

# The CUB

PUBLISHED BY AND FOR  
*The Veterans of the  
106th INFANTRY  
DIVISION*

*of the*  
**GOLDEN LION**

Vol. 75 – No. 3

August – November 2019

## The 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Reunion of the 106th Infantry Division Association



**106th Association Veteran members in attendance at the 73<sup>rd</sup> Reunion — left to right:**  
**Russ Lang 423/I, Everett Howland 422/L, Herb Sheaner 422/G, Bradford Holmes 423/E,**  
**Bob Pope 590/FABN, Harry Martin 424/L, Richard Idstein 424/C and William Busier 423/K.**

*(Photo by Janet Wood)*

The 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Reunion of the 106th Infantry Division Association  
was held in Providence-Warwick, RI on September 4–8.

*For photos of this year's reunion see page 24.*

# *The CUB*

*A tri-annual publication of the 106th Infantry Division Association, Inc.*

**Total Membership as of October 31, 2019 – 982**

Membership includes *CUB* magazine subscription

**Annual Dues are no longer mandatory: Donations Accepted**

Payable to “*106th Infantry Division Association*” and mailed to  
**the Treasurer** — *See address below*

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## President's View . . .

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When my daughter, Michelle, and I, first heard that the reunion was going to be in Rhode Island we were extremely excited. The reason was we had many relatives living in Rhode Island. It had been many years since we traveled there to visit them. We decided to invite all the relatives to a “Family Reunion” dinner. My sister-in-law undertook the effort to contact all the cousins, nieces and nephews to find out how many would be attending. For our personal convenience, I made the family reunion arrangements at the same hotel that the 106th Infantry Division Association Reunion was being held. When the date arrived, we had 20 relatives, including five children born since our last visit and two new spouses. It was a great event and a real perk for our trip to Rhode Island.

September 19, 2019, was National POW/MIA recognition day and the Veterans Hospital in Buffalo, NY, held a ceremony. I was one of about 70 people in attendance. Typical of the time since the action, there were only nine former POWs present, seven from WW II, one from Korean War and one from the Vietnam War. Friends and family applauded as each POW was introduced and recognized. Many pictures were taken by both the media and guests.



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During the memorial service at the Reunion, we paid recognition to 39 members of the Association, both veterans and associates, who passed away in the past year. I don't have the program from 2018 but in 2017 there were 62. I don't know if this lower number in 2019 is encouraging or a reflection of the lower number of members. At any rate, it emphasizes the need for aggressive recruiting in order to maintain the viability of the Association. The question I pose to all members is — are we ready to pitch in and make it happen? The future of the Association lies in the answer.

Now this part is directed to the 483 veterans on our mailing list: as

## President's View . . .

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a popular song says, "We need to get to know you." Most of you haven't attended a reunion in a long time for physical or financial reasons. However, we can and should still communicate. If you can still write, drop me a line; if you can't, give me a call. My home phone number is 716-580-3118 and my

cell is 716-867-7491. I'll answer and if I can't, leave a message on my voicemail including your phone number and I will make sure to call you back. Come on Vets, get in the flow and help us "To get to know you."

Bob Pope  
*President*

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## The Importance of a Mini Reunion

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

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

**Contact Mini-Reunion Chair Wayne Dunn at [host106th@106thInfDivAssn.org](mailto:host106th@106thInfDivAssn.org) and he can assist you with members in your area.**

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## Warm Memories of Cold Spring

by Beatrice Fulton Keeber

A Golden Lion's war experiences forged a boy into a man. But what really defined him as the person he became was his "happily ever after" with his family and his 60-year love story. *Warm Memories of Cold Spring* is not a war story! It's a smile-producing tale of "what came next" that reminds other vets of their own "afters," their children and grandchildren of Dad's and Mom's or Grandpa's and Grandma's lives.

Pfc. Willard H. Keeber, with Co. G, 424th Infantry Regiment, 106th Infantry Division, was placed on-line December 11, 1944 near St. Vith, Belgium, two months past his 19<sup>th</sup> birthday, five days prior to the German Tank Assault that smashed directly through his position, launching the Battle of the Bulge.

This is the story of a *veteran's* legacy that left his world better than he found it.

Online at ***amazon.com*** (simply type the title in the search bar)

Print copy – \$9.99; Kindle – \$4.99



## **Chaplain's Message . . .**

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### **2019 Memorial Message given at the 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Reunion of the 106th Infantry Division Association**

*The memory of the righteous is a blessing...Proverbs 10:7*

Eighteen days ago, on August 20, I visited my father's grave to observe what would have been dad's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Born August 20, 1919, my father, Roddie Edmonds, died in 1985 at the age of 65 from congestive heart failure. His doctor told us at the time that his POW experience in WW II, while a Master Sergeant in the 422nd Regiment, most likely contributed to his early death.

On my way to the cemetery, I received a call from a stranger, a Mr. Jerry Klinger from New Jersey, who said he was President of the Jewish American Society for Historic Preservation. He told me he had called a local florist to place a memorial wreath and flag at dad's grave to commemorate his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and to honor his heroic actions that saved the lives of more than 200 Jewish American GIs from the murderous Nazis.

He also shared that his organization wanted to place a historical marker at an appropriate site in the city of Knoxville to honor dad's legacy as a Righteous Among the Nations. He said they would provide the funding, fabrication and technical assistance. Jerry said "we want to help remember your father by telling his story for generations to come." I was stunned and grateful. I thanked him for his kindness toward my father.



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When I arrived at the grave, I was overwhelmed. To the left of dad's headstone was a large wreath of dazzling white roses and to the right was a large American flag driven deep in the ground standing tall above his grave...standing tall like dad and all the valiant men who served in WW II. I wept and rejoiced in my father and thanked God for our country and good folks like Jerry who appreciate the honor and sacrifice of our soldiers.

I stood in silence and thought about dad. I remembered how much dad enjoyed life. I recalled how he expressed love to everyone and anyone. I rejoiced in how he embraced the good Lord above. And I remembered the greatest generation who served our nation well and saved our world.

## Chaplain's Message . . .

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*The memory of the righteous is a blessing. (Proverbs 10:7)*

Our memorial service each year is important. It is right. It is good. It is holy. And a blessing.

Carl Wouters, our dear friend from Belgium reminds us, "What we do to remember the sacrifices made during the winter of 1944–45 are just small ways of expressing our gratitude towards the men and women of the Greatest Generation to whom we are indebted so much. We owe the veterans of the 106th Division our everlasting gratitude."

I say amen to Carl. He is right.

*The memory of the righteous is truly a blessing. (Proverbs 10:7)*

Several of our blessings are with us at this 2019 reunion — William Busier, Bradford Holmes, Everett Howland, Richard Idstein, Russ Lang, Harry Martin, Bob Pope and Herb Sheaner.

The fierceness of the battle that these men survived when the Germans struck with swift surprise and overwhelming force is beyond comprehension. Like my father said in his war diary, "you've got to be there to know."

In a letter dated December 27, 1944, to a fellow Pastor back in the states, Chaplain Alford V. Bradley of the 106th Division described the battle this way: *"I am glad to know that you are having a good revival. I am sure the devil is doing his work at home. He doesn't have a chance here in the foxholes. A real revival of praying has broken out. I think every church member who kicks against the minister's message should spend*

*one day in a foxhole with shells falling all around. Then they will get right with God. We have had snow and ice here all the time. We are giving the Jerries a good fight, every man is more than a hero."*

Every one of these men here today are more than a hero. They are miracles. They are blessed reminders of the grace of God and the goodness of noble men. To each of you valiant soldiers, please accept our deepest appreciation and devoted love. (Applause)

*The memory of the righteous among us is a blessing. (Proverbs 10:7)*

The memory of the righteous no longer with us is also a blessing. Many of our beloved warriors died years after the war. We know some or all of their stories. We should think of them and share their stories often. But far too many died in battle. And even some remain unknown. They are nameless heroes known only by God.

I want us to remember two of them today — soldiers who died in the Bulge. Little is known about them but they are not forgotten.

Both of them are interned at the Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery and Memorial in Plombières, Belgium. Covering 57 acres, the cemetery contains 7,987 of our military dead most of whom lost their lives in two major military efforts. One effort was the U.S. First Army's drive beginning in September 1944 through France into Germany and the second was the Battle of the Bulge.

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## ***Chaplain's Message . . .***

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Headstones of these fallen heroes are arranged in gentle arcs sweeping across a broad green lawn that slopes gently downhill. A highway passes through the cemetery. West of the highway is an overlook that affords an excellent view of the rolling Belgian countryside which was once a battlefield.

To the east is the long colonnade that forms the memorial overlooking the burial area. On the rectangular piers of the colonnade are inscribed the names of 450 missing men. Rosettes mark the names of those since recovered and identified. The seals of the states and territories are also carved on these piers.

The cemetery possesses great significance as it holds fallen Americans who sacrificed all. Some of you have visited there. It is a sacred place

One of the fallen I call us to remember is Private First Class Thomas W. (Wilson) Morgan of North Carolina. He served with the 423rd Infantry Regiment, serial number 34775562. Private Morgan was killed in action defending our nation on 16 December, 1944, the first day of the Battle of the Bulge. He is commemorated in perpetuity in Plot H, Row 11, Grave 64.

