From January to September of 2020, there will be many “75th anniversaries” of events that happened toward the end of WWII in Europe & the Pacific. One such “75th” is of special interest to me, because on January 26, 1945 I was celebrating my third birthday in Port Arthur, Texas with my mother and her family, as my Dad was away in the Merchant Marine during the war.

Meanwhile, at 1400 hours on that same frozen day in the tiny village of Holtzwihr, France, six German Panther tanks, supported by 250 crack infantrymen from the German 2nd Mountain Division from Norway moved out from Holtzwihr to take the “Bois de Riedwihr” forest from a decimated group of eighteen men led by teenage 1st Lt. Audie Murphy. In spite of his boyish small stature, his sister Nadine told me he was actually seventeen when he joined because she and her been profound-ly moved and humbled. I could not have imagined what it was like for our Dogface Soldiers to fight on those rocky hills, mountains, precipices and steep inclines that necessitated their prosecution of this part of the war. It was brutal, violent and marked with extreme difficulty in the most adverse of condi-

My Journey to the Land of Medals...Beginnings
By Toby Knight
I recently had the privilege to visit Southern Italy and tour the battle sites of the 3rd ID during the Italian “Winter Line” campaign of 1943. The members of Outpost 16 led by their President, Luigi Settimi, took me on a very intimate visit to the battle sites that left me profoundly moved and humbled. I could not have imagined what it was like for our Dogface Soldiers to fight on those rocky hills, mountains, precipices and steep inclines that necessitated their prosecution of this part of the war. It was brutal, violent and marked with extreme difficulty in the most adverse of condi-

The battle was waged November 5-15 of 1943 and included the four main peaks in the area: Monto Cesima, Monto Rotondo, Monto Lungo and Monto Camino. During this time...
President’s Message

Spring is in the air and planning for our 2020 reunion in Kansas City is its final stages of planning. This year we will hold our reunion August 20-23. The dates are slightly earlier than normal due to the advantageous price we were able to contract with the hotel. The tours will include the famous WWI museum that will include a Kansas City style BBQ lunch and the American Jazz museum. Please see the itinerary and registration form in this issue and register early! Kansas City is a great place to hold our reunion.

This issue also has a special ballot included. Please vote on this initiative. Our Society is experiencing a shortage of volunteers to serve at the national level, especially Society President. Having continuity at this time is critical for our Society. We are facing some enormous challenges and the future of our Society is dependent on recruiting and retaining quality leaders to guide our Society into the future. Please cut out your ballot, fill it out and send it in. Those members who do NOT get a paper copy of the WOTR, will be mailed a ballot they can use to vote.

I extend a special happy birthday to Society Life Member Harold Nelson who recently turned 105 years young. Harold enjoys his days gardening and recently went hunting. We wish Harold well and we hope to see him at the reunion this year.

Don’t forget to nominate someone you believe deserving of one of our Awards. We are still accepting nominations for awards and so please don’t hesitate to nominate someone.

We are also accepting nominations for Society leadership positions. Please see the announcement in the following pages for details on what positions are available and how you can nominate.

The Society raffle tickets will be mailed out soon. Our raffle is an important source of income and helps to keep the Society financially solvent. There are some great cash prizes for you to win and we appreciate all the support we get from members who buy our raffle tickets.

If you are an annual paying member, you will receive your dues card in the mail this month. Please send in your dues as soon as possible so our Roster Manager can update your status on the roster.

John Shirley’s Daughter, Jean Otto, recently emailed me about her Dad. She reports that John is now in assisted living in Livermore and has dementia. He is happy, well cared for and is surrounded by family and friends. She also reports that his books about WWII and Livermore politics as Mayor are available on amazon.com. It is titled “I Remember, Stories of a combat infantryman in Italy, France & Germany in World War II.” His other book is titled “I Remember, Stories of a small town politician in Livermore Ca during the 1950’s and 1960’s.” On Dec 22, 2019, John, his family and the Mayor of Livermore, John Marchand were skyped into Bennwihr France for the 75th anniversary of the liberation of their town. This is the town where John was wounded, captured and escaped in one hour. The town has a plaza named for John and they were so disappointed that he was not able to attend. Many French Third Infantry Division reenactors sang the Dog Faced Soldier song to Dad as a tribute! He still is a WWII veteran in demand. Unfortunately his engagements are very limited and becoming more so everyday. Thanks Jean for the update!

In January, I represented the Society in Holtzwihr, France for the 75th Anniversary of the liberation of their town by the Third ID. It was a great event and was attended by hundreds of people. Read our Editors article about it in this edition. I also visited Outpost 16 in Southern Italy and was treated to a wonderful tour of the battle sites the 3rd ID participated in during WWII. I have a whole new respect for those Dogface Soldiers that fought on those craggy hills and mountains. Please read my first installment article about my visit to Italy in this edition. More will follow.

Please remember all of our Soldiers who are currently deployed in harms way. The division is currently supporting operations all over the world and we need to keep them in our thoughts and prayers. Rock of the Marne!

Toby Knight
President

---

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 .................................................................Publication
January 5th................................................................................February
March 5th ..................................................................................April
May 5th ....................................................................................June
July 5th ....................................................................................August
September 5th .................................................................October
November 5th ........................................................................November
older sister Corrine changed his birth certificate to read he was eighteen years old. So after thirty months of combat from N. Africa to Holtzwihr, Murphy was still nineteen and had just turned twenty when he was awarded the Medal of Honor on June 2, 1945 in Salzburg, Austria.

A TALE OF A TREE

I bought this May 2002 issue of “World War II” magazine eighteen years ago and never thought that someday this magazine cover would play an important part in my chronicling the history of Audie Murphy’s battle that day. As you can see, the cover is signed by six members of the Sgt. Joe Tardiff family who attended the ceremony in Holtzwihr this past January. It just so happens that Sgt. Joe Tardiff was in the tank destroyer that slid on the ice and into the ditch as pictured on the cover.

I am so pleased to have this print signed by three people connected to Audie Murphy and his battle in Holtzwihr. About ten years ago my wife and I visited with Nadine Murphy in her Farmersville, Texas home whereas she was the first one to sign this print of her brother in action. Then about five years ago I got Don Eckman of Lake Odessa, Michigan to also sign my print. Don just recently passed away and was the last living eyewitness to the battle. Last year I did an article in the Watch titled “Saving Private Eckman” about Don’s personal life after his life being spared that frigid afternoon in Holtzwihr. And now this past January 25, 2020, Ann Tardiff, the daughter of Sgt. Joe Tardiff whose M-10 tank destroyer slid on the ice into a ditch signed my print also. But the tree in the painting interested me because it survived the battle and was actually there during the battle. It was nice that the artist Jim Laurier was thoughtful enough to include it in his painting for accuracy. In the next photo taken in 1973, Roger Bell an European Theatre expert, stands on the exact spot where Lt. Audie Murphy fought off a German army for fifty-five minutes. The ditch where Sgt. Tardiff’s lead M-10 tank destroyer slid into the ditch is down on the right of this photo. This same ditch is where Lt. Murphy got a quick glimpse of a squad of twelve Germans trying to sneak up on him and he summarily killed all twelve in this ditch. The tree also marks the exact spot where an American machine gun squad were killed by the Germans. Now the forest is much thicker than it was here in 1973. Is the tree still there? In 1998, my son and I made our first visit to Holtzwihr and walked all around the battlefield, but I don’t really remember if the tree was still there then. Now this photo shows Michel Pascal standing with one leg on the old tree stump where it was cut down, but I don’t know the year it was removed. As you can see the Audie Memorial Patrick Bauman and others built is to the right of Michel.

HOLD THAT ROAD AT ALL COST

The following account is a summary of this article written by Daniel Champagne. Lt. Col. Keith Lincoln Ware, who would later receive the Medal of Honor for his bravery during the savage battle taking Hill 351 near Sigolsheim on December 26, 1944, knew it was imperative to secure the forest that dominated the German stronghold of Holtzwihr. So on January 23, 1945, the 30th Regiment of the 3rd Division captured the woods and reached the outskirts of Holtzwihr and Riedwihr when they encountered ten German tanks and 100 infantrymen. The weather was the same that the Battle of the Bulge was being fought at the end of that major offensive by the Germans. The weather dropped to two below zero with about two feet of snow, whereas the men could not even dig foxholes in the frozen earth. The men of the 3rd ID were cut to ribbons and forced to withdraw from the woods. The 15th Regiment was then ordered to retake the woods back the next day and the fighting was so furious that Lt. Audie Murphy was the only officer left as 102 of the 120 enlisted men were killed or wounded. By midnight on January 25th, Murphy’s Company B had advanced 600 yards into the forest just one mile from the German occupied village of Holtzwihr. In his auto-biography, Murphy is quoted as saying it was so cold that when you...
rested your head on the ground, you hair froze to the ground. Within the hour the men received fresh supplies and sat facing the village with orders to hold that little one lane road until relief came. Again, digging foxholes for cover was futile in the frozen ground. With only eighteen men left, the men had to keep moving to keep their feet from freezing. Murphy was afraid the Germans would attack at dawn and his unit could not survive. But unexpectedly when dawn broke, two M-10 tank destroyers from the 601st Tank Destroyer Battalion arrived just in time for the anticipated attack at dawn, but the attack did not come. This gave Murphy time to plan a defense by placing one of the tank destroyers about forty yards in front of the second one. Murphy then set up his command post in a drainage ditch ten yards in front of the rear tank. With battalion hq’s a mile to the rear of his men, Murphy maintained contact with them by a field phone. Murphy now knew that the German armor would be advancing along the narrow road that leads into the woods. He was told that no reinforcements would be coming, and “to hold that road at all cost.”

