



# THUNDERBOLT

## 83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

### WORLD WAR II

Vol. 13, No. 1

JERSEY CITY, N. J.

Sept.-Oct., 1959

# WE DID IT AGAIN !!



We put on another successful reunion or more appropriately called "An Alcohol Social", this time at the Hotel Statler in Detroit, Michigan, on August 20, 21 and 22 last.

Close to 400 men and women attended our annual get-together this year and a great time was had by all.

Present among us was our most distinguished member, our Medal of Honor winner, Ralph Neppel.

Ralph came in on Thursday evening with his eleven-year-old son, Max, and stayed until 10:30 p.m. on Saturday when he had to leave to catch a plane for Chicago and thence to his home in Waterloo, Iowa.

It is always good to see Ralph, his ready smile, warm greeting and wealth of information regarding veteran's benefits is ever welcome among the troops.

There is an interesting anecdote connected with Ralph's coming to the reunion. A convoy of two cars and a station wagon left the hotel to meet Ralph at the airport about 7:30 p.m. After a wild ride, and I mean that in the true sense of the word, we arrived at Metropolitan Airport 15 minutes or so early, (under normal conditions we'd have been 15 minutes late) and when Ralph arrived he was ushered into the bar where we all quenched our thirst to a very small degree.

After about half an hour we left the bar and headed for our respective cars, each of us laboring under the impression that we would return in the same car in which we went.

Imagine our surprise when, upon re-

(Continued on Page Three)



## THUNDERBOLTS WHOOOP IT UP

The Thunderbolt Division once penalized by the Allied armies for moving too fast during World War II, was moving just as fast here last night.

The fighting men of the 83rd Infantry Division moved into the Hotel Statler yesterday for their thirteenth annual convention, taking over the ballroom floor.

Though many have grown slightly pouchier and gray since their combat days the boys showed no less enthusiasm during the reunion.

Highlight of the evening was the selection of "Miss Thunderbolt" from among 17 contestants.

They howled, cheered, yelled and banged the tables as the 17 shapely girls paraded on a runway to be viewed by five judges.

Miss Thunderbolt, who will reign at the three-day affair, is Christine Stephano, 18, of 7709 Middlepoint, Dearborn, a secretary at the Campbell-Ewald Advertising Company.

A brunette, she was crowned by Sue Westergaard, a judge and Miss Michi-

(Continued on Page Two)

# Thunderbolt

Official Publication

83rd Infantry Division Association

THE THUNDERBOLT is written by and for past members of the 83rd Infantry Division, World War II and is published at 43 Oakland Ave., Jersey City, New Jersey.

Editor ..... Harry W. Lockwood

Staff Reporters ..... Dave Rosenberg  
Russell Hite, Casey Kowalec, Vic Landis, Nick Francullo, Murray D. Therber, Dick Kelly and Vito Palazzolo.

Executive Board ..... Shelly Hughes, Walter H. Edwards, Jr., Lawrence Redmond, Col. Robert H. York, LeRoy Titus.

Honorary President ..... Ralph Neppel, C.M.H., Lt. Gen. Frank W. Millburn, Maj. Gen. Robert C. Macon, Lt. Gen. C. B. Ferenbaugh.

Honorary Member ..... James Hanrahan

## A Report From Your National Publicity Director

Men of the 83rd Infantry Division Association. I know that I have been given credit for securing more national publicity, than we have ever had before. In a sense this is true, but I have had more co-operation than in any one year prior to this. Col. Robert York covered every service paper in the land. Manny Martin covered the New England area like a tent. Lee Titus did yeomen service on a national scale and men that I knew were in a position to secure national recognition, helped us tremendously.

However, if every member of our great Association will do his part, we can make last year's publicity look like a minor effort. The approach is simple—the results beyond the stretch of our imagination.

Every member has some dozen newspapers in his respective region. All you have to do is address a letter to the Editor of all those papers, giving the site and date of next year's reunion, along with our hunt for all of our missing members. Give our National Secretary Harry W. Lockwood, 43 Oakland Ave., Jersey City 6, New Jersey, as the man to contact.

I know from past newspaper experience, the editors will be glad to print and help ex-servicemen. Let each and every member do this. We will be well on our way to success.

Vic Landis

## A CHALLENGE

This bit of rivalry that has been going on mainly between Co. G-331 and Co. F-329, regarding the paid-up membership in the association each year, is getting keen and is beginning to reflect on a larger turnout of these respective outfits at the reunion each year.

For the most part Co. G has taken the honors but the rivalry is getting keener, and the prize involved, two-fifths of Canadian Club, is the reason for that contention. No matter who wins though, the prize is shared by all concerned but it's the principle of the thing that counts.

Vic Landis has done a terrific job on behalf of Co. F, 329, and if I know Vic, he will never be satisfied until Co. F emerges victorious.

Competition of this kind is conducive to building up a membership to where it should be and more of it would be a very welcome gesture. So get to it men, form your company competitions and let's see just how gratifying the results can become.

## THUNDERBOLTS WHOOP IT UP

(Continued from Page One)

gan-Universe.

Runners-up were Janet Dunn, 18, of 18313 Glastonbury, a salesgirl at the Lerner Shops, and Agnes Usedly, 19, 4648 Greenfield, Dearborn, sophomore at the Henry Ford Community College.

Other judges were Bob Kates, of John Robert Powers studio; Ed Keran, The Detroit Times photographer; Vito C. Palazzola, J. L. Hudson tailor and a Thunderbolt committeeman, and Elizabeth Dupre, of Campbell-Ewald.

Dee Carroll, director of the Powers studio, was master of ceremonies.

Palazzolo, in charge of the convention's publicity and entertainment, recalled:

"We were turned back from the Elbe River because we had gotten there too fast before the Russians and the rest of the allies. We haven't slowed up at all.

The group is also honoring their Congressional Medal of Honor winner, Ralph Neppel, double-amputee of Waterloo, Iowa, and Capt. Sam McGill, who single-handed during that war captured 20,000 Nazi prisoners in the Lore Valley, France.

A movie is being made of the historic surrender.

## The Chaplain's Corner



and solemnity as you did at the Memorial Service.

### PRAYER OF AN UNKNOWN SOLDIER

Look, God, I have never spoke to you  
But now I want to say "How do you do"  
You see God, they told me you  
didn't exist

And I, like a fool, believed all this

Last night from a shell hole I saw  
your sky  
I figured right then they had told  
me a lie

Had I taken time to see the things  
you made  
I'd have known they weren't calling  
a spade a spade

I wonder, God, if you'd shake my hand?  
Somehow, I feel that you will  
understand

Funny I had to come to this hellish  
place  
Before I had time to see your face

Well, I guess there isn't much more  
to say  
But I 'm sure glad, God, I met you today  
I guess the zero hour will soon be here  
But I'm not afraid since I know you're  
near

The signal: Well, God, I'll have to go  
I like you lots—This I want you to  
know

Look now, this will be a horrible fight  
Who knows, I may come to your  
house tonight

Though I wasn't a friend to you before  
I wonder, God, if you'd wait at the door?  
Look I'm crying! Me! Shedding tears  
I wish I had known you these many  
years

Well, I have to go now, God; Goodbye  
Strange, since I met you, I'm not  
afraid to die

This was found on the remains of a soldier killed in action, his identification gone. It was found by D. Fischall, SK 2/c Navy, APO 809, San Francisco, Calif. I got it from a buddy in Normandy and have used it in some memorial services in which I have participated.