Born in 1914, Wilson enlisted at Camp Croft in South Carolina on 26 May, 1943. At the time of his enlistment, he was married and considered an "old" man of 29 by his fellow privates. What would make an old married man join the Army to serve his country? During war time?

No one really knows but could it be his duty, honor, courage, righteousness,

justice, goodness, and a profound love for his family and country? While we do not know how he died, we do know how and why he lived. He lived well. He lived heroic. He gave his all for you and me.

Let's pause in silence to remember PFC Thomas W. (Wilson) Morgan and thank God for him.

Mr. Morgan's granddaughter Kathy Spinella, who is with us today, is part of our 106th family. Kathy, we thank you and your family for your grandfather's and your family's sacrifice. His righteous memory is a blessing.

The second of the fallen I call us to remember is Staff Sergeant Samuel E. Harris, a young artillery gunner with the all black troops of the 333rd Field Artillery Battalion. Sam was from rural Rowan County, North Carolina. The youngest of five siblings, Sam had worked briefly in an aircraft factory after finishing high school enlisting in the Army on 16 July, 1942, at age 18.

Sam and the 333rd landed on the beaches of Normandy in July 1944 and had seen some of the most vicious and continuous combat of any U.S. artillery outfit throughout the summer, fall and winter of '44. Captured in the Battle of the Bulge on 17 December, Sam, like my father, became a POW at Stalag 9B Bad Orb and then at Stalag 9A Ziegenhain.

While there is some disagreement to the exact details of Sam's death, it happened while he and two others attempted to escape Stalag 9A in the early hours of 29 March, 1945. The plan was to escape to Treysa to contact U.S.



## Chaplain's Message . . .

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forces and alert them to stop strafing Ziegenhain.

According to Sergeant Christian Wicks, a POW from Napa, California, Sam slipped out the window to escape and a German guard patrolling the area spotted him. The guard fired one shot at Harris and struck him in the shoulder. Wounded, Sam fell to the ground and did not resist. He surrendered. But then, the guard ran over to where Sam was, put his foot on Harris' back and fired another shot into his head.

Sam Harris was executed in cold blood.

Staff Sergeant Harris is commemorated in perpetuity in Plot D, Row 3, Grave 53. Let's pause to remember him and thank God for Staff Sergeant Samuel E. Harris.

I write about Sergeant Harris in my father's new book titled *No Surrender*. I hope to track down his family in the future to thank them for his and their sacrifice. His righteous memory is a blessing.

The memory of the righteous who are living and the righteous who have died are a blessing. May we long remember them and their service, sacrifice and love. They gave up their freedoms to secure ours. They offered up their lives to protect ours. They loved us well lifting up our country, freedoms and way of life.

And let us always remember the righteous Son of God who died for us all. He is our greatest blessing.

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16 (NIV)*

He died for you and he died for me.

*Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. John 15:13*

May the memory of the righteous be your blessing today and every day.

Chaplain:  
Pastor Chris Edmonds

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## MY WAR

by Fredrick Smallwood

This is the story of my experiences as a young boy from a small town in south Georgia with the 106th Infantry Division during World War II. I was initially in the A&P Platoon of 1 Bn. Hq. Co. of the 423rd Regiment. I was one of the few who made my way through the German lines back to the Allied lines at St. Vith.

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



## *The Adjutant's Message . . .*

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My first thought is to express congratulations and thanks to our past President, Wayne Dunn, the Board of Directors and our attendees for an outstanding reunion in Providence, Rhode Island. We had a good turnout along with our friends from the 104th Infantry Division, the tours went well, and everyone enjoyed the banquet and our speaker as we ended another successful reunion.

Our Board of Directors were able to make decisions on ways to reduce the cost of printing and distributing *The CUB* magazine; therefore helping to secure the long life of our Association. We welcomed our new President, Robert Pope and his slate of officers and board. We were fortunate to gain two new board members, Kathy Spinella and David Smith and we look forward to their contributions.

Our interaction with the 104th Infantry Division (Timberwolf Pups) went well. We still have to massage the events of the banquet a bit to make it work for both of us without losing our identity, but we will get there. All appeared to enjoy themselves. We are planning to combine with the 104th again in 2020. We are going to Hilton Kansas City Airport. The date is September 9 to the 13, 2020. The cost proposed is cheaper than this year and still includes a complimentary breakfast. In the next *CUB*, I will be able to give all of the details.

A few weeks ago, I found a newly released book "No Surrender" which was written by Chris Edmonds, the Chaplain for the 106th Association, and texted him a picture of the display.



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Pastor Chris tells his dad's story and his trials while being held captive by the Germans — Congratulations Pastor Chris.

I want to remind you of an upcoming event to be held at the Kurt Vonnegut Library in Indianapolis, Indiana. The event is November 9, and Brian Welke will be speaking about the Slaughter House prison camp life of Mr. Vonnegut. Kurt Vonnegut was a member of the 423rd regiment of the 106th ID member and he was a German POW, held in The Slaughter House Prison in Dresden Germany. This inspired him to write his famous book, *Slaughterhouse Five*. Brian has interviewed most of the living prisoners from the same prison camp that Kurt was in and he is making a presentation on that subject. If you are

## *The Adjutant's Message . . .*

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able to attend, please do.

I look forward to seeing you all again. It is not too early to mark your calendar and set a goal to attend the next reunion. I have never been to one of our reunions that did not have at least one "First-Time" attendee. Let's keep that

record alive and plan to honor our 106th Veterans in person.

Randall M. Wood  
Adjutant 106th Infantry  
Division Association  
Robert Wood 423-I



### **The Sitting Duck Division: Attacked from the Rear**

*By John W. Morse (422/C)*

This is the story of one boy soldier and his fellow GIs from draft to disaster and back. John W. Morse's (422/C) self-published book describes being taken prisoner in the Battle of the Bulge. To order, visit [iuniverse.com](http://iuniverse.com) or call toll-free at 877-823-9235. The book is priced \$9.95, plus shipping.

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## **Jim West and the *IndianaMilitary.org* Website**

Additional 106th Infantry Division information can be found on Jim West's (OGL 2000) website at ***IndianaMilitary.org***. It includes the following:

- Reconstructed Roster of the 106th at <http://tinyurl.com/106th-Roster> with 18,902 entries to date, including more than 300 individual photos
- Every issue of *The CUB* from 1946 to present (searchable)
- Every issue of the *Camp Atterbury Camp Crier* with articles on the 106th
- Local Columbus, Indiana, newspaper articles featuring the 106th
- 106th member diaries and accounts
- Articles include: Battle of the Bulge, Important dates, Unit publications, Photo Albums, After-Action Reports, General and Special Orders and much more
- Information on the 106th guarded PWTE (Prisoner of War Temporary Enclosures)
- The official history site for Camp Atterbury, Indiana.

## Historian's Message . . .

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Seventy-five years ago, there was no *CUB of the Golden Lion*. Think about that . . . this is September 2019. Those of you reading this, more than half of you that is, were nothing more than a gleam in your daddy's eye. (That's an old saying that perhaps may have to be explained. Ask a vet.) Yes, it has been a long time ago when several million or more young Americans were sent into harm's way to set the world right, yet again. It had only been a generation in time since the last time the world was in conflict. I was comfortable as a child growing up and had no idea what the "War to end all wars" was all about or what I would be doing or where I would be as an adult. I think that the expression that applied to me would be "fat, dumb and happy."

The youngsters of today take a lot of criticism for not knowing their history. I don't usually reveal my personal faults, but I have to admit that I had precious little interest in history — until one day I realized I was a part of it. I'll not say how long that took. Even as I reached the age for high school, my interest in world history and/or the current politics of the day was at an all-time low. My life was all about "doing stuff." Get outside, find your pals, do something, even if it was just "hanging out." Pearl Harbor suddenly changed that for every one that I knew. Within a very short period of time, there were so many young men missing from the neighborhood that it became noticeable. The question every parent was asking every other parent was, "Where is your son (or daughter) serving now?" As weeks passed even



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the answer to that question could not be answered with certainty in many cases. Parents of soldiers in the 106th Infantry Division eventually developed what became known as "The Agony Grapevine." It was an informal kind of communications network on the "Home Front" and it connected parents with one another to pass around information that would be of interest to some parent who was involved in the network. Rosters were developed (typewritten on paper) and distributed. This enabled participants to get to know one another by telephone or regular mail, even if they were scattered all around the country. Think, for just a moment, how that labor-intensive task would be accomplished today. Smart phones would be lit up all over the world with up-to-the-moment news from home to the "front" and back, wherever it was. Today it is a common occurrence for a soldier on the other side of the planet to

## Historian's Message . . .

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slip out his smart phone and speak with someone at home. There has been a lot happening in the last 75 years and it has been a gift for me to be a witness.

As your Association Historian, I have contributed words to the editor about many events involving our members. In the past, it was a time-consuming process. It is now apparent that our division's history, and that of other WW II combat units, is now being preserved in book form more than ever before. The stories are at your fingertips if you have a device that can access the world-wide-web. Book sellers on the web can deliver a book to your door in two days or less, or if you would rather read it on your pad or phone, you can have it in your hand almost immediately.

