‘A Celebration of Life’ to Honor First Lt. Garlin Murl Conner

By Henry Bodden - Historian

After attending a private posthumous Medal of Honor ceremony at the Pentagon on June 27, 2018 for WWII hero Garlin Murl Conner, I was quite moved by the twenty year dogged determination of the Conner family to fight for the recognition Conner deserved for the Medal of Honor. Although I did not get to meet any of the Conner entourage at the Pentagon, I however had my story framed for the upcoming October issue of the WOTR.

Later I received a phone call from Luther Conner who represents the Conner family quite well. Luther invited me to be one of the speakers of an upcoming event in Albany, Kentucky to honor Garlin Conner in a “Celebration of Life” for the humble and unassuming hometown hero who finally received the Medal of Honor posthumously. Naturally, I was quite excited and responded immediately, “Yes, I would be honored.”

The event was scheduled for November 17, 2018 at the Clinton County High School Gym at 1:00 P.M. This would be the second event by the folks of Albany to honor Garlin. The first one occurred soon after Garlin returned home to Albany from almost three years of fighting with Company K, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, of the famed 3rd Infantry Division.

After Conner landing in N. Africa in 1943, Garlin then landed in the invasion of Sicily, Italy and “Bloody Anzio”, “Operation Dragoon” — (the beachhead invasion of southern France) — up the Rhone Valley and into the Colmar Pocket, where on January 24, 1945 near Houssen, France, Lt. Conner held off six Mark VI tanks and 600 German infantrymen for three hours. This action earned Conner the Distinguished Service Cross to go along with an amazing four Silver Stars, and a host of other medals.

And now the persistent Conner family finally had the long overdue honor of Garlin’s DSC upgraded to the Medal of Honor. It was bittersweet.

Please turn to CONNER on page 4

The Two Births of Alvin Cullum York

By Henry Bodden – Historian

After attending “The Celebration of Life” for Lt. Garlin Conner in Albany, Kentucky, Luther Conner and I had spent the day before re tracing the life of the legendary “Sergeant York” in Pall Mall, Tennessee. Luther has ties to both Garlin Conner (second cousin) and to Alvin York also. So we met Andrew Jackson York who gave us a personal tour of Pall Mall showing us the old stomping grounds of his famous father.

Alvin Cullum York was born on December 13, 1887 in the “Three Forks of the Wolf River” in Pall Mall. Times were difficult for the mountain people in the valley and Alvin dropped out of school in the

Please turn to YORK on page 6

This painting depicts York’s battle with his pistol fighting off the Germans
Happy New Year and Happy Birthday our beloved Society! This year marks 100 years since officers of the division decided to organize a Society made up of Soldiers who served in the Marne Division. They did this while still deployed in Europe during WWI! I am very proud to serve as your President during this auspicious year and consider it an honor of a lifetime.

How do you like our new front cover? The Executive Committee decided that since this was a special year for the Society, we should dress up our beloved *Watch on the Rhine* so that each issue would be a collector’s item for future members to enjoy. Only the six issues of 2019 will be like this, so please collect them all.

Now for some business items. Each year, in January and July, Outpost disbursements go out. If you are an OP Secretary-Treasurers please make sure you deposit this check within 90 days or the funds will be returned to national automatically by the bank and the check will be null and void.

Our donations cards initiative was very well supported. For all of you who donated THANK YOU!

I hope that you received your copy of our 100th Anniversary 2019 Calendar. I have received nothing but great comments from our members who really like it. If you have NOT already donated to help offset the cost of producing these wonderful calendars, please consider doing so today. They have been very popular with our members and I have received numerous requests for multiple copies.

I have no more Marne Battle Coins. So if you have sent in a check to order one, I will, unfortunately have to return your check. They were very popular.

As you know, we have been advertising for submissions to our Centennial Legacy Book. Your opportunity to do this will END on June 30th, 2019. That will be the final deadline for any submissions to this special book. If you have NOT sent in your story of your service and your bio, please do so soon - it is FREE to do so. This opportunity will probably never come around again so don’t miss out. Please see the ad on page 29 of this edition for more information.

If you have moved or changed any information that needs to be on our roster, please contact our Roster Manager, Frank Ugolini, and update him. You can also do so yourself directly on our website. Simply create a new account, login and update. It’s that easy.

If you are a Leader of an Outpost and know of members who have moved or otherwise changed their info, please send that to the Roster Manager as soon as you are aware. This job requires constant attention and having the help of the members and the OP leaders is critical to ensuring that we are able to keep our members abreast of all the latest news and Society pertinent information.

This edition has the Scholarship Foundation Financial report included. You will be able to see how this fund is doing over the past two years as, both years are included in a side-by-side matrix for your review. For those members who have donated generously to our Scholarship Foundation, thank you!

As you know, January through May is our nominations cycle. Nominations for Society awards, the six regional committeeman, National Secretary-Treasurer and submissions for Constitution and Bylaws changes are now open. Please consider serving at the National Level. It is a very rewarding experience and is critical to ensuring that our great Society will continue for another 100 years. If you are interested in any of these offices, please contact me directly.

Our 100th Anniversary reunion will be held in conjunction with Marne Week this November 14-18, 2019 in Savannah/Jekyll Island, Georgia. The registration form will be published in the April edition of the WOTR. Please sign up early as many events will sell out quickly.

I can NOT stress enough how important it is to help us recruit new members. I want our Society to be around for our 200th Anniversary, but that won’t happen if each of us doesn’t make recruiting a personal mission. Please recruit one person this year into the Society.

I had the honor of meeting the wife of our most recent Medal of Honor awardee, ILT Garlin M. Conner, during my trip to Fort Stewart for Marne Week. Pauline is a wonderful person who I was honored to have met and spent a little time with. I hope to have her at our 100th Anniversary reunion this November.

Lastly, please keep our deployed Soldiers in your prayers. Many are currently serving in harms way and our prayers for their safe return and the comfort of their families left behind are of utmost importance. Rock of the Marne!

Toby Knight
Society President

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**Society of the 3rd Infantry Division**

**Membership is Our Strength**

It's not the price you pay to belong, it's the price you paid to become eligible to join.
Luther Conner greets us in his law office

So on Saturday, the morning of the ceremony, a group of us met at Luther’s attorney office in Albany to assemble and head to the High School at a later time. It gave us time to meet and get to know each other as we were treated by Luther and Tonya Spears to sandwiches, chips, and drinks. Pauline Conner stopped by, whereas I finally got to meet her in person. A very charming lady and quite humorous just as she was with President Trump in the White House when the President presented her with the Medal of Honor for Garlin.

Luther’s lovely wife Susan attended to all of us in the waiting room. I got to meet Hugh Ridenour, Richard Chilton, Byron Crawford, and Andrew York again as he drove in from Pall Mall, about twenty miles away or so. So when it was time to motor to the High School for the ceremony, we all took our seats inside the gym and met other principals of the event.

I recognized and spoke with Sgt. Major Daniel Hendrix, who was also with Gen. Quintas at the Albuquerque, NM. 99th reunion of the 3rd Infantry Society.

The ceremony opened with much pomp and ceremony with bands and patriotic music that stirred up the full house crowd to honor Garlin. Heather French Henry, the former 1999 Miss Kentucky, and 2000 Miss America welcomed everyone and served as Master of Ceremony and did a great job. It was also a pleasure to meet her and autograph one of my prints.

After the Presentation of Colors, the National Anthem, and the opening prayer by Bro. Mike Huffaker, it was time for each speaker to give their words of respect for Garlin Conner. We had a very well done video presentation of Pauline’s remarks at the Pentagon ceremony that I attended, and then again she entered the stage and delivered to the crowd a very emotional closing remarks that was very moving to the audience. The high school band played “My Old Kentucky Home” which I thoroughly enjoyed. Bro. David Stearns then gave us a closing prayer which ended a very memorable moment for me and my wife Jane. Jane had sat next to Andrew Jackson York the whole time and they bonded quite well. In fact the last time I saw Andrew on Sunday, he asked me five times about Jane and how much he enjoyed meeting her.

And so finally, a perfect ending to a
great day honoring one of America’s greatest decorated soldiers. As a bit of trivia, Garlin and fellow 3rd Id legend Audie Murphy earned their Medals of Honor just two days apart, and just about eight miles apart in the same battle of the Colmar Pocket, and both were very small of physical stature and about the same size.

Epilogue – Luther and I Had a Mountain to Climb

I covered our mountaintop climb to where Alvin York spent two days and a night wrestling with the thought of going to war and to kill in this issue, but before Luther and I drove to Pall Mall, Tennessee for the climb, I asked Luther if we could visit the gravesite of Lt. Garlin Murl Conner first.

We did visit the gravesite of Garlin in the cemetery in Albany as we payed our respects to Conner. It was very moving to me as I had never heard of Conner until his story broke about the Medal of Honor. Each year we visit Holtzwirh, France where Audie Murphy earned his Medal of Honor, and just about eight miles away is where Conner fought in the same Colmar Pocket battle near Murphy two days earlier.

from Murphy’s feat. And then to be able to attend the Pentagon ceremony this past June was another unexpected honor. And finally, to participate in his hometown “celebration of life” with his family was quite an experience.

So it was quite appropriate for me to bid farewell at his gravesite before returning home after visiting his hometown and meeting his family members. Luther then drove me to the 200 acre farm of where Pauline and Garlin lived, and where Pauline still lives. I took a photograph of the farm and reflected to the fact that when Sgt. Alvin York would visit Garlin and his family, York and Garlin would walk around the farm together and talk to each other about their combat experiences in the two World Wars.

The two Medal of Honor recipients never spoke to other people about their experiences, but they felt perhaps a need to speak to each other about the horrors of their combat. This must have been an emotional mutual release of speaking to someone who went through similar horrors of war. I would love to have known what they confided to each other.

Finally, we stopped at the county courthouse in town where Sgt. York first met Garlin. When Garlin was welcomed home from WWII as a hero, Sgt. York crossed the state line from his home in Pall Mall, Tennessee to be the speaker at the courthouse in Albany, Kentucky for the parade for Garlin. This was the beginning of their friendship and family ties to each other.