Bill Shuman, Chaplain

## WE DID IT AGAIN

(Continued from Page One)

turning to the hotel, we discovered we were two noses short, those belonging to our president, Ray Voracek and past president Larry Redmond.

We visualized Ray and Larry walking to where the cars had been parked, figuring they had made a mistake, walking to another part of the lot and repeating that performance over and over and the more we visualized it the more humorous it became.

Well, anyway, Larry and Ray finally arrived back at the hotel and, like the nice guys they are, took it in such a humorous attitude that every time it was mentioned their laughter was true and genuine and in jest, those of us who made up that convoy were called many things that are said only in jest. And they have the bus tickets to prove all this is true.

All in all this was a very good reunion and the boys and girls from the Detroit area who made all the arrangements really reserve a rousing round of applause.

In other sections of your Thunderbolt you will find reports and observations from your staff of reporters, which I'm sure you will find interesting copy.

To those of you who came for the first time we would like to extend a hearty welcome and trust that you thoroughly enjoyed yourselves and do hope that you will be with us again at our future reunions, in Boston, Cleveland, Atlantic City and at other places to be chosen.

To those of you who are old hands at this reunion business, it was nice seeing you again: it's people like you who come year after year who help to make these reunions the success they usually are.

Start formulating your plans now and we'll be looking for you all in Boston next year.

Harry W. Lockwood  
Secretary-Treasurer

## Cocktail Party Highlights



Our Detroit convention was marked by the fine opening day registration. A large number of "Thunderbolts" attended the cocktail party that was highlighted by the selection of "Miss Thunderbolt" seventeen lovely luscious beauties paraded before us vying for the honor to represent us and reign as queen. The task was a difficult one and was marked by lively applause. The winner, a charming brunette young lady won every one by her warm friendliness and her selection was greatly applauded.

Vito Palazzolo arranged for a lively combo that played on and on through the night. At each table the groups of men and their wives often burst out into song and the entire hall was full of merriment and good fellowship. It's said that when the "Eighty Third" men are well oiled nothing can top their spirit. This comradeship was soon in evidence and in quick fashion every one left their hair down and joined in the fun.

The cocktail party was just the beginning of a night of fond memories. With the party at an end, a new series of parties began. We at the Philadelphia Chapter room had a ball. All of our friends from the ballroom at one time or another joined us and kept our hosts Frank McGrogan, Al Belvedere and Ed Paulino busy dishing up the drinks.

We of the Philadelphia Chapter had our spirits lifted to the nth degree of joy by the antics of my charming wife

Ann. I who am quite sedate and serious, found myself with the rest of our gang and our visitors literally rolling on the floor with laughter, by Ann's wit and humor. She had come prepared with a few gadgets that brought tears of laughter to all.

And so ended our first day. It was a wonderful beginning that, like a rolling snow ball, became an avalanche of fun, laughter and pleasantries that continued to the last minute of our stay in Detroit. For those who attended it brought forth the immediate desire to make every succeeding reunion . . . Nuf said. Don't miss Boston in 1960 . . .

Dave Rosenberg, 331st Inf.

## Philadelphia Chapter Begins Fall Social Season

Thanks to Philadelphia Chapter's Vice President Lou Volpi and his charming wife, Lucy, we of the Philadelphia Chapter and our friends will wine and dine like lords. A steak dinner fit for a king, with all the trimmings, is scheduled as Philadelphia Chapter's first fall season social event. This affair will be held at Lou Volpi's Ranch Room, at 245 Woodbine Ave., Narberth, Pa. Lou Volpi always the creator of something new has come up with a gimmick that beggars description. Just picture sitting down at a table heaped high with good food and drink and Chef Louis wheels over to your table a succulent steak and while you wait he prepares it for you just as you like it right at your table. Of course, Chef Louis doesn't do things half way. There will be dancing and singing. He has engaged one of the greater Philadelphia's top combos to make music while we dine and for our dancing pleasure.

This affair promises to be one of Philadelphia Chapter's greatest achievements, so all you Thunderbolts throughout "Thunderbolt" land mark the date down, September 26, 1959, the place, Lou Volpi's Ranch Room, 245 Woodbine Ave., Narberth, Pa. Make your reservations now. Bring your friends. Contact anyone of the following men for reservations: Larry Redmond, 132 Rockwood Dr., Havertown, Pa.; Frank McGrogan, 7236 Battersby St., Phil., Pa.; Ed Paulino, Cornwells Heights, Pa., or good old Chef Louie himself. Friends of all Thunderbolts are always invited so bring your own crowd too. There will be fun and frolic for all and the cost is negligible. See you there.

Dave Rosenberg, 331st Inf.

## WE DID IT AGAIN



The vote of thanks given to Chairman Nick Barbu and his hard working Detroit Convention Committee was a well deserved one. In all of the "Thunderbolt" history of reunions the Detroit Thirteenth Annual National Association Convention will always be one to be well remembered.

The many hours of hard work preparing the convention program reflected in the cheers and congratulations given to Nick Barbu and his associates. All planned activities were executed with thorough attention to all minute details and consequently every one attending the Detroit reunion was thoroughly pleased.

This reunion was marked by the huge turnout of "Thunderbolts" and their wives who came early in the week and immediately entered into the swing of things and availed themselves of the wonderful program offered by our Detroit hosts.

Our Detroit "buddies" deserve and merit a well done citation and it is with great pleasure that we offer our thanks to the following for their swell job . . . Chairman Barbu and his vivacious wife, Sylvia.

Vito Palazzolo and his charming wife,  
Virginia  
Ernie Schmidt and his wonderful wife,  
Ron  
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Benson  
Dom and Betty Spano  
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Zerucha  
Bill and Marge Ferguson  
Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Linn  
Mr. and Mrs. Nick Boyd  
Marion and Josephine Muoio

And to the other Detroit men and their wives we offer our thanks for a job well done . . .

Dave Rosenberg, 331st

## DETROIT REUNION FUN CONTINUES ON FRIDAY

Our Detroit Chapter men provided for each visiting Thunderbolt a full day of enjoyment for Friday. The morning business meeting was conducted ably by President Ray Voracek. The meeting was highlighted by a discussion of the report of the by-laws committee and a ground work was laid to solve that problem at our next meeting. The women, not to be outdone, also held a meeting, and discussion was held regarding the formation of a National Ladies Auxiliary and how local auxiliaries can aid the men.

Friday's program offered a wide choice to all. There was a trip to the beer breweries where again Detroit went all out and provided for the visitors an interesting tour and a tasty lunch and liquid refreshments for all while the women were entertained by a gorgeous fashion show. The men were offered a burlesque show. Funny but every one said no they weren't going to the burlycue show, yet when the house lights went on the entire theatre was full of "Eighty Third" men. What a time . . . Everyone went away from the theatre talking about "Mitsie Pearl" and the gal with the watermelons . . . Wow, what a pair . . .