I am sure that those vets who lived through WW II thought at one time or another that the experiences that they had would be soon forgotten. Perhaps they were, but only for a time. I can't explain the reasons, but there has been a wide-spread surge of interest in recent years into the history of the war, our war. Veterans take heart. Your deeds and contribution to victory will not be soon forgotten. The researchers and writers of world history are working to make sure that is not going to happen. As if that was not enough, our second and third generations of offspring are continuing the task within those organizations that our generation established to maintain our history.

The books by and about the 106th Division that I am aware of are listed for your convenience here. Go get 'em.

- *Battle of the Bulge* by Martin King
- *Warriors of the 106th — The Last Infantry Division* by Ken Johnson, Martin King, & Michael Collins
- *Red Legs of the Bulge* by Chris "CJ" Kelly
- *The Fightin' 589th* by Col. Thomas P. Kelly, Jr.
- *Hell Frozen Over* by Marilyn Estes Quigley
- *Voices of the Bulge* by Michael Collins and Martin King
- *Damn Cold and Starving* by Sgt. Marion Ray and Dan Brannan
- *On The Job Training* by The 589th Group (Not in print — see it online at [indianamilitary.org](http://indianamilitary.org))
- *La Bataille Des Carrefours* by Eddy Monfort (French)
- *L'Offensive Des Ardennes* by Eddy Monfort (French)
- *Parker's Crossroads* by CRIBA-BELGIUM (French)
- *How We Won the War* by Charles G. Pefinis
- *America at Its Best* by Charles G. Pefinis
- *Pro Deo Et Patria* by Fr. Paul W. Cavanaugh, S.J.
- *St. Vith—Lion in the Way* by Colonel R. Ernest Dupuy
- *A Teen's War* by Hal Richard Taylor
- *Prisoner's Odyssey* by Herb Sheaner
- *The Lion's Path* by C. J. Kelly (fictionalized)
- *Soldier Boy* by George K. Zak

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## Historian's Message . . .

- *Healing The Child Warrior* by Richard Peterson, Ph.D.
- *Escape!!!* by John M. "Jack" Roberts
- *Memories of a Tour of Duty* by Earl S. Parker
- *The Letter Box* by Robert "Bob" Glover
- *Captured at the Battle of the Bulge* by Russ Lang
- *Forced March* by John H. Mohn
- *No Surrender* by Chris Edmonds
- *From Brooklyn to the Battle of the Bulge* by Bernard "Barney" Mayrsohn
- *My Nine Lives* by Bob Pope
- *The Battle For Snow Mountain* by Donald Young
- *I Was No Hero in the Battle of the Bulge* by Harry Martin

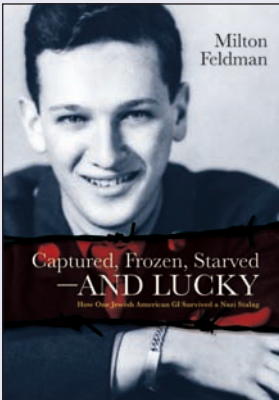
### **Mark your Calendar NOW!!**

for the 106th Infantry Division Association's 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion at the  
**Hilton Airport Hotel in Kansas City, MO**  
**September 9–13, 2020**

#### A Self-published Memoir . . .

### ***Captured, Frozen, Starved — and Lucky: How One Jewish American GI Survived a Nazi Stalag***

**By Milton Feldman**



The book is  
available at  
**[amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)**

"I'm having the time of my late life hearing from people who have seen the movie or read the book. I never thought I was a hero, and I do not think so now, but I'm rewarded every day by the knowledge that one private's experience of capture, deprivation and release can help show others what war really is and help them understand what it took for the Allies to win the most devastating war in history."

**is now a  
Minor  
Motion  
Picture**



The film, which documentary filmmaker Eduardo Montes-Bradley titled *A Soldier's Dream* after a poem Feldman had written during the war, premiered at the retirement community where he lives.

The film has now been accepted for several small film festivals.

## ***Treasurer's and Membership Chair's Report . . .***

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Make checks payable to “***106th Infantry Division Association***” and mail them to the Treasurer:



**Mike Sheaner, Treasurer**  
PO Box 140535  
Dallas TX 75214  
*sheaner1@airmail.net*  
214-823-3004

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



**Jacquelyn S. Coy, Membership**  
121 McGregor Ave.  
Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856  
*membership@106thinfdivassn.org*  
973-663-2410

---

### **Treasurer's Report:**

**June 1, 2019 – October 31, 2019**

<b>Beginning Balance:</b>	<b>\$15,862.40</b>
Money In:	\$4,370.33
Money Out:	\$3,745.99
Difference:	\$624.34
<b>Ending Balance:</b>	<b>\$16,486.74</b>

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### **Association Membership**

**As of October 31, 2019**

<b>Total Membership</b>	<b>982</b>
Membership Veterans	451
Associate Membership	531

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**Show support for our mission by giving generously.**

Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

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

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

### ***The CUB Delivery Options***

Approximately 90% of Association expenses are directly related to printing and shipping *The CUB* each year. Your choice to receive *The CUB* by email will help defer expenses and enable us to continue to deliver *The CUB* until "The Last Man Standing." Please indicate mailing preference by responding to the following:

1. Preferred delivery method for general correspondence:  
MAIL \_\_\_\_\_ or Email \_\_\_\_\_
2. Preferred delivery method for *The CUB*:  
MAIL \_\_\_\_\_ or Email \_\_\_\_\_
3. Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

You can let us know your preference by emailing:  
***membership@106thinfdivassn.org***

## **Memorial, Honorary and Life+Contributions are Essential for Keeping this Organization Going**

A suggested annual donation of \$25 to help underwrite the cost to publish and mail *The CUB* through the "Last Man Standing" and beyond is appreciated. The Association exists on donations from its members and interested individuals. Your gifts are essential to maintaining *The CUB* magazine in its current format with high-quality content and tri-annual delivery. The cost of printing and mailing each edition of *The CUB* exceeds our current level of giving. Therefore, we encourage all readers to make an annual contribution, as you are able, to help defray the cost of printing and mailing.

Those Members who contribute will have their names (only, no amounts will be shown) published in the next *CUB*. You can donate as much or as little as you can and as often as you like. By donating, you are helping perpetuate the 106th Infantry Division Association.

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## **Planned Giving**

Whether you would like to put your donation to work today or benefit the 106th Infantry Division Association beyond your lifetime, you can find a charitable plan that works for you. Popular means of life planning gifts include Wills and Living Trusts and Beneficiary Designations. Consult your professional advisor on how to extend support for the 106th Infantry Division Association to make a lasting impact.

## ***Treasurer's and Membership Chair's Report . . .***

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### **LIFE PLUS and REGULAR DONATIONS:**

Louise Awalt	Associate Member	Lee R. Lively	591/FA/HQ
Xavier Bryche	Associate Member	Harry F. Martin, Jr.	424/L
William B. Busier	423/K	Paul F. Panagrosso	424
Frances McDaniel	Associate Member	Francis L. Plumly	422/F
Cowart		Robert E. Pope	590 FA/A
Jacquelyn S. Coy	Associate Member	Glynn Raby	424/1BN/HQ
Henry E. Freedman	422/HQ	James R. Renner	Associate Member
Mary Harrell	Associate Member	Jean A. Schutte	Associate Member
Beatrice F. Keeber	Associate Member	Carol Starmack	Associate Member
Anne Keeber	Associate Member	Marshall P. Streib	424/B
Bethanie Keeber	Associate Member	Victor and	Associate Member
David Keeber	Associate Member	Barbara Vaade	
Gail Keeber	Associate Member	Wilma E. Wood	Associate Member
John Keeber	Associate Member		

### **NEW MEMBERS:**

Lisa Brodhecker	Associate Member	Teresa Oestereich	Associate Member
Peggy Etterle	Associate Member	Paul F. Panagrosso	424th
Amy Johnston	Associate Member	Betty Stulce	Associate Member
Katie Hutchison	Associate Member	Roxanne Vendegna	Associate Member
Marie Mease	Associate Member		

### **MEMORIAL and HONORARY DONATIONS:**

*In memory of Edward L. Bohde, 422/L*  
Given by Mike and Loretta Peralta

*In memory of Edward L. Bohde, 422/L*  
Given by Roberta and Burton  
Bromfield

*In memory of Edward L. Bohde, 422/L*  
Given by Donna M. Peters

*In memory of Edward L. Bohde, 422/L*  
Given by Thomas and Candace  
Hlivka

*In memory of Edward L. Bohde, 422/L*  
*of St. Claire Shores, MI. He served our*  
*country admirably and he was our dear*  
*Uncle. He asked in lieu of flowers we*  
*help our/his family in arms.*  
Given by Kathy O'Malley

*In memory of Fred A. Carr, 81st Eng./*  
*Co C*  
Given by Betty G. Carr

*In loving memory of Lillian Schaffner*  
Given by Madeleine J. Bryant

*In honor of John Schaffner*  
Given by Madeleine J. Bryant

## *Treasurer's and Membership Chair's Report . . .*

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### **106th Challenge Coin and Wooden Ornaments — *Have You Gotten Yours Yet?***

**\$10 each,  
plus \$1 postage  
per coin**



*Front*



*Back*



**\$10 each  
plus \$2.00 shipping  
per ornament**  
*(For an order of 10 or more,  
will be quoted a better shipping cost)*

Make all checks payable to *106th Infantry Division Association*  
All proceeds benefit the association.