Then at 1400 hours on January 26th (my third birthday) German armor and infantry left Holtzwihr preceded by an artillery barrage. From Murphy’s shallow depression in the ground, he saw six Panther tanks with about 250 snowclad troops in white suits advance toward the eighteen men dug into the forest. Murphy then ran to his field phone and began to call in artillery fire on the advancing Germans. Then all hell broke loose and Pvt. Don Eckman recalled later that “you could see the pennants on the antenna of the German tanks” and waves of white suited infantry coming in the snow. As mentioned before, by bringing these crack mountain troops from Norway to hold this area, it pointed to the importance the Germans put on holding this last stronghold. As the Germans advanced forward, the first tank destroyer began to open fire with their 90mm shells which merely bounced off the incoming tanks. Then the rear tank destroyer near Murphy was hit by an 88m shell that pierced its thin armor killing the commander and gunner. The surviving crew ran out and retreated into the woods. However, the lead tank destroyer tried to mount a counter attack after several close calls. Staff Sergeant Joseph Tardiff and Cpl. Robert Hines continued firing .50 and .30-caliber machine guns at the German infantry. When the two men tried to maneuver their tank destroyer in a better firing position, it slid on the ice into the drainage ditch with it’s cannon pointed upward and rendered useless. The crew then fled into the woods also with the rest of the men. Now with both tank destroyers out of action and the German tanks and infantry closing in on Murphy’s men, he realized his men could not hold out any longer and ordered his men to fall back into the woods. Murphy remained at his post directing artillery fire directly on top of the advancing Germans and at the same time shooting at the enemy infantry with his carbine. In 1998 my son and I first visited Holtzwihr and we walked from the edge of the village to the edge of the forest where Murphy and his men were positioned. It was in December and cold when we visited, and the field was bare because in the spring and summer the field has planted crops.

So as we walked the field where the German infantry walked, we saw several depressions still on the ground where the American artillery was raining fire on the Germans.

In typical Murphy humility, he said “it wasn’t a heroic act because he said if one man could do the job, why risk the lives of
Dear Members:

The deadline for our 2020 Scholarship Grants Program is fast approaching. It is time for applicants to begin preparing their applications for one of our Scholarship Grants. Applications for grants are being accepted at this time. The application and instructions for submission can be found on our website (http://www.3idscholarshipfoundation.org) or you can contact Foundation Chair Lynn Ball (ldball1@msn.com). Please send your applications as soon as possible. All submissions for the 2020 Scholarship Grants Program must be received by June 1, 2020. Please be sure to have your entry packets mailed by the deadline, as late entries will not be accepted.

Each applicant must have a sponsor who served with the 3rd Infantry Division or one of its support groups. There is no waiting period, but each sponsor must be a member of the Society with dues current. If the sponsor is deceased, contact Lynn Ball for instructions (972-495-1704).

This year’s judges are Trustees Jeff Danby, Richard Faulkner, Jim Reeves, and Justin Valle. The chair is Lynn Ball, with Justin Valle as webmaster, and Joe Ball as the C.F.O. Tom Maines is Trustee Emeritus. We thank all the trustees, past and present for their efforts toward the success of the foundation.

The sole mission of the Scholarship Foundation is to serve the soldiers, spouses and offspring of the brave soldiers who have 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 financial help is needed and welcomed.

The officers of the Foundation are currently planning the 2020 Scholarship Grants Program. We thank all of our donors, and we recognize them on our website at http://www.3idscholarshipfoundation.org, under Donors. We especially thank those who have provided $1,000 grants for 2020. They are General William G. Webster, The Foundation, Joe Ball, and Terrence A. Smith. We hope to receive more donations to fund even more grants. We hope to receive more sponsored grants to fund our 2020 program and beyond.

Planning will soon begin for our 2021 fundraising raffle. The drawing will be held on July 15, 2021, and prizes will be sent to winners soon after. We have started receiving donations for the 2021 raffle, including several DVDs, two quilts, and two weapons: a 1911A pistol and a beautiful Korean Conflict M-1 Rifle, donated by Thomas Maines.

The two weapons are fully operational (semi-automatic) and have not been fired outside of original factory testing. Both have hard cases and the M-1 comes complete with a wood and glass display case.

Remember, all prizes for the raffle are donated by our members, and we send tax certification letters for all donated prizes. We hope to receive more donations for prizes soon. A full list of donated prizes will be sent to all Society members, and will also be published in the December 2021 issue of the Watch on the Rhine.

Thank you to all who have sent donations to the Foundation.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Platinum Donors</th>
<th>Gold Donors</th>
<th>Silver Donors</th>
<th>Bronze Donors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joe Ball (2)</td>
<td>Lynn Ball</td>
<td>Outpost #5</td>
<td>Eric Paulson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence Budzeyko</td>
<td>Paul Gridler</td>
<td>Harvey Sladkus</td>
<td>Richard Breen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curtis Pilgrim</td>
<td>Donald McIraith</td>
<td>Marvin Morris</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donald and Romaine McIraith</td>
<td>Marsha Sergi</td>
<td>Marvin Albright</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Meyers Jr.</td>
<td>Matthew Delvental</td>
<td>Daniel Allyn</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Barfield</td>
<td>James Baker</td>
<td>Loretta Morris</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Desroches</td>
<td>Harry Kee</td>
<td>James Van Delden</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Rich</td>
<td>Ronald Alsobrook</td>
<td>Michael Tapper</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warren Dartell</td>
<td>Ben Baker</td>
<td>Albert &quot;Win&quot; Dodge</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ronnie Wallbrown</td>
<td>Ronald Alsobrook</td>
<td>Dale McGraw</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Society member Bob Barfield writes commending the work done by Lynn and Joe Ball on the behalf of their work on the Scholarship Foundation. Bob further writes that our members should know that the people on the Scholarship Committee do their work for free.

Hi! This is Carolee Soden, Harold Nelson’s daughter, in Grand Junction, CO. Just read your “On The Lighter Side” article in the Watch. Wanted to let you know it started my day with a big smile :) You should have come and knocked on our door—I had 3 men I was helping with similar problems—would have gladly had one more-ha!! It was a great party, and we so enjoyed seeing everyone so ‘well-attired’ :) Your feet weren’t the only ones hurting!!!

Thanks for sharing and bringing back lots of good memories!

Carolee

Hello Sir, Very interesting article about SS Commando Otto Skorzyny! My father (Society Life member Mr. Arthur Hansen and WWII and Korean veteran) attended Skorzyny’s war crimes trial at Dachau. Dad is still with us and you can read part of his story relating to his service in an article by Susan Kee: Honoring Mr. Arthur.

Keith Hansen

Editor’s note: I will do a story on Arthur Hansen’s career maybe in the June issue if possible.

Hi Sir, Very interesting article about SS Commando Otto Skorzyny! My father (Society Life member Mr. Arthur Hansen and WWII and Korean veteran) attended Skorzyny’s war crimes trial at Dachau. Dad is still with us and you can read part of his story relating to his service in an article by Susan Kee: Honoring Mr. Arthur.

Keith Hansen

Editor’s note: I will do a story on Arthur Hansen’s career maybe in the June issue if possible.

Henry, a short note to inform you that I received an email from James Browning who served in Korea in Company “A” of the 1st Battalion when I was the S-2.

What a pleasant surprise that after 67 years to hear from a fellow combat veteran. Thanks for making it possible and take care.

George Bjotvedt

Call for Nominations for Society Officers

Nominations for the 2020-2022 Society President and three regional Vice-Presidents will be accepted from January 1, 2019 through April 30, 2019. Please send your nomination and the nominee’s letter of acceptance to the nominations/Elections Chair, Ed Conley, during this timeframe (email is authorized). Any regular or associate members may be nominated to serve except for office of the President. Only regular members may serve in this position. The term of office is for two years and each of those elected can be re-elected for one or more additional terms. Nominations for the Regional Vice-Presidents must be made by someone in that region. If you are unsure of your Outpost’s regional location, please check the Outpost register on the last page. At-Large members can be nominated based on the region in which their state of residence is located.

If you have any questions, please contact Ed Conley or any member on the Executive Committee for further information. All nominations must be submitted with a written letter of acceptance from the nominee and must be received by the Nominations Chair no later than midnight CST on April 30, 2020. These can be sent via email to Ed Conley whose contact information is on page 2.

-Submitted by Ed Conley
Nominations/Elections Chair

Watch Requirements Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISSUE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>REPORTING RESPONSIBILITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All issues:</td>
<td>Last Call and Roll Call</td>
<td>Reunion Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec.-Aug:</td>
<td>Reunion Updates</td>
<td>Foundation Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February:</td>
<td>Call for Scholarship Foundation Applications</td>
<td>C&amp;BL Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Call for C&amp;BL Proposals</td>
<td>Elections Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Call for National Officers Nominizations</td>
<td>Awards Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Call for Society Awards Nominizations</td>
<td>Awards Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Call for National Officers Nominizations</td>
<td>Elections Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Call for Scholarship Foundation Applications</td>
<td>Foundation Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C&amp;BL Ballot</td>
<td>C&amp;BL Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Election of Officers Ballot</td>
<td>Elections Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Call for Society Awards Nominizations</td>
<td>Awards Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actions of the Executive Committee, 2018</td>
<td>Secretary-Treasurer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August:</td>
<td>Scholarship Foundation Recipients Report</td>
<td>Foundation Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Budget: 2017-2018</td>
<td>Secretary-Treasurer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C&amp;BL Changes (Results of Ballot)</td>
<td>C&amp;BL Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October:</td>
<td>Financial Report</td>
<td>Secretary-Treasurer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Auditor’s Report</td>
<td>Auditor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December:</td>
<td>Call for C&amp;BL Proposals</td>
<td>C&amp;BL Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Minutes: General Membership Meeting</td>
<td>Secretary-Treasurer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Minutes: Executive Committee Meeting</td>
<td>Secretary-Treasurer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Call for Society Awards Nominizations</td>
<td>Awards Chair</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
two Medals of Honor (Lindstrom and Britt), nine (9) Distinguished Service Crosses, 65 Silver Stars and an untold number of Legion of Merit, Soldiers Medals and Bronze Stars were awarded to Dogface Soldiers for their gallant actions removing the Germans from this area. The deluge of medals awarded in this small area is why it has been aptly named, the Land of Medals.

The Germans knew that the Americans had landed in Italy and were prepared to fight a bloody war of attrition in order to “wear down” the US and Allied forces. Knowing the US wanted to secure Rome, they began to set a trap in the southern approaches of the city in the Mignano gap. This gap cradled the important road link that delivered Rome - Highway 6. It was here that the German Army would construct perfect defensive positions located on the peaks, hills and ridges of the lofty mountains. Due to the lack of trees they used the local rocks to construct machine gun, mortar and infantry foxholes that perfectly camouflaged the positions from visually seeing them from below. Many of these positions were so isolated and on dangerous ledges that even the Germans took great care not to fall. The highest peaks were assigned the artillery spotters and command and control centers that would coordinate the defense of the German Army. To top it off, the crack troops of the Hermann Goering Panzer division were also assigned to defend the Mignano Gap. Like the thirsty mouth of a hungry wolf, the trap had been set and the Dogface Soldiers were heading in to a tough fight.