Our beer party was its usual success. It was made more enjoyable by the fine playing of Vito Palazzola's brother on the accordion. That boy can tickle the ivories . . . As usual every one becomes a vocalist and the fine voices of the Philadelphia Chapter group filled the hall with wonderful tunes . . . And like the night before, at the conclusion of the scheduled beer party, the real festivities began in the various chapter rooms.

In the Philadelphia Chapter room a real Thunderbolt hit the assembled members and their guests. Sorry, can't tell you what it was but ask Lou Volpi to describe it for you . . . He has not gotten over it yet . . . It literally prostrated him. He rolled on the floor with laughter, tears ran down his face and then it happened, he lost his voice . . . It was a real Thunderbolt that hit the Philadelphia room . . . And we got to place the blame on little Ann Rosenberg . . . A shocking woman . . . But what funnnnn . . .

Dave Rosenberg, 331st

**PLEASE PAY DUES  
NOW !!**

## Cleveland Chit-Chat



We, of the Cleveland Chapter, who attended the reunion in Detroit, are still in the recuperative stage, after having a ball at one of the best get-togethers yet. Much credit goes to Nick and Sylvia Barbu, along with the rest of that wonderful gang in Detroit, for their job in making certain that all who attended had a grand time.

Congratulations are also in order to the grand guy who was elected President, Charles Abdinoor, of the Greater Boston Chapter. At the same time, let's not forget a firm handclasp and a round of applause for our own Ray Voracek, the past president, for a job well done.

Many of you who attended, no doubt, heard how "DOCTOR" Ray had the honor of delivering his new born son. For those of you who are hearing about it for the first time, we want it known that any association member desiring Ray's "professional"???? services must first have it sanctioned through the Cleveland Chapter.

Bob Grobelny and his spouse were all set to go to the reunion, when, at the last moment, their daughter, Peg, picked that time to have an appendectomy, and although we missed Bob and his wife, we are thankful that everything turned out well. This also fouled up the Ed. Glinhas' plans as they were going together.

Bill and Alma Herkout and family had a very bad auto accident, were quite bruised but, at last report, were up and around.

Yours truly came back with a muscle spasm that I'm still trying to shake off and getting quite spoiled with the "make me feel good" rubdowns that I get from my dutiful wife, Laura, every night.

'Til the next issue, this is "Casey" wishing all my buddies, along with their families, good health and the LORD'S blessings.

Casey Kowalec, Btry C, 322 FA

## REUNION REPORT

To many people the number 13 is considered unlucky. The Thunderbolts who attended the 13th annual reunion in Detroit this year knocked this superstition into a cocked hat. Everyone had a wonderful time during the three days of rejoicing and it seemed that the time passed much too quickly. The program that was offered by the Metropolitan Detroit Chapter kept the Thunderbolts busy from morning to night.

The reunion got started on the right foot with the very first event scheduled—the Windsor tour. It seems that the 83rd can still take care of its share of any liquid refreshments that are offered for sampling. The Hiram Walker Distillery did a very good job of playing the congenial host. The two local breweries that were visited on Thursday and Friday managed to take care of all the Thunderbolts that came by without going on an overtime basis but it was a close race. The addition of the Beauty Queen Contest to the cocktail party provided a new twist to this regularly scheduled event. It hasn't been determined which part was enjoyed the most—the parade in bathing suits or evening gowns. The memorial services and parade did an admirable job of expressing everyone's basic thought—homage to our honored dead. The parade proved that the Thunderbolts can still take the long hike in good shape.

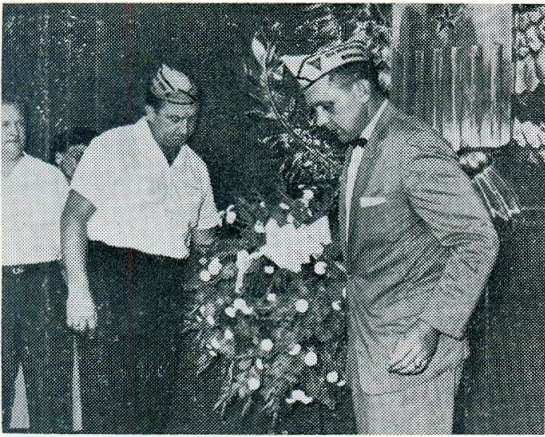
It would take a book to attempt to describe all the doings that took place at the reunion so we will close with this note. We of the Metropolitan Detroit Chapter were very happy to host this year's reunion. It was our pleasure to be of some service to the 83rd Infantry Division Association membership. Our only regrets are that the three days passed much too quickly and that more of the membership did not attend. We hope that someday in the future we will have the opportunity to do it all over again.

Nick Barbu, Reunion Chairman  
Metropolitan Detroit Chapter

---

**PLEASE PAY DUES**

**N O W ! !**



## Medal of Honor Hero Tells How He Got Highest Award

One of the more harrowing stories of bravery in World War II, currently being refought in Detroit by conventioning members of the 83rd "Thunderbolt" Infantry Division, concerns Congressional Medal of Honor winner Ralph Neppel, of Waterloo, Iowa

Neppel, 35, now a father of three, tells it best:

"There were about 30 of us in this little German village—Birgel—when the Nazis began moving in tanks. We only had one bazooka and ammunition for that didn't last long.

"I was 19, then, but I could handle a machine gun pretty good. We fired everything we had but we couldn't stop them.

"They kept coming on and their infantry began to use the tanks as shields. I kept firing and when the troops advanced alongside the tanks I let them have it.

"I didn't last long. Hot shrapnel hit my legs, tearing one off below the knee. I kept firing, but they kept coming and finally I couldn't fire anymore.

"The last I remember . . . a German commander got out of one of the tanks, walked over to me, took out a pistol and shot me in the head."

The date was December 14, 1944, two days before the Battle of the Bugle. It was getting dark, snow was falling. The temperature was freezing.

Neppel was wounded at 5:30 p.m. and left for dead. He lay unattended through the night until early the next morning when the Allies retook the village.

"I had chucked a couple of sulfa pills into my mouth before I lost consciousness," he said. "But the water was frozen in my canteen and I had trouble swallowing them.

"I don't know what that Nazi was thinking when he leveled his gun at my head. Maybe he thought he was putting me out of my misery or maybe he was just mad because I shot so many of his men.

"I was wearing my helmet, and, apparently it deflected the bullet so that it didn't enter my brain. The crease only left a small scar but when I saw the blood trickling down my nose, I thought this was it."

The next morning Neppel had to be chipped out of the snow and ice before he could be carried to a first aid station for treatment. Someone said he had shot down some 15 of 20 Nazis and ought to get a medal.

A double amputee, Neppel is a Veterans Administration employe in Waterloo. He has attended 10 of the division's 13 annual reunions. For this one he brought along his oldest son, Max, 13.

The war is being refought at social gatherings at the Statler-Hilton Hotel and elsewhere, attended by some 200 men who no longer have the blush of youth they had when they marched into the Rhineland.

Mrs. Neppel is back in Iowa, said the Congressional Medal winner, expecting a fourth child.

As the convention rolls along to the rumble of remembered caissons, Max, the medal winner's son, spends the time when his father can't be with him—reading comic books whose heroes cavort in outer space.



is not a sentiment ~ it is an economic necessity. ----- Charles Stennett

**PLEASE PAY DUES  
NOW !!**

## Warren Chapter News

Hi Buddies,

We, in Warren, have been very busy with our varied activities.

