the 24th Infantry Division, or of a unit which has/is/was at any time attached to the Division, shall be

eligible for Active Membership in the Corporation."

The positions open for election each year are: the President, the Vice President, and the Secretary-Treasurer. (If you approve the proposed changes to our Constitution, there will also be two at-large members of the Board of Directors elected at this meeting.)

All nominations must be sent to the Nominating Committee Chair not later than July 15, 2009.

Keith Hagen has kindly agreed to again serve as the Chair of Nominating Committee; members are as of this writing not complete. Please submit your recommendations to Keith now.

Keith Hagen, Chair, 41091 Ingersol Road, Concrete, WA 98237-9778, Ph: (360) 826-3695, hagenka@verizon.net

The *Taro Leaf*TAPS

5th RCT

William B. Conley of Pittsburg, PA, passed away on November 5, 2008. Life Member 1430 and member of Heavy Mortar Company in Korea 1950 - 51, William also served in Viet Nam 1968 - 69, and retired from the Army as a Major. Burial was at the National Cemetery in Cecil, PA. Mrs. Debra Conley, 4442 Mulberry Ct., Pittsburg, PA, 15227.

11th Field Artillery

Noel J. Estes, "A" Bat, 11th FA, in Korea and Japan, 1950-52 passed away May 1, 2003 in Santa Monica, CA. Noel and his brother Neil, served together in the above unit in Korea in 1951-52.

Donald P. Sletten, Life Member # 642, Batt. A, 11th Field Artillery Battalion, June 1941 to May 1945, passed away on Dec. 1, 2008, at the Denver VA Care Center. He is survived by wife Eloise, son Darwin, and daughters Connie and Terry. Interred at Ft. Logan National Cemetery. Ms. Eloise Sletten, 9241 Russell Way, Thornton, CO 80229-7632.

13th Field Artillery

Richard D. (Don) Hand, Headquarters Battery in Japan and Korea, passed away Sept. 6, 2008, in San Antonio, TX. He was wounded on Nov. 4, 1950, when he became a prisoner of the Chinese; and was recovered on Nov. 7. He spent months in a hospital in Japan before returning to his unit. Don did not receive the Bronze Star because he was not on a Division morning report. He spent many months recovering in Army hospitals. Don graduated from Penn State University and spent a career in steel sales. He retired in San Antonio. Sandra Diane Hand, 6951 Congressional Blvd, San Antonio, TX, 78244-1590.

Allen R. (Ray) Sharp, Headquarters Battery, passed away in Longview, TX November 2006. He served in Japan and Korea where he was wounded on Aug. 16, 1950 on the Kum River north of Taejon. Ray also served with the Wolfhound Division (107th) in the ETO during WWII. Last known address: 103 Crowder Ln., Longview, TX, 75603-9528.

19th Infantry Regiment

Robert L. Heise, George Co, 19th Infantry,



Korea 1951-53, passed away November 13, 2008 in Melbourne, FL. Originally from Hartland, WI, and more recently from Melbourne, FL, he is survived by his wife Jean, two children and one grandchild. Burial was in Hartland, WI.

Jean A. Heise, 1311 Harry Sutton Rd., Melbourne, FL 32901-2846.

Walter P. Roduner, Life Member # 1487 who



served with the 19th Infantry Regiment during WWII passed away on May 26, 2008. He had planned on going to Springfield Reunion, but unfortunately, passed away before then. Maribelle Roduner, 770 W. 15th St, Apt. 7, Merced,

CA 95340-5968, 209-722-5847.

21st Infantry Regiment

William E. Kerns, 78, of Independence, KY,



died Oct 18, 2008. Mr. Kerns served with companies M and D of the 21st Infantry in Japan and Korea from 1949 to 1951. He was a retired police officer for the cities of Dayton and Bellevue, KY. Burial was in Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North in Williamstown. Joyce Sipple Kerns, 12397 Bowman Rd., Independence, KY

41051.



The *Taro Leaf*TAPS

Mattie V. Shank, wife of John K. Shank, 21st



Infantry Tank, peacefully passed away in Tucson, AZ, on October 3, 2008. She is survived by her husband, four children and six grandchildren. John K. Shank, PO Box 36051, Tucson, AZ 85740.

34th Infantry Regiment

George H. Graham, 89, passed away Oct. 10,



2008, in Akron, OH. George served in the 34th Infantry Regiment from 1944 until 1946. He was preceded in death by his wife, Elsie, and is survived by son, Gary, and grandchildren, Andrew, Lindsey (Jaskolka), and Lt. Mindy Graham. Entombment with military honors was on October 21 at Greenlawn Memorial Park. Gary H. Graham, 115 Merle Blvd, Munroe Falls, OH 44262-1641.

Kenneth J. McNabb 79, of Hardinville, IL,



passed away Oct. 31, 2008 in Good Samaritan Hospital, Vincennes, IN. Jack served with Company L, 34th Infantry, 1946-48. He was a pipefitter, an Indianapolis policeman, a U.S. Deputy Marshall and owned McNabb's Lock and Key. He is survived by his wife of 39 years Connie. Burial was on Nov 15 with military honors in the Hardinville, IL Cemetery. Mrs. Constance McNabb, 6312 E. 450th Avenue, Oblong, IL 62449-4021.

Roger C. Mitten, 75, of Paradise Valley, Ariz.,



Association Vice President 2006-07, Life Member #2275, Korea 1955-57, passed away in San Diego, CA, on Oct. 16, 2008 of prostate cancer. He graduated from the Northwestern University School of Law, and prac-

ticed law in Chicago, and had his own law firm in Phoenix. Roger is survived by his wife Barbara, sons Roger and Fred, daughter Jane Mitten, and granddaughters Emily and Annie. Memorial contributions may be made to the Valley of the Sun School, 1142 West Hatcher, Phoenix, AZ. 85021, or the Prostate Cancer Research Institute (PCRI), 5777 West Century Blvd., Suite 800, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Barbara Mitten, 6204 Hogahn Circle, Paradise Valley, AZ 85253-3920.

Emil M. Sowards of Salisbury, MD, passed



away September 10, 2008. Mr. Sowards served with Company D, 34th Infantry Regiment, and the 1st Battalion n of the 5th RCT in Japan and Korea 1949-50. His daughter, Katherine S. Baber, said: "Daddy cherished his involvement with this

group (24th IDA) and certainly served his country proudly through active and retired years." Katherine S. Baber, 624 Amphill Road, Cartersville, VA 23027-9607.

Assoc. Non-Members

Harold Black, 1st Bn, 5th RCT in 1952, passed away on February 18, 2008 in Annandale, VA. Dotty Black, 3600 Tristan Count, Annandale, VA 22003-1364.

John R. Checketts, Company D, 5th RC 1953-54 passed away on September 2, 2008 in Salt Lake City, UT. 3005 East 2965 South, Salt Lake City, UT 84109-2134.

Cast Corpuz, Company G, 5th RCT 1950-51, passed away on August 21, 2008 in Waipahu, HI. 94-102 Wall Place, Apt 101, Waipahu, HI 96797-4057.

Louis I. Desantis "M" 34th Infantry Regiment, passed away on October 14, 2008. He also served in "H" 21st Infantry Regiment. Ruth Desantis, 46 Fairview Rd., Broomall, PA 19008-1403.

The *Taro Leaf*TAPS

James (Jimmy) D. Griffin, Company D, 5th RCT, Korea 1953, passed away on May 25, 2008. Jimmy was a former Mayor of Buffalo, NY. Margaret, 420 Dorrance Ave., Buffalo, NY 14218-1838.

James W. Law, Company E, 5th RCT, Korea 1952, passed away on May 15, 2008 in Beaufort, SC. Nancy Law, 5 Burchmyer Dr., Beaufort, SC 29902-1709.

John A. Loughran, Hq, 5th RCT, Korea 1952-53 passed away on May 10, 2008 in Fayetteville, NC. Virginia Loughran, 511 Crooked Creek Ct., Fayetteville, NC 28301-3801.

John E. Massari, 76, Hq & Hq, 21st infantry 1949-51, of Turlock, CA passed away in March 2008. Private internment was at Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Bruno. Frances Massari, 177 W. Springer Dr., Turlock, CA 95482.

Berwyn E. McCaskey, George Company, 19th Infantry Regiment, Korea, 1951, died on March 21, 2007. Last known address: 3718 Calhoun Ave., Ames, IA 50010, 515-232-4593.

Robert Burton Nett, Company Commander A, 19th Infantry Regiment 1946-1947, at Camp Chickamauga, Beppu, Japan, passed away in Columbus, GA, on October 19, 2008. Nett received the Medal of Honor for action as a Company Commander near Cognon, Leyte, Philippines in 1944. Frances K. Nett, 5417 Kessington Dr., Columbus, GA 31907-1830.

General Bernard W. Rogers, 87, died Oct. 27 in McLean, Virginia after a heart attack. In 1960-61, Rogers commanded the 1st Battle Group, 19th Infantry, 24th Infantry Division in Europe.

William O. "Buckshot" Smith, Company H, 19th Infantry Regiment, Korea 1951-52, passed away on

December 12, 2008. Barbara Smith, 24,695 Hickory St., Bevier, MO 63532-1904.

Arthur L. Vierkant, Medical Company, 5th RCT in 1951 passed away on June 8, 2008 in Wadena, MN. 1233 First Street S. W., Wadena, MN 56482-2008.

Donald Wodarski, Company L, 21st Infantry, Korea 1950-51, passed away on November 15, 2008.

Bartel Zandstra, 5th RCT, Korea passed away on June 8, 2008 in Highland, IN. Beatrice (Babs) Zandstra, 3028 Lakeside Dr., Highland, IN 46322-3470.

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## Chaplain's Corner

December 24, 2008, Shelbyville, KY: I am at my son's house thinking about the Chaplain's Corner for the *Taro Leaf*. I thought about what this time of year means; it's when family and friends come together. If only we would think to help those in need this year. We also should remember to thank our soldiers all over the world.

I came up with the following: "*1 Thessalonians 5-12-18; Now we ask you, brother to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. 13. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. 14. And we urge you brother, warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone. 15. Make sure that nobody pays back wrong with wrong, but always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else. 16. Be joyful always. 17. Pray continually. 18. Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*" **Chaplain Glen Carpenter**





# The Association's "Honor Roll" Book

At the last Reunion, the surviving spouse of a deceased member looked for her husband's listing in the "Honor Roll" book displayed at the Memorial Banquet.

Not finding his name in the book, she enquired about why it was not there. The purpose of this brief article is to explain how the Association's Official Honor Roll has evolved with time and technology.

As you well know from the size of the TAPS section of the *Taro Leaf*, the number of our members departing this earth is ever increasing. What this has meant is that the traditional or historic Honor Roll Book has evolved to become a "Symbolic Honor Roll Book," kept by the Chaplain to be used only for the ceremony at the Reunion's Memorial Banquet. No names have been added to it for a number of years now.



"Symbolic Honor Roll" book at the 2007 Annual Reunion—Photo by Walt Daugherty

This does not, however, mean that the Association does not maintain its Honor Roll. With newer computer technologies, the Official Association Honor Roll is now maintained as a computer file, with annual printouts made and displayed at the Reception Room at each annual reunion (see photo of one page below left).

| NON-BATTLE DECEASED |        |                |                   |          |      |     |                  |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
|---------------------|--------|----------------|-------------------|----------|------|-----|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|----|
| #                   | LAST   | FIRST          | UNIT              | DATE     | RANK | ASN | Residence        | KIA | POW | MIA | WWI | WWII | III | IV |
| 1                   | Alford | Robert E.      | 52nd FA: B        | 02/26/97 |      |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 2                   | Abbott | George A.      | 21st: A           | 11/07/84 |      |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 3                   | Adams  | Edie           | 19th: E           |          |      |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 4                   | Adams  | George C.      | 24th Div: QM      | 07/11/70 | Sgt  |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 5                   | Adams  | William K.     | 21st: L           | 08/01/79 | Col  |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 6                   | Adams  | Frederick      | 34th: Hwy Mtr     | 09/20/88 | Col  |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 7                   | Adams  | Richard B.     | 21st: A           | 10/30/00 |      |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 8                   | Adams  | Richard J.     | 012/04/84         |          |      |     | Wheatland, MO    |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 9                   | Adams  | Carroll E. Jr. | 3rd Engr          | 08/12/70 | BG   |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 10                  | Adams  | W. Roden       | 21st: 1st Bn      | 09/12/06 |      |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 11                  | Adams  | James H.       | 5th: 2nd Bn Hqs   | 09/03/93 |      |     | Augusta, GA      |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 12                  | Adams  | Joseph J.      | 14th: 2nd Bn Hqs  | 12/04/87 |      |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 13                  | Adams  | Lorenzo D.     | 63rd FA: Hqs      | 01/01/72 | Col  |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 14                  | Adams  | Max            | 3rd Engr          | 06/28/97 |      |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 15                  | Adams  | Paul D.        | 34th: Div Hqs     | 10/31/87 | Gen  |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 16                  | Adams  | Raymond E.     | 24th Med          | 09/10/06 |      |     | Augusta, GA      |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 17                  | Adams  | Stanley T.     | 19th: A           | 04/09/99 | LTC  |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 18                  | Adams  | Walter L. Jr.  | 5th RCT: Med      | 06/17/89 |      |     | Beard, OH        |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 19                  | Adams  | Warren         | 13th: A: 52nd FA: | 06/05/82 |      |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 20                  | Adams  | Pierre A.      | 3rd Engr          | 05/14/74 | LTC  |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 21                  | Adams  | Leo H.         | 21st: D           | 11/07/93 |      |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 22                  | Adams  | Charles        | 24th Spt          | 08/01/97 |      |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 23                  | Adams  | Lewis R.       | 13th FA: B        | 02/01/99 |      |     | Lyons, IN        |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 24                  | Adams  | Richard E.     | 5th RCT: B        | 11/03/70 |      |     | S Lake Tahoe     |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 25                  | Adams  | Malcom D.      | 21st: 1st Bn Hq   | 09/17/00 |      |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 26                  | Adams  | Olavi          | 24th Div: Hqs     | 08/19/90 |      |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 27                  | Adams  | Michael        | 21st: H           | 02/26/05 |      |     | Lacey, WA        |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 28                  | Adams  | Edward         | 19th: C           | 02/20/07 |      |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 29                  | Adams  | Robert L.      | 34th: L           | 08/23/86 | Sgt  |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 30                  | Adams  | Dale           | 19th: B           |          |      |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 31                  | Adams  | Benedict J.    | 34th: 21st        | 05/12/07 |      |     | Unknown, Twp, MI |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 32                  | Adams  | Deward G.      | 19th:             |          |      |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 33                  | Adams  | Harold         | 19th: Svc B       | 01/22/78 |      |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 34                  | Adams  | James R.       | 19th: 2d Bn Hq    | 01/05/80 |      |     | Lummi, WA        |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 35                  | Adams  | Alfred         | 5th RCT: H        | 03/00/06 |      |     | Guadalupe, CA    |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 36                  | Adams  | Leiland        | 21st: Hq: 3rd Bn  | 01/03/06 |      |     | Albuquerque, NM  |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |
| 37                  | Adams  | Ben            | 11th FA:          |          | Col  |     | Unknown          |     |     |     |     |      |     |    |

Photo of the present-day "Honor Roll" on display in the Hospitality Room at the Springfield Reunion; Past President Morrison maintains and prints this version. Photo by the Editor.