Order from:

Adjutant Randall Wood: [woodchuck01@sbcglobal.net](mailto:woodchuck01@sbcglobal.net), 765-346-0690 or write to:  
810 Cramertown Loop, Martinsville, IN 46151.

*Please call or email with questions.*

**PLEASE NOTE:** Membership Chair Jacquelyn Coy is working to update the Association's roster with veterans and their units. If you use email, please email her directly at [membership@106thinfdivassn.org](mailto:membership@106thinfdivassn.org). In your message, please let Jacquelyn know your name and 106th Infantry Division unit. Thank you.

To the widows of Golden Lions, if you would wish to continue to receive *The CUB* after the passing of your husband please let Membership Chair Jacquelyn Coy know. Her contact information is located above, in this box.

*CUB* Staff occasionally receive **requests to stop the mailing** of their issue of *The CUB*. If you no longer want an issue to be mailed to you, **please contact Jackie Coy, Membership Chair**.



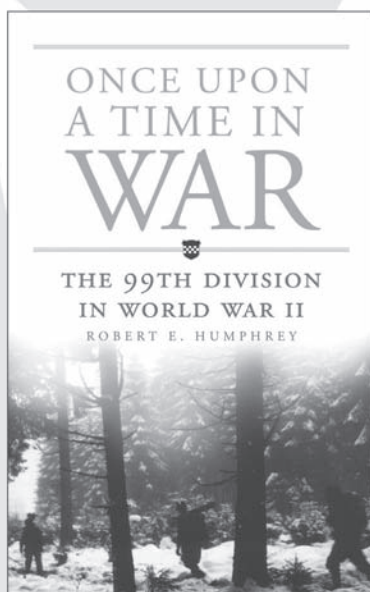
### **Returned Issues of the Latest *CUB of the Golden Lion***

Membership Chair Jacquelyn Coy asks that the following names (and partial addresses) be listed in this issue of *The CUB* in hopes that anyone reading this issue might know the people listed and can get word to them that their address listed with the Association is incorrect or outdated. If you know that they are deceased or if you know anyone on this list and can get word to them, please ask them to **contact Jacquelyn directly at the address listed on the inside cover of this issue** with an updated mailing address. Thank you.

The Association's Membership Chair recently received a huge pile — 62 issues — of returned *CUBs* which were held at the local post office for an entire year. Once the names have been reviewed and compared to the roster, we will have names for you to assist us with in the next *CUB*.

***Mark your Calendar NOW!!***

**for the 106th Infantry Division Association's 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion at the  
Hilton Airport Hotel in Kansas City, MO  
September 9–13, 2020**



#### **Once Upon a Time in War**

The 99th Division in World War II

By Robert E. Humphrey

*Once Upon a Time in War* presents a stirring view of combat from the perspective of the common soldier. Author Robert E. Humphrey personally retraced the path of the 99th through Belgium and Germany and conducted extensive interviews with more than three hundred surviving veterans. These narratives, seamlessly woven to create a collective biography, offer a gritty reenactment of World War II from the enlisted man's point of view. For readers captivated by *Band of Brothers*, this book offers an often tragic, sometimes heartwarming, but always compelling read.

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



UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA PRESS

2800 VENTURE DRIVE · NORMAN, OKLAHOMA 73069 · TEL 800 627 7377 · OUPRESS.COM

## ***Treasurer's and Membership Chair's Report . . .***

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### ***From the new editor of The CUB of the Golden Lion***

Hello, my name is Lisa Dunn and I am the new editor of *The CUB of the Golden Lion (The CUB)*. Through my husband's long-standing involvement with the 106th Infantry Division Association, I have been fortunate to have witnessed first-hand the wonderful comradery and fellowship of the Association and have gotten to meet many of the veterans who valiantly served during WW II. It is my privilege to play a small role in helping continue

the work that William has done as Editor in the past and in helping Susan with upcoming *CUB* publications. Veterans and family members: We love hearing your stories! Please send news items or suggested articles, or things you'd like to read about, to me at:

Lisa Dunn  
620 Coachmans Way,  
Parkton, MD 21120  
443-604-1599  
***CUBEditor@106thInfDivAssn.org***

---

### **NEW for the next issue:**



The Association is pleased to announce the new *CUB* Editor, Lisa Dunn who has great big shoes to fill with the handing-over of the torch from previous editor William McWhorter. We wish him well in his new endeavors.

We are also delighted to report that Publisher Susan Weiss has decided to remain and continue producing *The CUB*.

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### **Just a reminder . . .**

If you have pictures, an article, or some other form of information you would like included in a future issue of *The CUB*, the due dates are as follows:

**January 31, 2020** — mail date March 30, 2020 (issue will include reunion paperwork)

**May 1, 2020** — mail date mid-July, 2020 (issue will include reunion paperwork)

**October 1, 2020** — mail date November 30, 2020 (to include reunion photos and remembrances)

### **Articles and pictures can be mailed or emailed to:**

***CUB Editor:*** Lisa Dunn  
620 Coachmans Way,  
Parkton, MD 21120  
443-604-1599  
***CUBEditor@106thInfDivAssn.org***

***CUB Publisher:*** Susan Weiss  
9 Cypress Point Court  
Blackwood, NJ 08012  
609-820-8794  
***CUBPublisher@106thInfDivAssn.org***

## Order of the Golden Lion Committee

This award is provided in three classifications depending on the qualifications of the recipient. The most prestigious is “**Commander Class**” issued in gold finish. This award is usually provided to someone who has served the Association faithfully over an extended period of time.

The second is “**Officer Class**” issued in silver finish. This award is usually provided to someone who has served the Association faithfully over an extended period of time.

The third is “**Companion Class**” issued in bronze finish. This award is usually provided to someone who has served the Association faithfully in the capacity of assistance in the operation of the Association.

The specifications for making the award are intended to fit many instances where an individual is deemed worthy. *The award should be determined by the recipient's contributions to the Association.*

The Co-chairs of the Order of the Golden Lion committee will poll the members of the Board of Directors for recommendations for the OGL awards. The President or Co-chairs may select additional members to the committee.

Nominations will be submitted in a format suitable for composing a formal citation to accompany the award of the medal. This must be done in ample time prior to the next Reunion in order for the manufacturer to produce the medal(s) on time.

All citations should be kept



confidential between the nominator and the Committee Chairman prior to the actual awarding ceremony.

**LEAD TIME — 3 WEEKS, MINIMUM**

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

Carol J. Faulkner  
3179 Kestrel Court,  
Martinsville, IN 46151  
765-342-1872

*faulknerskeepe05@yahoo.com*

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

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

## **“VETERANS’ VOICES”**

*This is a new, recurring article for The CUB. Initiated at the 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Reunion this year, veterans were asked to submit their brief personal stories for inclusion in future issues of The CUB. Whenever possible, please submit your story attached to an email so it can easily be transferred to The CUB.*

**Thomas Berlin Cross** was from the small town of Falkner, Mississippi. At the old age of 35, he was drafted into the United States Army and put in the 106th Infantry Division where the average age of a soldier was 19 to 20 years old. He became a member of the 81st Engineer Combat Battalion commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Riggs of The University of Illinois Football fame and a Past President of the 106th Infantry Division Association. Berlin, having been a manager and chief cook in civilian life, was sent to be interviewed by LTC Riggs. Riggs wanted good cooks and accepted Berlin as a cook and he told him, “I want you to become a combat engineer first, an infantryman second and then the best “damn” cook in the division.”

On December 16, 1944, the first day of the German attack in the Battle of The Bulge, the Germans hit Bleialf with Panzer tanks, tracked artillery and personnel carriers trailed by company-size infantry formations. Berlin, the old army cook, was sent from Schoenberg with rifle and only two clips of ammunition, as was the case with others, where he engaged in the fighting in Bleialf. As the battle progressed the cook had to fall back into the woods west of the Bleialf-Schoenberg road

only to be surrendered by his officer a day later. Hours later, German tanks and infantrymen would enter Schoenberg using a road from the East to meet German armour and infantry that were entering Schoenberg from Bleialf.

Neither elements from the 7th Armored Division or 9th Armored Division arrived at the scene of battle as expected, thus the entire 422nd and 423rd regiments of the 106th Infantry Division became cut-off and surrounded when the two German forces captured Schoenberg. Most of the men of the two 106th Regiments became prisoners-of-war as did the “old man,” 36 years old with kids, Thomas Berlin Cross. Thanks to Berlin’s son Harold Cross, MG (Ret.) USAF for this story.

At the 2019 106th Infantry Division Reunion this year, more than two dozen photographers were on hand to take photos of veterans and their guests. One of the most active photographers was Russell Lang, grandson of veteran Russ Lang, 423/I. It is gratifying to us “old vets” to see so many of our children and grandchildren active and taking interest in the 106th Infantry Division Association.

