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THE IVY LEAVES

Official Publication of the National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association

North Central High School War Memorial

Spokane school honors heros



Spokane's North Cental High School hallway memorial reads "Men who have walked these halls and traded death for your freedom."

Information provided by John R. Tuft.

The North Central High School War Memorial consists of a large plaque and two display cases. The mahogany plaque and cast aluminum sculpture contains metal nameplates of those NC students who gave their lives in our nations wars and in other service related events. The display case on the right consists of personal biographies of the high school and military activities of these men. The display on the left is a memorial to Bruce Grandstaff who was awarded our nation's highest military award, the Medal of Honor.

Bruce Alan Grandstaff is the only person from Spokane ever to be awarded the Medal of Honor, the military's highest recognition of bravery. Bruce died in the Vietnam War skirmish that earned him this award.

Bruce was born in Spokane on June 2, 1934. He lived on Normandie Street and attended Garfield Grade School, which is where John Tuft met him in 1943, when both were in 4th grade.

While John was in the service, Bruce got jealous and expressed his sentiments in a very colorful letter. The following is a highly edited excerpt: "Hi John. Well I figured I had better write you. There's not much news except no jobs. Yesterday I got so ticked I almost joined the marines – think of that. What a miserable life I have been living – all I do is work and lie around. I'm telling you there just aren't any jobs. Maybe one of these days you'll be seeing me. Ha ha."

A short time later, he did join up and serve in the Army for 3 years, including a tour in Korea in 1956. Upon his return to Spokane, he spent several years working for a grocery outlet as a sales-



Bruce Alan Grandstaff's Medal of Honor hangs in a display case at the North Central High School War Memorial.

Bruce Alan Grandstaff is the only person from Spokane ever to be awarded the Medal of Honor, the military's highest recognition of bravery. Bruce died in the Vietnam War skirmish that earned him this award.

man and attending Eastern Washington State College.

As he and his wife started having children, Bruce rejoined the Army to make it his career. He had another tour in Korea and then went to Alaska, ending up at Fort Lewis with the 4th Infantry Division. It was this assignment that took him to Vietnam in the summer of 1966.

On May 2, 1967 at 6:10 p.m., Bruce wrote a letter to his parents. This letter carries a drastically different tone than that of his youth more than a decade before:



From the Editor...
Gregory A. Rollinger

4 years of "Ivy Leaves"

This is my 16th issue as Editor of The Ivy Leaves. It's hard to believe it has been 4 years since I took over this assignment from Frank Bradley. I guess we have made a lot of changes these past 4 years in both format and presentation. Hopefully they have been for the better. I appreciate all the articles and pictures you all have submitted for publication. Without your help, The Ivy Leaves would not be the quality publication it is today. Keep them coming.

September 2002 "Ivy Leaves" Deadline

The deadline for articles for the next issue is August 1, 2002.

National D-Day Memorial Foundation

The National D-Day Memorial Foundation, located in Bedford, Virginia, is actively seeking the personal reminiscences, diaries, journals, letters, and other items that reflect the individual experiences of the Allied Forces that took part in the invasion of Normandy on D-Day, June 6, 1944. Persons who served with any military, naval, or merchant sea element of the Allied Expeditionary Force on D-Day, and the days that followed as the Allies moved ashore and inland, are encouraged to place materials of that sort with the Foundation.

They will be safely preserved in the Foundation's Archives and serve as a central resource in the planned Research Library at the National D-Day Memorial, where the lessons and legacy of D-Day live on for future generations. The Foundation is also interested in supplementing those materials with unit histories, ship's logs, rosters, flight plans, after-action reports, general orders, maps and charts, etc. of military and naval elements that participated in D-Day.

If you are interested in having your materials, of either sort, becoming a permanent part of the National D-Day Memorial, please contact the Foundation at 202 E. Main Street, P.O. Box 77, Bedford, Virginia 24523, or call 1-800-351-3329. For additional information visit www.dday.org.



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Contributions and suggestions are welcome and should be sent to Gregory A. Rollinger, Ivy Leaves Editor, 13507 Danube Lane, Rosemont, MN 55068 <g.rollinger@gte.net>. Deadline for submission is the first day of the month prior to publication.



On the reunion front

Now is the time to confirm your reservations for the National Reunion in Spokane Washington if you haven't already done so. Bob Reilly and his team have been putting a lot of effort into this reunion and it should be a lot of fun. This will be the first year that we shouldn't have to worry about the heat of summer as we did in the past. Linda and I look forward to meeting all of our 4th Division friends and making new friendships in Spokane this September.

Travels

Linda and I traveled to the Illinois Chapter meeting in Danville Illinois the weekend of April 5-7th and had a great time. They had members from as far away as Nebraska attend and host Milton Crippin knows his county like the back of his hand and had all the information anyone needed to tour the area. We had a chance to go to Vermilion County War Museum and were impressed by the amount of military history and memorabilia that they have collected. We made many new friends including Bruce & Sue Gass who took lots of pictures which we can't wait to see. Of course Linda received a special gift from Buffalo Soldier Grant Jackson and his family. She was given a Buffalo Soldier polo shirt and jacket, she showed it off at the Wisconsin reunion and made everyone jealous. They didn't leave me out either. I received a 4th Division polo shirt and jacket, which I too showed off.

The weekend of April 19-21st found us at the Wisconsin chapter meeting in Madison Wisconsin for another great weekend with friends. The weekend of April 26-28th will

Roger Barton has announced his resignation as Executive Director of our Association effective September 2002. ... The hunt for a replacement has begun.

be spent with our friends in Biloxi, Mississippi for the Mid-South Chapter reunion. It will be good to get to some warm weather for a few days.

Business News

Roger Barton has announced his resignation as Executive Director of our Association effective September 2002. He has put in many years for this Association and feels it is time for a change. The hunt for a replacement has begun. Although the shoes will be hard to fill we are hoping someone will come forward and volunteer for the job. Roger will make sure his replacement is well informed and will assist any way he can. This position will take commitment, time and yes energy. With that said I'm sure someone will contact me before the National and step up to the plate.

Several other Association business items have come up since I took office, most of which are being handled by the Executive Board. I have received many phone calls and e-mails since July, I hope I have answered your questions or directed you to the right people.

Linda and I hope you all have a safe and fun summer and remember to wear your 4th Division patch proudly while attending your holiday parades and picnics. See you in Spokane.

Steadfast & Loyal
Roger R Dufek

WPA/Ohio Have Successful Spring Reunion

By Chuck Mckee

The Western PA and Ohio Chapters held their annual spring reunion in Meadville, PA over the weekend of May 17-19, 2002. The group attended a very fine performance of "Arsenic & Old Lace" on Friday evening. The local production was well received. During the WPA business meeting held on Saturday, the Chapter voted unanimously that the Executive Board should not purchase property in the Camp Gordon-Johnson area of Florida. The membership chose Butler, PA. for next year's reunion, selecting the Days Inn of Butler as the hotel location.

The same slate of officers were reelected: Pres: Keith McDougall, VP Alex Hamas; Sec/Treas Chuck McKee, with Richard Powell being re-appointed as Chapter Chaplain. On Saturday evening, the banquet was well attended, with the Flames of Remembrance conducted prior to the meal. After the well-prepared dinner, the group was entertained by the "LOLLIPOPS" a trio of very good young singers, doing a nice medley of patriotic songs.

The weekend ended with the break-away breakfast, with all wishing each other farewell until the fall reunion.

Those attending were: Don & Mildred Barie, Louis & Mary Berus, Victor & Zora Bonomi and their guests, Rev & Mrs. Clark; Cliff & Ginny Burk, John & Fannie Como, Harry Crocraft (1st timer), NJVP Ray Dunkel, Elmer & LaVonne Glenn, Curtis & Juanita Hall, Earl & Eleanor Jenkins, Leo & Marg Jereb, Al Kadlowec, Kim Kadlowec, and guest Don Wilme, Elmer & Stella Klaus, Clarence Lindsko, Patsy & Mary Mantini, Keith & Margaret McDougall, Chuck & Carol McKee, Sam & Liz McPherson, Charlie & Ruth Mignogna, Ray & Vicki Misch, George & Eleanor Peterman, John Pfister and guest Bernadette Woodside, Richard & Helen Powell, John & Mary Savanick, Rev Richard & Betty Thompson, Donald Vitous & son Timothy, Bill & Edith Wilson.

It Pays to Advertise

I wanted to share an idea that the Carolinas Chapter has been doing. We send news releases to area newspapers announcing our chapters meetings. The papers do a pretty good job of running these for a few weeks prior to events.

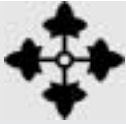
Recently, we have increased the number of papers on our list and I came upon the following website. I believe the other Chapter's might put this to good use in recruiting. If you think its a good idea, lets

forward to all chapter secretaries for action.

<http://www.50states.com/news/>
Sample News Release:
Military Editor

4th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION - seeking members to attend National Reunion, September 23-28, 2002, Spokane, WA. Contact Roger Barton, 2 Spring Drive, Walkerville, MD 21793, or www.4thinfantry.org.