And I was so pleased that Sgt. York’s son, Andrew Jackson York also made the trip from Pall Mall to attend this ceremony for Garlin – history repeats itself – Luther told me before I left home to attend the ceremony that I would be remiss not to research the notorious “Champ” Ferguson, a Civil War terrorist who killed both Union and Confederate soldiers and civilians, over a hundred all together. I took a photo of this plaque about Clinton County’s infamous hometown terrorist. Luther’s grandmother on one side was a York, and his grandfather on the other side was a Ferguson, and Luther is a second cousin to Garlin Conner. So Luther is well connected to the Yorks, the Conners, and the Fergusons. “Champ” Ferguson was hunted by both sides and he had a large set of bodyguards and fighters.

Bill Reed had posted on my face book page after reading a post I had made about Ferguson that “Champ” had killed his great-great-grandfather in Chanute, Tenn. in 1862. When captured and jailed in Jamestown, Tennessee, Ferguson was granted freedom if he promised he would fight with the Confederacy, and he did. But after the Civil War ended, Ferguson was captured and tried for war crimes and was hung, only one of two Confederates executed for war crimes. The other being Heinrich Wirtz, the Commandant of the notorious Andersonville, Georgia prison camp for Union soldiers.

So as this very interesting tour of Albany ended, Luther and I then embarked for Pall Mall to hopefully sit on the same mountaintop ledge that Alvin York sat on 100 years ago.
third grade to work in his father’s blacksmith shop. Alvin excelled in hunting and “hell-raising” and was looked at as someone who would never amount to anything. The hunting skills Alvin developed seemed to give him a keen understanding of the trees, streams, and to be alert with his eyes and ears which would save his life later in WWI France.

Alvin was red haired and grew to six feet by age sixteen. When his father died from a mule kick at an early age, the responsibility of the family fell upon Alvin. This responsibility was so heavy for Alvin that he began hanging out with a “wild crowd” as a release. He turned to drinking, gambling, and brawling in the wild “blind tiger” joints in Static which straddled the state lines of Tennessee and Kentucky. A yellow line down the middle of one of these “blind tiger” joints separated Tennessee and Kentucky. You walk across the yellow line and buy your liquor in Kentucky, and then drink it in Tennessee on the other side of the yellow line.

When his best friend Everett Delk was killed in one of these joints, Alvin began to change his ways and promised his saintly mother a change in behavior. Alvin’s second birth came during a revival from a visiting preacher in the old church building that still stands in Pall Mall. Alvin repented of his sins and became a “born again” Christian and forever extremely began a new birth in Christ. He joined the Church of Christ and taught Sunday school and became known as the “Singing Elder.”

The new church selected Rosier Pile as its first elder and became a mentor to Alvin.
With that, York was given a ten day pass to return to Pall Mall to wrestle with his conscience if he could be a soldier. Alvin returned home and climbed the mountaintop with his hound dog and spent two days and one night praying about being a soldier. He returned to his commanding officers and said he “could be a watchman, but not kill.”

With this settled, in May of 1918 the 82nd Division sailed to Le Harve, France with a stop in England for training. Confident that God would protect him in battle, York trained in peace of mind about his safety as his unit made their way toward northeastern France for the Saint-Mihiel offensive under the command of then Brigadier General Douglas MacArthur and planning expert George C. Marshall on the staff of American Expeditionary Force Field Marshal John “Black Jack” Pershing. It was here also where Gen. MacArthur first met his brash young Lt. Col. George S. Patton whom with his French Renault tanks routed the “Huns” out of Saint-Mihiel. Patton would twenty six years later in WWII, again liberate Saint-Mihiel from the Germans— an amazing feat.

I have not found any evidence that York fired his weapon in the Saint-Mihiel Offensive, but George C. Marshall was planning the nearby Meuse-Argonne Offensive which would change now Corporal Alvin York’s life forever. Also joining the upcoming fighting in the Argonne Forest was a bespectacled artillery Captain named Harry S. Truman, whose unit had just marched from the Vosges Mountains to join in America’s most deadly battle in American history, which was to claim 26,000 American lives in the Argonne. So just think, four of the most important figures of WWII were assembled in the Argonne Forest area— Five Star generals Douglas MacArthur and George C. Marshall, Four Star general George S. Patton, and President Harry S. Truman who ended WWII in the Pacific with the two atomic bombs.

Here is a little known fact I just happened to stumble on while researching the Argonne Forest Offensive. From October 2nd to October 7th of 1918, a battalion size...
element of 590 Americans broke through the German lines of the Argonne Forest that the Germans seized in 1914 and developed it into a defensive network that exploited the rough terrain and thick forest. This battalion became known as “The Lost Battalion” that fought off German frontal attacks for five days, including a German assault with flamethrowers on the last day. Of the almost 600 men of the battalion, only 184 survivors walked out alive when rescued.

Three Medals of Honor were awarded for this brutal hand to hand combat, led by their commander Major Whittlesey, a New York Harvard lawyer. And who participated in this rescue of the “Lost Battalion” which was made into a movie, none other than Corporal York’s 82nd Infantry which helped on the rescue on October 7th. As the 82nd prepared for the assault, the Germans fired gas-filled artillery rounds into the ranks of the Americans. Again, I am not aware if Corporal York fired his weapon during the rescue.

Another interesting bit of trivia without a doubt, but on the following day of October 8th, Alvin York’s life would change forever. As the 82nd prepared to go “over the top” and hit the Germans, York was heard muttering that “he was willing to die for his country, but not to kill for his country” — so this tells me has yet to fire his weapon at a German. The attack was to commence at 6:00 am with a ten minute artillery barrage against the Germans. However, the barrage never arrived and major Tillman directed his men to attack with or without the barrage.

The Germans had advance intel where the American troops would attack and laid a trap allowing the “doughboys” to enter into a kill zone. The Germans let loose with deadly fire decimating the American advance that literally faded away. With only seventeen men left alive in York’s unit, they managed to get behind German lines and surprised group of seventy Germans who then surrendered to the seventeen Americans. A German machine gun nest saw what happened and motioned to the seventy Germans to “hit the ground” as the word “Runter” was yelled. This was quickly followed by the “rat-a-tat-tat” of a German MG 08/15 machine gun that killed six of the Americans and wounded three. The survivors then hit the ground hoping to survive the blistersing rounds of the German machine gun.

Of the remaining leaders, only Corporal York was the only one not killed or wounded as the burden of command had passed to him, a man still conflicted if he could kill. In that instant, York changed from a conscientious objector to a warrior. Inaction would only result in further American death and destruction. Everything suddenly became clear for York at that moment, and the debate of whether a Christian could ever morally kill ended. York charged up the hill to outflank the Germans, leaving the other seven of his men to guard the prisoners.

Nineteen Germans were now upon York as he demanded their surrender. They did not, and York killed all nineteen, drawing his first blood. A second group with fixed bayonets charged York that York fought off with his Colt Automatic Pistol. York had shot a German Lt. Endriss in the abdomen severely wounding him.

A Lt. Vollmer in the group of the seventy surrendered Germans saw his good friend Lt. Endriss badly wounded and walked over to York to save his friend. York recounts this exchange: Vollmer: “English?” York: “No, not English.” Vollmer: “What?” York: “American.” Vollmer: “Good Lord! If you won’t shoot anymore I will make them give up.” Vollmer then blew his whistle and the remaining Germans came down the hill with their arms up. The skirmish was over as this former “good-for-nothing” drunk from Pall Mall had killed 25 Germans and captured 132 of the enemy.

This beautiful painting depicts the red haired York with mustache and adorned with his Medal of Honor. Notice his 82nd Infantry patch which was the forerunner of the famed 82nd Airborne of WWII.

His action saved his unit from certain annihilation and forced the German Army to retreat from their Argonne Forest fortress. He was later promoted to Sergeant and his Distinguished Service Cross was upgraded by General Pershing to the Medal of Honor, pinned by General Pershing himself. He also received several of France’s highest awards for valor by Marshal Ferdinand Foch himself in Paris.

Altogether, York had received about forty medals for this one incredible act of bravery. York returned to New York a national hero, and turned down $250,000 1919 dollars for endorsements stating “he wasn’t proud of what he had to do in France.” After being feted a national hero all throughout America, York returned to his beloved Pall Mall to reunite with his beloved mother and “Miss Gracie”

EDITOR’S NOTE: I will pick up York’s return to Pall Mall and his post-war life in another article covering my trip to Pall Mall with Luther Conner and Andrew Jackson York, the son of Alvin York.
2019 Soldiers Ball report

Pauline Conner and MG Quintas unveil the dedication of the LT. Garlin Conner firing range

The 2019 Society of the Third Infantry Division, Soldiers Ball was held on December 7, 2018 at the Savannah International Trade and Convention Center. This was the third year the Society has hosted this event and over 1,150 Soldiers, Spouses, Veterans and Family members attended this highly successful event. This truly has become the signature event for the Society and builds strong relationships between our Society members and the Soldiers assigned to the division.

As many of you know, the Soldiers Ball is the culminating event for Marne Week. During this week, numerous competitions, events and celebrations take place to honor the establishment of the division over 100 years ago.

This year the division added an event to honor and remember the division’s most recent Medal of Honor awardee, 1LT Garlin M. Conner. Pauline Conner, husband of 1LT Conner, was invited to attend the Marne week events as was Luther Conner (Cousin of Murl), his wife Sue and the grandson of 1LT Conner. The division deduced to rename a small arms range complex after 1LT Conner. The ceremony included a Soldier wearing the exact same uniform and gear that 1LT Conner would have worn during WWII. The Soldier also fired a Thompson Machine gun during the demonstration which was what 1LT Conner used during WWII.

The night of the Soldiers Ball proved spectacular. Soldiers dressed in their finest uniform, spit and polish being the standard of the day. The ladies wore their most elegant gowns and dressed and Veterans proudly wore their medals on this tuxedos. The evening began with a welcome by Society President, Toby Knight, who asked all in attendance to consider joining the Society and prevent it from “Dying.” The highlight of the evening was the announcement of the winners of the numerous “Lethality” competitions that were held during Marne Week. Lethality awards were presented to Soldiers for the best small arms qualifications, Indirect fires systems, Aviation crews and Mounted crews. The division also unveiled a new award recently established in the name of 1LT Conner. 1LT James Reed and SGT Jacob Bee, both from 1st ABCT received the 1LT Garlin M. Conner Award for their outstanding leadership and lethality.

Soldier Ball soldiers dressed in modern and WWI uniforms

Pauline Conner herself presented the awards to the Soldiers.

The evening was supported by Society Public Relations Chair, Maj (ret) Here Marrero who worked our recruiting table speaking with Soldiers about joining the Society. OP-MA President CSM (ret) Jeff Ashmen brought in numerous items from the Museum Gift shop to sell to the attendees. Both initiatives were very successful.

