

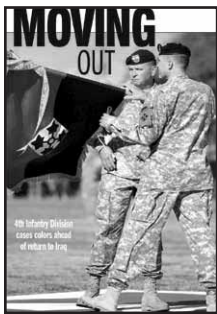
VOLUME  
LXXXVIIINUMBER  
NO 2

# THE IVY LEAVES

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

## 4th Infantry Division cases colors

By Staff Sgt. Brent A. Hunt,  
1st BCT, 4th ID PAO



Marking the official beginning of the 4th Infantry Division's deployment to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Soldiers of the "Ivy" Division cased their colors at a ceremony

on Fort Hood's Cameron Field.

Although 470 Soldiers from the division's Support Brigade have already made their way to the troubled region to set-up beans and bullets for the incoming troops, the rest of the division's 20,500 Soldiers are scheduled to hit ground through the rest of this year.

"Only 580 days ago, you (the 4th Inf.

Div.) cased your first colors when you went to Iraq, yet here we are again," said Lt. Gen. Thomas F. Metz, commanding general of III Corps and Fort Hood. "You have a tough job ahead of you with a tough and nasty insurgency. I can assure you that the enemy knows the 4th Infantry Division is back in town."

During the division's first OIF deployment in April 2003, the headquarters was established in Tikrit, Iraq, and the division's brigades were located over a large area in the "Sunni Triangle." The division conducted 11 major division level operations, which led to the capture of, the then most wanted man in the world, Saddam Hussein.

This time around, instead of being focused on, among many things, a regime change, Soldiers will be tasked with creating a safe and secure environment for the Iraqi people to form a democratic government,

Please turn to COLORS on page 3

### Belated Recognition:

## 4th Division Veteran Receives France's Highest Military Award

By Mike Urban

Vernon L. Hiester was dirty when he reached Paris.

Since wading onto Utah Beach during the June 6, 1944, D-Day invasion, he and other members of the Army's 4th Infantry Division had spent almost three months battling their way across France to reach the City of Light.

So although the Sinking Spring man and his fellow soldiers had helped liberate Paris from the Germans – called the greatest military victory in modern times by Winston Churchill – they were deemed too grubby to take part in the victory parade a few days later.

**"I didn't do anything the other guys didn't do," ...Vernon Hester**

Instead of receiving kisses and drinking champagne along the Champs Elysees during that celebration, Hiester's division marched on.

"We had more work to do," he said.

Two weeks later, the 4th Division would be the first infantry unit to break into Germany, and soon after it would take part in two of the war's most crucial conflicts – the Battle of Hurtgen Forest and the Battle of the Bulge.

Please turn to BELATED on page 4

## Fort Hood Chapter Creates Scholarship Plan for Kids of KIAs

I spoke with you on the phone last week about running an ad for the 4th ID Association, Fort Hood Chapter's scholarship gift for heirs. Due to the fact most of us are due to leave for Iraq within the next month, the offer for a "chapter report" will have to wait. We do appreciate the offer though.

Here is the info I need to have advertised:

4th Infantry Division Association, Fort Hood Chapter is sponsoring limited scholarship gifts that are designated specifically for those children and spouses that lost their mother/father or husband/wife in OIF 1 or OEF, and are either attending college now, or strongly desire to attend college in the future. Our committee is attempting to finalize the number of parties eligible for this gift. Those who do not respond by the deadline will be excluded from this opportunity. If interested, please contact by email:

ted.o.kostiche@ctsf.army.mil

or send a letter addressed to:

Rear Detachment (ATTN: Ted Kostiche)  
AVN REGT 4th ID  
Fort Hood, TX 76544

**3ID Scholarship Fund**  
Students were selected by lottery drawing at the National 4th Infantry Division Association's 87th Reunion Banquet on Saturday July 23, 2005, each to receive a \$1000.00 scholarship to the schools of their choice  
..see page 3



## FROM THE EDITOR...

Dick Taylor

### Unit Insignias

Special thanks to Verne Kindschi who provided the page of unit insignias which will be published in the March edition. There was some space available so I've added Rogers Law contribution of the 40th Tank Battalion; the 4th Engr. Bn. insignia of the Vietnam and Iraq era; and the 4th STB, 3rd BnCT recently born at Ft. Carson.

Thanks to all who sent in their insignias.

### Newspaper articles.

If you read a good story about 4ID soldiers in your local newspaper. Please call the newspapers main office and ask for the "Permissions Editor". They usually give permission for us to reprint their stories but we can't publish any of their stories without their permission.

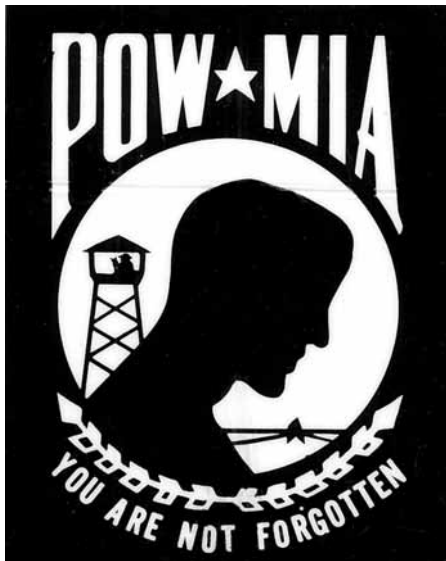
They have copyrights to all of their stories and we don't want to get *The Ivy Leaves* in trouble.

Fourthfully,

Dick Taylor  
*Volens et Potens*

### 'Ivy Leaves' Deadline

Deadline for submission of copy for the March edition of *The Ivy Leaves* is February 1st, 2006.



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**ANY CHANGES OR CORRECTIONS OF DATA SHOULD BE SENT TO THE EDITOR AT <IVYLEAVESEDITOR@AOL.COM>**

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## COLORS from page 1

training an Iraqi army and Police force to be able to protect themselves and to destroy an influx of terrorists pouring in from neighboring countries dedicated to disrupting the growth of democracy in the Middle East.

“Our main goal is to train the Iraqi forces, so they can take care of their own security,” said Maj. Gen. J.D. Thurman, commanding general of the 4th Inf. Div. “I believe the Iraqi people will prevail with the help of our American Soldiers, coalition forces, Marines, the Air Force and the Navy, because they are doing a great job over there.

“I expect a lot out of the Iraqi forces,” added Thurman. “We are there to help them and they have to take the lead. Everything we do will have Iraq’s in the lead. We want them to be successful, and we will help them be successful but they have to take command.”

The division has been extremely busy between deployments. They have gotten 71,000 pieces of equipment in tip-top condition, became the Army’s newest modular division, added a Brigade Combat Team and have been the testing ground for some of the military’s most high-tech equipment.

In addition, they have trained for months at “combat-speed” by honing their combat skills, dealing with terrorists in an urban setting, negotiating with the locals, dealing with an international media contingency and planning for every conceivable scenario the division might encounter. To add, they have just finished back-to-back-to-back National Training Center rotations in the heat of California’s Mojave Desert.

“I feel more at ease this time, because I know what’s going to happen,” said Staff Sgt. Kevin Dukes, operations sergeant with 3rd Battalion, 16th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd BCT, who was with the division the first time it deployed to Iraq. “A lot of Soldiers look up to me, because I have combat experience. I try to instill that the training we do is very important, because it could save your life when we are in Iraq.”

Although the division returns to the desert with more than 50 percent of its personnel with combat experience, many Soldiers have never seen combat action and have mixed feelings.

“I’m nervous about going to Iraq, but a little excited,” said Spc. John Lewis, health

care specialist with Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2nd Bn., 77th Field Artillery Regiment, 4th BCT. “Today’s ceremony was really moving and it signified the ending here and the beginning of a new life, for a year, when the colors are uncased in Iraq.”

Even though the packed out crowd of Soldiers, family members and local leaders from the Central Texas community expressed some sadness but yet a lot of pride as the division gets ready to depart, most expect a lot of the same success the division has enjoyed since its formation, in 1917, as they head back to the Global War on Terrorism.

“I feel the mission will be accomplished when I bring every one of these Soldiers back,” said Thurman. “I believe that this mission is important, because I don’t want my grandchildren worrying about someone blowing up a mall while they are there. We have to finish this Global War on Terrorism.

“We don’t have a choice whether we are successful in this Global War on Terrorism,” added Thurman. “We must be successful. The important thing is to never forget what happened on Sept. 11.

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## Scholarships Awarded

The following students were selected by lottery drawing at the National 4th Infantry Division Association’s 87th Reunion Banquet on Saturday July 23, 2005, each to receive a \$1000.00 scholarship to the schools of their choice.

- Alexander Cox of East Lansing, MI will receive a \$1000.00 scholarship. He is attending George Washington University in Washington, DC.
- Nadine Leonard of Colorado Springs, Colorado will receive a \$1000.00 scholarship. She is attending Puget Sound University in Tacoma, Washington.
- James Pawlosky of Bay City, TX will receive a \$1000.00 scholarship. He is attending the University of Texas at San Antonio, TX.

The 4th Infantry Division Association wishes them the best.

*Alex Cooker  
Secretary Scholarship Committee*

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## Army Historical Foundation Offers Memberships

For well over two centuries, the United States Army has been on the front lines of the fight to preserve and protect American freedom and democracy. The many men and women who serve in the Army have been present at every major battle, often in the most difficult situations and with the most at stake, to defend these cherished ideals. We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to our soldiers for their fearless bravery and sacrifice.

The Army Historical Foundation is committed to preserving the heritage of the American soldier. By creating new learning experiences and continuing our on going educational outreach programs, the work of the Foundation ensures that the Army’s history will be preserved and presented to millions of Americans. But we need your help.

### **The Army Historical Foundation is committed to preserving the heritage of the American soldier.**

By joining the Foundation as a member, you can be a part of our efforts to honor the Army’s soldiers. Throughout the coming year, you will receive news about the Foundation, including our newest and most important project – building the National Museum of the United States Army.

For more info please call us: (703) 522-7901 or visit us at: [www.armyhistory.org](http://www.armyhistory.org)

# A Rewarding Visit

By Mac McAllister

During a recent trip during a layover in Atlanta, Georgia, I found the airport restaurant was packed. As I surveyed the tables with my tray in hand looking for an empty spot, I saw none. Then I spotted a couple of soldiers in their dusty looking fatigues. I stopped by their table which had an empty chair, and asked if I might join them. They respectfully and graciously invited me to sit. I joined them and started asking questions like a FOX News reporter. They were very refreshing to me. They advised me that they were from a National Guard Unit currently in Iraq, and had been home on leave. Not once did they say it was hard to go back to a war zone. Not one negative comment was made by them. They did say they were grateful that their trip was paid for, and that their leave time started when they reached home. Not when they departed their unit. These two young men were positive in every way.

When I asked about their mission, they did not hesitate to tell me that they were

**...they were from a National Guard Unit currently in Iraq, and had been home on leave. Not once did they say it was hard to go back to a war zone.**

doing an important job in a difficult situation. They said they were making progress each day.

After a while, another young man approached our table: "Coming or going?" In reply, the two soldiers said, "Going back." Then the stranger said: "I thank you and support you." He padded each one of the soldiers on their back.

I then, with a swelling in my eyes and voice, said: "That must have really felt good." The two soldiers replied: "Yes, it does." Then one of them took my hand and said: "I'm sorry that you did not get to feel that in your war (Vietnam)." They hugged me and we parted.

I was humbled and felt comfort that young men and women of that caliber are serving our nation.

*Submitted by John Kapior*

# Reconciliation: Important Duty

By Tom Lacombe

Last winter I was lucky enough to be chosen to serve on a writers' panel with Wayne Karlin, a Marine who served in Vietnam. Wayne, a professor, has collaborated with Vietnamese authors to publish their works, in an effort to promote friendship with our former enemy. After meeting Wayne, I happened onto the website of Homer Steedley, who served with 1/8 of the 4th ID.

Homer wanted to return personal effects to the family of an NVA soldier he had killed. I emailed Wayne, and he contacted friends in Vietnam. They found the family. Wayne then returned the personal effects to the man's home village. The entire village turned out. There were 200 men from this village who died in the war. Very few of their bodies ever made it home. You can check out the rest of this story on Homer's website @ <http://www.swampfox.info/PerDocNVA-Med/NVAMedDocs.html>

## BELATED from page 1



Vernon L. Hester wears the French Legion of Honor that he received Memorial Day, 2005

**Belated  
merci**

Last week, on Memorial Day, the 85-year old Hiester finally got his thanks from France.

He received the French Legion of Honor, the highest military award in France, during a ceremony at the World

War II Memorial in Washington.

Presenting the awards to Hiester and eleven other American veterans who helped liberate France was Jean-David Levitte. French ambassador to the United States.

Like many World War II veterans, the low-key Hiester appreciates the honor but is clearly no glory seeker.

"I didn't do anything the other guys didn't do," he said.

Hiester also has received high honors from his own country.

He received the Bronze Star for his service and the Purple Heart for shrapnel wounds to his left leg, torso and neck from an exploding artillery shell in the Hurtgen Forest.

*(Thanks to Mike Urban and the Reading Eagle Company for permission to reprint.)*

## VA to Partner with U.S. Olympic Committee to Qualify Disabled Veterans for Paralympics

**WASHINGTON (Nov. 17, 2005)** - Disabled veteran athletes can now set their sights even higher and become eligible to compete in some of the nation's premiere athletic venues thanks to an agreement between the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

"This is a tremendous opportunity for America's disabled veterans to excel and compete in elite level athletic competition," said the Honorable R. James Nicholson, Secretary of Veterans Affairs. "The agreement between VA and the U.S. Olympic Committee will further inspire disabled veteran athletes to reach their fullest potential in sports competition."



4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division has begun its second deployment to Iraq. The Sustainment Brigade (formerly known as Division Support Command or DISCOM) is in Camp Taji, Iraq and took over the logistical support role for the Baghdad area on October 15, preparing to provide beans and bullets to the remainder of the division as they arrive during November and December.

While visiting Fort Hood on November 3, I saw a flurry of actions as the 4ID prepared their equipment and people for deployment as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom IV. Unlike the previous deployment where all movement of equipment was crammed into a three-week window, a steady stream of equipment has been flowing to Iraq since September and will continue until everything is completed late this year. Troop movements of the maneuver (1BCT, 2BCT, 3BCT, 4BCT), fires (formerly DivArty), and aviation brigades have begun and will continue until the entire division is deployed before Christmas. The new battle uniform was very visible all across the 4ID portion of Fort Hood.