By the time the division entered the area of the gap, they had been battle hardened in North Africa and Sicily. Their senses were keen, they had learned the Germans tactics and techniques and units all the way down to the squad level had

As reported in the Division’s WWII history book “On November 5, 1943, the Division was poised to make its attack on Mignano, which is situated in a wide gap, protected from the east and west by lofty peaks..."
developed precision, machine-like battle drills for fighting. Little did the Germans know at the start of the battle, they had met their match.

As reported in the Division’s WWII history book “On November 5, 1943, the Division was poised to make its attack on Mignano, which is situated in a wide gap, protected from the east and west by lofty peaks. Mount Lungo and Mount Rotondo, formidable barriers in themselves, rise like two camel humps from the level of the gap north of Mignano.” “This operation proved to be the most heart-breaking, nerve wracking venture that the 3d Division had undertaken since its baptism of fire at Casablanca. It was here that the massive prowess of every member of the division crystallized into a shining brilliance.”

I will over the next few issues bring you my visit to the four mountains that I visited and walked in the footsteps of our Soldiers during WWII. Today, the battle areas are virtually untouched. It seemed that when the fighting stopped, the troops just moved on and the areas were left undisturbed. The foxholes are still there, bullet casings still lay on the ground exactly where they were ejected during the fighting and shrapnel litters the area like ants on a mound.

Today, the members of Outpost 16 have dedicated themselves to retrieving and preserving the artifacts, discovering the places that our Soldiers fought in and have established the Museum Historicus where their discoveries are all on display for the public to learn about and honor the memory of those Dogface Soldiers who, along with their Italian comrades, died liberating Italy from fascism and tyranny.

They have established tour points that people can walk or drive to that will bring them to the cave that Audie Murphy used for several days to take cover from German Artillery, the 7th Infantry Regiment field hospital that treated the wounded fighting on Monto Camino, the foxholes that the Soldiers of the 30th Regiment dug at the base of Monto Rotondo and much more.

My journey to the Land of Medals was a truly inspiring experience. One that I will share with you in the coming editions of the Watch on the Rhine. In June, I’ll bring to you Audie Murphy and the Battle

### Reunion Calendar: 2020

**APRIL**

Outpost International Society of the 3rd Inf. Div., Korean War Historical Seminar, Apr. 16-18, American Legion Post 176, 6520 Amherst Ave., Springfield, Virginia and/ Memorial Amphitheater, Arlington National Cemetery. Monika or Tim Stoy, timmoni15@yahoo.com

**MAY**

“Rangers Lead the Way” The United States Army Ranger Association invites former rangers, sponsors and friends to attend the scheduled Ranger Class graduation and the “Rangers in Action Demonstration” at Fort Benning, GA., 1 May 2020. https://www.benning.army.mil/infantry/ARTB/RIA.html. Please refer to the U.S. Army Ranger Association for membership information: https://www.ranger.org/ or email: assistance@ranger.org or telephone (832) 216-7141.

**JUNE**

Korean War Veterans Assn., 22-26 June, Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel. 900 South Orme St., Arlington, VA 22204, 703-521-1900. A. J. Key, alveskey@sbcglobal.net

**OCTOBER**


---

### Society 100th Anniversary Challenge Coin

Buy your 100th Anniversary Society Challenge coin TODAY. These coins are spectacular! The overall design idea was to use the baseplate of an artillery shell as the main concept. As you can see it also looks familiar to the bottom of a rifle bullet with the primer in the middle being the 3rd ID patch. This design features our beloved “Rocky” the bulldog marching with the Stars and Stripes in the background on the back of the coin. The front features the Society logo embossed in a polished gold circular disc that has the Society dates on the ribbon on the bottom and the division mottos surrounding the logo.

Each coin is offered for $25 each and they come in their own custom “Marne” blue velvet jewelry box. These are truly amazing coins that will only be offered this year while supplies last. Order your coin by sending your check or money order to:

Society of the Third Infantry Division
5339 Osprey Oak
San Antonio, TX 78253

Make checks payable to: Society of the Third Infantry Division. You can also purchase your coin online at our Society website: www.Society3rdid.org
Ostheim Commemorates Liberation

We were in Ostheim on the 25th for its 75th anniversary commemoration. The town was liberated by the 2nd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment on 23 January 1945. Actually that is the western half of the town. The eastern half of the town was liberated by the 36th Infantry Division in December 44, but the Germans managed to hold along the Fecht River which splits Ostheim.

It was a wonderful ceremony which began at 1730 with three groups of schoolchildren, the fire company band, the mayor with dignitaries, and reenactors from the Rock of the Marne group converging on the town square where the ruin of the former bakery with memorial plaques is located, all done with torches!

The children sang several songs and read a poem, the Hormonia Alsatia d’Ostheim civilian band played several pieces, Mayor Bernard Kempf, Mayor Ulrich Waldsachs from the German town of Ostheim in the Rhoen (coincidentally in the old 3ID area when the division was still in Germany), and Monika delivering comments on this important anniversary.

It was an impressive scene as dusk turned to dark and the torches illuminated the ceremony. Afterwards everyone adjourned to the communal area behind the town hall for refreshments and continued music by both bands.
Motion to eliminate term limits in ARTICLE V: MANAGEMENT para 5.2a.1.

Current Reading:
5.2a.1 Term of Office: The term of office for all elected officials shall be for two years, or until their successors have been duly elected or appointed. The President shall be limited to two (2) year terms and may be elected again after being out of office for a minimum of two (2) years.

Proposed Reading:
5.2a.1 Term of Office: The term of office for all elected officials shall be for two years, or until their successors have been duly elected or appointed. All incumbent candidates must stand for re-election at the end of their term and may not stay in office until duly re-elected by the membership.

Reason for change: The Society is facing huge challenges and its future depends on a stable leadership that has built important institutional knowledge resulting in positive changes that are improving the Society. The Society is also experiencing a scarcity in volunteers willing to serve at the national level and the time and effort needed to replace national leaders weakens our organization.

Do you vote to approve or disapprove this motion?

Check One:   ☐ Approve   ☐ Disapprove   Signature:______________________________
From: ________________________________________________________________

                                  ____________________________________
                                  ____________________________________

To:    Amy McKenna, C&BL Chair
            303 Hanover Lane
            Brighton MI 48114
I fondly remember getting to go on my very first squirrel hunt with my dad back in the early 1980s. I couldn’t believe I was finally getting to use the family “starter rifle” (a 22 caliber, single shot, bolt action) and I was on top of the world. More exciting than the hunt for these elusive tree dwellers was when my dad and I happened upon an old orchard that had long since been abandoned.

My dad was a very hard working carpenter so he appreciated a chance to rest underneath one of the trees. He picked a couple of apples and sat down. He motioned for me to sit down and waited patiently while I took proper care with the rifle and then got comfortable myself. He then tossed me the second apple he’d picked.

I must confess that I prefer my fruit to be “improved.” I like bananas if they are in banana splits, I like peaches if they are in a cobbler, and I like apples, but generally only in a pie. This apple could not have been improved. Maybe it was because I was getting to spend time with my dad or maybe I was a bit hungry from walking up and down so many hills, but regardless of what it might have been, this apple was wonderful.

Dad had known this land for decades and knew that at one point it had produced some of the best apples he’d had before the family died off and the land started returning to nature. As we sat there eating, dad pointed out that this delicious apple and all the others like it on this giant tree before us came from a little apple seed.

As I reflect back on this memory of long ago, I am reminded today of great things that have come from little beginnings. From the order to create our Division, those 100+ years ago, until now we can see the great tree with its wonderful bounty for our Nation that 3ID has provided over the years. Similarly, those who have previously served in our Division have planted the seeds of service, leadership, determination, and commitment that have grown and produced fruit through the work of today’s Dog-Faced Soldiers.

With this in mind, I challenge you to think back to who made a difference in your life in 3ID. Who planted those seeds that led to your success in service and in life? Do you have a chance to get in touch with them and say “thank you?” If you can, why not take that chance and reach out. As members of the 3ID Society, we profess to be united and what better way to stay united than through reconnecting and thanking those who helped you in the past.

Blessings,

CH (LTC) David K. Beavers
David.k.beavers.mil@mail.mil

The following personnel were identified as deceased. All of us in the Society of the Third Infantry Division, U.S. Army, extend our sincere sympathy to the families and friends of those listed below. May they rest in peace.

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 Roster Manager Frank Ugolini. Contact information is on page 2 of the Watch.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID#</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>DOD</th>
<th>Notified by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6220</td>
<td>SFC</td>
<td>Patrick J. Hascall</td>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>15INF/F</td>
<td>2020-01-09</td>
<td>Reported deceased by wife Nancy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3073</td>
<td>Civilian</td>
<td>Frank A. Greene</td>
<td>WW2</td>
<td>DIV/RECON</td>
<td>2020-01-18</td>
<td>Reported deceased by daughter Jean Brackins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8817</td>
<td>SGM</td>
<td>Harry W. Schreiber</td>
<td>Cold War</td>
<td>1/9FA/D</td>
<td>2020-01-25</td>
<td>Reported deceased by James Bourgeois</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9311</td>
<td>Civilian</td>
<td>William A Ball</td>
<td>WW2</td>
<td></td>
<td>2020-02-22</td>
<td>Reported deceased by Joe Ball</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Former Society President John Fisher sadly notified me that his beloved wife, Doris Posey Fisher had passed away this past December. Doris was 93 years old and was a former 1st Lt. Army nurse in Korea during 1953-1954. Our condolences to John for his loss. ...Editor
News From The Outposts

1 Midwest

Chicago, IL

I have been trying to get the information for Outpost 1 members to vote on for the Spring and Fall Outpost 1 Meeting date and sites to visit with a 10:00 am for starting tour of site.