Regards, Rick Adams



VA Changes Lower Co-Payments for Healthcare

New co-payments for VA Healthcare went into effect in 2002. The new co-payments will reduce out of pocket expenses for veterans obtaining care for *non-service* rated or related medical conditions. Using a 3 Tier system veterans will be paying co-payments more reflective of the services being provided.

Although prescription co-pays were increased slightly, the readjusted outpatient co-pay should offset that in most cases, said the VA. Before the readjustment, a veteran who saw his primary care doctor for a (non-service-connected) illness and receives two prescriptions for that illness, would pay \$54.00. Under the new regulations, he would pay \$29.00 - \$15 for the doctor's visit and \$14 for the medications. The cost of medications in VA pharmacies has increased due to the increase by the drug companies.

Tier 1 - FREE (Previous screenings, immunizations, Hepatitis C screenings, Breast Cancer screenings, Lab work, Flat Film X-rays, EKG's)

Tier 2 - \$15.00 (Diagnosis and management of acute and chronic conditions, overall care management, the large majority of personal health care needs)

Tier 3 - \$50.00 (Specialty care provided through a referral from a primary care provider i.e. ambulatory surgery, CAT scans, MRI's, audiology and optometric specialty care). *Remember, none of this applies if you*

are Service Connected (rated 0% or higher for a condition; or 50% or higher rated veterans regarding prescriptions). There are a number of veterans exempted from co-payments as well. For further information call or contact your local VA facility at (800) 827-1000.

All co-pays collected will be returned to the VA facility where the care was received, rather than into the "VA general fund" to be used for improved medical care at that location.

Increases In Veteran's Burial Benefits Go Into Law

Secretary Anthony Principi announced recently that under the Veterans Education and Benefits Expansion Act of 2001, increases in burial and funeral benefits who die as a result of a service connected disability from \$1,500 to \$2,000 and the cemetery plot allowance for certain other disabled veterans from \$150 to \$300. The new law also directs the VA to honor requests for government markers for veterans buried in private cemeteries even if their graves have headstones or markers, furnished at private expense. Prior to this change, families had to submit an application in which they certified that the veteran's grave was unmarked. The Secretary of VA will report to Congress on how much this benefit is being used and recommend whether or not to continue it.

For more information contact your local VA Regional Office at (800) 827-1000

Task Force Regulars to Cuba on April 6, 2002

By Bob Babcock

At 0400 on Saturday morning, April 6, 2002, Task Force Regulars mustered in the Raider Brigade Fieldhouse to prepare for movement by air to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba to assume the duty of perimeter security for the Taliban and Al Qaeda prison compound. The 200 person strong task force, led by 1-22 S-3 MAJ Brian Reed, consisted of men of Company B, 1-22 Infantry led by CPT Jason Wesbrock plus elements of Company C, the Recon platoon, and support forces. This was the first tactical deployment of 1-22 since their successful mission in Haiti in September 1994 through January 1995. It is also a return to the place where our Regiment earned a battle streamer in the Spanish-American War in July 1898.

Along with their perimeter security mission, they will be responsible to help move the prison compound to an expanded facility that will accommodate more prisoners being brought in from Afghanistan.

In less than three weeks after returning from a month long deployment to the National Training Center where they trained in mechanized war, fighting with the latest technology and most lethal weapons and tactical systems in the world today, the troops of 1-22 Infantry responded to their new mission and quickly switched gears to riot training, crowd control, and working without their Bradley fighting vehicles. Along with their perimeter security mission, they will be responsible to help move the prison compound to an expanded facility that will accommodate more prisoners being brought in from Afghanistan.

Family members, just as many of us have experienced in past wars and deployments, stayed with the troops to bid them farewell and Godspeed until they disappeared behind the curtains and began the manifest process prior to departing for the airfield. MG Raymond

MOVING?

Don't make us guess your new address!

Complete this form and mail it to the Roger Barton, Executive Director
2 Spring Drive
Walkersville, MD 21793.



Name: _____

Old Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

New Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone _____ Effective Date: _____

Odierno, CG of the 4th Infantry Division, told the families and troops that this is a very important role these troops are taking on in the war against terrorism. Awb Norris, CO/2-22 VN, Bill Bukovec, B/1-22 VN, and Bob Babcock, B/1-22 VN represented our veterans, along with an USO coffee and doughnut table and representatives from AUSA. We were there to insure the soldiers understood that we vets will be here to support them in any way that we need to, just as we did for 2-22 Infantry in their recent deployment to Bosnia.

As information comes in on how we can support this latest deployment, I will let you know.

When Duty Calls

A tribute to Staff Sgt. Earl G. Slater & all brave men of the 4th Division.

Somewhere on a Pacific isle
A harbor they call Pearl.
Mighty ships plunge beneath
A rolling ocean's swirl.

Defend, protect our country's shores
Revenge our brave men all.
Sea to sea Old Glory waves high
America mourns and duty calls.
God bless America
The home front stands prepared.
Defense plants work without relief
Each job takes special care.

Hitler rages, Europe trembles.
Uncle Sam beckons, young men stand tall.
Unfurl the colors, sound the charge
Artillery clatters and duty calls.

Operation Overlord
June sixth of forty-four.
Omaha, Utah, Juno, Sword
No cowards trod this shore .

Midway, the Bulge, Okinawa, Bastogne
In battles fierce and fox holes small
Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines
They all answer duty's call.

Ivy Leaves or the Big Red One
Each unit does its part.
Red, white, and blue patriot's sons
Freedom rules their heart.

Courage bold, acts untold
White crosses for those who fall.
They valiantly gave their lives
When duty called.

Anita Slater Capps 2002

MEMORIAL from page 1

“Hi Mom and Dad. Well I suppose you are all over to our house now and my new son or daughter has been born. Sure do wish I knew what I’ve got – a son or daughter. I have received three letters today. One from you, one from Claudia, and one from (John) Tuft... Yes, I’ve been counting the days too. Sure wish they were going faster... Dad, can hardly wait to get out on the golf course with you. Birds chirping and all. What a wonderful place the United States is to live in. Too bad everyone doesn’t realize that. Well I’ll close now. I love you very, very much. Your son, Bruce.”

According to government reports, this is what transpired sixteen days later – four days after the birth of his daughter – on a battlefield in Pleiku Province, Republic of Vietnam:

P/Sgt. Grandstaff distinguished himself on 18 May 1967 while leading the Weapons Platoon, Company B, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry on a reconnaissance mission near the Cambodian border. His platoon was advancing through intermittent enemy contact when it was struck by heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire from 3 sides. As he established a defensive perimeter, P/Sgt. Grandstaff noted that several of his men had been struck down. He raced 30 meters through the intense fire to aid them but could only save one. Denied freedom to maneuver his unit by the intensity of the enemy onslaught, he adjusted artillery to within 45 meters of his position. When helicopter gunships arrived, he crawled outside the defensive position to mark the location with smoke grenades. Realizing his first marker was probably ineffective, he crawled to another location and threw his last smoke grenade but the smoke did not penetrate the jungle foliage. Seriously wounded in the leg during this effort he returned to his radio and, refusing medical aid, adjusted the artillery even closer as the enemy advanced on his position. Recognizing the need for additional firepower, he again braved the enemy fusillade, crawled to the edge of his position and fired several magazines of tracer ammunition through the jungle canopy. He succeeded in designating the location to

the gunships but this action again drew the enemy fire and he was wounded in the other leg. Now enduring intense pain and bleeding profusely, he crawled to within 10 meters of an enemy machinegun, which had caused many casualties among his men. He destroyed the position with hand grenades but received additional wounds. Rallying his remaining men to withstand the enemy assaults, he realized his position was being overrun and asked for artillery directly on his location. “We are being overrun,” he called desperately. “Place the artillery fire on top of me. I’ve got 4 men left.” He fought until mortally wounded by an enemy rocket. Although every man in the platoon was a casualty, survivors attest to the indomitable spirit and exceptional courage of this outstanding combat leader who inspired his men to fight courageously against overwhelming odds and cost the enemy heavy casualties. Sergeant Grandstaff’s conspicuous and selfless gallantry, above and beyond the call of duty are in the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflect great credit upon himself and the armed forces of his country.

Only 8 men walked away from the terrible battlefield. The North Vietnamese troops had lured the platoon into a trap and cut them off from three reinforcement platoons. When the gunfire finally subsided, these 8 soldiers played dead as the enemy prowled the battlefield rolling over bodies and going through pockets. One of the survivors reported that Bruce did not just arbitrarily call for artillery fire on the platoon. “We reached complete agreement that the artillery be brought in on us,” he said. The few remaining members of Bruce’s platoon told of his bravery and said that it took a direct hit from an enemy rocket to put the 32-year-old soldier out of action.

About a month before his death, Bruce had been awarded the Silver Star for leading a rescue detail to save another 4th Division Company pinned down by North Vietnamese gunfire.