The 2018 Soldiers Ball ended with the attendees dancing the night away to the wonderful sounds of the DJ. Numerous positive comments were received from the attendees and the Commanding General, MG Leo Quintas, was very pleased with the entire event. He personally thanked the Society President and all of our members who supported the event.

The 2019 Society reunion will be in conjunction with Marne Week and our members will have the opportunity to attend the Soldiers Ball as part of our reunion festivities. It will prove to be a spectacular experience!

-Submitted by Toby Knight
Chaplain (COL) Parker Thompson Laid to Rest

Chaplain Parker Thompson, long-time member of Outpost 7 of the Society, died Sunday, 21 October from the results of a fall in his home in Winchester, VA on Friday 19 October. Chaplain Thompson was the Pastor of North Fork Baptist Church near Purcelville, VA for 25 years.

The Stoys and Mrs. Haesook Choi, Associate Life Member of the Society, attended Chaplain Thompson’s funeral at his church the morning of 27 October. It was a windy, rainy, and cold day. Other notables in attendance were LTG, retired, and Mrs. Julius Becton and Chaplain (MG), US Army, retired, David H. Hicks, former Chief of Chaplains of the US Army 2003-2007. After a very moving service Chaplain Thompson was laid to rest next to his wife, Irene, in the cemetery of Ebenezer Baptist Church. In keeping with Chaplain Thompson’s Scottish ancestry there was a piper piping for the service in the wind and the rain. There was also a US Army funeral detail and a bugler to play taps.

Chaplain Thompson began his Army career upon graduating from the Chaplains’ course in May 1952, shortly thereafter reporting to the 3rd Infantry Division and assignment to the 7th Infantry Regiment. In March 1953 he was assigned to the 10th Engineer Battalion and participated in the Battles of Outpost Harry.

Chaplain Thompson was a good friend of the Stoys and OP International. The Stoys visited him at least once per month and escorted several Korean visitors to meet him over the years. They had actually visited him on Monday, 15 October, with Chaplain (CPT) Choi, Young-hun, ROK Army, and his wife, Lee, Min Hee, to interview him about his Korean War experiences. Chaplain Thompson spoke about his Korean War experience as a Chaplain at the first Korean War historical seminar hosted by OP International in April 2017.

Before health issues precluded his travel from Winchester, Chaplain Thompson regularly attended Outpost 7’s wreath ceremonies in Arlington Cemetery at the 3ID Monument on Memorial and Veterans’ Days.

Chaplain Thompson was born August 5, 1928 in St. Louis, Missouri to Robert Avery and Hazel Stout Thompson.

A life-long student, he began college at the age of 16, graduating with an Associate’s Degree from Southwest Missouri Baptist College and a Bachelor’s Degree from William Jewell College in Bolivar, Missouri. Having felt the call to ministry as a teenager, he went on to seminary at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, graduating in 1951.

That same month, he joined the army and married Irene Frances Kirkpatrick, who made homes and raised their children through roughly 30 years of moves around the country and around the world.

After being in Vietnam as Division Chaplain of the First Cavalry and 25th Infantry Divisions (1967-1968), he was assigned to head up the Non-Resident Department at the U.S. Army Chaplains School, then located at Fort Hamilton in Brooklyn, New York (1968-1973). As Command Chaplain of the U.S. Army’s Test and Evaluation Command at Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland (1978-1980), he oversaw the religious program for military personnel and families from Alaska to Panama.

While in the army, Chaplain Thompson undertook graduate studies in history at the University of Missouri and earned a Doctor of Ministries degree from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Philadelphia.

Of all his many experiences in the army, he was most proud of organizing and serving as the first curator of the U.S. Army Chaplains Museum, an extra duty he asked for and loved. In that role, he edited a five-volume history of the Chaplains Corp and authored the first volume: “The United States Army Chaplaincy: From Its European Antecedents to 1791”.

Having fallen in love with the state of Virginia during a vacation there in 1954, he and his wife moved to Loudoun County upon his retirement from the army in the fall of 1980. There he served as pastor of Round Hill Baptist Church (1980-1991) and

Chaplain Thompson was predeceased by his parents; his older brother, Robert Avery Thompson; and his late wife, Irene, who died in 2000.

He is survived by his three children, Mary V. Thompson and her husband Tony Bates of Alexandria, Virginia, Robert Avery Thompson and his wife Monica S. Thompson of Stephens City, Virginia, and Laura Thompson Pennington and her husband Jeffrey Pennington of Middletown, Virginia.

Cottonbalers Foxholes preserved!

Society member, Jocelyne Papelard, recently traveled to Col Du Haut, France and personally found foxholes dug by 7th Infantry Regiment Soldiers during WWII. It’s amazing that these foxholes are still present to this day.

All Soldiers know the standard of digging a foxhole - two rifles lengths long, one rifle length wide and armpit deep. These foxholes were dug by men who knew their survival depended on their proper construction. They are still there to this day. Thanks to Jocelyne for sharing these amazing pictures.

Volens et Potens (Willing and Able)

Passing of CSM (ret) Joe Annello

On November 7, 2018 we lost another great Society member. CSM (ret) Joseph L. Annello was born on May 4, 1933. He enlisted in the Army on April 24, 1950, and continued his military service through the Vietnam War. After he enlisted, and upon arrival to Japan, Mr. Annello trained Korean civilians to be soldiers. He had more Korean soldiers in his unit than American soldiers. He was a Sergeant Major in the Army who was wounded in battle, a Prisoner of War who fought on the Kansas Line, and at the Battle of Chosin Reservoir. Mr. Annello has traveled back to Korea and is in awe of its continual advancement and dedication to preserving its economy and democracy.

Joe Annello’s casket is pulled by caisson with riderless horse

After the Korean War, he reenlisted, and spent a year at a Japanese language school learning to read and write Japanese, and learning Japanese military tactics. Mr. Annello continued to further his education by attending the University of Massachusetts and studying civil engineering and business administration. An advocate for the benefit and power of an education, he frequently visited schools and discussed education as the key to advancement in all facets of one’s life. He will be dearly missed in our Society.

Errata

Please excuse the typo errors in the December Watch. When I finished all the submissions for the Watch and forwarded to the publisher, I had already departed for Kentucky to speak at the ceremony for Lt. Garlin Conner and was unavailable to proof and edit the issue.

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Update your email, phone, and mail contact information
Send changes to the Society Database Manager

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DELIVERY POINT BARCODE
Check your name and address ( Apt/Bldg/Lot No.). If your zip code does not contain 9 digits (zip+4), it is incomplete. Check http://zip4.usps.com/zip4/ or contact your local post office for your zip+4
Korean combat veteran Bob Barfield sent me this poem he had written about the Korean War. Thank you Bob, it is certainly not “the forgotten war” to the families and the thousands that fought and sacrificed so much on those Korean battlefields.

**“KOREA THE REAL FORGOTTEN WAR”**

THE GUNS OF WAR ARE SILENT NOW
YET I CAN HEAR THEM STILL
I SEE THE FACES OF THE DEAD
I GUESS I ALWAYS WILL.

THEY SAY THAT TIME WILL EASE THE PAIN
CAN MAKE A MAN FORGET
THOUGH MANY YEARS HAVE SWIFTLY PASSED
I SEE THE CARNAGE YET!

KOREA WAS SO LONG AGO
OR WAS IT YESTERDAY?
I HEAR THE SCREAMS IN TORTUROUS DREAMS
O LET ME WAKE I PRAY.

THE AWFUL SOUNDS OF EXPLODING BOMBS
STILL RING WITHIN MY EARS
SO MANY DEAD AND DYING
YET THERE’S NO TIME FOR TEARS.

POSITIONS THAT ARE OVER RUN
WITH FIGHTING HAND TO HAND
HOW MANY DIED IN VAIN?
I PRAY YOU’LL UNDERSTAND

AT LAST THE FIGHT IS OVER
THE ENDLESS NIGHT IS THROUGH
WE WON OUR BATTLE FOR “DOOMERANG”
BUT THOSE WHO LIVED WERE FEW.

SO WHEN IT’S TIME TO JUDGE US LORD
AND WEIGH JUST WHAT WE’RE WORTH
FORGIVE US ALL WHO Fought AND DIED
WE SERVED OUR BELL ON EARTH.

SFC BOB BARFIELD, CO. "F" 7 INF. REGT. 3 INF. DIV. KOREA. 6/14-15/53

Hey Henry, great *Watch* this month as usual. I especially like your articles on Audie Murphy, the early years, and the one the Footsteps of the Kennedy assassination. You and Jane were very close to history on that day. I have a question regarding the article. You met Gayle and Bill Newman who were below the grassy knoll that day. They were protecting their children at the time of the shooting. On page 11 of the *Watch* it states that Bill felt a bullet whiz over his ear. Did he mention the direction that he thought that the bullet came from? Did he think that the shot came from above and behind him from the grassy knoll?

*John Weis*

Editor’s note: Yes, Bill said he felt the bullet come from behind on the grassy knoll and that is when he told Gayle to “hit the ground.” He testified about this, but was ignored. He and Gayle traveled to England and were also consultants on Oliver Stone’s movie “JFK.”

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Henry, thank you for all the time and effort for the Society. A great job.

*John Fisher*

This photo of this fine plaque was sent to me in recognition of Ron Heitzenrater’s service for his work with Vietnam veterans. Congratulations Ron!!—ED
The Final Hours of the Armistice Exacted a Terrible Human Toll

By Henry Bodden

Although America entered WWI late in 1917, our military proved to be the turning point in defeating the Germans in the “Great War.” From the Marines and Army units in Belleau Wood, to the 3rd Infantry beating back the Germans from crossing the Rhine and saving Paris, and in the final Meuse-Argonne Offensive that lasted five weeks until the end of the war when the Armistice was signed in Compiegne, France, the U.S. lost 116,708 soldiers in a relative short time of combat.

The Meuse-Argonne Offensive produced not only Alvin York, but future WWII icons like George C. Marshall who was on Gen. Pershing’s staff and planned the offensive, Col. George S. Patton, Brig. General Douglas MacArthur, and an artillery Captain named Harry S. Truman who would later fire Gen. MacArthur for his bravado in Korea. But with an Armistice signed at five a.m. at Compiegne, it did not go into effect until eleven a.m. This six hour delay cost the lives of nearly 3,000 soldiers, including one American named Henry Gunter in the war’s final minute.