*Reported by Herb Sheaner,  
Past President*



## Front & Center . . .

**Hank Freedman** of Suwanee, GA, served in Headquarters Co. 422nd Inf. Regt. He was captured on 12/19/44 at Bliealf, Germany. Arrived at Stalag IX9b, Bad Orb on 12/25/44. Segregated and sent to Stalag IX9A, Ziegenhain. Liberated on 3/30/45 by 6th Armored Div. His rank was T4 at discharge on 11/24/45 at Ft. Meade, MD.

*Reported by Hank Freedman*



This is the gravesite of my company commander (Company D, 423rd Infantry Regiment), Captain **James L. Clarkson**. He was killed on the 18 of December, 1944 southeast of Schonberg, Belgium. A fine company commander.

*Submitted by Damon F. Young 423/D*

The late Staff Sgt. **Richard W. Nethers** was captured during the Battle of the Bulge while fighting with the 106th Infantry and held prisoner in Stalag IXb in Bad Orb, Germany. He was a proud member and I believe at one time an active officer with your Association.

*Reported by David Nethers, son*

## WORLD WAR II TOUR

**13-DAY TOUR DEPARTING MAY 21, 2020 INCLUDES:**

- **FRANCE:** first night in Paris, 3 nights in Normandy, visiting Omaha Beach, Pointe du Hoc, cemeteries, villages, Utah Beach & more
- **BELGIUM:** Battle of the Bulge area
- **GERMANY:** Nuremberg, Dachau Concentration Camp, Hitler's Eagle Nest & more

**Only \$3,295** per person. Includes airfare from Chicago O'Hare, luxury motorcoach, 4 star hotels, many meals, all admissions, professional WWII guide, escorted by Vi Ranney, Yankton, SD. Tour designed originally by Dr. Brooks Ranney, WWII medical officer who served in Europe.

Call for brochure: 605-665-3596 or e-mail: [viranney@vyn.midco.net](mailto:viranney@vyn.midco.net)  
Tour sponsored by and sold at cost by the Southeast SD Germans from Russia Heritage Society.

**EVERYONE WELCOME!**

See Oberammergau, Germany's world famous Passion Play on our European tour of Germany, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, France, Monaco, Italy & Spain departing Sept. 11. Deadline approaching



## **New Monument to Honor Golden Lion POWs**

*By Carl Wouters, Association Belgian Liaison*

Especially for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge, the Association's Belgian chapter and the city administration of St. Vith have joined forces to create a new memorial to the 106th Division.

As history recorded, after a vicious four-day fight, the remnants of two Regimental Combat Teams (comprised of the 422nd and 423rd Regiments with attached artillery, medical, engineer and service troops) were forced to surrender on 19 December, 1944, on the heights overlooking the Belgian village of Schönberg. Approximately 7,000 GIs became prisoners of war, beginning a four-month ordeal that many would not survive.

The new monument, to be placed near the Our River bridge in Schönberg, will honor the memory of the Division POWs and by extension will serve as



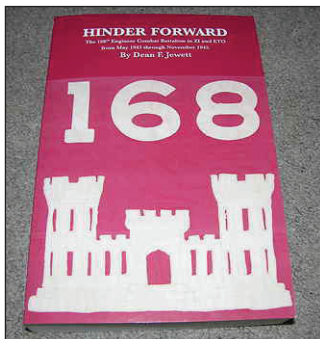
a symbolic memorial for all prisoners of war captured on the Western Front during WW II.

An official inauguration will take place on 15 December, 2019. Association membership and all other interested parties are most welcome to attend. If you are interested in attending, contact Carl Wouters ([carl\\_wouters@hotmail.com](mailto:carl_wouters@hotmail.com)) or Doug Mitchell ([Doug.Mitchell@t-online.de](mailto:Doug.Mitchell@t-online.de)) for details.

---

## **Hinder forward: The 168th Engineer Combat Battalion in ZI and ETO from May 1943 through November 1945**

*By Dean F. Jewett (168th Eng)*



**Note:** the cover may not look like the pictured image.

Dean F. Jewett has written a book about the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion, which was attached to the 106th Infantry Division during the Battle of the Bulge. The book is 456 pages and sells for \$75, which includes postage, sales tax, etc.

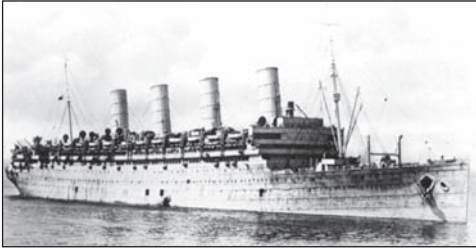
New copies are only available through Mr. Jewett at P.O. Box 148, Saco, ME 04072 or by phone at 207-284-6778.

Used copies are available online through outfits, such as *Amazon.com* or *Ebay.com*.

## **1944 Memories of Cpl. John G. Robb, 106th Inf. Div. 422D**

*By Marilyn Robb*

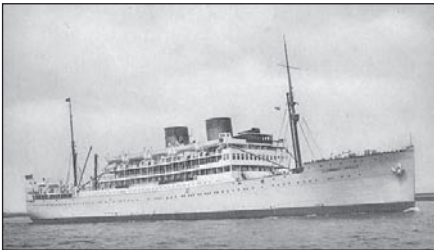
Three ships were a part of John G. Robb's military history. Perhaps some of the 106th veterans remember them, too.



### ***The Aquitania painted gray during WW II.***

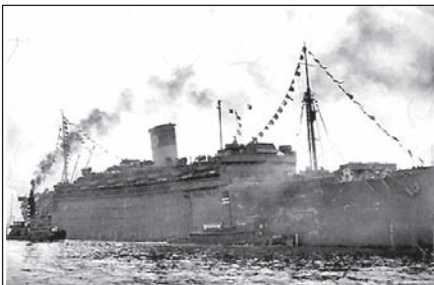
John crossed the Atlantic from New York City harbor to WW II on the Aquitania, a four stacker and sister ship of the Lusitania. It was an unescorted, five-day crossing October 12 to 17, 1944, on rough seas. The Aquitania was

fast and changed course every seven minutes to avoid being torpedoed by German submarines. Everyone was terribly seasick on the overcrowded ship. When the waters finally calmed and the troops were able to eat again, the food was terrible. But late one night, John was able to find a good meal served by moonlighting British cooks who served up two eggs, two slices of bacon, freshly baked bread, apple pie and coffee for one dollar. His long wait in line was well worth it. The Aquitania put in at Glasgow, Scotland and the trip continued by train to England.



### ***Llangibby Castle***

The second ship was the Llangibby Castle, a British ship that carried the 106'ers from Southampton to LeHarve, France. John remembers climbing over the side down the ropes into a landing craft that dropped its ramp into knee-deep, December freezing-cold water to wade ashore. John claims his feet have never been warm since.



### ***SS Argentina***

The final ship was the SS Argentina that John boarded in April 1945 at LeHarve, France that carried wounded and POWs home after making a stop in South Hampton to board the first 100 British war brides to come to the United States. The Argentina was part of a large military convoy of ships crossing on calm waters April 20 to May 4,

1945, with better food. The next destination was Ft. Dix, NJ, and a 60-day furlough. Finally, on VE Day, John was in Philadelphia waiting for a train home.

## Front & Center . . .

### 73rd Annual Reunion of the 106th Infantry Division Association at the Crown Plaza Hotel – Providence-Warwick (Airport), Rhode Island from September 4 to 8, 2019



*Some of the places and sites seen on the Boston City day trip!*





## Email Bag . . .



**Bob Pope and Herb Sheaner  
place the wreath at the  
memorial service.**

**The local color guard at the  
memorial service.**



**At the Banquet:**



**The Idstein family, left.**



**The Spinellas.**



**The Sheaner  
family, above..**



**The Shaffners.**



**Order of the Golden Lion Reunion attendees.**

## Veterans and Family of the 106th Infantry Division TATTOO\* Requests

With space in *The CUB* at a premium, yet Reunited Buddies and Their Families an important commodity, the editor of *The CUB of the Golden Lion* created the following list [*In Their Own Words, most often*] of inquiries submitted to him in hopes of helping people get in touch with the 106th I.D. Association Family. The following are requests for information. Feel free to contact them if you believe you can be of assistance. *The CUB* staff has received permission from all listed below to print their inquiry and their contact email (phone and address when available).

In addition, Non-Veteran member Connie Pratt Baesman, daughter of Lt. Gerald Pratt (Field Artillery), has been one of three people helping to manage the 106th's online "message board" (set up by Jim West) for people to write an inquiry, looking for comrades, or for people who might have known a relative who is now gone. Sadly, some inquiries sit unanswered when the answers may be out there with a reader of *The CUB* who doesn't use a computer. The list has gotten quite long and Connie has asked that whenever there is room in *The CUB*, we add a few of the requests. You can find messages like these below, along with other searches on the 106th Message Board at the following Web address: <http://106thdivision.proboards.com/index.cgi>

\*The original meaning of **military tattoo** was a military drum performance, but subsequently it came to mean army displays, or a form of gathering more generally. For our Association, letting members know that someone would like to speak with them is "why we do this! So, keep sending in your stories, as an old friend may find you!" — Susan Weiss (Publisher of *The CUB*) and William McWhorter (Editor of *The CUB*)

### Vincent P. Delagrangé

In a 1978 issue (Vol. 34, No. 2) of *The CUB*, someone [possibly Sherod Collins, who passed away in 2004 in Georgia] asked for information about those who had been listed as missing in action, including Vinsent (really Vincent) P. Delagrangé of Akron, Ohio, a member of the 423rd.

