

# The CUB

PUBLISHED BY AND FOR

*The Veterans of the  
106th INFANTRY  
DIVISION*

*of the*

## GOLDEN LION

Vol 53— No. 2

JAN - FEB - MAR 1997



***Honoring Captain James L. Manning  
Commander, 423rd Cannon Co. - KIA, Bleialf, Germany  
16 December 1944 - Purple Heart and Silver Star***

Photo taken at Henri-Chapelle Cemetery, Liege, Belgium - article on page 13

# The **CUB**

*A quarterly publication of the  
106th Infantry Division Association, Inc*  
5401 U. 147th St. West, Apple Valley, MN 55124

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I hope you left the year of 1996 with a great success with the Annual Mini-Reunions (December commemorative Parties). I attended the Chicago Group and as always "Russ Villwock" and his very talented helpers, made the evening an outstanding event. We had a great group, including one new member, Bill Mitchell of 106 Recon Troop, from Glenview, Illinois. The dinner, was excellent, and the after dinner games were very challenging, but rewarding, with gifts. Keep up the good work, "Villwock And Helpers"

I recently received a large brown envelope in the mail from a person whose name I did not recognize. Much to my surprise what I found inside was a letter and a "Diary" from a 28th Infantry Division soldier. He had been with their 112th Regiment that, after the first few days of the Bulge, was attached to the 424th Infantry Regiment 106th Inf. Div. I had spent a few days with his unit. I could not have gotten, from anyone, a finer, more wonderful gift from out of the past.

Associate member, Charlie Haug, the under, must have an outstanding memory to recognize me, after 52 years, and then the courtesy to sent this to me. In the Cub of Oct-Nov-Dec 1991, he related in great detail about a 424th Regiment Anti-Tank gun assisting his unit against five German tanks attacking from Lutzkampen. He says he owes his life to the 106th. Charlie and I were both at the 50th Anniversary of the *Battle of the Bulge* in St. Louis, MO, but did not meet each other. Thank you Charlie.

I urge you to continue to support the Mini-Reunions. I understand that several, this last year, were canceled due to weather. Now, while the idea is still fresh in your mind, spend some time contacting those 106th veterans in your area who are not members of the Association and urge them to join with their comrades. If your local group did not meet, take the initiative and organize a meeting for next year. If you need help contact the 2nd Vice-president whose has responsibility for the Mini-Reunions. John Swett, our current 2nd VP would be glad to help you. Urge those members who do not belong, to join the Association, if for nothing else, to be kept informed of their comrades.

I have contacted several military publications regarding advertising our existence in their publications. Many of our men still, after fifty years, do not know that there is a 106th Infantry Division Association. We have to try to contact them and give them the opportunity to join and get re-acquainted with their old comrades.

We would like to hear from any of you who have "likes" or "dislikes" of our various activities or programs. If you have some new idea to enhance the organization, let us know. It is "your" Association, get behind it "all year- every year." I have appreciated all the letters I have received, keep them coming, they mean a lot to me.

Until next time, stay healthy and prosper in this NEW YEAR.



**President Major H. Hill 1996-1997  
106th Infantry Division Association  
"B" Company, 424th Infantry Regiment**



Rev. Ewell C. Black Jr., Chaplain  
Order of the Golden Lion 1995  
"A" Company, 422nd Inf. Reg.  
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**Why** is a word which is used by people in all times, places and situations. We find it used by God’s people in both the Old and New Testaments. We find it first used in Genesis 25:22 by Rebekah while she was pregnant with Esau and Jacob. In her discomfort she asked the question, “**Why** is this happening to me?” As with so many of us, she directed her question to the Lord. His answer was that the twins represented two people.

For most who ask “**Why**” the answer is not so quickly received!

Instead many find the answer eludes us and we find ourselves repeating it many times within our lives. I heard a sermon recently in which this question was asked, “What is the most important word in The Bible?” His answer was, “**Why**.” His reasoning for this was that only God knows the answer, so if people could answer their own question they would be as wise as God. Such knowledge is to great for people!

Yet, this has never stopped people from asking the question. Almost everyone who has experienced any type of trouble has asked that question. Remember Nancy Kerrigan asking, “**Why** me?” when she was hit on the knee?

Yes, in most situations where we are survivors the question is asked.

“**Why** did I survive combat when some of my friends didn’t?”

“**Why** did I survive being a POW when others healthier and stronger than I didn’t?”

“**Why** am I still here when many of my comrades have died?”

Take strength in the understanding that you probably have no need to know or God would have revealed the answer to you long ago. We may feel that we have not contributed as much to the world as some who are no longer here might have. But take comfort in the knowledge that God knows the answer and you may have made contributions far greater that you know. “**Why**?” is a question we will continue to ask so long as we exist on this Earth but the answer(s) are for God to know until we are able to inquire of the Lord as Rebekah did.

**“Gracious Father forgive us when we ask questions to which only You may know the answer. Help us to seek to serve knowing that you have Your reasons and have given us the opportunity to fulfill the tasks which you have for us to do. You are our God and we are your people and for that may we be duly thankful.” AMEN**

I'd never heard of Paul Fussell until he wrote an article, "My War," for Harper's magazine in 1982. I sent him a congratulatory note and copies of some things I'd written about the 106th. He sent me an encouraging card and I've become a fan of his writings, which mostly deal with his experiences in the ground war in Europe. It's his style to be blunt, provocative and factual.

Fussell, who became an English Literature professor after World War II, has now written 13 books. He entered the army as a teenager, served with the 103rd Division as a GI and an officer, and earned two Purple Hearts. He still has some mental scars as, I think, all infantrymen do.

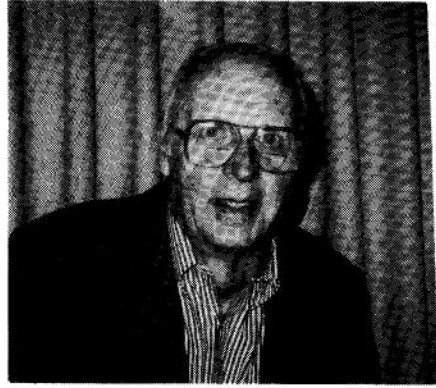
"My war is virtually synonymous with my life," Fussell wrote 14 years ago. "I entered the war when I was 19 and have been in it ever since."

Fussell grabbed my attention with a reference to the winter of 1944-45, "the coldest in Europe for 25 years," and the lack of suitable attire for our troops. "The result was 64,008 casualties from 'cold injury,' not wounds but pneumonia and trench foot."

I was impressed, also, by quotes from a letter that Lt. Paul Fussell wrote to his parents on Feb. 1, 1945: "Today is the division's 84th consecutive day on the line. The average is 90 or 100 days, although one division went 136 without being relieved."

"I am not collecting any souvenirs, although I have had ample opportunity to pick up helmets, flags, weapons, etc. The only thing I have kept is a Belgian pistol, which one German was carrying who was unfortunate enough to walk into my platoon. That is the first one I had the job of shooting. I have kept the pistol as a souvenir of my first Kraut."

In combat, Fussell noted 37 years later, "bravado can be a device necessary to a soldier's emotional survival. The only com-



**Dan Bied "A" Co., 422nd Infantry  
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fort I can take today in contemplating (my) letters is the ease with which their author can be rationalized as a stranger. Even the handwriting is not now my own."

Fussell went on to assert that "those who actually fought on the line in the war, especially if they were wounded, constitute an in-group forever separate from those who did not." He added: "Those who fought know a secret about themselves, and it's not very nice."

This is strong stuff, I think, in a society in which so much about warfare has been glorified by Hollywood and by authors who, unlike Fussell, never experienced the real thing.

In 1989, an interview with Fussell appeared in *American Heritage*. It referred to him as a "pissed-off infantryman" who looks at the world from the secret places inhabited only by those who have moved, rifle in hand, "against an enemy who designs your death."

Regarding combat, Fussell said: "If you've been there more than ten minutes you know that it is about survival, and it is about killing in order to survive, and one forgets the presumed ideological motives when one is performing these operations. You're captured by combat, and the only way to get out of the capture is to reduce the threat of your

## From West Burlington, Iowa...

own personal safety, which is to kill the enemy. That's what you're doing in combat."

Fussell has written a new book. It is titled "Doing Battle" and I assume it is full of the truth, though much of the prose wouldn't be appreciated by fans of war novels.

The Chicago Sun-Times ran a review of "Doing Battle." I was attracted by a reference to Fussell's outlook toward commanding a platoon of infantry in the invasion of Japan, if that had been his fate. "The A-bomb meant we were going to live," he declared "The killing was going to be over, and peace was actually going to be the state of things."

Fussell says he still jumps at loud noises in the street, terming that reaction one of "the more gross effects of having been an infantryman." He can't stroll through a military cemetery, the Sun-Times related, "without choking up, while any playing of 'Amazing Grace,' especially a slow bagpipe rendition, brings him tears."

"Doing Battle" is, in essence, an anti-war book that deals with realities many infantrymen have avoided talking about for the past 51 years.

I hope it hits the best-seller lists but I will be satisfied if it is merely an "artistic success."

Dan Bied.....

### Dulce Est

In ancient times *pro patria*  
it was reckoned sweet to die,  
with leg-gripped charger, sword unsheated,  
and banner held up high.

Then deep chords in love-filled hearts  
throbbed before the strife  
and sweet the thought of *pro patria*  
to dearly sell one's life.

There are now no dreams of glory,  
no cause for which to strive.  
And of the two alternatives,  
most choose to stay alive.

Yet dying still is much in vogue.  
In fields mine-sown and muddy,  
causeless men of a weary age  
unthinking, die for a buddy.

BEFORE THE  
VETERANS DIE  
by  
Dale R. Carver



BEFORE THE VETERANS DIE

by: Dale R. Carver  
Silver Star recipient  
424th Headquarters  
A&P Platoon Leader  
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## "AMBUSH!!! - John Roberts, "C" Battery, 592nd FAB"



(Caption comments by editor) This picture of Weapons Carrier, C-5 of the 592nd FAB was displayed on page 12 of the November 1996 CUB magazine. The photo was sent to me by an Internet friend Hans Wijers, Brummen, Netherlands who had retrieved it from the German Archives in Koblenz, Germany.

I printed it in hopes we could find how the weapons carrier met with disaster.

John Roberts, C Battery, 592nd FAB quickly responded with the following account of his "Forward Observer Party" running into an ambush by attacking Germans on 16 December, 1944 at 0830 hours.

by John Roberts, 592/C  
1059 Alter Road  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-1401  
810-338-2667

John, It is only fitting and proper that I write to you on December 16. The story I am about to relate to you is ironic because I am about to tell you why the 592nd FA Battalion C-5 weapons carrier pictured on page 12 in the OCT-NOV- DEC issue of THE CUB is sitting in the ditch and what caused that to happen. I was there and almost got killed!!!!

I don't know how I can ever thank you for publishing that picture, but when I first saw it chills ran down my spine. My copy of THE CUB arrived at my house on Wednesday, December 11. I always read the magazine from cover to cover and start at the beginning. I was shocked when I turned to page 12. I actually gasped.

The reason for my excitement is the fact that the weapons carrier C-5 was the second of

two vehicles carrying me and other members of the "C" Battery, 592nd Field Artillery Battalion Forward Observer Party from "C" Battery's gun position at Laudesfeld, Germany to Roth, Germany where we were to take up our assigned duties on the morning of December 16, 1944. The reason I know it was our weapons carrier is the fact that C-5 was the number assigned to the Wire Section's vehicle. The 592F and C-5 painted on the rear bumpers are clearly visible.

When the two vehicle convoy left "C" Battery's gun emplacement at Laudesfeld, Germany on the morning of December 16, 1944 I was seated in the rear seat of the jeep (C-2) which was the lead vehicle where its driver T/5 Laurence L. (Larry) Loudon (from Delavan, Wisconsin) and 1st Lt. Rex Matson, Forward Observer were seated in the front seat.

In the front seat of the weapons carrier C-5 were Terrill (Terry) Rigdon, the driver (from Kirksville, MO) and Harold (Harry) Hallberg

## "AMBUSH!!! - John Roberts, "C" Battery, 592nd FAB"

(from Iron Mountain, MI). In the rear of the weapons carrier were six wiremen from the "C" Battery's Wire Section. One of those men was Cpl. Howard Hoffmeyer.

The two vehicles were headed toward Roth, Germany where Lt. Matson and I (a Scout Corporal at the time in the Detail Section) would take over the duties of directing artillery fire for "C" Battery at the already established Forward Observation post nestled in the front lines in support of the 422nd Infantry Regiment. It was our turn to relieve the Forward Observer and enlisted men who had been on duty for five days after our Battery took over the positions of the 2nd Infantry Division when they pulled out as we went into position on December 10, 1944.