Bruce’s Medal of Honor now hangs in a display case at the North Central High School War Memorial.

Chapter Reports



8th Infantry Regiment Society Report

By John O'Malley

We are still growing! We are at almost one hundred members, keep spreading the word about our chapter

I have been asked about the unit crest, and now we have a limited supply for \$6.50 a piece or \$12.00 a set this includes shipping. Also in our inventory we have 32 ounce sport bottles that are blue on white with the unit crest these are \$2.00 plus shipping. We are in process of getting 8th Infantry Regiment Unit patches made up, they will be iron on. The size is about 3 1/2 inches and these will sell for about \$2.00 each. I'll be getting a sample soon. Orders will be taken at any time. These can go on jackets, cap's shirts or whatever you can dream up

Dues are still being received if you have not paid them yet just send them to me. Thank you to all of you that have.

I work for the VA in home loans, and have noticed that some veterans are falling prey to predator home loan companies. The biggest abuse I have seen is refinancing a home with a spread of less than 1 1/4 on the interest rate and points are being over charged. Please be careful when refinancing your home.

The National Wheelchair Games (disabled vets) are being held in Cleveland, Ohio during the month July 7 through 14. Please feel free to stop in and watch these remarkable athletes in action. Opening Ceremonies are being held at Cleveland Convention Center on July 9th 6:30 to 9:30 PM.

All members please send me your current E-mail address. My address is jomalleytax@ncweb.com. This is for our records only. I would like to thank the Ohio Chapter for the great time at their last mini reunion.

Please take time and remember that our armed forces are in harms way and say a prayer for their safety and to end terrorism.

Arizona Chapter Report

By Mike Irving

The AZ Chapter held its annual Spring get-together in Laughlin, NV. Apr.17th -20th.

The dinner was held at Nikki's in Bullhead City AZ. In attendance were: Bob Olson, Jerry Burch, Wayne & Lois Brown, Carlyle Coleman, Gerald & Marie Powell, Joe Lara, Anthony & Monte Giuliano, Mike & Jane Irving, Nellie & Rod Rodrigues, their daughter and son Larry & his fiancée.

Elections were held and Bob Olson was elected President, Mike Irving Secretary/Treasurer.

Jerry Burch has held the office of President of the AZ Chapter for ten years. A Big Thanks to you Jerry from all of us.

At Large Chapter Report

By Colin Wright

As the newest member of the "At Large" chapter of the Association, it would be rude of me not to submit an article for the excellent publication "The Ivy Leaves" as edited by Mr.



Group photo (left to right) Back: Colin Wright, Thelma Manning, Duncan Aran; Front: Elizabeth Williamson, Jonathon Wild, Adrian Hull, Chip Guarente, Mark Roper. Inset: Howard Aran (he took the photo!)

Rollinger.

I guess I should start with an introduction. I, Colin Wright, head up a small group of living history enthusiasts here in England, with a particular interest in the 4th Infantry Divisions' involvement in World War II. The group itself is a member of a larger organisation, called the WWII Living History Association, which has been dedicated to educating the public about the common soldiery, both axis and allied, for over 20 years.

I myself have been involved in living history for 11 years, starting out with the American Civil War period, portraying a soldier of the 18th Missouri Volunteers, and later as a soldier of the American Expeditionary Force as a member of Pershing's Doughboys – a living history organisation officially recognised by the American Battle Monuments Commission for its work at Brookwood Cemetery in Surry, England.

To date my 4th Division Group has been actively researching the 4th in preparation for the year ahead where we are involved in a number of public events aimed at educating the British public about different aspects of WWII. Coming up we have an event at Bletchley Park, home of the Enigma code breakers. The event scenario is pre-D-Day troop concentration and preparation. We



Harrington motorpool. From the left, Colin Wright's '43 GPW, Duncan's '42 Dodge, Chips '62 M201, Howard's '42 Mb.

aim to portray an embarkation control post and have been actively prop building and collecting appropriate equipment and ephemera to display.

I must thank the many veterans I am in e-mail contact with for their fantastic assistance with our research. In particular Mr. Frank Glaze and Mr. Bob Babcock. In addition to the public event the group also gets together privately to share research and to tour around England, usually in convoy in the group vehicles. To date we have a ¾ ton Dodge Carryall, and four Jeeps.

In addition we make a point of visiting sites connected with American Forces serving in Europe. On our most recent run the group visited Harrington Aerodrome, where SOE Agents were flown to France to assist the resistance and confound the Germans, and then onto Grafton Underwood, another 8th Air Force base, aircrew from which were awarded the Congressional Medal of Honour.



Grafton memorial.



Colin Wright

Members of the group are heading to Normandy this June to tour the Utah beach area in the company of M. Philippe Cornil. I'll post a trip report for the next issue of the *Ivy Leaves*.

I hope this brief report will serve to introduce the group and I to the Associations members. The group and I promise to do justice by the memory of the 4th and all the other GI's,

Airmen and WAC's who served throughout WWII.

If Association members would like to contact me, I can be contacted by e-mail at hollis_wood@lineone.net or by regular mail at 187 Bedford Close, FELTHAM, Middlesex. TW138LQ. United Kingdom.

Any information, however small, or seemingly trivial, that we can use to better portray the 4th will be very gratefully received.

Carolinas Chapter Report

By Rick Adams

The Carolinas Chapter is pleased to make welcome the following new members: David H. Mills, Elizabethton, TN A/5/16 FA 70-71 VN, and Ronald J. Porter, Fries, VA C-1/22 INF 69-70 VN.

On April 26 -28, 2002 we held the Chapters Tenth Charter Anniversary. Those attending were; Rick Adams, Harold Birch, Richard and Sheila Bolin, Cecil Boswell, Jack Crites, Tallie and Mary Crocker, James and Lucy Drennen, Carl and Joan Dry, John Frost, Robert and Esther Gobble, Bill Greenlee, Guy and Shirley Haas, Nhu Hoang, Mal Mal, Bob and Kydie Kay, Kydie Young, Warren and Mary King, Sherwood and Bonnie Locklair, Bernard Marie, Louise and Gail Miller, Carl Morris, Tracy Cohen, Sam Nelson, Al Pichette, Marcus and Dot Powell, Ray and Annie Mae Rogers, Pat and Dan Roy, Bill Seeser, George and Patricia Schneider, Larry and Margot Simonson, Mary Smoak, Bruce Stubbs, Roy Surratt, Walter and Rosemary Todd, Doziene Waldrop, Dorsey White, George Wilkins, Robert and Marjorie Witherington, John and Thelma Worthington.

We missed Jack and Karen Leonard, Fletcher and Audrey Ruff, and Norman and Faye Webb, all had to cancel at the last minute due to illnesses. We hope to see you all at the next gathering.

This was one of the best reunions we have had. It was great to see the turnout and there were a few surprises thrown in to make it interesting. Thanks to all who worked so hard to pull it all together. Special thanks to Bob Kay for writing a ten-year chapter history piece, Kydie Kay for organizing another very successful raffle, and Roy Surratt who conducted a very moving Flames of Remembrance ceremony.

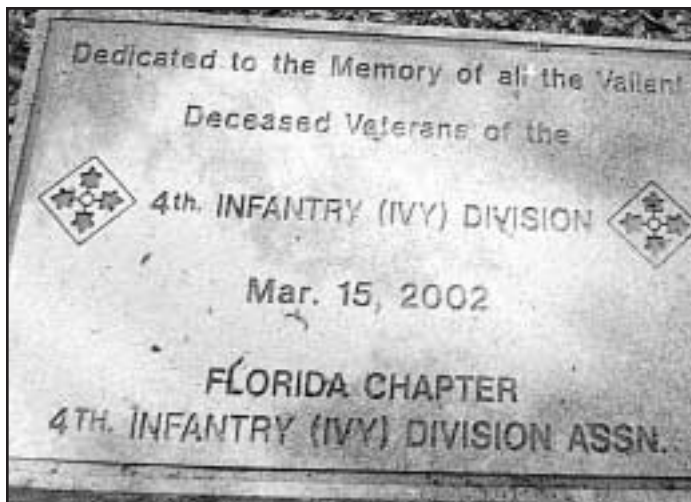
Again the chapter continued its policy of supporting outside worthy causes by authorizing donations to FOCH, The Montagnard Foundation, the D-Day Foundation, and the purchase of more "Utah Beach to Pleiku" books to donate to schools and libraries. The chapter also made a special presentation of a Paid for Life membership to Bernard L. Marie. Bernard is the youngest D-Day veteran in the association, having celebrated his fifth birthday in coastal Normandy, on June 5, 1944. He has an amazing story and we are proud to have him as a life member.

Our next chapter reunion will be held October 18-20, 2002 in Mount Airy, NC. Norman and Faye Webb will host the reunion.

Florida Chapter Report

By Edward J. McEniry

On 15 March 2002, the Florida Chapter's Memorial dedicated to the Memory of the Deceased Veterans of the 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association was placed along the Memorial Trail in the



Florida Chapter's Memorial dedicated to the Memory of the Deceased Veterans of the 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association.

Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, Florida. Present for the official placement and acceptance by the National Cemetery were President Bob Krause and Ed McEniry. They had devoted their time and energy since March 2001 to see that the suggested Memorial was successfully completed. The Memorial will be a permanent reminder to those visiting the cemetery of the devotion and dedication made by our 4th Division soldiers during the conflicts of our country. It is strongly recommended that visiting this truly beautiful cemetery and Chapter Memorial be high on the agenda of all Chapter members and Association members visiting our wonderful state.

The Memorial is located on the Trail at location #12 of the walking path. Cemetery maps outlining the location of the Trail and the monuments are available at the Visitors Center near the entrance. A formal dedication is being planned for November 2002 during our Fall Reunion that will be held in Ocala, Florida. More information will be included in the reunion letter that will be sent to all Chapter members.

Illinois Chapter Report

By Rick Sover

Congratulations to our president Jerry and his committee, John Kapor, Milton Crippin and Sue and Bruce Gass, for a successful Chapter Reunion, held at the Ramada Inn in Danville, IL April 5-7th. Members present were President Jerry Januszewski (RVN), Vice-President John Kapor (RVN), Milton & Jeane Crippin (WW II), Bruce and Sue Gass (RVN), Bert and Janetta Nicholson (RVN), Ed Sleichert (RVN), Jim Bialka (199th LIB, RVN), National President and First Lady Roger and Linda Dufek, Bill and Sue Williams (RVN), Steve and Pam Norton and Daughter Cindy (RVN), Robert and Virginia Gummow (Germany 1954), Joe Czyzyk (RVN), Bob Krueger (RVN), New Member Vernon Ray (RVN), John Moore and Guest Georgia Keiler (WW II). National President Roger Dufek, with John Kapor acting as Chaplain, conducted the Flames of Remembrance ceremony. As usual the food and service were excellent.

The chapter business meeting was held on Saturday morning. A new committee was volunteered to prepare for the fall reunion to be held in Carol Stream, IL. on Oct. 11,12 and 13th at the

Holiday Inn. Also Bruce and Sue Gass will be looking into next spring's reunion as of right now in Decatur. On a sad note we lost another member, Harold R. Zolldan 22nd Infantry WW II. Also, I received a letter from Eileen Smith, wife of Harold H. Smith (LTC), notifying me that Harold passed away. He was my company commander (Co. I, 12th Inf.), when I joined the 4th Division in 1942. He was a great leader.

Illinois chapter is still behind in the 2002 dues.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Spokane next September. If you attend, please look me up and introduce your self.

Mid-South Chapter Report

By Lee Rung

Y'all missed a great reunion by not joining with us at the Biloxi Beach Resort on the Gulf Coast, but more on that after a message from our newly elected Chapter President, Ken Glass: Here it is the Monday after our 2002 Reunion in Biloxi, Mississippi and once again the members of the 4th completed their mission. The mission was to have a good time, and to enjoy the time we had to spend together. That I think we did well. I would once again thank everyone who worked so hard to make this one of the best reunions I have ever attended. (I am sure I will leave someone out, remember our age!!!). First I salute "Frenchie" Adams and his beautiful wife Gladys (who just had surgery a short while ago); and also Gladys son and daughter, Lester and Lesa. I also salute our out going President Herb Martin, Leo Champagne and Harry Robertson for their work. We received great support from the local merchants, and some direct support from the U.S. Air Force at Keesler, particularly M/SGT Bird. I also want to thank and salute Lee and Jackie Rung, not only for their work for this event, but for all they do for us throughout the year. *Thank You Both!!!*

Well, now I want to take time to talk about our reunion location, which was on the beautiful beach at Biloxi. I don't think many of us made it out to the sand and water, but it was beautiful. We all had plenty of free time to visit the local area and the casinos. Some left with more money than they came with, but most of us left with less! All, though, left feeling good. We had 67 members and guests in attendance, including our National President Roger Dufek and his wife Linda. We hope they will join us at our next reunion. Malvin Pike's family was with us. Thank you Mary, I know it wasn't easy for you and son, Craig. We also were able to complete some business while we were together.

Our 2003 Reunion will be at Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. Robert Kennington and Marlin Goar are the committee members working on this and welcome all other helpers. There will be more information on this at a later date.

I was elected as your President for the next year. I want to thank you for this trust you have placed in me. I want you to know I am here to serve you, so use me, and keep me straight. I work for each of you and I will only do what you want me to do. The office of president belongs to you, not to the person filling it. Again, thank you for the honor of serving you!

The other elected officers are as follows: Honorary President LTG Glen D. Walker Sr. Vice President, VN Herbert L. Martin Jr.

Vice President, WW-II Leo P. Champagne, Jr. Vice President, Korean Era Richard L. Davis, Secretary/Treasurer Leon "Lee" Rung, Chaplain William T. Ivey, Sergeant-At-Arms Conrad "Frenchie" Adams. Respectfully & Fourthfully, Ken Glass

Ken's letter and comments are much appreciated. One of the interesting asides of this year's reunion was having a former member of the 1st Marine Division join with us throughout our reunion program. George Higenbotham saw service in the Pacific at Pelilu and Okinawa, where he was wounded in the same artillery barrage that killed the Army's LTG Boatner. We greatly appreciated George's enthusiastic camaraderie. He was made an honorary member of our chapter at our business meeting.

The highlight of our getting together in Biloxi was the banquet, held on Saturday evening at the Biloxi Beach Resort. The banquet speaker was a lovely, Air Force senior medical staff officer from Keesler Air Base. Lt. Col. Christine Croskey is currently the Deputy Commander of the 81 Medical Group stationed at Keesler. She gave a very enlightening, interesting and humorous talk of her service life, including recent deployments to Egypt and Diego Garcia. As she said, being in the Air Force you have to talk about it's airplanes and she thus had pictures to share with us. Christine is a nurse/anesthetist with degrees in Nursing, Bio Health and Human resource Management. We greatly enjoyed and appreciated her taking the time to talk to us.

In the next issue of the "Ivy Leaves" we will have some pictures of the reunion and a further update.

Please contact me by e-mail at Rungs@Juno.com, telephone - 504-392-3699, or mail - 25 Yosemite Drive, New Orleans, LA 70131, with any updates, info, sickness, or deaths, will be much appreciated.

Ohio Chapter Report

By Ray Dunkel

Greetings Buckeye Ivymen, by the time you read this the Memorial Day weekend will have come and gone. I hope that you and your families had the opportunity to enjoy and participate in the remembrance ceremonies conducted in your community. We will also remember June 6, 1944, D-Day, a day when many of you went ashore at Utah Beach. It is fitting that we remember and pay tribute to the brave men who on that eventful day made the supreme sacrifice "May they rest in peace". During late spring and early summer we will observe "Flag Day" and "Independence Day". These are days when we can be thankful and celebrate the vision our forefathers had in establishing this great country of ours.

The Chapter extends heartfelt sympathy and condolences to the Schaad and Greenberg families on the recent passing of their loved ones. "They go from life to life".

On behalf of the Chapter it gives me great pleasure to welcome Harry Cracraft, 2/22 Inf. as a new member. Also joining us are Mrs. Collette Box and Mrs. Harriet Greenberg as Memorial Members. May their association with the Ohio Chapter be enjoyable and rewarding?

On October 9, 2002, Graham Stocks, 20/FA, residing in Marietta, Ohio, presented on behalf of the Ohio Chapter a copy of "War Stories - Utah Beach to Pleiku" to Barbara Wainwright,

of the Washington County Public Library, Marietta, Ohio. Ms. Wainwright stated the book would be added to the historical collection of the library.

Our chapter presently consists of 206 members. This is a decline of 9 members from the 225 members we had in 2001. This decline can be attributed to, non-payment of dues, transfers to other chapters and deaths. Members who neglect to pay their dues on time have the delivery of "The Ivy Leaves" discontinued until such time their dues are made current.

That is the significance of October 3, 4, 5, and 6, 2002? Well let me tell you. This is the weekend our Chapter will host the Ohio/Western PA. Chapters' Fall Reunion. It will be held at the Comfort Inn, Austinburg (Ashtabula) Ohio. Elmer and Stella Klaus our ever-reliable reunion planners are arranging a weekend of fabulous events. I know the activities will be well accepted and enjoyed by all who choose to participate. Remember the name of the game is participation, so mark October 3, 4, 5 and 6 on your calendar as a reminder to attend the Ohio/Western PA Chapters' Fall Reunion. As in the past, members of the Ohio and Western PA Chapters will receive a letter outlining the reunion activities.

Remember our men and women in uniform in your prayers. "United We Stand", and "God Bless America"!

Any suggestions/recommendations you may have are welcomed. Send them to me. My address is listed under "Chapters" in "The Ivy Leaves".