Photo of the present-day "Honor Roll" on display in the Hospitality Room at the Springfield Reunion; Past President Morrison maintains and prints this version. Photo by the Editor.

This Official Association Honor Roll is maintained by Past President Wes Morrison on his personal computer in Marina, CA. To ensure that it is secure, frequent copies of this file are stored off site from Mr. Morrison's computer with the Secretary-Treasurer.

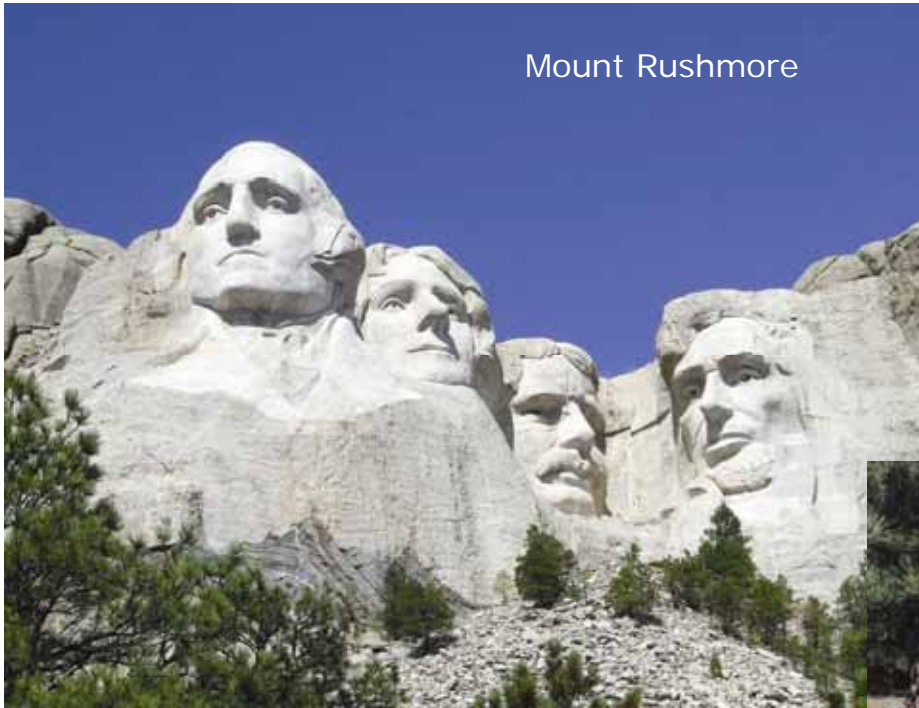
We sincerely appreciate the extra effort Mr. Morrison devotes to maintaining the Association's Official Honor Roll, and hope that this article will allay any possible future concerns. The spouse mentioned above was relieved to learn that her husband is indeed listed in the Association's Official Honor Roll!





# Rapid City Reunion Tour Scenes

Please see pages 25-28 for Reunion forms, etc.



Mount Rushmore



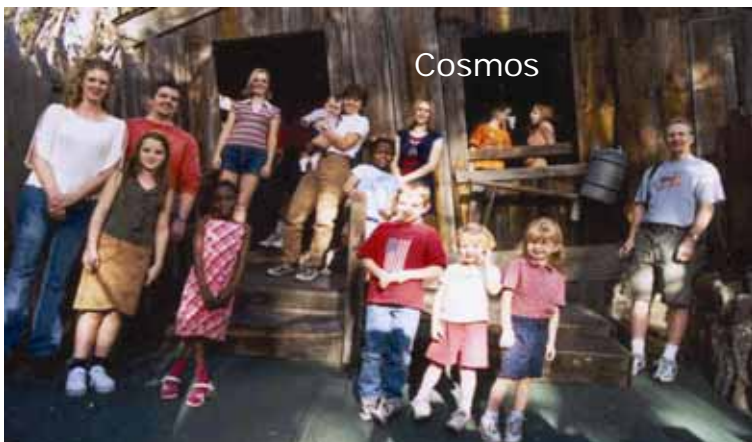
Gold Panning



Gold Mine Tour



Chuckwagon



Cosmos

**NOTE: Members are urged to tear out the press release on next page and send to your media and/or veteran group's contacts.**



# 24th Infantry Division Association

Melvin L. Frederick, President

950 W. Barney

Owatonna, MN 55060-3800

Tel: Summer—MN 507-455-1639, Winter—CA 760-772-7909

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January 15, 2009

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Medal of Honor Recipient, Woody Keeble, to be honored at 24th Infantry Division Association Reunion in Rapid City, SD, on August 26-30, 2009.

Master Sergeant Woodrow Wilson Keeble, who received the Medal of Honor posthumously on March 3, 2008, for actions while a member of the 24th Infantry Division in North Korea, will be the honoree of distinction at the 24th Infantry Division Association's 63rd Annual Reunion in Rapid City, SD, on August 26-30, 2009, says Association President, Melvin L. Frederick.

Keeble, who was born in Waubay, South Dakota and was a Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate, Lake Traverse Reservation, Sioux Native American, was recognized for his gallantry while a member of "G" Company, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Division, near Sangsan-ni, North Korea, on 20 October, 1951. Although Keeble survived the action, his award was delayed indefinitely by a series of unfortunate events and errors until after MSG Keeble's death. President George W. Bush awarded the MOH to Keeble's family in a March 2008 White House Ceremony.

Frederick says that there are times in life that we as Americans have an opportunity to right a terrible injustice, and that this Annual Reunion ceremony will be the Association's effort to help right the wrong resulting from the delaying of MSG Keeble's recognition. Merry Helm of Fargo, ND, whose research efforts and writing skills helped bring Keeble's heroic actions to the fore resulting in the MOH will also be honored at the Reunion.

The 24th Association, founded in a grove of palm trees on a Mindanao, Philippine Islands beach in August of 1945, meets annually to honor its fallen heroes, and to renew old acquaintances and establish new ones. Everyone who has ever served as a member of the 24th Infantry Division, including any unit ever assigned or attached to it at any time up to the present, is welcome to the Reunion, Frederick says.

This year's reunion will be held on August 26-30, 2009, in Rapid City, SD, at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel, 2111 N. LaCrosse Street, Rapid City, SD 57701, (605) 343-8550, [www.rapidcity.ramkota.com](http://www.rapidcity.ramkota.com) (call no later than July 26, 2009, to reserve at the special \$82 rate, mention the 24th Association).

For further information contact Melvin L. Frederick, President, 950 W. Barney, Owatonna, MN 55060-3800, Tel: Summer-MN 507-455-1639, Winter—CA 760-772-7909, Email: [melfrederick@msn.com](mailto:melfrederick@msn.com), or contact: Dan Rickert, Program Chair, 28099 Calle Valdes, Mission Viejo, CA 92692-1551, Ph 949-215-7553.



# CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION (August 15, 2006)

NOTE: The existing Corporation Constitution and Bylaws are reproduced in their entirety on the EVEN-NUMBERED Pages herein. This document was taken from the 24th IDA Web Site owned and maintained by Norman Treadway. Sec/Treas Maggio compared this copy with that officially on file in his records and reported "They are identical."

**PLEASE MARK AND MAIL BALLOT ON PAGE 22.**

## PREAMBLE

Under the provisions of Article VII of the Constitution of the 24th Infantry Division Association, effective 20 August, 1983, as amended, we the membership of that Association do hereby amend that Constitution and the accompanying Bylaws by revoking them in their entirety and ordaining and establishing in their stead this new Constitution and Bylaws which shall become effective the day of August 15, 2006 and therefore shall become the official Constitution of the 24th Infantry Division Association, Inc.

## ARTICLE I

Section 1. The name of this Association shall be the 24th Infantry Division Association, Incorporated and shall hereinafter in this instrument be referred to as the "Corporation".

Section 2. The Statuary Agent for the Corporation must be domiciled in the state of Arizona .

Section 3. The objective of the Corporation shall be to preserve in patriotic reverence the memory of the fame and glory of the 24th Infantry Division and it's members, to maintain and strengthen the bonds of comradeship which distinguished the men and women of that Division, to provide for the gathering and dissemination of information concerning those men and women and for their periodic assembly in local and national reunions.

- a. Electrify and unify the invisible current of fellowship molded in the throes of war and peace and preserve the comradeship common to the veterans

of the 24th Infantry Division;

Promote the interests and welfare of the members of the Corporation;

- b. Honor and perpetuate the memory of the men and women who distinguished themselves by their services and sacrifices while with the 24th Infantry Division;
- c. Memorialize the valiant acts and patriotic deeds of the 24th Infantry Division;
- d. Encourage and aid historical research in relation to the activities of and acquire and preserve records of the 24th Infantry Division and the personnel thereof;
- e. Mark scenes of the activities of the 24th Infantry Division with appropriate memorials;
- f. Celebrate with appropriate ceremonies the anniversaries of events in the history of the 24th Infantry Division;
- g. Promote the National Defense and help to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom;
- h. Defend and uphold the Constitution of the United States of America.

Section 4. The Corporation shall not engage in any political or profit making activities and no profits nor earnings shall accrue to the benefit of any member.

## ARTICLE II

Section 1. The Officers of the Corporation shall consist of a President, Vice President and a Secretary/Treasurer.

Section 2. The Corporation shall be governed by a Board of Directors, which shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer and all living Past Presidents, each of whom shall have one vote.

*(Continued on page 16)*





# CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION (PROPOSED), August 15, 2009

NOTE: The PROPOSED Corporation Constitution and By-laws are reproduced in their entirety on the ODD-NUMBERED pages that follow. Changes are not indicated since extensive editing was also performed at the same time. This EVEN (Existing) versus ODD (Proposed) arrangement was followed to allow you to compare the changes proposed item by item. **PLEASE MARK & MAIL BALLOT, PG. 22.**

## PREAMBLE

Under the provisions of Article VII of the Constitution of the 24th Infantry Division Association, effective August 20, 1983, as amended August 15, 2006, we the Legislative Body of that Association do hereby revise that Constitution as shown on the pages following, effective September 1, 2009, and, therefore, is hereby declared to be the Constitution of the 24th Infantry Division Association, Inc.

## ARTICLE I. NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1. The name of this Association shall be the 24th Infantry Division Association, Incorporated, and shall hereinafter be referred to as the "Corporation."

Section 2. The Statuary Agent for the Corporation shall be domiciled in the state of Arizona.

Section 3. The Corporation objectives shall be to:

- a. Electrify and unify the invisible current of fellowship molded in the throes of war and peace experienced by veterans of the 24th Infantry Division;
- b. Honor, perpetuate and memorialize those who distinguished themselves by their gallant service, sacrifice, valiant acts and patriotic deeds;
- c. Maintain and strengthen the bonds of comradeship shared by its men and women;
- d. Sponsor and foster national and local reunions, and publish an official Association periodical;
- e. Identify and mark scenes of the Division's heroic actions, and celebrate the anniversaries of its historic events;
- f. Research Division history, and acquire, maintain, publish and preserve its records;

- g. Promote member interests and welfare; and
- h. Promote National Defense, maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom, and uphold the Constitution of the United States of America.

Section 4. The Corporation shall not engage in any political or profit-making activity, and no Corporate Funds or earnings shall benefit any member.

Section 5. Discrimination. The Corporation, and anyone acting on its behalf, shall not discriminate against any applicant, or against any member, on the basis of race, sex, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation or disability; The Corporation's membership should reflect the diversity and composition of the community of former Division members that it serves.

## ARTICLE II. OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

Section 1. Only Active and Life Active Members may serve as a Corporation officer or director.

Section 2. The Officers of the Corporation shall be: President, Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer.

Section 3. The Corporation shall be governed by a Board of Directors consisting of the Corporation Officers, two elected Members at Large not otherwise eligible for the Board of Directors, and all living Past Presidents; each shall have one vote.

Section 4. Officers' terms shall be one year, or until their successors have been elected and installed. The terms of the two elected Members at Large shall be two years, and shall be staggered on alternating years.

Section 5. Each President, upon term expiration, shall serve permanently as a Past President Board member.

Section 6. No Corporation Officer, BoD member, or member acting on behalf of the Corporation, shall be compensated for their service in any form or from any source (including reunion complimentary rooms); however, legitimate and necessary expenses incurred in the proper conduct of Association business shall be granted with appropriate oversight and accounting.

*(Continued on page 17)*



Section 3. The term of office of the President, Vice President and the Secretary/Treasurer shall be one year or until their successors have been elected and have taken office.

Section 4. Each President, upon the expiration of his term of office, shall serve as a Past President.

Section 5. No Officer of the Corporation shall receive any compensation for his/her services.

Section 6. The Board of Directors shall have final approval on the appointment of the Quartermaster and Editor positions. The President shall provide a list of qualified candidates to the Board of Directors for selection.

### ARTICLE III

Section 1. The Corporation shall meet annually on a date and a place approved by the membership.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall convene in an annual meeting during the annual Corporation Convention and at such other times as the President may direct.

Section 3. The legislative body, being the membership meeting, shall be the Corporation Convention. Such convention shall be held annually during the period from September 1 to October 31 unless the legislative body approves a special change.

Section 4. A quorum of a Corporation Convention shall consist of the members present.

### ARTICLE IV

Section 1. The Officers of the Corporation shall be elected annually by the membership in its annual meeting held during the annual Corporation convention and shall take office immediately at the conclusion of the convention.

Section 2. Election shall be decided by majority vote of the qualified active members present at the convention Annual meeting.

Section 3. In the event a vacancy occurs in the Office of the President, the Vice President shall succeed to that office for the unexpired portion of the term of office.

Section 4. A vacancy in the office of the Vice President shall remain unfilled until such time as a qualified individual, approved by the Board of Directors, is appointed to that position to fill the unexpired term of office.

Section 5. In case of incapacity or vacancy in the Office of the Secretary/Treasurer, the President shall select and recommend a qualified member to the Board of Directors to fill the unexpired term of office.

### ARTICLE V

Section 1. Membership shall be divided into five (5) classes: a. Active; b. Associate; c. Affiliate; d. Life and e. Honorary.

Section 2. Membership requirements.

- a. Active Membership. All persons who have served as members of the 24th Infantry Division or of a unit which has/is/was at any time attached to the Division shall be eligible for Active Membership in the Corporation.
- b. Associate Membership: Any person who is related to a person who has/had served with the Division or any unit that was attached to the Division shall be eligible for Association Membership in the Corporation.
- c. Affiliate Membership: Any employee of the American Red Cross, other government agencies officially recognized by the Department of the Army dedicated to the Division and its personnel and dedicated civilian personnel serving with or had served with the division shall be for Affiliate Membership.
- d. Life Membership: Any Active, Associate or Affiliate member who upon payment of a sum established by the Board of Directors shall be given a Life Membership in the Corporation.
- e. Honorary Membership: Any person who by act or

*(Continued on page 18)*



*(Continued from page 15)*

Section 7. The Board of Directors shall in all cases act as an entity rather than as an individual, adopting such rules and regulations as they deem proper, as long as these do not violate this Constitution.