Harry Hallberg was the T/4 radio operator and he would remain at the Forward Observation Post with Lt. Matson and me. Larry Loudon and his jeep would also remain with us until we were relieved some days later but we had no idea when. We had our bed rolls and our supplies with us. The C-5 weapons carrier with the 50-caliber machine gun (as seen in the picture mounted on its pedestal behind the cab and pointed up in the air) and the six wiremen with Terry Rigdon as its driver were supposed to start laying communications wire from the Forward Observation Post in Roth, Germany to the "C" Battery gun position at Laudesfeld, Germany where the 155mm howitzers were in place.

In route between Auw and Roth just as our two vehicles left the forest we entered a clearing (from left in the picture) and proceeded down a slight decline in the road when the Germans ambushed both vehicles about 8:30 AM. Larry Loudon took a bullet in his right arm, and rolled out of his jeep and sought coverage to the right side of the road. Lt. Matson and I jumped out of the jeep, he to the right of the road and me to the left of the road. The jeep rolled forward and off the right side of the road and turned over.

Terry Rigdon stopped his vehicle C-5 and everyone in the weapons carrier scrambled out to the right side of the road to keep from getting hit with one or more of the tremendous number of bullets flying every which way. Howard Hoffmeyer was killed before he could even get

off the seat where he had been seated in the back of the weapons carrier.

I was the only one of our group who jumped into the ditch on the left side of the road. I had the most protection because I ended up in a sloping gully. I was protected as I fired my carbine through the fog at unknown moving targets. I could hear the screams of my buddies as they got hit from the flying bullets. I hollered for my comrades to come to my side of the road since they were more exposed to the Germans small arms fire. Some did. Being outnumbered and with a high casualty rate we surrendered and were taken prisoners. Harry Hallberg and I were the only two from our group who was not killed or wounded that morning.

I won't go into detail, but our escape from the Germans later that day is another long story which is in chapter form in my autobiography. John, you may recall I sent those chapters to you a couple of years ago regarding my being ambushed, captured and my eventual escape from the Germans on the same day, December 16, 1944.

I need to tell you this much of my story to authenticate why the C-5 weapons carrier you published in THE CUB is not just any disabled vehicle with an unknown background, but one that brings back many memories of a momentous occasion to someone who is still alive to explain in detail the circumstances as to why the weapons carrier is disabled..

With the C-5 weapons carrier sitting in the middle of the road facing the German advance toward Auw, Germany I am sure that the first tank or some other piece of heavy equipment to advance west on the road pushed the weapons carrier out of the way and off to the side. Since the weapons carrier was facing the German advance it is only logical that the German vehicle pushed the weapons carrier backwards which caused the rear of the vehicle to enter the ditch with its front end pointed up at an angle toward the road.

Also, the photograph in the article had to be taken a short time after we were captured because the body of the dead soldier has to be that of Cpl. Howard Hoffmeyer. I can only assume that when the German tank or truck pushed the C-5 weapons carrier off the road



## "AMBUSH!!! - John Roberts, "C" Battery, 592nd FAB"

oward Hoffmeyer's body tumbled from the seat in the rear of the truck and onto the ground as shown in the picture.

It is ironic that a German photographer would take that picture so early in the German offensive. I would suspect that my comrades and I were some of the very first prisoners of war taken during the Battle of the Bulge. As we were being taken prisoners the German army was already advancing westward on that road toward the American forces at Auw, Germany. The photograph had to be taken within a very short time after my comrades and I were captured.

I was pleasantly shocked and so very grateful to see this picture. It sure brings back a lot of memories of that terrible morning. There must be thousands of photographs taken by German photographers throughout the long war they fought and here comes Hans Wijers, Brummen, in the Netherlands who sends one single picture to John Kline, Editor of THE CUB and you had the option to either print it or hold it in your file. And to think the article appeared almost on the anniversary of December 16.

To further document the picture and my story, the caption on the photo (backside) says: "Half (mid) December 1944. Overran US lines at the beginning of the offensive between the "Hohen Venn" and the northern part of Luxembourg." To me "Half December" is December 16. Also, "Overran US lines at the beginning of the offensive" means the early morning hours of December 16 and our ambush was at approximately 8:30 AM that morning. I must also add that when the remainder of our Forward Observer Party finally escaped the Germans later that day on December 16, 1944 there were only two of us from our group who were not wounded that morning..... Roberts and Hallberg! Rigdon, although wounded, did not require medical treatment as he never discovered his flesh wound until the next day while we were trying to get through the German's front lines. Those in our group who were wounded we were able to get to a First Aid Station in Manderfeld, Germany after we escaped the Germans at the village of Weckerath.

After Rigdon, Hallberg and I eventually escaped from Manderfeld we worked our way

through the Germans surrounding the village and then through the German front lines before infiltrating the American front lines. It took the three of us until December 21st to find 592/C.

I have enclosed a map which supports the story I have related to you. The legend of the numbers on the map is as follows:

(1) Where our Forward Observer group was ambushed and captured.

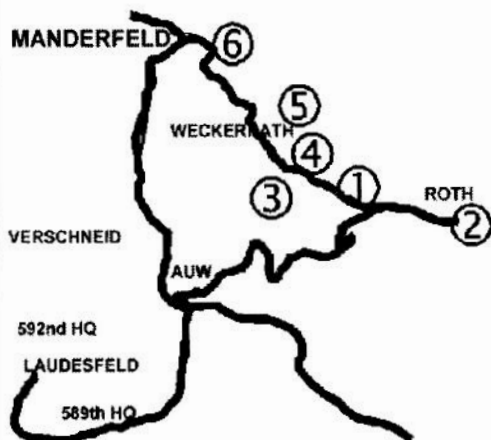
(2) German command post where our group was taken and where two guards were assigned to us to take us to who knows where (or shoot us).

(3) Tennebach Creek where Roberts and Loudon fell through the ice while Roberts helped to carry Loudon because of his severe injury and loss of blood. Our combined weight caused the ice to break.

(4) When being marched by the German guards our group ran across a Cavalry Unit that was cut off which enabled us to escape our captors.

(5) Where our group joined up with the Cavalry Unit at the village of Weckerath.

(6) After running a gauntlet through cross fire on the road between Weckerath and Manderfeld our group reached the First Aid Station in Manderfeld. From this location is where Roberts, Hallberg and Rigdon made our third escape from the Germans.



## **“AMBUSH!!! - John Roberts, “C” Battery, 592nd FAB”**

I know for a fact that the only two vehicles that were lost during that early period of time were the Jeep (C-2) I was riding in with Larry Loudon and Lt. Rex Matson and the weapons carrier (C-5). I know this for a fact because after I rejoined “C” Battery I was immediately promoted to S/Sgt and an acting officer because of the casualties suffered in the officers ranks during the first few days of the German offensive. In my new position I was in charge of the Detail Section and I was aware of the vehicles that were lost. Later I was awarded a battlefield commission as a 2nd Lt.

As a post script “C” Battery, 592nd FA Bn. did lose another jeep and that happened during the middle of January 1945 when Bill Sewert (Lewisburg, Ohio) and Carl Himberg (West Roxbury, MA) accompanied Lt. Sohler on a mission to find a 592/C prime mover (used to pull our 155mm howitzers) that had been disabled during the earlier part of the Bulge. The three of them were ambushed on that mission..... Carl Himberg was killed (now buried in Henri Chapelle Military Cemetery in Belgium), Bill Sewert was wounded and never returned to 592/C and Lt. Sohler was wounded and subsequently returned to the battery for active duty. I have a picture of Carl Himberg’s grave which was taken by Mary Jonckea, a CRIBA member, in 1995 and sent to me after I told her that Carl was one of my best friends and I failed to find his grave when I visited the Cemetery in September 1994 when I toured with the 106th Division group.

John, I just had to tell the story about the C-5 weapons carrier. There must have been a

voice within you that told you to print the picture because it meant so much to me personally. I cannot tell you how thrilled I was to see this article and how pleased I am to be able to relate the background of the vehicle that means so little to anyone other than me and Larry Loudon. How often can something like this happen in ones lifetime?!!!!

Saturday night I called Larry Loudon in Delavan, Wisconsin and we discussed the picture and he agreed that the C-5 weapons carrier is indeed the one that followed us in convoy toward Roth, Germany on the morning of December 16, 1944.

I also attended the Michigan Chapter of the 106th Division Association annual dinner meeting in Detroit last evening, Sunday, December 15, 1996 and I was able to speak with Harold Ortwine (from Novi, Michigan) also a member of 592/C. Harold also agreed that the C-5 weapons carrier is indeed the one that I explained in detail in this letter.

I might add that Larry Loudon was just as astonished as I was when he saw the picture of C-5 in THE CUB. We reminisced on the telephone about that fateful day. To think that we would see a picture of the area where we were ambushed and captured 52 years earlier is uncanny. Thanks John, “you made my day!”

Note: Terrill Rigdon and Harold Hallberg have both been deceased for over ten years. I spoke to their widows by telephone within the past two years when I tried to locate them when I was writing “the war years” of my autobiography.

Keep up the fine work. THE CUB is the core of the organization. Sincerely,

*John M. Roberts, 592/C*

### **51st Annual Reunion - Nashville, Tennessee**

**First Class Registration Papers will be mailed in February  
See blue Centerfold and adjoining pages of this CUB  
for samples which may be used for Registration**

The 106th Infantry Division Home Page that I installed on the World Wide Web 3 April 1996, still continues to draw interest. Over 5,000 visitors have viewed my Home Page, as of January 10, 1997.

#### COMING UP IN FUTURE CUBS

I had intended to print an excellent story in this issue about Parker's Crossroads. The story was written for a Fort Sill, Oklahoma writing contest. To help me several of the 589th FAB veterans who were there furnished personal testimonials of their experiences. I received over forty pages of material from eight men. Naturally I would not use every word, but to be fair to them and the story, I did not have room in this issue. To them I apologize, but I did not want to do an incomplete presentation, nor carry part of it to the next issue. I chose to put it off for another issue.

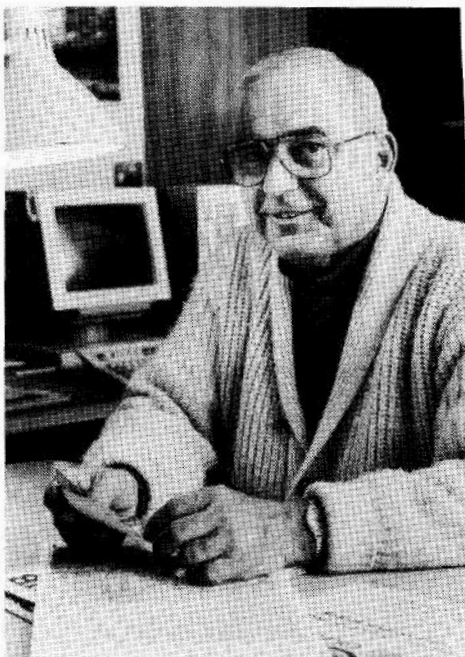
I have accumulated several stories about the 424th Regiment., which require my attention in compiling. I have been lacking information about the 424th, now I am loaded with it.

Dick Sparks presented a well written story of the 423rd I&R Platoon that deserves your attention. He did an excellent job in publishing the article. I have it ready.

Bill Bucher, an Associate member has compiled a story about the *Aquitania*. It is very detailed and with excellent photographs. Bucher did an excellent job laying out the story, furnishing photos already screened and of the same size and format as the CUB format. I will be using it. He is also working on a story about the *Queen Elizabeth*.

I have Colonel Puetts story *PUETT'S WAR, 423rd Infantry Regiment, 2d Battalion in The Ardennes Battle*. It is ready for publishing, and deserves your attention.

All the above, with a couple of baskets of photos and other material from some very patient veterans who have not seen their information in print. To name a few, Schober, Yamazaki, Iwamoto, Ball and several others. It's time I got to that other book I was supposed to write. J Kline....



**John Kline, 423/M, editor, The CUB**  
5401 U. 147th St. West, Apple Valley, MN 55124  
612-423-4837 e-mail: [jpk@mm.com](mailto:jpk@mm.com)  
Home Page: <http://www.mm.com/user/jpk>



From the Editor: I am embarrassed. I have had this picture of a beautiful family for several months and have lost the letter it was enclosed in. This is a good reason for marking your name and address on any photo sent to The CUB. Somebody let me know who this is, so I can send a letter of apology and run it again in the next CUB... John Kline, editor

**Nominations Requested for The Order of The Golden Lion  
ORDER OF THE GOLDEN LION AWARD COMMITTEE**

NOTICE: THE COMMITTEE IS SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR SAID AWARD.  
NOMINATIONS MAY BE MADE BY A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OR BY A FORMER RECIPIENT OF THE AWARD.