My timing was good and I was able to attend a meeting of the Fort Hood

**In talking to MG Thurman I saw a leader who knows his mission and is dedicated to insure the 4ID writes another successful chapter into our long history of service to our nation.**

chapter of the 4IDA. In talking to the officers and Soldiers, many returning for their second tour and many going for their first tour with the 4ID, I found a high level of enthusiasm and commitment to the mission. I told the attendees that we have a strong force of 4ID veterans who are standing by ready to provide whatever support is needed for our active duty Soldiers. As their needs in Iraq are determined, they will funnel them back to us and we will let you know how you can help.

In talking to MG Thurman I saw a leader who knows his mission and is dedicated to insure the 4ID writes another successful chapter into our long history of service to our nation. This mission will be very heavily focused on training Iraqi Army forces and insuring they are prepared to take the lead in ongoing combat operations.

On a personal note, I met many 4ID Soldiers, family members, and retirees at the book signing sponsored by the 4ID Museum gift shop. The real highlight of my trip to Fort Hood was having dinner with the current CO who will be leading the company I served with in Vietnam into Iraq and with a former CO, 1SG and PSG from my old battalion who told me about their exploits in Tikrit, Iraq during OIF I. I never tire of hearing war stories from 4ID veterans.

As the 4ID gets established in Iraq, they will again start publication of the "Ivy Leaf" - the same weekly newspaper name as was used in WWI, WWII, and Vietnam. That newspaper will be posted each week on the 4ID web page at [\\_www.hood.army.mil/4id/](http://www.hood.army.mil/4id/) - check it often and click on the "News" button to read the latest news about the 4ID in Iraq.

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## Getting to Know You

Entered the U. S. Army in March, 1966 at Los Angeles, CA. Went through basic training at Fort Irwin, CA with B Co., 2/34 Armor. After graduation was assigned to the 4th Infantry Division, A Troop, 1/10 Cavalry at Fort Lewis, WA. OJT was accomplished by working with the Cavalry with all three brigades during final maneuvers preparing for deployment to the Republic of South Vietnam. With an Infantry MOS I became the driver of the infantry track, eventually moving to Scout Track A-12.

Deployed with the 1st. Brigade on the USNS Gordon in September, 1966, spent the first few months of duty in Tuy Hoa, Vietnam as well as regular combat missions, worked joint missions with the South Korean Army prior to moving to Pleiku in March, 1967 to join the rest of the Squadron until my tour of duty was complete.

## Meet our new president, Scott Moffat

Unfortunately I am one of those folks that still work for a living. I started my career as a service representative for the local gas company right after leaving the Army and eventually worked my way up to becoming an Instrument and Electrical Technician. I moved into the oil refining business where I have spent the last thirty years. Currently I am the Operations Manager for a large national firm and head up the Instrument and Electrical Division in the Southwest Region of the United States.

I have two children, a son & daughter and a grand daughter whom all live in Phoenix, Arizona. My son is currently in the Sheriff's Academy and my daughter recently went to work for GE in Scottsdale, AZ after graduating from Northern Arizona University.



EDITOR'S NOTE TO CHAPTER PRESIDENTS: This section of your news magazine is primarily for your Chapter's news and business reports. *The Ivy Leaves welcomes your input.* Please limit text to short/brief reports. And please find someone in your chapter who will take over the responsibility of sending it to us via e-mail at: [ivyleaveseditor@aol.com](mailto:ivyleaveseditor@aol.com) –Thanks!

### CAPITAL CHAPTER

By Roger Barton

September 17, 2005 found the Capital Chapter gathered at Chapter President Norman Lilley's house in Burtonsville, Maryland for their annual Fall Meeting & Crab Feast. Thirty one members and their guests attended this event along with National President Scott Moffat. Steamed Maryland blue crabs headed up the menu and were backed up with all the usual picnic items.

The meeting started off with Larry Schwartz leading the group in the Pledge of Allegiance, and the opening prayer was offered by Ruth Sparks. President Lilley made his opening remarks and introduced National President Scott Moffat. Andy Jurcak presided over the Flames of Remembrance Ceremony and the playing of TAPS. First timer Joe Urbanus was welcomed to his first meeting. Following the reading of our last meeting's minutes and the Treasurer's report by Roger Barton, National President Scott Moffat addressed the group. Roger Barton then gave his report on the Memorial Day 2005 wreath laying ceremonies at the 4ID National Monument at Arlington National Cemetery.



Capital Chapter members at the September 17, 2005 Fall Meeting and Crab Feast. Photo courtesy of Bridgette & Stan Michalski

The election of Chapter Officers for the year 2006 was held with the following results: President, Norman Lilley, Vice President, Steve Shlagel, Secretary/Treasurer, Roger Barton.

Andy Jurcak made a presentation to the Chapter regarding the death of 4ID veteran Laura Walker who was recently killed in action in Afghanistan. She was the daughter of Col. Keith Walker, also a 4ID veteran, and the granddaughter of General Glen Walker who was a 4ID Commander in Vietnam. The Chapter voted to make a donation to the 1/Lt Laura Walker memorial fund at West Point.

An honorary membership was presented to Roland Lilley

for his dedication and assistance to the Capital Chapter. Roland is the brother of Chapter President Norman Lilley and greatly assists the Chapter at our meetings with setup, cooking, etc.

The following were in attendance at the meeting: Roger & Shirley Barton, Spencer & Chase Sherrard, Scott Moffat, Mark & Liz Crassweller, Bill & Midge Gay, Bill & Betty Hanger, Cliff & Judy Hudson, Andy & Lucy Jurcak, Norman & Connie Lilley, Roland Lilley, Heather Lilley, Brigett & Stan Michalski, Logan & Billy Lowers, Don & Honey Manley, Mike May, Larry Schwartz, Ruth Sparks, Steve & Pat Shlagel, Joe Urbanus, and Bobbi Innis.

### CAROLINAS CHAPTER

By Rick Adams

The Carolinas Chapter held the 2005 fall reunion at the Best Western Hotel and Conference Center in Johnson City, Tennessee, September 30 through October 1, 2005.

Thanks to our hosts Robert and Ester Gobble and all the volunteers who made this an outstanding reunion.

Attending were: Rick Adams, Richard and Sheila Bolin, Jack and Mary Jo Crites, Carl Dietz, Carl and Joan Dry, John Frost, Robert and Ester Gobble, Police Chief Lowry, Bill Greenlee, Veda Harger, William McAllister, Bernard Marie, National President Scott Moffat, Sam Nelson, S. Arthur Ricker, Willard and Donna Robershaw, Roy Surratt, Harry and Nancy Troutman, Norman and Faye Webb, Dorsey White, and John and Thelma Worthington.

Thanks to all who got their 2006 Dues in early, dues envelopes have been mailed out a second time to those who have not responded. This adds extra work and cost to the chapter. If your dues are not paid you will be dropped and this will be the final Ivy Leaves until your dues are paid-up. Don't let that happen. If you have a special need, just let me know.

Congratulations to your new 2005-2006 Chapter Officers elected at the fall meeting: John Frost, President, Jack Crites, Sr Vice, Willard Robershaw, Jr Vice, Rick Adams, Secretary-Treasurer, and Carl Dry, Chaplain. We also voted to send a \$500 donation to FOCH.

Notices for Carolinas Chapter Meetings are published in the Ivy Leaves, Chapter Event Section. Get your Registration Forms there, or download them from the 4IDA website, or Email or call me if you have a special need.

The Holidays are upon us, I hope you have a blessed and peaceful Christmas and New Year. Our 2006 Spring Reunion will be held at the Holiday Inn, Columbia South Carolina, April 28-29, 2006. Start making your plans to join us.

## COLORADO CHAPTER

By Gene Carter

The Colorado Chapter has been conducting preparations for the 2007 reunion these last few months. It is never too early to initiate a prioritized time line for milestones. We will host the event during the third week in July, tentatively at the Doubletree Inn. More detailed information will be published at a later dates, as the event gets nearer and nearer.

Our last event for this year will be the wreath laying at Memorial Park on 11 November 2005. It will be old news by the time this article is published. I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every member a joyous holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

## SPOTS DEWITT CHAPTER

By Lyn Lennon

"The Chapter continues to grow as a few new members sign up. Since our last update on 28 Aug we have accounted for 38 more people. We now have accounted for 1484 of a prospective 2484 or 60% of the people in the database. Unfortunately 364 of those are deceased or listed as deceased.

We have 224 people listed in the database as dues paying chapter members. For the past four years we have had more members attending each of the reunions than any other chapter, and we thank each attendee for that.

The hard work on membership continues to be done mostly by Ray Harton and Dave Dollner and we are most appreciative of their efforts.

The Chapter was saddened by the passing of Dennis Viergutz on 17 October 2005. Dennis was born 30 September 1929 and served as Operations Sergeant with 6/29 FA. He later attained the rank of First Sergeant.

On the other hand, we were gladdened to know that Ray Harton and Clay Smith have recovered from serious surgery.

## ILLINOIS CHAPTER

By Bruce Gass

Since this is the December Ivy Leaves, the Illinois Chapter would like to wish you and yours "Season's Greetings."

The Illinois Chapter just concluded our Fall Reunion in Carol Stream, IL. This was a joint reunion with the Wisconsin Chapter. We tried this last year at Lake Geneva, WI, with Wisconsin Chapter hosting, so this one was a pay back. The turn out was good, but it still wasn't what it should be (I always want more people to show up). Guess the ones that were there were the ones that were supposed to be there. It was an honor to have our National President, Scott Moffat, in attendance with his companion Sheryll. Sheryll is originally from Illinois, so this was a homecoming of sorts. And I think Scott got to eat a real White Castle hamburger, not a frozen one.

There were many highlights of the reunion, including the

raffle and a special quilt raffle. With the quilt raffle, we raised \$400.00 for the 4th Layette Program. I want to thank my other half, Sue, for making the 4th quilt for the reunion. For the past couple of years, the Layette Program has been very important to the Illinois Chapter, and both our chapter and the Wisconsin chapter were very pleased to make the donation in both of the chapter's names.

The next Illinois reunion will be in Springfield, IL in April. That should be a good time. Look for details in the Illinois newsletter and on the national web site later.

Remember; keep looking for that person, because he is looking for you too. I know that for a fact.

## LEHIGH VALLEY CHAPTER

By Bruce Wesley



Members of 4ID at the 23rd Annual Vietnam Veterans Reunion in Kokomo, Indiana. Group picture with 4ID flag in front of new Memorial Gardens. If you never attended this reunion you are missing something. This is one *big* family.



The five 4th Infantry Division soldiers in the above picture, all fought with the same company in Vietnam. This picture was taken at the 23rd Annual Vietnam Veterans Reunion in Kokomo, Indiana, in September. Left to right in picture are Ron Sebring, Jim Moser, Bob Derr, Herbert Hood and Al Jumche, Ron, Jim and Bob are new current members of the Lehigh Valley Chapter. All of these guys served with B Co. 3/12th 4ID in Vietnam (1966-1967). Al Jumche was a medic and took care of Ron and Herbert when they got wounded.

## NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

by Frank Bradley

Members and friends of the N.E. Chapter of the National 4th Infantry (IVY) Division Association met in Marlboro, MA at the Holiday Inn on 20-23 October 2005.

Early birds arriving Thursday afternoon found the Hospitality room all set and ready with the usual goodies and libations available for them. Thursday evening most people ate in the Hotel dining room where the food was adequate but the service was slow.

On Friday morning about 10:15 A.M. many members and friends left by bus and private vehicles for the Worcester Art Museum, a 30 minute drive. Fred Corey reports that visitors travel the museum in groups of 11. A very knowledgeable and capable retired schoolteacher guided his group and pointed out the Museum's outstanding features.

On the first floor there is a beautiful Egyptian mosaic transported from that country and reconstructed by U. S. artisans. Nearby, there is a handsome chapel of German origin similarly reconstructed for all to enjoy its exquisite woodwork and lifelike statues. On the second floor there are three different rooms. The first gallery displays American artists from the early 1800s.

The second gallery depicts French Impressionists from the early 1900s. The third gallery is devoted to Modern Abstract art from the early 1900s to the 1920s. So much walking whetted the appetites of all who now went to the Museum's lunchroom to enjoy a substantial and delicious lunch of chicken soup, a tuna or turkey sandwich, hot apple crisp with real whipped cream, and cider, coffee or tea.

Those 4th Division people who walked across the street to the Massachusetts Heritage Museum enjoyed its artifacts from the Civil War; World War I items from the 26th Yankee Division; World War II artifacts from the Americal Division; a Vietnam Room and a very large room with parachutes and other large displays of Airborne artifacts dating from World War I days up to the present time. The Armory is well maintained by the state of Massachusetts with everything spic and span.

Friday evening found everyone in the spacious, well-stocked Hospitality room enjoying 4th Division friends and fellowship. Special members Dot and Don Ellis who journeyed from Oklahoma sparked the festivities.

Saturday morning found the men gathered at a business meeting in a chilly first floor conference room. In the Hospitality room, laughing and carrying on, the ladies, enjoyed dainty cinnamon rolls with coffee or tea before showcasing their artistic and creative talents using sparkles, stars, feathers, beads, pearls and pink or blue spray, to craft bewitching Halloween masks.

At 6:50 P.M. President Kevin O'Connor welcomed members and friends to our banquet. He read Bill Hartigan's poem, "The Men of the 4th," which established the mood for the evening. Ron Brown lighted the memorial candles as Kevin called the units for our solemn Flames of

Remembrance ceremony. The last candle was on a separate table in honor of our MIAs and POWs whose distinctive black flag was draped over an empty chair. President O'Connor asked everyone to please rise. Frank Bradley played "TAPS" before saying a short prayer and Grace before our meal.

After dinner while we were enjoying dessert, Colonel Bill Babcock of the R.I. National Guard gave us a short description of his recent deployment to Baghdad where he visited five different contingents of R.I. National Guard soldiers who are fighting there. Colonel Babcock reported that morale was good in spite of the difficulties encountered.