### Anniversary Party



We had our anniversary party and it was a terrific affair. Everyone who attended had a ball. The chairmen of the committee were Joe Minotti, Charlie Tomazin and yours truly. A large portion of the success of the affair can be attributed to Dimps Minotti and Millie Kelly. They really turned a delicious meal of fried chicken with all the trimmings.

Since then we have had three outdoor picnics with swimming, ball games, assorted varieties of chow and, of course, the usual liquid refreshments. There were also games for the kids. The three chairmen of that committee, Andy Panovich, George Bellay and Joe Nuzzi turned in their usual good jobs.

The last picnic was also a corn roast. The weather that day was not exceptionally good. To say it rained cats and dogs is not exactly true but since then, every time the corn roast is mentioned there seems to be a lot of meowing and barking in the background, which, I'm sure, is an indication of what those who were there think of it. Crude but emphatic. While the picnic was in progress, though, we old foot sloggers slogged through the muck and mire like the true dogfaces we are. (Ah, that infantry training really made men of us).

We also had two golf field days. John Caparanis was chairman of both. In each case refreshments were served and

if the scores were big those days, let's just say they were no bigger than some of the heads the next morning. In fact it was very surprising that many of participants made the last turn around.

The fellows and girls in Warren are gradually getting over the last reunion. We all think it was one of the best and we all join in sending three rousing cheers to Nick Barbu and the gang from the Detroit Chapter for a job well done.

You'll be hearing more from us in the next Thunderbolt. In the meantime, that's it for now, from

Dick Kelly

P.S.—A steak fry in September, a Halloween party in October and a party in November are on the agenda for the present. Anyone who may be in the vicinity of the Warren Chapter is welcome to attend any of these affairs.

Please contact me at the Warren Chapter Clubrooms, 143 West Market St., Warren, Ohio.

### Loot Won By???





## Saturday Convention Doings Top Previous Reunions

It may sound redundant to reiterate but we must keep on giving credit to Nick Barbu and his gang . . . Saturday's plans were perfect . . . Our morning business meeting was great. The discussion on our by-laws pertaining to the Board of Directors was resolved to the satisfaction of all. Leo Schneider made his appearance and with clarity and lucidity summarized his position on this touchy subject and Lo, his resolution was adopted.

Our nomination of officers was begun by Walt Edwards who announced the slate of nominations as agreed on by the nominating committee. For president, Charles Abdinoor and Larry Redmond were nominated. For secretary-treasurer, Harry Lockwood and Nick Barbu were nominated. Larry Redmond withdraw his nomination and Chuck Abdinoor was unanimously elected president. A vote was taken to select our secretary-treasurer and Harry Lockwood was elected by the majority . . .

Manny Martin of the Boston Chapter was selected as first vice-president.

And our own Philadelphia Chapter Mike Jarmoska was elected a sergeant-at-arms. Hubert Edwards, that lovable serious chaming southern gentleman (A B Company, 331st man, of course), was selected as assistant chaplain. Hubert, who dwells in Ebony, Va., is a reverend in private life and a wonderful person to speak to and to listen to . . .

Ed Paulino, of the Philadelphia Chapter, offered the association the selection of Atlantic City, N. J., as the reunion city for 1962 and introduced Frank McGrogan who has done much groundwork on this project. Frank outlined what Atlantic City had to offer and it was agreed to have the Philadelphia Chapter act as hosts for the 1962 convention in Atlantic City . . .

The adjournment of the meeting was the signal for the 331st Inf. Regt. men to adjourn to the dining room and hold its annual unit meeting. We had a swell turnout despite the stiff hotel tariff. These unit lunches are a feature of the reunion hat help make the representation of 331st Inf. men the largest of all other groups . . .

At 2 o'clock every Thunderbolt man and his wife and kids fell out in front of the hotel to start the march to the War Memorial Hall to observe our annual memorial services. Our formation was led by an Army Band and color guard. Next in line was the Philadelphia

Chapter. Resplendent in their uniforms, our colorful garb matched the fine marching of our lively group. Our cadence counting was loud and clear. The memorial services were magnificent and solemn with the "taps" ceremony and benedictions conducted with inspiring earnestness. This memorial service was carried out in a manner that reflected great credit to Nick Barbu and his associates . . .

And then came the big banquet . . . More, more and more men registered for this gala occasion. In fact, additional tables had to be placed on the floor to take in the added group . . . The meal was superb. The service was great . . . Our waiter, "Henry" of Amsterdam, outdid himself striving to satisfy the Philadelphia tables . . . Again the presentation of our reunion Chairman Nick Barbu brought on well deserved salvos of applause. Then the introduction of our new officers. A slightly too long speech from our guest speaker, General S. L. Marshall, and the fun began anew. Singing, dancing, more songs and plenty of folk dancing, highlighted by the Warren Chapter polka dancers a wonderful evening continued. Every one in attendance agreed this reunion was the mostest of the bestest . . . Again everyone adjourned to their chapter rooms for a continuance of the party. In the Philadelphia room the liquid refreshments were broken out and the cups were overflowing . . . A fitting climax to a wonderful time was a visit to the Philadelphia Chapter room for a nightcap and a fond goodbye to old comrades . . . Again, we must repeat it was a great reunion, and clearly portrayed that the spirit of good fellowship still prevails among "The Thunderbolt" division men . . . Make it a point to make the Boston reunion in 1960. It will be great . . . We want to see you there.

Dave Rosenberg, 331st Inf.



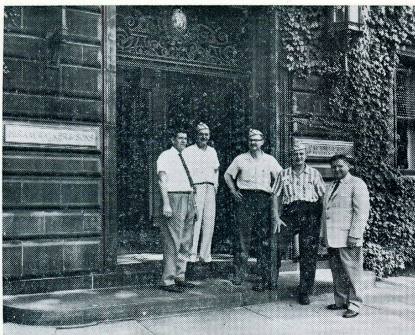
Alright, fall in and wipe the smile off your face.



**VETS HONOR WAR DEAD**—In convention in Detroit, Mich., members of the 83rd Infantry Division (Thunderbolt) during World War II paid tribute to their fallen buddies at a memorial service at the Veterans Memorial Building. Bill Shurman, division chaplain, of Greencastle, Pa. (right), is joined by "Miss Thunderbolt," Christine Stephanoff, 18, of 7709 Middlepoint, Dearborn (center), and one of her court, Agnes Usedly, 19, of 4648 Greenfield, Dearborn, at the ceremonies. Miss Stephanoff reigned as queen of the division's three-day convention.



**LEGION WELCOME**—Members of the American 83rd Infantry Division Association, gathered from across the United States for their annual meeting being held in Detroit, came to Windsor. Canadian Legion zone officials met the 100-member American party at the international boundary on the Ambassador Bridge and spent the day with the group. From the left are: Harvey Percy, Zone 1A commander, and Robert McGregor, first vice-president of Ambassador Branch 143, Canadian Legion, and Edward Zerucha and E. E. Schmidt, both of Detroit, and representing the 83rd Division Association. Middle man is Bill Palazzolo.



From left to right: Mr. McGregor, Canadian Legion; Bill Palazzolo, Detroit Chapter; Ernest Schmidt, Detroit Chapter; Edward Zerucha, Detroit Chapter; Mr. Nold, Hiram Walker representative.