ORDER SIX: Any recipient of the Order of the Golden Lion, or any member of the Board of Directors may nominate a candidate for the Order of the Golden Lion, by submitting a name, or names, to the GOLDEN LION AWARDS COMMITTEE appointed by the President. Included with the nomination(s) should be a statement stating the principal reasons or activities that qualify the nominee for the AWARD.

All nominations must be received at a date NO LATER THAN JUNE 15, 1997.

Nominations should be mailed to:

Gil Helwig, Chairman OGL Committee  
2006 - 55 Ontario Road  
Niles, MI 49120-4832  
Telephone: 616-683-8714

**Nominations Requested for  
The Board of Directors**

Do you want to be on the Board of Directors, or do you have a friend that you think would be of service to the organization in that capacity? Send a resume of the person, or yourself, to our Nominating Committee Chairman. Please do this early, long before the Annual Reunion.

Send the resume to:

Art Van Moorlehem  
206 West Birch  
Arlington, S.D. 57212  
Telephone: 605-983-5827

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**SEE CENTERFOLD DETAILS  
ON 51st ANNUAL REUNION**

All details are there. You will also receive a First Class Letter from the Reunion Committee sometime in February. It will contain all the papers necessary to register for the 51st Annual Reunion In Nashville.

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**OLD CUBS, Memorabilia**

I receive requests for copies of old CUBs often. I appreciate those of you that have sent me your old ones.

While sad, because of a death, it is nice to receive CUBs and memorabilia from one of deceased members family, for you know that he had given instructions to his survivors to pass along his treasured books, CUBs and service connected trinkets. You all know that the final repository for all the items collected by the historian is Carlisle Barracks World War II Individual History Museum. You can request that your "War Diary" be placed there.

---

**DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION  
OF MATERIAL FOR THE CUB**

Please observe these dates for submission of material to *The CUB*. Information submitted after these date will not be included in the current CUB.

FEBRUARY CUB . . . . January 1  
MAY CUB . . . . . April 1  
AUGUST CUB . . . . . July 1  
NOVEMBER CUB . . . . October 1

Association business has priority, then information from the members, to be used as space and subject matter warrant. It is up to me and my staff (3 cats, 1 dog) to decide. Complaints are handled by the dog.

**Congratulations!**  
**Adjutant, Pete House**

For being awarded the Florida Commendation Medal for the period of June 30, 1993 to June 7, 1996 at a ceremony at Camp Blanding Headquarters 30 August 1996.

**HEADQUARTERS,  
CAMP BLANDING TRAINING SITE  
FLORIDA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD  
CAMP BLANDING**

For reasons stated in Paragraph 1-13, FLNG Pam 672-5-1: For distinguished volunteer services to the Camp Blanding Museum and Historical Associates Board of Directors. His volunteer services include important liaison with the American Prisoners of War Chapters, and had proved valuable assistance in donating memorabilia to the museum. He has assisted in the planning and execution of public ceremonies held at the museum. Mr. House has brought credit to himself, veteran organizations, the Florida National Guard and the State of Florida.

FOR THE COMMANDER, Penny Brant  
CW3, FLARNG, Asst Adj



On behalf of my Granddaughter, Jennifer Repass, I want to thank the Scholarship Committee for the Award she received.  
Gilbert Fitzgerald, 424/E

**IMPORTANT 1997 SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Scholarships will again be given in 1997 to descendants of living and deceased members of the 106th Infantry Division. Descendants have been defined by the Board of Directors to include the following:

*CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN* Children are defined as the member's natural children and children acquired through marriage or adoption or as foster children AND who lived in the member's household when they were minors. Grandchildren are defined as the children of the children defined above.

*NIECES, NEPHEWS, GRANDNIECES AND GRANDNEPHEWS*

Applicants must be nominated by a member of the 106th Infantry Division Association or his widow, if he was a member at death. A members' letter of nomination should state the following: I nominate (*followed by the applicant's name*); The relationship of the member to the person nominated.; The member's 106th Infantry Division affiliation (unit).

To receive an application for the scholarship please write to:

**SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE - 106TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION**  
**John A. Gregory, 4624 Ashton Dr., Sacramento, CA 95864 - 916-481-3353**

**Deadline for submitting an application and accompanying material is 30 April 1997.**

A Self Addressed Envelope Must Be Included!

**NOTE:** If you should try to call John Gregory and get no answer  
Please call Jerry Eisenman at 415-756-8330



**JUST A FEW LEFT  
ORDER NOW**

The price, postpaid is \$12.00.

On the cover of the August 1996 CUB magazine I showed the picture above.

It is a 7" by 10" beautiful color photo, each one individually processed. Each photo is signed by the photographer, Chris Van Kerhoven, Westerlo, Belgium. Chris, a free-lance photographer for *Image World Press* is an LIFE ASSOCIATE member of our Association. I am coordinating the sale of these for Chris, through Col. John Greene, USA (Ret), Waterloo, Belgium who is also a LIFE ASSOCIATE member. Col. Greene was helpful in our Sept 1995 meeting at Auw, Germany.

Chris thanks all of you who have responded to this date.

**FIRST COME - FIRST SERVED**

Please send your \$12.00 to me, and I will write one check to John Greene for the balance. My address, which also appears on inside cover of every CUB.

John Kline  
5401 Upper 147th St. West  
Apple Valley, MN 55124

**A Special Thanks to Roger  
MAES, Associate member,  
Belgium**

*From Charles Sartori, 423 Hdqtrs*

"A very special thanks to Roger MAES who I met at the Roanoke Reunion. He is an Associate Member of our organization. He was kind enough to contact the Tousse family of Liege for me, to convey my condolences the them of a recent family death.

"During *The Bulge* and while I was with "A" Company, 424th Regiment, our squad was billeted in their home. I have corresponded with them for 50 years, needless to say, they were elated with the phone call.

"Roger would not accept anything for this kind act. If and When we meet in Nashville, the drinks are on me."

Charles Sartori

**A PLEA FOR HELP**

Ralph Palaia, an ASSOCIATE member of our Association is seeking the remains of his brother Michael Palai. He states:

"I would appreciate you printing this notice in the CUB, It is the wish of my family that we bring Michael home to rest. Please print the following:"

**WE NEED YOUR HELP**

On Sunday March 11, 1945 PVT Michael Palaia of the 106th Infantry Division was executed by the SS in Dresden, Germany.

We believe he was executed near the South African POW Camp.

Before the war this area was used as a Police Academy Training Center. We are trying to pinpoint the locations of his remains. If you have any knowledge of this event, please contact;

Ralph Palaia  
3841 Pearson Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
215-332-6028

## "Honoring Captain James L. Manning, 423rd Cannon"

*Editor's note:*

*This story is partly the result of my 106th Infantry Division Association Web Page. On 11 October, 1996 I received an e-mail from Kuwait. From that e-mail and a series of more e-mail letters, the story developed, as follows:*

11 Oct, 1996;

To: John Kline from Robert Squires

Kuwait Ministry of Finance -Data Processing Specialist

"Dear Mr. (Sgt) Kline. I can't tell you how happy I am to have found the 106th Infantry Division homepage. My great-uncle, Capt. James L. Manning, 423rd Cannon Company fought and was killed in the *Battle of the Bulge* at Bleialf, Germany.....

"I was on the World Wide Web looking for information on the 106th Infantry Division, since my grandmother and I are planning a trip to Belgium in November or December. My grandmother (Captain Manning's sister) has always wanted to visit her brother's grave at Henri-Chapelle. She is eighty years of age, but of good health, and my uncle finally convinced her to go."

In a later letter he continued, "Captain Manning was a 1942 graduate of the Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina and his name is on the memorial plaque at the Summerall Chapel. While at the Citadel he was captain of the Boxing Team."

A series of e-mail flowed between me and Robert "Rob" Squires exchanging information and facts about our Division and Association.

I sent him the gravesite locations in Henri-Chapelle, contacts in Belgium, Hotels, excerpts from the 423rd Infantry Combat Infantry Badge Orders #5; a list of 423rd Cannon Company veterans that currently belong to our Association.

Rob, sent all the information to his grandmother, Florence Bethea and informed me that his uncle, Charles Bethea (Florence's Son) would be contacting via e-mail. In the meantime, while plans were being made he ordered *St. Vith: LION in the Way*; a copy of *The CUB of the Golden Lion: PASSES in Review* and downloaded Hugh Cole's *Battle of the Bulge*.



Captain James L. Manning, CO  
423rd Cannon Company, 106th Infantry Division  
KIA, Bleialf, Germany - 16 December 1944  
Purple Heart, Silver Star

(It is available on the Internet). Eventually, Rob stopped calling me, Sergeant Kline and called me plain ole John.

I should mention that Rob and his Uncle Charles Bethea are now Life Members of our Association, and Florence wants to join.  
(See New Member column this issue).

Plans were moving, then I was informed by Rob that he would be unable to go to Europe with his grandmother. Instead, his Uncle, Charles and his wife, would accompany Florence to Belgium on a four day trip, via Brussels.

In the meantime I had been in contact, via e-mail, with Charles Bethea. In his first letter to me he wrote, " Sergeant Kline (he also later changed that to John), I felt that since my mother was now in her 81st year that it was time for me to ensure that she got to visit her brother's grave.

"As a veteran of the Vietnam era (six years in the US Navy), I have the utmost respect for the trials and tribulations that you and the other courageous men of the 106th went through to

## **"Honoring Captain James L. Manning, 423rd Cannon"**

keep our country free. From the bottom of my heart I say thank you.

"Our plans to visit Uncle Jim's grave at Henri-Chapelle are not complete, but the information you have provided has kindled a fire in our hearts that will not be satisfied until we can personally stand beside his grave and thank him for the sacrifice he made for all of us. Please give Robert (Squires) credit for being the computer/internet whiz that got the initial ball rolling. Regards, Charles Bethea."

He later informed me that six of the eight 423 Cannon Company men had responded to his mother with phone calls and letters and that he had arranged a four day "Delta Vacation Flight" to Brussels for Thanksgiving weekend.

He wrote: "John, We had a fast, but great visit to Belgium and my uncle's grave.

"I have included a summary of the trip in this e-mail. Received, read, and enjoyed the latest CUB magazine. Regards, Charlie B."

### **VISIT TO GRAVE OF CAPT. JAMES L. MANNING AT HENRI-CHAPELLE**

My mother (Florence), my wife (Janice), and I arrived in Brussels on November 29. After a wait of 52 years, my mother was getting the opportunity to visit her brother's grave.

We picked up our rental car and arrived at the Diplomat Hotel and checked in. Based on current local weather conditions, we felt we had better visit the cemetery right away.

Col. Donald of the American Embassy called and asked of our plans for the day and to offer his assistance. He notified the staff at Henri-Chapelle that we would be visiting Captain Manning's grave that afternoon.

While traveling to Henri-Chapelle it was fitting that the rain turned to snow. By the time we grabbed a quick lunch and arrived at the cemetery, an inch of slush was on the highway. It was very cold with the wind blowing about 30 mph. Due to the rough weather, Mr. Houbben drove us down to the grave. An American Flag had been placed at Capt. Manning's marker.

While at the grave site, we met Gen. James Dickey (European Region) - American Battle Monuments Commission, Mr. Patrick M. Hubai - Superintendent - Henri-Chapelle, and Mr. Parker - Assistant Trainee. We took a number of pictures and Mr. Parker took several of us with the group. Gen. Dickey and Superintendent Hubai were conducting an inspection of the cemetery. We were also given able assistance by Ms. Solange Dekeyser, Secretary - Guide.

After returning to Brussels, upon the recommendation of the hotel's clerk, we enjoyed a delightful dinner at the La Vigne Restaurant, located at Rue Jourdan 6, 1060 Brussels. This was only a very short walk from our hotel. We were back on the road Saturday morning for another visit to the cemetery and some sight-seeing. We stopped in Waremmme and had lunch at an Italian restaurant, the Orchidea. The owner and waiter spoke no English and we spoke very little French, but we had a delightful meal and took some pictures there.

We returned to the cemetery and met with Solange who provided coffee and cookies. She was most helpful to us in our visits. She had picked up postcards for us, gathered pamphlets on Henri-Chapelle, and told us about a Christmas market place in Aachen, Germany. She gave us directions which would guide us through a short portion of the Netherlands before arriving in Aachen.

While at the cemetery, we drove back to Capt. Manning's grave and took more pictures and photographed another South Carolinian's grave. We took photographs of the grounds and hopefully they will turn out. It was raining and overcast the entire trip. We took pictures of the impressive Guardian Angel, Chapel, and the name of another South Carolinian whose body was never found, but whose name is engraved on the memorial.