It was now time for the usual raffle. Since our spring 2006 reunion will be held at the Best Western Mainstay Inn, 151 Admiral Kalbfus Road, Newport, RI. on 27-30 April 2006, our first drawing was for one night's free lodging at the next reunion. Judy Babcock was the winner but declined and we had another drawing. Mike Surro was the lucky winner. Bill Babcock was the winner of the free dinner.

Ray and Lorraine Dunkel donated a digital Poker Game which Ron Brown won. Paul Brunelle won the beautiful large centerpiece donated by Nancy Anderson. Dotty Merola donated lovely table centerpieces which her daughter Christine made. Composed of gourmet candy apples covered with chocolate, caramel and nuts and beautifully swathed in cellophane secured with a silk ribbon, they went to: Mike Pepin, Lorraine Dunkel, Annette Turo, Edith Smolens, Sheri Griffith, Cathy Jo Tooley, Gloria Budrick and Doreen Hoyt. Doreen donated a gorgeous quilt that she made and which

### A Peek into the Past

#### WWII MEMORIES

by Bob Babcock

Christmas Day 1944. Jack Capell, HQ, 8th Infantry Regiment remembers: The weather had cleared somewhat but it was rather cold with snow having come on or about December 20. We were promised we would have hot Christmas dinners on Christmas Day even though we were still holding the line at the front. I didn't know how this would be possible. On that day our kitchen truck came up to regimental headquarters about a quarter of a mile back from where I had chiseled a shelter trench out of the snow and ice. One by one we were allowed to go back to the kitchen truck and get our Christmas dinners. I had the mess kit lid (I had discarded the rest of it) and my canteen cup. I walked back through the ice and snow and was given servings of turkey, reconstituted dehydrated potatoes, some cranberry sauce and a cup of coffee. I was ordered to return to my hole and not to stay by the same truck and eat it there. So with my rifle over my shoulder, I precariously made my way back through the ice and snow, trying to keep from spilling my coffee and dinner until I finally arrived at my hole. When I sat down to eat it, I found the cranberry sauce had frozen to the mess kit and everything was ice cold, including the coffee. I chiseled out the cranberry sauce and had my Christmas dinner. It was the most unusual Christmas dinner I ever had.

will be the main item in an auction at the April meeting.

As our dinner meeting now had ended, President Kevin O'Connor asked everyone to please rise and for Ron Brown and Ray Dunkel to retire the MIA/POW flag. After rendering a snappy salute, Ron and Ray folded the flag until next meeting. President O'Connor now invited all members and guests to retire to the Hospitality room for refreshments and fellowship.

The reunion concluded with our breakaway breakfast Sunday morning and everyone said the last good-byes until next April with wishes for a safe trip home.

Members and guests at our Fall reunion were: Bill & Judy Babcock, Frank Bradley, Alex & Lillian Bernardo, Lucille Brown and Debbie Brown Sopol; Ron & Gail Brown and Sheri & Quinn Griffith; Paul & Betty Brunelle, Bud & Gloria Budrick and Richard & Martha Budrick, Ralph, Susan & Nicole Costa; Howard & Elaine Chaet, Normand & Marcelle Chartier, Fred Corey, Edward & Mike Dodge, Cathy Jo Tooley; Judy Ducharme, Ray & Lorraine Dunkel, Donald & Dorothy Ellis, Heikki & Mardie Fager, First timer David Fogg of the 35th Infantry and 4th Infantry; Richard & Doreen Hoyt, Olga LeGendre, Dotty Merola with guests, Hugo & Rosemarie D'Allessandro, Romeo & Annette Turo, Vivian Greer and Lorraine McGaughey; James Moher & Karen Hamilton, Kevin O'Connor & Nancy Anderson, Paul, Nancy & Michael Pepin; Marge Riiska, Michael & Mary Surro, and Irving & Edith Smolens.

## **NORTHWEST CHAPTER**

**By Richard Kellar**

The Northwest Chapter gathered in Bend, OR. September 10, 2005. We had the meeting and dinner at the Black Bear Diner. There were 9 Chapter member that attended the meeting. There was a very joyful moment at the beginning of our business meeting CSM Mike Hewitt who was the 1st SGT of C Co 1/8th INF from 1967 & 1968 was wounded saving 5 men from his company and awarded the DSC.

The medic Eric G. Czernowski who saved Mike Hewitts life got together for the first time in 37 years and it was a very happy reunion between the two of them and they both live in the state of Oregon. Then we got down to business. We talked about the new baseball caps in which the Chapter will be selling. They are embroidered now one size fits all at the cost of \$16.00 per cap including shipping. The Chapter donated \$100.00 to the layette fund at Fort Hood, Texas and got a thank you letter with a sample of some of the babies clothes and cookbook from them.

Attending the meeting and dinner were William Bussey and wife Linda, CSM Mike Hewitt and wife Joanne, Richard Kellar and wife Connie, David Kuyper, Eugene Roberts and wife Candy, Gil Porter, Rod Olson, Roger Tenbrink and lady friend Jackie, and Eric G. Czernowski.

We had Election of Officers and the following were elected. President: Randy Martz, Sec-Treas.: Richard Kellar, 1st VP William Bussey, 2nd VP Donald Doder, Chaplain: Walter Sauer were all re-elected by acclamation and Roger Tenbrink

was elected Sgt. At Arms.

The following member were not able to make the fall reunion because of health reasons Walt Sauers who is still recovering from surgery last summer and has asked the Officers to please find a replacement for him. Don Doder and Randy Martz are recovering from back injuries.

The Chapter is now selling the baseball caps. I have them in stock so anyone who would like one can send a check for \$16.00 per cap made out to the northwest chapter 4th ID P.O.BOX 609 Odessa, WA 99159.

## **OHIO CHAPTER**

**By Ray Dunkel**

Since my last report Veterans and Thanksgiving Days have been observed and we are now entering the Holiday Season. On behalf of the Ohio Chapters' Officers and members a "Happy and Joyous Holiday Season" is extended to all.

Harry T. Hodge, C/1/12th Inf (Warren, Ohio), Antonio Pesce, 29th FA (Hubbard, Ohio), Sam Pagano, Hqs/4/42nd FA (Niles, Ohio), Robert G. Scheitumpf, E/1/12th Inf (Warren, Ohio), John W. Van Orden, 4th Signal Co. (Proctor, West Virginia), Donald A. Pochopin, B/3/12 Inf (Silver Creek, NY) and Deborah L. Speece, Memorial Member (Silver Spring, Maryland) have recently joined our Chapter. We extend a warm welcome to them and their families. May their association and experiences with the Ohio Chapter provide them with many pleasant memories.

Betty Thompson, Elmer Klaus, Dick Powell, Cecilia Cook, Bob Hafely, Natalie Missenda, Harry Cracraft, Harley Little, Chuck McKee and Lon Murphy have been reported ill or ailing. Our thoughts and prayers go out to them with our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Our sympathy and sincere condolences are extended to the families and friends of: Lester J. Steele – Medical Detachment 22nd Infantry, WWII Sidney J. Speece – Company I, 3rd Bn, 8th Infantry, WWII

*"They do not die whom we call dead; they go from life to life"*

Wow! What a great reunion we had in Dayton. The visit to the United States Air Force Museum was awesome. The exhibits and displays were exceptional in highlighting and explaining the role of military aviation from its inception to the present day. There was so much to see that one could not see everything there in one day. Of particular interest were the actual "Presidential Aircraft" of Presidents Roosevelt, Truman, Eisenhower and Kennedy. Completing our visit to the museum and returning to the hotel there was time for a short rest before gathering in the ballroom for a picnic dinner buffet arranged by Harry Cracraft (A/2/22nd Inf.). After the picnic buffet the Hospitality Suite was opened for those desiring to talk and relax before retiring for the night. Saturday morning the ladies got together in the Holidome area to play "towel bingo" hosted by Lorraine Dunkel, Becky Cracraft, Sue Dearmyer and Marty Cole. The men assembled in the Oak Room where President Cole presided over the Chapter Business Meeting, highlighted by the current



Ohio Chapter Reunion attendees: Pictured above are the Ohio Chapter Members who attended the Ohio Chapter Fall Reunion taken on October 8, 2005 at the Holiday Inn Dayton North, Dayton, Ohio. Submitted by Ray Dunkel.

Front Row, Left to Right: Harry Cracraft, Warren Coate, Tom Seighman, Leo Jereb, Clarence Lindsco, Vic Bonomi, Skip Cole.

Back Row, Left to Right: Roger Dearmyer, Ray Zaney, Rodney Raines, Oakley Noe, Carl Spence, Harley Little, Elmer Glenn, Ed Eberly, John Van Orden, John Hazelton, John Savanick, Ray Dunkel, Rev. Richard Thompson.

Chapter Officers being re-elected to serve another year. Additionally it was decided the Chapters' 2006 Reunion will be held from 5 through 8 October in Zanesville, Ohio. Also agreed upon is that the Chapter will purchase five copies of "Cooking with Pride" from the 4th Infantry Divisions' Layette Program. It was also stipulated the cook books will be raffled during the 2006 Reunion. Traditionally pizza and beverages were served during the noon hour by the Chapter Officers wives. The Flames Banquet kicked off by Roger Dearmyer (B/2/8th Inf.) and Harry Cracraft (A/2/22nd Inf.) placing the POW/MIA Flag in a place of honor. The Reverend Richard Thompson (A/44th FA.), conducted "The Flames of Remembrance Memorial Ceremony" assisted by Edward Eberly (Tank Co. 8th Inf.), Skip Cole (A/3/12th Inf.), Harley Little (Service Co. 8th Inf.), John Van Orden (4th Signal Company) and Harry Cracraft (A/2/22nd Inf.). At the conclusion of dinner Mic Murphy and Gloria Jean to our delight entertained us by singing a number of old favorites. The POW/MIA flag was retired by Roger and Harry, followed by Reverend Thompson who gave the Benediction. Upon completing the Chapters' raffle conducted by the Officer's wives, those who desired retired to the Hospitality Suite to relax and enjoy each others company. In usual fashion the Breakaway Breakfast was well attended and farewells were given followed by "hope to see you next year in Zanesville".

Participating from the 8th Infantry Warren F. Coate, Roger and Sue Dearmyer, Edward J. & Polly Marie Eberly, John & Sue Hazelton, Leo & Marge Jereb, Harley S. Little, Oakley & Laura Noe, Raymond & Elizabeth Zaney; from the 22nd Infantry Victor & Zora Bonomi, Harry & Becky Cracraft, Clarence Lindsco, Natalie Missenda, John & Mary Savanick, Thomas & Bette Seighman, Terry & Barbara Seighman, Carl

Spence & Mary K. Sims; from the 12th Infantry Skip & Marty Cole, Elmer T. Glenn & daughter Linda Rodriguez; from the 44th Field Artillery Reverend Richard Thompson; from the 4th Engineers Ray & Lori Dunkel; from the 4th Signal John Van Orden and from the 23rd Artillery Group Rodney Raines.

A monthly breakfast get together of Chapter members residing in the Warren, Ohio area has been started by Skip Cole and Harry Cracraft. The breakfast has been well attended and provides a means of developing new friendships and the opportunity to talk with brothers with similar experiences.

Finally, 2006 Association dues must be received by the Chapter Treasurer no later than December 31, 2005 for a current Association member to remain in good standing. In the event there is an issue that contributes to non-payment of dues please contact me.

## WISCONSIN CHAPTER

by Roger R Dufek

The chapter met in Illinois the weekend of Oct. 14th, 15th, & 16th for a joint meeting with their chapter. Members from our chapter attending were Terry & Char Weible, Amos Johnson & Doris Zache, Roger R Dufek, Paul & Loretta Burritt, Arlen & Nancy Bliedernicht, Don & Meta Delamore, Allan & Alice Fagley, Chapter President Tom & Evelyn Truesdell, Mike, Sandy & Matt Grobelch, Claude Hocket & Steve Anderson.

The Chapter gave out 4 \$250 scholarships to family members of chapter members. Also \$300 was donated to the 4th Infantry Division Layette Program.

A special surprise was National President Scott Moffat who gave us an update on National business and helped with the scholarship drawing.

The next Chapter meeting will be April 21st & 22nd in Shawano Wisconsin. Watch for the Reunion Registration Form and information sheet in the Chapter newsletter for complete details.

### A Peek into the Past

#### IRAQ MEMORIES

By Bob Babcock

December 14, 2003 – The mother of a Soldier wrote: "My son in 1st platoon, G Troop, 10th Cav wrote: '...OK, I know you want to know. Yes, I was there when we got Saddam. There was one platoon as well as Special Ops troops on each objective. It just so happens that my platoon's objective had Saddam. Pretty cool to be able to be party to the capture of the most wanted man in the world. Unfortunately, I can't say that we did too much, the real credit goes to the Special Ops guys, but we were still right there on top of the action. Sorry, you know the deal, no specifics, but it was pretty exciting. We stayed out till noon today (we started about 1900 hours yesterday) so I am pretty tired...'"

## WATCH US GROW!

### This page is for every 4IDA member to use to help us grow.

(Tear out this page...fill in all the appropriate spaces with info on all the 4ID vets you know who should be a member...make out a check for \$30.00 and mail it to 4IDA Executive Director Rollinger).

### Be a Part of the Team! Watch Us Grow!

(Our by-laws allow for family, friends, memorials for deceased 4ID vets, heirs, supporters, and associates to be members. That would include your local library, VFW Post, military re-enactors, local ROTC posts, National Guard units, *all patriotic Americans. Non-vets can support us but cannot vote on 4IDA official business.*)

### Watch Us Grow by Being a Leader!

Do it Today and mail in this full page (filled out and with your check). Help us fill a full page honoring you (as the sponsor and the new member) on a full page in the next issue of your **IVY LEAVES** news magazine!

Sign here (print clearly) so we can publish a list of leaders. Thanks.