Miss Thunderbolt in the lead followed by a fine group of men—and women.



Surprisingly—Everyone in step



Ralph Neppel and Ray Voracek.

## Co. F 329 News and Sidelights

By Vic Landis

The great reunion in Detroit has come and gone, but the memory will linger long in the minds of all 83rd Division men. I am proud that Co. F, 329, had a major part in the success of the annual event. As you all know, the Landis suite and the Co. F - C.P. - was open to all. We all enjoyed every minute of the people that trekked our way.

Hats off department: To Jim Fowler and his beautiful wife, Trudy, who drove 1,200 miles from Oklahoma City, Okla. to be among those present. The same to George Trebonyak and his wife, Ann, who were enjoying their first visit. To Major Bill Ferguson and his wife, Margaret, to Chuck Whitcomb, who for the first time brought his wife, Lavona. To Bill Nickell, his wife, Arlene, and their two wonderful children, Joann and Glenn. To Ed Zerucha and his wife, Jean. To Manny Martin and his wife, Adeline. All of the wives were beautiful, very gracious and a tip of the hat to them all.

Hank Golembiewski and yours truly Vic Landis, were the only bachelors on the scene. Hank is weakening and at latest reports, there may be only one. No comment.

A special salute to Fred J. Senatori and his beautiful wife, Betty, who brought their five children to Detroit.

Upon my arrival at the Statler Hilton, after contacting division headquarters, Ed Zerucha took me to his home, where his wonderful wife, Jean, served us a sumptuous dinner. We then ran back to the hotel to keep the Co. F C. P. open for the duration. Believe me this was really done.

Another tip of the hat to Lee Titus. He has done a wonderful job with his Co. G 331, and really has helped with national publicity. Co. F and Co. G have throughout the years been the leaders in paid up membership and in attendance. Lee and I both hope other units will follow suit. A challenge to all.

To mention a few that visited the Co. F 329, C. P.: Ray Voracek, Harry and Fern Lockwood, Joe and Dimples Minotti, Dom and Betty Spano, Nick Barbu, Lee Titus, Larry Redmond, Leo Schneider, Bill Palazzolo and Charles Abdinoor. I know that I have missed a few but all were more than welcome.

Will end this epistle of good cheer with a special salute to the Detroit Chapter, Nick Barbu, Steve Benson, Dom Spano, Bill Palazzolo, Bill Ferguson and

Ed Zerucha. Cheers to the others I have missed. Co. F 329 will ride again.

## DETROIT CHAPTER

### September Meeting

In our first meeting, after the reunion, we discussed events that took place at the convention. The meeting was held at the home of Nick Barbu, where a bar was set up and a swell luncheon served by Sylvia Barbu. We also showed movies that were taken during the reunion by yours truly, which incidentally, turned out very good.

Nick Barbu gave a report on the financial end of the reunion which was very satisfactory.

At that meeting we had an election of officers and the following men were elected to the respective offices, are:

President, Steve Benson  
Vice President, Nick Barbu  
Sec.-Treas., Dom Spano  
Public Relations, Bill Palazzolo  
Sgts.-at-arms, Marion Muozio and  
Ed. Zerucha

Future socials were discussed at some length. Bill Ferguson will check with the Officers Club at Fort Wayne as to the availability of their facilities for a Halloween party—date to be Halloween night. It was definitely decided that we will have a Christmas party for the kids of the chapter, which will take place at Steve Benson's home on Sunday, December 20. Needless to say, all 83rd members and their families are invited to take part in all our socials. Just give us a little advance notice so we can prepare to extend a genuine Thunderbolt welcome. More details will follow in your next issue of Thunderbolt.

G Company, 329 news —

A sad note was added to an otherwise gala occasion. I am awfully sorry to report, that one of our buddies in G Co. lost his wife suddenly in June of this year. Harold Wohleber wrote me a letter, telling me what had happened, and that he couldn't come to the reunion as he was left with a two-year-old son to take care of. Perhaps a note or a few lines from some of his old buddies will help so, I would appreciate, and I'm sure he will too, any word of cheer you may have to offer.

Write to:  
MR. HAROLD WOHLEBER  
230 West College Ave.  
Oberlin, Ohio.

Thank you very much,  
Bill Palazzolo

## Greater Boston Chapter News

By Nick Francullo



The Boston Chapter was well represented at the Detroit reunion by Mr. and Mrs. Pat Giammerino, Mr. and Mrs. Nick Francullo, Charles Abdinoor, Mr. and Mrs. Manny Martin, Bob Hunniwell, John Marysz and Mike Champy and his wife.

By the way, Al Belvedere, did "Mitzi" give the boys a

good show?

A few of the boys got together at Chuck Abdinoor's home in Dracut, Mass. last week for one of his nice cookouts and to map plans for the coming Boston reunion. The children played games and the wives got "drunk" as usual with Mary Francullo crying all over her guitar.

Sylvio Allard, A-330 brought his famous Made-Rite potato chips which went over well with the booze.

Lucien Elie came up with his famous chop suey which was very good. Lucien is the type of guy who is always on the go so we took his car keys away from him to keep him put for awhile, returning them to him after dark, at which time he took off like a big bottomed bird.

Pat Di Giammerino took an advance party through the woods for some mushrooms and came back with a bucketful.

We, of the Boston Chapter feel very proud that one of our own was elected president of the National Association this year. Charlie "Chuck" Abdinoor, president of our own chapter, being elevated to that important and honorable position at the last reunion. Charlie is one swell guy and we all know that he will do a wonderful job and with a little cooperation from everyone concerned we feel sure that "Chuck" will prove that once again you made a wise choice. **GOOD LUCK "CHUCK" FROM THE GANG IN BOSTON.**

We would like to know from Joe Zenz, of the Philadelphia Chapter; Did the guy pick up the rake for \$20? Incidentally, the Boston Chapter is making plans for an elocution class for the gang in Philly so that they will be able to understand this good old New England jargon. So Ruth Paulino, stay on your toes.

I see no more appropriate way to end this column than by saying to the boys in Detroit, "Thank you for a nice time and a pat on the back to you all for a job well done."

## Miami Valley Chapter News and Dayton Flyings

By Vic Landis

To say that the Detroit reunion was a huge success, would be putting it mildly. We, of the Miami Valley Chapter, take our hats off to the hard-working crew of the Detroit Chapter. I really know the hard work and untiring efforts it takes to stage the event. Nick Barbu, Steve Benson, Dom Spano and all the rest of the fellows and their wives—did one hell of a swell job. Vito (Bill Palazzola) did a great publicity job.

Major Bill Ferguson and Ed Zerucha, did invaluable service and I would also like to compliment their very wonderful wives, Margaret Ferguson and Jean Zerucha, for their important part they had in the success of the reunion.

The real success of our annual affair does not have the tangible approach, nor the concrete, rather an abstract view—as it is one thing you cannot lay your hands upon. Fellows that have gone all the way through the war together, have a fraternal fellowship—you could not possibly get otherwise.

A tip of the hat to Jake Glenn and his wife—who came all the way from Nashville, Tenn., as members of the Miami Valley Chapter. To Ed Fink and his wife, Marge, Leo Boyd and his wife Boots, Del Rinehart and his wife Pearl, Bill Washburn and his wife Clarie—to Wilson Day, the detective on the Cincinnati police force. Orchids to them all.