The three choices are Grant Museum, Russell Military Museum and Illinois Railroad Museum. A short description of the sites, websites to be searched for more information and cost if there is a charge for admission. There are six dates for the Railroad in the Spring and three for the Fall as the Railroad Museum can be open but without buildings and trains running. For the Grant Museum and Russell Military Museum there are only three dates for Spring and Fall.

You are to send your choice to either Richard Longfellow, dlongfel1776@gmail.com, 815-973-0201, 807 Washington Ave, Dixon, IL 61021 or John Spratt, jpspratt@gmail.com, 224-430-1174, 675 Seybrooke Lake, Crystal Lake, IL 60012 via email or phone or regular mail. Please vote as soon as you can after this Watch on the Rhine has been sent to you.

Camp Grant Museum Restaurant Bursting with memorabilia as reported by a visitor.
May 19, 20 or 21, 2020
September 15, 16 or 17, 2020

Camp Grant Museum is housed in the building that was one of three fire stations and later the Induction and Muster Out Center for Camp Grant during the two World Wars. This is the only remaining building from the camp, but they have lots of photos to show how massive the site really was. We didn’t expect so much, and in 2 hours didn’t have time to see it all, so I will definitely be going back! There is no admission fee, just a donation box.

We did have lunch here too and the food was great. There was a steady stream of a half dozen or so other people coming and going just to eat while we were there. It’s very much a hometown diner. Breakfast is served all day, and they have hamburgers, chicken, grilled cheese and larger dinner plate items as well. My hamburger was great and my husband’s pancakes were perfect.

The restaurant fills the center of the room (maybe 10-15 tables) but the walls, hallways and every available nook and cranny are packed with WWI & WWII photos, clothing, personal stories, and other memorabilia. They also have a dozen or so binders and folders of information, newspaper clippings, regiment rosters, etc. we poured through those looking for information on my ancestor but ran out of time to go through them all. There is a side room dedicated to WWII, we didn’t get a chance to go in there at all.

There is a little gift shop section as well with t-shirts, a few toys and books. The owners are incredibly friendly and knowledgeable and gave me some tips for other genealogy resources to try. The address on the web worked great with my GPS and they were easy to find, right by the railroad tracks. They also have a Facebook page with their hours and the monthly restaurant specials.

www.campgrantmuseum.org  815-395-0679

The Russell Military Museum near Zion, IL  http://www.russellmilitarymuseum.com/
May 19, 20 or 21, 2020
September 15, 16 or 17, 2020

The Russell Military Museum is dedicated to educating the public about the conflicts and wars the US has weathered. The museum strives to highlight the many issues facing a country involved in a war. It can be easy to take for granted the magnitude of moving troops and vehicles across the world in a moment’s notice or the boredom and tension a soldier can feel when all is quiet. It’s just as easy to underestimate the power of military machinery until you can see it up close.

Russell Military Museum Located conveniently between Chicago and Milwaukee in Lake County, Illinois, the Russell Military Museum is easily accessible from I-94 / Hwy 41. The Russell Military Museum comprises a collection over 40 years in the making. Situated on 10 acres, there are over 300 vehicles on display including tanks, jeeps, cannons, rifles, helicopters, jets and many unique vehicles you won’t see anywhere else.

Phone Number: (847) 395-7020  Address: 43363 N US Hwy 41, Zion, IL 60099. Email Address: museum@db3mail.com: Admission $10.00

Illinois Railroad Museum in Union Illinois  www.irm.org
May 19, 20 or 21, 2020: The grounds are open, buildings are not open, & trains are not running. Free Admission
May 26, 27, or 28, 2020: The grounds and buildings are open & electric trains are running. Senior Admission $9.00
September 1, 2 or 3, 2020: The grounds and buildings are open & electric trains are running. Senior Admission $9.00

The highlight of the Illinois Railway Museum is its collection of historic railway equipment — the largest collection in North America, in fact. On your visit, you’ll have the opportunity to tour several large exhibit buildings packed with antique trains.

Barn 7 is where you’ll find the streetcars, or trolleys, that once carried a million Chicagoans a day, from an 1859-vintage horse-drawn streetcar – the oldest railway car at the museum – all the way to the most modern streetcar ever to run in Chicago, the 1948 “Green Hornet” streamliner.

Barn 9 is where to find the true giants of the rails: the huge steam locomotives that once hauled passengers and freight across a continent. Alongside them is the historic Nebraska Zephyr articulated streamliner, the only remaining train of its type and star of the movie “A League of Their Own”.

There’s much more to see besides the trains themselves. In the East Union Depot and in Barn 9, there are historic displays showing how trains work from couplers to locomotive boilers and more. In Yard 5, you can step into our exhibit cars which feature rotating exhibits on aspects of rail history like railroad china, locomotive builder’s plates, and the history of Chicago Union Station. Nearby and next to Barn 4, is a display of many different railroad signals which light up and operate. Across from the Central Avenue Diner is the historic 50th Avenue elevated station from Chicago which has been restored to its 1920s appearance and is
open for tours on operating days. In the Hoffman Garage, you can see historic buses and trolley buses as well as the only preserved train from the Chicago Tunnel Company whose long-abandoned underground network became infamous when it caused the flooding of the Loop in 1992. The museum is also dotted with restored historic signs, including stone entablatures as well as operating neon signs and the giant “Santa Fe” sign from the Railway Exchange Building on Michigan Avenue.

We have lost the battle with Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) officials to continue our historical meetings and laying wreaths at the Tomb of the Unknowns on Memorial and Veterans Days. While our OP could participate in the combined ceremony at the Tomb at 12:30 on those days (where one or two of our members would join a long line of wreath layers) that has not been a preferred solution. Other options under consideration include, but are not limited to:

For Memorial Day May 25, 2020 the OP is considering scheduling a meeting on the Sunday before, May 24, trying to get a convenient time for a wreath laying at the Tomb with a meeting in The Patton Hall Club for brunch either before or after the ceremony meet. Our wreath would then remain in view at our monument visible to one and all on the following day.

If a meeting is not feasible for May 24/25 Another option under consideration is to join OP International on June 18 when it ends a seminar on the Liberation of Austria and is scheduled to place a wreath at the Tomb. That could be followed by another meeting on Sep 12 when OP International is scheduled to end another seminar with a wreath laying at the Tomb. Those two meetings could set the stage for a possible merger of OP7 with OP International.

It should be noted that the entrance to ANC from Ft Myer has been closed. The only entrance to the cemetery is now via the visitors center on Memorial Drive from which visitors, such as our OP, would have to walk up the hill to the TOMB area. It’s hard to believe that ANC officials believe that the stone wall and the secure environment of Ft Myer is not enough security to protect the dead, but now need and are installing an iron fence around the cemetery and that includes in front of the stone wall border in Ft Myer and adjacent to Henderson Hall.

OP 7 now needs members to step up and fill open positions and help arrange meetings and ceremonies. Our Monument, (as well as Audie Murphy’s grave) is located in the most visited area in the cemetery and a need exists to ensure that it is properly decorated with at least a wreath on national remembrance day. A need also exists to get authorization to place a second plaque commemorating the actions of the THIRD in the Middle East since VN. That would augment the present one which addresses only WWII and Korea.

Members will be advised via E Mail or USPS of final plans for our next meeting. In the interim, members are encouraged to step up by volunteering or submitting ideas and recommendations on how to keep OP7 alive by contacting Pat Williamson or the undersigned at marneop7@comcast.net

Submitted by John L. Insani

The spring meeting of Outpost 13 will be held on Saturday, May 9, 2020 at the Come Back Inn, located north of Milford at 1451 S. Milford Road.

Submitted by Vice President Gordon W. Draper

Outpost 15 will hold their spring meeting at the home of Curtis Gentry with a potluck. The date is Sunday April 26th at 12:30pm. All outpost members, family, and those with an interest are welcome to attend. This is an election year for all three positions (President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer). An information letter along with a ballot will be sent to outpost members. Thank You, Curtis Gentry Secretary-Treasurer 623-878-4623

Outpost #18 will meet at 10:30 AM, April 26, 2020 at Five Pillars Supper Club, Hwy 57 & Cty Hwy K, Random Lake, WI 53075.

Thank you

Marv Kostka Secretary and treasurer of Outpost 18

Our members enjoyed a mild winter by walking on the beautiful west coast beaches, enjoyed smelling the fresh salt sea air, getting the wet sand between our toes, marveled at the sun glistening on the sea, were delighted by blue skies, and watching the early morning fog, near the Big Sur. When Spring arrived, we took romantic strolls on the sandy beaches, rode our bicycles along the coast line, went whale watching, fished from the piers (Crescent City down to San Diego), and watched the sun set over peaceful waters to the west. Grape crops in the inland counties of Napa, Mendocino, Sonoma, San Diego, and San Luis Obispo thrived from the sea’s humidity. On Jan. 13, 2020, we helped ring the Korean-American Friendship Bell, in San Pedro, CA. On Feb. 15th (Whale Day), we counted whales at the Palo Verde Interpretive Center, and climbed the stairs of the Point Vicente Lighthouse. In March, we counted butterflies at Grover Beach, watched the Long Beach Grand Prix races, celebrated St. Patrick’s Day on a bicycle ride to Seal Beach, where we enjoyed corned beef, cabbage, and Guinness beer. The Wanamakers hosted guests from Germany, and took them paddle boarding at Dana Point Harbor. We took a whale watch boat out of Moss Landing (Monterey County) where we saw mega pods of dolphins, three types of whales, sea birds, Orcas, sharks, and sea otters.

Other activities included smelling the wild flowers, hiking,
and watching the fruit trees blossom, etc. Our members participated in the VA’s Creative Arts Competition, and registered for the Nat. Vet. Golden Age Games. Our members visited the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes National Wildlife Refuge, drank wine in Edna Valley, and participated in a ukulele festival in Hawaii. We rode dune buggies on the Mojave desert, traveled to New Zealand, Alaska, Vancouver & Mission B.C., Fort Stewart Georgia, Ridgecrest, Randsburg, the China Lake Naval Weapons Center (to see petroglyphs), Joshua Tree Nat. Park (for star gazing), Death Valley, Palm Springs, Perris, CA (for skydiving & a steam locomotive museum), and we visited the George S. Patton Museum (at Chiriaco Summit, CA). Tony golfed at the Mesquite Golf Coarse, hiked Taquitz Canyon, and took his family to see the desert animals on “The Living Desert” (in the Santa Rosa State Wildlife area, near Palm Desert).