Upon being offered the opportunity, I walked back to Capt. Manning's grave and retrieved the American Flag that had been placed there. It gave me a brief period of sacred time to visit my uncle's grave, alone. I never had the opportunity to know my only uncle in life. In the past several months, I have learned



## **“Honoring Captain James L. Manning, 423rd Cannon”**

that he was a very fine person, held in high esteem by his men, and fellow townsmen. I thanked him for the sacrifice he made for us.

We made the trip to Aachen and enjoyed our visit to the Christmas market. Mother bought some tree decorations for everyone on her list so it was a timely suggestion by Solange. My wife loves to visit markets and we all enjoyed the walk around Aachen.

We returned to Brussels about 2200 and even at this late hour, we again enjoyed a most delightful meal at La Vigne. We would all recommend it based on our experience of the excellent quality of foods and services. We told the owner we would put in a plug for them on our return.

Sunday morning, December 1, we loaded the car and headed back to the airport. We circled some of the fine buildings in Brussels (Grand Place and Museum) on our way out. We checked through customs and spent time in the duty free shops prior to boarding our return flight.

All in all, it was a great trip and visit. We crammed a lot into 48 hours. We enjoyed the shopping, cooking, seeing the Belgium, Nether-

lands, and German countrysides, and drove about 800 kilometers in doing so.

Again, special thanks go to Col. Donald, Gen. Dickey, Superintendent Hubai, Mr. Parker, Mr. Houbben, and Ms. Dekeyser. They made our trip to visit Uncle Jim's grave a very warm and memorable occasion.

The cemetery at Henri-Chapelle is well maintained and is truly hallowed grounds. I have experienced it for myself.

The Lord willing, we plan to return some day to visit my uncle, again.

*Charles Bethea.....*

Charles Bethea can be reached  
on e-mail at: [cab1943@conterra.com](mailto:cab1943@conterra.com)

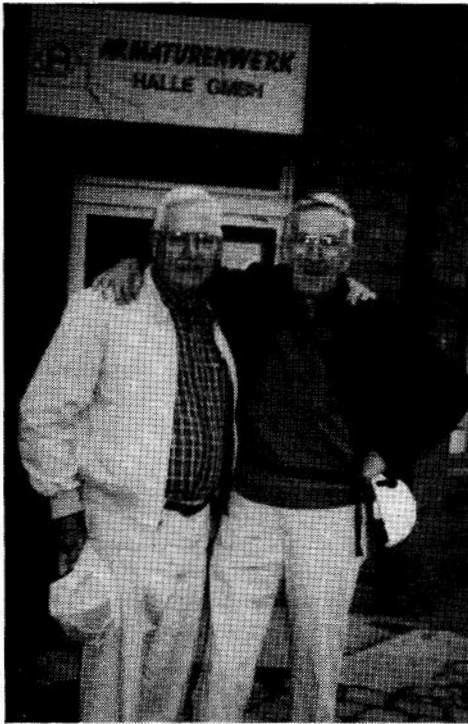
Robert Squires at: [rws@kuwait.net](mailto:rws@kuwait.net)

See New Member column for home addresses.



Charles Bethea, Nephew and Florence Bethea, Manning's Sister at Gravesite of Captain James Manning  
A sad but fulfilling first trip to Henri-Chapelle Cemetery, Leige Belgium 30 November 1996

## "Halle, Germany - Revisited "



l/r: Ralph Bean, 423/HQ 1Bn; Hal Taylor, 423/SV  
in front of their 1944 POW Kommando workshop  
Halle, Germany, October 1996

### Halle, Germany - Revisited

There was only one way we could approach the city after we left the autobahn and that was from the east. It was October 1996. As we entered the city limits, Ralph saw a water tower. He said, "By golly, I remember that. So did I."

Then I saw the roof of the railroad station and wondered if he remembered the naked men we saw when we came out of that station 50 years ago. Then we had assumed they were U.S. airmen. They were tied to a cart drawn by a milk cow. One piteously called, "Help me." We could do nothing, for we were being pelted with stones ourselves. But, as I say, that was more than 50 years ago. Now it was 1996 and today I should have more friendly thoughts. After all, we lived in peaceable times now, and who would have ever thought I would be able to return to Halle on the Salle in Germany?

We mistakenly turned right, realized our error, and stopped at a gasoline station to get directions. First we filled our rental car with fuel. When we paid for the gasoline, we asked directions to our hotel, but no one in the station spoke English and our German was inadequate, so we got little more than directions to return the way we had come.

We did and then turned to the south too soon. We thought things looked familiar. Ralph stopped to ask directions again, then proceeded east, then back to the north. Suddenly we saw our hotel and made our way to it, parked, registered, and made our ways to our respective rooms. I could see the railroad station from my room.

### Day Two

The next morning, we met our guide. A slight person and a grandmother now, she remembered the Halle air raids where she had been born and lived all her life. The factories had been nearby during the war, she informed us, so we could walk to where ours had been.

A neighborhood cafe reminded me of the place that provided our daily soup ration, but I thought perhaps I was only thinking I remem-

by Hal Taylor, 423/Cannon  
2172 Rockridge Drive  
Grand Junction, CO 81503  
303-245-7807

### Preface:

Ralph Bean and I had been members of the 423d Regiment, 106th Infantry Division, and had each been captured in the Battle of the Bulge in 1944. We had been imprisoned together in a factory in Halle, Germany, had escaped that spring, and refound American troops in Selben, Germany. When we came home, we went separate ways until we discovered each other again in 1994 through the 106th Infantry Division Association. Since the Beans winter in Tucson (their home is in Maine) on their return each spring, Colorado where my wife and I live has become one of their stops. Last spring, we decided to meet in Germany and search for our old prison haunts. This story tells some of what we found.

*Hal Taylor*

## "Halle, Germany - Revisited "

ered it because I wanted to remember it.

Then our guide pointed out a large vacant lot and told us several factories had been there. We eyed it, took pictures, and felt disappointed. When we saw a water tower further to the south, we drifted that way, hoping it might be one we remembered near our old factory.

Presently we passed the entrance to an armature factory. Ralph and I both commented on the fact that our prisoner of war work had been with an armature factory, and we had our guide take our pictures. Even so, we thought we had made the walk in vain. As we rounded out our walk and returned to the hotel, we wondered if we would ever find anything we recognized. Defeated again, we thought, as we agreed to our guide's apparent desires to show us and our wives the artistic, cultural parts of this ancient city.

Halle, an industrial city on the Salle River is about 140 km (90 mi) southwest of Berlin. In 1986 it contained about 235,200 people our 1996 guide said. It is around 260,000 now and had been close to 300,000 in about 1980. The nearby area contains deposits of potash, lignite, and salt, so the city is an important center for the manufacture of chemicals, heavy machinery, processed foods (especially sugar), and cement.

We drove around the university area Martin Luther University, started in 1694, merged with the University of Wittenberg in 1817. We also saw the Marienkirche begun in 1529; the Red Tower built in the 16th century; a bronze statue of the composer George Frederick Handel, a native son, and whose home we also toured; the Saint Moritzkirche begun 1388; and the Moritzburg Castle of the 15th century, now an art museum. Neither Ralph nor I had seen any of those in 1945, needless to say.

Halle actually means "saltworks." In AD 806, Charlemagne had a fortress built in Halle to guard the valuable salt springs. Since then the town has flourished as a commercial and industrial center, first under the archbishops of Magdeburg (968-1648) and later under the elector of Brandenburg. Now, in 1996, our guide gave us a souvenir package of salt, a small CD of Handel music, several brochures and a map, and some

delicious chocolates. Although the city was beautiful, it was evident that the construction business promised a lucrative future to some Germans in their attempt to recover from years of oppressive Russian rule.

That night, a friend of our guide telephoned her the address of our old factory, called the Dicker & Werneburg Armaturenfabrik. It had been at 118 Turmstrasse. Although our plans on our second day called for an attempt to retrace our route from Halle to Delitzsch to Selben, our guide convinced us that 118 Turmstrasse would be enroute. So away we drove. Imagine our surprise when the address turned out to be that of the armature factory we had seen the morning before!

The gate was padlocked. It also was Saturday. But there was a light in a second floor window. We shouted at a man at the window. He opened it and our guide asked if we could enter. She was told that the person in the window only rented a room there and had no key to the gate. The window closed.

But suddenly a man came up behind us, opened the padlock, swung open the gate, and disappeared inside the factory. We never saw him again, but he left the gate ajar, as if he were coming out again soon. So, quickly, I stepped inside the factory yard and so did our guide. Ralph saw what was going on and immediately entered, too. Our wives, who had remained in the car, piled out and dashed through the gate. We were inside once again.

Now we could see that the place probably was our factory. To our left was a hole, which had been the basement and foundation of a building at one time. Probably the canteen, I thought. The further inside the yard we walked, the more the main building became recognizable, yet there were many new structures about.

As we stood there attempting to gain our bearings and recognize something definite, a voice rang out in German asking us what we were doing there. A man dashed up gesticulating and directing us to leave. Instead, we stood our ground while our guide hastily explained in German what we were doing.

## "Halle, Germany - Revisited "

Ralph and I were all grins, hoping to gain favor I suppose by looking friendly, a tactic we had used there before. Immediately though, we understood either from the man who turned out to be the general manager of the plant or from our guide that we could take no pictures. Suddenly the man directed us to follow him, which we did, entering the hallway of one of the buildings that was new to us. On one wall was a trophy-like case containing photographs dated in the early 1900s. One showed a number of people in front of a building clearly marked **DICKER & WERNEBURG ARMATURENFABRIK!**

Those vacant lots we had seen the day before represented spaces where factories had been before they were completely demolished and the equipment taken to Russia during the occupation of East Germany. The Russians had stripped machinery from our factory too, but a couple of buildings had survived. The owners who were there when Ralph and I were prisoners had fled to West Germany, but had come back. How they reasserted their ownership was a mystery to Ralph and me, but they had refitted the place with computerized equipment to turn out armatures and pipe fittings for shipments all over the world. The general manager of the factory showed us all this and was immensely proud of what had been done, naturally.

He gave us a tour of the place, continually insisting that we take no photographs. I found my old work place and bench though and we learned that the structure where we had slept had been turned into a historic site, never to be destroyed!

We also found a water reservoir used during the war to fight fires caused by bombers, a place where we threw hand tools as we passed by. After the Germans drained it fighting one fire, they found several dozen tools on the floor of the reservoir! Today's general manager gritted his teeth a bit when we told him that story! We decided he understood about as much English as we understood German.

After that visit, we tried to retrace our escape route and succeeded fairly well. We ate lunch in Delitzsch, near the Rathaus where we'd dined on stale, hard rolls provided by

Germans who had recaptured us. It had been in Delitzsch where we'd eluded the Germans once and for all. Delitzsch had been a heavily armed town, too, so we felt rather pleased with ourselves to think we had outsmarted them.

But we felt even better after we stumbled around in the nearby village of Selben looking for the courtyard and barn where we had hidden for several days. Finally we found it. The barn itself was about half as large as we remembered it, but a connected side shed remained where we had slaughtered a pig. Ralph found the window through which he had watched me bring American troops, coming down the street I had earlier recognized as the one I had taken in 1945 to meet those troops. The house occupied by a woman and her Polish laborer was gone, leaving a vacant space in the courtyard.

Seeing everything again created a few emotional moments for Ralph and me. A young man and his father were mixing cement for a home they were building at the end of the old barn. We talked with them anxiously, sometimes in broken German and English, and much of the time through our guide. The young man disappeared, at his father's bidding, to speed away on his bicycle to get his mother.

Soon she arrived. She said she remembered us and told of a number of American soldiers who had broken down a swing in the courtyard because too many of them tried to sit in it at the same time. Ralph and I recalled the incident but could scarcely bring ourselves to believe anything. She also told Ralph through our guide how a neighbor had tattled to authorities about the killing of the pig, an illegal act without governmental approval; how the local constable appeared to investigate; and how her mother had bribed the man by sending him home with a hindquarter.

Eventually she also told us that her mother—the woman who had befriended us—had died in 1948. Then she and her sister were left to fend for themselves as their father had been killed in France during the war.

It developed that she was one of two small girls, daughters of the woman who owned the farm; girls we had not known about in 1945!

## "Halle, Germany - Revisited "

Shortly the second woman arrived from Delitzsch. She, too, remembered us. One mentioned that they often wondered about the 18 Americans who had hidden in their barn. That made believers of us, for we had mentioned to no one, including our guide, that there had been 18 of us in Selben. When we left Halle we had numbered 20, the number each of us use to this day when we speak of 1945.

Our meeting ended after they invited us into their home to meet a daughter and show pictures as we all stuffed ourselves with cake, rolls, jam, head cheese, and cookies which only Germans could produce on such a spur of the moment!