But Allied commander Ferdinand Foch of France rejected the German’s call to end hostilities immediately. Foch dictated that the guns would fall silent at eleven a.m. to allow the news of the cease fire to reach the front lines. There was also the symbolic reason of ending at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. But there was also a revenge motive to kill more Germans, but this fiasco of a decision resulted in more deaths than were lost in the Normandy invasion of WWII.

Finally, the war of trench warfare, poison gas, and the dismemberment of hundreds of thousands by artillery shells mercifully ended. This “War to end all Wars” would only last 21 years until the worst war in human history erupted in 1939 – WWII.

Chaplain’s Corner

Hello my fellow Dogface Soldiers and Happy New Year. I am glad that we all made it this far and may God keep you and your family close in his arms and may he bless you with health, wealth and happiness.

My message to you is to stay healthy. I have been battling health issues for some time now and recently, I had Gall Bladder surgery. Nothing like replacing a bunch of worn out parts on a hot rod!

I hope to be up and around soon and I want to thank my wonderful wife, Kathy, for her rock solid love, help and kindness during this time. I know that it is stressful to be a caregiver. Thanks Kathy!

For all of you I leave you with this prayer for Soldiers:

Brave warriors,
Should fate find us in battle,
May our cause be just.
May our Leaders have clear vision.
May our courage not falter.
May we triumph and earn victory
as we show mercy to our enemies.
May our efforts bring lasting peace.
May our sacrifice be always
appreciate by those we serve.
May we return to our loved ones unharmed.
Should we be harmed, may our wounds heal.
Should we perish in the struggle,
may God embrace us and find for us
a place in his Kingdom.

Your Chaplain, Jerry

Whatever we were in that frozen long-ago and whatever we are now, we are bound as one for life in an exclusive fraternity of honor. The only way into our ranks is to have paid the dues of duty, sacrifice and valor by being there. The cost of joining, in short, is beyond all earthly wealth.

For an application, contact Headquarters at 843-379-1011 or email ThechosinFewInc@aol.com or visit our website at ChosinFew.org
At this writing we are well into the 13th year of operation of the Scholarship Foundation. The Foundation is sound and making slow but steady progress in all areas of responsibility.

The trustees are Jeff Danby, Richard Faulkner, James Reeves, and Justin Valle. The chair is Lynn Ball with Justin Valle as webmaster and Joe Ball is the C. F. O. Tom Maines is Trustee Emeritus. We thank the trustees past and present for their efforts toward the success of the Foundation. Funding for the Foundation is completely from tax-free donations.

Our only mission is to serve the soldiers, spouses, and offspring of the brave soldiers who served in the 3rd Infantry Division or supporting units. The Foundation provides financial support in the form of cash grants to applicants’ schools of higher education. Grants can be used for tuition, books or other academic purposes. The cost of a higher education has increased in recent years to the point that any financial help is needed and welcomed.

Applications for grants are being accepted at this time. The cut off date to apply for 2019 awards is June 1st. Please check the Foundation website at www.3idscholarship foundation.org for more information, application material, and forms.

The Foundation’s bi-year raffle is in full swing and the results thus far are encouraging. Thanks to all who have participated. The drawing will be on July 15, 2019, and prizes will be sent to winners soon after. A full list of prizes was sent to all Society members and is also listed on page 14 of the December 2018 issue of the Watch.

There are two weapons included in the 2019 raffle: a 1911 A pistol, donated by Bob Barfield, was the side-arm of choice by the military for many years. The commemorative .45 caliber Thompson sub-machine gun, donated by Thomas Maines, is a beautiful Korean Conflict weapon. Audie Murphy is pictured carrying the WWII issue of this weapon on the front page of the October Watch on the Rhine. To honor Lt. Garlin Connor, a portion of the firing range at Ft. Stewart was renamed for Medal of Honor recipient Connor. The first weapon fired on the range was “The Thompson.” The two raffle weapons are fully operational (semi-automatic) and have not been fired since factory testing. Both have hard cases and the Thompson comes complete with a wood and glass display case.

Send applications and donations to the Foundation at 2010 Worcester Lane, Garland TX 75040.

We thank all who have sent donations to date. Following are those who donated since the last Watch.

### SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION DONATIONS

#### Memorial Donation
Jerry Kraft in memory of Carol Kraft

#### Silver Donation
- Ed Harris
- William Rosensteel
- John Anagnost
- Stanley Knapp
- Marvin L. Albright
- Jeffrey Danby
- Patsy Scarpati
- Darin Nunn

#### Bronze Donation
- Stanley Knapp
- Gayle and Matt Delvental

#### Levels of Giving
- Platinum Star, $50,000–$99,999; Gold Star, $10,000–$49,999; Silver Star, $5,000–$9,999; Platinum $1,000 to $4,999; Gold, $500–$999; Silver, $100–$499; Bronze, $1–$99.

### Watch Schedule
The Watch editor requires receipt of copy on or before the 5th of the month preceding the month of publication. Space fills quickly so articles sent early have more chance of being published.

**Deadline to the Editor**
- Submission: 5th
- Copy: 10th
- Review: 5th
- E-mail: 25th

**Publication**
- January
- February
- March
- April
- May
- June
- July
- August
- September
- October
- November
- December
The Marne Patch Returns to Afghanistan

The 48th IBCT is a modular Infantry Brigade of the Georgia Army National Guard and part of the U.S. Army’s piloted “Associated Units” program. The program establishes a formal relationship between reserve and active duty units. The 48th IBCT is aligned under the Third Infantry Division. They conducted their Patching Ceremony back in September 2016 at Marne Gardens.

The Brigade’s upcoming deployment to Afghanistan is their fourth combat deployment since September 11, 2001 and the first time deploying as a unit under the Third Infantry Division.

During the color casing ceremony, Major General Leopoldo A. Quintas highlighted the partnership among numerous organizations in the active and reserve component that together helped in mobilizing and preparing the Brigade for its pending deployment. MG Quintas said “The soldiers of the 48th wear the Third Infantry Division patch. As such, they are full-fledged members of this Marne Division. They are Dog Faced Soldiers.” He concluded in saying “To the dog faced Volunteers of the 48th Brigade, as I have told you many times as we have started this journey together, I am proud and honored to count you among us. We promise our continued support to you and your families as you deploy into harm’s way.”

Major General Joe Jarrard, the Adjutant General, Georgia Department of Defense also spoke during the ceremony. He thanked Major General Quintas and the entire Marne Team for the outstanding partnership in training and preparing the 48th IBCT to deploy. MG Garrard said “We are proud to be teammates with the Marne Division.” He concluded by addressing the soldiers, “To the soldiers of the Volunteer Brigade, you are well led and well trained. I’m confident you will do an outstanding job performing this mission and will represent our state and our nation in a superb manner. We look forward to your safe return”.

While deployed, the “Macon Volunteers” primary mission will be to Train, Advise and Assist Afghanistan units throughout the country.

The 48th Infantry Brigade Combat Team “Macon Volunteers” are one of the oldest units in US Army history. The lineage of the 48th Infantry Brigade can be traced back to 1825. You can read about their entire history on the internet at Wikipedia.

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The Watch on the Rhine

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‘In the Footsteps of Alvin York’ — With Andrew Jackson York

By Henry Boddin — Historian

This trip to Albany, Kentucky and to Pall Mall, Tennessee was such a treat for me that I could not hardly wait to get there. To be part of the ceremony to honor one of our highest decorated soldiers of the 3rd Infantry was thrilling to say the least. And since our host Luther Conner was related to the Conner family and the York family was just amazing.

I had always wanted to visit Pall Mall, Tennessee and the gravesite of Sgt. Alvin Cullum York, but never made it a priority as my travels were concentrated in Europe and the Pacific photographing WWI & WWII battle sites and meeting the veterans who actually fought in these battles. So imagine how excited I was when Luther set up a Friday luncheon with Andrew Jackson York in Pall Mall for a private tour of the area with Sergeant York’s son.

Before leaving for Kentucky, I had mentioned to Luther that I would like to climb the mountain and visit the actual rock ledge where Sgt. York spent two days and one night 101 years ago meditating and wrestling with the decision whether to fight, or not to fight after he was drafted in 1917. Luther and his wife Suzie are seasoned mountain hikers, and Luther became quite excited at the prospect of climbing to this historic site so prominently featured by Gary Cooper’s role in the hit movie of 1941 portraying “Sergeant York” in the movie titled the same. Luther told me “I am so glad you suggested this climb, because I lived here all my life and never thought of climbing up the mountain.”

This movie was released in July of 1941, about six months before Pearl Harbor and viewed by an astounding 35% of the nation. Imagine, more than one in three people seeing this movie and was responsible in a way fueling the rush to join the military when Pearl Harbor was attacked. Also, Gary Cooper walked away with an Academy Award as “Best Actor.” The real Sergeant York was again at the forefront of an adoring nation. So it was decided that Luther and I would climb up the face of the mountain, just as Alvin York did.

The plan was to begin at nine in the morning, reach the summit by ten in the morning, and walk back down by eleven in the afternoon, and meet Andrew York for lunch at noon. But alas, that old phrase adapted from Robert Burns’ “To A Mouse” writing which states: “the best-laid plans of mice and men often go awry” also plagued Luther’s “best-laid plans” to ascend the mountain in a timely fashion.

We drove to the base of the mountain, gathered our walking sticks, and optimistically began the climb. After walking up the steep forested mountainside for about twenty minutes, we realized we would never make it to the summit in one hour and get back down to have lunch with Andrew York. With the program in Albany, Kentucky for Garlin Conner the next day, Luther asked me if I could stay another day so we could climb the mountain on Sunday. Absolutely I replied, because sitting on the rock ledge where Alvin York meditated would be a once in a lifetime opportunity for me that I could not miss.

So we returned to the York Museum in Pall Mall to meet Andrew. We toured the small museum and noticed Andrew was across the street at the York home talking with a busload of school kids on the grounds. We then drove to the house and waited for the kids to leave and meet up with Andrew. We decided to dine at the only place that served food in Pall Mall, Forbus General Store established in 1892. This would have been the same store that the York family would have shopped in the early years of Alvin growing up. It was quite a unique and charming store, typical of a “one shop” type of store from yester year that served the needs of the mountain people. Only today it has a modern kitchen serving plate lunches and sandwiches.