### ARTICLE III. MEETINGS

Section 1. A Corporation Convention shall be held annually on a date and place approved by the membership.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall convene an annual meeting during the annual Corporation Convention, and at other times as the President may direct.

Section 3. The Legislative Body, defined as the members of this Corporation, shall meet at the Corporation Convention; such meeting shall be held annually between September 1 and October 31, unless members deem otherwise.

Section 4. A quorum of a Corporation Convention shall be the members present.

Section 5. The new Board of Directors shall convene an Organizational Meeting immediately following the annual Corporation Convention; the outgoing President shall arrange the time and place of the meeting.

### ARTICLE IV. ELECTIONS

Section 1. The Officers of the Corporation, and one of the two Board Members at Large (these alternate on an even odd yearly basis, except for 2009, when one shall be elected for only one year while the second shall be elected for the regular two-year term), shall be elected annually by the Legislative Body at its annual meeting; they shall take office at the conclusion of the Corporation Convention; election shall be decided by majority vote of the qualified Active Members present and voting at the Corporation Convention.

Section 2. In the event a vacancy in the Office of the President, the Vice President shall succeed to the office of President for the remainder of the term.

Section 3. A vacancy in the office of the Vice President shall be filled by appointment by the President, subject to prior approval by the Board of Directors.

Section 4. In case of incapacity or vacancy in the Secretary/Treasurer position, the President shall recom-

mend a member to the Board of Directors.

### ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP and DUES

Section 1. There shall be five (5) membership classes:  
a. Active; b. Associate; c. Affiliate; d. Life, and e. Honorary.

#### Section 2. Membership Requirements.

- a. Active Membership. Any person who has served as a member of the 24th Infantry Division, or as a member of a unit that either is now or ever has been at any time attached to the Division.
- b. Associate Membership: (i) The spouse, parent, child, sibling or surviving spouse of any person eligible to be an Active Member; or (ii) Any person with a legitimate interest in the affairs of the Corporation not otherwise eligible to be an Active Member who wishes to support its aims and agrees to accept the terms and conditions set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws.
- c. Affiliate Membership: Any member of: the American Red Cross, any government agency officially recognized by the Department of the Army, and civilian personnel who served with the Division.
- d. Life Membership: Any Active, Associate or Affiliate member, who upon payment of a sum established by the Board of Directors.
- e. Honorary Membership: Any person who by act or deed has demonstrated a special devotion to the 24th Infantry Division, and the members who served in its ranks, who is not otherwise eligible for membership, and who has been approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Dues. All dues shall be established by the Board of Directors; members who are more than three (3) months in arrears shall forfeit all membership privileges.

Section 4. Association Information Resources. These are defined as all information compiled by any officer, director, or member that utilizes Association files or that purports to be an Official Association Resource; such resources shall be the sole property of the Asso-

*(Continued on page 19)*





deeds has indicated a special devotion to the 24th Infantry Division and who is not eligible for membership under a, b or c above, and who has been approved by the Board of Directors shall be eligible for Honorary Membership.

Section 3. Dues. Annual and Life Membership dues will be established by the Board of Directors. Members whose annual dues become more than six (6) months in arrears shall forfeit all membership privileges.

#### ARTICLE VI

Section 1. The Corporation Fund shall consist of all funds derived from dues, donations, grants, interest on deposits and other appropriate sources as may be approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. The fiscal year of the Corporation shall begin on August 1 and end on the following July 31.

#### ARTICLE VII

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended by a mail-in ballot vote of the majority of the active members in good standing as of the last day of the month the proposal and ballot is published in the official publication of the Association. All ballots must be received by the Secretary/Treasurer not later than the last day of the month preceding the month of the Annual Convention. The ballots shall be published in the official publication, the *Taro Leaf*. This requirement may be waived at the Annual Convention of the Corporation and amendments thereto will be accepted by a majority of the members present.

Section 2. No proposal for amending the Constitution shall be considered unless the text of the proposed amendments has been published in the official publication of the Corporation not less than sixty (60) days prior to the month of the annual Corporation convention. This requirement may be waived at the Annual Convention of the Corporation and amendments thereto will be accepted by a majority of the members present.

/ S/Wesley R. Morrison  
WESLEY R. (WES) MORRISON  
PRESIDENT

ORIGINAL ON FILE WITH SECRETARY/  
TREASURER, 24th Infantry Division Association, Incorporated

## **BY-LAWS OF THE 24th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION**

#### ARTICLE I

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall govern the Corporation, determine its policies, approve appointments of Honorary Members, decide all disputes over the election, eligibility, conduct, expulsion, and reinstatement of any officer or member or over any other matter, which may affect the welfare of the Corporation.

Section 2. Five (5) members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular meeting held during the annual Corporation convention. Where matters for vote are referred to the Directors by correspondence or telephonic, the majority vote of those responding shall prevail.

Section 3. The order of seniority among the members of the Board of Directors shall be: the President, Vice President, all living Past Presidents in order of service as President and Secretary/Treasurer, each of whom shall have one (1) vote

#### ARTICLE II

Section 1. The President shall preside at the Corporation convention and at meetings of the Board of Directors and shall supervise all activities of the Corporation. In an emergency, he may direct immediate action in any matter dealing with the Corporation's finance's, reporting the matter immediately thereafter to the Board of Directors.

Section 2. In the event of the absence or incapacity of the President, the Vice President or next senior member of the Board of Directors present shall perform his duties.

(Continued on page 20)



ciation and subject to such management practices that the Association may deem appropriate.

#### ARTICLE VI. FUNDS

Section 1. Corporation Funds shall be all funds derived from dues, donations, grants, interest and other such sources as may be approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. The fiscal year of the Corporation shall begin on August 1 and end on the following July 31.

#### ARTICLE VII. ROBERT'S RULES

Section 1. The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order, 1893 edition, revised, shall govern the Corporation in all cases which are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent or conflicting with this Constitution.

#### ARTICLE VIII. AMENDING CONSTITUTION

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended by a mail-in ballot vote of the majority of the Active and Life Active Members voting on the question. Only Active and Life Active Members in good standing may vote. Proposed amendments and or changes to the Constitution, and the official ballot must be published in the *Taro Leaf* at least two months (60 days) prior to the effective date of the proposed change. All ballots cast must be received by the Secretary/Treasurer not later than thirty days preceding the date of the proposed change.

Section 2. Changes to this Constitution may also be conducted by the members at the Annual Corporation Convention, providing that such change shall have been published in the *Taro Leaf* at least sixty (60) days prior to the annual Corporation Convention. This requirement may be waived at the annual Corporation Convention and amendments and or changes thereto will be accepted by a majority of the Active and Life Active Members present and voting.

/S/ (to be signed by current president in office at the time of adoption by the Members) Original on file with the Secretary/Treasurer, 24th Infantry Division Association, Incorporated

**BY-LAWS OF THE 24th INFANTRY DIVISION  
ASSOCIATION**  
The *Taro Leaf*

#### ARTICLE I. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall govern the Corporation, determine its policies, approve appointments of Honorary Members and all non-elected Corporation positions, such as: *Taro Leaf* Editor, Quartermaster, and all other related Corporation positions, decide all disputes over the election, eligibility, conduct, expulsion, and reinstatement of any officer or member or over any other matter, which may affect the welfare of the Corporation.

Section 2. The Board of Directors, in seniority order, shall be: President, Vice President, Elected Members at Large in their order of seniority, all living Past Presidents in order of service, and the Secretary/Treasurer, each of whom may cast one (1) vote.

Section 3. Five (5) members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at the annual Board of Directors Meeting. When votes are referred to the Directors by correspondence or telephone, the majority vote of those responding and voting shall prevail.

Section 4. The Board of Directors shall cause to be published an official Association periodical for distribution to the membership, currently designated as the "*Taro Leaf*," and shall be responsible for its editorial policies and content.

#### ARTICLE II. DUTIES

##### Section 1. President

- a. The President shall preside at the Corporation Convention and meetings of the Board of Directors, and shall supervise all activities of the Corporation. In an emergency, the President may direct immediate action in any matter dealing with the Corporation's finance's, reporting the matter immediately thereafter to the Board of Directors.
- b. The President shall conduct, or cause to be conducted, and annual inventory of all Corporation information resources.

Section 2. Vice-President: The Vice President shall

(Continued on page 21)



Section 3. The Secretary/Treasurer shall:

- a. Administer the affairs of the Corporation, implement the policies of the Board of Directors, and be responsible for the development and maintenance of membership.
- b. Organize and operate the Corporation offices and be responsible for all correspondence, records and other matters of administrative routine and office procedures.
- c. Be the custodian of the Corporation funds and be responsible for the collection and receipt of dues and other income and the disbursement of and accounting for funds.
- d. Prepare an annual financial report and distribute it to the Board of Directors
- e. Arrange for an annual audit of the Corporation funds, submit the report of audit to the Board of Directors and make it available to the membership. Be responsible for the acquisition of and accounting for all Corporation property.
- f. Keep, record and preserve the minutes of all meetings.
- g. Be bonded in favor of the Corporation by a surety company approved for acceptance of bonds by the United States Treasury.

Section 4. The Board of Directors shall cause to be edited and published an official Association periodical for distribution to the membership currently designated the "TARO LEAF" and shall be responsible for its editorial policy and content.

ARTICLE III

Section 1. Active Members in good standing may attend and vote at the Corporation convention and hold office in the Corporation.

Section 2. Other members in good standing may attend the Corporation convention and may hold non-elective positions and may vote on matters other than the elec-

tion of officers or changes to the Constitution.

ARTICLE IV

Section 1. The annual dues for Active, Associate or Affiliate Members shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V

Section 1. In case the Corporation is dissolved, its remaining assets shall be used to pay all outstanding liabilities of the Corporation exclusively for the purpose of the Corporation in such a manner or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for activities of Veterans Organizations as shall at the time qualify as a tax exempt organization or organizations under Section 501©(19) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Revenue Law) as the Corporation may determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a court of competent jurisdiction in the State of Arizona exclusively for such purpose or to such organization or organizations, as the Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

ARTICLE VI

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended upon approval of two thirds (2/3rds) of the quorum of the Board of Directors present at the annual meeting provided, that notice of any proposed amendments with a copy of the text thereof be given in writing to each member of the Board of Directors at least six (6) weeks before voting on the amendment. This requirement may be waived at the Annual Board of Directors meeting and amendments thereto will be accepted by a majority vote of the members present.

ARTICLE VII

Section 1. Each year the President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, will select an Active Member of the Corporation who is an Attorney to act as the Corporation's legal counsel.

**END OF CORPORATION AUGUST 15, 2006,  
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS.**





(Continued from page 19)

perform the duties of the President in the absence or inability of the President, and shall assist the President in the management of the Corporation, performing such tasks as are assigned the President.

Section 3. The Secretary/Treasurer shall:

- a. Administer the affairs of the Corporation, implement the policies of the Board of Directors, and maintain a membership roster;
- b. Organize and operate the Corporation offices and be responsible for all correspondence, records and other matters of administrative routine and office procedures;
- c. Be the custodian of the Corporation funds and be responsible for the collection and receipt of dues and other income and the disbursement of and accounting for funds;
- d. Prepare an annual financial report and distribute it to the Board of Directors;
- e. Prepare and distribute to all members of the Board of Directors a detailed report of all transactions for each fiscal year ended 31 July; such report shall be mailed not later than 15 August each year.
- f. Be responsible for the acquisition of and accounting for all Corporation property;
- g. Take and preserve meeting minutes;
- h. Be bonded in favor of the Corporation by a surety company approved for acceptance of bonds by the United States Treasury;

Section 4. Board Members at Large. Shall represent their fellow members on the Board of Directors to increase the probability of achieving a quorum at the annual Board of Directors meeting; they may also be assigned varying special tasks by the President, e.g., membership, program, information resources, etc.

#### ARTICLE III. ELIGIBILITY

Section 1. Active Members in good standing may attend and vote at the Corporation Convention and hold office in the Corporation.

Section 2. Other members in good standing may at-

tend the Corporation Convention, may hold non-elective positions, and may vote on matters other than the election of officers or changes to the Constitution.

#### ARTICLE IV. DUES

Section 1. Membership dues shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

#### ARTICLE V. DISSOLUTION

Section 1. In case the Corporation is dissolved, its remaining assets shall be used to pay all outstanding liabilities of the Corporation, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for activities of Veterans Organizations as shall at the time qualify as a tax exempt organization or organizations under Section 501c19 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Revenue Law) as the Corporation may determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a court of competent jurisdiction in the State of Arizona exclusively for such purpose or to such organization or organizations, as the Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

#### ARTICLE VI. ATTORNEY

Section 1. Each year the President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall obtain an Attorney to act as the Corporation's legal counsel; when feasible, every attempt should be made to select an Active Member.

#### ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS to BYLAWS

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended upon approval of two thirds (2/3) of the Board of Directors present and voting at the annual meeting, provided that notice of any proposed amendments with a copy of the text thereof be given in writing to each member of the Board of Directors at least six (6) weeks before voting on the amendment. This requirement may be waived at the annual Board of Directors meeting and amendments thereto will be accepted by a majority vote of the members present and voting.

**END OF PROPOSED AUGUST 15, 2009, CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS.**

**NOW PLEASE VOTE ON THIS CONSTITUTION WITH TEAR-OUT BALLOT ON PAGE 22.**



# 24th IDA Constitution & Bylaws Ballot

We the members of the Special Constitution and Bylaws Committee, 24th Infantry Division Association, duly appointed by President Gene Spicer on September 20, 2008, hereby unanimously recommend to the Association Legislative Body (The Members) the Proposed 24th Infantry Division Association Constitution that appears on pages 15, 17, 19 and 21 in this *Taro Leaf*, to become effective August 15, 2009. /S/ Dan Cretaro, Mario Iezzoni, Joe McMahon, Dan Rickert, and Tom Thiel, Chair.

Briefly, the primary changes effected in the Proposed Constitution is the addition of two At Large Elected Members of the Board of Directors, a non-discrimination clause, and significant editing.

Members have the authority to change the Constitution; changes to the Bylaws are the purview of the Board of Directors. Therefore, this ballot only asks you to vote to accept or reject the Proposed Constitution, and to recommend to the Board of Directors that they ensure that the Bylaws be consistent with this Constitution.

To be counted, your ballot must be postmarked **no later than July 1, 2009** addressed to the Association Secretary/Treasurer at the address below.

Please tear out this page, mark your preference below, and mail to Don Maggio, by July 1. An email addressed to the Sec/Treas stating your voting preferences will also be acceptable. Thank you.