The Miami Valley Chapter C. P. was open longer than any chapter at reunion. We were proud to be able to do this. I really think that the visiting of all our chapters, within the association, did more to cement our national organization than any one factor.

The Miami Valley Chapter, in the very near future, will have an election of officers, and regardless of who they may be, we will carry on in the tradition of the 83rd Infantry Division Association.

The Miami Valley Chapter will plan big events for the coming year and we will really welcome visits from all other chapters. In turn we will be glad to return the visits. Let us hear from all of the other chapters. A salute from the Miami Valley Chapter to all of the national officers.

## Canadian City of Windsor Captures "Thunderbolt" "Raiding" Party

Thursday, August 20, 1959 will go down in history as the day that our Canadian brothers captured and took to their hearts the visiting Thunderbolt brigade. One hundred Thunderbolts boarded the buses at the Hotel Statler in Detroit and immediately were taken over a most congenial and friendly task force led by Bob McGregor of the Canadian legion. Mr. MacGregor, a charming, handsome Scotchman, "gave us the works". We were afforded the special VIP treatment that was easy to take. As we crossed the bridge and entered Canadian territory our bus stopped and an escort of Windsor's famous mounted motorcycle police took us in tow. On the bridge the newspaper reporters and photographers made the excursion a memorable one by snapping pictures and taking notes. The next day the daily newspapers of Windsor gave us "boo coo" coverage with stories and pictures.

All important and historical features of the town of Windsor were revealed to us as we rode through the town. We were most favorably impressed with the friendliness of all of our hosts. The vast distilleries of the Hiram Walker plant became our objective, and once we arrived we willingly surrendered to our hosts. We were taken through this interesting town in itself and given the "works" topped by an elegant lawn party? Where we wine and dined till all were as mellow as the liquid refreshments that were served to us.

Our host, Bob MacGregor, then led us to the Elmwood Casino where we sumptuously dined at Windsor's bright spot. Our dinner was made very enjoyable by the comments of our Windsor hosts and our own Detroit Chapter men. Of course, we must thank Helen Reglinus, wife of our judge advocate who entertained us with her piano dinner music. A beautiful treat served by a beautiful and charming gal . . .

After lunch while our Detroit officers were greeted by the Mayor of Windsor the rest of our raiding party assaulted the shoppers for gifts and mementos. It was a very, very pleasant trip and everyone enjoyed it immensely.

Dave Rosenberg, 331st Inf.

**PLEASE PAY DUES  
NOW !!**

## New Jersey Chapter News

The men and women of the New Jersey Chapter, who attended the past reunion, wish to extend congratulations to the men and women of the Metropolitan Detroit Chapter for the wonderful show they put on.

The trip to Windsor, the tour through the brewery, the cocktail party, beer party and the banquet, all very well planned functions and carried out with the finesse of well planned events.

Only those of us who have had something to do with putting on a reunion can realize the tremendous amount of work involved. The leg work, the conferences, the telephone call, the divking and countless other incidentals all add up to a lot of time and effort and, though you heave a sigh of relief when it is over, the satisfaction derived from it is something you never forget and though each may have his own idea and opinion, to those who put on the show, this was the best.

The New Jersey Chapter was very well represented at the reunion this year and they are still talking about what a wonderful time they had. Dave Benick and Johnnie Di Nicola were among the missing as was Joe De Peri. Dave's girl was ill and his little boy had a few stitches in his head from a fall. From all indications, Dave's little tyke is all boy and he never knows what's going to happen next.

Johnnie Di Nicola can be excused for not being with us as he took upon himself a bride. A lovely, charming girl. It took a long time but Johnnie finally took the plunge and we all wish him and his bride the best that life has to offer and trust that John will look us up occasionally and have a drink for old time's sake and Auld Lang Syne. Joe De Peri and his brothers are deeply involved in their new gas station and that probably is the reason Joe was not there. But I'm sure these boys will put in an appearance at the show in Boston next year and I'm doubly sure they will after they get a first hand recap on this year's reunion.

We still meet on the third Friday of each month at the V.F.W. Post in Garfield, N. J. Anyone interested, come around and have a drink with us, have some solid refreshment and join in an evening of get together.

Here's to a bigger and better reunion in Boston in August of 1960, if that is possible.

Harry W. Lockwood



Steve Benson  
Jean Zerucha  
Virginia Palazzolo  
Sylvia Barbu



Josephine Muoio  
Ronnie Schmidt  
Jean Zerucha  
Virginia Palazzolo  
Sylvia Barbu

## Metropolitan Detroit Chapter News

To start with, I hope and trust that every one of you conventioners arrived at your homes, safe, sound and sober.

I must say on behalf of our members in the Detroit area, that we were very happy to have had you with us and feel that we made many friends among you.

For a long time many of the wives did not care to attend these reunions, feeling that they may be out of place, but since so many of the wives are coming year after year there is no longer any doubt on the part of our ladies. There is no lack of friendship among our spouses and in fact, through many of the wives we ourselves have met others we never knew before who we now look forward to seeing at each reunion.

I hope that Vic Landis gets better accommodations at the next hotel and that he can get into his room without calling the state guard to help him get out. Also to keep out undesirables who bother him.

Ed Zerucha went to the hospital a few days after the reunion for an operation. After the operation Ed had to sit on pillows for a while and the Detroit Chapter sent him a RUBBER DOUGHNUT to help the cause along. Hope you're back to normal Ed.

Wonder if Joe Minotti is getting very much out of his newly acquired helmet. The look on Ray Voracek's face, at the time of the helmet incident, and Ray's explanation of what happens whenever

he and Joe are involved in anything, is something that we will remember for a long time. I'm sure though that the Detroit pokey accommodations are better than the room Vic Landis had at the Statler.

Steve Benson, the "Great White Hunter", was in charge of a couple of safaris through the jungles of the Statler lobby. Once he had Leo Boyd and some of the Miami Valley Chapter members as pack bearers. As the safari wound through the lobby it was evident that each bearer had a package under his arm. The sound of the bottle clattering together could be heard very distinctly but the assurance was given that the bottles contained medical supplies to guard against snake bites, scorpion stings and an epidemic of tsetse flies. On another occasion, Steve had to go it alone, and struggled through the lobby with a carton of the same serum on his shoulder. We are happy to report that all the medical supplies reached their respective destinations and the sick and ailing were ministered to and everyone recovered.

Incidentally, the manager of the Stone Theatre is looking for the Thunderbolt who jumped up on the stage and helped the girls in their efforts to entertain. He seems to think that with a few of the rough spots in her performance ironed out, he would make a very good lead man for the show. Would said Thunderbolt come forward and identify himself. (Editor's Note—You seem to have missed your calling, DON.)

Bill Palazzolo

## A Message From Your Past President

I want to again express my heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the privilege and honor of serving as your president for the past year.

At this time I would like to congratulate all our new officers and urge you all to support them as well and as wholeheartedly as you did my officers and me.

Your help is needed desperately, remember Operation Manhunt is far from being over. Many thousand more names and dues are wanted to make our association as big and as great as it should be.

