



Santa Fe Express

"DIVISIONNAIRE"



The 35th Divisionnaire USPS 700-160

35th INFANTRY DIVISION
www.35thInfDivAssoc.com

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2016

NUMBER FOUR

35th Hall of Fame Committee Names 2017 Inductees

By Ben Weber

At the 99th Annual Conference of the 35th Division Association, the Hall of Fame Committee selected three World War II soldiers for induction into the 35th Division Hall of Fame. These individuals will be inducted at a special ceremony to be held during the Association's 100th Annual Conference in Kansas City in the fall of 2017:

2nd Lt. Frank A. Gonzales

2nd Lt. Gonzales, a native of Augusta, Kan., served in I Company, 137th Infantry Regiment and landed in Normandy in July, 1944. After his platoon sergeant was killed during the Battle of St. Lo, then Technical Sgt. Gonzales took command of the platoon which was under heavy mortar and machine gun fire in the hedgerows. He commanded a tank destroyer whose crew was reduced by enemy fire and directed an attack which destroyed enemy machine gun positions. Next, he emptied machine guns into other enemy emplacements and finally, using hand grenades, he destroyed an enemy mortar section. He repeated his actions later the same day. He received a battlefield promotion to second lieutenant but was killed in action August 2, 1944. He was posthumously awarded the Silver Star for heroism.

Pfc. Ralph S. Lilly

Pfc. Lilly, from Houston, Mo., entered combat with A company, 137th Infantry Regiment in September 1944. During fierce fighting in the Battle of Fonteny, nearly every man in Pfc. Lilly's unit was killed or wounded. The platoon medic was wounded. Two other men going for medical aid were hit. Pfc. Lilly then volunteered to get help and after a death-defying dash under sniper fire, he reached the aid station and medical reinforcements. The next day, he found only five men left from the previous morning when his platoon had 50 men. In the battle for Hilsprich, Pfc. Lilly was hit by shrapnel and severely wounded. Later at an aid station, he refused surgery until his critically wounded sergeant was treated first. For his heroism in combat, Pfc. Lilly was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart. He died in 1992.

Pfc. Augustine G. Martinez

Pfc. Martinez was 18 when he was assigned to I Company, 137th Infantry as a replacement rifleman. On September 16, 1944 near Nancy, Pfc. Martinez and his platoon encountered heavy fire but drove the enemy back to a woods. A German tank emerged and fired, blowing away Martinez's left foot. What followed epitomizes the incredible life-long suffering of wounded soldiers who became POWs. Pfc. Martinez lay on the battlefield two days in indescribable pain until captured and hauled to a German POW camp, where his leg was partially amputated. He was released in a prisoner exchange, but he was not the same Augustine Martinez. For 73 years, he has suffered physically and mentally from his wounds and imprisonment, yet today he has a positive spirit and great pride in his service. He is a recipient of the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart. He is 91 and lives in California.



This edition of the Santa Fe Express
is courtesy of the
Prairie Band Potawatomi
Nation

The 35th Division Association is grateful
for their generosity.

President's Message

Greetings members, family, and friends

For those who were able to make it from near and far, it was great to see you at our 99th conference. Good company, good conversation, and good food. Three extremely deserving individuals were inducted into our Hall of Fame and it was great to hear their achievements and meet their family members; especially those of Medal of Honor recipient 2LT Erwin R. Bleckley. It was heartwarming to see the feedback from the field on the impact that Roberta Russo and her MIA work is having on family members hopeful to see their soldiers identified. And as always, the presentations from the Orphans, Widows, Families, and our International Friends were first class. The presence of Mike Ven added much to the dialogue and briefings; if you haven't visited his personal Facebook page, you should do so soon. It is a treasure trove. In short, it was a great event and I want to offer my personal thanks to attendees and our membership as a whole. And of course, it is important to recognize our good friends and donors, without whom such an event would not be possible. I can't say enough good things about them; in fact, our First VP, COL (Ret) Bob Dalton recently accepted a significant donation on behalf of the association from our great friends at the Potawatomi Nation, some truly great partners.