PLEASE CHECK **ONE** OF THE TWO BOXES BELOW:

☐ I Accept the provisions of the Proposed 24th IDA Constitution.

☐ I Reject the provisions of the Proposed 24th IDA Constitution.

I recommend the following changes : \_\_\_\_\_

I also hereby ☐ RECOMMEND that the Board of Directors approve the Bylaws as recommended herein by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. (Please also check if you agree)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

Mail to:

**Don Maggio, Sec/Treas**  
**411 Concord Road**  
**Fletcher, NC 28732-9734**  
[tarheeldon0@lycos.com](mailto:tarheeldon0@lycos.com)



# Association Donors

| Name                            | Unit                 | Amount            |                                                                         |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Anderson, John E.               | 63rd FA              | \$10              |                                                                         |
| Baglama, John                   | 24th Recon           | \$60              |                                                                         |
| Becerra, Miguel                 | 11th FA              | \$5               |                                                                         |
| Blood, Frank H.                 | 19th Inf             | \$20              | In memory of CPL George Hanson, "B" 19th Inf                            |
| Blouin, Leslie L.               | 13th FA              | \$100             | Dan Rickert's '09 Reunion Fund                                          |
| Blouin, Leslie L.               | 13th FA              | \$50              | For the <b>Taro Leaf</b>                                                |
| Brockfeld, Russell G.           | 34th Inf             | \$50              |                                                                         |
| Butler, Jr., Ervin L.           | 21st Inf             | \$20              | For the <b>Taro Leaf</b>                                                |
| Cooper, Ramon F.                | 26th AAA             | \$20              | For the <b>Taro Leaf</b>                                                |
| Cretaro, Daniel A.              | 34th & 19th Inf      | \$100             | For the <b>Taro Leaf</b>                                                |
| Danhoff, James W.               | 13th FA              | \$5               |                                                                         |
| Davis, Dayton S.                | 34th Inf             | \$10              |                                                                         |
| Estes, Neil D.                  | 11th FA              | \$50              | In memory of his brother, Noel Estes, 11th FA, "A" Battery died in 2004 |
| Forton, Francis Keith           | 19th Inf             | \$10              | For postage                                                             |
| Frederick, Melvin L.            | 19th Inf             | \$200             | Dan Rickert's '09 Reunion Fund & as reimbursement of reunion comp room  |
| Frederick, Melvin L.            | 19th Inf             | \$200             | For the <b>Taro Leaf</b> & as reimbursement for reunion comp room       |
| Freshcorn, Billy L.             | 19th Inf             | \$100             | For the <b>Taro Leaf</b> found in an old boot & sent to Tom Thiel       |
| Fullerton, Robert L.            | 3rd Eng              | \$5               |                                                                         |
| Garceau, Alfred J.              | 3rd Eng              | \$25              | For the <b>Taro Leaf</b>                                                |
| Gavin, Thomas J.                | 26th AAA             | \$10              |                                                                         |
| Helebrandt, Robert A.           | 724th Ord & 21st Inf | \$50              | Merry Christmas                                                         |
| Henderson, Joe P.               | 34th Inf             | \$50              |                                                                         |
| Hollub, Sheldon P.              | 63rd FA              | \$5               |                                                                         |
| Hooper, Sam P.                  | 34th Inf             | \$100             |                                                                         |
| Hughes, Jack E.                 | 34th Inf             | \$10              | For postage                                                             |
| Janota, Roy F.                  | 19th Inf             | \$10              | For the <b>Taro Leaf</b>                                                |
| Jorgensen, John P. "Jack"       | Div HQ               | \$50              | For the <b>Taro Leaf</b>                                                |
| Lang, Louis (CSM Ret)           | 724th Ord            | \$10              | For the <b>Taro Leaf</b>                                                |
| LaPalm, Joseph R.               | 19th Inf             | \$25              | For the <b>Taro Leaf</b>                                                |
| LeBlanc, Reginald A.            | 19th Inf             | \$10              |                                                                         |
| Leerkamp, Henry G.              | 34th Inf             | \$10              | For expenses                                                            |
| Lutz, Stephen M.                | 35th & 41st FA       | \$35              | For the general fund                                                    |
| Manselian, Robert S.            | 24th MP              | \$50              | For the <b>Taro Leaf</b>                                                |
| Matchett, Robert S.             | 21st Inf             | \$10              |                                                                         |
| Mathis, Jackie C.               | Assoc                | \$50              | In memory of her husband, James E. Mathis, 34th Inf, WWII               |
| McAdoo, Alfred J.               | 5th RCT              | \$5               | Enrolled Tony Hofman, 5th RCT "E" Co.                                   |
| McCourt, Jack G.                | 24th Div             | \$10              |                                                                         |
| McFall, Donald B.               | 7th FA               | \$50              | For the general fund                                                    |
| McIntyre, Francis M.            | 19th Inf             | \$10              |                                                                         |
| Mecca, Daniel                   | 13th FA              | \$25              |                                                                         |
| Melcher, COL Ralph W. (USA Ret) | 19th Inf             | \$10              | For the general fund                                                    |
| Miller, John E.                 | 34th Inf             | \$10              |                                                                         |
| Murga, Jesse A. (LTC USA Ret)   | 21st Inf             | \$50              | For the <b>Taro Leaf</b>                                                |
| Myers, Lester W.                | 24th Sig             | \$50              | For the "deficit fund"                                                  |
| Nunnally, Charles E.            | 11th FA              | \$35              | To help with expenses                                                   |
| Owens, James R.                 | 34th Inf             | \$10              |                                                                         |
| Perkins, James N.               | 3rd Eng              | \$15              |                                                                         |
| Quintero, Robert                | 19th Inf             | \$100             | 2008 Reunion drawing winner                                             |
| Ragland, John F.                | 21st Inf             | \$10              |                                                                         |
| Reed, Marvin                    | 26th AAA             | \$24              | Dan Rickert's '09 Reunion Fund                                          |
| Rickert, Daniel J.              | 3rd Eng              | \$25              | Dan Rickert's '09 Reunion Fund                                          |
| Robinette, Dan                  | 19th Inf             | \$85              |                                                                         |
| Salter, Harvey C.               | 24th Sig             | \$5               |                                                                         |
| Schamberger, Alvin M.           | 3rd Eng              | \$50              | For the <b>Taro Leaf</b>                                                |
| Schanzmeyer, Bernard A.         | 19th Inf             | \$35              |                                                                         |
| Schanzmeyer, Bernard A.         | 19th Inf             | \$500             | For the <b>Taro Leaf</b> & other - 2008 Reunion drawing winner          |
| Schiller, COL M. Dean           | 34th Inf             | \$20              | For expenses                                                            |
| Schlarb, Beryle E.              | 34th & 21st Inf      | \$10              |                                                                         |
| Schulte, Edwin C.               | 3rd Eng              | \$10              |                                                                         |
| Shiple, Robert G.               | 21st Inf             | \$5               | Sent in with Arnett Den, Jr. dues payment                               |
| Smith, Harold A.                | 19th Inf             | \$5               | Enrolled Harold Thompson, 19th Inf F & H Cos.                           |
| Soemann, George W.              | 724th Ord            | \$50              | For the <b>Taro Leaf</b>                                                |
| Solo, Otis J.                   | 21st Inf             | \$50              | For the <b>Taro Leaf</b>                                                |
| Stanley, David L.               | 19th Inf             | \$100             | 2008 Reunion drawing winner                                             |
| Stock, Rodney F.                | 34th Inf             | \$100             | In memory of John T. Feightner 34th Tank Co.                            |
| Teruya, Henry Y.                | 21st Inf             | \$35              | For the <b>Taro Leaf</b>                                                |
| Thornton, Jr., Douglas W.       | 34th Inf             | \$10              |                                                                         |
| Vail, Donald F.                 | 19th Inf             | \$150             | For the <b>Taro Leaf</b>                                                |
| Vlasic, George J.               | 21st Inf             | \$25              |                                                                         |
| Wheaton, Jon                    | 24th Med             | \$50              | For the <b>Taro Leaf</b>                                                |
| Wise, Jr., Fred                 | 5th RCT              | \$10              |                                                                         |
| <b>Total:</b>                   |                      | <b>\$3,269.00</b> |                                                                         |

See back cover  
for your renewal  
date—Please re-  
new promptly.  
Thank you!

**Correction:** In the last issue of the Taro Leaf, Don Maggio (Secy/Treas, indicated that John Barnabi made a donation in memory of Wendell R. Vought. The notation should have read: For finding him after 58 years.







# THE 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



I desire to be: Enrolled ☐ (or) Reinstated ☐; as a Member ☐ (or) Associate Member ☐  
(please check the proper two boxes)

*of the*  
**24th "Victory Division" Association**  
The Greatest Combat Division the United States Army has ever known.

☐ **Annual Dues - \$15.00 (1) Year From date of joining in The Association.**

☐ **Life Member - \$150.00 Payable in one sum or 5 yearly payments of \$30.00 each.**

~~~~~

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE+4 _____ - _____

PHONE _____ - _____ EMAIL _____ @ _____

OCCUPATION _____ SPOUSE'S NAME _____

Served IN the 24th Division, OR was Member of Any Unit Ever Attached TO the 24th at any time.

Unit: _____ Squad _____ Plt/Bat _____ Co _____ Bn _____
(e.g., 5th, 19th, 21st, 3rd Eng, etc.)

Location Served: _____ From (Yr.) _____ To (Yr.) _____
(e.g., Pearl H., WWII, Japan, Korea, Germany, Ft. Stuart, Lebanon, Somalia, Desert Storm, Ft. Riley, etc.)

POW: From (Yr.) _____ To (Yr.) _____

Other Unit Served With: _____ From (Yr.) _____ To (Yr.) _____

Sponsor: _____

Comment: _____

Please make checks in above amount payable to the **"24th Infantry Division Association"**
And mail with this completed application to:

Donald E. Maggio, Secretary/Treasurer
24th Infantry Division Association
411 Concord Road
Fletcher, NC 28732-9734

Dec. 10, 2008 ver

The **Taro Leaf**



Reunion to Honor Keeble, other 24th MOH Recipients

Our Division Association Reunion on August 26-30, 2009 in Rapid City, SD is dedicated to the honor and memory of MSG Woody Keeble, who received the Medal of Honor posthumously last March, and to all fourteen 24th Division Medal of Honor recipients.

Much has been written in the *Taro Leaf* about MSG Keeble, and brief resumes of all the 24th's Medal of Honor recipients appear on the rear covers of the past fourteen *Taro Leaf* issues.

We also will recognize writer/journalist Merry Helm of Fargo, ND, without whom most likely Keeble would not have been recognized.

Rickert Asks for Your Financial Support

Dan Rickert, this year's Reunion Program Chair, would like to remind you of our efforts to honor Woody by bringing Woody's survivors, the Oyate Color Guard, and others to the Reunion.

Please see Dan's full appeal on page 38 of the last *Taro Leaf*, from which we copy the following:

"As Chair of this committee, it is my pleasure to represent our fine Association. I know that all of us will be proud to participate in the effort, and to contribute to a fund to defray the cost of hosting these most deserving "Guests of Honor." **[As this goes to press, only \$340 has been contributed, far short of our need to**

properly recognize our honored guests!!!] "Your contributions in support of this worthy cause would be most appreciated.

"Please mark your contributions for the 2009 Program, and send them to Sec/Treas Don Maggio, 411 Concord Road, Fletcher, NC 28732-9734, Tel. 828-684-5931. Or please call [Dan] (949-215-7553) or write: 28099 Calle Valdes, Mission Viejo, CA 92692-1551."

You have already seen a photo layout of our Rapid City attractions on page 12, and in the next three pages we will provide more detail about this year's reunion.

"See you in Rapid City!"

24th IDA Reunion Tour Descriptions

Cosmos Mystery Area/Mt. Rushmore, Thursday August 27—Have you ever experienced a place where the laws of nature seem to have gone completely berserk? Have you ever stood on the wall or felt an unexplainable force? Here at the Cosmos you can experience all of this and much, much more. Cosmos Mystery Area is a natural phenomena that is intriguing and mind boggling. Next we will visit one of our country's most renowned sites, Mt. Rushmore. Tour time Thursday 9 am – 3 pm. Cost per person \$29.00.

Ft. Hayes Chuckwagon Dinner and Music/Comedy Show, Thursday August 27—Tour the "Dances with Wolves" Film Set and visit the Fort Hays Workshops for a real western experience. Workshops include old time blacksmith, tin shop, rope shop, post office, penny press and saw mill. Tour time Thursday 5 – 9 pm Cost/person \$41.00.

Big Thunder Gold Mine, Friday August 28—Find yourself traveling back in time as you tour the authentic 1890's gold mine and learn about the mining experience from knowledgeable guides. The mining museum is a replica of the Tykoon Gold Mill (Custom Mill) built in 1895 on the Big Thunder property. The museum contains the largest collection of mining equipment in the Black Hills. And afterwards you will have a chance to try to your luck panning gold! Tour Time Friday 9 am – 3 :30 pm. Cost per person \$35.00.

24TH IDA REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

YES SIGN ME UP FOR 24th INFANTRY ASSOCIATION 2009 REUNION!!!

NAME _____

UNIT _____ YEARS _____ LOCATION _____

CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

GUESTS NAMES _____

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY NOTIFY _____

IS THIS YOUR FIRST REUNION? YES: _____ NO: _____

MEAL SELECTIONS:

ALOHA _____ PORK _____ FISH _____ VEGETARIAN _____

BANQUET _____ BEEF _____ CHICKEN _____ VEGETARIAN _____

PLEASE LIST ANY SPECIAL NEEDS: _____

REGISTRATION FEES

REGISTRATION FEE (REQUIRED) # PERSONS _____ x \$20 = _____

ALOHA BANQUET # PERSONS _____ x \$44 = _____

MENS BREAKFAST # PERSONS _____ x \$15 = _____

LADIES BREAKFAST #PERSONS _____ x \$15 = _____

MEMORIAL BANQUET #PERSONS _____ x \$45 = _____

COSMOS/MT RUSHMORE TOUR #PERSONS _____ x \$29 = _____

CHUCKWAGON DINNEN #PERSONS _____ x \$41 = _____

THUNDER MT GOLD MINE TOUR #PERSONS _____ x \$35 = _____

GRAND TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

PAYMENT IS DUE NO LATER THAN JULY 26, 2009

PLEASE SEND PAYMENTS TO THE ADDRESS BELOW, AND MADE PAYABLE TO:

Confirmation of Registration and Itinerary will be sent out by August 10, 2009. A \$20 per person cancellation fee will apply to all cancellations received within 30 days of the event. Cancellations received within 10 days of the event will be non-refundable. Call the Best Western at 605-343-8550 no later than July 26, 2009 to make your hotel reservations. Be sure to mention you are with the 24th Infantry Association Reunion to receive your group rate of \$82 a night, plus tax. These prices are available 3 days prior to and after your event should you choose to extend your stay. We'll see you soon in Rapid City, South Dakota!!

THE REUNION *BRAT*

50721 State Hwy 410 E

Greenwater, WA 98022

(360) 663-2521



24th Infantry Division Association Reunion Itinerary

August 26-30, 2009

~~ **Rapid City, South Dakota** ~~

To be held at the Best Western (Ramkota Inn). Room rates are \$82 per night, plus tax. Parking at the hotel and airport transportation are free. A hospitality room stocked w/snacks, beverages and cocktails will be provided each day.

Wednesday August 26

2 pm Registration and Hospitality Room opens

Thursday August 27

9 am – 3 pm Tour of Cosmos Mystery Area and Mt. Rushmore

5:15-9 pm Chuckwagon Western Dinner Show

Friday August 28

9 am Board of Directors Meeting

9 am – 3:30 pm Tour of Big Thunder Gold Mine and Gold Panning

6-10 pm Aloha Banquet Dinner and Dance

Saturday August 29

9 am Member Breakfast, to be followed immediately by the

Annual Corporation Convention Member Meeting

TBA—New Board of Directors Organizational Meeting

9-11 am Ladies Breakfast & Entertainment

6-10 pm Memorial Banquet Dinner and Program

~~~~~

*Call the Best Western Ramkota Hotel at 605-343-8550  
no later than July 26, 2009, to make your hotel reservations.*

***COME JOIN US AS WE SHARE OLD MEMORIES AND MAKE NEW ONES!!!***

***For More Information, Contact:***

***Mel Frederick—Phone: MN 507-455-1639 Summer; CA 760-772-7909 Winter  
email [melfrederick@msn.com](mailto:melfrederick@msn.com)***

***Dan Rickert—Phone: 949-215-7553***

***The Reunion BRAT—Phone: 360-663-2521; email: [Info@TheReunionBRAT.com](mailto:Info@TheReunionBRAT.com)***



# 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Association Reunion

**August 26-30, 2009**

**~~ Rapid City, South Dakota ~~**



"Ed, after all these years d'ya think we could still take a hill like that?"