As we entered the general store, everyone casually greeted Andrew as “one of them” and not a celebrity as the son of a legend. As we sat down to order lunch, I noticed a large Confederate flag hanging on a wall along with many items and some framed photographs. It reminded me a bit of today’s “Cracker Barrel” faux setup of past items, but these were the real McCoy items used in the everyday needs of this mountain community.

After lunch Andrew then gave us a very informative private tour of Pall Mall and the places where Alvin York and his parents lived. I asked how his parents and others got around back then, and of course Andrew replied “by mule and foot.” Andrew took us to his parent’s first home before moving into that grand home given to Alvin and Gracie by the Rotary Club of Nashville that sits on 400 acres. Andrew said he and his siblings were born in this home with fond memories. I asked Andrew if his father ever talked about “The Great War” and Andrew said “never.” “Did you ever ask him about the war?” Andrew replied “no, he would change the subject and we knew not to ask anymore.”

As I mentioned before, Alvin York only talked to Garlin Conner about the wars these two highly decorated soldiers fought in. Andrew then took us to the Bible Institute Alvin founded, but only lasted about ten years. The drive was blocked and we could not enter the driveway. Andrew then pointed out a cave to us that was very interesting to me. It was...
Jackson York

The Rotary Club of Nashville presented this beautiful home on 400 acres to the Yorks.

Below: The gravesite of Alvin and Gracie York

The Wolf River Cemetery in Pall Mall

After a stroke in 1954, I think this is his grandson Gerald York admiring one of Alvin’s medals

Above left, Pall Mall city limit sign. Above, Alvin York once owned this grist mill for about ten years

Andrew Jackson York and myself pose in front of the York home which now belongs to the State of Tennessee

where Conrad “Old Coonrod” Pile spent his first night as he entered into “The Three Forks of the Wolf River Valley” as the first settler. It was “Coonrod” who also gave the name “Wolf River” to the scenic river that flows through Pall Mall. “Coonrod” was also the great-great grandfather of Alvin York. His descendant, Rosier Pile was the preacher and first elder of the Church of Christ where Alvin became a staunch Christian. The church is still there today, only it is a Methodist church today.

All the Piles and many of the Yorks are buried in local cemetery right across the street from the church. We then stopped at the store which was once “York and Sons” general store which is now run and owned by Alvin’s grandson Ret. Lt. Col. Gerald York, a combat soldier who served in Vietnam. Gerald runs the York interests from his home here in Pall Mall as Andrew took us by Gerald’s home. Gerald also is a consultant to the government in Washington D.C. We stopped and had some delicious ice cream in the store, and
Andrew Jackson York attends the issuing of this stamp honoring his famous father

I noticed a book displayed under glass, not for sale and signed by Sgt. Alvin York.

Thereafter we returned to the York home which is now run by the State of Tennessee. Andrew served as a Park Ranger who led tours through the house where he was born and raised. Luther and I took photos with Andrew in front of the York home and thus ended a great day for me spending time with Luther and Andrew.

Then Sunday came and it was time to climb to the mountaintop to find the rock ledge overlooking the valley where Alvin York spent two days and one night meditating whether to “fight, or not to fight.” We decided not to try to climb up the face of the mountain like York did 101 years ago, but find a flank that was easier, but more time consuming climb. We went to the base of the mountain and met Bruce Patton who was chopping wood at his home. Bruce allowed us to leave the car on his property and offered to take us a little ways in his all terrain vehicle and suggested the best route. Bruce said he had climbed up the mountain about forty years ago, but you can really get lost climbing up the heavily forested mountain.

Bruce was very accommodating and told us we would need some climbing sticks. When he let us out, he chose two sticks and rounded the ends for us to plant as we walked. I realized I could not have ever done this on my own and was so pleased Luther joined me as he is a seasoned hiker. As we reached the level mountaintop called “The Devil’s Backbone,” we now needed to keep walking to our left to try and find the “Yellow Chairs” rock formation where York spent his two days. The rock ledge is yellow stained through nature and we finally saw the rock formation. I was so excited as we walked to the ledge and there it was.

As we savored the moment and viewed the beautiful valley below us, this was a “bucket list” moment for me that was significant in the life of Alvin York. From the ledge we could see the York house and the 400 acres, the cemetery and church, the general store, the museum, and the Rosier Pile house and farm. For it was right here on this rock ledge that Alvin York sorted out his conflicted life about serving in the Army. It was here that he decided he could be a “watchman” for his men as Ezekiel 33:2 demands in the Bible. It was then settled that York could serve in the military, but not yet believed he could kill until that actual moment of destiny on October 8, 1918 in the Argonne Forest in France, far from his home here in Pall Mall.

After descending the mountain, York returned to his base and informed his officers he was ready to serve as a “watchman.” The rest is history.

What a moment this was for me as we began our descent back down the mountain. Luther was surprised he was able to have a cell phone signal from the ledge as someone called him and Luther said “guess where I am?” Luther also said “Bruce is probably checking on us with binoculars right now, as we detected some concern by Bruce about us coming back down by nightfall.” It had taken us about three hours to climb up, and Luther had a meeting in Albany that he had to attend.

Going back down we got lost for awhile, and as I sat down on a log as Luther tried to get his bearings. I left my camera on the log as Luther called out for me. When I met him, I then realized I had left my camera on the log and I had to find it because the whole weekend was captured on my camera. We lost about thirty minutes walking around trying to find my camera and it was wearing me out with the stress that I lost it and all my photos gone. I just could not accept that and it is very easy to get lost and turned around in a thick forest of tall trees with no sense of direction. Finally we found it and I was so relieved, but as we continued to walk down, my hips and feet began to give out and I told Luther to go ahead back to Kentucky and I would find my way back.

Luther blazed a trail for me to find my way back, but as I could hardly walk and I felt lost on the mountain, my greatest fret was I had to get down by nightfall. But I finally made it there with camera in hand, and Bruce had been looking for me in his all terrain vehicle to no avail. I finally saw a rooftop in the distance and knew I was home free now. It was Bruce’s daughter and they said Bruce is looking for me as we speak. Finally, Bruce showed up and gave me a ride back down to my car.

This is Bruce Patton who drove Luther Conner and I a little ways up the mountain to begin our trek to the summit.
The hike turned into a six hour excursion, and starving, dehydrated, and could barely walk, I went back to York’s store for ice cream and the clerk said Andrew York is looking for me as he has something for me. She called Andrew and ten minutes later Andrew arrived and presented me with a signed poster of Alvin York.

What a great ending to a perfect day, battered and everything, but I did it and what a momentous thrill it was for me because “how many people can say, I sat on the mountaintop where Alvin York sat?”

We made it to the summit as I photographed Luther sitting where Alvin York sat and meditated

A much treasured autographed poster presented to me by Andrew Jackson York

Call for Awards Nominations

This is the first call for nominations for annual awards. The Awards Committee, consisting of the three Regional Vice Presidents, will select the recipients of the Society Service Award and the Outstanding Associate Member Award. The Executive Committee will select the recipient of the **Audie Murphy Achievement Award** from nominations submitted to the Awards Committee. These awards will be presented at the Reunion Banquet in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The annual Society Awards Program recognizes and honors those members of the Society of the Third Infantry Division who have contributed their energy and creativity to further the Society’s objectives.

**Nominations must be received by August 10, 2019**

Mail all nominations to SFC Ken Drake, Society Awards Chair, 3604 Herndon Lane, Wahiawa HI 96786 or at email: Sgttubal@earthlink.net. So that effective evaluation of nominations and determination of recipients can be accomplished, nominations must include the following general information as well as the specific information mandated in the award criteria to which the nomination is directed.

- Nominee’s outpost affiliation and precise information about his/her qualifications for the award
- Nominee’s achievements (details relative to the Society’s objectives and/or to the benefit of all veterans)
- Only nominees whose dues are current and who possess the established qualifications per the By-Laws and per awards protocol as stated in the S.O.P. will be considered for an award.

The **Audie Murphy Achievement Award** is the highest award the Society presents each year. The requirements for the Audie Murphy Achievement Award are as follows: the recipient must have been a member in good standing of the Society for at least three years or a former distinguished member of the Third Infantry Division or worthy national leader. Some of the considerations for this award are exemplary military service; service as an elected national Society officer, appointed or elected, including Outpost officers and members; outstanding service by Society members to their community, state or nation.

**The Society Service Award:** may be presented to a member in good standing of the Society for exceptional service to the Society. The recipient must have been a member of the Society for a minimum of three years.

**The Outstanding Associate Member Award:** may be awarded to an Associate Member in good standing of the Society for exceptional service to the Society. The recipient must have been a member of the Society for a minimum of three years.

**President’s Special Award:** Special service awards are given at the president’s discretion.

**Nominations:** If you are active in your outpost, you probably know of an outstanding worker who deserves recognition. If so, please nominate that member. You may make the nomination for a specific award or just name the person and tell what he or she is or has been doing for the Society, and the Society Awards Committee can make the determination. Thanks in advance for your help.

—Submitted by Award Chairman SFC. Ken Drake
In this wonderful journey that is the life of each of us there are days that remain alive in the mind more than others. These are the days when you realize that your life has taken the direction you were looking for. I would never have thought of meeting Victor “Tory” Failmetzger and his wife one day and Chris Britt, Maurice Britt’s nephew, the next day. Never would have thought that the story of their uncles and grandparents; soldiers and officers of the Third Division, with their sacrifice and their memory, would have been the means to unite in a profound friendship thousands of miles away. It had already happened to me with the fraternal friends of the Fifty-first Bersaglieri and we are going along the road of honoring and remembering for over ten years. And now a new beginning parallel to the first one.

While traveling by metro, the night I met Victor in person, I remembered the image of the Uncle on the American Knights Tank, his image was between me and Victor, he was present among us.

It was he, in the pride of his being a soldier, in the pride of the fulfillment of his mission, our union ring.

We talked about history, about the deeds of the heroes of the Third Division, about the stories of war taken from their memories and they were alive again, their memory was not lost, but it was alive in Victor’s eyes and mine.

The same happened the night after, when I walked across Via Veneto and met Chris Britt for the first time. His first gift was a Broncos hat ... and I immediately thought of his grandfather, a Detroit Lions player; football was also present in this fantastic story; indelible signs that the stars were playing with me in the sky.

Chris Britt, nephew of one of the most decorated officers in the history of the United States Army was with me, and I, thanks to the invitation of President Toby, whom I accepted immediately, had created the Italian section of the Association of the Third US Army Infantry Division and in those two days I was realizing that life had taken a well-defined path, where the colors were blue and white with diagonal stripes.