As discussed at our conference, COL (Ret) Bob Bloomquist has done a great job in getting a firm grip on membership numbers and his work tells us that we have around 550 members; a solid number. However, we need to continue to gain strength, particularly amongst those cur-



BG Bob Windham
with Dick O'Brien

rently serving or recently retired. I solicit all to continue to encourage and solicit membership. In the coming year I hope to implement some initiatives that will better reach that demographic; now is the time to join!

This edition focuses on our recent conference and I am sure you will enjoy reading it and looking at the pictures more than once. Frankly, I still question whether that was really Dick O'Brien or Clint Eastwood playing the role of Dick O'Brien; regardless, he looks magnificent in that uniform. For those who attended, it was great to see you; for those who could not attend, we missed you; for those who worked behind the scenes to make it happen, our volunteers and interns, a big thank you. And the countdown is on to your 100th Conference and Reunion! Stay tuned for details.

BG (Ret) Bob Windham



Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation donates to the 35th Division Association. Bob Dalton, 1st Vice President, accepts the Nation's \$2000.00 donation on Thursday, Oct. 13, 2016.

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- Division Association**
"FOR ALL 35TH DIVISION - PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE"
President:
BG Robert E. Windham
Former Cdr, KS Army National Guard
Past Deputy Cdr, 35th ID
- Immediate Past President:**
MG (Ret) John E. Davoren,
Past Cdr, 35th ID
- 1st Vice President:**
COL (Ret) Robert Dalton
69th Bde
- 2d Vice President:**
BG (Ret) Alex E Duckworth
35th Div, DIVARTY
- 3rd Vice President:**
BG Anthony Mohatt
Currently Cdr, KS Army National Guard
35th Div, 635th Armor
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MG (Ret) Jack Strukel, Jr.
69th Bde, 137th and 635th

- Chairman, 35th Assoc. Hall of Fame**
Ben Weber
Family or WW II Veteran
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CH/MAJ Richard Dunn
Asst. Chaplain, 35th ID
- Historian:**
Richard J. O'Brien
H-137th WWII
- Sergeant-at- Arms:**
CW4 (Ret) Carl Bush
69th Brigade
- Judge Advocates:**
COL (Ret) Angelo P. Demos
E-137th, WWII
- Outreach Committee:**
Murray Leff, Committee Chair
E-137th, WWII
- COL(Ret) Cal Warrem, Vice Chair
635th AR and 69th Bde
- Secretary/Treasurer:**
COL (Ret) Robert D. Bloomquist
635th AR and 69th Bde

35th Division Association
PO Box 5004
Topeka, KS 66605
785-234-2688

Send all photos, stories, obituaries, etc. for the Divisionnaire to: 35th Division Association, PO Box 5004, Topeka, KS 66605

Minutes of 35th DIV Assoc. Executive Committee, Nominating Committee and Annual Meeting conducted on 9 and 10 Sep 2016

1st Submission in October 2016 Edition of Santa Fe for review and comment

I’ve consolidated the outcome of the actions taken at the Executive Committee, Nominating Committee and Annual Meeting by subject area. This seems prudent given the issues discussed by Executive Council Members were presented and discussed at the Annual Meeting for approval.
Review & Approval of the 98th Minutes from Kansas City, MO written by COL (Ret) Robert Bloomquist were published in the Santa Fe Express following the 2015 reunion. It was moved and approved to accept those minutes as written.

Treasurer’s Report: Presented by COL (Ret) Bob Bloomquist, Treasurer. The financial health of the organization allows for continued business as usual provided those generous donors currently supporting the organization continue to do so. The treasurer reported that the operating account is \$31,421. The amount in the investment account for the museum was \$92,959.84. The treasurer has continued to capture all donations for publication in the Santa Fe and added the listed categories as an option for members.

1. Donation for 35th Div Assn Operating Expenses
2. Sponsor Edition of “The Santa Fe Express” - \$1000.00
3. Hall of Fame Sponsor - \$100 & up
4. 35th Div Conference Sponsor - \$100 or more
5. Donation in recognition of a loved one.
6. Donation specified for the 35th Museum Operating Expense to offset the amount of money we draw from our Museum Investment Account to pay for our share of operating the museum.

Membership: The treasurer reported on the initiative approved in 2015 that provided a very robust plan to find non-active members. Additional funding towards mailings were expended by sending two separate letters to those non-active members to ensure we didn’t drop someone by mistake. In addition to gaining some renewals, we found many members had passed away or some members from the current Division moved on to other units and didn’t want to continue membership. This investment in time and postage paid off in some members becoming current or by adding cost savings toward future additions of the “Santa Fe”.