"Yep Chuck!—but it might take longer!"

## Hotel Information

**Best Western Ramkota Hotel in Rapid City,**  
2111 N La Crosse Street, Rapid City, SD 57701.

**Call 605-343-8550 no later than July 26, 2009 to make your hotel reservations. Room rates are \$82 per night, plus tax. Be sure to mention you are with the 24th Infantry Association Reunion to receive the group rate.**

**<http://rapidcity.ramkota.com/index.php>**

**Located off of Interstate 90 at Exit 59.**

**Free hotel parking and airport transportation.**

**These prices are available 3 days prior to and after the Reunion, should you choose to extend your stay.**

## Banquet Seating

Banquet table seating arrangements will be designated at time of registration; if you have a group that wishes to be seated together, be sure to have the person who registers first at the Reunion Registration Table make the arrangements for all desiring to be seated at that table.

## About Rapid City

Rapid City, with a population of about 60,000, is the second-largest city in South Dakota; it is named after Rapid Creek, which divides the city. Set against the eastern slope of the Black Hills mountain range, Rapid City is known as the "Gateway to the Black Hills" and the "Star of the West."

Rapid City's climate is characterized by long arid summers and long dry winters, with short but distinct spring and autumn seasons. It records an average of nine thunderstorm-days in August, and receives 75 percent of the total

available sunshine. Rapid City holds two impressive weather records—the fastest temperature rise (49 °F in two minutes on Jan. 22, 1943), and the fastest temperature drop (47 °F in five minutes on Jan. 10, 1911).

The Custer Expedition's discovery of gold in 1874 brought a mass influx of settlers into the Black Hills region. Originally known as "Hay Camp," Rapid City was founded in 1876 by a group of disappointed miners; John Brennan and Samuel Scott laid out present-day Rapid City in February of that year.

In the 1940's, the city's population doubled with the opening of the Rapid City Army Air Base, which later became known as Ellsworth Air Force Base.

The installation of many Cold War era Nike Air Defense sites began about 1950. By November 1963, the land for a hundred miles east, northeast and northwest of the city was dotted with some 150 Minuteman missile silos and 15 launch command centers.

All these were deactivated in the early 1990's.



## 24th infantry Division Association Quartermaster Order Form

| Item #                                                | Description                                       | Price   | Quan. | Amount |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------|-------|--------|
| 1                                                     | Philippine Liberation Medal Hat Pin               | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 2                                                     | National Defense Service Medal Hat Pin            | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 3                                                     | Good Conduct Medal Hat Pin                        | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 4                                                     | Silver Star Medal Hat Pin                         | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 5                                                     | Pacific Campaign Medal Hat Pin                    | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 6                                                     | Armed Forces Reserve Medal Hat Pin                | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 7                                                     | Army of Occupation Medal Hat Pin                  | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 8                                                     | POW Medal Hat Pin                                 | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 9                                                     | Distinguished Service Cross Medal Hat Pin         | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 10                                                    | ETO Campaign Medal Hat Pin                        | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 11                                                    | The Soldiers Medal Hat Pin                        | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 12                                                    | Meritorious Service Medal Hat Pin                 | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 13                                                    | United Nations Service Medal Hat Pin              | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 14                                                    | American Defense Medal Hat Pin                    | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 15                                                    | Vietnam Service Medal Hat Pin                     | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 16                                                    | American Campaign Medal Hat Pin                   | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 17                                                    | Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal Hat Pin          | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 18                                                    | U.S. Flag Pin                                     | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 19                                                    | Distinguished Flying Cross (Army) Hat Pin         | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 20                                                    | Korean Service Ribbon Hat Pin                     | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 21                                                    | Army Commendation Medal Hat Pin                   | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 22                                                    | WW II Victory Ribbon Hat Pin                      | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 23                                                    | Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal Hat Pin          | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 24                                                    | Korean Service Medal Hat Pin                      | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 25                                                    | WW II Victory Medal Hat Pin                       | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 26                                                    | Bronze Star Medal Hat Pin                         | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 27                                                    | Purple Heart Medal Hat Pin                        | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 28                                                    | Air Medal                                         | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 29                                                    | 24th Infantry Division Hat Pin                    | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 30                                                    | Korea 8000 Missing Hat Pin                        | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 31                                                    | 19th Infantry Regiment Hat Pin                    | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 32                                                    | Remember our POW/MIA Hat Pin                      | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 33                                                    | POW/MIA Bring 'Em Home Hat Pin                    | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 34                                                    | Combat Infantryman Badge (Mini) Hat Pin           | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 35                                                    | Combat Infantryman Badge Hat Pin                  | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 36                                                    | Combat Infantryman Badge (2nd Award) Hat Pin      | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 37                                                    | Combat Medic Badge Pin                            | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 38                                                    | U.S. Army Desert Storm Hat Pin                    | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 39                                                    | Vietnam Heaven & Hell Hat Pin                     | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 40                                                    | 19th Infantry Regiment Ladies Necklace            | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 41                                                    | 19th Infantry Regiment Ladies Bracelet            | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 42                                                    | 24th ID Color Patch                               | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 43                                                    | 24th ID Association Patch                         | \$6.00  |       |        |
| 44                                                    | Cap, 24th ID Black Taro Patch                     | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 45                                                    | Cap, 24th ID White w/ Taro Patch (First to Fight) | \$12.00 |       |        |
| 46                                                    | 24th ID Window Sticker (2.5" x 2.5")              | \$2.00  |       |        |
| 47                                                    | Taro Leaf Bolo, Gold with Gold Braid              | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 48                                                    | Taro Leaf Bolo, Gold with Black Braid             | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 49                                                    | Taro Leaf Bolo, Silver with Black Braid           | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 50                                                    | Taro Leaf Belt Buckle, Silver                     | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 51                                                    | Taro Leaf Belt Buckle, Gold                       | \$15.00 |       |        |
| <b>Total This Page (Include on rear of this form)</b> |                                                   |         |       |        |

Please Detach and Complete Both Sides

The **Taro Leaf**



Continued on Reverse Side



| Item #                                          | Description                                       | Price   | Quan. | Amount |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------|-------|--------|
| 52                                              | 24th Signal Battalion Unit Crest                  | \$9.00  |       |        |
| 53                                              | 19th Infantry Regiment Unit Crest                 | \$9.00  |       |        |
| 54                                              | 21st Infantry Regiment Unit Crest                 | \$9.00  |       |        |
| 55                                              | 34th Infantry Regiment Unit Crest                 | \$9.00  |       |        |
| 56                                              | 11th Field Artillery BN Unit Crest                | \$9.00  |       |        |
| 57                                              | 13th Field Artillery BN Unit Crest                | \$9.00  |       |        |
| 58                                              | 19th Infantry Regiment Color Patch                | \$6.00  |       |        |
| 59                                              | 21st Infantry Regiment Color Patch                | \$6.00  |       |        |
| 60                                              | 34th Infantry Regiment Color Patch                | \$6.00  |       |        |
| 61                                              | 11th Field Artillery Battalion Color Patch        | \$6.00  |       |        |
| 62                                              | 13th Field Artillery Battalion Color Patch        | \$6.00  |       |        |
| 63                                              | 24th Infantry Division Unit Crest                 | \$9.00  |       |        |
| 64                                              | Cap, 19th INF Dark Blue with Crest                | \$12.00 |       |        |
| 65                                              | Cap, 21st INF White with Embroidered Patch        | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 66                                              | Cap, 21st INF Dk Blue with Embroidered Patch      | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 67                                              | Cap, 34th INF DK Blue with Crest                  | \$12.00 |       |        |
| 68                                              | Cap, 24th IDA Dk Blue with Taro Patch             | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 69                                              | Cap, 24th ID White with Taro Patch (Germany)      | \$12.00 |       |        |
| 70                                              | Cap, 24th ID Red with Taro Patch (Germany)        | \$12.00 |       |        |
| 71                                              | Cap, 24th IDA Red                                 | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 72                                              | Cap, 24th IDA White                               | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 73                                              | Cap, 24th IDA Green                               | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 74                                              | Cap, 24th ID White Mesh with Taro Patch           | \$12.00 |       |        |
| 75                                              | 3rd Engineer BN Unit Crest                        | \$9.00  |       |        |
| 76                                              | 14th Engineer BN Unit Crest                       | \$9.00  |       |        |
| 77                                              | 5th RCT Pocket Patch                              | \$6.00  |       |        |
| 78                                              | Cap, 5th RCT Red with Crest                       | \$12.00 |       |        |
| 79                                              | 24th ID License Plate with Taro Leaf              | \$8.00  |       |        |
| 80                                              | Cap, Desert Storm Veteran Black                   | \$12.00 |       |        |
| 81                                              | Cap, POW MIA Black                                | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 82                                              | Cap, WWII Veteran Black                           | \$12.00 |       |        |
| 83                                              | Cap, Korean War Veteran Black                     | \$12.00 |       |        |
| 84                                              | Combat Infantryman Badge Window Sticker (3"x7")   | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 85                                              | Combat Infantryman Badge Window Sticker (2"x5")   | \$3.00  |       |        |
| 86                                              | Bumper Sticker, 24th ID Proudly Served            | \$3.00  |       |        |
| 87                                              | 6th Tank BN Color Patch                           | \$6.00  |       |        |
| 88                                              | 24th ID Neck Tie                                  | \$20.00 |       |        |
| 89                                              | 24th Medical BN Unit Crest                        | \$9.00  |       |        |
| 90                                              | 24th ID Flag, 3' x 5' Outdoor Screen Print        | \$65.00 |       |        |
| 91                                              | 63rd Field Artillery BN Color Patch               | \$6.00  |       |        |
| 92                                              | 24th ID Sticker, 1" Taro Leaf, set of 12          | \$1.50  |       |        |
| 93                                              | 24th ID Christmas Cards, Set of 10 with Envelopes | \$8.00  |       |        |
| 94                                              | 24th ID Neck Wallet, Green                        | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 95                                              | 24th ID Keychain                                  | \$10.00 |       |        |
| 96                                              | History of the 24th Inf. Div., Book, 2nd Ed. Rpt. | \$41.00 |       |        |
| 97                                              | Patch, 24th ID Korean War Veteran                 | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 98                                              | CD-Audio, 24th Division Song and March            | \$10.00 |       |        |
| 99                                              | DVD, 24th Division Memorial at Punchbowl, Hawaii  | \$15.00 |       |        |
|                                                 | Add Shipping and Handling (see below)             |         |       |        |
| <b>Grand Total (Include Totals From Page 1)</b> |                                                   |         |       |        |

**Mail to:**  
Byrd Schrock, QM  
1009 Mesquite Dr.  
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635  
(520) 678-0207

Shipping and Handling is \$3.00  
Cap orders S & H is \$5.00  
No phone orders accepted  
Please allow 4-6 weeks for  
delivery

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City & ST: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_



Bob Milie Front Row Left HQ CO Radio Company 19th, 1945-46



## National Football League

Players Association

Retired Players

Pittsburgh Chapter

Bob Milie Secretary

291 Dixon Ave.

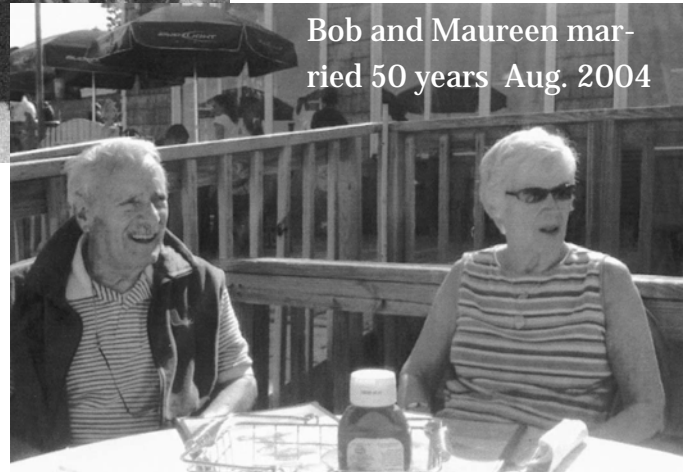
412-343-1274

Pittsburgh, Pa. 15216

e-mail- bmlie@msn.com



Bob and Maureen married 50 years Aug. 2004



Bob Milie, Dalryple, & Geo Coe, Japan



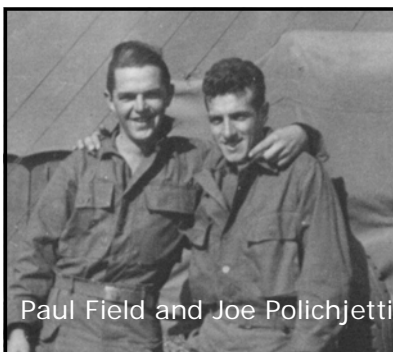
Japan  
from  
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45-46  
19th



Father Donnelly

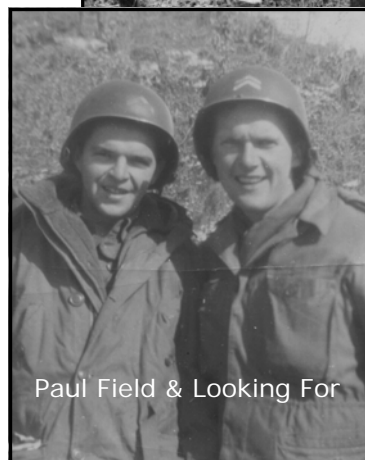


Confessions by Fr. Murphy



Paul Field and Joe Polichjetti

Paul R. Field, 19th Inf, Med, 51-52  
10 Outlook Hill Rd.  
Salem, MA 01970-1220  
508-744-4798



Paul Field & Looking For



Paul Field



**Captain Thomas Foster Ball**, Commander of **Company "F" 21st Infantry Regiment** in Japan about 1949-50 (pre-Korea). Member George Edwards proudly served under Captain Ball, and recalls that Ball was a semi-pro boxer who, with his considerable boxing skills, "negotiated" a settlement between E and F companies during this time. The last that Edwards knew of Ball was that he had become a Major and was at 24th Division Headquarters. Mr. Edwards wishes to contact either Ball himself, or should Mr. Ball have passed away, then his surviving family members.