Texas Chapter Report

By Randy Simmons

2002 Spring Reunion

"It was the best one yet!" That was the consensus of the veterans and their wives and guests at the annual reunion of the Texas Chapter of the Fourth Infantry Division. Accolades go to President Arnold Waggoner, Vice-President Arnold Sternicke and his wife Jean, Treasurer David Heallen, Elaine Wells, and Doyle Volkmer for their work in organizing the reunion. In addition the Texas Chapter is indebted to Lt. Col. Donald Jackson, liaison from the 4th Infantry Division, and all of the active duty personnel involved who contributed their time and talents in making the meeting a success.

Held at the Plaza Hotel in Killeen, Texas and at Ft. Hood on Friday and Saturday, May 3rd and 4th, the Reunion began with a renewal of old acquaintances and a welcome to new members at an informal gathering at the hospitality suite at the Plaza Hotel both Friday afternoon and evening. Saturday's business meeting was well attended by Chapter members and also included Ted Kostich, the Ft. Hood Ironhorse Chapter president. After routine business items were completed, Elaine Wells, honorary lifetime member, gave a report on the Memorial Brick Project. 150 bricks have been ordered to date and those that had been installed were to be dedicated later in the day. The business meeting then concentrated on plans for preparation for the National Reunion scheduled to be held at Killeen and Ft. Hood in September 2003. Several committees were formed and staffed to begin preparations to coordinate reunion activities both in Killeen and Ft. Hood. Lt. Col. Jackson will be the contact officer for activities scheduled to take place at Ft. Hood. The 2003 Texas Chapter

reunion is scheduled for May 3rd and 4th in Killeen to finalize the National Reunion activities and schedules. The officers for the upcoming year will include: President: Arnold Waggoner, Vice-President: Rudy Fernandez, Jr., Secretary: Randy Simmons, and Treasurer: David Heallen.

Following the meeting, lunch was held at a dining facility at Ft. Hood. Immediately afterwards everyone drove to the 4th Infantry Division Museum to participate in the Walk of Honor Dedication. The Color Guard from the 4th Infantry Division opened the Dedication ceremonies by posting the colors. President Waggoner introduced Elaine Wells, honorary lifetime member of the Texas Chapter and credited her with the success of the Memorial Brick Project. She formulated the idea and single-handedly initiated the campaign which not only honored her late husband but all veterans, living or deceased, of the 4th Infantry Division. Elaine gave a brief talk about the current status of the campaign and about how thrilled she is with the participation from veterans all over the country. Members of the Division band were present at the dedication and played the Division and Army Song.

The Flames of Remembrance Banquet was held Saturday evening and was well attended by members, spouses, and active duty personnel. After the benediction by Lt. Col. Bill Schneider, Chaplain, and posting of the colors, Doyle Volkmer with the assistance of Rudy Fernandez and Ashley Chandler conducted the Flames of Remembrance Ceremony. Members of the Division jazz band provided entertainment during the banquet. The evening speaker, Charles F. Fuss, the Fourth Infantry Division's Command Sergeant Major, presented a talk and slide presentation on "The 4th Infantry—Past, Present and Future." The evening ceremonies concluded with benediction and retirement of the colors.

Members attending their first Texas Chapter reunion were Ashley Chandler, Vergil Maples, Don Tidwell, Jack Salyers, John Bobb, and Bill Wright.

Wisconsin Chapter Report

By Roger R Dufek

The Wisconsin Chapter held their Spring Mini-Reunion in Madison Wisconsin the weekend of April 19th and 20th. Everyone had a great time and our thanks go out to Arlen & Nancy Bliefernicht and Gary & Barb Powley for all the work to make it a great weekend.

We had two special guests attending from the Illinois chapter, Jerry Januszewski chapter president and John Kapor vice-president. On Friday evening everyone met in the hospitality room to get reacquainted and met our newest members Steve Anderson, Gary & Barb Osterkamp, and Chuck Carpenter. On Saturday we car-pooled downtown to the newly renovated Capital Building for a tour. Everyone was impressed with the buildings 146 million dollar restoration. After that it was a short walk to the Wisconsin Veterans Museum for a self-guided tour. After a busy afternoon it was time for the Flames of Remembrance Banquet and our Saturday evening raffle. Jerry Januszewski and Arlen Bliefernicht lit the candles while chapter president Gary Powley read the units for our Flames of

Remembrance Ceremony. Chaplain Allan Fagley then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and his special Tribute to the Flag. After a moment of silence for MIA's and POW's and our dinner prayer by Allan it was time to eat. Next it was back to the Hospitality room for a presentation of three commemorative coins to our 3 WWII Vets attending, Claude Hockett, Allan Fagley, and Amos Johnson depicting WWII for Freedom, Courage and Patriotism. After a round of applause it was time for the ladies raffle. There wasn't much competition in the raffle this time because Arlen Bliefernicht pretty much won most of the prizes again. Our hats off to Nancy, Sandy and Matt Grobelch for the great job they did to raise money for our Amos & Betty Johnson scholarship fund. They did such a great job that this fall we will be giving out 4 \$250 scholarships to Wisconsin Chapter members and families. Details will be in the Chapter Newsletter.

Our next meeting is planned for October 11,12 &13th in Wisconsin Dells and will be a family weekend where the Chapter encourages you to bring family and friends for a weekend of fun and education. The drawing for our Amos and Betty Johnson Scholarship will be at this meeting. This year there will be 4 \$250 Scholarships given out. Watch for details in the newsletter.

Members that attended our spring reunion were Amos Johnson & friend Helen Whitney, Terry & Charlene Weibel, Bob & Pat Loonsfoot, Roger & Linda Dufek, Gary & Barb Powley, Jerry Januszewski, Allan & Alice Fagley, Chuck Carpenter, John Kapor, Roger & Kay Bender, Matt Grobelch and parents Mike & Sandy, Tom & Min Mohar, Claude Hockett, Steve Anderson, Tom & Evelyn Truesdell, Joe Nett, Dave Gehr, Gary & Barb Osterkamp, Don & Eileen Stoffel, Ken & Cam Schmidt, Ray & Harriet Statz and Arlen & Nancy Bliefernicht.

New England Chapter Report

By Frank Bradley

First the bad news, longtime member Bernard J. Colbert, Co K/8th Inf./WWII died unexpectedly during an operation on 17 February 2002 in the hospital. (See TAPS column) Now, the good news! Over the weekend of 25 - 28 April 2002, members and friends of the New England Chapter met at the Best Western Mainstay Inn, Newport, RI 02840. The Hospitality room opened to early arrivals round 4 P.M. on Thursday when the libations and goodies arrived along with N.E. President, Bill Babcock and his wife, Judy. The visiting and fellowship lasted until dinnertime when most people decided to eat in the Hotel dining facility. The restaurant proved to be satisfactory.

On Friday most members visited downtown Newport for shopping and to take in the local points of interest. Friday evening many persons had dinner at the Jai Alai Casino across the street from the hotel. The dinners were excellent and the challenge to make a few dollars playing the various games of chance proved irresistible to many that rose to the bait but succumbed to the odds favoring the house. A couple of small winners were boastful but most players quietly bemoaned their losses. Silence reigned supreme as Red Sox fans watched diligently and prayed fervently that Derek Lowe would be the first Red Sox pitcher since 1965 to throw a "no hitter in Fenway Park." After the 3rd out in the first of the ninth inning, pandemonium ensued as jubilant Red Sox players and fans celebrated Derek Lowe's successful no hit pitch-

ing. The hospitality room was a happy place.

On Saturday morning at 10 A.M., President Bill Babcock called the business session of the chapter to order in a meeting room off the dining room. Part of the session included the election of officers as follows: President, Don Ellis; Vice President, Kevin O'Connor; Secretary, Frank Bradley; Treasurer, Bud Budrick; and Sgt-at-arms, Fred Corey. At the same time, the ladies gathered in the hospitality room for tea and tasty cup cakes before enjoying a crafts program. The ladies made American flag pins using red, white, and blue beads artistically aligned on one-inch gold plated safety pins. These safety pins were then hung on a two-inch gold plated safety pin to complete a lovely novelty flag pin suitable for an attractive and unusual lady's decoration.

On Saturday evening we journeyed in convoy to the Hyatt Regency Hotel on Goat Island about ten minutes away from the Best Western. Our Flames of Remembrance ceremony took place promptly at 7 P.M. President Babcock led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Frank Bradley lit the candles memorializing our departed comrades. He then played "Taps" on the Chapter's CD player. President Babcock asked for a moment of silence in memory of the late Past National President and Arlington Monument Fund Treasurer, Gerry Gramp. Gerry and Mildred Gramp have attended innumerable reunions over the years in many of our 4th Division Chapters. Irving Smolens offered the memorial prayer and the blessing before our meal. We enjoyed an excellent buffet dinner with salad, herbed mashed potatoes, a medley of sliced cooked vegetables, roast beef, broiled salmon, boneless breast of chicken, rolls and butter, coffee and tea. For dessert we had a generous portion of warm Apple Cobbler with a scoop of delicious vanilla ice cream to complement our dinner. Now it was time for our free drawing; Terry McCreadie won one night's free room and Susan Costa won a free dinner at our next reunion. Before departing the Hyatt, our photographer, Normand Chartier, lined up the men and ladies separately so that he and the many other 4th Division camera people could take photos.