The proposal approved in 2015 to give a hat to any soldier joining brought in some new members but not as many as expected. We then extended the offer to any of the 35th Div products available which is currently ongoing. Current status is 550 members, 25 new annual members and 22 new life members since the last reunion.

99th Conference Reunion Report: There were 46 members registered for the conference and over 110 for dinner due to the support and

WANTED for the Divisionnaire...

Your most memorable story of combat!
Search back in your memory and write down every detail in the order in which it happened. If you can’t type it yourself get one of your grandchildren to type it for you.
Maybe you were a P.O.W.... We want to know about it.
If you were hit, tell us how it happened.
If you were on a patrol or raid that didn’t go right, tell us about it.
If you had an unusual encounter with a civilian, tell us. If anything unusual happened in combat, we want to know. If there was an attack you remember more than others, tell us all about it. Be sure to include pictures if you have any.
Send your story to: Editor
35th Division Association P.O. Box 5004 Topeka,KS 66605
We will try to print it in the Divisionnaire as soon as the schedule permits.
Murray Leff E-137

Executive Council
CSM Tim Newton, CSM (RET) Jack Elliott. Paula Evans Baker, LTC Hank Morgan, MG(Ret) M Wayne Pierson, CSM (RET) Dale Putman, CSM (RET) Viviano Reveles, Roberta Russo, Ben Weber, Margaret Fenstermacher, Kathryn Frantz, Victoria Frisenda, Lloyd Frey, James Graff, Holli Harwell, Pat Cook, Patricia Faulkner Harwell, Marilyn Bowers Jensen, COL (RET) Mike Lind, CSM (RET) William Luse, Debra Hardy Bittles, Judy Bradford, CW4 (RET) Carl Bush, CSM (RET) Charles Johnston, CSM (Ret) Joe Romans, Marilyn Graff Smith, all past Presidents.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS
Send all correspondence relative to change of address to Secretary, 35th Division Association, P.O. Box 5004, Topeka, KS 66605. Be sure to include old and new address (with new ZIP number) and 35th Div. unit.
NOTICE
Membership dues for the 35th Division Association are \$20.00 per year. This includes your yearly subscription to the 35th Divisionnaire paper which is published quarterly. Make checks payable to the 35th Division Association and mail to Secretary, 35th Division Association, P.O. 5004, Topeka, Kansas 66605.

attendance of the 35th DIV soldiers on duty that weekend.
There were 16 honorary attendees (\$30) and 27 conference sponsors (\$100 to \$1000). Names of these and sponsors/donors throughout the year are included in the Divisionnaire and reunion program.

Nominating Committee Report: COL (Ret) Angelo P. Demos, Chairman, conducted the meeting and presented the recommendation of the Officers and Executive Committee at the Annual Meeting. The enclosed list of Officers and Executive Committee has these changes.

There was discussion and approval of consolidating the publicity and publishing board into one outreach committee. The President presented his vision of using one committee to communicate the association benefits in a more coordinated effort. There was in depth discussion on the many web sites and Facebook accounts that provides information on the Division and the Association. The committee discussed officially adding a Museum Trust Committee Chairman to the executive committee. This committee is responsible for oversight of funds donated specifically for the Associations support of the museum co located with the Kansas National Guard Museum.

Hall of Fame Committee Report: Ben Weber presented the current nominations and selection committee. The committee met and selected three inductees for the year 2017. Minutes of the Hall of Fame Committee meeting are scheduled to be published in the Fall edition of the Divisionnaire. It was commented by several members the level of appreciation for the professionalism and outstanding ceremony for which he was responsible.

KSARNG/35th Division Museum Report: A verbal report discussed the increased number of visitors the past year and the several special events that are published in the “Santa Fe” throughout the year. Museum news distributed by the President, BG Gerhardt to the members of the Museum are published in the Divisionnaire. It was also noted that the 35th Association has great representation on the Museum Board of Directors: These are BG Gerhardt, CW4 Bush, COL Bloomquist, COL

continued on page 5

Thanks to Contributors

Thanks to the many submitted articles to the Santa Fe “Divisionnaire”: This is history and every experience shared in this publication is kept at the 35th Division Museum Library. Years from now, people will research these documents and be amazed at what was accomplished by the 35th Division and our great Veterans contributions to society. Please keep the stories coming. IN addition to WW I and WW II History, stories of the 35th Division’s recent contribution to the War on Terror, response to natural disasters and community involvement are needed.