George F. Edwards, Life #2145, PO Box 643, Waynesboro, VA 22980-0643, 540-942-5670

**John Roberts** is trying to find a **Cpl. John Moore**, Louisville, KY, who was in a *Stars and Stripes*



article dated Oct. 28, 1950, with his brother, **Pvt. Roy R. Roberts**, who now lives in Arcadia, CA. John would like to find him soon because his brother is in failing health. If you have any information about Cpl. Moore, Mr. Roberts would be forever grateful. Contact: John Roberts - American Red Cross Volunteer, 4691 Cynthia Lane, Murfreesboro, TN. 37127, (615) 890-0172, john.roberts007@comcast.net. Photo: Roy Roberts left, and John Roberts right, with step-father in Nov. 1951.

**Carl La Stella**, life member #2161o, of Fresno, CA, is looking for any of his comrades who served with him in the **24th's "B" Battery, 63rd Field Artillery Battalion, 1951-1953**. He was section chief of gun number six. Captain Smith was the Battery Commander. Other men he remembers are: Sam Sarkisian, John Thomas, Alfred Marvel and Daryl Bradford. Carl sure would like to hear from any of his old friends, and left us with the question: "Is anybody still out there?????" Carl La Stella, 1836 E Quincy Ave., Fresno, CA 93720, 559-324-9147.

Tom

I keep looking through the *Taro Leaf* for familiar names. Part of my problem is that my years with the 24th were spent in **Germany between 1965 and 1966**.

Several months ago you had an article by Maj Gen Ed Romney who was my Commanding General while in Germany. I worked in a G1 section of Division Headquarters so had occasion to be in the presence of the General.

I have often wondered about officers and personnel of the G1 section through that time: Major **Windell Barney**, Lt Col **William Higgons**, Sgt Major **James Glidewell** to name a couple. Maybe someone with access to this email program will have some information on these three people they would be willing to share with me. This would be **1965 - 1967 Augsburg Germany**.

**Mike Shuster**  
19487 Elliott Lane  
Mount Victory, Ohio 43340,  
937-441-8581  
mshuster@wcoil.com



Hi Tom,

My name is **Edward C. Romero**. I was drafted Aug. 29, 1967, and separated Aug. 28, 1969. I served with the Division in **Germany** 1968, and at **Ft Riley** 1969. I worked in Admin Company, Personnel Service Div., Augsburg, Germany. I maintained the records for the 3rd Engineer Battalion.

I would like to find my good friend Richard "Rick" Wilhelmsen (might be spelled Wilhelmson). He was from New York, and also worked in PSD. I want to know how he's doing.

Thank you very much for what you doing, I really appreciate it.

**Eddie Romero**,  
cr1684@yahoo.com  
P.O. Box 146  
Chama, CO 81126-9998  
(562) 699-3505

## 34th Infantry, HQ Staff, 1946-47



**Don Van Beck (aka Van Glabeke)** is looking for fellow members of the **34th Infantry Headquarters Staff** shown above: Front row left to right: James R. Denman, Denny Main, Royal "Red" Hazlett, Richard Poe, Bernard Michaels, Bill Helfrid and Kent Hoopes. Standing, from left: Victor E. Javier, Bill Barham, Unknown, Myron A. Nigh, Donald L. Van Beck (aka Van Glabeke), Cleland L. Whorton, Lloyd H. Wagner, Henry J.A. Bailey, George H. Egan, Bernard Goodman, Bob Kraiman, John C. Hastings, Arthur Doherty, and Tadashi Ogawa. Contact: Donald L. Van Beck, 32004 Harris Rd., Tavares, FL, 32778-4630, Ph: 352-343-1529, email: seafari.vb@juno.com

Thanks for the email. That is a very good thing you are doing.

I would like to find **L C Dillen** originally of **Panama City, Florida**. He was with me in "D" 34th / "M" 19th. That is all I can remember. Thank you.

**John Richard Hewitt**  
6 Compression Court  
Baltimore, MD 21220-3512  
410-682-5857  
Cponkin@aol.com

## 3.5 Rocket Launchers in Taejon

Around July 13, 1950, in Taejon, 10 or 12 of us from different platoons were sent to the rear to learn to fire 3.5 rocket launchers, and to bring them back to Taejon. On the way back, our truck pulled over to let a half track pass. Unfortunately, the spot where we pulled over had been bombed and re-filled, and our truck flipped over. When I revived, the truck had me pinned from the waist down in the soft filled earth, and I remember them lifting the truck to get me out. I don't know how many other men were hurt in the wreck. I would like to know how they got the 3.5 rocket launchers to Taejon, and who took them? If you have any knowledge of this please contact me.

**Ernest Boggs, "L" Company, 34th. Infantry Regiment**, now living at 3174 Pebble Bend Dr., Lakeland, Florida 33810, Ph. 863-398-1888.

I am looking for anyone from **Charlie Company 1st Bn 34th Infantry** 24 Division stationed in **Augsburg, Germany** 1961 to 1965.

**Ted M. Steckler**  
24 Greenleaf Terrace  
Stafford, VA 22556-3625  
540-752-1688  
TSteckler@aol.com



**John T. Feightner** was the Service Company mechanic assigned to my 5 tanks in 1955-56 on the DMZ (34th Inf. Tank Co). Both of us were from central Ohio and we became friends. After we left service, I lost track of him until four years ago when he joined the 24th IDA. We talked on the phone and then in April 2008, I stopped in Howard, OH to see him. We talked for several hours; he told me he had terminal cancer, but that he wanted to go to the Springfield reunion. He died on August 25 (see: *Taro Leaf* Vol 62(4) page 10). I called his daughter, and she told me that the highlight of his year was seeing me! I will miss him as he was an outstanding trooper! A real credit to the Division.

**R. F. "Rod" Stock**, 34th INF, Tank Co. DMZ, Korea, 1955-56, 204 Quail Run Rd., Fernley, NV 89408-9050, Ph: 775-575-4276

Dear Don,

I got your parcel some days ago, and I wish to thank you for all you have done for me. I will not forget it. It helps so very much to have the flag and the pictures from the ceremony. How can I ever thank you for all. I will also write to **Mr. & Mrs. Dougherty** and **Mr. Morrison**. I still have the news magazines from the *Taro Leaf*; I still read them, and once in a while I see a letter or photo from **Charlie (Garrett)** years ago. I will keep them all. The time now is not easy – I miss Charlie so very much. He was a wonderful person, always good to people and always ready to help. I have also many to the U.S. Army in Germany - they are still helping me – it was not the Embassy or the Consulate! (See the *Taro Leaf*, Vol. 62(4), pages 9 and 42). **Ms. Margrith Garrett**, Promenadenstrasse 13, CH-9400 Rorschach, Switzerland

Tue, Dec 2, 2008 at 12:02 PM

Good Morning Tom, and good luck with this venture!! (A 24th IDA bulk Gmail).

I would like to put something together for a future *Taro Leaf* magazine publication and as soon as my health permits, you will see it. I was with the 24th in Korea 52-53.

I found my copy of the *Taro Leaf* in a Doc's office waiting room. I didn't even know the 24th IDA existed!! I've been a member since then.

**Gray Tankersley** grayco8292@cox.net  
11596 W. Sierra Dawn Blvd, #286  
Surprise, AZ 85374-9727  
Ph: 623-925-2929

Hi Tom,

Your message came through loud and clear. I have nothing to offer for your Looking For column at this time, but will keep it in mind.

I will take this opportunity to thank you for the excellent job you have done and continue to do with the *Taro Leaf*.....Kenwood Ross and the original officers of the 24th Infantry Division Association would be justifiably pleased and proud to see it flourishing so well in 2008. That has to be well over 60 or 61 years since its inception.

George Lance  
319 Valley Road,  
Etters, PA 17319

Best wishes to you and yours (717) 938-6480  
in the coming Christmas Season. Patlance@aol.com

## See You in Rapid City, August 26-30, 2009



## Posthumous Purple Heart Awards Implemented

October 6, 2008, DoD: The Purple Heart may now be presented posthumously to all prisoners of war who die in captivity; retroactive award of the Purple Heart to qualifying prisoners of war since Dec. 7, 1941, will be made to the deceased service member's representative, who first must file an application with the military department in which the POW served.

"The law now presumes the death of all service members who die in captivity was the result of enemy action or the result of wounds incurred in action with the enemy during capture and imprisonment," said Congressman Bob Filner, of CA, one of the legislation's sponsors. Filner also said: "The inspiration for my bill came from **Wilbert 'Shorty' Estabrook**, who was imprisoned for more than three years during the Korean War, and from **Rick and Brenda Tavares**; Brenda's uncle, 20-year old Corporal Melvin Morgan, died in Korea of starvation and beatings in 1950 while a POW."

**Brenda Tavares**

1805 LaPosta Rd.

Campo, CA 91906-2206

sgt1@sciti.com

Application procedures are to soon be published by each military department; family members with questions now may call Army at 703-325-8700, the Navy at 314-592-1150, Air Force at 800-616-3775, or Marine Corps

Tom

It (Gmail) works fine, thanks for the contact. Am surprised to see that less than 15% of members have email addresses (that number refers to those listed in our membership database file, Ed).

If you don't own a computer, you can set up a email address at your local public library. I have a brother in northern Minnesota that has done that, and every week or so, will check for mail and/or send mail. No cost to do this.

Regards, **Stan Helseth**

15013 Sky Hawk Drive

Sun City West, AZ 85375-5959

623-214-9728

standonah@msn.com

Ed. Note: This is an excellent suggestion, Stan. And I'm sure a librarian will assist our members in setting up and using a webmail email account. Among others, Google (Gmail.com), Yahoo (Yahoo.com) and Microsoft (Hotmail.com) all offer free email accounts and would fit this category.

### \$100 Out of the Boot

In early December I got a phone call from one of our newer Life Members #2323, **Billy Freshcorn** telling me that in some downsizing house cleaning he discovered an old pair of combat boots. More importantly, down inside the spider-webbed inside of one of the boots, he found a \$100.00 bill! Billy couldn't remember where it came from or how it got there. I want you to know that Billy sent that \$100 bill to the *Taro Leaf*! Thank you so much, Billy! Editor

Billy L. Freshcorn, 5541 Pocklington Rd, Tecumseh, MI. 49586-9533, 517-423-2267

Tom, Thank you for the sentiments.

My father taught me and my son to appreciate the freedoms the USA offers us.

I served in the military and my son is presently in the military in Afghanistan working to maintain the freedom that the 24th helped us keep.

WW II was the highlight of his life.

Best Wishes to you and all the 24th Donald's son,  
**Darwin N. Sletten**



# Letters to Ann

*By Robert Moncur, Company "F", 19th Infantry Regiment, 1950-51. Based on letters PFC to SFC Bob Moncur wrote to his new bride, Ann, from Dec. 12, 1950, to August 23, 1951. The Moncurs live at: 98 Woodland Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854, [Bobbin93@aol.com](mailto:Bobbin93@aol.com)*

Editor's Note: We carried the first "Letters to Ann" in Vol 62(2) page 18, and the second in Vol 62(3) page 37. This took us to early April 1951. Ann has since finished typing all of the letters through when Bob left the hill for the last time on August 23, 1951; it is about 50 pages total! In this final episode of Letters to Ann, I tried capture the essence of Bob's personal combat experience with F, 19th, as well as the day to day boredom of rain, heat, cold, loving, and waiting for his name to appear on the rotation list. And, with Ann's permission, we also include a few of Ann's remarks as they showed the almost equal agony of waiting, and waiting, and loving. I started this with the idea of a cataloging of events in Korea that included some I experienced too in E 19th, but now realize it is a love story beyond any even the most talented of novelists could imagine.

April 4, 1951: I sure hope that they change their minds about going across the 38th because it sure will be rough – I bet if we do we will be sorry just like the last time.

April 14, 1951: We have been doing more climbing in the past few days, without a rest, than we have in all the time I've been over here.

The whole company is in low spirits about this crossing of the 38th and the whole situation seems to be getting worse and worse all the time.

We hear that the people back home are pretty bitter about the crossing too.

April 26, 1951: The Chinese are starting to push again; the whole battalion had to leave and the rear company had to exchange fire on the way out. We are back below the 38th and are where we were a while back.

May 1, 1951: Just to give you an idea of how we are moving, it took us exactly six days to withdraw what ground it took us almost two months to take. We went two days with only one meal of C rations



Bob and Ann 1950

each day and the distance and the mountains have us just about dead on our feet.

Our spirits were about as low as they could get the past few days, but this short break and the sunshine has made a difference.

May 1, 1951: This makes our third day in this position and the captain said we will stay here until we are pushed out or 8th Army orders us out.

When we came into the outfit they sent us right up to the line and said that the old men would have

priority on jobs in the rear. Now they are asking replacements if they can cook, type or do any other kind of work that would keep them in the rear, and we stay up here and do the dirty work.

May 5, 1951: I am still hoping that maybe I could get home for your birthday but no matter what I hope for, the facts add up to – no!

May 7, 1951: I have been a Corporal since May 4th.

May 13, 1951: Enclosed is a little sketch of me in my sleeping bag with my sleeping companions which consist of the machine gun, fragmentation grenades, luminous grenades, an incendiary grenade to destroy the gun if I have to leave it, and last my .45 which sleeps right in my belt with me.

May 18, 1951: The days here just seem to drag on when it's not nice and the nights are always a threat. It's not good because it gives a guy too much time to sit around and do nothing but think and wish.

May 21, 1951: We were reserve company yesterday, but along about evening time we were called





to give "G" Co. some assistance.

We started up and it was quite a rough climb, as it was a steep angle and plenty of rocks. It was already dark when we got about a hundred yards from the top when the lieutenant sent two squads out ahead and the rest of us stayed to the rear and moved straight up behind them.