OP #22 members send our lasting affection, and friendship to our brothers, and sisters in the Society, and those on active duty. We salute the members of the “Rock of the Marne.”

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. 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, 2020

Mail all nominations to SFC Ken Drake, Society Awards Chair, 3604 Herndon Lane, Wahiawa HI 96786 or at email: Sgtmubah1@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
Greetings to all Dogface Soldiers, Families and friends of the Marne Division! As we prepare to roll into spring, the Marne Division has been extremely busy during the second quarter of 2020. While we have continued to build and maintain combat power, we have also been projecting that power across the globe, and your Marne Division continues to operate and support a number of high profile missions.

Throughout January the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, “Raiders”, staged and loaded equipment in preparation of their rotation to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, which they completed in February. The Raiders deployed nearly 4,000 Soldiers to the NTC and honed their skills during a very successful rotation where they conducted tough, realistic training, as well as a live fire exercise. The Raiders of 1st Armored Brigade returned to Fort Stewart in early March and immediately began preparing for their next mission.

The 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, “Spartans”, deployed to Europe for Defender 20, the largest military exercise in Europe in more than 25 years, after loading and shipping more than 2,000 pieces of military equipment from the port of Savannah. On February 20th, SPC Anthony Valdez had the honor of rolling the first piece of combat equipment into Europe for the exercise as he drove a M1 tank off a ship at Bremerhaven, Germany. The Spartans will be deployed to Europe through May and their participation in this exercise will severely test their skills and capabilities, but ultimately it will better prepare them to serve alongside our allies and partners while conducting decisive operations.

The 3rd Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade, “Providers”, have also been very busy. In addition to providing logistical support to the Raider and Spartan Brigades in support of their missions to NTC and Defender 20, they continued training on crew served weapons systems and conducted a convoy live-fire exercise. In February, the Providers welcomed home Soldiers from the 90th Human Resources Company, the 396th Composite Truck Company and the 632nd Support Maintenance Company after a nine-month rotation in Europe. The brigade also conducted and Emergency Deployment Readiness Exercises in conjunction with the U.S. Air Force’s 621st Contingency Response Group, from Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, in order to validate the brigade’s ability to deploy in support of their Immediate Response Force mission.

The 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, “Falcons”, continue operations in Europe as they support Operation Atlantic Resolve. In February, as part of Atlantic Resolve, Task Force Lighthorse conducted a live-fire exercise with the Hellenic Armed Forces at Litochoro Range in Greece. This exercise gave our Soldiers the opportunity to demonstrate their capabilities to several distinguished visitors, including US Ambassador to Greece, Geoffrey Pyatt. While in Europe the Falcons continue to build readiness and increase interoperability through multinational training events and will be intricate players of Defender 20.

The 3rd Infantry Division Artillery, “Thunder”, also remained extremely active, conducting numerous training missions and missions in support of the division and our partners and allies, while Task Force 1-28, “Black Lions”, prepares for an Army-directed reorganization that will take place later this year, one that will see them restructured into an Infantry Rifle Battalion.

Across the Division we remain laser focused on maintaining the highest levels of readiness and continuing to prepare for large-scale combat operations, or whatever mission our great Nation calls us for. As always, I could not be more proud of our Dogface Soldiers and Families and the challenges they overcome on a daily basis and the sacrifices and contributions they make in support of our great Division, because they know, like you do, that winning matters!

Rock of the Marne!

Maj. Gen. Tony Aguto
Dogface Soldier

Commemorative Bourbon

To help us commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the division and the Society, we worked with Boundary Oak Distillery in Radcliff, Kentucky to establish the Society of the Third Infantry Division’s commemorative whiskey.

This is 100% Kentucky bourbon whiskey and features a commemorative bottle design that includes an M1 Abrams tank and an AH-64 Apache helicopter, plus the Society’s 100th Anniversary logo.

Sales of this whiskey are currently only being done in the Fort Stewart/Hinesville area, but sale are expected to go nationwide soon. Contact the distillery for more information about purchasing locations. Their telephone number is: 270-351-2013

Eleanor Roosevelt WWII poem

Our Judge Advocate, Harvey Sladkus, sent in this poem that First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt carried at all time in her purse during WWII.

Dear lord,
Lest I continue my complacent way
Help me to remember that somewhere
Some how out there
A Man died for me today
As long as there be war
I then must ask and answer
Am I worth dying for?

MajGen Antonio A. Aguto, Jr.
Honorary President
101ST ANNUAL REUNION
SOCIETY OF THE 3RD INFANTRY DIVISION
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI
AUGUST 20-23, 2020

To be held at the Kansas City Embassy Suites Airport Hotel located at 7640 NW Tiffany Springs Pkwy, Kansas City, MO, 64153. Room rates are $119 per night, plus taxes. The hotel provides complimentary airport shuttle and parking. Call the Kansas City Embassy Suites Airport Hotel at 1-816-891-7788 no later than July 20, 2020 to make your hotel reservations. Make sure to mention you are with the 3rd Infantry Division to receive the group rate.

Thursday August 20th
2:00pm Registration and Hospitality Room Opens
5:00pm-6:00pm – No Host Social Hour 6:00pm-8:00pm – President’s Reception Dinner

Friday August 21st
Hospitality Room
9:30am-2:30pm – National WWI Museum & Memorial Tour

Saturday August 22nd
Hospitality Room
8:30am-10:30am – General Membership Meeting
9:00am-10:30am – Ladies Breakfast
10:30am-12:00pm – Executive Committee Meeting
1:30pm-4:30pm – American Jazz Museum
6:00pm-6:30pm – No Host Social Hour 6:30pm-9:00pm – Banquet Dinner & Program

Sunday August 23rd
8:00am-10:00am – Memorial Breakfast and Reunion Farewell

Tours
National WWI Museum & Memorial

Friday August 21st 9:30am-2:30pm Price $68.00
The National WWI Museum and Memorial is America’s only museum dedicated to sharing the stories of the Great War through the eyes of those who lived it. See interactive displays, thought-provoking films and eyewitness testimonies help guide visitors through one of the largest collections of WWI artifacts in the world. From the first shots fired in 1914 to the last attempts at peace in 1919, this award-winning museum offers a global perspective of “The War to End All Wars,” and includes firsthand accounts from the battlefield and home front alike. A Kansas City Style BBQ Lunch is included at Jack Stack BBQ.

American Jazz Museum

Saturday August 22nd 1:30pm-4:30pm Price $39.00
Located in the Historic 18th & Vine Jazz District in Kansas City, MO, the American Jazz Museum showcases the sights and sounds of jazz through interactive exhibits and films, the Changing Gallery exhibit space, Horace M. Peterson III Visitors Center, Blue Room jazz club and Gem Theater. Since its inception in 1997, the Museum hosts thousands of students, scholars, musicians and fans of the arts for over 200 performances, education programs, special exhibitions, community events and more each year, providing an opportunity to learn about the legends, honor their legacy, or simply enjoy the sounds of modern day jazz.

For More Information Contact:

Toby Knight 210-885-2137
Tobster16@gmail.com

The Reunion BRAT 360-663-2521
thereunionbrat@hotmail.com

COME JOIN US AS WE SHARE OLD MEMORIES AND MAKE NEW ONES!!!

- Confirmation of Registration and Itinerary will be sent out by July 24, 2020
- CANCELLATION POLICY: By sending in the registration form, you are agreeing to the cancellation policy
- A $20 per person cancellation fee will apply to all cancellations received within 30 days of the event.
- Cancellations received within 10 days of the event will be non-refundable.
  Cancellations can ONLY be requested over the phone at 360-663-2521. You will receive a cancellation number; no refund will be issued without this number. Please make sure to keep this number for verification of your cancellation.
101st ANNUAL REUNION
SOCIETY OF THE 3rd INFANTRY DIVISION
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI
AUGUST 20-23, 2020

ADDRESS ___________________________________________________________
CITY ______________ STATE _______ ZIP __________________________
PHONE ___________ EMAIL ________________________________

★ IF YOU SERVED IN THE 3RD INFANTRY DIVISION FILL OUT THIS SECTION
NAME __________________ PREFERRED NAME ON BADGE ______
UNIT SERVED IN _______ OUTPOST _______ PLEASE CHECK ONE OR MORE: WWII ______ KOREA ______
COLD WAR ______ GULF WAR ______ IRAQ WAR ______ AFGHANISTAN ______ PEACE TIME ______ ACTIVE DUTY ______

★ IF YOU ARE AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER FILL OUT THIS SECTION
NAME __________________ PREFERRED NAME ON BADGE ______
ASSOCIATE MEMBER: YES ______ OUTPOST ______

★ IF YOU ARE A GUEST FILL OUT THIS SECTION
NAME __________________ PREFERRED NAME ON BADGE ______

PLEASE LIST ANY SPECIAL NEEDS: __________________________________________

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY NOTIFY: __________________________________________

REQUIRED REGISTRATION FEE (PER PERSON) ______ X $39.00 = ______
THURSDAY AUGUST 20TH ~ PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION DINNER ______ X $59.00 = ______
FRIDAY AUGUST 21ST ~ WWI MUSEUM ______ X $68.00 = ______
SATURDAY AUGUST 22ND ~ LADIES BREAKFAST ______ X $25.00 = ______
SATURDAY AUGUST 22ND ~ AMERICAN JAZZ MUSEUM ______ X $39.00 = ______
SATURDAY AUGUST 22ND ~ BANQUET DINNER ______ X $65.00 = ______

★ BANQUET MEAL SELECTION BEEF ______ CHICKEN ______ VEGETARIAN ______
SUNDAY AUGUST 23RD ~ MEMORIAL BREAKFAST ______ X $34.00 = ______
TOTAL ENCLOSED ______

★ PAYMENT IS DUE NO LATER THAN JULY 20, 2020
PLEASE SEND PAYMENTS TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS AND MADE PAYABLE TO:
THE REUNION BRAT
16817 MOUNTAIN SIDE DRIVE EAST
GREENWATER, WA 98022

• CANCELLATION POLICY: By sending in the registration form, you are agreeing to the cancellation policy
• A $20 per person cancellation fee will apply to all cancellations received within 30 days of the event.
• Cancellations received within 10 days of the event will be non-refundable.
Cancellations can ONLY be requested over the phone at 360-663-2521. You will receive a cancellation number; no refund will be issued without this number. Please make sure to keep this number for verification of your cancellation.
Colmar and Surrounding Communities Commemorate

Outpost International participated in Colmar’s 75th anniversary of liberation commemorative ceremony at 1400 on 3 February on the Place Rapp in the center or the city. The French Army’s 152nd Infantry Regiment, The Red Devils, stationed in Colmar, provided the troops for the ceremony. Also present were the color guards of the 1st Regiment Chasseurs Parachutiste (1er RCP) and 12th Regiment of Cuirassiers, two units which fought with the 1st French Army in the Battle of the Colmar Pocket. The Stoys were the only Americans participating in the ceremony.