Next Edition

Please watch for the next edition approximately 29 Jan 2017. Let us know if you don’t receive it. If you have any suggestions or feedback of any kind, send a note to the Association address or e-mail the COL (RET) Robert Bloomquist at bbloom843@aol.com.

Planning Committee of the 100th Reunion of the 35th Division

BG Windham has expressed his vision and desire for the 100th Anniversary of the 35th Division in 2017 to be as grand as the milestone the Division has reached. If you are interested in the planning of this Reunion, we can use the help. Much of the success of the last reunion was due to feedback, ideas, and energy from members outside the geographical area.

Deadline for the Next Issue of the Santa Fe Express is 10 January 2017

Please send your favorite reunion stories and pictures to share.

Hall of Fame Ceremony

Hall of Fame Inductees 2016

1st Lt. Lyle J. Bouck, Jr. Capt. Joseph B. Scully 2nd Lt. Erwin R. Bleckley
World War II World War II World War I



Hall of Fame

The Hall of Fame was established in 2008 to honor the achievement of extraordinary men and women of the 35th Infantry Division. The first inductee was Unnamed Soldier, representing all men and women of the 35th Division who have served with great distinction, but who will never be recognized by name.

Members

2009

Unnamed Soldier
Capt. A. R. Skinker*
Pvt. N. T. Wold*
Staff Sgt. J. J. Spurrier*
Maj. Gen. P. Baade
Col. B. A. Byrne
Col. P. A. Fall
Staff Sgt. C. J. Frantz, Jr.
Maj. W. G. Gillis, Jr.
Brig. Gen. T. J. Kennedy
Maj. Gen. B. B. Miltonberger
Sgt. R. J. O'Brien
Capt. H. S. Truman
*Medal of Honor Recipient

2010

Staff Sgt. V. L. Allison
Col. A. P. Demos
Tech Sgt. K. L. Faulkner
Staff Sgt. R. M. Kirkland
Tech 5th H. L. Lange
Capt. L. Malmel
Maj. Gen. E. B. Seebree
Capt. S. K. Strong

2011

Maj. Gen. C. H. Browne, Jr.
Tech Sgt. W. H. Genrich
Maj. Gen. F. S. Greenlief
Capt. W. C. Miller
Lt. Col. H. G. Morgan
Pfc. A. R. Navarrette
Col. G. T. O'Connell
Maj. Gen. J. Strukel, Jr.

2012

Brig. Gen. J. W. Briedenthal
Col. E. R. Casey
Brig. Gen. T. L. Futch
Capt. W. R. Harrington
Capt. J. A. Kerner
Capt. M. H. Knott

2013

2nd Lt. A. J. Gibeau, Jr.
Tech Sgt. D. L. Giles
Pfc. J. G. Graff
Capt. E. I. Shopteese
1st Lt. O. T. Stallcup
Tech Sgt. J. E. Weick

2014

Maj. D. F. Davis
Maj. O. E. Faubus
Pfc. R. R. Holmes
Col. J. A. Houston
Lt. Col. H. W. Kurtz
Lt. Col. G. J. Melochick

2015

Sgt. L. Coffman
Master Sgt. B. L. Deghand
Pvt. M. Leff
Capt. S. G. O'Brien
Pfc. H. E. Olson
Staff Sgt. J. L. Ulmer



Recipients Hall of Fame 2016



Ben Weber



BG Windham with the grandson
Capt. Joseph B. Scully



BG Windham with the niece of
recipient 2nd LT Erwin R. Bleckley



BG Windham with daughter of
1st LT Lyle J. Bouck, Jr

35th Division Association Hall of Fame Committee

Meeting Minutes, September 8, 2016

Chairman Ben Weber opened the meeting at 4:30 p.m. Members present were:

Representing
137th Inf. Regt.
320th Inf. Regt.
69th Inf. Bde.
35th Inf. Div.