My Name is:

\_\_\_\_\_

#### APPLICATION FOR 4<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Having served with  or been attached to , or a friend of  the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, I hereby apply for membership and enclose \$15.00 for annual dues. (Renewal  New )

Era: WWII  Cold War - Germany  Vietnam  Peacetime  Iraq

Type of Membership: Veteran  Active Duty  Memorial  Associate

I request placement in : Closest Geographic Chapter  At-Large Status   
Specific Unit Chapter

(Please Print) Chapter Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I served/am serving with (unit): \_\_\_\_\_ (years) \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

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MAIL TO: National 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry (Ivy) Division Association  
8891 Aviary Path  
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077-4446

My Sponsor is: \_\_\_\_\_

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Type of Membership: Veteran  Active Duty  Memorial  Associate

I request placement in : Closest Geographic Chapter  At-Large Status   
Specific Unit Chapter

(Please Print) Chapter Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I served/am serving with (unit): \_\_\_\_\_ (years) \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Use this address for my free subscription to *The Ivy Leaves* news magazine.  
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My Sponsor is: \_\_\_\_\_

# LOOKING FOR...



Looking for:

## PFC BILLY BATTLES

I recently obtained a quantity of certificates pertaining to a Sgt. Billy Battles. They date from 1974 to 1987. I know from the vendor that I obtained them from that he obtained them from an estate sale. He also knows that Billy Battles received the Purple Heart, Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal and Combat Infantryman's Badge all for service in Vietnam with the 4th Infantry Division. At this time he was a PFC and Sp4. He knows this as he used to be in possession of the relevant certificates for the awards.

The dates of these awards range from March to July 1969 for the AM, June 1969 to June 1970 for the ARCOM, April 1970 for the PH and May 1970 for the issue of the CIB certificate.

I am trying to research this individual and was wondering if you or any of your members have any knowledge of him. I think it is nice to pay homage to individuals who served their country and not let their memory fade away for our future generations.

I hope you may be able to help.

Nick Reville

*Editor's Note: This email was received without any return address, return phone number or email address. If you have any information to help this person, please email it to: ivyleaveseditor@aol.com in the hopes that Nick Reville will communicate with me.*



Looking for:

## 8th INF. REG. BOOK

My Father, William Christie (died 1983) was Hq Co 1/8 4ID. He was the driver for Col. Simmons from D-Day until he was wounded in September. After the war he purchased copies of two books: (1) History of the 4th Division and (2) History of the 8th Reg.

Many thanks for any help you might be able to give. Wm. Christie Jr. <wmchristie@samsprog.com>

*Editors note: Rare Books Stores are the best bet. And they have a "want list" they will circulate for a fee. And: Maybe one of our readers will have an idea for you.*



Looking for:

## WIDOWS OF 4ID SOLDIERS

Our Chapter (Fort Hood Chapter) has attempted to contact the widows of 4th ID soldiers from OIF 1 and OEF to let them know about the specifics of when and How to apply for financial help from our Chapter Scholarship Fund.

Of the 30 or so potential applicants we only received nine responses with about 20 returned with incorrect contact addresses. It is the hope of the 4th ID Aviation CO that through (*The Ivy Leaves*) magazine and other media sources we may be able to do reach other potential applicants.

Please assist in what you are able to do in the way of (publicity) for us and what you would need to accomplish this important task.

Lt. Michael D. Shortt  
Scholarship Committee, 4IDA  
Fort Hood Chapter.

*Editor's note: A prompt reply was made to Lt. Shortt and if we get his text soon it will be in the December edition of The Ivy Leaves.*

*To the Fort Hood Chapter leaders and members: Congratulations to you all. I have seen the report of the money you have raised for this worthy program. You are to be commended for your good works! The Ivy Leaves will be pleased to aid in your efforts.*

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# From Russia ...with gratitude

Submitted by Ray Dunkel  
Past National President 2004-2005

Sometime ago I received a telephone call from Past National President Paul Brunelle regarding a letter he received addressed to the Association President. The letter was from Mr. Vladimir Kuts a Russian citizen residing in Moscow, Russia, who is a Honorary Member of the Association. As I was not familiar with Mr. Kuts, Paul was able to provide me with some background information about him. As a young man during World War II Mr. Kuts was captured by the German Army and placed in a labor camp.

The 4th Recon Company during its combat operations was responsible for liberating the camp where Mr. Kuts was confined. It is not clear how he became an unofficial member of the 4th Recon Company. It is clear that Mr. Kuts performed extremely well and was allowed to remain with the 4th Recon Company until the end of the war when he returned home to Russia. He was at the 1989 National Reunion in Cherry Hill, New Jersey when the Association made him an Honorary Member. I believe it is appropriate that his letter be shared with you as his message reflects his gratitude of being made a member of the Association.

Mr. Kuts also sent along a picture of himself and pinned prominently on his suit coat lapel is the 4th Infantry Division insignia. Unfortunately the quality of the picture precludes it from being reproduced.

You may be interested to know that Paul and Betty Brunelle when visiting Moscow prior to the Cold War ending contacted Mr. Kuts and were able to visit with him when he expressed how proud he was to have served with the 4th Infantry Division and be a Honorary Member of the Association.

## Letter received from Mr. Valdimir Kuts:

President of the National  
4-th Infantry Division  
Association

Dear President,

Will you accept my sincere gratitude for a great honour accorded me by the Association by declaring me an Honourable Member for Life in the National 4-th Infantry Association.

60 years passed since the time when I together with thousands of other prisoners of fascists' concentration camps have been liberated by the soldiers of your great freedom-loving country. The memories of this will die only together with me.

How can I forget Robert Nystrom, Eugene Maley, William Riiska, Robert Fitzsimmons and the others, who have liberated me from captivity, gave me food, gave me a uniform of an American Soldier and weapon and gave me an opportunity to make my small contribution to the crushing defeat of our common enemy.

God gave me a happy chance after 44 years to meet and embrace my American liberators and weapon mates.

Let our fraternal friendship be a pledge of everlasting peace on earth. I'd like to assure you, Mr. President of Association, that I'll do everything in my power for this.

Please accept my sincere gratitude and respect.

Sincerely Yours,

Honourable Veteran of 4-th Infantry Division  
/s/ Valdimir Kuts



## QRF Soldier Shows Patriotism



Spc. Kirk Camblin waits for his convoy to proceed at Camp Anaconda, Iraq. Camblin is a truck driver assigned to the 137th Transportation Company out of Effingham, Kansas.

Reprinted from "SITREP" A/1/8 Newsletter.

*Sgt. Joshua Salmons  
Sustainment Brigade PAO*

**CAMP TAJI, Iraq** – With six kids, a wife and a farm to get back to, Spc. Kirk Camblin is very ready to go back home.

At 37, the Effingham, Kan., native has seen service in both the Marine Corps and the Army, serving in Operation Desert Storm and now Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Leaving the Corps after Desert Storm, Camblin took a 14-year break from the military and joined the Kansas National Guard just before his current deployment.

A truck driver with the 137th Transportation Company, Camblin has manned a .50-caliber machine gun as part of the Quick Reaction Force for the past five months.

"I love it, we have really good guys," he said of his QRF compatriots. "We've had good training to get us going."

Responding to his time in the Marines with a strong "Hoo-rah," Camblin said his time as a Devil Dog helped him for his times in combat during OIF.

"It keeps me aggressive," he said. "I have

to hold on to my Marine roots – it's who I am. People come to me a lot with questions. I like being the go-to guy. It makes my time go by faster."

With 11 months under his belt, Camblin and his unit are finishing out their deployment under the command of the newly-arrived Sustainment Brigade. Looking back on his time spent in Iraq, Camblin said he's seen a lot of improvements.

"I've seen a lot of good changes in the last year with the people. With the polling, everything went really smooth. Last year it didn't," he said

The time spent away from home is hard on his family, Camblin said, but they are coping with the challenges.

"It's hard on the younger kids; they don't understand," he said. "I'm really proud of my wife; she's done really well. My wife is taking care of the cattle on our farm too, so I need to get back to help out."

Camblin said he hopes to earn a degree in Homeland Security and obtain a dog-handling license when he gets back home. He'll then look at serving with a K9 security team in the states or even back here in Iraq as a civilian.

## For Return to Iraq 4th Division Reorganizes

Since taking command of the 4th Infantry Division, Maj. Gen. James D. Thurman has reorganized the entire division. The changes are part of an Army-wide decision to make brigades, rather than divisions, the main formations and to standardize them. The goal is to make the Army more agile and flexible, allowing its leaders to "plug and play" units of about 4,000 soldiers. Divisions typically have 15,000 or so troops.

**When the 4th Infantry goes back to Iraq it will number about 20,000 – 5,000 troops more than last time**

For the 4th Infantry, one of the first of the Army's 10 divisions to reorganize, this has meant manning and equipping a new 4th Brigade, realigning troops and equip-

ment to give all four combat brigades the same combination of armor and infantry, and expanding its aviation brigade to 110 helicopters from 60.

"We had to move 90 percent of the division," Thurman said. "That's not just people, that's equipment and things."

When the 4th Infantry goes back to Iraq it will number about 20,000 – 5,000 troops more than last time – and have more combat power. It will also be schooled in the lessons learned the first go-round, even though 58 percent of its soldiers will be going to a combat zone for the first time, Thurman said.

### Looking for: A COMRADE-IN-ARMS?

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[www.members.aol.com/veterans/freedir.warlib46.htm](http://www.members.aol.com/veterans/freedir.warlib46.htm)

### DECEASED SOLDIERS?

Visit [www.cem.va.gov](http://www.cem.va.gov)  
(3 million entries)

## Even in Iraq DFAC Feeding Soldiers Top Priority

By Sgt. Joshua Salmons  
4th Sustainment Brigade

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – The mission of those working at Camp Taji's Dining Facility 2 calls for strict sanitation, keeping a head count and overseeing civilian workers.

But Sustainment Soldiers and other assigned personnel see their jobs as more than merely scrubbing floors and checking food temperatures at the main DFAC used by the brigade staff and Special Troops Battalion.

"I always felt that the dining facility is one of the most important things for a deployed Soldier," said Sgt. Joseph Hunter, a food service specialist with the 603rd Transportation Company, who is assigned to DFAC 2.

"I know things like mail and stuff is important, but if I had to choose between mail and a decent meal, I'd want to eat."

In the two weeks since the brigade began staffing DFAC 2, now called the "Wrangler Inn," there has been a flurry of changes and construction.

Outside, paved sidewalks have been installed to help curtail the mud associated with the upcoming rainy season and an outdoor grill and a stage area to host live bands is also in the works.

Inside, new menu items are being explored, the movie room is under renovation, and bulletin boards advertising special MWR events provide reminders to Soldiers looking for activities in their off time.

"We try to create three different atmospheres in the dining facility," said Sgt. 1st Class Vernon Alexander, brigade food supervisor. "We want all rooms open to anyone."

For Soldiers in the main room, sports and news provide snapshots from home; the quiet room is without televisions for those wanting a break to just enjoy their food; while the movie room will allow Soldiers to catch a movie while on their lunch or dinner break, he said.



**ABOVE:** Pfc. Angela Chavarria keeps a careful count of personnel who pass through Camp Taji's Dining Facility Two during lunch Oct. 29. Chavarria is a food service specialist assigned to Special Troops Battalion, Sustainment Brigade, 4th Inf. Div.

**RIGHT:** Pfc. Ebony Conner uses a thermometer to check the food temperature, ensuring proper cooking and sanitation. Conner is a food service specialist assigned to Special Troops Battalion, Sustainment Brigade, and 4th Inf. Div.



All of this is an effort to make the DFAC more than just a stop-off for food, Alexander explained.

"The DFAC is so good, I haven't even been to the (PX) food court yet," said Staff Sgt. Daniel Schubert, a satellite communication operations sergeant with Company A, Fires Brigade. "This is my fourth deployment, and this is by far the best DFAC I've had."

"The stuff there is a good morale boost," added Pfc. Erik Tonne, orderly room clerk, Company A. "It's nice to have a variety of things than just meat-loaf."

Increased head counts in recent weeks signal to the facility workers that their efforts are paying off, but it's just part of

the job say some personnel.

"Anything we can do to make the soldier's dining experience more enjoyable for the few minutes they're in here, then I'm all for it," said Hunter. It's as close to home as you can get."



## Deployment Ready Reaction Field Ops (DRRF)

By Pvt. Jason Dangel  
4th BCT PAO, 4ID

FORT HOOD, Texas – The 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division moved to the Deployment Ready Reaction Field Oct. 24 to begin the final phases of preparing and loading vehicles for a year-long deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The task is one of the last major challenges the brigade faces before it rolls into Iraq later this fall.

Preparing the equipment required many man hours by the brigade's Soldiers, paving the way for smooth DRRF and rail load operations.

"The reason behind DRRF operations is primarily for organizing the vehicles in a fashion that makes it easy to load them at the rail," said B.J. Farrow, a civilian locomotive engineer in charge of supervising movement operations.

Each vehicle goes through a lengthy process before the final inspection at the rail-load.

"After maintenance checks are made and the vehicle is up to standard, the Soldiers bring the vehicles down here to the DRRF," Farrow said.

At the field, the vehicles are weighed and lined up in a pre-designated area in order to organize the equipment for the loading process. The vehicles are loaded on trailers that measure 60, 68, and 89 feet in length, which are specific to the weight of the vehicles.

"The whole process, from the early maintenance in the motor pool to the actual loading of the vehicle, is important because we are getting these vehicles ready to be moved into combat," Farrow explained. "We want all the problems to be taken care of before we load them up, and all the vehicles to pass the proper inspections."

The Cobra Brigade trained on DRRF operations two months ago during the

Brigade Mission Rehearsal Exercise. The Cobra Brigade has made a significant improvement since then, said 2nd Lt. Robert Drolet, executive officer, Headquarter and Headquarters Company, 4th BCT.

"There were some problems before, but that is why we practiced it, Drolet said. "And from what I've seen, the brigade has improved tremendously."

As Soldiers try their best to finish preparing vehicles for transport, one thing to keep in mind is safety, added Sean Morrill, 4th BCT Safety Officer. The main concern when working with any type of heavy military vehicle is the risk of being run over or crushed when moving them around.

"I'm trying to make sure the Soldiers understand the importance of using ground guides and using standard hand and arm signals in order to move the vehicles around safely," Morrill said.

Practicing safe techniques now, such as the case at the DRRF, will help the Soldiers down the line when they start to operate in Iraq.

"We can never let our guard down when it comes to safety," he explained. "We work and live with unforgiving equipment and harsh environments, and it only takes a second for something bad to happen in our world. So thinking ahead, applying risk management, adhering to standards, and looking out for your buddy are the best ways to get the mission done and bring everyone home."

Assigned to the brigade since its activation on Dec. 16, 2004, Morrill said he is impressed how far the brigade has come in only 10 months.