His granddaughter, Katie Hutchison, emailed the Association to pass along that he made it home after the war, got married and had six children (her mother was the third born) and 17 grandchildren. He passed away of heart failure in August of 2005. He never spoke about his military experience, only that he disliked it, hence why his grandkids are just now looking into what he went through.

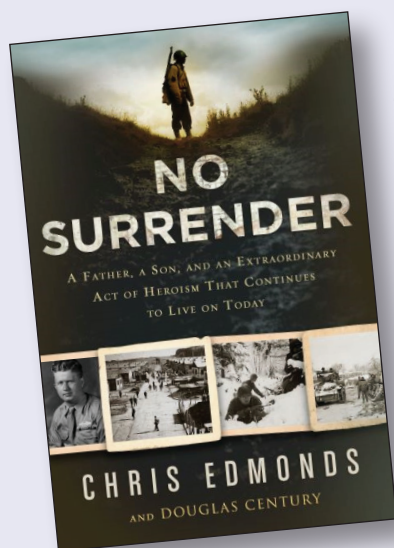
If it was Mr. Collins who had asked 41 years ago, perhaps this information will also help members interested in the 423rd Infantry Regiment or the Division as a whole.



### Colonel Alexander D. Reid of the 424th Infantry Regiment

Hugh Roberts is working on an exciting new book project and is asking the membership if they have information concerning Col. Alexander Reid, former Commander of the 424th Infantry Regiment. If you have information to share about Col. Reid, please consider reaching out to Hugh Roberts at 440-237-3523.

**Now Available!**



**From Chris Edmonds, Chaplain,  
106th Infantry Division Association**

Spanning seven decades and linking a sprawling cast of unknown heroes from every corner of the country, *NO SURRENDER* is an unforgettable story of a father's extraordinary acts of valor that saved thousands of American soldiers in the treacherous final days of World War II and a son's journey to discover them.

Roddie Edmonds, a humble soldier from East Tennessee, rarely spoke about his experiences with the 106th Infantry during World War II. Not even his son Chris knew the full details of Roddie's capture at the Battle of the Bulge or his captivity in two Nazi POW camps.

Sparked by his daughter's family history project, Chris embarked on a years-long journey in a race against time to interview surviving POWs under Roddie's command and retracing his father's footsteps, from Fort Jackson, South Carolina, where a boyish Roddie transformed into a seasoned leader of men, to the patch of grass near Ziegenhain, Germany, where he looked evil in the eye and dared a Nazi to shoot.

A quintessential American story of bravery, compassion, and righteousness, *NO SURRENDER* is a shining example of the redemptive power of moral courage in a celebration of faith, family and selfless service.

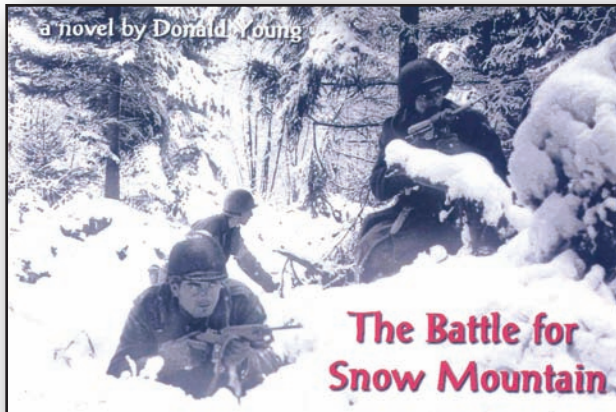
**Order online at HarperCollins, Amazon, Barnes and Noble,  
Books-A-Million and other book sellers**

## **THE BATTLE FOR SNOW MOUNTAIN**

---

by Donald Young

*The Battle for Snow Mountain* is a comic novel — based on Young's experience — which gives a surreal picture of the German attack on the 106th Division in the winter of 1944.



The story deals with two soldiers, their odd love affairs at home, their war experience in the Battle of the Bulge, their accidental capture, escape from POW camp and return to freedom.

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

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

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WALLACE WOOD, BOOK REVIEWER

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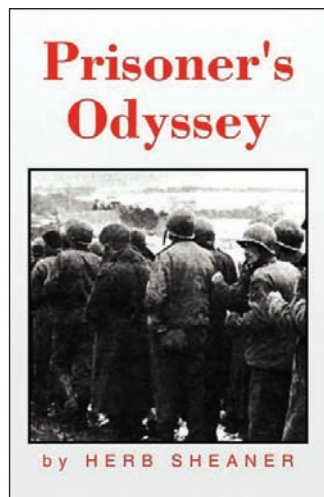
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It can also be ordered at *Amazon.com*, \$17.95, ISBN 978-1-929763-48-1

### Prisoner's Odyssey

by Herb Sheaner (422/G)

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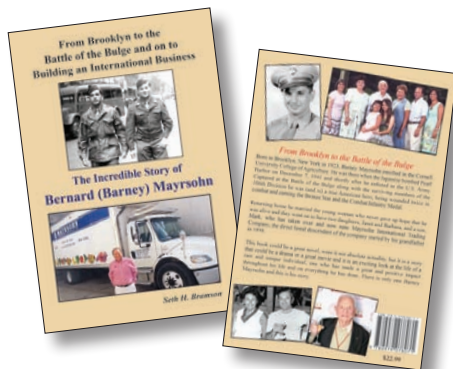
#### *From Brooklyn to the Battle of the Bulge and on to Building an International Business:*

##### *The Incredible Story of Bernard (Barney) Mayrsohn*

by Seth H. Bramson



**Barney Mayrsohn**  
(423/CNO, past  
president of the  
106th Infantry  
Division Assoc.,  
2014–2015)

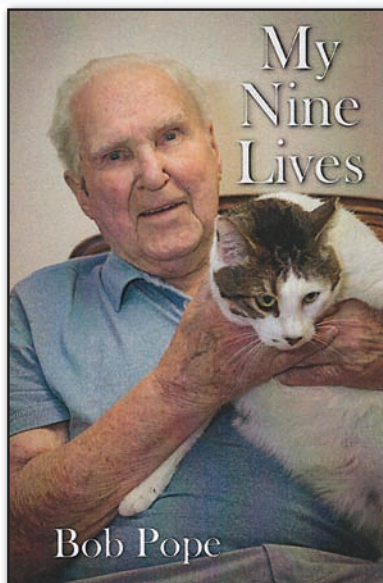


The book can be purchased online at [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com). Type “Seth Bramson” in the search and it will come up.

# ANNOUNCING THE PUBLICATION OF

## *My Nine Lives*

### BY BOB POPE



#### Excerpts from *My Nine Lives*:

Early on the morning of December 16<sup>th</sup>, 1944, just before dawn, German shells began exploding in front of us, behind us, and on our flanks. Later that morning our position was hit hard by German 88s. Our Battery Commander, Captain Luzzi, became our first casualty.

When the order to fall back was received, the fog was so bad that even with our field glasses it was difficult to tell if the shadowy figures we saw were our soldiers retreating or German soldiers advancing. A German ME109 suddenly appeared out of the fog and strafed us. I have no idea how many of our guys were killed or wounded.

The German advance was so swift and met such little resistance due to the lack of fire power and experience that it was already too late. We were bivouacked in a valley on the night of December 18<sup>th</sup> when word came that we were surrounded. We were told to dispose of all gun firing pins and all vehicle rotors because we were going to surrender.

To obtain your copy of

### ***My Nine Lives***

by Bob Pope

send your check for \$11.95  
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Personal History Press  
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Lincoln, MA 01773

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[Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)





# *Forced March from the Bulge to Berchtesgaden*

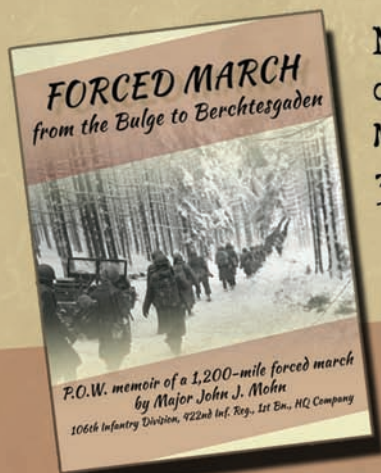
Major John J. Mohn  
106th Division, 422nd Infantry,  
1st Battalion, HQ Company

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

He was liberated three times, twice recaptured. His final liberation was on May 2, 1945 at Gars-am-Inn. Of the 7,000 men he was only liberated with about 100 men.

John Mohn recorded his POW experience in a memoir. Unfortunately Mohn passed away in January 2005. His book was never published.