Over 20 veteran unit color bearers participated in the long, cold, and rainy ceremony. Unfortunately, there were no WWII veterans present. Mayor Gilbert Meyer presided and delivered comments with the Prefect of the Upper Rhine also delivering comments. Monika Stoy delivered her comments on behalf of the 3rd Infantry Division in French. COL Kossahl delivered his Order of the Day commemorating the Battle of the Colmar Pocket and honoring the units which fought in this terrible battle.

9 floral arrangements were placed in honor of the soldiers who fought in the battle, with each dignitary escorted by two school children from Colmar schools. The military band unfortunately only played the French National Anthem. This was disappointing as American units played a significant role in the liberation of Colmar.

The Stoys have been attending the liberation ceremonies in Colmar since February 1995 when they were serving with Division Headquarters in Wuerzburg, Germany. This was by far the smallest of the major ceremonies. In previous ceremonies the veterans of the 1st French Army played prominent roles, and their rousing march, the Chant des Africaines, was always played. Not this year.

The Stoys participated in Horbourg-Wihr’s liberation ceremony on 1 February. Horbourg-Wihr was liberated by 2nd Battalion, 7th Infantry on 30 January 1945. The US Consulate in Strasbourg was represented by 2nd Lieutenant Trey Tollefson, who delivered comments on behalf of the Consul General.

The outpost’s first ceremony was late afternoon in Ostheim on 23 January. Mayor Bernard Kempf welcomed us warmly and a large group of school children participated in the ceremony reciting poetry and singing. The local musicians and the band of the fire department provided wonderful music support. Monika delivered her speech in French, honoring the veterans of the great 3rd Infantry Division. It was a wonderful, if chilly, evening and it was great to once again be with Ostheim for its ceremony. Mayor Kempf lives on General O’Daniel Street in Ostheim and the conference room in the town hall has a portrait of Iron Mike with a set of 3ID colors!

We visited the Audie Murphy Memorial and the American Memorial on Hill 351 to pay our respects. Sigolsheim’s historical society has added a brass plaque to the American Memorial honoring 3ID MOH recipients Eli Whitley and Keith L. Ware and two Silver Star recipients from the 36th Infantry Division. We are coordinating with the historical society to add information on the Division’s 3 Distinguished Service Cross recipients from the fighting in Sigolsheim – Major Virgil Laughlin, SSG Ernest Hosea, and SGT Emil Praeger.

We were hosted by the former Mayor of Ammerschwir and Mrs. Jean-Marie and Francoise Fritsch and the former mayor of Kientzheim and Mrs. Joseph and Nicole Fritsch during our stay in Alsace. We were also hosted for a delicious Alsatian dinner at outpost member Eric and Nicole Beysang’s home in Guemar. These friendships make our annual visits to Alsace very special.

Message from the Roster Manager

Have you applied for or upgraded a membership, EVER, and did NOT receive a New or Life Membership packet and/or Membership Card? Please contact me via email: roster-manager@society3rdid.org. or leave a message at: (509) 216-0783. Rock of the Marne! Frank B Ugolini

Roll Call

New Members — Society of the 3rd Infantry Division

Listed below are all new members who enrolled during since the last issue of The Watch-on-The-Rhine.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mem Type</th>
<th>ID</th>
<th>Fist Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Outpost</th>
<th>Region</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regular Annual</td>
<td>9486</td>
<td>Marion</td>
<td>Redding</td>
<td>3/15</td>
<td>1SG</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>ER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular Annual</td>
<td>9485</td>
<td>Tony</td>
<td>Scott</td>
<td>2/15 Infantry</td>
<td>MSG</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>CR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Life</td>
<td>9487</td>
<td>Manuel M</td>
<td>Pena</td>
<td>C/703D</td>
<td>CW3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>ER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular Annual</td>
<td>9488</td>
<td>Ian</td>
<td>Crichton</td>
<td>2-7 IN</td>
<td>SFC</td>
<td>OPMA</td>
<td>ER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Life</td>
<td>9489</td>
<td>Dwight</td>
<td>Swacina</td>
<td></td>
<td>Civilian</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>CR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular Annual</td>
<td>9490</td>
<td>Felipe</td>
<td>Chuab</td>
<td>1-15</td>
<td>SFC</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>CR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular Annual</td>
<td>9492</td>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Miller</td>
<td>123rd Signal Battalion</td>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>ER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular Annual</td>
<td>9491</td>
<td>Stephen</td>
<td>Murphy</td>
<td>10th Combat Engineer Bn</td>
<td>SPC</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>ER</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
75th Anniversary of their Liberation

The Watch on the Rhine
Murphy loved the artillery because “I could see Kraut soldiers disappear in clouds of smoke and snow, hear them scream and shout, yet they came on and on as though nothing would stop them.” When the Germans advanced to within fifty yards of Murphy, a nervous lieutenant from battalion inquired about the enemy’s position. “How close are they to you?” Murphy then replied in one of his classic lines: “If you hold the phone a minute, I’ll let you talk to one of the bastards.” Then after exhausting his carbine ammunition, Murphy was preparing to fall back when he noticed the .50 caliber machine gun on the turret of the burning tank destroyer. The fire would soon reach the vehicle’s fuel tank and also the cases of ammunition lying on the back of the tank, but he knew that the machine gun was his only chance to stop the Germans as he began spraying the infantry with deadly accuracy. He knew that sooner or later if he killed enough of the infantry that the tanks would not advance very far without them. Private Charles Owen, one of the eighteen men watched in awe as Murphy battled or not, but the Germans were deathly afraid of .50 caliber that had armor-piercing capabilities. Another witness from the edge of the woods, Sgt. Elmer Brawley added: “The Germans got within ten yards of Murphy who killed them in the draws, in the meadows, in the woods, wherever he saw them, and forced the tanks to return to an area in front of the woods. The German tank’s murderous fire along with the Kraut artillery and small arms fire showered Murphy’s position, Brawley said.” With all the billowing smoke from Murphy’s tank destroyer and the roar of the battle, the Germans could not detect where his machine gun fire was coming from and probably did not even hear it. But the same smoke hampered Murphy’s visibility also which allowed a squad of twelve Germans to enter the drainage ditch and try to flank his position which went unnoticed on his right flank. “When a cloud of smoke lifted, Murphy saw them as they stopped for a moment in the ditch directly in front of me and were frantically discussing something. I pressed the trigger and slowly traversed the barrel – and stacked all twelve like cordwood.” Suddenly, two 88mm shells slammed into Murphy’s tank destroyer and the concussion from the explosion threw Murphy violently against the turret nearly knocking him to the ground. Lt. Murphy was now totally enveloped in smoke and flames as he continued to fire. The only time he stopped firing was when he had to reload or relay firing instructions.

Years later, he remarked “I remember getting the hell shook out of me, but that was nothing new. I also remember for the first time in three days my feet were warm.” Amazingly, his Irish luck continued to hold when the clouds broke long enough for American fighter bombers to assemble above the battlefield for support. Murphy then had the artillery mark the German positions with smoke shells so the pilots could start strafing. Even then the enemy attack still pressed forward with the German infantry threatened to overrun the strongpoint held by a single American. Murphy continued to call in artillery even though almost on his own position. With this new barrage of artillery, the Germans finally realized that someone had them zeroed in with artillery. However, they still could not locate the source of the deadly machine gun fire from Murphy who was cutting them to shreds. Finally the German tanks and infantry began to fall back towards Holtzrihr when Murphy’s field phone went dead. Exhausted and bleeding profusely, Murphy climbed off the burning tank destroyer and limped back into the forest. Murphy recalled “I was too weak from fear and exhaustion to care anymore.” And just shortly after reaching the woods, Audie heard the tank destroyer blow up, blasting off the turret that he had stood on for the past fifty-five minutes.

I crossed the L’ill River in the Colmar Pocket battlefields.
Murphy’s trousers were soaked with blood from an old wound that had been reopened in this battle. Murphy refusing medical aid then led his men in an organized counterattack, dislodging the Germans from the whole area except for small pockets of enemy resistance. The areas east of the L’Ill River and north of the Colmar Canal were cleared of enemy forces by January 28th. At the Colmar Canal his men got a drink of water and the bodies were so thick, you had to push the bodies aside to drink recalled Brad Crocker, who also recalled “Murph was a daredevil; he took chances that others just wouldn’t take. He was too daring for most of us. His middle name was “Lucky.” But he took chances in a calculated way, he believed that audacity was in his favor. So on June 2, 1945, Lt. Gen. Alexander Patch presented the Medal of Honor to Lt. Audie Murphy in Salzburg, Austria. Charles Owen recalled years later: He saved our lives. If he hadn’t done what he did, the Germans would have annihilated us.”

Editor’s note: I ran across an American Airline pilot named Marty Black who flew into Zurich frequently and who was a history buff. He would rent a car and drive to Holtzwihr with a metal detector and scour the woods where Murphy’s tank destroyer was positioned. After it blew up, it threw all kinds of debris into the woods and across the other side of the one lane road the tank destroyer was on. He had written an article about one trip in 1997 when he had collected about twenty-eight pounds of various pieces from the tank, .50 & .30-caliber cartridges, and other battlefield objects. He posted a photo of a straight tank valve off of Murphy’s tank destroyer and threw it and other items back into the woods because he had too much to carry back. So in 1998 when my son and I were walking in the woods looking for anything from the battle, dumb luck had me step on that exact tank valve Marty had thrown back into the woods. When I stepped on it, I bent it and wondered what it was. After reading his article in the British “After The Battle” publication, I called him and told him I found the tank valve he had discarded. He said he had it documented that it was indeed a tank valve off the M-10 tank destroyer, so today I have it and other items displayed in a shadow box in my office. Talk about “dumb luck” – bent valve and all.