Back to the Best Western we traveled and up to the hospitality room for a couple of hours of fun and games and fascinating conversation. Sunday morning we departed for home after our break-away breakfast and the good-byes with safe trips home until our next meeting.

Ralph and Dorothy Bolton had to cancel because Ralph was not feeling well. Mary Rose Bradley did not feel up to making the trip. Paul and Betty Brunelle missed this meeting because Paul had to have a quadruple heart by-pass and carotid artery surgery. Tony Pelegrino also was not with us because of illness. Bertha and Fred Corey also had to cancel due to illness in their family. We missed them all and hope that they will be able to join us at our fall meeting. Members and friends in attendance included: Donald Alfano, Bill and Judy Babcock, Alex and Lillian Bernardo, Frank Bradley, Ralph and Muriel Briggs, Carlton and Lucille Brown and Debbie Brown Soper; Ron and Gail Brown along with Sheri and Adam and Quinn Griffith, the best little boy in New England; Bud and Gloria Budrick with Ralph, Susan Budrick Costa and daughter, Nicole; Jack Casey, Howard and Elaine Chaet, Normand and Marcelle Chartier, Betty Costello and her sister, Lenore Campaniolo; Edward and Michael Dodge and Cathy-Jo Tooley; Don and Dot Ellis, Heikki and Mardie Fager,

John and Rose Goltman, Olga LeGendre, David and Terry McCreadie and daughter, Judy Ducharme; Dotty Merola, Kevin O'Connor, Paul and Nancy Pepin and son, Michael; Edgar, Roger and Sue Roy; Bill and Marge Riiska, Irving and Edith Smolens, Mike and Mary Surro, George Ward and wife, Helene Meyerowitz; and Helen and Leona Young.

Northwest Chapter Report

By Bob Reilly

Spokane or Bust! We're just one issue away from the 84th National Reunion. I wonder if some potential attendees are not planning to be there for fear of travel. I sincerely hope that no one allows the sneaky, cowardly terrorists to succeed in stopping him or her from traveling. I've flown cross-country three times since 9/11 (the first being the first non-stop flight from JFK to SeaTac after the September attack; the most recent just last week) and find it at least as safe as before that dastardly day, although the extra time at airports needs to be considered...and can be a pain. Cars, trains and busses are all options for anyone who'd rather not fly and can be a cheaper alternative. One way or another, *Be There—That's an order!*

Make your hotel reservations directly with the DoubleTree Hotel, Spokane Center, in Riverfront Park, as early as possible: (509) 455-9600. To get the special rate (\$88/night, single or double and \$98 for 3 or 4), be sure to mention that you are attending the 4th Infantry Division Association National Reunion. Dates are: 23-29 September 2002. Waiting too long to register could mean missing our special room rate. Consider arriving early, staying late to enjoy added time in our incredibly beautiful Pacific Northwest.

Get your reunion reservation in to me ASAP. Please note that the registration fee goes up as time goes on, so it will pay you to do it now!

Reunion Committee: Thirteen members of the committee met at the Spokane DoubleTree in April. Yours Truly/509-667-2416 joans.bob@verizon.net; cell phone: 509-669-0727 and Rich Kellar/509-982-2890 richardek@cougs.net are reunion co-chairs. Walt Sauer/509-448-6951 and John Tufts/509-328-9856 co-chair the memorial committee. Victor Julian's daughter, Barbara Stout/509-482-7328, barbarajulian@hotmail.com is in charge of gathering items for the welcome kits, raffle and silent auction. I am arranging hotel, catering and entertainment details. Rich is commanding the registration desk and needs troops to share the load. I ask every chapter member who is physically able to volunteer to help with some aspect of conducting this reunion. Please contact one of these folks to offer your services. To paraphrase Uncle Sam, We Need You to make this a rousing success and an enjoyable time for all. Thanks to all who have come forward and are now working for you.

Fourth Division Memorabilia: A small selection of the shirts, jackets, etc. the chapter sells will be available for purchase, but mostly for display, during the reunion. In addition, the shirts made specifically for this reunion will be delivered there, if ordered in advance, or may be ordered in Spokane for later delivery by mail. I have also had a small quantity of a special, embroidered cap made as a souvenir of this reunion, which you can purchase in Spokane or order for later delivery. Only 36 of these caps with

distinctive 84th Annual National Reunion, Spokane embroidery will be available for purchase and immediate wear; caps ordered at the reunion will be mailed soon after the reunion. After that, they will not be offered for sale, making them a true collector's item.

Thanks to Donors: Thanks to these donors for their generosity to the chapter and national association—as of submission of this report (end of April): Marshall Dana, Bob Reilly and Jeanne Enbusk. Donations for FOCH have stopped coming in. I hope that you are making those much-needed donations directly to FOCH, as is appropriate: Friends of the Central Highlands, PO Box 851461, Yukon, OK 73085-1461.

Sick List: It seems ironic that those who have done the most for this chapter are those we find now with chronic illnesses that make it nearly impossible for them to continue in our fellowship. Please address your prayers for these stalwarts and drop them a note from time to time. They may not want their personal info published, so send cards to me and I promise to forward. My address is inside the back cover. Among those I know to be in this category are: Past Chapter President (PCP) George Draeger, PCP Len Morley, Sully & Ilse Sullivan, Rich and Ethel Mosby.

Your Canceled Stamps Are Needed: Our good and faithful

memorial member Bernace Burgmeier recycles canceled stamps for profit, which is donated to the University of Washington Hospital Cancer Research Center. Please collect your used stamps and those of your neighbors and send them to Bernace: Bernace C. Burgmeier, PO Box 73566, Puyallup, WA 98373-0566.

Chapter Annual Meeting: Officers for the 2002-2003 chapter year will be elected in Wenatchee on 11 August. Terms run from 1 October through 30 September. You need to be there and be paid up for 2002 so you can vote. A member of the Nominating Committee may contact you but if you haven't been contacted by the time you read this and are willing and able to take an office, please contact 1st VP Rich Kellar (509) 982-2890, 2nd VP Randy Martz (509) 758-8389 or Sgt-At-Arms Ron Soden (253) 756-1784.

Info Packets Mailed: A packet with info on the 11 August potluck picnic and annual meeting, the committee meeting in Spokane, a letter from 2nd VP Randy Martz—and probably other stuff I've forgotten—was mailed to all chapter members in May. If you didn't get one, call Randy (509) 758-8389 in Clarkston, WA.

Y'all come to Spokane, 23-29 September 2002!!!!!!

4TH INFANTRY DIVISION TOURS

Last call for the Central Highlands!

VIETNAM 2002

We are headed to Saigon, Cu Chi, Ho Bo Woods, Pleiku, Camp Enari/Hensel Field, Kontum, Dat To, Ben Het, Mang Yang Pass (Opening scenes of *We Were Soldiers*), An Khe & An Khe Pass, Quy Nhon, Tuy Hoa, Nha Trang and more!

If you take the III Corps Tour you can visit Trang Bang, Go Da Ha, Dau Tieng airstrip, Ben Cui Plantation, Cao Khoi Plantation, Tay Ninh, Nui Ba Den, Katum, 173rd Drop Zone and COSVN headquarters plus Vung Tau, Long Binh/ Ben Hoa & more!



Roger Barton on Hwy. 14 to Pleiku

Escorted by Butch Sincock, Vietnam Infantry Veteran. Tour departs Los Angeles. Includes: round-trip international air plus in-country air; all ground transportation; most meals; English speaking Vietnamese guide; air-conditioned van; all hotels; most meals; meeting with former foes; stops at your "special places" and more. Bring your wife, your children and your friends as others have done. Major credit cards accepted.

Talk to those 4th Division Veterans, friends and family members who have gone with us before. This is an awesome experience for all involved. Call or write for free tour brochures today. Don't delay. Act NOW!

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2001 Vets at Dragon Mountain



Tay Ninh's Cao Dai Temple



Our first Vietnam Ivy Tour on the road near Tuy Hoa

- Three options to choose:*
- #1 Highlands Tour \$2,324
November 13 - 23, 2001
 - #2 III Corps Tour \$1,972
November 9 - 17, 2001
 - #3 Both Highlands and III Corps \$2,588
November 9 - 23, 2001

Need Active Army “Ivy Leaves” Newsletters

by Bob Babcock

A glaring hole in the archives of both the 4th Infantry Division museum at Fort Hood, TX and in our 4th Infantry Division Association archives is that we have only a very small sampling of the “Ivy Leaves” newspapers that were published in WWII, the Cold War, and in Vietnam. (We are not looking for our Association newsletter by the same name, Paul Brunelle did a great job in building up an almost complete set of those, which are in our archives). We regularly get requests from our veterans, especially those from Vietnam, wanting to find a story that they know was published in the *Ivy Leaves*. My most recent request was for an issue that covered a rocket attack on Camp Enari on July 2, 1969 - and we couldn't fill that request for information from either the 4ID museum or from our 4IDA archives. (If you recall that attack, let me know the details and I will pass the info on to Alden Varney).