That evening in Halle, after our guide had gone home, Ralph and I were too excited to eat. Despite doctors orders, we and our wives each had a couple of drinks as we composed letters of thanks to the general manager of the present factory and to the family in Selben.

### Day Three

The next day was somewhat anticlimactic for us all. We drove to Mühlberg, crossing the Elbe River by ferry. At Mühlberg, we were met by the assistant director of the local museum who opened the museum for us so we could view exhibits having to do with Stalag IV-B which had been located nearby. Later she took us to the prison site itself. Stalag IV-B is now mostly woods. When we knew it, there were few if any trees. The Russians imprisoned thousands of German troops there after World War II ended. Many died and the Russians made no effort to keep the place intact. As a result, now only one foundation of a barracks and a latrine remain. The Germans have made it into a park and have numerous memorials to their dead. A



l/r: Hal Taylor and Ralph Bean by the Stalag IV-B Memorial Marker, Mühlberg, Germany

mass grave and statue honor the dead of many nations who died at Stalag IV-B.

Before we returned to Halle, we also visited Torgau and saw where our troops met the Russians on the Elbe River. A beautiful memorial commemorates the event.

It was a trip both Ralph and I shall always remember, a special trip for each of us, sharing experiences again as we had in those dark days of '44 and '45.

*Hal Taylor*



**51st Annual Reunion**  
**106th Infantry Division Association**



**Sheraton Music City Hotel**  
**Nashville, Tennessee**  
**(615) 885-2200**

**August 29 - September 2, 1997**

**OFFICIAL PROGRAM**

**Thursday, August 28, 1997 - 1 - 8 PM - Registration**

**Friday, August 29, 1997**

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
9:00 AM - 9:00 PM  
9:00 AM - 12 Noon  
Lunch on your own  
1:00 PM - Till ?  
6:30 PM or 9:30 PM

Early Bird Arrivals  
Registration (Plantation Lobby)  
Hospitality Open (Plantation Lobby)  
Optional - Music City Tour (3 hours)  
Optional - Jack Daniels Tour & BBQ  
Optional - Grand Ole Opry Tour  
(1st or 2nd show) (Bus)

**Saturday, August 30, 1997**

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Lunch on your own  
Anytime  
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM  
2:15 PM - 5:00 PM  
5:30 PM - 8:30 PM  
9:30 PM - Till ?

Official Reunion Opening  
Registration (Plantation Lobby)  
Hospitality Open (Plantation Lobby)  
Tour Nashville on your own  
Memorial Service (Hermitage Ballroom)  
Old Board Meeting (Cheekwood Boardroom)  
Reception/Buffer (Hermitage Ballroom)  
Optional - Grand Ole Opry Tour (2nd show) (Bus)

**Sunday, August 31, 1997**

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM  
On Call  
Anytime  
9:00 AM - 9:00 PM  
12 Noon - 3:00 PM  
12 Noon - 3:00 PM  
3:30 PM - 5:30 PM  
Dinner on your own

Continental Breakfast (Hermitage Ballroom)  
Registration  
Church of your choice  
Hospitality Open (Plantation Lobby)  
Men's Luncheon & Business Meeting (Hermitage)  
Ladies Luncheon (Tulip Grove Ballroom)  
New Board Meeting (Cheekwood Boardroom)

**Monday, September 1, 1997**

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM  
On Call  
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
9:30 AM - Till ?  
Lunch on your own  
6:00 PM - Till ?

Breakfast (Buffet) (Hermitage Ballroom)  
Registration  
Hospitality Open (Plantation Lobby)  
Optional - Opryland Theme Park Tour  
(U-Drive or Our Bus)  
Banquet (Hermitage Ballroom)

**Tuesday, September 2, 1997**

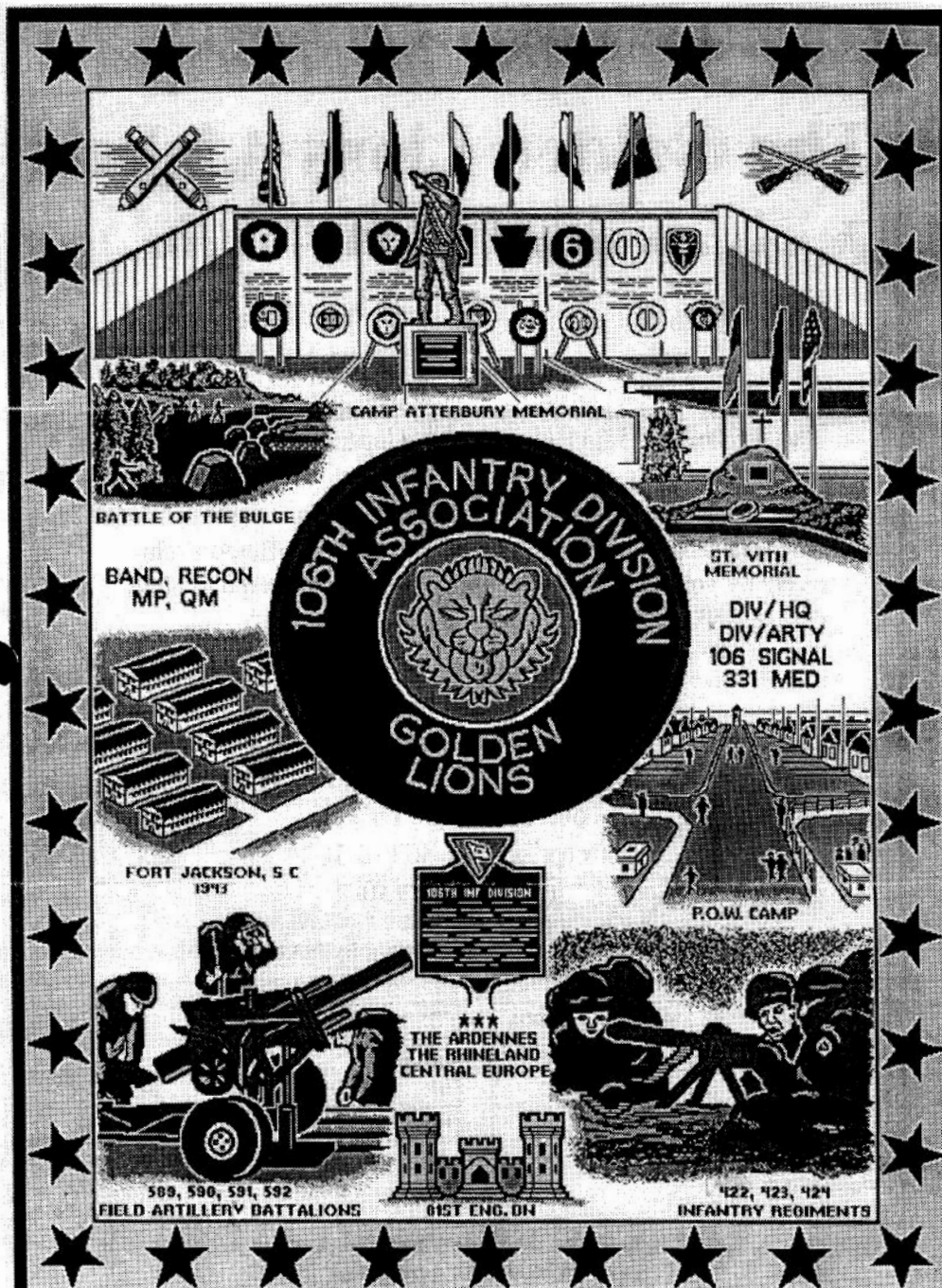
6:30 AM - 9:30 AM

Continental Breakfast & Farewell (Hermitage BR)

**TURN IN BADGES**

# "Order a Golden Lion Afghan"

50" X 65", 100% Pre-washed Cotton, machine washable - Made in USA  
See Order Blank next page



50" X 65", 100% Pre-washed Cotton, machine washable - Made in USA  
See Order Blank next page

**"Order a Golden Lion Afghan"**

# Afghan Order Blank

*The 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Association proudly presents...*

## **The Golden Lions Afghan**

*Featuring historical and battlefield landmarks:*

- Ft. Jackson, SC
- St. Vith Memorial
- P.O.W. Camp
- Camp Atterbury Memorial
- The Battle of the Bulge
- Major Unit Designations
- The Ardennes, The Rhineland & Central Europe Campaigns

This beautiful custom afghan will be a treasured gift of World War II (Europe) history and remembrance. It is offered exclusively by your Association for only \$ 46.50 delivered in Nashville or \$ 53.00 shipped to your address in the U.S.A.

*Send check or money order to:*

**The Golden Lions Afghan**  
c/o John O. Gilliland  
605 Northside Drive  
Enterprise, AL 36330-1024  
(334) 347-7730

100% pre-washed cotton, machine washable, 50" x 65", made in the USA by Riddle Manufacturing, Inc.

QTY	AFGHAN COLOR	PRICE	TOTAL
	NAVY, DARK GOLD AND NATURAL	\$46.50	
		MERCHANDISE TOTAL	
		SHIPPING	
		TOTAL ORDER	

NAME:		
MAILING ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
PHONE NUMBER:		

Method of Payment:  
Checks made payable to: The Golden Lion's Afghan

Thank you for your order!

## **CUT and SEND with Check**





Registration Form
106th Infantry Division Association
51st Annual Reunion
Nashville, Tennessee

August 29 - September 2, 1997

Please Print

Name LAST FIRST MI

Address Phone No.

City State Zip

Unit (Regt., Bn., Etc.) Co. or Battery

Spouse First Name

or Guest(s) Full Name

Date & Mode of Arrival

Attended Previous Reunion Yes No

Airline Flight No. Arrival Time

Table with 3 columns: Item, Price, Total. Rows include Registration Fee, Spouse Registration Fee, Guest(s) Registration Fee, Opryland Theme Park, Round Trip Bus, Grand Ole Opry (6:30 Fri, 9:30 Fri, 9:30 Sat), Jack Daniels Tour/BBQ (Fri), Music City Tour (Fri).

TOTAL REGISTRATION FEE \$

\* TAKE ADVANTAGE OF REDUCED RATES BY SENDING YOUR RESERVATION AND MONEY NLT 1 JUNE 1997 - PRICE INCLUDES ROUND TRIP BUS TRANSPORTATION

All monies & registration must be received by August 1, 1997.

Make check payable to: 106th Infantry Division Reunion

Mail to: John O. Gilliland, Chairman
605 Northside Drive
Enterprise, Alabama 36330-1024

**EXTRAVAGANZA TALENT NEEDED**

We need all kinds of talent for the "106th Extravaganza"

Please volunteer YOUR TALENT when sending in your Reunion Registration

We are planning on your TALENT to present a Grand EXTRAVAGANZA.

We need TALENT and a Master of Ceremonies



# **American Airlines official airlines for Golden Lions**

**AMERICAN AIRLINES DISCOUNTS TICKETS  
TO NASHVILLE**

The AMERICAN AIRLINES has been designated the Official Airline for  
THE GOLDEN LION'S 51st ANNUAL REUNION, NASHVILLE 1997

For discounted fares, call The AMERICAN AIRLINES MEETINGS SERVICE DESK  
1-800-433-1790 and give the AGENT "Star File #S 0987LA"

If you call YOUR TRAVEL AGENT, advise them that A 09817LA must appear in the  
TOUR CODE BOX and "Valid on AA Only" must appear in the Endorsement Box.

- PARKING -** Free at hotel (includes RV - no hook-up)  
Opryland - \$4.00
- HOTEL REGISTRATION -** Directly with hotel including cancellations (cut-off  
*Phone (615) 885 -2200* August 1, 1997) One Day deposit guarantee required.  
*Fax (615) 871-0926*
- HOTEL RATES -** \$ 84 plus tax for single or double  
\$ 94 plus tax for triple & quad  
\$150 Executive rooms  
\$500 Presidential Suite
- REUNION REGISTRATION -** Forms for reunion registration will be published in Cub and mailed separately to each member. Registration and cancellation cut-off August 1, 1997. Refunds, after cut-off, will be dependent upon funds remaining after all bills are paid. Members are encouraged to stay at The Host Hotel, Sheraton, which enables the membership to get more "freebies". Please send in your reservations early which helps us to give you better service and more for your money.
- TRANSPORTATION -** FREE Hotel airport shuttle and other areas (check with hotel tour desk). We furnish them Airline arrival and departure time. \$8.00 round trip to theme park and/or Opry.
- COMPLIMENTARY -** Snacks & drinks in Plantation Lobby furnished by hotel. 5-Hotel room upgrades awarded during Orlando Reunion. 15% discount to members who are guests in the hotel, at "The Apples in the Field" Restaurant, for any meal in their dining room.
- OPTIONAL TOURS -** Tickets purchased in advance for optional events, listed  
Appr. Week-end and Holiday Rates on your registration form, will be considerably cheaper than if you buy them after you arrive in Nashville. Other activity tickets may be purchased at the hotel tour desk at regular price.
- OTHER TOURS -** Most half day tours are \$30.00 per person.  
General Jackson Showboat has AM-Noon & Evening tours priced \$30.00 per person.  
Opryland Theme Park priced \$32.00 - \$43.00 per person. (U-drive).  
Grand Ole Opry priced \$19.00 per person (6:30 & 9:30 shows - Friday & Saturday only). (U-drive).  
Nashville On Stage priced \$25.00 per person, depending upon personality appearing.  
Wildhorse Saloon (check with tour desk) \$5.00.  
Ryman Auditorium priced \$6.00 per person (check with tour desk).  
Boat trip from Opryland to downtown priced \$12.00 per person.  
Other Activities (check with hotel tour desk).
- MEALS INCLUDED -** Reception buffet, luncheon (ladies & men), buffet breakfast, 2 Continental breakfasts, banquet and snacks.