So It’s Off to Geneva, Switzerland and a Little Sightseeing Before Attending the 75th Anniversary of Audie Murphy’s ‘One Man Stand at Holtzwihr.’

Over the years I have been all around the countries that border Switzerland, but never been to Switzerland. So I did not want to miss this opportunity to drive through Switzerland en route to Colmar and Holtzwihr.

After spending the day in Geneva and driving downtown on the scenic Lake Geneva, we hit the road the next morning to drive along the Swiss side of Lake Geneva all the way to the eastern-most end of the lake. I had found that there are some very prominent celebrities buried in the towns along Lake Geneva. I had hoped to visit the gravesites of Richard Burton, David Niven, Coco Chanel, Peter Ustinov, and Audrey Hepburn. But they weren’t easy to find with no GPS, so we made our way to visit the one site I was not about to miss – the gravesite, house, and museum of Sir Charlie Chaplin on the beautiful Alpine town of Corsier sur Vevey overlooking the French border on Lake Geneva. We visited Charlie & Oona’s grave, toured his manor where he lived the rest of his life after being banned from the US, and the excellent studio museum on the grounds. We spent that night in Interlaken in the heart of the Alps, and then visited the world’s largest automobile museum in the world, the Bugatti Museum in Mulhouse, France. The amazing Schlumpf Brothers collection of over 140 Bugattis and 400 other vintage cars once owned by Chaplin, Josephine Baker, a Parisian Renault De la Marne Taxi that carried thousands of French soldiers to the Marne River in WWI to stop the Huns out of Paris, and royalty. It was an amazing collection of rare European autos over 100 years old. Then we pulled into Colmar for the next three days and nights to explore the Colmar Pocket.

To begin our trip to France, we stopped in Corsier-sur-Vevey, Switzerland to visit the grave, house, and museum of Charlie and Oona Chaplain.

In a moving moment, the Tardiff’s stand in the ditch Sgt. Joe Tardiff’s tank destroyer slid into.

With All Friday Off, We Explored Both Sides of the Vosges Mountains

Heading into the Colmar Pocket, we noticed this interesting WWI & WWII French cemetery in Colmar. One pillar marks those killed during WWI, and the other denotes those killed in WWII. Then on a roundabout leaving Colmar we came upon this forty foot replica of the Statue of Liberty in the middle of the roundabout.

We toured the fabulous Bugatti museum in Mulhouse, France.
The Statue of Liberty was a gift to the United States by the French people. The French chose sculptor Frederic Bartholdi of Colmar for the job, and the Statue of Liberty was dedicated on October 28, 1886 and placed on Liberty Island in the harbor of New York City that became a symbol of freedom to countless immigrants from around the world. This replica in Colmar was dedicated on July 4, 2004 for the 100th birthday of Bartholdi. Leaving Colmar, we headed straight for Holtzwihr and Houssen and I took this photo of the two city limit towns. This is a very unique photo of a German tank in the summer of 1944 taken secretly by a citizen of German occupied Holtzwihr, about six months before the battle for the Colmar Pocket began in the winter of 1945. They are just about six miles outside of Colmar and to me this sign was unique because on January 24th and January 26th of 1945, the most decorated soldier, and arguably the second most decorated soldier of WWII, this dynamic diminutive duo performed their incredible feats of courage just about four miles and two days apart. Lt. Garlin Conner held off six Mark VI German tanks and 600 German infantrymen for three hours. This action earned Lt. Conner the Distinguished Service Cross along with his four Silver Stars and a host of other medals. I covered Lt. Conner’s story extensively in our February issue of 2019 after attending a ceremony at the Pentagon, and then speaking at an event in his hometown of Albany, Kentucky to honor Conner. We then drove through nearby Riedwihr where more battles happened, and noticed several German pillboxes along the road. I heard that these bunkers and pillboxes were probably built by local forced laborers during the occupation. We then drove through Bennwihr which jogged my memory of our own John Shirley.

Dogface Soldier John Shirley

It was here in Bennwihr, France where 3rd ID soldier John Shirley probably had his most harrowing combat experience when he was captured briefly by the Germans. John and ten other soldiers were forced to surrender while hiding in a cellar when the Germans captured them. John turned and hit a short German who was guarding him and escaped running for his life. So when we drove through Bennwihr, I took this photo of the city limit, knowing John had been captured here.

But to backtrack, John arrived in Casablanca in early 1944 with a convoy of 140 ships. Promoted to Sergeant, his ship was sent to Palermo, Sicily and then on to Messina. Then making their way to Italy, the unit engaged the Germans at Anzio and then the liberation of Rome. In “Operation Dragoon” John and his units advanced up the Rhone River Valley, crossed the Vosges Mountains and captured Strasbourg. Wounded on December 23, 1944 fighting in the Colmar Pocket, he spent three months in French and British hospitals and then returned in late March of 1945 for the final battles in Germany. Beside the Purple Heart, John was awarded the Silver Star and two Bronze Stars during six campaigns and one invasion in Europe. John has written a fine book about his experiences as a combat infantryman in WWII, aptly titled “I Remember.”

Chaplain Jerry Daddato’s Connection to Sigolsheim

Before leaving on our trip, Chaplain Daddato told me the story of his uncle Dominic Giovinazzo
who was killed by a sniper on December 26, 1944 in the house to house fighting in Sigolsheim right below the bloody battle for Hill 351. So as we drove through the vineyards surrounding the area and also up to Hill 351, I paused for a moment and reflected about Dominic’s death here in this now beautiful and peaceful city of grape orchards. We then made our way up to the American Memorial on top of Hill 351 with a great view of Sigolsheim below. On the wall at the memorial, I noticed a plaque with the names of four highly decorated soldiers who distinguished themselves at Hill 351. One was Lt. Keith Ware who would later receive the Medal of Honor for his bravery here at Hill 351. I will cover his Medal of Honor ceremony later when I report on another Medal of Honor recipient who fought at Saint Die on the other side of the Vosges.

Lt. Ware was Company Commander later who stressed the importance that Audie Murphy and his seventeen men “hold that road at all costs.” So after leaving Hill 351 and Sigolsheim, we headed out to the beautiful village of Kayersberg, noted for not yet another bloody battle, but for Stork sightings and the home of Albert Schweitzer. After touring the village and its Roman fortress, it was now time to drive over the Vosges Mountains where the 3rd Infantry fought here before taking Strasbourg and the beginning of the “Battle of the Colmar Pocket.”

The American Cemetery At Epinal

The eastern side of the “wine and cheese route de Alsace” of the Vosges is very scenic, with countless little villages dotting the hillsides with grape orchards. However, as we made our way toward the summit of the Vosges, the landscape turned to forests and pine tree types that reminded me of the Northwest. When we reached the summit, our ears began popping and we were excited to make our way towards the city of Epinal. After much difficulty trying to find the American Cemetery in Epinal, we finally found it in the suburb of Dinoze. Epinal was much larger than I thought, but as we drove through a forest up to the cemetery, it was immaculate and very scenic as I have found all cemeteries in France and Luxembourg. We checked in at the office and met Azouz Amekouar, the Assistant Superintendent who was so gracious and invited us for a personal tour. He took us to the gravesite of a Medal of Honor recipient, a Tuskegee Airman, one of the Japanese-Americans of the famed 442nd Battalion, and Bradley Clark, the older brother of American Bandstand fame – Dick Clark. Azouz had lots of sand from Normandy that he would smear over the writing on the tombstones that really brought out the names so clear. Azouz would place an American and French flag next to each grave as I photographed them. My wife was looking at an unknown grave and she became very emotional to identify him. Azouz noticed her emotional state and gave her the French & American flags that he had been placing at each grave as I photographed them. These two flags are proudly displayed in my office as a memory of our trip to Epinal. Azouz then gave us the history of Epinal and knew Jocelyne Papalard-Brescia well, as each Memorial Day Jocelyne and her people place flags and flowers over every one of the 5,000 plus graves.
S/Sgt. Lucian Adams, “The Tornado From Texas”

After leaving Epinal, I wanted to visit Saint Die and Bruyères for two historic and heroic events that happened there. In Saint Die, 3rd ID S/Sgt. Lucian Adams who is from my hometown of Port Arthur, Texas earned the Medal of Honor here. I covered his story extensively in our December 2017 issue of the 

Atop Hill 351 sits the American Memorial overlooking Sigolsheim

At a wall on the Memorial is this plaque noting four American soldiers, including Lt. Col. Keith Ware who was awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroics at Sigolsheim

This map of the Vosges Mountains details all the various wine and cheese villages in the Colmar Pocket

Before crossing the Vosges Mountains, we stopped in the beautiful village of Kayersburg up the mountain. Kayersburg is noted for grapes, Storks, and hometown of Albert Schwitzer

Once crossing the Vosges Mountains, we headed for the American Cemetery at Epinal

The older brother of “American Bandstand’s” Dick Clark – R.I.P.