"The BCT has done a remarkable job for having formed less than a year ago," Morrill said. "There has been a lot of hard work and thought put into what and how we do things – and it is paying off."

## 4ID, Task Force Eagle assists Katrina victims

Story and photos by Spc. Rodney Foliente, 4th Inf. Div. PAO

More than 250 Soldiers from the 4th Infantry Division deployed to southern Louisiana Sept. 1 to spearhead the federal humanitarian operations and assist the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

The division deployed 13 UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters and four CH-47 Chinook helicopters as part of Task Force Eagle.

"Our hearts go out to the victims there in Louisiana and Mississippi," said Brig. Gen. David Halverson, assistant division commander for support, 4th Inf. Div.

### The division deployed 13 UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters and four CH-47 Chinook helicopters as part of Task Force Eagle.

"Our mission is humanitarian assistance to help the people of New Orleans," Halverson said. "Our goal is to bring them to safety, get some normalcy in their lives, and let them know their country is there to support them. We feel privileged to assist in that effort."

The Soldiers of the task force could perform a variety of missions, to include assisting with emergency evacuations and distributing food and water.

Halverson added that the division is always prepared and capable of rapidly

Officers and key NCOs of B/1-12 IN, 4th Brigade Combat Team pose on Cameron Field on November 3, 2005 prior to their deployment to Iraq. Company commander is CPT Tom Hanifan. Photo submitted by Bob Babcock.



## Memories of Germany in the 1950s.

Photos submitted by Maurice Forrester

deploying its units and that its Soldiers are among the best trained in the world.

Some Soldiers expressed their dedication and desire to help the American people at home.

“We do a lot of missions overseas, and we support other countries, but our main mission is to support the United States of America – so when that mission arises we’re ready to jump on it,” said Chief Warrant Officer Kyle Rahn, tactical operations officer, Company B, 3rd Battalion, 4th Aviation Regiment, before leading a flight of UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters to New Orleans.

He said he was ready and willing to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Many of his fellow Soldiers echoed his sentiments.

“I’m ready to go and happy to help. It’s what we signed up for: to help the citizens of the United States,” said Pfc. Steven Meagher, a petroleum specialist with Co. A, 404th Aviation Support Bn.

Some Soldiers have experienced the devastation of a hurricane, such as Pvt. Ryan Vreeland, also a petroleum specialist with Co. A, 404th ASB. Vreeland, a Florida native, said he remembers the devastation spawned from hurricanes, especially Hurricane Anderson.

“People came and helped us out, now I’m ready to do the same,” said Vreeland. “I understand what it’s like, and I’m happy to serve the people I’m sworn to protect.”



Soldiers at railroad loading platform. These guys sure look young.



We saw a lot of these “Honey Wagons” out in the German countryside.



Trim figure! Still the same 55 years later?

## Vets Denied Burial Honors

Some military veterans have not received full burial honors because they do not have their discharge documents when they died. Since 1950 the discharge form has been called DD Form 214. That document went by other names prior to 1950, but they all serve the same purpose.

When a veteran dies, the family provides a copy of DD Form 214 or equivalent discharge documentation to the funeral home which uses it to arrange for an official U.S. flag, honor guard, grave marker and burial in a national cemetery, according to the veteran's service level and last wishes. But, problems can arise with veterans who do not have copies of their discharge certificates available at the time of death.

For more information, contact your county's veterans service officer.

## Flier Miles For Wounded Troops

Operation Hero Miles, through a partnership with several major airlines and the Fisher House Foundation, offers Americans the opportunity to donate their unused airline sky miles to wounded troops and their families for visits to medical facilities and trips home. Every flight provided comes about only because a family or individual takes the time to donate frequent flier miles to the Hero Miles Program to make sure that the nearly 3 million miles needed each week are available. The program's agreements with individual airlines only permit airline tickets for military (or DoD civilian employees) hospitalized as a result of their service in Iraq, Afghanistan, or surrounding areas, and their families.

These tickets cannot be used for R&R travel, ordinary leave, emergency leave, or other travel not related to a medical condition. Currently, participating airlines include Alaska Airlines, America West Airlines, American Airlines, Delta Air Lines, and Northwest Airlines.

For more information, including how to donate frequent flier miles to the program, visit the Hero Miles website at <http://www.fisherhouse.org/programs/heroMiles.shtml>.

## Small NY State College Sponsors "My Soldier" Web Site

Patriotism reigns at Manhattanville College in New York State it would seem from recent publicity in the *American Legion Magazine*.

Army Sergeant, Juan Salas, currently a student at Manhattanville College after spending 14 months on active duty in Iraq came up with an idea for a positive support web site. His idea was promptly supported by his college administration and is now available on the www. Want to know more? Visit [www.mysoldier.com](http://www.mysoldier.com).

The program provides any and all

**The program provides any and all patriotic citizens to provide their support to individual soldiers deployed to a war zone.**

patriotic citizens to provide their support to individual soldiers deployed to a war zone.

*Editor's Note: Our 4th Inf. Div. soldiers will soon be deployed in Iraq.*

*Let's give them "an encouraging word" directly thru this new website.*

### 4th Infantry Division Association ♦ ♦ 2006 Scholarship Application

Complete this form and mail it to: Alexander Cooker, 78 N. Dupont Rd., Carneys Point, NJ 08069

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Relation to Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Type of School: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**One Application per student. Must be received by June 15, 2006.**

### THE NATIONAL 4 TH INFANTRY (IVY) DIVISION ASSOCIATION

#### Scholarship Program

The Scholarship Fund will now be open to all members in good standing (which means that your dues must be current), their children, stepchildren, grandchildren and great grandchildren. The principal amount in the fund will be maintained and the annual earnings will be used to pay as many stipends as possible. If the interest is \$600, only one stipend will be awarded.

Application must be made using the form (or photocopy) below. One application per student must be mailed to the Secretary of the Scholarship Committee **before June 15 for the next school year. No applications will be accepted at the annual reunion.** The Secretary will forward all applications to the Financial Secretary to confirm eligibility status. All the approved applications will be placed in "hat" and drawn at the annual National Reunion Banquet. The applicant **need not** be present to win. After the drawing, that year's applications will then be discarded, and a new year will begin.

The Scholarship Committee is made up of the following personnel:

- ♦ The National President, Chairman
- ♦ Mr. Alex Cooker (PNP), Secretary, Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter
- ♦ Mr. Don Kelby, member, Mid-West Chapter
- ♦ Mr. Fred Gould (PNP), member NY/NJ Chapter
- ♦ Mr. Chuck McKee (PNP), member, Western Pennsylvania Chapter
- ♦ MG Charles Stone, founder, member emeritus

## Getting New Members Insures Longevity

By Dick Taylor, Editor

We all know that one of the most important things we can do as an active member of the 4th Infantry Division Association is to be on the lookout for new members.

This is especially true for those chapters who have very few "young vets" on their roster.

Take out an insurance policy for longevity by keeping up your recruitment efforts!

How do we do that? Here are a couple ideas:

Every newspaper has a "local news" section to their paper... and newspapers in small towns are always looking for "local" news. Assign someone who is addicted to reading the daily newspaper to (1) search for stories about local vets, and (2) review carefully the weekly column in the daily newspaper for a section or column about "service clubs".

Frequently there will be an announcement of some group that call themselves: Retired Officers Assn. (or similar).

Just yesterday I saw in such a column the title: Retired Officers Wives Club. The article announced the date and place of their regular monthly meeting. And, of course, gave the phone number of the group's leader.

I called the phone number and the lady who answered was very pleasant after I identified myself (she might have thought I was going to "sell" her something). I explained that our organization was looking for anyone who had ever been connected with the 4th ID so we could invite them to one of our reunions. She was the wife of a fighter pilot but she quickly added that at their recent luncheon she had sat next to a lady whose husband was retired from the U.S. Army! Naturally, she didn't have any idea if the other woman's husband was a 4th ID vet. But she did volunteer to canvas her membership and pass out my business cards (which I had offered to send her).

So: Try that idea. You might be surprised at the results you may obtain.

## Here's How Military Songs Came to Inspire

By Stephen M. Fry

Music has played an important role in the identity and inspiration of our country's five armed services. As we (find ourselves engaged in Iraq and Afghanistan and contemplate our terrorist situation world-wide the story of how the Army songs came about might be interesting and inspirational).

**THE ARMY ANTHEM:** There are many songs, mostly of British origin, associated with the war of independence, "The Girl I Left Behind Me," "Soldier, Soldier, Will you Marry Me," and "Yankee Doodle" are still familiar to (some of) us. However, there was no Army song until "The Caissons Go Rolling Along," by Lt. Edmund L. Gruber became popular at the end of World War I.

Gruber was serving in the 5th Field Artillery unit in the Philippines in 1907. He was scouting a route through the Zambales mountains for his battalion, and as he advanced far ahead of the main body of troops, he climbed a peak and looked back to spot them. Before he saw them, however, he heard them urging on their teams of horses pulling the artillery "caisson" wagons. They were shouting, "Keep rolling." This image came back to him a year later when he and a few fellow officers were inspired to write a song commemorating the arrival of their relief battalion.

The story goes that Gruber picked the tune out on an old guitar, and, with the help of Lieutenants William Bryden and Robert M. Danford, penned the first few verses. "The Caisson Song" became popular among

all the field artillery units, and towards the end of WWI, John Phillip Sousa employed the catchy melody in his "U.S. Field Artillery March". The march was a hit, and the sheet music sold more than 750,000 copies by the war's end. Sousa, graciously gave him credit and shared royalties.

The Army still didn't have an official song, so it sponsored a competition in 1948, and, a few years later called on composers and song writers in the music industry to create one. Among the candidates, however—and there were almost 1,000—none gained acceptance by the public or the Army. Finally, in 1955, at the request of the adjutant General, Harold W. "Bud" Arberg, a young soldier and musician in his office, wrote new words for the catchy "Caissons" tune. It became popular and was accepted as the official song for the Army by the Secretary of the Army, Wiber M. Bruckner, on December 12, 1957.

### ORIGINAL ARMY 'CAISSONS' SONG:

Over hill, over dale  
As we hit the dusty trail  
And those caissons go rolling along.  
In and out, hear them shout,  
Counter march and right about,  
And those caissons go rolling along.

#### Chorus:

Then it's hi! hi! hee!  
In the field artillery,  
Shout out your numbers loud and strong,  
For where e'er you go,  
You will always know  
That those caissons go rolling along.

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# Chew On This For Awhile

Compare the brave entertainers of 1943 with today's Hollywood motley bunch. The entertainers of 2003 have been in all of the news media lately. It seems newspaper, television and radio has been more than ready to put them and their message before the public. I would like to remind people what the entertainers of 1943 were doing, (60 years ago). Most of these brave men have since passed on.

- ♦ Alec Guinness (*Star Wars*) operated a British Royal Navy landing craft on D-Day. James Doohan ("Scotty" on *Star Trek*) landed in Normandy with the U.S. Army on D-Day.

- ♦ Donald Pleasance (*The Great Escape*) really was a R.A.F. pilot who was shot down, held prisoner and tortured by the Germans.

- ♦ David Niven was a Sandhurst graduate and Lt. Colonel of the British Commandos in Normandy.

- ♦ James (Jimmy) Stewart flew 20 missions as a B-24 pilot in Europe. Earned the Air Medal, Distinguished Flying Cross, Croix de Guerre and earning 7 battle stars. He was the first Hollywood personality to join the service and attained the rank of Brigadier General, the highest rank of anyone in the entertainment field.

- ♦ Clark Gable (Mega-Movie Star when war broke out) was trained as a waist gunner but was ordered to Europe by General Hap Arnold to make a movie to train young gunners. Although over age, and not expected to fly missions, he flew missions in a B-17 to get footage for the training film. He was released from active duty in 1944.

- ♦ Charlton Heston was an Army Air Corps Sergeant in Kodiak.

- ♦ Earnest Borgnine was a U.S. Navy Gunners Mate 1935-1945.

- ♦ Charles Durning was a U.S. Army Ranger at Normandy.

- ♦ Charles Bronson was a tail gunner in the Army Air Corps.

- ♦ George C. Scott was a U.S. Marine.

- ♦ Eddie Albert (*Green Acres* TV) was a Naval Officer and was awarded a Bronze Star for his heroic action aiding Marines

at the horrific battle on the island of Tarawa in the Pacific Nov. 1943.

- ♦ Brian Keith served as a Marine rear gunner in several actions against the Japanese on Rabal in the Pacific.

- ♦ Lee Marvin was a Marine on Saipan when he was wounded.

- ♦ John Russell was a Marine on Guadalcanal.

- ♦ Robert Ryan was a U.S. Marine who served with the O.S.S. in Yugoslavia.

- ♦ Tyrone Power joined the Marines, was a pilot flying supplies into, and wounded Marines out of Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

- ♦ And Audie Murphy, the little guy from Texas, was the Most Decorated serviceman of WWII.

I wish I had room to tell you more about actor Sterling Hayden and an actor by the name of Peter J. Ortiz (Twelve O'clock High, Rio Grande and The Wings of Eagles), but this would turn into a book.

There is quite a huge gap between the heroics and patriotism in 1943 and the cowardly despicable posturing of the Hollywood crowd of today...all of which smack of sedition and treason. Think about this every time you are tempted to go to the movies or go to a concert!!

*Editor's comment to the 2003 Hollywood detractors – "The real value of freedom is not to the minority that wants to talk, but to the majority that does not want to listen" (Zechariah Chaffee Jr). "If you want to be respected for your actions, then your behavior must be above reproach." (Rosa Parks)*

## Go South! To the Reunion

Mid-south Chapter reunion will be held in Columbus, MS on the 27th, 28th and 29th of April 2006. Members and guests are welcome. Do come and enjoy a 4thfully deep southern good time. We will be at the Masters Hosts Hotel. For further info please contact Herbert Martin, 662-434-9993 or email: martin4thinf@exceedtech.net

## B/2/8th Inf 5th Reunion

Twelve former members of "Bravo" Co. 2/8th Inf. Vietnam, were gathered once again this past September 23rd-25th at the home of Oakley and Laura NOE in Batavia, OH.

This was their 5th annual "Noe" Bivouac.

Oakley Noe is still searching for members of B/2/8 RVN 1966-67 to join the group at the "Bivouac" next year. Their motto: "Together then & together again."