## New Members ...

---

**ABBOTT, CALVIN 589/A**

110 FOWLER ROAD  
SIMPSONVILLE, SC 29861

---

**ARNDT, KENNETH E. 592/C**

318 MOHAWK  
JANESVILLE, WI 53545

---

**AVEDISION, KACHADOR****ASSOCIATE (28th Infantry Division)**

84 ARMINGTON ST.  
CRANSTON, RI 02905

(Editor's Note - Kachador, we have a couple more 28th Infantry Division members in our Associate member group. Bill Johnson, 110 Infantry and William Haug, B Company, 112th Infantry. Thanks for your support. I understand that you attended the New Jersey "Mini-Reunion." New Jersey has been a winner for several years ... J. Kline)

---

**BETHEA, CHARLES A. LIFE****ASSOCIATE**

126 WOODCREEK ROAD  
DARLINGTON, SC 29532-4229  
803-395-0161

(Editor's Note - Please see the feature story in this issue of Charles and his mother returning to the grave of Captain James L. Manning, 423rd Cannon Company, KIA at Bleialf, 16 December 1944... J. Kline)

I escorted my mother, Florence Bethea, on a long awaited trip to visit her brother's grave in the American Cemetery at Henri-Chapelle, Liege, Belgium, during the Thanksgiving Holidays. This trip allowed my mother, my wife, and me to pay our respects to the late Captain James L. Manning, 423rd Cannon Company, who is buried there.

Janice and I have three grown children, Ellen, Ben and Lynn. I am a Production Operator and Janice is a school teacher. We both are looking forward to retirement in the not too distant future when we can take a longer tour of the Belgium area.

I am a veteran and a dedicated runner, having served in the U.S. Navy from 1963-1969. I am a plank owner of the USS Truxtun, CGN-35 which provided plane guard detail for aircraft carriers in the Tonkin Gulf. We were part of the initial response to the USS Pueblo Crisis.

I must give credit to my nephew, Robert W. Squires, Jr. for introducing me to the 106th, by his discovering the 106th Infantry Division Associa-

tion Website on the Internet. John Kline has been just great. I now have a tape of *The Battle of St. Vith* and a new edition of *St. Vith: Lion in the Way*. My e-mail address is: cab1943@conterra.com.

---

**FERGUSON, RICHARD C. 590/HQ**

289 G NEW HAVEN AVE  
MILFORD, CT 064060  
203-882-8574

I was a T/4 in Hq's Btry. I served in Fire Control for the 105 Howitzers. When we got into combat I was put on a 30 day trial for a direct field commission as a forward observer. We were observing from the Siegfried line when the Germans hit us. I was captured, with many others, on 19 December 1944. We were locked in box-cars, 65 to a car, for 9 days. We were bombed once by English Mosquito bombers who were targeting an oil refinery. I was in Stalag 12-A, 4-B, 3-B and 3-A. I lost 98 pounds from my normal 185 pounds. We were on several forced marches where I froze my feet. We were liberated by the Russians and had trouble getting back to American lines. I attended the Univ. Of Bridgeport on the GI Bill, taking 10 years of night study for an M.E. Degree. I went an additional five years of night taking Electrical Engineering.

I then headed up a department on numerically controlled machines for the Moore Special Tool Company. I did extensive world traveling in fulfilling that job.

I have two daughters, both school teachers, each with two children. Emma, my wife, and I will be Great Grand Parents around next March 1997. I studied oil painting under a local adult class for two years. I am also a golf-nut and play three times a week, even though I have had total knee joint replacements in both knees. I work out at the local Spa four times a week.

---

**GOLDFINGER, IRWIN N. 424/K**

3 DORAL GREENS DRIVE W  
RYE BROOK, NY 10573  
914-934-7616

(Editor's Note - Another 106th veteran because of my Website <http://www.mm.com/user/jpk>)

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**Guthrie, Todd ASSOCIATE**

20 Buck Trail  
Newnan, GA 30265  
770-304-3358

Please sign me on as an Associate member. I have been corresponding with John Kline by e-mail and

ne agreed to sponsor my membership.

I am an amateur historian and study many aspects of World War II. I am interested in obtaining personal accounts of those men that were there.

(Editor's Note - Todd's e-mail address is mtguthrie@aol.com .Please respond to Todd's plea for personal experiences, either by e-mail or regular mail. Let the history live on.... J. Kline)

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### **HOINASH, LADONNA ASSOCIATE**

11 RAYMOND STREET  
ENGLEWOOD CLIFFS, NJ 07632

(Editor's Note - LaDonna is the widow of the late William Hoinash, Division Headquarters who passed away in 1990. LaDonna, thank you for joining the Association, we have a fine group of Associate members... J. Kline).

---

### **HOUSE, JR., PETER ASSOCIATE**

5446 FLORAL AVE  
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32211  
904-725-1097

I am the son of Adjutant, Pete House, 106th Infantry Division Association

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### **JOHNSON, EDWARD J. 424/ICN**

11411 NORTH 114TH DR  
YOUNGSTOWN, AZ 85363  
602-974-4763

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### **Johnston, W. Wesley**

#### **LIFE ASSOCIATE**

231 Market Place #113  
San Ramon, CA 94583  
510-833-2479

Please write up another member, thanks to the World-Wide Web Page of that remarkable fellow, John Kline. My e-mail: WWJohnston@aol.com

I am the son of Walter George Johnston, Jr. of Anti-Tank Platoon, Company B, 38th Armored Infantry Battalion, 7th Armored Division.

I have interests in 1) My Dad's Story; 2) 38AIB Story; Battle of the Bulge - I was there in December 1994 viusiting St. Vith and Schönberg.

I have a Home Page on the World Wide Web, about the 7th Armored Division, and my father. The URL is: <http://members.aol.com/dadswar>.

(Editor's Note - Wesley has page after page of information about the Bulge, the 7th Armored and Ship's Crossings, including those used by the 106th. Go to his Home Page for an education. Thanks for all your help, Wesley. J. Kline)

---

### **JONES, HOWARD W. 81st ENGA**

1005 KINGS WAY  
NEKOOSA, WI 54457

Sherod, I am glad to get back with the Association. I was with the Division from Activation to De-Activation. I served in the 81st Engineers Combat Battalion in H&S Company, then later in "A" Company, to the action at St. Vith where I was taken prisoner on the 18th of December 1944.

---

### **LEW, KIA M. 590/A**

3232 HONEYSUCKLE LN  
LARGO, FL 34641  
813-581-2480

I am sponsoring a membership for Kia A. Lew, and his wife- Jane, of the 590th FAB and would like a copy of *The CUB of the Golden Lion* sent to him.

---

### **MOSS, COL. RICHARD A. 589/A**

3264 HOMESTEAD DRIVE  
GRANGER, IA 50109-8018  
515-999-2727

I was trained as Infantry at Camp Robinsin, Arkansas. Joined Btry A, 589th FAB as a Corporal, separated Oct 1945, Reenlisted October 1945. I served with the 3d Cavalry 1945-46, Sergeant; transferred to Service and Supply, January 1947; Advance to Sergeant Major and discharged April 1951 to accept a commision in the Quartermaster Corps.

I served as a Battalion Supply Officer, transferred to Transpotation 1959 (Army Aviation) and was one of two Aviation S-4s for a year, Wrote Aviation Supply Doctrine and Procedures for 37 months - Aviation Supply Advisor for 16 more years; Transferred to Staff Operations as Logistics Officer and Planner.

Developed and taught Identification of ? Waste and Abuse at Indtructional Level. Developed DA Program for Training Ammunition Management Information (TAMIS). Retired Seotember 1981 as Colonel - 37 years of Service. I was Chief of Security, Large Shopping Center for 10 years (Retiring 1991). I enjoy bowling, golf, yard work, woodworking, Legion Post Commander (6 years), Past District Commander, currently County Commander and Memorial Monument Representative. Treasurer 34th Inf Div Association - 26yrs: Sec/Tres 34th Inf Div Association - 4 yrs; Volunteer, Gold Star Museum, Camp Dodge, Iowa - 5 Yrs; Married 51 yrs, 3 sons, 1 daughter and 6 Gandchildren.

## New Members ...

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### **NASH, DAVID E. ASSOCIATE**

9026 44 CT NW  
SUNRISE, FL 33351-5336

My father was David E. Nash, Jr. 424th Infantry, HHC 2BN. I was born 21 April 1948 - I am a retired CW3, U. S. Army QM. Served from June 1968 - July 1988. Vietnam 69-70; Fort Knox 70-71; Stuttgart, Germany 71-74; University of Miami 74-76; Munich, Germany 76-79; Fort Hood, Texas 79-82; Mannheim, Germany 82-84; Darmstadt, Germany 84-85; Nürnberg, Germany 85-87; Fort Benning, Georgia 87-88; Currently Purchasing Agent with the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida. I am married with no children. Hobbies: Golf, Photography and Woodworking.

---

### **RAMM, DON E. 423/HQ**

303 INDIANA AVE  
SANDUSKY, OH 44870-5755  
419-625-8280

Served six years in the regular army, four years in the reserves. Discharges as Sergeant First Class. I have four children and six grandchildren. I retired in 1984 from The Columbia Gas System as Manager of Corporate Safety and Security.

---

### **RIGGS, RORY ASSOCIATE**

65 RAILROAD AVE % BIOMATRIX  
RIDGEFIELD, NJ 07657

I am the son of Colonel Thomas J. Riggs, Jr - former CO of the 81st Engineers Combat Battalion.

---

### **SATRANG, RUSSELL G. 424/D**

2844 BRUNSWICK AVE S  
SAINT LOUIS PARK, MN 55416-1821  
612-929-6523

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### **SCHOECK, RICHARD J. 106 SIG**

232 DAKOTA ST  
LAWRENCE, KS 66046  
913-841-6008

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### **SQUIRES, JR., ROBERT W. ASSOCIATE**

PO BOX 23906  
SALAT, 1300, KUWAIT

(Editor's Note - See the article in this CUB entitled Honoring *Captain James L. Manning, 423rd Cannon Company* Rob has been with the Kuwait Ministry of Finance as a Manager of Computer Resources. He will be leaving that position for an appointment in the USA soon. He contacted me after

seeing the information I have on my Web Pages on the Internet. He explained that his Great Uncle was Captain Manning and That Charles Bethea (see Bethea's membership announcement elsewhere in this column) was his Uncle. I'll let you read the story for the rest. Rob, it has been an exciting chain of events that has happened since we met in May 1996. Thank you for honoring us by joining as an Associate member. I am happy that Captain Manning's sister, Florence Bethea and her son and daughter-in-law were able to make it to Henri-Chapelle over Thanksgiving Holiday. It is too bad that you were not able to go. I hope you have that opportunity soon. I have given you several contacts in that area that could be useful to you when you do travel to that beautiful country. Looking forward to many more contacts with you via e-mail... J. Kline)

---

### **STEWART, SAMMY B. 423/A**

PO BOX 111  
HUGHESTON, WV 25110  
304-442-2086

---

### **TIMMONS, DONNAL 422/HQ**

2003 WYCLIFFE  
HOUSTON, TX 77043  
713-464-1732

Sherod, It was a pleasure to talk with you. If there are any back copies of The CUB, I would appreciate receiving them. Today (10 December) is the 52nd Anniversary of our arrival on the front. How time flies!!!

---

### **VISCUSO, GENNERO J. 424/M**

3A TOWNSEND AVE  
NEW HAVEN, CT 06512  
203-468-6827

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### **WARD, COL JOHN M. LIFE ASSOCIATE**

527 Bellvue Place  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
703-836-4634  
e-mail: jams100@aol.com

I am currently an active duty Colonel assigned to HQDA, ODCSPER and the son of John T. Ward, 422/A. I have been trying to convince dad to join the Association. I have been in touch with John Kline through his Web Page for several months. He has given me lists of my father's former comrades and other information about the 106th and the Association.