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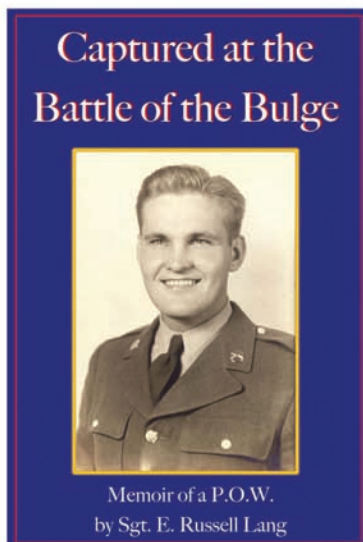
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**ANNOUNCING THE PUBLICATION OF  
*CAPTURED AT THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE***

**BY RUSS LANG**



In December 1944 a young American soldier's division, newly-arrived in Europe, was sent to the front line to a quiet position on the Belgian- German border. Days after their arrival the Germans launched the great counterattack that came to be called the Battle of the Bulge. Russ Lang and his regiment were soon encircled. They attacked until their supplies and ammunition were exhausted, then held out until circumstances forced them to surrender.

*Captured at the Battle of the Bulge* is Russ Lang's memoir of his service before and during the battle, the hardships he encountered in a series of German stalags, and the joy of liberation as the Germans were overcome. The diary Lang kept as a prisoner of war is included, with additional notes that could not be written down while he remained in the power of his captors. *Captured at the Battle of the Bulge* is a fascinating personal and historical document.

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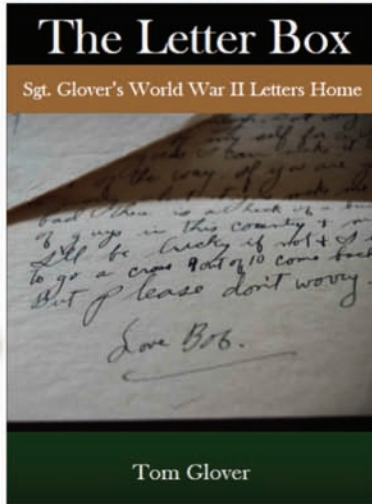
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**Russ Lang**

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#### The Wartime Journey of Sgt. Robert "Bob" Glover U.S. Army, 106th I.D.

Written in his own words to his family from 1944–1946, this collection of hundreds of personal letters are virtually a "daily diary" chronicling one young man's desire to serve his country in Europe while staying connected to his family's daily life back home and, in the process, to imagine and value life's goals.

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Colonel. USAF

*"An excellent read ... I feel I am right alongside with him ..."*  
Storekeeper, U.S. Coast Guard Retired

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

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

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A Young Man's Lessons from the Greatest Generation

**"I, TOO, SERVED IN THE 106TH INFANTRY, WAS CAPTURED AT THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE, AND SPENT TIME IN STALAG IXB. YOUR BOOK, *MY GRANDFATHER'S WAR*, IS THE BEST P.O.W. BOOK I HAVE EVER READ!"**

**— JAMES A. REISS, CPL. 423RD INFANTRY, 106TH DIVISION**

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**"A CROSS BETWEEN *FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS* AND *TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE*."**

The exciting story of 106th member Robert Cozean's capture at the Battle of the Bulge, imprisonment in a Nazi POW camp, and liberation by the tanks of General Patton. Informative and emotional, the book is filled with information on the 106th Division, the Battle of the Bulge, and the prison camps that many Golden Lions found themselves in.

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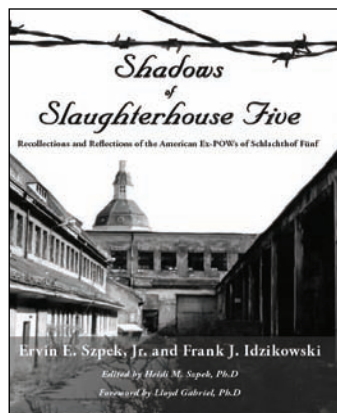




### Shadows of Slaughterhouse Five

*From Ervin Szpek Jr., Associate Member*

Ervin Szpek Jr. (Associate Member) is pleased to announce after many years of research that his and his colleagues' book on the infamous *Arbeitskommando Slaughterhouse Five* has been released. Nearly every man of this POW work camp (near Dresden, Germany) originated from the 106th Infantry Division including former 106th Association President, Gifford Doxsee. The book is their story, in their words and accounts for nearly every POW at the camp. It also chronicles the recollections and reflections of the 150 American Ex-POWs, many of whom are members of the Association. Newly released by iUniverse press at *iUniverse.com*, the book is also available at *amazon.com* and *BarnesandNoble.com*. With best wishes for 2016 and with appreciation for your efforts — thank you.



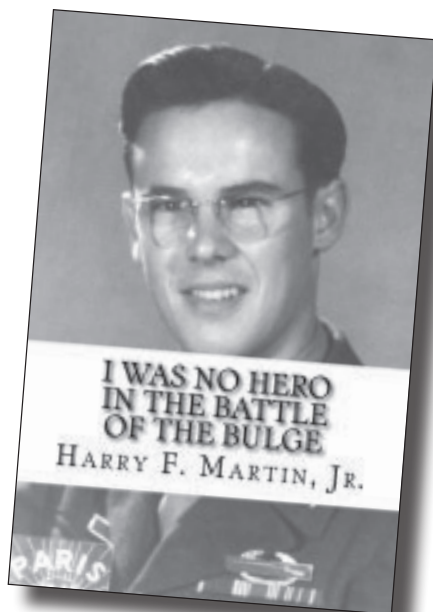
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### “I Was No Hero in the Battle of the Bulge”

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

*A new book by Harry F. Martin, Jr.*

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



Find it at: [createspace.com/6329426](http://createspace.com/6329426)

*List Price: \$10.95*

## Memoriam . . .

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### PLEASE REPORT ALL CHANGES OF ADDRESS AND DEATHS TO: ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP CHAIR:

**Jacquelyn Coy**

121 McGregor Ave., Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856

Phone: 973-663-2410

Email: [JSC164@aol.com](mailto:JSC164@aol.com)

#### **ARMGARD, CLFFORD D. 422/HQ**

*—Date of Death: July 31, 2019*

Clifford D. Armgard, 93, of Genoa, Wisconsin passed away on July 31, 2019 at Gunderson Health Systems in La Crosse. He was born October 2, 1925 to Leonard and Effie Armgard in Flanagan, IL, the youngest of seven children. In 1943, he was drafted into the U.S. Army. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge and was taken prisoner of war by the Germans on December 19, 1944. He was liberated on April 2, 1945. Clifford married the love of his life, Rose Gentile, on August 24, 1946. The couple lived in the western-Chicago suburbs until 1993, when they moved to Genoa, WI. Clifford was a route sales man for a dry cleaning and carpet cleaning business for 40 years, until retiring. Cliff and Rose enjoyed traveling throughout the U.S., visiting relatives and taking bus tours that included Ireland and WW II sites in Europe. He enjoyed family reunions, holidays and celebrations. He was an active member in the three churches he attended over the years. He is survived by his three children, seven grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and many members of his extended family.

*Reported by his daughter, Chris*

#### **BOHDE, EDWARD LOUIS 422/L**

*—Date of Death: August 17, 2019*



Edward Louis

Bohde was born to Carl and Undine Bohde in Fort Wayne, Indiana on August 6, 1923.

After being drafted in 1943, he served

with the 106th Infantry Division, 422nd Regiment (Company L) of the United States Army. He fought for his country with honor and distinction, most notably in the Battle of the Bulge, and was taken prisoner by the German army in December of 1944. He was liberated four months later and awarded a Purple Heart. Ed reunited with Jackie Smith soon after he returned to the United States in 1945. Introduced six years earlier while they were on a double date, he always told everyone that it had been love at first sight. Ed and Jackie were married on June 16, 1948. They have two sons, Robert and Donn. Ed went to law school at Detroit College of Law and passed the Michigan Bar in 1952. He worked for Tilt A Door Corporation as general manager and legal counsel for 14 years before entering into private law practice in 1960. From that time until his retirement in 1987, Ed worked for Macomb County's prosecuting



## Memoriam . . .

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attorney's office, eventually becoming the Chief of the Consumer Fraud Division. Ed passed away peacefully at home on August 17, 2019. There were many things he enjoyed throughout his long life, including golf, listening to Big-band music, watching classic movies and participating in American politics. But he loved Jackie, his boys and the rest of his family, including three young great-grandchildren, most of all. Ed was predeceased by his beloved wife, Jackie, and is survived by his two sons, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