*Submitted by Roger Dearmyer*

## Please send me "Ladies of the Ironhorse -The Voices of Those Who Wait at Home"

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# WWI Ancestor Research Files Now Available

Ancestry has opened up its World War 1 Draft Registration records for visitors of Access Genealogy for free. This will cover from today through July 17 2005. The only thing required to view the records is an email address and your name. No credit card required! This is not a 14-day trial of all of their material. It is strictly limited to their World War 1 Draft Registration images, and strictly limited to AccessGenealogy visitors.

What is the WWI Draft Registration Cards database?

In 1917 and 1918, approximately 24 million men living in the United States completed a World War I draft registration card. The World War I Draft Registration Cards database includes scanned images of actual draft registration cards. You can browse images by locality (state, county, city, draft board) or you can search the index using name, birth date, and birthplace.

In general, the registration cards included the following information:

- Full name
- Home address
- Date and place of birth
- Age, race, and country of citizenship
- Occupation and employer

Physical description (hair and eye color, height, disabilities)

• Additional information such as address of nearest relative, dependent relatives, marital status, father's birthplace, or previous exemption from service

- Signature

## Buglers Across America

Visit:

[www.BuglersAcrossAmerica.org](http://www.BuglersAcrossAmerica.org)

Phone: 708-484-9029

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# Keeping the 4ID Image Alive



The Commanding Officer, Colin Wright, of the "Living History Group" in England is pictured above on his wedding day with his wife, Julie, at a historic English building. The Honor Guard is in authentic uniforms of WWII as they honor the past and the exploits of the 4th Infantry Division. They are all English citizens and are frequently known as "Re-enactors."

## MOVING?

**Don't make us guess your new address!**

Complete this form and mail it to the  
Greg Rollinger, Executive Director  
8891 Aviary Path  
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077



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City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## GOOD MOVIE RECOMMENDATION

I just watched a very good movie, about the Hurtgen Forest, called “When Trumpets Fade.” It is very graphic in its’ attention to detail, including “tree bursts.” Although I’m sure it contained things which are “Hollywood,” it is a good movie. The soldiers in the movie are from the 27th, “Bloody Bucket” Division.

Mad Doc (Matz)



## 40TH TANK BTN. WWII INSIGNIA

Dick, Here are two images of the 40th Tank Battalion Crest. (“My outfit”).

Hope you can run one of these for the full page.

Best wishes, Rogers Law



## WE WEAR THEM PROUDLY

I was disappointed to see the 12th Regiment insignia missing from the line-up in the IVY LEAVES. Enclosed you will find a copy of the fly page of “History of the Twelfth Infantry Regiment in WWII by Col. Gerden Johnson. The 12th has a great history going way back and I am proud to have served in G Company from the Normandy Beach to the Hertgen where I was one of the fifty out of the four hundred men from F and G who come out. I trust that somewhere in the archives is a copy of Col. Johnson’s book. Thanks for including the 12th in among the other outfits of our great division.

Yours, Carlton H. Stauffer



## OLD BOOK YIELDS LOTS OF 4ID HISTORY

In the last issue of “The Ivy Leaves” I found the article on page 20 regarding the unit insignias very interesting. You asked for help in finding other. Enclosed is a copy of the unit I was in during 1955 & ’56 in Germany – the 704th Ord. Bn. Also, enclosing a copy of the back cover from a book they gave to us about the 4th Inf. Div. in Germany, from 1951-1956. Just before it was sent back to Ft. Lewis, WA, the 3rd Arm. Div. Replaced the 4th Inf. in Germany. The enclosed back cover shows

## 4IDA PLEDGES 4ID SUPPORT

Major General Thurman

On behalf of the National 4th Infantry Division Association I thank you for the invitation to the “Casing of the Colors Ceremony”. We truly appreciate being part of this historic and prestigious event.

On a more personal note, I thank you and CSM Riling for making myself and my lady feel very welcome. This was an important day for me having stood in formation some 39 years ago during the same ceremony. For the privilege of attending, I cannot thank you enough.

Please keep in mind that our prayers are with you and your troops. I was able to see part of your press conference on local television. Without a doubt you are a caring and compassionate commander. This along with your vast experience will allow you to lead your soldiers into battle with great confidence.

Once again, the 4th Infantry Division Association is an asset that you may call upon to support you and your troops. We understand that sometimes it is the little things that make a deployment a little easier. Please do not hesitate to call on us if there is something we can do to help your soldiers.

God speed and we pray for your safe return.

Fourthfully; Scott Moffat,  
President, National 4IDA  
2005-2006

.....

## CG 4ID RESPONDS

Scott Moffat

It was really great to have your wife here with the IVY Division. We will keep you updated as we deploy and take over our mission. My sincere thanks to the 4th ID Association for your great support that you give us. I am very proud of the Division and I know we will get the job done. Let me know if I can do something for you. Keep in touch with us.

Steadfast and Loyal!

JD Thurman  
CG 4ID

all the unit insignias of the 4th at the time. Just for your interest I have enclosed a copy of the front cover of the book they gave us. Hope this may be of interest to you and help with some info. Keep up the good work – always enjoy reading “The Ivy Leaves”.

Sincerely,

Verne W. Kindschi



## BATTERY “A” SUPPORTED 22ND INF. REG.

Dear Friends,

The 377th was attached to the 4th Inf. for the entire period of combat in Europe, from June ’44 to May ’45. I was C.O. of Bn. A and supported the 22nd Inf. Reg. for the entire period. My Bn. Shot down 13 German planes in the 22nd Inf. Reg. Combat Teams area of operation. So be it.

Harold R. Blackwell



## SLAPTON SANDS OPERATION TIGER MORE HISTORY

In reply to the recent inquiry in the “Mail Bag” section of *The Ivy Leaves* of H.E. “Tom” Harvey, of Clarksville, AK. He states he is seeking information about a former classmate, who was killed in August of 1944, in France I presume. He further states that he also has the files on this person. I wonder if he has the rank and unit number of the man. That would be a great help in gathering information about him.

He also inquired about the loss of 4th division personnel in the tragedy of “Exercise Tiger” at Slapton Sands in Devon on April 28, 1944.

During the Boston reunion some few years ago, in the course of the business meeting, the question came up as to if and how many 4th division people were lost during this event. Rumor had it that “engineers” were lost. No viable proof of this fact was available and the matter was closed.

Sometime later I contacted Charles B. Harrison, of Lansdowne, PA. He informed me that he was a member of the 1st Engineer Special Brigade prior to the Normandy invasion. They were to land with the 4th division on June 6th, 1944. Charles

was assigned to special duty prior to "Tiger" and missed or with good fortune survived the disaster at Slapton Sands. He informed me that the 1st Engineer Special Brigade lost nearly three hundred men in that attack of the convoy. That news explained the rumor of the lost engineers, but they were not 4th ID people! Charles has been an associate member of the Easter Pennsylvania Chapter of the 4IDA for the past seven years. Charles is a most welcome addition to the membership ranks.

As of today, the 4th ID archives contain no data that explains any loss of life of division personnel during "Exercise Tiger"!

Sincerely,

Michael C. Paul,  
"I" Co. 8th Inf. WWII  
5410 Regal Dr  
Fort Worth, TX 76132



## AMERICAN MILITARY CEMETARY WEBSITE

Dear Friends of military history:

After months of preparation the website "In-Honored-Glory" was put on line today (24 Sep 05) by WWII Vet Maury Johnson. In these past months I have "talked" to each of those who have contributed their time and efforts and you have given me all the help I needed to make this website a success... is it a success? Well, it's up to you to decide. Visit the site and see for yourself.

This website concentrates on the American Military Cemetery Henri-Chapelle (Belgium). There are 500 men from the 4th Infantry Division buried or memorialized there.

Peter Heckmans (Holland).

*Editor's note: Peter then gave his website address but no e-mail address. I'm not sure how you can communicate with him (maybe it is listed on the home page?)*



## 4ID BINDER

Hi Richard: I received the three-ring binders I ordered and have inserted all my saved copies of *The Ivy Leaves*. I find I am missing the March 2004 issue. If you have a copy, please send it to me. Thanx.

This is a fine way of storing the Chapter quarterly reports too.

Merle Davies  
28523 Dino Cir.

Chesterfield MI 48047-4819

*Editor's note: There are a limited number of the 3-ring 4ID binders left. Price is still \$15 includes shipping.*



## SLAPTON SANDS REVISITED

Editor: I noticed the article RE: Slapton Sands tragedy (WWII) and hasten to advise your readers that there are three (that I know of) books about that event: (1) "Invasion Before Normandy" by Edwin Hoyt; (2) "Forgotten Dead" by Ken Small; and (3) "The land we left behind" by Robin Rose-Price. This to me was written about the lives of all the residents who had to leave their homes for the secret preparation for the invasion of Normandy.

Hope some of your readers are pleased to get this information.

Frank Kawalck  
2228 Ellen Ave  
Columbus, GA 31903



## UNIT CREST

Mr. Taylor:

In your September 2005 issue of *The Ivy Leaves*, a request was made for additional unit insignias. I am attaching the 4th Aviation Regimental Crest.

We have 4 aviation battalions under the Aviation Brigade of the 4th Infantry



4th Aviation Regimental Crest

Division that wear this crest.

- 1st Bn, 4th Avn Regt (Attack)  
AH-64D Apache Longbow
- 2nd Bn, 4th Avn Regt (General Support)  
• UH-60L Blackhawk, HH-60L Blackhawk  
Medevac, CH-47D Chinook
- 3rd Bn, 4th Avn Regt (Assault)  
UH-60A/L Blackhawk
- 4th Bn, 4th Avn Regt (Attack)

AH-64D Apache Longbow

CW5 D.C. Bean  
<dbean@hotmail.com>  
Flt Standards Officer  
Avn Bde, 4ID, Fort Hood, TX



## 4ID INFANTRY REGIMENT

To The Editor: Thought your readers might be interested in this: My research into the 4th Infantry Division reveals: The 4th ID was formed Dec 1917 and was made up of 3 infantry regiments: The 12th, 8th and 22nd. Today's 4th Infantry Regiment is in Germany with duty in training troops... over the years they have been attached to many different divisions but never to the Ivy Leaves 4TH. This regiment has its own web site: [www.4thusinfantryregiment.com/](http://www.4thusinfantryregiment.com/)

Jerry Morris,  
Dade Battlefield Society



## WHO KNOWS ABOUT THIS?

Dear Dick:

Enclosed is a letter I received from Len Sternicki who served with the 4th Div in Germany 1950-52. The division patch he says he wore is the same type as the one I wore, when the 4th Div was reactivated in Ft. Lewis, Sept. 1956.

As I wrote before, in early 1957 the division was reorganized into a "pentomic" division. My time of service ended on Aug 1, 1957. Perhaps Britton Buchanan, the one who wrote about the picture, can give more information as to how long the 4th Div stayed "pentomic" and approximately when it was reorganized again. Best Regards,

Dmytro Bykovetz Jr.  
<dbykovetz@comcast.net>



## 4th IDA MEMBER FEATURED IN FRENCH MAGAZINE

Dear Harper:

Greetings from Belgium! Hope this mail will find you well! Enclosed are copies of the article I did in the French "Militaria Magazine". You will notice that your picture and your experiences are included (in this magazine article). Please let me hear from you as soon as you get the chance. Sincerely, Thierry Debruyen, Belgique/Europe

Continued on page 26

# Book Shelf



## THE MORTARMEN

By Michael Connelly

The Mortarmen is the epic and never-before-told story of the 87th Chemical Mortar Battalion. The men of the 87th landed on Utah Beach on D-Day with their 4.2" mortars and quickly became one of the most sought after fire support units in the European Theater of Operations (ETO).



The battalion landed on Utah Beach in support of the 8th RLT of the 4th ID and was with the division through much of the Normandy campaign.

They fought for 326 straight

days and were in almost every major battle in France, Belgium, and Germany. Their mortars placed devastating fire on the enemy from the beaches of Normandy to the Cherbourg Peninsula, and from Aachen and Hurtgen Forest to the Battle of the Bulge.

In the 292-page book, you'll read their story presented as if it comes from today's headlines. You'll hear from the men who were there and see the pictures they took, many of which have never been published before. You'll also hear from some German soldiers who faced the 87th in battle.

To read excerpts from the book or place an order, go to the book's website provided by the publisher: [www.trafford.com/04-2710](http://www.trafford.com/04-2710)

For more information contact Michael Connelly, 3440 Timberglen Rd. Apt. 239, Dallas, TX 75287. Ph. (972) 306-4717. Email: [mrobertc@hotmail.com](mailto:mrobertc@hotmail.com)

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## LADIES OF THE IRONHORSE

The Voices of Those Who Wait at Home

By Rhonda Eggleston

While attending the 4th Infantry Division Association's reunion at Fort Hood in September 2003, Rhonda Eggleston was inspired by the strength of the wives of our 4ID veterans. While driving home from the meeting, the idea for "Ladies of the Ironhorse" came to her.

Her husband was deployed in Iraq with the 4ID/TF Ironhorse and she knew the current Ironhorse ladies had inspiring stories to tell about how they coped with their loved ones being in harm's way.

Composed of stories from mothers, wives, grandmothers, sisters and in-laws, the book is laid out like a timeline of the 4th Infantry's deployment, including the best of Bob Babcock's "4ID Update from Iraq" email notes. It is the story of Operation Iraqi Freedom I from the families' viewpoint. It covers the time period from when the 4th Infantry Division received their alert notice and formed Task Force Ironhorse in early 2003 to the welcome home celebration in April of 2004.

What makes it relevant today as the War on Terror continues, is the encouragement it provides to families who are supporting soldiers who are deployed in harm's way. "Ladies of the Ironhorse" is full of inspiration and lessons learned for those family members who want to support their soldiers from the home front.

"Ladies of the Ironhorse" is available to purchase at the 4th Infantry Division Museum gift shop at Fort Hood and also can be ordered direct from Rhonda by mailing the order form on page 20.

All profits from book sales will go to the 4ID Layette Fund and the 4ID Museum. This will be a great holiday gift or for your own reading - let's support this great piece of work by one of our current 4ID family of veterans.