Dominic Giovinazzo – the uncle to our own Chaplain Jerry Daddato

Grace Fawcett (daughter of Lucian Adams) Mrs. Henry Bodden, Jocelyne Papalard-Brescia (civilian volunteer caretaker at Epinal)

Azouz Amekour is the Superintendent – Adjoint at the Epinal American Cemetery
Watch when I located his two daughters and grandchildren and invited them as special guests of the 2017 reunion in San Antonio. Lucian’s daughter Grace brought his Medal of Honor and his flag to display at our banquet and delivered an eloquent speech about her father. Jocelyne Papalard-Brescia also came all the way from France to attend. On October 24, 1944, as the 3rd ID fought their way up the Rhone River Valley and arrived at the Mortagne forest near Saint Die, Lucian single-handedly destroyed three enemy machine gun emplacements under heavy fire while killing nine German soldiers. Bruyeres was very interesting to me also as we drove this very scenic village which was liberated by the famed 442nd Regiment of Japanese-American soldiers. After resting and a change of clean clothes, the 442nd was called in to rescue the 141st Regiment comprised of the Texas National Guard who found themselves cut off and surrounded behind enemy lines on a ridge near Saint Die also where Lucian Adams had just fought in two days earlier. The 442nd had the reputation for succeeding in this type of combat, earning their motto “Go for Broke”. Two prior rescue attempts from other units had failed with high casualties. So from October 26 thru the 30th of 1944, these five days of brutal close quarters combat on muddy terrain in bone chilling weather, the 442nd finally broke through and rescued the “Lost Battalion” with great sacrifice. They started out with 3,000 men and took 1,000 casualties, 800 wounded, while suffering 200 killed in action. By the time they reached the Texans, they too had been decimated by losing 20% of their force. This little known story was of further interest to me because the late Sen. Daniel Inouye was one of the Nisei who rescued the Texans. Inouye then returned to Italy and lost his right arm in battle while attacking German positions which earned Inouye the DSC which was later upgraded to the Medal of Honor. The Senator sent me an autographed copy of his portrait and a letter on his Congressional letterhead after I included his story in my book “In the Footsteps of Valor.”
received the Medal of Honor. A huge American flag was draped over the giant Swastika centerpiece of Zeppelin Field where Hitler would hold his annual September rallies before 200,000 Hitler Youth and SS troops. After the ceremony, the Swastika was blown up which I am sure you have seen in documentaries.

Of note, Lt. Col. Keith Ware received his for the battle of Hill 351 at Sigolsheim, and Lucian Adams received his for his action near Saint Die. These five Medals of Honor were part of the thirty-nine received by the famed 3rd ID during WWII. Keith Ware and Audie Murphy had kindred spirits and remained friends, both were very daring. Keith Ware became a Major General and volunteered for Vietnam, and in September of 1968 his helicopter was shot down during the Tet Offensive killing all aboard. Ware received the Medal of Honor, the DSC posthumously, a Silver Star, a Bronze Star, and Purple Hearts. As for Audie Murphy, Ware said “Audie Murphy was beyond a doubt the finest soldier I have ever seen in my entire military career. The movie and book “To Hell and Back” were true accounts and he earned every decoration he received.”

And Now, the 75th Anniversary of the One Man Stand of Lt. Audie Murphy at Holtzwihr

About one o’clock p.m., people began assembling at the Sports Complex on the edge of Holtzwihr on the little one way road that Lt. Audie Murphy fought so valiantly to defend. Local people wearing Alsatian garb, a U.S. Army band from Germany, Society President Toby Knight, Patrick Baumann and Michel Pascal who organized the ceremony, and many others. However, I recognized Ann Tardiff whom I had been communicating with prior to our trip. Ann was the spokesperson representing her father Sgt. Joe Tardiff who was in the lead M-10 Tank destroyer that slid on the ice and into a drainage ditch with its cannon pointing upwards and useless. When hit by the advancing German tanks, Sgt. Tardiff and Corporal Robert Hines hastily retreated to the forest to join the other men. So Ann and five other members of the Tardiff family were guests of honor for the ceremony. I introduced myself to the family and had them autograph several prints I had brought for my collection of historic events. Around 1:30 p.m., everyone lined up in a procession to walk down the one lane road leading to the Audie Murphy Memorial in the woods where the ceremony was to begin. By the time we all walked to the Memorial and getting situated for the ceremony, it was about two p.m. to correspond to the time the German tanks and infantry left Holtzwihr to begin the battle. It was a very pleasant sunny afternoon weather wise, much different than seventy-five years ago when it was about two below zero, ice, and heavy snow.

Patrick Baumann & The Memorial Structure

A little history how this memorial structure dedicated to Lt. Audie Murphy began on the spot where Murphy beat back a German army for fifty-five minutes. Patrick Baumann probably knows more about this area than anyone else. He is a goodwill ambassador and promoter of the Franco-American joint effort in pushing the Germans out of the Alsace region and back across the Rhine River into Germany. Patrick was born in nearby Colmar, France in May of 1955, and growing up his toys were the various tanks that were still on the battlefields of the once Colmar Pocket. Patrick’s grandfather fought with the Germans in WWI, and his father also fought with the Germans in WWII in this much disputed region that the Germans much feel it belongs to them. In 1983, Patrick became a member of the very large international Association of German Fighter Pilots and his love of aviation blossomed. In the mid-nineties, he and friends created a fine museum of the liberation of the Colmar Pocket in Turckheim. Then in 1999, Patrick and his friend Jean-Louis Fleith began building the Audie Murphy Memorial with volunteer help of veterans in the commune of Holtzwihr. This fine memorial was built...
also to honor of all the American and French soldiers who died for the freedom of the Alsace region. It was dedicated in January of 2000, exactly twenty years ago. Patrick says when they built this memorial, they never thought this place would become a place of pilgrimage for literally thousands of American tourists as of late. This increase is due to Malcolm Waddell and his crew who partnered with Viking Cruises who now stops on the nearby Rhine River and buses scores of tourists to the memorial each day, 12,000 tourists just in 2018 and growing.

After everyone was in place, Patrick Baumann began the ceremony with the following opening remarks dedicated to the 3rd Infantry, who exactly seventy-five years ago to the day were fighting in excruciating winter conditions to liberate Holtzwihr. Among them was Lt. Audie Murphy who withstood the German onslaught and put them in retreat. Thus, this memorial that bears his name was built in 1999 on the exact spot where Murphy repelled the German army and is dedicated to the American and French who died for our freedom. This site was also the place of departure in January of 1945 for the residents of Holtzwihr who were forced to evacuate to Haute-Marne, as the village had been 90% destroyed during the liberation. This forced evacuation was also the starting point of a friendship between Holtzwihr and Poisson in Haute-Marne, whose Mayor Mr. Bernard Adam was present. After thanking the Tardiff family for being here along with the US Army band from Germany, Patrick then went on to especially recognize Mr. Robert Poteau who is one of the rare survivors of the Naval Force for the Liberation of France in England. Robert left for England with Gen. Charles De Gaulle in 1941 at the age of seventeen. Robert participated in dangerous missions escorting naval convoys and hunting down enemy submarines. He then volunteered in the Coastal Command of the RAF for maritime reconnaissance in the North Atlantic for German U-Boats. Mr. Gerber, the Mayor of Holtzwihr then addressed the audience with his remarks. Mayor Gerber thanked all the American boys from Texas, Arkansas, and other states that fought and died in this turning point battle that freed their village and the Colmar Pocket. Mr. Harold Lotis, who is the Mayor of the German twin town of Balingen, Germany with Holtzwihr was also present. Society President Toby Knight and editor of “The Watch on the Rhine” Henry Bodden were also recognized for being in attendance, along with Malcolm Waddell tour leader for Viking Cruises to Holtzwihr. Mayor Gerber then thanked the members of Parliament, Regional Councilors, mayors of the surrounding villages, and then again alluded to Mr. Robert Poteau who set aside his family to join Gen. de Gaulle in England under the flag “Lorraine Cross” for the Free French Forces, rather than live under German occupation.

Thus this memorable ceremony ended as everyone mingled with the Tardiff family who laid wreaths at the foot of the Memorial, met the people of the surrounding villages, and took photos of the battlefield. The six members of the Tardiff family then walked into the ditch where their father and grandfather’s tank destroyer had slid on the ice into this ditch for a photo for the press and others. It had to be quite an emotional moment for the Tardiff family to travel across an ocean and see and reflect where Sgt. Joe Tardiff faced certain death that day. Sgt. Tardiff’s daughter Ann Tardiff told me he never spoke one time about the battle. It was such a special day for me particularly being here as the battle also happened on my third birthday seventy-five years ago.
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 other former comrades who shared a background of honorable military service with the Third Infantry Division, U.S. Army.
- To encourage and achieve the mutual benefit and support resulting from 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 in war, the same devotion and service 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 the 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 their 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. 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, parents, 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; Outposts #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

Recipients of Distinguished Service Cross .................................................................................................No charge

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Domestic</th>
<th>Overseas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to age 39</td>
<td>$400.00</td>
<td>$1,280.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 40-49</td>
<td>$350.00</td>
<td>$925.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 50-59</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
<td>$685.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 60-69</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
<td>$475.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 70-79</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
<td>$310.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 80 and over</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
<td>$275.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

*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.

---

**Membership Application**

Date: ____________________

☐ New Regular Annual or Life Member

☐ New Associate Annual or Life Member

(Circle Annual or Life)

(Circle Annual or Life)

Name ____________________

(Last) ____________________

(First) ____________________

(Middle Initial) ____________________

Date of Birth ________________

(Required for all 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
CAMPAIGNS OF THE THIRD INFANTRY DIVISION

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

WORLD WAR II [40 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
- Iraqi Sovereignty
- New Dawn

Rock of the Marne
- WWI 1917-1918
- Peacetime 1919-1941
- WWII 1941-1945
- Korea War 1950-1953
- Cold War 1945-1991
- Desert Storm 1990-1991
- Peacetime 1992-2000
- Bosnia 2000-2001
- Peacetime 2002-2003
- Middle East 2003-present

WWI, WWII, Korea, Cold War, Peacetime, Bosnia, Iraq, Afghanistan

THIS ISSUE

DEPARTMENTS
President’s Message .................................................3
Scholarship Foundation News ..............................6
Letters to the Editor ...............................................7
Reunion Calendar ..................................................9
Chaplain’s Corner ................................................13
Last Call .................................................................13
News From The Outposts ....................................14
Marne 6 Sends ......................................................17
Roll Call .................................................................20
3ID Membership Application ..............................30
Outpost Register ..................................................31

NEWS & NOTES
The 75th Anniversary of Audie Murphy’s ‘One Man Stand’ at Holtwihr...And Touring the Colmar Pocket ..............1
My Journey to the Land of Medals ........................1
Call for Nominations for Society Officers ..............7
Ostheim Commemorates Liberation ..................10
C&BL Official Mail-in Ballot ...............................11
Call for Awards Nominations .........................16
101st Annual Reunion: Schedule of Events ..........18
101st Annual Reunion: Registration ..................19
Colmar and Surrounding Communities Commemorate
75th Anniversary of Their Liberation ..............20

3rd Infantry Division – 100 Years of Service