Then the lieutenant got a call from the captain telling us to withdraw. I was quite sure that Steve's squad was still up on the hill and I told my squad leader that if they weren't with us when we got back that I was going to go back and find them.

I remember what you said about sticking my neck out but they are my buddies and I could never go off and leave them on an enemy hill.

Steve's squad was not with us, so my assistant gunner and I borrowed a carbine and an M-1 and we started back up to find them. It didn't turn out too bad as we just took our time and worked most of the way up the hill and got vocal contact with Steve. We sure were glad that they were okay so after a brief rest we guided them back to our positions.

We were on the go for 24 hours yesterday.

May 27, 1951: It seems as if the Chinese are in retreat again and every day we move a few miles more but we are still in Regimental Reserve.

The **Taro Leaf**



"Hey, Joe, can I git in; Moncur has our hole jammed with himself, the gun, all kinds of grenades, his .45, and 5 packages and 36 letters from Ann!

(Sketch Nov. 2008 by Bill Stokes, a new Life Member from Lady Lake, FL.)

May 30, 1951: As usual, I am now sitting on top of another hill but we are in North Korea again. Yesterday we were just about three hundred yards from the 38th and then we moved about two or three miles more.

The day before yesterday we climbed the highest mountain in Korea and believe me there are some pretty high ones. It was impossible to write since my last letter because we have again been on the move constantly and just have no time to ourselves.

As you will already know by the time you get this letter, we have cut off and by-passed a lot of Chinese and though some of them are still "die-hards" we have captured and taken more prisoners than I have seen since we have been fighting them.

Yesterday alone we got word that some two thousand were headed

our way to surrender and according to what we've been hearing that is only a part of the numbers that have surrendered already.

They have all gone from three to five days without food and are pretty weak and tired.

By the way, my squad leader finally got rotated and I am now in his place but I'm still on the gun until we get a few replacements because it would leave us with only three ammo bearers.

June 1, 1951: Well here it is the first of June and we are still sitting on this outpost waiting to be relieved. The whole situation is all screwy but it seems to be paying off in prisoners and every one that gives up is one less we have to fight – so it's okay with me.

June 6, 1951: Dearest Ann, You write about me being home in July and there is nothing I would rather do than be home, but from the way things are beginning to look from here it will probably be longer than that.

They said they expected to be rotating 20,000 a month by early summer, but it seems to be getting slower instead of better.

They discharge reserves in the states and cut the draft every month but it seems as though a man will have to serve more than six months here before he can expect to get out.

June 11, 1951: Regarding going up on the hill after Steve's squad. I guess it's really hard for me to ex-



plain or you to understand that it is just something I had to do.

June 19, 1951: I'm on R&R in Japan now and as much as I really and truly want to call you Ann, I think it better that I don't. First of all I know that if I call, the first thing that will come to your head is that I'm on my way home and I don't want you to be let down.

Secondly, the few minutes we can talk and be happy will be followed by a much longer period of loneliness, which I know would be no good for either of us.

We have made it over the barriers that came up and though lonely at times I think we have come to the point where we just realize we just have to wait.

June 26, 1951: We jumped off about four thirty Tuesday morning on a task force operation, and secured our objective at about seven last night.

It sure felt funny after having that time in reserve and spending five days in Japan, to start fooling around the hills again.

June 29, 1951: There is so much talk about the cease-fire going on but I'm still not counting on it, though I hope and pray that it comes about. I told you that I was doubtful about getting home in July Ann, and though I do hope and pray I can get out of here by then, it doesn't look as though I will. I realize it's what you've been counting on, and so have I but why keep believing it and be disappointed all the time? You know,

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I always expect the worst and hope for the best.

Even the story about getting line men out first is a bunch of hooey. Guys in Japan and back in the rear outfits are getting out before us and I guess they will keep do-



Bob Moncur, Bob Marks and Grover DeWolfe on R&R in Japan (Note: DeWolfe KIA July 12, 1951)

ing so. I'm just mad at the Army Ann, but if we keep hoping, I know it will not be too long before we are back together.

Return Address Sgt. R. Moncur

July 4, 1951: Bob Corley and Bill Stiner leave tomorrow. Before Bill Stiner left ... he was so on edge and nervous that he could hardly eat or stand still for a minute, and everything you would say to him would make him angry.

July 6, 1951: They got us up at 1:45 this morning, we ate chow and boarded trucks at about four o'clock and started off. We are now in a blocking position slightly in front of the line. The idea is just to hold the ground we have and send out patrols every day to see where the Chinese are.

July 9, 1951: Well, it seems as though the wheels changed their minds and decided that we would

stay here for one day and then jump off in the attack.

It seems funny that we wanted to hurry the cease-fire meeting to possibly save lives and then they send us in the attack the very day the meeting is to be held.

It sure sounded bad and we sure didn't like the looks of it. We got up at two-thirty and moved out at three. It was still dark and we sure had fun moving along the ridges in the dark.

We got just across from the objective about 6:30 and then they had an air strike and threw some big stuff up on it. Then we finally moved down a finger to a draw and started up the objective.

Everything was going swell until we got about four-fifths of the way up and then we drew fire. I had the machine gun set up and told them to keep firing on top while the rifle squads moved up.

It was a pretty successful day as we killed about ten or more and wounded as many and captured some shoulder weapons, a machine gun and a 60mm mortar.

This morning at three o'clock we rolled up and moved back to our original positions where we are now, just strictly pooped.

July 18, 1951: All you would ever have to do is ask anything Ann, and I would do it for you anytime. I know how hard it must be for you to just sit back and watch Betty and Dom enjoy themselves, and the others too, but please



hold out a little longer and then we will have our time at happiness also.

July 28, 1951: Dearest Ann, Today we finally came back to our rear area for a couple of days but only after each company had a crack at taking that hill and failing.

Now they say that we are going to go back and take a hill that we had before and pulled off of. That should give you an idea of how much sense there was to our latest operations. We just take a hill, pull back after taking it, and then go back a week later and have to fight for the same hill.

I pray every night that they do something about this cease-fire before these people go completely crazy and have us all either dead or in the hospital.

We took our crack at Razorback Hill on the second day with our platoon and the third in the attack and the second platoon in reserve.

We were to go up one finger to a saddle and the third was to go to our right up to one of the peaks and give us any help they could.

My squad was third in the approach and we were just about up to the top when the lead squad got hit.

They were firing back and forth when I decided to take a look at the situation for the machine-gun. I took off my bedroll because it is practically impossible to move with a blanket swinging on your back. The 'Chinese' were just

throwing hand grenades then but as I got up there we started to draw automatic weapons fire from both flanks and the front.

We were in no position to do anything without support so we were ordered to pull back but there were two wounded men that we had to get out.

Most of the men pulled back to the protected slope but there were still a few of us there and we had to get the last wounded man out.

We got the wounded man out of the ditch and down below and then there was just a BAR man and me left to cover the withdrawal.

There were bedrolls all over the hill and empty BAR clips (which are almost impossible to replace) so I started heaving rolls back down to the men and stuffed my shirt with empty clips.

By this time the BAR was out of ammo. The gunner had his carbine and I had mine so we just kept firing and clearing the hill of equipment. By some trick of fate we both ran out of ammo at the same time so we both had to reload our clips right there.

The man who started taking the wounded man out had to leave him, so on the way back I tried to drag him down but he was too heavy so I called Kirk (the BAR man) to give me a hand.

The 'Chinese' were heaving gre-

### **July 10, 1951:**

Forsaking All Others

Love, Honor Obey

In Sickness & In Health

To My Wife on Her 19th Birthday

\*\*\*

To have been with you on this day  
And stay with you forever  
For that I'd always hope and pray  
But better late than never.

\*\*\*

There have been times I've made you blue

And this I'll always regret  
I hope to soon be home with you  
And pray you love me yet

\*\*\*

When night shades fall the voice I hear  
The one that sees me through  
Is that of you, a wife so dear  
The one who cheers me when I'm blue

\*\*\*

A birthday wish to you I send  
From far across the sea  
A lonesome heart I hope to mend  
And hope that it still beats for me

\*\*\*

I know there will be more for you  
And I hope some more for me  
For them I pray to share with you  
And endless they will be

\*\*\*

A happy, happy birthday is what I wish for you

To enjoy yourself a happy age.  
But 'til the day that I'm with you  
Life has turned another page.

nades all over the place and the wounded man had died already but we still tried to get him out.

Just as Kirk got over to me a 'Chinese' grenade landed right in





between us. I just yelled "grenade" and we both took off to the side of the hill and it went off without touching either of us.

By this time the 'Chinese' had moved back down and were throwing out a lot of fire and lots of grenades so we had to leave.

After we all got down, Kirk told me that if I hadn't gone up there and called him, he probably would still be up there.

The platoon sergeant said that he was going to put us in for a decoration, but all I want is to get out of here like I am and also see my buddies get out also.

Pray that I make it through okay, Ann, and then we'll have our share at happiness at last. I'll sign off for now so until tomorrow remember I love you with all my heart and soul and pray for the day I can again be with you. Take good care of yourself dearest and pray for all of us.

Yours forever.

August 2, 1951: Last night was our first night up here and after we got set up we received the news that the cease fire talks had failed. It really wasn't too much of a blow because most of us knew that the Chinese had stopped giving in to us and we were just too ---- stubborn to give in just once.

The U.S. has always been a proud nation but when it comes to costing American lives I think that pride can be carried too far.



Of course, I realize the military outlook on the situation but when you come right down to it, the Chinese can just as soon knock us back to the 38th as well as ask us. It might cost them a lot of lives but it will cost us too, so what do they expect to gain by the whole thing?

Aug. 3, 1951: The talk about reserve seems to be pretty straight so just pray that nothing happens within the next week and I might get out of here while we are in reserve. This bunch leaves on the 7th. That will be thirteen gone and



"Marking off days till rotation?"  
"Naw, the days since we've eaten."  
Bill Stokes

I hope I'll be next.

If I have to go up and down that hill a couple of more times I doubt if I'll be in any shape for rotation.

The hill is 1073 meters high and I don't know how long it took us to climb it but it took me four hours to come down this morning.

August 7, 1951: I doubt if the Chinese will ever knock us off the place, and I know that we will have a hard time trying to push them back to Manchuria, so it would just keep going on for months and months like it has been – back and forth and then forth and back.

I love you so much and miss you more and more every day. When we are together again we will have our chance to make up for all that we have had to sacrifice these past months. We will never have to be lonesome for each other again, and when we feel blue, we can remember what we've gone through and then wonder if we have anything to feel blue about.

August 12, 1951: We have been relieved by the 7th Division and are now waiting to go back to our reserve area. Yesterday we moved down by a river bed and set up in our ponchos and pup tents when another downpour came and it really opened up on us. Inside of five minutes we had four inches of water running through our tent.

I decided that they wouldn't get the best of me so I just took all my clothes off, grabbed a bar of soap and went out and took myself a





shower in the rain. It was a little cool but after I was out there for awhile I never noticed it at all.

I'm really counting on getting out of here Ann and this month, too, so just sweat it out with me and I'm sure that we will make it.

Aug. 22, 1951: STOP WRITING. I LEAVE THE COMPANY IN THE MORNING !

Aug. 23, 1951: Dearest Ann, I'm back in Division Rear and will be here until the twenty-fifth, when we go to Inchon and Japan.

I'm sorry that my telling you of "Razorback Hill" upset you as much as it did but I figured that it was all over and wouldn't make any difference as long as I was okay.

And about my promise, I said that I wouldn't take any unnecessary chances but what I was doing on Razorback was my duty Ann, and others were doing the same and more. After all that's the reason we are over here, to fight, and that's what we have to do.

END of BOB'S LETTERS

### **Abstracts from ANN's Emails**

Dear Tom

We are soooooo thrilled with the wonderful "Slice of Life" in the making. I have spent hours and hours typing all of Bob's letters. It was a wonderful trip down memory lane, but it brought back many difficult times and memories.



Bob had read them once, but I never did because they make me feel so unhappy. At 75, I can feel the regret for youth that was lost to the Korean War.

I decided to type them so our children and grandchild will have a history of the Korean War - which was such a significant part of our lives.

Bob and I married against my parents wishes. I am an Italian Roman Catholic, his mother was a Hungarian Jew and his father was a Protestant who converted to Judaism. My father did not talk to me for months, and since my mother was unhappy with me, my family didn't dare have anything to do with me. So, I was very much alone and time passed very slowly.

Patti was my best friend in high school before we even had met our future husbands. God blessed us by letting us become sisters-in-law/friends for all of our lives. She was the one who spent the most time with me while Bob was away. She

helped me wall-paper the converted one-car garage that was my home while Bob was in Korea and then our home for awhile after he got back. Without her, I can't imagine how much more difficult time alone would have been.

It was so nice of you to send that to Bill (Stiner). Helen was a very dear and special friend, I am very sad to know she is gone. Bill and Bob came back safe and sound and we all went on to see our 58th anniversaries. I guess no one has the right to ask for more than that.

This has been an exciting project for us. Thank you again for all that you've done! Just when I thought life MIGHT get a little boring, you came along! Our reward for Korea.

We always wish you the very, very best.

Bob and Ann



# CAMP TRAVIS AND THE WORLD WAR

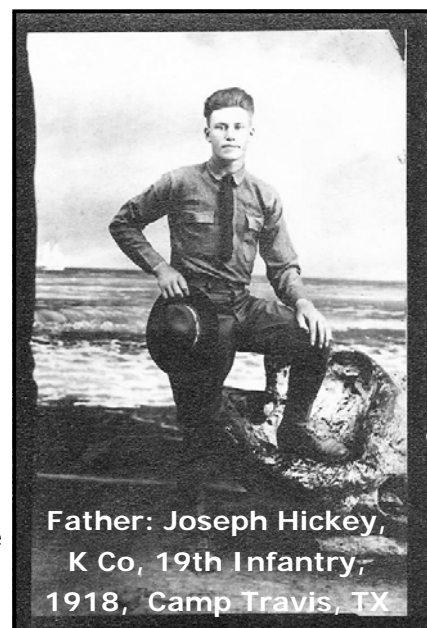
## NINETEENTH INFANTRY

### *Its Traditions Go Back to the War of 1812*

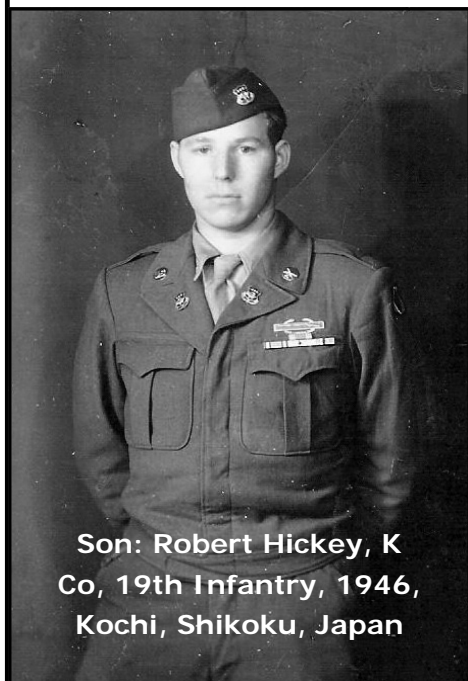


"The Nineteenth Infantry is one of the oldest regiments of the Army, having been organized in 1812 when Congress authorized an increase in the military establishment in order to carry on the war with England. The regiment has a splendid record for service, well and thoroughly performed in every emergency from the time of its organization to date, with the exception of the Mexican War of 1846. At that time the Nineteenth, having been consolidated with other regiments after the War of 1812, formed part of what has been called the "sleeping forces." During the brief period of its existence, the original Nineteenth developed a regimental spirit which, having lived through the many years during which the regiment was temporarily out of existence, came forth again with the reorganization at the outbreak of the Civil War. Today that same spirit lives in the great organization that is forever preparing for the next opportunity to live up to its old traditions and to add another chapter to its history in keeping with those of the past."