It was a tree-lined avenue full of white crosses with names that were just waiting to be remembered for what they had done.

They were leaves yellowed by time that were removed with the hands from the white marble of the headstones to give new life to the name engraved above and its history.

They were soldiers, sometimes forgotten even in their homeland, as Chris wrote in his splendid letter dedicated to all of us.

Soldiers who have done incredible things in the liberation campaign of Italy and in particular in the Winter Line. Monterotondo, Montelungo, Monte Camino, perhaps did not
have the attention of history as the D-Day or the battle of Bulge, but they were battles of attrition to the limits of human endurance.

The day of the first meeting of the Italian section of the Third Division, while we were traveling by car. Chris’s eyes searched the horizon to find Monterotondo, for him it was a whole new world, as it had been for his grandfather, new mountains, new plains.

The car ran along the road of memory, it was the memories, the stories of the grandfather who took shape and color; they were houses, mountains, trees, hills, sky, rivers, it was all, it was emotion, closeness, smell, sounds, perceptions.

Our mission to honor and remember was taking the nephew to the grandfather’s memories and I was living those moments with him.

We all arrived at the Best Western Hotel in Cassino, we came from Rome, Florence, Pistoia, Aquila, Udine, Milan, Naples, Virginia and Colorado.

All united by a single symbol, which greeted us by welcoming the entrance to the Hotel.

The first scheduled visit was in the tragedy sites of the 36th Texas Division on the Gari-Rapido river; From the hill, the view of the river and the battlefield immediately made it clear why over 1,000 American soldiers fell in two days.

I remember the silence of Tory and Chris in front of the bare plain of trees, crossed by a small impetuous river. The battlefields, between San Pietro Infine and Cassino, make this effect because they remain intact in many cases and give the exact perception of the sacrifice that took place 75 years ago.

After the lunch break we felt the emotion running like blood in the veins and it was true emotion when in one of the last curves Chris saw the hill of Monterotondo for the first time.

The following was a great moment for him and for all of us. Until we arrived at the exact point where the grandfather performed his heroic deeds, where the holes of the 50th regiment are still visible in the woods, as if time had stopped. We saw Chris sit in a hole and remain silent looking around, as if to look for the spirit of his grandfather, who still runs among those trees admired by his soldiers.
indicating the location, an information panel and a pole to hoist the American flag during the celebrations. Monterotondo, a small forgotten hill, which kept in its woods the war of Britt, and the war of Murphy, two giants of American history of the second world war.

Returning to the cars, in the silence that takes me when I leave these areas, I was happy, because today I can write to all of you, readers of this magazine and members of the whole Third World Association of Infantry, that the mission was accomplished thanks to the work of all the people of the Association and in particular of the Historicus Museum which is located in the area, our operative base in the area, and in particular of Maria Cristina Verdone who managed to obtain the authorization of the owner of Monterotondo to the management of the area and that in recent months has run far and wide throughout the area to create the event that we all expected.

Today, thanks to you and all the members of the Third Infantry Division outpost 16, we can say that the area can be visited every day of the year, with convenient information and information boards.

But the day of December 7, seemed to never end, and after Britt and Murphy it was time to honor Floyd K Lindstrom, the Medal Of Honor to which we dedicated the Italian section of the Third Infantry Division.

The places where he has obtained the highest honor have been identified recently and have been very suggestive for all participants. In the area everything remained as it was then, even a tank of petrol, rusted by time, was present along the way. The ruins of the house where the emergency room was located, the church where the corpses were laid, today have in front of them the American flag that flies and remembers that one day they passed the Cottonbalers with their motto “Volere e potere”.

Impressive view of the mountain from the point where the boys of the 7th regiment began to climb to conquer Montecamino. We’ll climb the summit next June with Chris and Tory and maybe even Toby ... to get to the exact spot where Lindstrom showed his courage.

But the surprises were not finished and were concentrated in the Historicus museum of Caspoli, which preserves numerous artifacts and objects belonging to the soldiers of the Third Infantry Division. Inside the museum there is now a wall dedicated to the Third Infantry Division and the surprise for Chris was to find the original photos of his grandfather framed on the wall and this was for him the grand finale of an unforgettable day for him.

Throughout the day and the days to follow, Victor was not only the one who translated into English for Chris, but our historian, who told details of his research done over the years on the battles along the Winter Line.

In the evening, during the interminable, typical Italian dinner, we gave Chris and Victor the title of honorary members of our outpost.

The following two days were dedicated to visiting the sites of the battles of the Winter Line and Cassino, with participation in the official ceremonies of the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Montelungo by the Italian departments with the Allies, with the presence of the Head of the State, the Minister of Defense and the highest military positions.

Three unforgettable days in the memory of all, three days that were just a beginning, because we know that Victor will ton in June and also Chris.

We are already at work for the 75th anniversary of the landing of Anzio and for the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Rome.

Greetings to all readers of “The Watch on the Rhine”

Luigi Settimi - Outpost # 16 Italy.

‘In The Footsteps Of Valor’

This hardcover coffee table book by author Henry Bodden details his travels to Europe and the Pacific photographing WWI & WWII battle sites, buildings, and members of “the greatest generation” interviewed by the author. Of interest to our readers of the 3rd Infantry Division is the twenty five color pages dedicated to Audie Murphy, whereas the author has researched Hunt & Collin Counties in Texas where Audie grew up before joining the Army, and trips to Holtzwhir, France where America’s most decorated soldier earned his Medal of Honor.

The book is 224 color pages and over 700 photographs printed on heavy glossy paper, because the author wanted to produce a quality and nominally priced book dedicated to our veterans and their families. The book is priced at $34.95 (includes shipping) and is available through the author’s website – www.inthefootstepsofvalor.com – It is also available directly through the author: Mail check or money order for $34.95 to Henry Bodden – 9610 N. Dover Pl. – Owasso, OK - 74055
The Legend of the Challenge Coin

By Henry Bodden

While visiting with Kenneth Riege at his Comfort Suites in Gallup, New Mexico, I was really impressed with Ken’s “one of a kind and the rarest of collections of Challenge Coins.” Ken had recently received a donation of 104 Medal of Honor Recipient Challenge Coins. Naturally, included is his friend and fellow Gallup resident Hiroshi (Hershey) Miyamura’s Medal of Honor coin. I was privileged to personally receive one of Hershey’s coins at the reunion breakfast in Albuquerque. I picked up this bit of information at Ken’s Comfort Suites and would like to share the “Legend of the Challenge Coin” with our readers.

The United States Military has many traditions dating back to 1775. One of the more recent traditions since WWI is “The Legend of the Challenge Coin.” Challenge coins are a great way of honoring someone and the coins are very collectible. During WWI American volunteers from all parts of the country filled the newly formed flying squadrons. Some were wealthy scions attending colleges such as Yale and Harvard who quit mid-term to join the war.

In one squadron, a wealthy lieutenant ordered medallions struck in solid bronze and presented them to his unit. One young pilot placed the medallion in a small leather pouch that he wore around his neck. Shortly after acquiring the medallion, the pilot’s aircraft was severely damaged by ground fire. He was forced to land behind enemy lines and was immediately captured by a German patrol. To discourage his escape, the Germans took all his personal identifications except for the small leather pouch around his neck.

In the meantime, he was taken to a small French town near the front. After escaping, he was successful in avoiding German patrols by donning civilian attire and reached the front lines where he then had to cross over “no man’s land.” Eventually he stumbled onto a French outpost. Unfortunately, saboteurs had plagued the French in the sector. They sometimes masqueraded as civilians wearing civilian clothing. Not recognizing the young pilot’s American accent, the French thought he was a spy and were ready to execute him. He had no identification to prove his allegiance, but he did have his leather pouch containing his medallion. He showed them his medallion to his would be executioners, and one of his French captors recognized the squadron insignia on the medallion. They delayed his execution long enough for him to confirm his identify. So instead of shooting him, they gave him a bottle of wine.

Back at his squadron, it soon became a tradition to ensure all members always carried their medallion or coin. This was accomplished when a challenger would ask to see his medallion. If the challenged could not produce the medallion, they were required to buy a drink of choice to the challenger. This tradition continued throughout the war, and for many years after while surviving members of the squadron were still alive.

This tradition continues today. Challenge coins have been created for many different reasons and causes. Today, many businesses have them as well as individuals. The most collectible of these challenge coins is that of a Medal of Honor recipient. Since it is another tradition that all military members and veterans salute a Medal of Honor recipient, it stands to reason that the Medal of Honor recipient coin is considered the highest ranking of all coins.

EDITOR’S NOTE – Again. I highly recommend to anyone passing through Gallup, New Mexico on I-40 to stop on Route 66 and visit Ken’s plethora of military artifacts that adorn the walls and displays at his Comfort Suites.
The Spring Meeting for Outpost 1 will be held in Dixon, Illinois with visit to the President Ronald Reagan home, 810 S Hennepin Ave, Dixon, IL 61021 at 11:00 am. Lunch and meeting will follow at Mama Cimino’s, 114 N Peoria Ave, Dixon, IL 61021 (815) 288-4448. We will then visit the Dixon Veterans Memorial Park, 668 II Route 2, Dixon, IL 61021 after lunch and meeting. There are many other sites related to Presidents Ronald Reagan and Abraham Lincoln in Dixon that may be visited depending on time and weather.

The Spring Meeting will be in May with date to be determined by Outpost 1 Members who will vote on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 or Thursday, May 23, 2019. IMPORTANT: Please indicate the day that you prefer when you contact me or John Spratt.

Also, if you plan to attend the Spring Outpost 1 Luncheon, Meeting and site visitations. Please indicate who will be coming and then either mail, email or phone back to me or John Spratt. In order to give a count to the restaurant and visiting sites, please contact one or both of us at your earliest convenience.

I am sad to report that Outpost 1 has had another member John Keller pass away on Saturday, November 3, 2018. This was reported to me by his daughter Tina.

I have also been notified by an Outpost 1 Member Ted Canellos that his Uncle Ted Vlahos passed away November 5, 2018. The uncle was a Society of the 3rd Infantry Division member that served in the Korean War as a Captain in the 65th Infantry Regiment of the 3rd Infantry Division. The 65th Infantry Regiment was an all Puerto Rican unit except for the officers. He was a member of the Outpost Harry of the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division.