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## UTAH BEACH:

By Joseph Balkoski

### Dust Cover Review

In the early-morning darkness of June 6, 1944, a fleet of U.S. Army Air Force C-47s roared through the skies over Normandy as 13,000 U.S. paratroopers dropped into the marshes and villages behind the beach code-named Utah. A few hours later, American infantrymen - 21,000 by day's end - surged out of landing craft and rushed the beach itself. D-Day had begun.

### ORDER FORM - 4ID/TF IRONHORSE BOOKS

Mail your order and check, payable to TF Ironhorse Books, to PO Box 682222, Marietta, GA 30068.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me the following books:

**History of the 12th Infantry in WWII.** By Gerden Johnson

1 Book for \$35 limited supply - first come, first served.

**Operation Iraqi Freedom: A Year in the Sunni Triangle: April 2003 to April 2004**

1 Book for \$28  2 Books for \$56  3 Books for \$79  Add'l books at \$22 ea.

Case of 12 books for \$270  Case of 24 books for \$540

**War Stories - Utah Beach to Pleiku** (available October 2005)

1 Book for \$28  2 Books for \$56  3 Books for \$79  Add'l books at \$22 ea.

Case of 12 books for \$270  Case of 24 books for \$540

All prices include shipping charges

Amount included: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Yet Allied commanders were troubled. The plan for Utah Beach had not even existed four months earlier, having been tacked onto Operation Overlord largely at the insistence of Supreme Allied Commander Dwight Eisenhower and D-Day ground commander British Gen. Bernard Montgomery. A combined airborne and seaborne invasion of this magnitude had never before been attempted. Many feared that the elite American troops executing the assault would be slaughtered. Not only was Utah the most isolated of the five D-Day beaches – which meant the troops could be off for days – but the German defenders had flooded huge tracts of land behind the beach in the airborne drop zones. To move inland, the infantry would have to trudge

over a few narrow causeways secured by the paratroopers at the opposite ends. On D-Day, this bold operation would end in either a secure footing on the coast of France, or a bloody repulse back across the English Channel.

Success would mark the beginning of the end for Nazi Germany and the liberation of Europe. Failure would paralyze the Allies and prolong the struggle for months, if not years. American troops knew the stakes were high and the perils grave. Nevertheless, from the sea and sky, they confidently cascaded into that far corner of Normandy and contributed decisively to the Allied triumph on D-Day.

In *Utah Beach: The Amphibious Landing and Airborne Operation on D-Day, June 6, 1944*, Joseph Balkoski shows

how American soldiers, sailors, and airmen gained that victory in the face of long odds. With the same verve and authority that made his earlier Omaha Beach so compelling, he weaves firsthand accounts, meticulously detailed maps, and dramatic storytelling into the first truly comprehensive narrative of this critical World War II battle. It is indispensable history and unforgettable reading.

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## WAR STORIES

by Bob Babcock

### Reprint status

Nothing ever seems to move as rapidly as I would like when it comes to producing a book. The same has proven to be true as I move forward to reprint “War Stories - Utah Beach to Pleiku”. It was not available in October as projected but should definitely be in my hands ready to ship during the month of December. I’ll be pushing hard to have it so I can ship all the ones that have been ordered by mid December.

For the second printing, I have gone to a “print on demand” facility. The quality will remain the same and the advantage is I can print as many or as few copies as anyone wants to order and get them to you quickly. Also, we won’t have to worry about running out of stock again. For those who haven’t ordered yet, an order form is elsewhere in this issue.

### Rare book now available

#### HISTORY OF 12TH INFANTRY REGIMENT IN WWII”

by Bob Babcock

Due to popular demand, I have again reprinted fifty copies of Gerden Johnson’s “History of the 12th Infantry Regiment in World War II”. The book includes a detailed account of 12th Infantry Regiment actions from D-Day through the end of the war. Company rosters are included at the end of the book.

The book is available on a first come, first served basis (only 50 books are available). Send your check for \$35, which includes shipping, payable to 4th Infantry Division Association, to: Bob Babcock, PO Box 682212, Marietta, GA 30068

## Special thanks to those donors who help with the 4IDA financials

### A loud hoo-ah! to the Illinois Chapter

RECENT NATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS				
	NAT'L	SCHOLARSHIP	PFL	CHAPTER
Thomas E. Alfred	\$5.00	\$5.00		Illinois
Col. Harold B. Birch	\$10.00			Carolinas
Howard C. Bulta	\$5.00	\$5.00		Illinois
Jack W. Crites	\$10.00	\$10.00		Carolinas
Richard G. Frisch	\$5.00	\$10.00		Illinois
Terry J. Giannoni	\$10.00			Illinois
Arthur R. Gottschalk	\$5.00	\$5.00		Illinois
Robert N. Groenewold	\$10.00			Illinois
Stanley E. Herzog	\$10.00	\$10.00		Illinois
Steven P. Hyett	\$15.00	\$5.00		Illinois
William S. Jereb	\$5.00	\$5.00		Illinois
Timothy J. Kissel	\$15.00	\$10.00		Illinois
John R. Klimas	\$10.00			Illinois
Walter G. Olenek	\$2.00	\$1.00		Illinois
Rex E. Plock	\$5.00			Illinois
Walter R. Serviss	\$5.00			NY/NJ
Lawrence B. Simonson	\$10.00			Carolinas
Cary Stokes	\$5.00			Carolinas
Timothy J. Stroh	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	Illinois
John H. Walters	\$15.00			Carolinas
Walter F. Wexler	\$5.00			Lehigh Valley
Eric D. Willhide	\$1.00			Lehigh Valley
D. Carlton Wilson	\$5.00			Carolinas
Edmund J. Wise Jr.	\$5.00	\$15.00		Carolinas
Homer E. Wright	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	Illinois



All of us in the National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association extend our sincere sympathy to the friends and families of those listed below. May they rest in peace.

- ★ BENDRICK, DELBERT. HQ Co. 3/22 WWII. Veteran of D-Day landing (See page 143 in the book WAR STORIES).
- ★ BISER, RANDOLPH L. Member NY/NJ Chapter died 8 Feb 2005. Paid for Life member. Served 1971 & 72: Home Cool Ridge WV 25825-0539. <rbiser@inetone.net>
- ★ BOCK, PHILLIP. WWII vet. Battle of the Bulge vet. Passed away recently. He was an active 4IDA member. Both he and his attended most National Reunions. Survived by his son, Earl. Submitted by Mike May. (Thanks, Mike.)
- ★ BRACKETT, MARTIN L. WWII Vet G/2/28 member Carolinas Chapter. Survived by his wife, Helen. PO Box 69-0063, Mint Hill, NC 28227-7001 (704) 545.6718. Thanks to Earl Kohlberger.
- ★ BRILL, HERBERT. He was CO of S-1 Sec HQ Co 22nd Inf. Passed away 09 Oct 05 at age 94. WWII Vet. Buried with military honors at Arlington National Cemetery. Prominently mentioned in the book "A Soldiers Journal". He is survived by his wife, Evelyn, a son and a daughter and four grandchildren. "He was the kindest man I ever knew" -Thanks to David Rothbart
- ★ HELLRUD, REV. NORBERT. Served in WWII with the 1/3/22 INF. Recipient of the Purple Heart. Member of Illinois Chapter. Passed away 14 Sep 05. Survived by his wife, JoAnn and daughter Sandy. Served 14 years in the Army and received an honorable discharge. Back to school after discharge to become an ordained Lutheran Pastor. Thanks to Sandy Jo. 2901 7th St. Wausau, WI 54403-3232
- ★ IRVINE, COL. JAMES P. Served in WWII with the HQ/1/8 Inf. Passed away Sept. 27, 2005. Member of the Florida Chapter. Wife, Elsie. 14 W. 5th St., Columbus, GA 31901-3153
- ★ JILES, VIRGIL L. 4IDA Participated in D-Day invasion of Normandy. Member of Mid-South Chapter. Survived by his wife, Estine Giddings Jiles. Rt. 2 Box 236 Conshattu LA 71019
- ★ KINGSHILL, HOWARD J. Served in WWII in the SVC/29FA. Passed away on October 29, 2004. Served by his wife, Chiquita. 106 Hermitage Rd., Wilmington DE 19803-3013.
- ★ LEE, BENNETT C. Served with G/2/8 Inf. From 1942-1945. Passed away Oct. 3, 2005. Member of the Florida Chapter. Wife, Dorothy M. Ingl. 721 Halton Ave. S W, Palm Bay, FL 32908-6291
- ★ REISINGER, MARGARET J. (widow of longtime Florida Chapter member). Margaret, age 87, passed away 26 Aug 05. She faithfully attend-

- ed most reunions and functions. She is survived by son, Edward Jr. and two daughters Cheryl and Mary Lynne. Thanks to Ed McEniry
- ★ RUTH, RONALD C. Served in Vietnam 1965-1967 with the C Co. 4th Eng. Passed away on Sept. 19, 2005. Member of the Lehigh Valley Chapter. 4220 N. George St., Manchester, PA 17345-1308.
- ★ SCHRANK, JOSEPH P. Vet. WWII. Member Capital Chapter. Paid for Life member. 1144 Revere Pt., Virginia Beach VA 23455-4814
- ★ SHEEHY, COLEMAN M. WWII Veg Battery B/42nd FA. A life member of RIDA Capital Chapter. 7015 Carnatin St #213, Richmond VA 23225-5233 Thanks to Roger Barton
- ★ STEELE, LESTER J. WWII Vet Med/22nd Inf. Chapter: Ohio. He died December 25, 2004 after a six-year illness. He was born in Fayette County, Kentucky April 1, 1920. He was preceded in death by his wife Margaret Gasaway Steele. Survivors include two step-children Janet (Fenton) McCzuley and Nick (Priscilla) Gasaway, a brother Carlton E. Steele, sisters Mildred M. Stump and Lena (Robert) Allison and six step-grandchildren. He was a retired clerk and equine artist and a Veteran of World War II. He served in the 4th Infantry Division for 3 1/2 years of which 12 months were served in Europe where he was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry and the Purple Heart for wounds received in combat. Lester was a member of the Christian Church, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association and a Charter Member of the Battle of Normandy Memorial Museum. He is survived by his wife, Margaret. 1424 E. 8th St. Jeffersonville IN 47130-4477
- ★ VIERGUTZ, DENNIS V. (1SG-RET) of Glenwood, MN passed away on October 17, 2005 at the age of 76 after a lengthy illness due to lung cancer attributed to Agent Orange. He retired from active duty in May 1973 and was a member of the Spotswood Dewitt chapter. He served as Opns Sgt. of the 6th BN, 29th FA in Vietnam from Jul 1967 to Jul 1970, and also served as Ass't. Intel Sgt. At Hq. 4ID FA from Dec 1959 to Mar 1962. He was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with 9 Stars and Army of Occupation with Germany Clasp. He is survived by his wife Margarete of Glenwood and daughter, Rosemarie and family of Pottstown, PA. Near the end his final thoughts were, "I no more CAN DO and may Saint Barbara bless all you surviving REDLEGS." Submitted by Rose Wagner, daughter of above. 525 Richards

Circle, Pottstown, PA 19465

- ★ VOSS, RICHARD, H&S Co. 4th Engr C. Bn (Hanau, Germany). Passed away 10 Aug 2005. Member California Chapter. Survived by his wife Mary Ann. Address: 4040 E. Piedmont #158-B Highland, CA 92346. Thanks to his daughter, Sharon Voss.
- ★ WILLIAMS, JIM. "Battle of the Bulge" vet who passed away at age 86 on Nov. 4th. He was a native of Everett, PA. During the war he received three Battle Stars, including The Purple Heart. He is survived by his wife, Ruth.



Pictured above is a recent photo of James and Ruth Williams.

## MAIL CALL from page 23

*Editor's note: The above letter (edited down for size) from a journalist in Belgium was sent to Harper Coleman (AZ Chapter 4IDA). Attached were several pages (all in French) telling the story of WWII through the testimonies of four American GIs. One of who was our pal, Harper!*



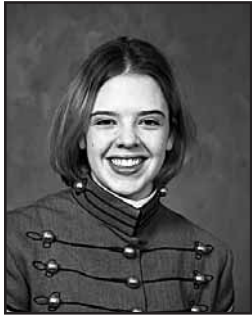
## OLD SOLDIERS

4th ID, 97th Signal Bn.

This soldiers' history covers the 97th Signal Bn. and 47th Inf. Attached to one of two brigades in the 4th Division in WWI. The 9th Division was the unit my friend, Joe, served with during the 1950s in Germany in the Tank Bn. Information may be of interest to your readers.

Merle, F/2/12 Inf., 4IDA

# A Tribute to a Fallen Soldier



by Bob Babcock

I had the great and sad honor of representing the veterans of the 4th Infantry Division at the funeral of 1LT Laura Margaret Walker on August 25, 2005. 1LT Laura Walker, West

1LT Laura Margaret Walker  
Photo courtesy of Academy Photo.

Point class of 2003, died on August 18, 2005 in Kandahar, Afghanistan, when an improvised explosive device detonated under her HMMWV during ground assault convoy operations. Laura proudly wore the 4ID combat patch on her right shoulder from her previous service with 555th Engineer Group, TF Ironhorse in Iraq, a distinction she shared with both of her grandfathers from their service with the 4ID in both World War II and Vietnam.

Laura came from a family steeped in military service to our nation. She was born into a military family on June 16, 1981. Her education included ten different schools, living in 18 different cities, and three different countries, culminating with her 1999 graduation from SHAPE American High School in Belgium. Laura attended the United States Military Academy at West Point where she excelled in leadership positions and was elected as class secretary for the class of 2003. She was commissioned as a LT in the Corps of Engineers.

Laura's grandfather, LTG (Ret) Glenn Walker, landed on D-Day with the 22nd Infantry Regiment of the 4ID and later served as Commanding General of 4ID in Vietnam from November 1969 to October 1970. Her other grandfather, GEN (Ret) Volney Warner, West Point class of 1950, served in the Korean War and was 3rd Brigade commander of 4ID in Vietnam in 1969. Currently serving our nation are

Laura's father, COL Keith Walker who served as Chief of Staff for the 1st Cavalry Division during their recent deployment in Iraq; her uncles BG Volney Warner; COL Jerry Warner; her brother 2LT Brian Walker, West Point class of 2005; and her brother Cadet Duncan Walker who will graduate from West Point in 2008. Her mother, Valerie Walker, is a proud Army wife and mother. She is also survived by her sister, Audrey.