Thanks again to the hardworking Detroit Chapter for a job well done. Those of you who missed Detroit, missed out on a very fine and well planned reunion. Next year it will be Boston, on August 18, 19 and 20. Plan now to attend this one. They promise it will be bigger and better.

R. J. Voracek

## The "Bull Session"

One of the prime reasons one should attend a national reunion of the "Thunderbolt" Division, is the opportunity one has to engage in an old fashioned "bull session". The "bull session" is an occupational disease. It is most prevalent in "doughboys" who at the drop of a hat, the tip of a glass, or for any excuse the cue to start reliving war experiences and in fact "win the war" over again. This pleasant pastime begins when two or more "old buddies" get together, and one says, "Do you remember"? This phrase immediately becomes the password to the recounting of a multitude of experiences and adventures. Throughout the thirteen annual reunions, the "bull session" has not lost a least bit of its luster. Each year the same experiences are brought up and each year a new participant brings out a new facet of the engagement. Throughout the years the tales are enlarged and a wee bit changed and colored to obtain the correct portion of authenticity and dashing adventure to the tales. Yes, the "bull session" is one institution that will never change. We are for more of them. The more the merrier.

Where the "bull session" before was only carried on when one "GI" met an-

other GI, let's see if we can't get one started through the mail, using the Thunderbolt paper as the medium for that pleasant pastime known as "The Bull Session".

All you Thunderbolts out there start writing to Harry W. Lockwood, our new secretary-treasurer and custodian of "The Thunderbolt", get started a national "bull session" all year 'round.

With each "bull session" a little bit of pathos and sadness must enter. So many of our "buddies" were left behind that sooner or later when their names crop up, everyone unanimously agrees "he was a good Joe". So it is with Baker Company men of the 331st Infantry. Mention the name of Captain "Two Gun" Danny Moore and more stories can be told about him than the mightiest and largest tome can record.

It would take a far better writer than I to describe Danny Moore. To a poor replacement in the third platoon like myself, he was a cocky individual blessed with the aggressiveness of youth and radiating leadership from every one of his pores. His fearlessness, his adroit maneuvering and his solicitude for his men were legendary. Never was an unkind word spoken of Captain Moore. His tragic demise at the near conclusion of the war in the Steckby Forest hit me like a ton of bricks even though I had left Baker Company for Fox Company months before. Yes, at all reunions when "bull session" time comes and we speak of men who have left us, our reverence is real and our fondness is real.

Speaking of the third platoon Baker Company 331st, you must say a few words about Lt. Norman Kruse. Everytime I see a war picture in the Cinema where a young handsome lieutenant is the hero I think of Norm, or as we affectionately spoke of him, "Big Norm". There was a guy who really was loved by his men no more than a kid himself, this Kansas "ploughboy" became father and leader to fifty men, some older than himself, but all looked on him for guidance. Never did he fail them. Just like many Baker men at the last reunion said, "I wonder what became of Norm Kruse". What is Big Norm doing now? (Editor's Note—Anyone having information about "Big Norm", please contact me in care of the Thunderbolt.)

Dave Rosenberg, 331st Inf.

**PLEASE PAY DUES  
NOW !!**

## Indiana Chapters News



Our thanks to the fellows of Detroit for a job well done. Indiana was well represented at the reunion. So much was going on we didn't get to visit with the many friends as much as we would have liked; however, that's another sign the reunion was well planned and kept us busy.

Our thanks also to the past year's officers of the National Association, and to the new officers we say "Carry On"! If we can help in any way, send us a line.

The Chapter's Spirits Drawing was a success. The drawing was held at a special meeting on Friday, September 4. First prize was won by Betty Nicholson, second prize by Mel Huter, third prize by Hazel Marquadt. Mrs. John Soroko, New Smith and Bill Ledger sold the winning tickets. Bill emerged as the champion ticket seller.

Until further notice, the meetings of the Indiana Chapter will be held at the "Forty and Eighth" Chateau, 619 North Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis, Indiana. Meetings will be held on the second Friday of the month instead of the first Friday. Wives will also meet and establish an Auxiliary. To the gals we say "get going" and we can bet on 'em!!

Could this be true? Sex on the Moon will be called "Hi Diddle Diddle"??

On Saturday, October 24, Dot and John Soroko will entertain the members and their families at a weiner roast at their home, 6781 McFarland Road, Indianapolis. Dot and John can be counted on to make this an evening of fun. John assures us there will be plenty of beer, and the wives will see to it that there is plenty of food.

At the next meeting of the chapter, which will be on Friday, November 13, plans will be made for the Chapters annual Christmas party. Let's all attend and help plan this party. By so doing, you will help your Chapter grow and be a participant in an organization that is going places.

Indiana Chapter officers elected for the coming year are as follows:

President, John Robinette  
1st Vice President, Johtn Soroko  
2nd Vice President, Francis Maguire  
3rd Vice Pres., Walter H. Edwards, Jr.  
Secretary, Murray D. Therber

Treasurer, Joseph V. Lowry  
Judge Advocate, John D. Raikos  
Historian, John Walker, Jr.  
Asst. Historian, Richard Ammon  
Sgt.-at-Arms, Ned Smith  
Chaplain, William Ledger  
See you in print next issue.

If in Indianapolis, why not visit us?

MURRAY D. THERBER, Sec.  
2117 Sugar Grove Ave.

If anyone knows the whereabouts of former Captain Nelson H. O'Dell, Regt. Dental Surgeon, 330th Infantry, please contact the undersigned.

## The President's Corner



First and foremost, I would like to thank each and everyone of you for the honor of being elected your president for 1960. Who would have thought that a replacement who received his baptism of fire in the Hurtgen Forest, and assigned to Co. A, 330 as a PFC would have top honor to lead the 83rd

Infantry Division Association. Again, my sincerest thanks.

To look ahead we must strive to continue our membership drive. Our past president's "OPERATION MANHUNT" must go on. I'm sure that in your own personal records you must have a few names and addresses of some old buddies. Please get in touch with them and remind them of the part they can share in the association.

To the newly elected officers; we have a goal in sight. Let's make 1960 a banner year for the association. All suggestions will be greatly appreciated and given my personal consideration.

To me, this is a two fold operation; to wipe out the blotch that has plagued us in Boston and to increase our membership in the association.

The Greater Boston Chapter will play host to the association in 1960. The dates of the reunion will be August 18, 19 and 20 at the Hotel Statler. I sincerely believe that the program we have planned will readily meet with your approval.

Again, my sincerest thanks and remebemr Boston in 1690.

Sincerely,  
Charles Abdinoor, A-330



# The Philadelphia Story

## The Tale of a Wayward Bus



When the matter of traveling to Detroit by a chartered bus was brought up many had silent misgivings. Traveling hours by bus, confined and hot might bring short tempers and angry words. But to the twenty-two of us who made the trip to the Detroit reunion by bus it will be an experience we will long remember and cherish. We learned more about ourselves during this trip, than we believed possible. It brought each and everyone of us ever so much closer. Our respect and esteem grew with each hour. The fun we participated in as the bus sped along eating up the miles grew and grew. Never a cross word, never a dirty look, never a gesture of annoyance throughout the entire trip. President Ed Paulino, acting as captain of the ship, regulated the comfort station stops with careful consideration. Our halts for nourishments provided not only food but more fun and pleasure as we gathered at the restaurant tables. Good fellowship and comradeship such as never seen was displayed and truly carried out throughout the entire convention days. We breakfasted together, we dined together and we had our fun together. And so was born aboard a bus good cheer and fellowship that will be price less in years to come.