Richard Longfellow, 807 Washington Avenue, Dixon, IL 61021-1230
Phone: 1-815-973-0201
email: dlongfellow77@gmail.com

John Spratt, 1430 Bull Valley Drive, Woodstock, IL 60098
Cell: 224-430-1174 email: jpspratt@gmail.com

President Ronald Reagan home website: https://reaganhome.org/
Dixon Veterans Memorial Park: http://honourourvets.org/index.htm

The group then moved to the Memorial Amphitheater where members of Outpost #7 (John Insanni, Ray Herzberger, Major Anderson, and Dennis Barletta) participated in a wreath lying at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on behalf of the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division. (see photo)

For more information on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier wreath-laying ceremonies, contact OP # 7:
President Pat Williamson at: army3rdinfantry@gmail.com
Vice President Dennis Barletta at: dennishbarletta@gmail.com
Charles D. King
Michigan

For some reason my article for the December, 2018 was not completely delivered to the editor. I obviously didn’t push the correct buttons. Here is the report of our October meeting that didn’t make the December issue.

After we shared our experiences in the 3rd, President Faulkner reviewed his experiences at the 99th Reunion held at Albuquerque, New Mexico. He then promoted the 100th Anniversary Reunion which will be held in Savannah, GA. The date will be announced in a future issue of the Watch.

The elections where then conducted by Matt McKenna. The incumbents, President Richard Faulkner, Vice President Gordon W. Draper, and Secretary/Treasurer Amy McKenna were reelected to another term.

Amy McKenna then gave her report. We have 54 members in the Outpost, 22 life, 30 annual, and 2 associates. There is $1,275.81 in the bank.

The 50/50 drawing was then held and Helen Loveland was the winner.

The meeting was closed with the playing of taps in honor of Elmer Hanninen, John Miller, and George Knight.

Arizona
Phoenix, AZ

Outpost 15 has once again successfully participated in the Phoenix Veterans Day Parade which was held on Monday November 12th. The photographs were taken at the staging area before the lineup to begin the parade which included six reviewing stands and tens of thousands of spectators. Many veterans, military supporters, and patriots lined the streets of Phoenix for a lively and sometimes emotional experience. This parade had 102 entries that dazzled with marching bands, floats, and Loretta Swit from the T.V. series M*A*S*H serving as Grand Marshall. Furthermore, the 80 year old walked the two mile route!

Also, the outpost entry won 3rd place in the VSO vehicle category which led to an invite to the “Victory Party” that took place on November 30th at the McCormick Millennium Hotel in Scottsdale. The party included a dinner and awards presentations which included a ribbon and certificate.

A special thanks goes to Bob, Mike, Bill, and all the supportive family that helped make this the best parade yet!
Dear Marne men, and women: The year 2019 is the year for rejuvenation, and recuperation. The Society of the Third Infantry Division, and Outpost #22, send you our warmest wishes for Good Health, Long Life, and Happiness in the New Year. Ron Greenwood, Sec./Treasurer, OP #22.

Never forget those who spent their lives protecting yours.

OP 5845 Joins OP7 for Veterans Day Wreath Ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery

OP International 5845 was honored to participate with members of OP 7 for the annual Veterans Day wreath ceremonies at the 3ID Monument and at the Tomb of the Unknowns. The French Defense Attaché, BG Montégu, with members of his staff, and members of the French Combat Veterans’ Association also placed a wreath at the Tomb. The current president of this association, Mr. Alain Leca, who is also a member of the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division’s Outpost International, along with members of his association and BG Montégu posed for a picture at the 3rd ID monument with COL, ret. John Insani, former OP 7 president and still the heartbeat of that outpost, and OP 5845 President Monika Stoy.

COL Insani, a three-war Infantryman (WWII with the 15th INF, Korean War with the 7th INF!), with 2 stars on his Combat Infantryman’s Badge, remains a staunch supporter of OP International as well as OP 7. OP 5845 is honored he continues to attend the WWII and Korean War seminars it hosts in April, September, and October each year. The April 2018 Korean War commemorative ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery was particularly memorable in that COL Insani met GEN Mark A. Milley, the US Army Chief of Staff, and recently named to be the next Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He also met BG Pyo, Se Woo, the Defense of the Attaché of the Republic of Korea.

OP 5845 is grateful for John Insani’s strong support of our educational and commemorative activities. He is our “Godfather” and we look forward to many more years of working with him honoring our great Rock of the Marne!

Submitted by Monika Stoy
Outpost International Hosts Fourth Korean War Historical Seminar and Commemorative Ceremony

OP International conducted its fourth Korean War historical seminar and commemorative ceremony at the Hilton Hotel in Springfield, Virginia 18-20 October. The event was co-hosted by the Republic of Korea’s Defense Attaché, BG Pyo, Se Woo. There was a wide range of topics and excellent briefers and the event culminated with an impressive memorial ceremony in the Memorial Amphitheater of Arlington National Cemetery and a nice banquet at the hotel.

A highlight of the seminars were briefings delivered by Chaplain (CPT) Choi, Yong-hun, chaplain of the ROK 7th Special Forces Brigade on the history and role of the ROK Army Chaplains’ Corps. His research uncovered a truly interesting fact – the beginnings of the ROK Army Chaplains’ Corps are connected to the 3rd Infantry Division! President Syngman Rhee directed the establishment of the ROK Chaplains’ Corps after receiving a letter from a KATUSA soldier serving with the 3rd Infantry Division’s 10th Engineer Battalion in December 1950! This un-named soldier had been impressed with the Chaplain of the 10th Engineers in the days of training in Japan and in the early days of the Division’s combat in North Korea. His letter earnestly requested President Rhee provide for the spiritual welfare of ROK soldiers as he had seen it done by US Army Chaplains of the 3rd Infantry Division.

Colonel, retired, Mike Davino, former President of the 2nd Infantry Division and currently the Association’s public affairs officer, gave an excellent and very interesting presentation on the history of the names of six of the oldest American facilities in Korea, including Camp Casey, which is named for a 3rd Infantry Division Distinguished Service Cross recipient who died in a helicopter accident while serving as Aide-de-Camp to the Commanding General of the 8th US Corps.

Dr. Roger Cirillo, former Chief of the Association of the United State Army’s book program and a retired Army Lieutenant Colonel delivered two excellent presentations—one on the Battle of Heartbreak and Bloody Ridges, and another on the North Korean People’s Army and the Chinese Peoples’ Liberation Army. LTC, retired, Ben Lowson, a retired US Army Foreign Affairs Officer who had served in Beijing, China as an attaché and is a China analyst, gave a very interesting briefing on Chinese and North Korean political motivations for the Korean War.

LTC (P) Chong, Chan Hwan, ROK Army, currently a student at the US Army War College, presented on the decision-making processes which led to the UN, US, and ROK crossings of the 38th Parallel in October 1950 and the attempt to reunite Korea through military victory. His methodology comparing General of the Army MacArthur’s and LTG Walton Walker’s plans for operations in North Korea was novel and very illuminating.

Miss Kerry Ward from the Veterans History Project of the Library of Congress gave an overview of this very important oral history project and Mr. Ron Rotheberg, volunteer with the National Park Service on the National Mall, gave participants a virtual tour of the Korean War Veterans’ Memorial while explaining much of that memorial’s symbology.

COL Jim Boatner, retired, presented on his father, MG James G. Boatner, and his grandfather, MG Haydon L. Boatner in the Korean War. James Boatner commanded B/1-15 IN 1951-1952 and Haydon Boatner served as Assistant Division Commander of the 2nd Infantry Division 1952 and was responsible for quelling the prisoner rebellion in the Koje-do POW camp. Haydon Boatner later served as 3ID Commander at Fort Benning in 1954. Jim Boatner served with the Stows on 3rd ID staff in Wuerzburg 1994-1995.

LTC Allen Goshi, retired, President of Japanese American Veterans Association, gave a presentation on LTC Kim, Young Oak, a Korean-American officer who served in WWII with the famed 100th Infantry Battalion, receiving a Distinguished Service Cross, and who in the Korean War rose to command a battalion of the 32nd Infantry Regiment.

Tim Stoy briefed on the 3rd Infantry Division’s first year in the Korean War. He also briefed on the Korean Partisans of Army Unit 8240. Monika’s father served in that unit almost the entire war.

Mr. Paul Mcllvaine, tenor, gave an interesting presentation on Korean War short-snorers, the pre-cursors to today’s challenge coins. A very special presentation was delivered by COL, retired, William Weber, President of the American Airborne Association and publisher of Airborne Quarterly. COL Weber served in the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team and jumped with them in Korea. His first-hand account of those airborne operations added greater insights into their purpose and effectiveness.

Another special treat was a performance by the seniors’ choir of the Virginia Presbyterian Church which performed Anriang and another well-known Korean folksong on Thursday afternoon led by Pastor Song, Kwang Jin.

The outpost conducted its commemorative ceremony in the Memorial Amphitheater of Arlington National Cemetery on Saturday morning, MG Michael. C. Wehr, US Army Deputy Chief of Engineers and Deputy Commanding General, US Army Corps of Engineers, represented GEN Mark A. Milley, US Army Chief of Staff, and delivered the keynote speech, which was very well-received. MG Wehr previously served in the 3rd Infantry Division 2008-2010! The US Army brass Quintet once again provided outstanding musical support. Mr. Paul Mcllvaine performed the French and Korean National Anthems a Capella, and the US National Anthem together with the Quintet. After the ceremony MG Wehr; Monika Stoy; and Korean War veterans COL John Insani and Mr. Joe Hampton (both 3ID veterans) participated in a wreath ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns. The morning concluded with a wreath ceremony at the 3rd Infantry Division Monument.

Saturday evening the outpost hosted the concluding banquet at the Hilton Hotel. BG Pyo, Se Woo, ROK Defense Attaché, and his wife Cathy joined the group for the banquet. SFC, retired, Don Francisco, a former Bandman with the 8th Army Band in Korea and now working in historical interpretation at George Washington’s Mount Vernon, performed several patriotic tunes on flute and fife.

**In Memoriam**

We no longer list the addresses of our deceased members. This is being done to curtail predators and people who victimize our members’ survivors with schemes. If you need an address of one of the following, you can find it in your Roster or you can contact the Membership Manager John Weis. Contact information is on page 2 of the Watch.