(Editor's Note- Colonel, it is always nice to hear from you. Thanks for supporting us... J. Kline)

## 106th Infantry Division Association Mini-Reunions - 1996

*President Major Hill*

The following pages show photos and reports from the 1996 December 16th Mini-Reunions held throughout the United States. We wish to thank those that played a part in organizing these get-togethers for the members of the 106th Infantry Division. Many of those who cannot attend the annual reunions have an opportunity through these wonderful parties to enjoy the camaraderie of their fellow veterans.

It is obvious that good will among the men and their wives and guests prevail during these events. We hope that if you that did not attend a local Mini-Reunion that you make note of the address and telephone number of this year's sponsor. Call them and join in the spirit next year when they will once again be held. If this year's sponsor is not organizing the next one, they can tell you who is.

If you would like to sponsor a "Get-Together," address labels of Association members in your area are available from Association Adjutant, Pete House and/or CUB Editor, John Kline.

Next Year's Mini-Reunions will be listed in the Aug-Sep-Oct 1997 issue of *The CUB*.

The Board of Directors feel that the December 16th Mini-Reunions will, in time because of our age, supplement and later replace the annual reunions. Thank you all for participating and a special thanks to you that sponsored these events. You are special people.

*Major Hill, President, 106th Infantry Division Association 1996-1997*

### **From Before the Veterans Die**

a book of poems  
by Dale Carver,  
424/HQ 3Bn



*We were there, that winter long ago.  
We survived; many of our comrades fell.  
Twin enemies were the weather and the foe -  
the never-ending cold and the bursting shell.  
Conceived of this ordeal of fire and icy earth  
this brotherhood of old men came to be;  
a kinship stronger far than that by birth  
was born when we were young, across the sea.  
Of the ties that bind, others cannot know,  
but we were there, that winter long ago....*



### **Southern California Area - 1996**

**Milton Weiner, 424/M 28121 Ridgethorne Court, Rancho Palos Verde, CA 90275 Tele: 310- 544-0470**

As usual we started by reading 424th/HQ 3BN's Dale Carver's *MY FIRST REUNION*. This will always be appropriate any and every reunion. Winston Churchill was quoted "This is undoubtedly the greatest American battle of the war and will, I believe, be regarded as an ever famous American Victory." This was Churchill addressing the House of Commons following the Battle of the Bulge. Our 1996 meeting was the Tenth Annual Southern California Bulge Commemoration.

All 18 enjoyed the dinner, the fellowship, and the memories of *When We Were Young Across The Sea*. In 1997, we are scheduled for 7 December at 1:00 P.M. Please write or call to be added to the mailing list.

Present on December 8, 1996 were: William DeBlase and Tonic, 106 MP; Dick Erbes, 423/HQ; Robert & Jeanette Josephs, 422/HQ; Cliff & Sarah Kincannon, 590/HQ; Joseph & Ann Litvin, 423/D; Neil Mahoney, 590/HQ; Robert & Mary Lou Marsh, 423/D; Edward & Evelyn Nelson; Milton & Bella Weiner, 424/M; James & Aki Yamazaki, 590/MED







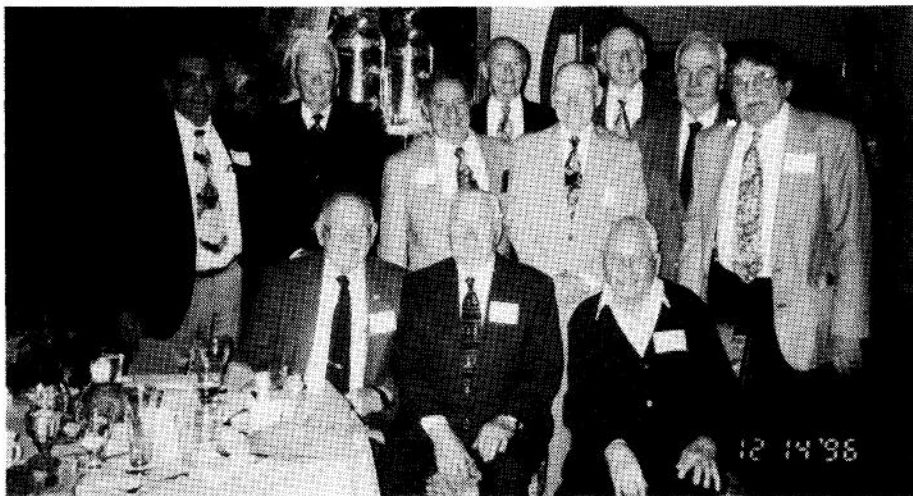
### **Madison, Wisconsin Area - 1996**

**Chuck Rieck, 424/H, 7316 Voss Pkwy, Middleton, WI 53562 Tele: 608-831-6110**

The Wisconsin 8th annual commemorative meeting of the *Battle of the Bulge* was held at CJ's East in Madison, Wisconsin on October 26, 1996. We had 40 people in attendance.

**Attending were:** m/m Ed Wojahn; Dr/M Eugene Rodd; m/m James Tetzlaff; m/m Jerome Miller; m/m Chuck Rieck; m/m Henry Wittenberg; m/m Lawrence Post; m/m Edward Dorn; m/m Joe Broderick; m/m Roger Kane; Pete Di Benardo; Ms Nina Spenle; Victor Fuchs; Ms Marie Estes; m/m Albert March; m/m Edmund Polaski; Richard Prendergast; John Mueller; Walt Donaldson; m/m Edward Nagle; Mr. Donald Handel; m/m Edward Bastien; Mr. Milo Cunningham; Mr. Ralph Moore; m/m Howard Jones. Jerome Miller brought two video tapes of the 50th Anniversary of the *Battle of the Bulge*, sponsored by the Veteran's of the *Battle of the Bulge* in St. Louis Missouri in December 1994. The photographer was Larry Post. The next group action, 1997's meeting will be held on October 25 at same place - CJ's East, in Madison, Wisconsin.





## Connecticut Area - 1996

**Richard J. Brax, 14 Porter Street, Quaker Hill, CT 08375-1516 Tele: 204-443-1685**

Our Mini-Reunion was held at The Bella Fiore Restaurant at Norwich, Connecticut on Sunday 15 December 1996 at 1:00 pm. Twenty three people attended. We had dinner then introductions. A wonderful group. **In attendance were:** Kachadore Berberian; Richard Brax; Benjamin Britton; Hazel & Norwood Frye; Jim & Michael Gruce; Maurice Holladay; Daniele Holland, Jr.; Walter Pawluck; Clayton Rice; Raymond & Ann Russell and Charles Sartori.

Best Wishes and a Happy New Year to all. *Richard and Rosalie Brax -*



## Baltimore Area

**John R. Schaffner, 589/A, 11811 Miller Road, Cockeysville, MD 21030-1013 Tele:**

On 17 December 1996 members of the Association from the area of Maryland, District of Columbia and Virginia assembled at Haussner's Restaurant in Baltimore for their Second Annual Mini-Reunion and extraordinary nice luncheon. There were 32 attending. Having these affairs locally was a great idea. More of us have become acquainted than we would otherwise have. Some left early, not in photo.

**Attending:** Ralph & Mrs. Barnes, 423/E; Clark & Mrs. Dovell, 422/M; Philip & Jean Hannon, 81/A; William Helmet, 424/H; Alan & Lynn Jones, 423/HQ 1Bn; Malcolm & Ann Lord, 424/F; Roland & Oda Martin, 424/I; Richard & Mrs. Parker, 589/A; Jack & Helen Sulser, 423/F; John Blodgett & his driver, 423/I; David & Arline Ford, Associates; Richard Hartman 590/?; William Johnson, 424/K; Kathryn (K2) & Ray Kemp Assciates; Oliver Lothrop, 423/B; Edward McGinty, 589/C; N.W. Reid, 424/M; Walter Snyder, 589/A Charles Wehner, a friend of the 106th.



**Detroit, Michigan Area - 1996**

Russell Mayotte, 424/F, 9628 Cavelle St., Livonia, MI 48150 Tele: 313-421-4059

All pictures Left to Right:

**Men - Back Row:** Lou Passarillo; Frank Ross; Bob Rowe; John Gillespie; Jim Fonda and John Roberts

**Men - Middle Row;** Bill LeClair; Harold Ortwine; Tony Rand; Bob Rutt and John Shalhoub

**and Marshal Wenslow Men -Front Row: Russ Mayotte; Paul Waslyon; Bill Trojan and Andy Mato**

**Ladies - Back Row:** Mary Lou Roberts; Ann Frankini; Shirley Gillespie; Lee Rowe; Marge Obed; Trody Bileti and Ruth Rand.

**Ladies -Middle Row:** Furne LeClair; Diane & Marge Karth; Pauline Mato; Mary Jane Fonda and Betty Passariello. **Ladies Front Row: Jean Schutte**



# 1996 December 16th Mini-Reunions...



## New Jersey Area - 1996

Carl Messina, 81st ENG/A, 926 Seymour Ave, Linden, New Jersey 07036-2942; Tele: 908-486-2927

On November 16, 1996 the New Jersey group met. We had 68 coming 14 cancelled out - for various reasons.

**ATTENDING:** Sal/Rachel Avantagiato; Dr. Harry/Betsy Baird, 81/Med; William/Miriam Blaher, 422/A; Jacques/Jean Bloch, 422/K; Fred/Betty Carr, 81/C; Raymond Creamer, 589/SV; Floyd/Marie Elston, 589/A; Jane Elston; Carlos SierrA; Roy/Wanda Fava, 81/C; Sal/Mary Grasso, 423/SV; Ladonna Hoinash; Charles Kortland, 106 MP; Howard Kushner, 422/L; Joseph/Dorothy Krafchic, 331 Med/Hq; Vincent/Artoinette Locorcio, 423/M; Jack/Anne McDevitt, 81/A; William/Florence Melichar, 423/SV; Eugene/Neve Powell, 422/A; Ralph Richter, 331/Med; Sal/Grace Scalzo, 422/Med; Irving/Rhoda Schrom, 423/A; Ken/Marion Schuetz, Div/Hq; John/Grace Starmack, 423/SV; Joe/Dorothy Scotti, 423/B; Myron/Janice Snack, 422/HQ; Vince/Muriel Sziber, 81/C; Dr. Duncan/Grace Trueman, 424/AT; Paul/Lucille Werkmeister, 422/Med; Ed/Catherine Wurst, 422; Carl/Alice Messina, 81/A; Ed Slotkin, 422/CN; Charles Laphan, 592/SV; John Uveges, Jr., 424/SV; Frank Capalbo, 81/HQ' Dr. Henry Immes, 423/C; Thomas J. Riggs, Jr, 81st ENG/HQ and Rory Riggs (Tom Rigg's son)





### Texas Area - 1996

**Ted N. & Beth Jones, (423/C) 4646 Mill Creek Rd, Dallas, TX Tele: 972-239-8795**

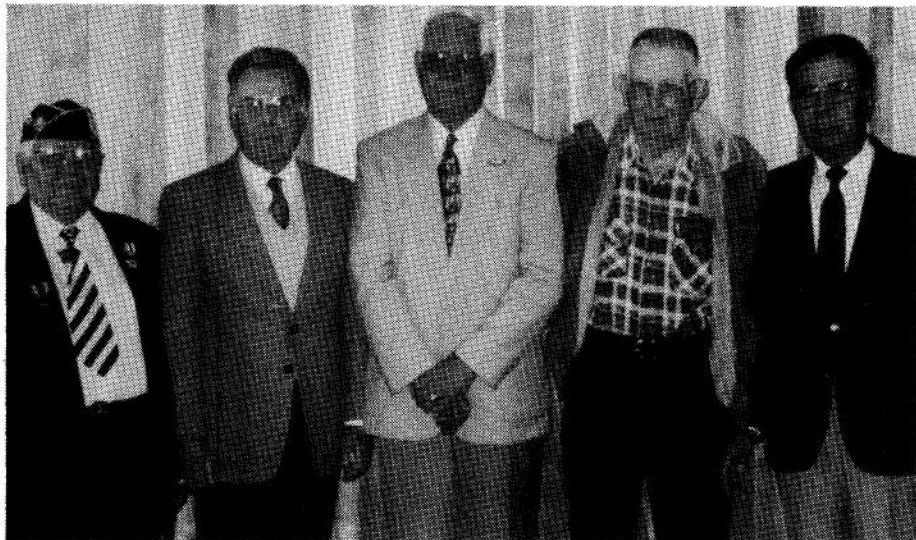
On 14 December, ten members of the 106th and four guests met at the Steak & Ale Restaurant in Dallas, Texas to observe the 52nd Anniversary of the *Battle of the Bulge*. I regret to report that George W. Stephens, 424/H passed away in March 1996.