Arty/Div. HQ/Spt. Units
Orphans, Widows, Families
Recently Retired
At Large
At Large
At Large

Member
Angelo Demos
Victoria Frisenda
Calvin B. Warrem
BG Bob Windham
MG John Davoren
Marilyn Jensen
BG Ed Gerhardt
Dick O'Brien
Pat Cook
Ben Weber

Also present was association member Curtis Cook who was appointed election official to tabulate the votes of committee members.

The chairman presented a schedule of previous Hall of Fame nominees and their status. In accordance with Hall of Fame rules, seven nominees were withdrawn from consideration due to not being selected after five consecutive years. These nominees can be resubmitted after three years. There were nine nominees within the past five years who are eligible for selection at this committee meeting. In addition, there was one new nomination submitted for consideration this year, resulting in a total of 10 eligible candidates.

The chairman reviewed the criteria for selection to the Hall of Fame and the selection process, as outlined in the Rules. Each member will vote for three candidates. To be selected, a candidate must receive a majority of six votes from committee members present, with re-voting until that occurs. Eligible nominees this year were the following:

Pfc. Lewis Barondeau
Pfc. Arthur Germano
1st Lt. Frank A. Gonzales
Staff Sgt. Frank Holmes
Pfc. Ralph Lilly

Platoon Sgt. Noel Long
Pfc. Augustine Martinez
Col. William H. Sachs, Jr.
Staff Sgt. Ralph L. Shear
Tech Sgt./Maj. Norvin L. Vogel

Committee members then reviewed the credentials of each nominee. After the first round of voting, one member was excused and the required majority was reduced to five on the second and any subsequent votes. When the voting was concluded, the following candidates were selected for induction into the 35th Division Hall of Fame:

1st Lt. Frank A. Gonzales
Pfc. Ralph S. Lilly
Pfc. Augustine G. Martinez

The names will be announced at the conference banquet on September 10, 2016. These individuals will be formally inducted into the Hall of Fame at the 2017 Conference of the 35th Division Association.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ben Weber, Chairman
September 22, 2016



35th DIVISION ASSOCIATION NEW HALL OF FAME NOMINATING FORM

Please refer to the July-Aug-Sept 2016 Divisionnaire, page 5, for a copy of the form. It can also be found at the following web address:

http://www.35divassn.org/nominating_form.aspx

137th Infantry Served as Truman Honor Guard

Lest it be forgotten, a small chapter in the 35th Division's proud WW II history was written in July and August of 1945 when the 137th Infantry Regiment was selected to furnish the security and Honor Guard for President Harry Truman, who was on his way to the Potsdam Conference.

The Potsdam Conference was the result of the dogged insistence of British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, who pressed President Truman for an early conference between him and Soviet Marshal Joseph Stalin at the end of World War II. It was held at Potsdam, Germany, from July 17 to Aug 1, 1945. This set the stage for the Big Three meeting, where Allied peace plans were laid.

President Truman and his party debarked from the U.S.S. Augusta at Antwerp, Belgium on July 15, 1945. The 137th Infantry, with attached troops, secured the President's route to the Brussels, Belgium airfield that he used to fly to Berlin, Germany.

The Guard of Honor, commanded by Lt Col George T. O'Connell of Emporia,

Kansas, consisted of 150 specially-selected men, and received the President at the airfield at 1300 hrs on July 15. (Lt Col McConnell was the commander of the 2d Bn, 137th Inf and is in the 35th Division Hall of Fame.) The President was met by Col. William E. Murray, commander of the 137th Inf Regt, and the two inspected the Honor Guard from Truman's old division.

Beginning at 1800 hrs on July 14, the Reconnaissance Section of the 137th Inf inspected and secured all bridges, culverts, overpasses, underpasses, and canal crossings until the presidential party was safely at the Brussels airfield. The 137th Regimental CP during the mission was the control tower at the Brussels airfield.

During the mission, Co B, 137th Inf, constituted a mobile reserve along the route, with one platoon reinforced at three locations along the route.

The 137th Inf Regt participated in the Presentation of Awards, Parade, and Retreat Ceremony on July 30 at the Palais de Justice in Brussels. A provisional battalion, commanded by Lt Col Albert W. Frick, constituted the Parade Bat-

talion at this ceremony. At the conclusion of the Retreat Ceremony, the Battalion passed in review before the distinguished guests on the reviewing stand.