- 2841 Sgt Floyd W. Everett
  - Korea 39FA/ 11-06-2018
  - Reported by Frances Everett

- 4815 CPL Donald W. Tesch
  - Korea DIV-RECON 09-13-2018
  - Reported by John Weis

- 6747 SFC David A. Crowell
  - Korea DIV/HQ/10FA 03-21-2018
  - Reported by JoAn Crowell via Lynn Ball

- 4596 CPL Ernest L. Sigmon
  - Korea 10/ENG 01-23-2018
  - Reported by wife, Mabel

- 4242 SGT William S. Pitlik
  - Korea 7/INF/E 11-28-2017
  - Reported by Joe or Lynn Ball

- 4982 CPL William J. Waters
  - Korea 10/ENG/ 10-15-2015
  - Reported by Rebecca Wilson

**Call for C&BL Proposals**

Members may submit proposals for Constitution and By-laws changes now. Your proposed changes must be received by March 14, 2018. The Constitution and By-laws under review is dated “revised” 2018 and can be found on the Society website at www.society3ID.org under “Content.” Please send proposals to the Constitution and By-laws Chair Amy McKenna by e-mail (amesmckenna@gmail.com) or U.S.P.S. 303 Hanover Lane, Brighton MI 48114.

Please use the following three steps when composing your proposals for change:

1. State the Article or Section to be changed and its present wording.
2. State the new, proposed wording.
3. State the reason for the proposed change.

The Constitution and By-laws Committee will consider all proposed changes, and a draft of the proposed changes will be voted upon by the Executive Committee. The draft approved by the Executive Committee will be presented in ballot form for membership approval. The mail-in ballot will be published in the June Watch on the Rhine. Remember that the deadline for receipt of proposals for change to the C&BL is March 14, 2018. These must be sent to Amy McKenna, Constitution and By-laws Chair. If you have difficulty finding the current C&BL send Amy a note. She will attach a copy to an e-mail and send the document to you.

—Submitted by Amy McKenna
SOCIETY OF THE 3RD INFANTRY DIVISION
COMMEMORATIVE LEGACY BOOK

There's Still Time to Preserve Your Legacy of Service!

We are proud to announce that work has begun on a new book to document the history of the “Rock of the Marne” and the men and women who have made this one of the most elite fighting forces in the world.

In addition to the Division's colorful history, this exciting book will feature a special section showcasing biographies of 3rd Infantry Division veterans, with "then and now" photographs, and YOU are invited to participate. There will be no cost to have your 150-word bio included!

Our book will feature veterans from all eras, from WWII, WWIII, Korea, the Cold War years, Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Global War on Terror. Note: all 3rd Infantry Division veterans are encouraged to participate, even those who were active in peacetime — all served with honor and distinction.

 Widows, friends and family members are also encouraged to send in biographical portraits and materials for their loved ones now passed on—a perfect tribute to your veteran's service to our nation. Gold Star Families will also be included.

The book will also include special after action reports, stories and photographs from the membership, tributes to our fallen brothers, and much more!

Members are also encouraged to order a copy of this one-of-a-kind book through the publisher for $59.95 (see contact information below). The deadline for biography submissions and book orders is June 30, 2019.

Detailed brochures with a sample biography and easy fill-in-the-blank form are available through the publisher. Contact Acclaim Press at:

WWW.ACCLAIMPRESS.COM • 1-877-427-2665
3RDFANTRYBOOK@ACCLAIMPRESS.COM

Acclaim Press • PO Box 238 • Morley, MO 63767

SAMPLE BIOGRAPHY - Follow this sample in writing your own bio. Send with two photos (then and now) to Acclaim Press, and be part of OUR book!

MIKE (MCGEER) MCCINTOCK served with the Division in W. Germany from June 1961 until mid-January 1964, following in the footsteps of his father, who served in the 3rd ID's 9th Field Artillery Reg. at Ft. Lewis prior to WWII.

Assigned to D Company, 2nd Battle Group, 38th Infantry Regiment at Ledward Barracks in Schweinfurt, Mike served as a rifleman, was trained to drive the M-113 armored personnel carrier (APC), and fired the M60 machine gun on the Battle Group's marksmanship detachment in preparation for NATO's PRIX LeClerc marksmanship competition. Mike volunteered for duty with the 3rd ID Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP) Detachment billeted at Daley Barracks in Bad Kissingen. He joined the "Jumpin" in March 1962 and never regretted his decision.

Although not on TDY status, all of the men of the 3rd ID LRRP Detachment were volunteers, but still remained assigned to their TOE units. Mike was assigned to his original unit (D/2/38) until he was reassigned to C Company, 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment in 1963. At the tender age of 19, Mike was promoted to SGT (E-5) and became a patrol leader. In mid-January 1964, he rotated home to San Diego, CA, where he served for a short time as a radio operator on a B Team with the Army Reserve's 17th Special Forces Group (Abn) stationed at Fort Rosecrans. He is a graduate of the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare School's Special Forces Extension Course.

Mike has been married for over 50 years and resides in Mount Vernon, WA with his wife Gloria. He has three children and four grandchildren.

Over his long and varied career, he has worked as a city planner, airport planner, community college instructor, and Forest Ranger (Forest Protection Officer). He is proud of his service with the 3rd Infantry Division and contributes occasional articles to the "The Watch on the Rhine.

He has also served as the editor of the U.S. Army Ranger Association's (USARA) Ranger Register, and is the Unit Director for the 3rd ID LRRP Detachment within the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc.
Purpose

The Society of the Third Infantry Division, United States Army, was founded in 1919 and incorporated in 1958 as a non-profit, fraternal, social, educational, patriotic, military service organization and shall always remain non-profit and non-political.

Specific objectives are:
- To foster and strengthen associations and friendships formed during service with the Third Infantry Division, U.S. Army.
- To honor the Third Infantry Division War Dead.
- To perpetuate the memory of former comrades who shared a background of honorable military service with the Third Infantry Division, U.S. Army.
- To encourage and achieve a beneficial and support relationship with a close and cooperative alliance between the Society and the Third Infantry Division, U.S. Army.
- To support the Government of the United States and to give it, in peace and war, the same devotion and support expected of us as members of its armed forces.

Pledge

I pledge to the Society of the Third Infantry Division, United States Army, in the achievement of its goals for which it is formed, that same full measure of loyalty and devotion which my comrades who have fallen gave to the Division and to the cause for which they fought.

Through my loyalty and devotion to my memory, they shall not be forgotten by the country, for which they died, or by the comrades at whose sides they fell.

To them, I pledge in peace and war the dedication of myself to that country and that cause to which they consecrated themselves.

General Information

All members in good standing receive the official bimonthly publication, The Watch on the Rhine. Life Members shall receive The Watch on the Rhine with no further dues payments during their lifetime. The National Membership Roster is printed every three years. All members receive a copy of the roster on the three-year cycle. All new members receive a copy of the next National Membership Roster will be printed in 2021.

The Society is divided into chapters, called outposts, which members are entitled to join. Outposts, at their discretion, may charge a small additional amount for outpost activities. At Large members do not belong to outposts but are referred to as “Footsie Britt At Large” (named for Lt. Maurice Britt, MOH, WW2).

Eligibility

Regular Membership: Veterans with honorable service in the Third Infantry Division. Also, those who were members of supporting or attached units of the Third Infantry Division.

Associate Membership: Spouse, parent, brother, sister, children, grandparents, grandchildren of any person eligible for Regular Membership and any person with an interest in, or an affinity for, the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division.

Life Membership: Available to both Regular and Associate Members.

Dues

Annual dues: Regular, Active Duty, Associate Members ………...$20.00
Annual dues: Overseas Members .............................................$35.00

Some outposts charge an additional fee beginning with the second year’s dues, making the total annual dues for Outpost #3: $23.00; Outpost #12: $24.00; Outpost #4, #7, #60: $25.00; Outpost #22: $22.00. All other outposts pay $20.00 annually; all new members pay $20.00 for the first year.

Dues for Special Life Membership

Recipient of Medal of Honor ……………….No charge

Dues for Other Life Memberships are based on the following scales:

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<th>Domestic</th>
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<td>Ages 80 and over</td>
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*Active Duty Lifetime Membership……..$100**
*For any AD Soldier currently on Active Duty
**Will only receive digital copies of the "Watch on the Rhine" magazine via email

Annual dues are payable before July 1st each year. Life dues are applicable for Regular and Associate Members. Life Member dues can be paid in one lump sum or in four quarterly payments over a 12 month period.

For information, please visit our website: www.society3rdid.org

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Membership Application

Date: ____________________________

☐ New Regular Annual or Life Member (Circle Annual or Life)

☐ New Associate Annual or Life Member (Circle Annual or Life)

Name ____________________________

(Last) ______________________ (First) ______________________ (Middle Initial) ______________________

Date of Birth ____________________________

(Rule required for Life Members)

Phone No ____________________________

E-Mail Address ____________________________

Home Address ____________________________

(Street) ____________________________

(City) ____________________________

(State) ____________________________

(Zip+4) ____________________________

Unit(s) Served with: ____________________________

Served From: ____________________________

To: ____________________________

Rank: ____________________________

Current/Former Occupation: ____________________________

Spouse’s Name: ____________________________

Amount Enclosed: ____________________________

Referred by: ____________________________

Please print clearly, detach, and mail this application for membership along with a check or money order payable to Society of the Third Infantry Division to: The Society of Third Infantry Division, 12420 W Tower Ave, Airway Heights, WA 99001-5063.

Website: www.Society3rdID.org
CAMPAGNS OF THE THIRD INFANTRY DIVISION

WORLD WAR I [2 Medals of Honor]
- Aisne
- St. Mhiel
- Champagne-Marne
- Meuse-Argonne
- Aisne-Marne
- Champagne

WORLD WAR II [39 Medals of Honor]
- Algeria-French Morocco (with arrowhead)
- Tunisia
- Sicily (with arrowhead)
- Naples-Foggia
- Anzio (with arrowhead)
- Rome-Arno
- Southern France (with arrowhead)
- Ardennes-Alsace
- Rhineland
- Central Europe

KOREAN WAR [13 Medals of Honor]
- CCF Intervention
- First UN Counter-offensive
- CCF Spring Offensive
- U.N. Summer-Fall Offensive
- Second Korean Winter
- Korea, Summer-Fall 1952
- Third Korean Winter
- Korea, Summer 1953

WAR ON TERRORISM [1 Medal of Honor]
- Liberation of Iraq
- Transition of Iraq
- Iraqi Governance
- National Resolution
- Iraqi Surge
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