*Reported by his son, Donn*

### **HAINES, JOSEPH C., SR.**

#### **106/RECON**

*—Date of Death: July 18, 2019*

LTC (Ret) AUS, Joseph C. Haines, Sr. returned to his eternal father on July 18, 2019 at the age of 97 years, 10 months. He was born on September 22, 1921 to Howard and Vera Haines in Somerville, NJ, who predecease him. He is also predeceased by his wife of 58 years, Clara, who passed away in 2017. He graduated from Bordentown High School in June of 1940. He first married a classmate, Evelyn Jones, with whom he had three daughters. After their divorce, he met and married Clara, while stationed at Fort Sill in 1959. They had a son and a daughter. Joseph entered military service in 1940 when he enlisted in the NJ National Guard. The guard was mobilized shortly thereafter with the start of the war. He served in various enlisted roles in the Quartermaster, Infantry and Cavalry

units of the 44th Infantry Division. In July of 1942 he was accepted for Officer Candidate School and sent to Ft. Riley, Kansas. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant and assigned to the reconnaissance troop of the newly formed 106th Infantry Division — the Golden Lions. He served in this capacity throughout their service in the European Theater. He was captured in December 1945 during the Battle of the Bulge. He continued to serve his country in both the active and the reserves, with increasing responsibilities and various levels of commands in both Field Artillery and Aviation units, until his retirement on 1970 after 30 years of service with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He has received numerous awards and decorations over the years. He was also rated a Master Army aviator with over 2,000 flight hours in over 15 types of rotary and fixed wing aircraft and was rated as an Instructor Pilot for single- and multi-engine aircraft. In between his military service, he owned and operated a service station in NJ, and worked in the Division of Aeronautics for the NJ State Department of Transportation. After retirement, he honored his pledge to Clara and returned to Oklahoma, with the family settling in El Reno, OK. There he was a member of the Citizens Rifle and Revolver Club, the VFW and the American Legion. He was a life member and supporter of many organizations, including the NRA, 106th Infantry Div. Assn., Military Order of the Purple Heart and the Disabled American Veterans. His many

continues on page 38

## Memoriam . . .

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hobbies included flying both fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters, carpentry and woodworking, target and trap shooting and a reloading workshop, Civil War history and family game night. He made many wonderful trips to both Division and Recon troop reunions, and he would wear his Golden Lions attire whenever he could. He is survived by his five children, seven of his eight grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

*Reported by his son, CPT (ret)  
Joseph C. Haines, Jr.*

### **HONKUS, MICHAEL H., SR 422/L**

*—Date of Death: August 29, 2018*

Capt. Michael H. Honkus, Sr., 92, of Lower Burrell, PA, died Wednesday, August 29, 2018, in Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh.



He was born September 1, 1925 to the late Frank and Anne Honkus, and has been a resident of Lower Burrell for the past 65 years. Captain Honkus was an Army veteran of World War II, where he received the Purple Heart after he was wounded during the Battle of the Bulge and his entire battalion was taken prisoner by the German Army. After the war, he enlisted with the State of Pennsylvania as a trooper, where he worked for 38 years until retiring as a troop commander in October 1985. He was a member of St. Margaret Mary Roman Catholic Church, Lower Burrell, the VFW Post 92 and the

PA State Troopers Association. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and spending time with his family. He is survived by his six children, 12 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife, Lillian Jane Banks Honkus, in May of 1999.

*Reported by his grandson.*

### **MCCLUSKEY, KENNETH C. 106TH**

*—Date of Death: September 7, 2006*

Mr. McCluskey died Thursday, September 7, 2006 at his residence after an extended illness. Kenneth Charles McCluskey was born November 26, 1922, in Chicago, the son of Walter and Agnes McCluskey. Kenneth graduated from St. Mels High School in 1941. He went on to further his education at St. Ambrose University, where he received a business degree in 1948. Kenneth served his country in the Army during World War II. He was in the infantry with the 106th Division and participated in the campaigns of Northern France, Rhineland and Germany. He was united in marriage to Pat Miller on June 12, 1948. He retired in 1985 from the Rock Island Arsenal as a contract specialist. He was a member of Holy Family Catholic Church and Third-Degree Knights of Columbus #532. Ken enjoyed gardening and sports, especially the Chicago Cubs and Notre Dame. He was very proud of this grandchildren and great-children and loved them very much. He is survived by his wife Pat, five children 12 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

*Reported by Wayne Dunn*

### **RAND, ANTHONY      589/FABN/ BATTERY B**

—*Date of Death: June 25, 2019*



Tony Rand was born in Detroit on October 6, 1925. As was the case in many families during this period, he struggled with the basic

necessities and shared the house with his maternal grandmother in his early years. Eventually the family moved to a modest house of its own, where he was joined by five younger siblings. His childhood years were spent playing “baseball” using a broomstick and tennis ball and attending St. Andrew Catholic School. Eventually, he was able to acquire a bicycle, which was then stolen. As WW II progressed, he turned 18, and like most, was drafted into action for the Army. He went through basic training in Indiana and California before his trip in 1944 to enjoy Christmas in Europe. Unfortunately, his company was part of the 106th Infantry Division and was called to action on the front between Germany and Belgium. During the Battle of the Bulge, the Germans advanced and captured or killed many in the 106th. Tony and a few others escaped during a maneuver of cinema quality, where they covered their tracks in the snow and hid in a hayloft. The Germans were heard moving below. As the war took a turn for the better in Europe, he thought he might get to spend a summer across the Pacific, but war ended there, too. Instead, he was able to spend some time in Paris as

part of the Military Police before being honorably discharged. He returned to Detroit, where he joined the U.S. Postal Service, serving as a letter carrier for 42 years until his retirement in 1987. He met his future wife, Ruth Williams by inviting her to join him on a bicycle ride. They were married on November 14, 1953 and moved into a new house in the growing suburbs, where he remained until his death. Tony and Ruth raised two children, Jeffrey and Nancy. In 1972 the Rands purchased land near Lake Huron and built a vacation house on the lot. Tony spent a great deal of time there and, as recently as last May, operated a riding mower and negotiated a roof replacement. Tony remained active and aged well, becoming more engaged with others as he grew older. He did odd jobs in his back yard and played softball until age 85. In 2017, he threw out the first pitch for the Detroit Tigers at Commerce Park. He maintained a car, which he purchased at age 90, and was a good driver until the very end.

*Reported by his daughter, Nancy*

### **STEWART, JOHN THOMAS      423**

—*Date of Death: July 2, 2019*

John Thomas Stewart was born on July 20, 1923 in Valley Falls, KS. John married Arletia May Tomeden, his wife of 75 years on July 27 1943 on Oskaloosa, KS. John served as a Chaplain’s Assistant in the U.S. Army 106th Infantry Division during WW II. During this time, John was declared missing in action and later

continues on page 40

classified as wounded prisoner of war. For his service, T5 Johnnie Stewart was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, Purple Heart and Bronze Star. After attending Washburn University in Topeka, KS, John was an insurance agent with American Family Insurance in Lawrence KA until his retirement in 1989. John was a member of the First Presbyterian Church and the Kiwanis Club in Lawrence. John enjoyed the fellowship and camaraderie of the Veterans of the 106th Infantry Division.

*Reported by his wife, Arletia*

### **ZITO, LAWRENCE “LARRY” 106th**

—Date of Death: June 9, 2019



Lawrence “Larry” Zito, 93 of Stroud Township, PA, passed away on Sunday, June 9, 2019, while at home under the

care of his family and hospice after a five-year battle with cancer. He was

the husband of the late Mary Ellen (Widmer) who died in August, and his first wife was Evelyn (Countryman) Zito. His companion of eight years is Lucy States. Born on January 11, 1926 in Roseto, PA, he was the son of the late Michael and Jennie Zito. He lived in Monroe County since 1947 and was a member of the VFW and American Legion. He was a WW II U.S. Army Infantry veteran, having served in Germany and France at the Battle of the Bulge. Larry worked as a meat cutter at Jack’s Market in East Stroudsburg and then at Towne and Country Market. He loved golf and worked at Mountain Manor and Glenbrook. He also worked, in his younger years, in a local blouse factory and as a cab driver. He is survived by three children, seven grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, four great-great-grandchildren, two step-sons, three step-grandchildren and five step-great-grandchildren.

*Submitted by Rick Barrow*

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## **Visit the 106th Association’s Website!**

*By Wayne Dunn*

To complement the wonderful websites that are already out on the Internet, including websites from our own members, Jim West (*IndianaMilitary.org*) and Carl Wouters (*106thinfantry.webs.com*), the association has launched our own website at ***106thInfDivAssn.org***.

This is where you will find information on upcoming events, copies of the membership application for your family to join, the complete latest issue plus additional photos and articles from *The CUB*.

Also look for our Facebook page at ***Facebook.com/106thInfDivAssn***.

This is where you can find up-to-the-minute information and where you can connect with friends and make plans for the next reunion.

If you have any additional reunion photos or information that you would like to see on the website or Facebook page, please contact the Webmaster, Wayne Dunn at *Host106th@106thInfDivAssn.org* or 410-409-1141.

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

*Our solution?*

*We are asking you to join the*  
**LIFE PLUS+ Club**

Those Members who contribute to the **LIFE PLUS+ Club** will have their names (*only, no amounts will be shown*) published in the next *CUB*.

Donate as much or as little as you can and as often as you like. By donating, you are helping perpetuate the 106th Infantry Division Association.

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

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

**Mike Sheaner**

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

**PLEASE NOTE:**

To the widows of Golden Lions, if you would wish to continue to receive *The CUB* after the passing of your husband, please let Membership Chair Jacquelyn Coy know. Her contact information is located on the inside cover of this *CUB*.

To see a *full-color* version of this issue of *The CUB*, please visit our website at:  
***106thInfDivAssn.org***

***Mark your Calendar NOW!!***  
for the 106th Infantry Division Association's 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion at the  
**Hilton Airport Hotel in Kansas City, MO**  
**September 9–13, 2020**



# Pass It On

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

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

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

**106th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION**



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