We were a great group. From Boston we had Chuck Abdinoor. Charley is spoken, but he revealed that he will make a great National Association President. He was solicitous, always volunteering to help and do more than his share. Quietly his frequent interpolation of quips and witticisms were greatly appreciated. There was Pat and Ginny Digiammerino, a couple of swell down to earth people. We must not forget our "hill billy" cousins from Boston, Nick and Mary Francullo. A vivacious pair who led us in song, and when Mary played her "guitar", it was a delight. Nick has a repertoire of Army songs that would bring smiles to the hardest hearted Major. His ditties were offered and taken in great spirit. We were fortunate to have with us Bill and Pam Skerbetz. They complement each other perfectly. A wonderful pair who joined all our doings full heartedly, eager to pitch in and keep things moving. Up

front sat the handsome couple of "paisans", Al and Ann Belvedere. We knew Al and Ann for years yet this trip afforded us the opportunity to learn to know them better. They typify that adage, "handsome is as handsome does". Ann and Al made their contribution to the enjoyment shared by all. Their singing, their story telling and their cooperation was greatly appreciated by all. Lively Sam Aiello and his lovely wife, Vi, shone and displayed the friendliness we all knew they abounded with. Sam can capably act as an emcee for any occasion and believe me he helped make the hours aboard the bus fly pleasantly. What more can one say about Frank McGrogan and his charming wife, Mary. Never was there a more conscientious worker than Frank. All the details of this bus trip regards to its inception and fine outcome can be laid at Frank's door. Mary, his lovely spouse, may call him "never ready" Frank but we know him to be always ready to pitch in and help. Mary McGrogan almost made expense money with her card playing but alas she didn't consider charming Ruth Paulino in the picture. Ruth Paulino is the kind of a girl who, with her husband Ed, make up a couple who know nothing but how to be pleasant and how to make strangers feel at home. Her ever-ready humor and smile would melt the heart of the coldest snowman. It was a pleasure to be with them. They did much to make the trip the success it was. From Bethlehem we were treated with the company of Joe and June Zenz. If you have never heard Joe Zenz murder a joke, you ain't heard nothing yet. We still have to hear the end of his story about the rake and the five dollars. June Zenz, as pretty a gal as you could want to share your bus, helped brighten up our journey. Then there were our strong silent "bachelors", Walt Sammler, John Noe and Mike Jarmoska. These three in their quiet manner excelled in making the trip a pleasant one, ever willing, never griping. They also serve who sit and graciously pitch in. Of course, I would be mobbed by the rest of the bus load of folks if I didn't mention Ann Rosenberg, my spouse. But believe me she needs no mention by me. I don't believe anyone will forget her and how she made the trip to Detroit probably the most pleasant journey anyone ever took. With her little bag of gimics? Her story telling, her lively repartee with the bus drivers, Henry and Clayton, her vivacious humor had the bus occupants rolling the aisle. Without prejudice I must agree with the many passengers of our bus, she must be

crowned Miss Personality. Yes, this bus trip was a priceless experience for all of its sojourners. It brought us closer to each other, it increased our affection for one another and above all, it proved friendship among former "Eighty Third" men can and will grow and grow.

No tale about our bus trip could be complete with our vote of thanks to Papa Lou Volpi and Mama Lucy Volpi. There is a pair who without a doubt have no peers when it comes to being the perfect host and hostess. When we assembled at Lou's home he greeted us with a smile, handshake that spoke volumes, coffee for all, doughnuts, eggs, what will you have?? Ever alert to make us feel at home. Lou parked our cars. The perfect host and hostess that's our Lou and Lucy Volpi. We all love them. They are tops.

To see us off, Larry Redmond came bright and early. We knew he was shook up that he couldn't make the trip with us. But his wonderful wife, Mary, was recuperating from a serious operation and thought they couldn't make the trip by bus. Yet, when we arrived at Detroit, there was Larry and Mary Redmond waiting to greet us with a smile and warm affection. They are a great pair and we in Philadelphia Chapter recognize a peach of a pair.

The spirit of friendship that grew with our trip to Detroit bore many pleasant fruits in Detroit. We of the Philadelphia Chapter traveled together and shared our reunion joys together. Our meal time experiences together, our fun at the parties and the Philadelphia Chapter room were pleasures we shared together and made us into a stronger group. We will always treasure our Detroit reunion experiences because it brought a togetherness that is priceless.

Oh Yes, we must mention when we made our trip back to the Volpe home we were greeted by Lou and Lucy Volpi and Mary and Larry Redmond. The usual hospitality of the Volpi's was displayed and at two in the morning we all sat down to grab a bite and repeat the fun and experiences we so enjoyed. T'was a great reunion. May we enjoy many more together. Amen!

Dave Rosenberg, 331st Inf.

## Co. G, 331 Champs Again

We, of Company G, 331 wish to take this opportunity to thank Ray Voracek and the 83rd Division Association for the two-fifths of Canadian Club for having the most paid up members during 1959.

As usual we won the booze as 24 of our boys came through and paid their

dues for the year.

We also had 14 Co. G boys who attended the Detroit convention. For some it was their first; others are old hands at it and to them it was their 10th, 11th and so on.

For you fellows who couldn't come to Detroit, following is a list of the buddies you would have seen had you been there.

Clyde Flanary, Indianapolis, Indiana  
 Gene Costanzo, Pittsburgh, Penna.  
 Don Schwartz, Larchmont, N. Y.  
 Monte Anderson, Akron, Ohio  
 Robert Piette, Athol, Massachusetts  
 Mr. & Mrs. Frank Bunk, Cleveland, Ohio  
 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Phillipone,  
 Youngstown, Ohio  
 Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Guarneiri,  
 Levittown, Penna.  
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Wesley,  
 Camden, New Jersey  
 Mr. & Mrs. Dom Spano, Detroit, Mich.  
 Mr. & Mrs. William Bogacz, Chicago, Ill.  
 Mr. & Mrs. Loyal Pangle, Flint, Mich.  
 Mr. & Mrs. John Teringo, Warren, Ohio  
 Mr. & Mrs. Lee Titus, Warren, Ohio

We all had a wonderful time and all promised to be in Boston in 1960.

To Nick Barbu and his great bunch of guys from Detroit, congratulations on a job well done and as always, thanks to the Warren Chapter for their fine hospitality in their C.P.

Lee Titus



**PLEASE PAY DUES  
 NOW !!**

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

43 Oakland Avenue Jersey City 6, N. J.

Non-Profit Org.  
U. S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
JERSEY CITY, N. J.  
Permit No. 1543

Form 3547 Requested

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

NAME (please print) .....

ADDRESS .....

CITY, OR TOWN, AND STATE .....

CO. .... REGT. OR BN. ....

I have been honorably discharged from Army Service..... or I am still on active duty..... Enclosed check or money order (\$4.00) payable to

**83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION**

43 OAKLAND AVENUE

JERSEY CITY 6, N. J.

DATE ..... SIGNATURE .....