The funeral was held in the historic Cadet Chapel at West Point. As I sat listening to the chaplain and two of Laura's friends deliver the eulogies, I was struck by how outstanding a human being Laura was and how loved she was by so many people. I also reflected on the great history and the great Americans who had sat in that chapel before going on to serve their nation, many making the ultimate sacrifice during that service.

Two former 4ID commanding generals paid their respects at the funeral, GEN (Ret) Paul Kern and LTG and Mrs. Ray Odierno, a classmate of Laura's father in the West Point class of 1976.

At the reception following the ceremonies, tributes from Laura's friends around the world filled the room. Sitting under a window overlooking the Hudson River was a shadow box with the medals Laura had earned in her short military career. Laura earned the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Army Commendation Medal (1OLC), Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Combat Action Badge, and Air Assault Badge.

The Walker and Warner families are a special breed of Americans. A highlight of my trip was the discussion I had with Margaret Walker, Laura's grandmother. She has lived through her husband's fighting with 4ID in WWII and Vietnam, has seen her son and granddaughter fight in the Global War on Terror, and maintains a level of class and pride in military service that many Americans should learn from.

To read more about Laura Walker and her service to America, go to the tribute page for her at <http://www.west-point.org/users/usma2003/60262/>

## National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association

### Membership Application

Having served with, or been attached to the 4th Infantry Division, I hereby apply for membership and enclose \$15.00 for annual dues.  Renewal  New

**Era:**  WWII  Cold War-Germany  Vietnam  Peacetime  Iraq

**Type of Membership:**  Veteran  Active Duty  Memorial  Associate

**I request placement in:**

Closest Geographic Chapter

Specific Unit Chapter (Name: \_\_\_\_\_)

(Please Print)

I served/am serving with (unit): \_\_\_\_\_ (years) \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Use this address for my free subscription to *The Ivy Leaves* magazine

**ATTN:** Active troops change address to APO when deployed.

MAIL TO: National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association 8891 Aviary Path Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077-4446

**New Members ♦♦♦ National 4th Infantry  
(Ivy) Division Association**

Name	Unit	Era
<b>August 2005</b>		
Cliff Amos	A/2/8 INF	1969 - 1970
CPT Patricia G. Baker	2-4TH AVN	Iraq
Lee Bastil	A/2/8 INF	1969 - 1971
Herb Burquez	14TH TRANS	1958 - 1959
Kevin J. Carr	C/1/8 INF	Iraq
Kim Cook	4TH S&T BN	1975 - 1978
Douglas Crumley	B/1/10 CAV	1969 -1970
Frederic J. Delamain	G3 4TH ID	1970
Chaplain Leif Espeland	1/8 INF	Iraqs
Ronald Fiocca	1-66 AR	2001 - 2004
Harry T. Hodge	C/1/12 INF	1966 - 1967
Jim Kesy	C/1/27 FA	1972 - 1975
Robert T. Lorenzen	22ND INF	1944 - 1945
Michael Wayne Manus		Iraq
William McAllister	A/1/10 CAV	1965 - 1966
Terence M. McCue	1/10TH CAV	Iraqy
Albert M. Medina	12TH INF REG	WWII
Leon (Sonny) Meyer	4TH ENG	1965 - 1967
Jack E. Oliver	I/3/12 INF	1944
Joseph Pasciucchio	M/12TH INF	Cold War
Jerry Patton	A/3/8 INF	Peacetime
Antonio Pesce		Peacetime
Gary V. Prater	HHC 2ND BDE	1974 - 1975
Kenneth D. Rowley	B/1/10 CAV	1968y
William Schmidt	HHC 1ST BGD	Cold War
Howard E. Yoast	A/1/10 CAV	1968 - 1969
<b>September 2005</b>		
Kenneth W. Anderson	HQ/704 MAINT	1967 - 1969
Bob Feagin	A/1/8 INF	1966 - 1967
CSM Randy Leatherwood	1/44 ADA	Iraq
Sam J. Pagano Jr.	HQ/4/42 FA	1966 - 1967
James Michael Peters	A/3/8 INF	1968 - 1969
James L. Robertson	2/35TH INF	1969
Robert G. Scheitrumf	E/1/12 INF	1969 - 1970
Elbert C. (Buddy) Sellers	704TH MAINT	1966 - 1967
William C. Wise		1953 - 1955
<b>October 2005</b>		
Michael G. Barbolla	HHC/2/8 INF	Vietnam
John Cross	FT. HOOD	Active Duty
William Eck	DIV HQ	1984 - 1985
Lt. Col. William A Forbes	C/12TH INF	1943 - 1944
Ellen J. Hantzes	Memorial	
Victor E. Henry	HQ/4TH AVN	1961 - 1962
Carina Lucia Kim	FT. HOOD	Active Duty
Ken Kliethermes	FT. HOOD	Active Duty
Leslie Kliethermes	FT. HOOD	Active Duty
James E. Mandlco III	HHB/5/16 FA	1966 - 1967
Raymond H. McConnell		1951 - 1953
Dylan Miller	FT. HOOD	Active Duty
Eugene J. Miller Jr.	A/1/8 INF	1968 - 1969
John H. Morris	A/1/14 INF	Vietnam
Cheryl Popple	1/10TH CAV	2003
Bill Powell JR.	D/1/10 CAV	1969 - 1970
Michael Joseph Renner	A/3/12 INF	1969 - 1970
Walter J. Smith	4TH ENG	1967 - 1969
Deborah L. Speece	Memorial	
Stacy Townsend	FT. HOOD	Active Duty
Jennifer Trimble	FT. HOOD	Active Duty
John Tully	FT. HOOD	Active Duty
Ryan Wilson	FT. HOOD	Active Duty

**VA Warns Against Scams**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is warning veterans not to give credit card numbers over the phone to callers claiming to update VA prescription information.

“Some unscrupulous scammers have targeted America’s veterans, especially our older veterans,” said the Honorable R. James Nicholson, Secretary of Veterans Affairs. “VA does not call veterans and ask them to disclose personal financial information over the phone.”

**VA Offers Programs for Veteran-owned Businesses**

WASHINGTON (Nov. 4, 2005) - The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the General Services Administration (GSA) have signed a formal agreement expanding GSA’s efforts for businesses that are owned by veterans, especially service-disabled veterans.

“America’s veterans are a national treasure, a pool of trained, motivated, reliable entrepreneurs,” said the Honorable R. James Nicholson, Secretary of Veterans Affairs. “They’re looking for a helping hand, not a hand-out.”

The agreement signed between the two federal agencies commits GSA to place additional emphasis upon programs for veteran-owned businesses and businesses owned by service-disabled veterans.

**VA Announces New Survivor Benefits Web Site**

WASHINGTON (September 13, 2005) - The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has created a new Internet Web site for the surviving spouses and dependents of military personnel who died on active duty and for the survivors and dependents of veterans who died after leaving the military. VISIT: [www.vba.va.gov/survivors](http://www.vba.va.gov/survivors)

“One of VA’s basic missions is to care for the survivors of veterans and military members,” said the Honorable R. James Nicholson, Secretary of Veterans Affairs. “By harnessing the power of the Internet, we can provide them with the latest information about benefits in a clear, readable format.”

**VA and Goodwill Sign Training and Employment Pact**

WASHINGTON (Oct. 4, 2005) - In participation with President Bush’s Faith-Based and Community Initiative Program, officials from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Goodwill Industries International Inc. recently signed an agreement that will increase opportunities for vocational training and employment-related assistance for service-connected disabled veterans.

“Both VA and Goodwill are committed to providing these brave men and women with opportunities to seek career advancement, job mobility, greater financial security, and economic well-being for their families,” said the Honorable R. James Nicholson, Secretary of Veterans Affairs.



EDITOR'S NOTE: Please find someone in your Chapter that can e-mail your report to: <ivyleaveseditor@aol.com> This section is for reports on your reunions, meetings, and gatherings or almost anything you want to report. It's OK to submit names of attendees if the report is sent via e-mail. All submissions welcome and will be printed (500 word limit) without any editing if you e-mail it. All of the above will really help in this production of your news magazine. -Thanks!!

### Arizona Chapter Spring Reunion

The Arizona Chapter will hold its spring reunion in Laughlin, NV April 18-20, 2006 at Ramada Express Hotel. Room rates are \$17/night. For reservations call 800-243-6846 any day from 7 AM to 10 PM before April 1, 2006 to get the \$17 rate. Use group code 10585.

Dinner on Thursday night will be same place, different chef. Dinner cost is \$20. Send check to: Mike Irving  
5145 Midnight Oil Drive  
Henderson, NV 89122

Specify preference  Beef or  Chicken

This reunion is open to all members of other chapters. We will be glad to see you.

See you in Laughlin.

Bob Olson, President Arizona Chapter

### Northwest Chapter Spring Reunion

The spring reunion will be in Lewiston, Idaho on April 8, 2006 all the information will be mailed out to all Chapter members in the spring.

### A Peek into the Past

#### VIETNAM MEMORIES

by Bob Babcock

January 1, 1968 – as remembered by Michael Richards, C/1-8 Infantry: Our company was at the farthest position on a ridgeline at the junction of Laos and Cambodia overlooking the Ben Het Special Forces camp. This was before the next six weeks of the 1968 Tet offensive. We were informed of a special visitor coming to our position for a Christmas and New Year celebration. It was not until the last minute that we were informed that this was not a senior officer, but a USO person and a “female” to entertain the troops. Being so far out in the boonies, it was a delight to us that we had a lady coming to see us. We were all giddy with excitement. The first order of business was to insure all pants buttons were buttoned and shirts were to be worn by everyone. Needless to say, when a blue eyed blonde in a mini-skirt stepped off the Huey and entertained us for over an hour, every jaw dropped in awe that this lady would come to the front line. We were all amazed that someone would go so far as to put herself in harm’s way to entertain the troops. It was Chris Noel, a radio disk jockey. She didn’t know that by her coming to the most remote foxhole in Asia how much she inspired the troops. Her special effort will never be forgotten. The next six weeks were a different event, but I can assure you, all buttons were buttoned for that event. It was a pleasant memory

### Carolinas Chapter Spring 2006 Mini-Reunion

The Carolinas Chapter will hold the Spring Reunion, April 28-29, 2006 at the Holiday Inn – Airport, Columbia, South Carolina. Make your Hotel reservations direct with the hotel at 803-794-9440. The Hotel is located at exit 111-B on I-26, which has been named the 4th Infantry Division Interchange. Mention the 4ID to get our rate of \$67/night. Please Pre-Register using this form or call me 864-621-3727, so we have an accurate meal count. Remember to bring your gifts or crafts for the Raffle after the Banquet.

#### Reunion Schedule

Friday April 28	1:00 PM	Hospitality Room Opens
	6:30 PM	Seafood Buffet
Saturday April 29	9:00 AM	Officers Meeting
	10:00 AM	Business Meeting
	6:00 PM	Flames of Remembrance Banquet
Sunday April 30	8:00 AM	Break-A-Way Breakfast On Your Own

### REGISTRATION FORM

#### Carolinas Chapter – 2004 Spring Mini-Reunion

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

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

Spouse / Guest Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee: (\$5 / per Adult) .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Banquet (\$35 per person).....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation(s) ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Specify

**Total Enclosed** .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form by *April 14, 2006* and make check payable to: **Carolinas Chapter. Mail To:** Rick Adams, 109 Tournament Pt., Duncan, SC 29334 864-621-3727.



As another year draws to a close, we find more than 20000 soldiers of the 4th Infantry Division once again deployed to fight the global war on terrorism. It is imperative that we do whatever we can to support these soldiers and pray for their safe return. They are the future of this association and the best way to let them know who we are is to stand behind them and maintain unwavering support.

We have 7 members who have made a commitment to the 4th Infantry (IVY) Division Association by signing up for a Paid for Life membership. The new PFL members are listed in the table below

We had a great A-1-8 Chapter reunion in Mackinaw City, Michigan with around 50 people from all across the country in attendance. This was the 7th yearly reunion that our chapter has held and each year we have had several new members give it a try. It is always a rewarding experience for me to spent time with the men I served with in Vietnam.

Our dues are starting to come in from a few of the chapters

**As of January 1, 2006 those members who have not paid their dues will be dropped from the mailing list and will not receive any further copies of "The Ivy Leaves."**

and I urge all of our Chapter Treasurers to push to get their dues collected prior to the end of the year. As of January 1, 2006 those members who have not paid their dues will be dropped from the mailing list and will not receive any further copies of "The Ivy Leaves." Please examine the mailing label on this issue and check the upper right hand corner. If the date there reads 12/31/05 it means that your membership expires on that date. If you see that date and have not yet sent in your dues, then please do so immediately.

As we enter the holiday season let us all pray that our Armed Forces finish the mission, stay safe and come home to their families.

4thfully, Greg Rollinger

**New Paid-for-Life Members**

Ruben "Doc" Bonilla	A/3/8 INF	1968 - 1969	Ivy Dragoons
Eugene F. Carter	HQ/4/DIV	Peacetime	Colorado
CSM Melvin R. Hewitt	C/1/8 INF	Vietnam	Northwest
Stacy W. Kocher	B/1/10 CAV	1977-1979	1/10th Cavalry
Peter T. Parker	C/6/29 FA	1967-1968	Ohio
Patrick L. Ryan	C/6/29 FA	1969 - 1970	Spotswood deWitt
John W. Van Orden	4 SIG CO	1954-1955	Ohio

**National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association**

**Member Death Notification**  
(Executive Director's copy)

Chapter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Member \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Era and Unit \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Death \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spouses Name \_\_\_\_\_

Ivy Leaves Editor notified?  Yes  No  
Spouse may join as a "MEMORIAL" member If she/he desires. Have them fill out an application and pay the appropriate dues.

Mail to: Gregory A. Rollinger  
8891 Aviary Path  
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077

**National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association**

**Member Death Notification**  
(Editor's copy)

Chapter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Member \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Era and Unit \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Death \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spouses Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Executive Director notified?  Yes  No  
 Special events during his military service: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Dick Taylor, Editor  
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**Preferred notification – Email to: [ivyleaveseditor@aol.com](mailto:ivyleaveseditor@aol.com)**



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- ◆ ECHTERNACH, LUXEMBOURG
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## OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

- ◆ SUNNI TRIANGLE (Baghdad/Tikrit)



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