The above is the lead paragraph of an article taken from ***Camp Travis and its part in the World War, Texas 1918***, [published in 1919, by Major E. B. Johns, U.S.A., 290 Broadway, New York City, Printed by Wynkoop Hallenbeck Crawford Co, New York]. It goes on to discuss the 19th's actions in the War of 1812, the Civil War, especially the battle of Chickamauga; the Spanish-American War, and the Philippine Insurrection. The Galveston hurricane of August 1915, destroyed its camp, and the regiment moved to Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Provided by: Robert W. Hickey, 7800 County Rd 327, Blanket, TX 76432-6369, Ph:325-748-3131



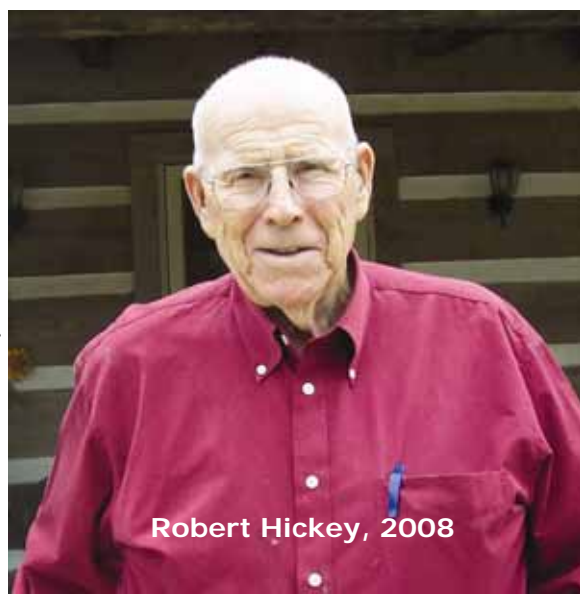
Father: Joseph Hickey,  
K Co, 19th Infantry,  
1918, Camp Travis, TX



Son: Robert Hickey, K  
Co, 19th Infantry, 1946,  
Kochi, Shikoku, Japan

### Father and Son both serve in "K" 19th

Mr. Hickey also provided the accompanying photographs of his father and himself, who both served in K Company 19th, but 28 years apart.



Robert Hickey, 2008



# Dear Grandpa, Thank you for Serving

by Rachael Catherine Scardino

First of all, I just want to say thank you for serving our country and keeping us safe. I can't believe that you fought in one of the bloodiest wars; the Korean War, and also got a badge rewarded to you. Most people forget about the Korean War, but they shouldn't, it is just as important as any other war. The reason that people don't notice it is because it was after World War II and before Vietnam. Those two big wars overshadowed the Korean War.

The Korean War is known as the forgotten victory, because it is after World War II and before Vietnam. I am writing this letter to you to thank you, and to tell you I have not forgotten about The Korean War.

No one should have forgotten about it because it was very important. The Korean War was part of the Cold War to stop the advancement of Communism in Southeast Asia. Vietnam was also a part of the Cold War. People don't notice that it was a war with many casualties.

The Korean War was a very bloody war. There were 33,665 Americans killed in action in Korea; 3,275 died there from non-hostile causes. A total of 1,789,000 Americans served in the Korean theater during the Korean War from June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953, and there are still 8,176 MIAs (Missing in action). The Korean War lasted three years. That is a lot of people to die in only three years. Freedom does not come free.

I can't believe that you also got the CIB badge. The CIB badge is rewarded to everyone that saw combat in the war. CIB stands for Combat Infantry Badge.

Thanks again for serving our country. I have not forgotten about you or the Korean war, and I never will. I will never forget that freedom is not free.

With love and thanks, Rachael Catherine Scardino

Mr. Seidel's 8th Grade, Station Middle School, Barrington, Illinois, October 30, 2008.

Frank Marcan, Company "F", 5th RCT, 2335 Lake Shore Dr. So., Goreville, IL 62939, 618-995-1326



Rachael & grandfather Frank Marcan, "F" 5th RCT, Korea, 1951-52

## 2009 West Coast Reunion

Mar 29-Apr. 1, 2009, Aquarius Hotel and Casino, Laughlin Nevada

Contact Byrd or D.J. Schrock

1009 Mesquite Dr., Sierra Vista, AZ 85635, (520) 678-0207 — [byrd2a@cox.net](mailto:byrd2a@cox.net)



# First Battle Group of the 187th Infantry—the 24th's Lebanon 1958 Deployment—Holds Reunion

The 1st Airborne Battle Group, 187th Infantry, 24th Airborne Brigade, held its first ever reunion in Newburgh, NY, on October 16-18, 2008. All had served in Germany with the 11th Airborne Division prior to the transfer of the Battle Group's colors to the 24th Airborne Brigade. In Lebanon, they were known as the U.S. Army Task Force 201-Operation Bluebat/Lebanon, in the civil war crisis of 1958.

The attendees had not previously gathered together to reminisce about their experience with their hurried deployment to Lebanon during that nation's crisis of 1958; in fact, after leaving the Army, many had never met any-



Left to Right - LTC Timothy Sullivan, Neil Phillips, Wayne Fulk, Ron Taylor, Rich Becker, Joe Hallett, Rod Lapearl, Wayne Porter, William "Doc" Vogel, and Larry Lenahan

one else who had served in Lebanon .

They exchanged many stories, and when their wives were asked if they had heard the stories before they replied "no," which only added to the joy of the event.

Unfortunately, only nine troopers were able to attend; many expressed a desire to come but could not because of health, family or other issues. Attendees were from IN, KY, FL, VA, MA and ME.

Attendees and their wives made the short journey to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point where they conducted a memorial service at the grave of Col.

Thomas W. Sharkey, who Commanded the 187th during its Lebanon deployment. Joseph Hallett and Rod Lapearl placed a wreath at the Colonel's grave, and Neil Phillips spoke about how Col. Sharkey had helped him, and several other Native American Rakkasans. Following the service, they lunched at the West Point Club, and toured West Point before returning to the hotel for more stories and a promise to keep in touch.

Another reunion is planned although a date and place has not yet been set. Anyone who went to Lebanon in 1958, or anyone interested in joining them, should contact Larry Lenahan at 548 Long Pond Road, Mahopac, NY 10541-2914; Ph. 845/628-6229 or e-mail: [atf201@gmail.com](mailto:atf201@gmail.com)





# Honoring Hospitalized Vets

Twenty-fourth IDA Member, and Department of Virginia VFW Chief of Staff, **John T. Edwards**, presents Willie Manning



(photo at right), a WWII Veteran a Prayer Blanket knitted by the Edwards' church. Willie fought in several campaigns in the South Pacific. John says he was very honored to do this, and Willie seemed to really appreciate it.

**Virginia Edwards** (left) presents Gulf War veteran Earl Thornton a similar blanket. John and Virginia Edwards, 14370 Mill Swamp Rd., Smithfield, VA 23430-3536, Ph:757-357-2331, kvetedwards@yahoo.com



**Roscoe Owen Found!** A couple issues ago I put a Looking For item in the *Taro Leaf*. Not too long after, I got an email: "Hello Tom: "There's someone by that name (Roscoe Owen) at Michael Ray Drive, Louisville, KY 40219, phone no. (502) 933 7754." Al Silverstein.

Al was of course correct; that is Roscoe at the right with his wife Doris "Dot" at their daughter's October 2008 wedding. We have corresponded by telephone and mail. Thanks, Al! TJT



## Our Youngest Member?

I'd like to introduce you to my step-grandson, and quite likely our youngest Association member, **Zachery "Zach" Ziobron**. Zach took his basic training with "C" Company, Second Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment, at Fort Benning, GA during the summer of 2008; I served with "E" Company, 19th, fifty-seven years ago in Korea. The military is in Zach's genes as his father, Ed, received the Distinguished Service Cross "for extraordinary heroism ... while serving as a squad leader of an American-Vietnamese exploitation force operating deep within enemy controlled territory," in 1971. Welcome, Zach, and good luck! Your Editor.



(Continued from page 6)

But for my own health, I know I just dare not continue as Editor. I have made commitments that obligate me to do the next issue, so I will do it. But because I cannot control my devotion to the duty, and my love of the *Taro Leaf*, like an alcoholic, I must break clean. It is with regret that I ask you to not send me any more material, except TAPS, Letters, and Looking For.

Thank you again, and my sincerest regrets.

Tom J. Thiel

# *Talomo Beach* by Jack Jorgensen, Life Member # 795.\*

A Book Review by the Editor

In *Talomo Beach*, Jack Jorgensen tells how he got to the Beach from basic at Camp Roberts, CA., to New Guinea and then to Leyte, Mindanao, and elsewhere in the Philippines.

First assigned to a rifle company in the 34th Regiment, he was re-assigned to the Adjutant General's office because of his clerical skills.

His jobs were varied, but included a stint with the Awards and Decorations section, where he described the honor and historical significance he felt in writing the Medal of Honor citation for Pvt. Harold Moon, "G" company, 34th Infantry Regiment (see back cover of the *Taro Leaf*, Volume 59, Number 1, Winter 2005).

He tells of the intense feelings when they received word of the Japanese surrender, and of the concoction they created from a variety of sources to "celebrate" the apparent end of the war. He also tells of the many GIs that would still die at the hands of Japanese who refused to surren-



Jack and Christel Jorgensen

der, leading Jack to conclude that "they were a barbaric race."

He devotes several chapters to various men whose paths crossed his, including James Thompson from IL, Alfred Moses from Jack's home town of Winner, SD, and a medic named Charlie Anderson.

The one about Thompson is especially poignant because in their long discussions during their 30-day voyage to the South Pacific, Thompson tells Jack he believes he will die, and wonders what will become of his wife and young son. He died in the Leyte landing!

In discussing his relationship with officers, Jack says: "I was to learn to respect the officer corps

much more than the enlisted non-coms, who seemed to be more brutal than anything and were impressed by their power over the lower ranks."

Throughout this rather short, easy-to-read 117-page book, Jorgensen seemed to dwell most on the personal relationships he developed, and how fragile most of these were.

He says "I never let myself get too close to those men I served with, though I valued their friendship. But we knew that someday... we would be forgotten in the mists of time."

To me this is the power of *Talomo Beach*; how we shared with those with whom we served, yet how this mostly vanished once we re-immersed ourselves into the rest of our lives. TJJ

~~~~~

* You may order "*Talomo Beach*," from Jack for \$15.00, includes shipping.

John P. Jorgensen
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Aurora, CO 80017-6393
Ph: (720) 535-4285
jorgcj@msn.com

—WANTED—
***Taro Leaf* Editor**
Immediate Need
Computer skills needed



Edgar receives Army's "Freedom Team" Certificate

Heidi Edgar, Life Associate Member of the 24th IDA, recently received a Certificate of Appreciation (photo at right) and a personal thank-you letter recognizing her for contributions to the U.S. Army's "Freedom Team Salute" program.

"The Freedom Team Salute Program exists to recognize the enduring bond between Soldiers, family, Community, and Veterans. It celebrates the sacrifices made by those who support America's Soldiers." www.anysoldier.com

Heidi says she was elated to receive the award! She has had no contact with the young man who submitted her name, other than to send him boxes and letters and take it on faith that he got them. He then went to the extra effort to nominate her for the recognition. She says "...it must mean that one person can make an impact on someone else and not really realize it. I hope that the little bit that I have sent gave him comfort and the knowledge that we have not forgotten him or his fellow soldiers. It just makes it seem like what we (as supporters) are doing is making a difference. What a thrill!"

Heidi, who is also has been a most valued *Taro Leaf* proof reader, is affiliated with the 24th IDA because her grandfather, Elden Broadfield, served in "A" Company, 34th Regiment. Heidi and her husband Matthew (see photo at right) attend 24th reunions when they are able, and Heidi is an Historical Archaeologist, with a degree from Florida State University.

Heidi says: "My passion is supporting soldiers through Any-soldier.com. I have adopted several soldiers over the three years I have been doing this, and send care packages and letters to them throughout their deployment. I am involved in card swaps, quilt making, and event participation—all to support our Armed Services."

Heidi Edgar
797 Ames Barineau Road
Havana, FL 32333
bravo29_98@hotmail.com



Heidi and Matthew Edgar



The Medal of Honor is the Nation's highest award for military Valor. It is given to those who acted with supreme courage and disregard of their own safety in battle. Only a handful of men are entitled to wear the Medal of Honor. It is bestowed by Act of Congress, and reflects Democracy's gratitude to those who offered everything they had in its defense, including life itself. The Medal of Honor is a humble token for sacrifices that cannot be repaid to its honored holders. From 1944 to 1951 fourteen 24th Infantry Division soldiers so distinguished themselves on the battlefield, and received this highest decoration. Four received for action in World War II, and the other ten for their action in the Korean War. Only General Dean, Lieutenant Dodd, and Sergeant Adams lived to receive the Medal personally. Sergeant Duke survived combat, but died later in a North Korean POW camp; Sergeant Keeble likewise survived but died 30 years before being recognized in 2008. All the others were killed in action. (Note: this issue completes the 24th's MOH series on the rear cover.)

Master Sergeant Woodrow W. Keeble
Born Waubay, South Dakota
Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate, Lake Traverse Reservation, Sioux Native American.
Company G, 19th Infantry Regiment
Sangsan-ni, North Korea, 20 October, 1951.

On 20 October, 1951, Company G, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, was in full attack on Hill 765, a steep and rugged position that was well defended by the enemy. Sergeant Keeble, seeing that the attacking platoon was pinned down by heavy enemy fire from three well-fortified enemy machine-gun positions, dashed forward to join the platoon, and then crawled forward alone until he was in close proximity to the hostile machine-gun emplacements. One after another, Master Sergeant Keeble with grenades and small-arms fire single-handedly destroyed the enemy positions, even though the enemy troops had unleashed their full-fire and a shower of grenades to try stop him. Inspired by his courage, Company G seized its objective. The extraordinary courage, selfless service, and devotion to duty displayed by Master Sergeant Keeble was an inspiration to all and reflected great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

24th Infantry Division Association

Secretary/Treasurer

Donald E. Maggio – 24th AG

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