For example, with the newspaper coming out weekly during the four and a half years the 4ID was in Vietnam, we only have the following issues - 11/4/66, 12/2/66, 1/6/67, 1/13/67, 1/20/67, 4/7/67, 6/25/67, 8/13/67, 12/1/67, 12/8/67, 12/29/67, 12/29/68, 1/26/69, 2/9/69, 3/29/70, 4/26/70, and 5/3/70. From the Cold War we only have 12/8/58 and 12/15/58. The daughter of one of our

Requesting Ivy Leaves” newspapers that were published in WWII, the Cold War, and in Vietnam.

deceased vets sent our WWII collection from the 42nd Field Artillery who cared enough to contact me when she found the issues in his attic. She sent several copies from 1941 at Fort Benning and 1942 from Camp Gordon and a copy from 10/21/43 at Camp Gordon Johnston, FL. We have none that were produced in the States or overseas after that date.

We will be happy to take the actual papers or copies of them. Unfortunately, we are not in a position to take them on loan and return them to you. If you have some that you can't copy and don't want to give up, please contact me and we'll work out some way to get a copy made for both our Association archives and the 4ID museum at Fort Hood.

Our plan is to take whatever we get, including the ones currently in the archives at Fort Hood, scan them onto a CD, and make them available to our members and the general public for the cost of reproduction of the CD plus postage.

If you have issues to donate (again, either the actual active duty 4ID newspaper or a copy of it - no need to send old

copies of our Association newsletters to me), please send them to Bob Babcock, PO Box 682212, Marietta, GA 30068. I will make sure the 4ID museum gets a copy of what you send.

Battlefield Tours to Europe

To all US veterans of World War II and the Cold War in Europe, their families and friends, who are proud of their military achievements and would welcome free expert advice and information about US veteran's tours to Europe.

Lt. Col. (Ret) Hal Ryder, D-Day veteran and the Grand Old Man of veterans tours says: “I was the first to organize tours for groups of US veterans to visit the battlefields of Europe after World War II. I am proud of my record as a veterans tour operator for over forty years. I operated tours for 59 of the 66 US Infantry divisions, 10 of the 16 US Armored divisions, all the US Airborne divisions, and Eighth, Ninth and Twelfth US airforces.

I have now retired and want to offer my help, expertise and advice free to all US veterans, their families and friends. So if you or your association is planning a pilgrimage to Europe in the future, let me help and advise you. Take a look at www.libertyroad.com and then contact me - Lt. Col. (Ret) Hal Ryder - at info@libertyroad.com”

Photo file...



The 4th Division in Kokomo, IN - September, 2001. Photos by Guy Lewis.



Ed Vander Schar, Greetvill, MI (left) and Guy Lewis, Rockford, MI.

Mail Bag



Subject: Son of a Vet Terry Weibel

Hello,

My name is Shane Weibel, my father is Terry Weibel. He served with the 4th Infantry Buffalo Soldiers as a truck driver in Vietnam during 1971 at An Khe, support platoon on QL 19. He has been attending reunions for the past 3 years now.

I am a High School Social Studies Teacher at Cambridge Isanti High School, Cambridge, MN. I teach 9th grade Civics. For the past three years my dad has spoke to my students about his experiences in the Vietnam War. I know that everyone who served would be proud of the perspective he provides to my students. He does an awesome job, my kids sit spellbound waiting on every word. In my opinion the service he provides is more valuable than any textbook, test, worksheet, or video I could provide. I have included some pictures from his presentation.



Terry Weibel, 4th Infantry Buffalo Soldiers, speaks with students at the Cambridge Isanti High School about his Vietnam experiences.

As a teacher I encourage Vietnam Vets to speak to classes, the lessons you will teach may be the most valuable. If you or anyone is interested in speaking at any school, please do so.

Teachers would love to have you!

Thank for everything you have done for our country. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Proud Son of Vietnam Vet

Shane Weibel, CIHS
weibes76@msn.com
shane@cambridge.k12.mn.us



Subject: March 2002 Ivy Leaves

The March 2002 issue of *Ivy Leaves*, page 26, lists Michael D. Cramer as a new member. Michael served with D/3/12 Inf in Vietnam. He stopped by Cookeville, TN a few years ago to say hello to Pat (Doc) Dudney, our company medic, but failed to leave a phone number or address. We've been looking for him ever since. D/3/12 has been having a reunion every two years for a long time and Michael is one of the guys we haven't been able to reach. I would appreciate your help. Our next reunion will be in Chicago in Aug. 2003. Either e-mail me his address and phone number at smitty46@iglide.net or send him my information:

James (Smitty) Smith
1850 Edwin Rd.
Hickory Valley, TN 38042
Phone: 731-764-6564
e-mail: smitty46@iglide.net

I enjoy *Ivy Leaves*. The articles are great and the extra info. has helped keep some of us in touch. Thanks so much..

Smitty

Editors note: I asked Roger Barton to mail Smitty Mike's address and I received this note soon afterwards. This kind of stuff is what it's all about!

.....

Thanks again for sending Mike Cramer's number and address. We had a good 2 1/2-hour cry and conversation last night. It was the first time Mike had heard from any of the D/3/12 guys since he got home over 30 years ago.

God Bless!
James Smith



Editors note: I received the following thank you card from David H. McNerney for the flowers I had sent from the association for his wife, Charlotte's memorial service.

Dear Greg,

Thanks for the traditional "Ivy" Div floral wreath, ivy and white gladiolas and daisies. It was very nice & deeply appreciated! Hope

you will publish my Thanks to all the members.

David H. McNerney



Dear Sirs:

In the good old days of the Hurtgen Forest, no one ever really believed that some day we might date a letter in the year 2002 but here's one.



I was a communications man with the 87th Chemical Mortar Battalion (4.2" mortars) and at the time we were supporting the 4th Division but I don't recall just exactly where now except

that it was in the Hurtgen Forest. I was with our forward observer at the time, however. An officer approached our forward observer from the 4th that asked him to bring our medic up to help out since the medic who was in attendance for the 4th had been wounded. (Medics in the mortar battalions were assigned to each company but were not really an integral part of the company roster). I had not heard what the reason for the request was until I talked to our medic after he came back through the lines. It seems that one of the platoon leaders or perhaps a squad leader had stood up to call commands to his men when a bullet (presumably German) went through one side of his cheek and out the other side without touching his teeth, gums or any other part of his mouth. I never did hear what happened to that Sergeant but often wondered about him.

My wife and I were invited to Germany last year to meet some German vets so we flew over. We learned a couple of things about them. For one, they are not that much different than we are. They had folks back home to grieve for them too. Another thing we learned was that when a German vet dies, he is not allowed to have any ceremonies at the gravesite like we do, blowing of Taps, three rifle volleys, etc. And they are buried in graves that have two or three soldiers in each grave. Seems that the reason for the lack of ceremonies is that they lost the war so they don't deserve them.

Just a couple of revelations about the other side, if you will.

R. Keith Ostrum



Dear Mr. Buell:

I recently read your column "Battle of the Bulge" in the 4th Inf. "Ivy Leaves" and noted your mention of the first army to penetrate the Siegfried Line.

At that time, I was a rifle platoon leader in Co. C, 8th Inf. Regt. I have no idea of all the units involved in the breakthrough or the time or day even. However, if we all jumped off at the same time, I cannot see how any unit could have gotten thru any quicker than we did.

We jumped off at about 0400 or 0500 that morning and by absolute pure luck, and I mean pure luck, we had gotten thru the line, taken out three bunkers and had taken about 20 or 30 German prisoners at just about the same time the sun was coming up and giving us a little light. That would have been about 0700 or 0800 that morning.

This fact can be verified by my CO at that time. His address is

COL. Joseph Gude|
4858 Chevy Chase Blvd.
Chevy Chase, MD 20015

If all the armies and divisions jumped off at the same time I would assume it would be safe to say a unit of the 4th Inf. had to have been one of the first to penetrate the Siegfried Line.

Would appreciate hearing from you and please excuse this very old typewriter and very old typist.

Respectfully,

Bruce C. Shearer
5 Suncrest Terrace
Oneonta, NY 13820



Re: March 2002 Article 'The Life Saving Helmet'

Dear Mr. Barton,

I am writing to you concerning the article written by Lee Rung 'The Life Saving Helmet'.

I am Private First Class Erwin M. Blant, Company Runners of the 1st Platoon, Company F, 8th Infantry Regiment of the 4th Division. I came into the Division as a replacement in late January 1945 during the Battle of the Bulge. This was after Sergeant

Melvin Pike had left the Company because of injuries. After his recovery, he came back to the Company and he was my Sergeant. Frankly to us in the Company, he was Sergeant Pike. We were so busy chasing and fighting Germans, I never got to know his first name until the past few years when one of the boys gave it to me.