**Men - Back l/r:** Ted Jones, 423/C; Col/ John W. Miller, 423/E; Douglas Morgan, 424/G; Herb Stokes 422/HQ and Rueben Braden, 422/K

**Men - Front:** Charles F. Hunter, 422/Cannon; John Nesbit Jr., 424/F; William Yongst, 423/D; Jarry Wilson, 424/HQ and Hugh Colbert, 422/B.

**Ladies l/r:** Polly Hunter, Beth Jones and Waneta Morgan. In hope of better attendance for the 1997 Mini-Reunions, the state membership will be divided into North Texas and South Texas.





## **Albuquerque, New Mexico Area - 1996**

**Armando Velasquez, 424/K, 9616 Avenida De La Luna N.E., Albuquerque, NM 87111 505-821-8434**

We met for a Mini-Reunion at Shoney's at Eubank and Montgomery NE on 16 December 1996 for an enjoyable luncheon. At this time of year we see fit to meet with our comrades, wives and guests in remembrance of those no longer with us and to reminisce about those dark days.

**Men - l/r:** Louis Baca, 422/L; Ralph Nelson, 422/CN; Bill Albers, 424/I; Robert Soladay, 422/SV; and Armando Velasquez, 424/K.

**Guests - l/r:** Christine Lee; Tillie Baca; Margaret and Gabriel Velasquez; Suzann and Jordan Velasquez.





### **Mt. Vernon, Illinois Area - 1996**

**John Mikalauski, 424/H, Box 31 306 W. Blake, Benton, IL 62812 Tele: 618-439-3867**

On December 13th, a group of the 106th attended a reunion celebrating the Anniversary of the *Battle of the Bulge* at the Holiday Inn in Mt. Vernon, Illinois. We had 29 present, which included one guest, Bett Mardell. It was decided that the 1996 Anniversary Celebration be held on Friday, December 5, 1996.

**Men, back-row l/r:** Harold Bratton, Gene Williams, Al Kopatz, John Mikalauski, John Hohenstein, Bob York, Gene Saucerman, John Nuckles, George Bloomingburg. **Seated:** Glenn Hartlieb, Bill Daugherty, Ken Bradfield, Ray Vaughn **Kneeling** Ken Smith.

**Women, back-row l/r:** Pearl Nuckles, Nadine Hartlieb, Iona Hohenstein, Ida Kopatz, Annette Vaughn, Juanita Bloomingburg, Angela Daughert, Ferrol Bratton, Sally Saucerman. **Seated:** June Bradfield, Mary Smith, Dorothy Williams, Thelma York. **Kneeling:** Dolores Mikalauski.





## Washington, State of, Area - 1996

Fred Pilkington, 422/HQ, 510 N Waynes Ridge Circle, Camano Island, WA 98292 206-387-6063

Dateline 16 December 1996- The party was held at our home. Mary and I will be pleased to host the Washington Mini-Reunion in 1997.

### Seated at the table, left to right:

Ken Corrigan, 591/SV Betty Corrigan; Linda Strever, Associate; Fred Pilkington, 422/HQ; Ray Johnston, 423/H; Myrton Dickerson, 424/D; Jean and George Strong, 423/HQ. The cake speaks for itself. Photographer Mary Pilkington. We enjoyed our reunion of 106th friends and family.







### **Chicago, Illinois Area - 1996**

**Russell Villwock, 106th SIG, 8560 W Foster Ave, #510, Norridge, IL 60656-2772 (707) 452-8628**

The Chicago area members of the 106th Infantry Division Association had their Dinner on the 14th of December, this year.

With good drinks, a delicious dinner, fun games with prizes for those that came the farthest, and the closet, and as always, good fellowship. **Those attending were:**

Joan & Maynard Adolphson; Gordon Bigelow; Lorraine & William Brankin; Antone Costa; Lawrence Costa; Betty & Joe Dallman; Jackie & Andy Halusek; Evelyn & Major Hill; Hubert Hochstetter; Frank Hohendel; Betty & Kenneth Hunt; Stella & Thomas Kapsalis; Phyllis & Oliver Libman; Florence Lucsay; Ethel & Gilbert Marcus; Janie & Don McCarrone; Luella & Herbert Meagher; Carolyn & Bill Mitchell; Marie & Ray Panice; Evelyn & Leonard Richie; Sylvia & Ed Rydzinski; Arline & Milton Schober; Rosalie & Ted Swier and Jacki & Russell Villwock.





## **Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Area - 1996**

**Charlie & Nancy Datte, 591/SV, 231 Davis Ave, Clifton Heights, PA 19018 Tele 215-626-1866**

The Philadelphia Area Commemorative Dinner here in "Downtown" Clifton Heights was held December 15, 1996. We, Nancy and I, want to thank all those who attended for the Gift of their Presence as well as their financial support. It was an emotional and heart-warming experience to share this time with the "106th Family."

We really missed a few who were off on a week-end "Pass" - Lou Cunningham, 106 Recon; Jack and Anne McDevitt, 81/A; Ernest and Ruth Savage, 424/HQ, Stan Wojtusik, Jr., 422/G and our prayers and thoughts for Harvey Bradford, 424/SV (convalesant home) and his good wife, Ann. The good Lord willing, we'll be here again next year on December 14, 1997. Of course there is Nashville, Tennessee in August. **Attention!!** Service Battery, 591st FAB - **Load em Up and Move em Out - to Nashville.**

**MEN seated l/r:** J. Ansel, 423/AT; H. Albertson, 422/H; H. Whitehead, 81/A; C. Harvey, 424/A and N. Weiss, 423/HQ. **Standing:** R. Hoff, 422/M; B. Wislon, 591/SV; F. Vitali, 424/B, J. Bard, 423/I; C. Datte, 591/SV.

**WOMEN seated l/r:** M. Southam; M. Ansel; J. Hoff; Jessica; G. Albertson; B. Harvey. **Standing:** R. Weiss; M. Whitehead; M. Bard; N. Datte and M. Vitali.





### Reading, Pennsylvania Area - 1996

**John J. Gallagher, 81st ENG/C, 4003 Francis St., Temple, PA 19560 TELE: 610-929-2887**

The Reading Area held its annual Memorial Dinner, December 6, 1996 at the Dutch Colony Motor Lodge. There were 25 in attendance, with 14 for breakfast the next morning. Had a great time, lots of fellowship. We had a guest with us, a Lt Col who is a friend of mine. His Army career was 30 years, four at West Point and four in the White House. He secured for each of us a documentary: *Hitler: Watch on the Rhine*. The German story of the *Battle of the Bulge*, most interesting.

**Men seated 1/r:** Donald Showalter; Fred Carr; Carl Messina; Joe Scotti and Ralph Hill. **Standing:** Charles Datte; Jack McDevitt; Walter Shirk; Bill Harris; Guest Richard Barnett; Frank "Vince" Sziber.

**Ladies seated 1/r:** Muriel Sziber, Stella Gallagher; Lillian Harris and Erma Kowalski. **Standing 1/r:** Dot Scotti; Betty Carr; Anna McDevitt; Alice Messina; Robbi Showalter; Nancy Datte and Ida Frank



## 1996 December 16th Mini-Reunions...



### Northern California Area - 1996

**John Gregory, 424/E, 4624 Ashton Drive, Sacramento, CA 95864-6159 Tele: 916-481-3353**

We had a real warm meeting, enjoyed by all. Some traveled over one hundred miles. We met at "California Fats" in Old Sacramento. This was our seventh reunion, always on 16 December. The lunch was arranged by two ladies, Associate Elaine Epling and Lucile Johannes, wife of Walter J. Notably absent in photos is Elaine Epling, who excused herself to visit her husband, who was very ill at the time I wrote this.

**Present were:**

**Back Row l/r:** Walter Johannes; Jerry Eisenman; John Stauff; Charles Daniel; Wm Fowler; Edwa Prewett; Clarence Meltesen (Associate); Ed Dunn and Frank Nausin

**Front Row l/r:** Ruth Eisenman; Lucille Johannes; George Johnson; Terry Woods; Irene Daniel; Reddi Prewett; Shirley Gregory; John Gregory and Helen Meltesen.

I request that should I be called in reference to the Scholarship Fund, that should I not be reached, to call Jerry Eisenman at 415-756-8330.





### Alabama Area - 1996

**Joseph A. Massey, 422/C and Judge Walter G. Bridges, 424/D**

**% Massey - 4820 Spunky Hollow Rd, Remlap, AL 35133 Tele: 205-681-1701**

Dateline: 14 December 1996: The Commemorative December meeting of the 106th Infantry Division veterans of Alabama was held at *The Pioneer Cafeteria* in Birmingham, Alabama. It was a combined meeting with *Battle of the Bulge Group* in which 115 attended (combined). Sixteen were from the 106th. Also included is a photo of the *1997 Annual Reunion (Nashville) Committee* hard at work at the Massey residence preparing the mailing for the upcoming reunion.

**Above Seated l/r:** Barbara Bridges; Lee Gilliland; Goldie Kirkpatrick; Avis Bynum; Hazel Massey; Norma Temple and Mary Racster.

**Standing l/r:** Walter Bridges; John Gilliland; Dave Lacey; Paul Kirkpatrick; F.G. Bynum; Joe Massey; Will Temple and John Racster.

**Below, stuffing envelopes for Nashville, l/r:** Lee Gilliland; John Gilliland (standing); Barbara Bridges; Walter Bridges; Joe Massey (Hazel Massey made the pictures). **See you all in Nashville!**





## Atlanta Area - 1996

**Sherod Collins, 423/SV, 448 Monroe Trace, Kennesaw, GA 30144 Tele: 770-928-3207**  
**BATTLE OF THE BULGE DINNER**

A spirit of warm friendship was evident as a group of 106'ers gathered on Sunday afternoon, December 8, 1996 at Dobbins AFB Consolidated Open Mess in Marietta, Georgia.

Attendees enjoyed a feast of prime rib and chicken cordon bleu. **Present were the following:** J.B. /Martha Russell, 422/SV; Bob/Frankie Burkes, 424/HQ; Bob/Louise Howell, 424/HQ 2Bn; Jim/Maydean Wells, 81/C; Bill/Sandra Jenkins, 422/H; James Dickerson, 422/HQ 3Bn and guest Margaret Bond; Newt/Yvonne Mosely, 591/SV; Morris/Sandra Piha, 106 QM; Jack Williams, 424/B and guest Jim McMurtry; Sherod Collins, 423/SV and guest Martha Brocato.



# In Memoriam

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**Berthiaume, Dean A. 424/CN** 4638 Highway M-35, Escanaba, MI 48829

Robert de St Aubin, 424/CN reported Dean's death as November 20, 1996. My records show Genevieve, wife as survivor. The following was included in the announcement.

## After Glow

*I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one.*

*I'd like to leave an after glow of smiles when life is done.*

*I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways, of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days.*

*I'd like the tears of those who grieve, to dry before the sun of happy memories that I leave when life is done.*

**Buescher, James W. 423/L** 3501 Clark Lane #15, Columbia, MO 65202

The date of death as reported by the AX-POW magazine was October 13, 1996. Our records show Ruth as the surviving widow.

**Crawford, John D. 592/HQ** % Bobby Crawford, (Newpew) 6270 Bethlehem Road, Boones Mill, Virginia

Boby Crawford, Newpew reported his Uncle's death as of November 6, 1996.

He writes, "My Uncle John was a member of the 592/HQ. After graduation from Concord College in 1941 he joined the Army and was first in the 80th Infantry Division before he was transferred to the 106th.

After the war he returned back home to Roanoke and taught school in the Roanoke County School System until his retirement in 1988. He and his wife Mary had no children and I am his only living relative. Mary is now in a nursing home with Parkinson's Disease. He often talked of his experiences during the war and collected many films on the battle of the Bulge.

"I am grateful that he was able to make it to the 50th Anniversary Reunion in Roanoke, before his health failed entirely. Shortly after the reunion he was taken to the VA Medical Center in Salem."

**Smith, Frank E. 423/G** Route 1, Box 158, Rinard, IL, 62878

Frank's wife, Sue wrote that he had passed away on September 14, 1996

**Rudnick, Miron 422/E** 2284 Whitman Street, Clearwater, FL 34625

Death reported by Murrel Kelso, 422/E as approximately December 10, 1996

**Williams, Lewis B. Williams, Sr. 422/HQ** 1433 Wagener Trail Rd, Wagener, SC 42200

Lucille, Lewis' wife reports that he passed away on 26 December, 1996. He had been in a nursing home for over three years. He was one of the original members of the 106th Inf Div at Fort Jackson. He was a prisoner at Stags 9-B and 9-A.

He is survived by Lucille, his wife; three sons, Lewis Jr., Tom and David; a brother, Yank Williams; eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



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|--|--|



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