During the Battle of the Bulge and Central Europe battles, Sergeant Pike was once again injured by artillery fire that struck him in the leg, which interfered with his being able to walk. The place of injury was in the woods and he needed help to get to the road and the medics. I assisted and carried him out to the medics while the Company moved ahead. Your article brought back fond memories of the past. He was a real gentleman.

I wish to express my condolences to the family.

Very truly yours,

Erwin M. Blant



Gregory Rollinger,

About 20 years ago my friend Chuck found a Zippo lighter at the Tampa, FL fairgrounds. There were some inscriptions on the lighter, but only first names and a line reading CoB, 2nd Bn, 8th Infantry, Vietnam '66-'67. My friend held on to the lighter all these years half-way searching for the owner

or someone belonging to one of the names on the lighter. About 6 months ago, Chuck approached me, knowing I am a frequent computer user, and challenged me to find the owner or survivor whose names were on the Zippo. I send a couple of letters, several e-mails, and eventually stumbled upon a guy who had the roster for the 8th Infantry. Since the name "Glenn" on the Zippo was spelled with two N's it seemed it was relatively easy to find a last name for him. So I received and e-mail a couple of weeks ago from Mike Robinson giving me Glenn's last name. Voila! I had a whole name to go by but no address. I began my further search by going to US Search on the web. Searching for this name state by state I was able to locate two Glenn Draughn's, one in Indiana and one in Tampa, Florida. I then went to the white page directory on the web and located an address and phone number for the guy. Today, Glenn is going to be reunited with his Zippo, a gift from his mother prior going to Vietnam. There's more to the story, but if you could use an article for your magazine I would be happy to submit one. I first would like to obtain written permission from all those involved to use their names in my article. Let me know if you would be interested in an article.

Linda L. Gossett
32819 Forest Ave.
Leesburg, FL 34788

Who Are These Guys?

By Greg Rollinger

On the original version of the book, "Band of Brothers" this picture was on the cover. When they reprinted it this year, they used the cover from the HBO series with about 13 guys standing in a line so this picture was relegated to the photo section in the middle of the book.

We believe the guys were from the 8th Infantry Regiment (or units supporting them) since it was the 8th who linked up with the 101st at St-Marie-du-Mont. If you know who they are, send me a note and I'll put it in a future issue of *The Ivy Leaves*.

On June 7, in the square at Ste. Marie-du-Mont, privates Guth, Frank Mellet, David Morris, Daniel West, Floyd Talbert and C. T. Smith of Easy Company, 101st AB, posed with three infantrymen from the 4th Division (back row) who had come in from Utah Beach.



Schedule of Events

Upcoming Chapter Level Events/Meetings National 4th Infantry (IVY) Division Association

July 2002:

❖ 25-28 - 35th Infantry Association Reunion

From July 25-28, the Seattle area will be full of Cacti Blue and Cacti Green 'cause the mighty 35th Infantry Association will be at the airport Doubletree! The Doubletree is located about a five-minute ride from the Seattle/Tacoma International Airport. A free shuttle runs 24/7, at 15-minute intervals, to and from the hotel. This is a first class hotel and we have negotiated a very reasonable \$89 a night+ for rooms. There are too many attractions to list them all. Be assured that no one should complain about having nothing to do. Consider within twenty miles are the Museum of Doll Art, Museum of Aviation, Woodland Park Zoo, Seattle Center (Flag Pavilion, Monorail, Opera House, Pacific Science Theater, Space Needle, Children's Museum), Seattle Waterfront (including among other wonderful attractions, many wonderful cruises), and Downtown Seattle.

The are three major shopping centers within ten miles, including the Super Mall of the Great northwest. Within 15 miles are four golf courses and also four casinos. SAFECO Field (baseball Mariners) is only 15 miles away. Of course, Seattle is also known for its microbreweries and wineries. For the more adventurous, Mt Rainier and Olympic National Forest are 70 miles away, Mt St. Helens 120 miles, and Vancouver only a couple of hours away. In summary plenty to do for the whole family, so YES, you CAN make it your summer vacation if you wish. However, if you would rather just hangout in the well stocked with goodies, photo albums, and Cacti memorabilia Hospitality Rooms—that is okay too. There will be smoking and nonsmoking Hospitality Rooms. I know there are several of you living in the area that have never attended a Cacti reunion; we geographically rotate reunion sites for just this reason. Here is your chance to become part of the wonderful Cacti family; you'll feel like strangers for, oh, about two minutes maximum. Please join us!

Agenda

■ Thursday, July 25 - 1500 - Reunion Registration and Hospitality room opens (there will be two Hospitality Rooms—Smoking and Nonsmoking). We are asking that all photo albums be displayed in the Nonsmoking Room. Dinner on your own in Company/Unit groups locally. Many fine restaurants are available locally.

■ Friday, July 26 - 1300 - Hospitality Room opens - Reunion registration available at this time. The Annual Bravo Company 2/35th Infantry luncheon will be held at 1300 hrs. Location TBD.

■ Saturday, July 27 - 0900 to 1200 hrs. Association Business Meeting. (Cacti Association Members) -1300-Hospitality Rooms opens and will close from 1700 until Banquet is over then reopen until—??? -1700-Assn/and individual Company/Unit Photos Location TBD. -1730-1830 Reception — Cash Bar -1830-2130 Annual Memorial Service and Banquet.

■ Sunday, July 28 - Informal gatherings and Departures. No planned activities. Various local Church Services are available in the area. Hospitality Room clean up. 0800-1200—pick up your Photo Albums Lots of time for visiting.

Questions: Contact Pete Birrow at 1-978-649-6562 or sbirrow@aol.com or Jim Anderson at 1-360-757-7562 or mnosredna@cnw.com

August 2002:

❖ 11th - Northwest Chapter Meeting/Reunion/Elections/Pot Luck Picnic

The Northwest Chapter will hold its annual meeting/election/potluck picnic in Wenatchee WA on Sunday August 11th 2002 The time will be from 1400-1700 (2pm-5pm for those who've forgotten). The place will be Picnic Shelter #2; Walla Walla Point Park, on the west bank of the Columbia River, off Walla Walla St, near Lowe's Hardware in Wenatchee, WA. To RSVP or for further information contact Bob Reilly at 509-667-2416 (Cell: 509-669-2416), or:joans.bob@verizon.net

September 2002:

❖ 18-19 - 84th National Reunion

The 84th National Reunion of the National 4th Infantry (IVY) Division Association will be held at the 379 room DoubleTree Hotel, Spokane City Center. The hotel is next to Spokane's Riverfront Park and is in the heart of downtown Spokane.

Parking is free and Valet service is available. Free shuttle service to Spokane International Airport Room rates are \$88 single/double or \$98 for triple or quad. Make hotel reservations directly with the hotel at 509-455-9600. Be sure to tell them that you will be attending the National 4th Infantry Division Association reunion.

Schedule of Events/Tours

■ Monday, September 23rd - arrival day, golf can be arranged.

■ Tuesday, September 24th - Registration, Hospitality Room open.

■ Wednesday September 25th - Jet Boating in Hell's Canyon, Registration, Hospitality Room open

■ Thursday, September 26th - Registration, Hospitality Room open, Age of Elegance Tour, Committee meetings, Western Barbecue in the park

■ Friday, September 27th - Executive Continental Buffet Breakfast, 1st Business meeting, Registration, Hospitality Room open, Coeur d' Alene Lake Luncheon cruise, Memorial Service @ Vietnam Veteran's Memorial at Riverfront Park with special honors to PSG Bruce Grandstaff 4ID Medal of Honor recipient., Buffet dinner with 3 salads, pork loin & salmon, music, drawings.

■ Saturday, September 28th - Executive Continental Buffet Breakfast, 2nd Business meeting, Hospitality Room open, Cataldo Mission Silver Country & Gold Mine Tour, Registration, Attitude Adjustment Time (cash bar), 84th Annual National Reunion Banquet with awards and drawings, Hospitality Room open.

■ Sunday, September 29th - Barbecue Dinner enroute to Grand Coulee Dam Laser Light Show.

October 2002:

❖ 18-20 - Carolinas Chapter Fall Mini-Reunion

Comfort Inn, Mt Airy NC - Hotel phone 336-789-2000 Contact Norman Webb at 336-786-4780 or Rick Adams at 864-576-7359 RJAdams90@cs.com

November 2002:

❖ B/2/8th Vietnam Veterans Reunion

B/2/8th Vietnam Veterans are planning a reunion during Veterans Day in Washington, D.C. No specific details are available as yet...watch this space for further details or contacts: Mike Hughes 204 Skyline Locust Grove VA 22508 504-972-1743 or George Hosso 9544 Lexington Ave Brookfield IL 60513 708-387-0344 or Steve Wittenberg 4 Columbia Rd Ardsley NY 10502 WITTENDOG@aol.com

April 2003:

❖ 25-27 - Carolinas Chapter Spring Mini-Reunion

Holiday Inn Airport, Columbia SC - Hotel phone 803-794-9440 Contact Rick Adams at 864-576-7359 or RJAdams90@cs.com

For further information concerning any of these of these events, contact the appropriate chapter treasurer.

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