Most of the rest of the 35th Division units had already begun the journey home. The 137th Inf Regt had been delayed, but soon also departed for home, and arrived in Boston Harbor on Aug. 31, 1945. Following a 30-day furlough from Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, the 137th Infantry and the 35th Division re-assembled at Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky.

On Dec. 7, 1945, the entire 35th Infantry Division was deactivated and ceased to exist as a fighting unit, four years after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Total casualties had been 3,947 killed in action and 12,935 wounded in action.

In late 1946 and early 1947 the 35th Infantry Division, along with the 137th Inf Regt, was reorganized as a Kansas-Missouri National Guard division. In 1963 the 35th Division was again inactivated. However, the 137th Inf Regt remained in existence as a regiment of the Kansas National Guard's 69th Infantry Brigade. In 1984 the 35th Division was again activated as a 5-state National Guard division, headquartered at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas. The states involved were Kansas, Nebraska, Kentucky, Missouri, and Colorado, with the 137th Inf Regt again becoming a part of the 35th Division, Kansas Army National Guard.

It continues to exist today as the 137th Combined Arms Battalion (Infantry and Armor), Kansas Army National Guard, and is headquartered in Kansas City, Kansas.



SPC Kenneth G Armfield receives CSM Jack Elliott Outstanding Enlisted Award

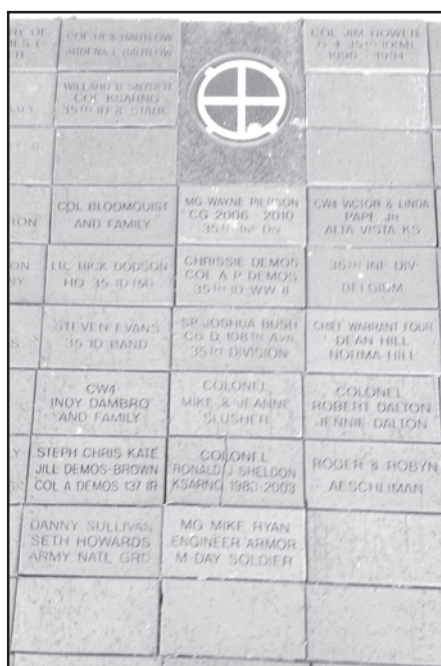


SGT Jessica Smith receives Platoon Sgt Kenneth Faulkner Outstanding NCO Award



Pictures provided by students of Mrs Duckworth to thank our soldiers for their service. Left to Right: CPT Jordan Clark recipient of CPT Walter R. "Hank" Harrington Outstanding Grade Officer Award, SPC Armfield and SGT Smith.

MAJ Jason Inskeep, recipient of the COL Angelo P. Demos Outstanding Field Grade Officer Award was not present due to Military Mission.



Support your museum and show your pride in the 35th by adding your name to the 35th Division Patio.
(See order form)

Museum of the Kansas National Guard

Home of the 35th Division Museum

125 SE Airport E. Drive

Topeka, KS 66619

785 862-1020 or office@kngmuseum.org



Museum Donor Form for 2016

Name: _____ Rank: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____ E-Mail: _____

(Street) (City/State/Zip)

_____ Perpetual Sustaining Membership – \$1200 or \$120 per year for 10 years
(Inscription - 3 lines, maximum of 14 letters/spaces per line)



_____ 2016 Major Donor Club Donation - \$100 or more (Name posted in lobby)

_____ 2016 Annual Membership - \$25 per year (Name Posted in Conference Room)

_____ Contribution for Museum Operations - Amount: _____

_____ Interior Brick - \$200
(Inscription - 3 lines, maximum of 14 letters/spaces per line)



For 35th Division Wall? ☐ Yes ☐ No

_____ Exterior Brick - \$50
(Inscription - 3 lines, maximum of 14 letters/spaces per line)



For Which Unit Area? _____

(Buy Perpetual Sustaining Membership, Get Free Interior & Exterior Brick)

(Buy Interior Brick, Get Free Exterior Brick)

(All 2016 Members, Major Donors, & Perpetual Sustaining Membership Payments Receive a Free Museum Coin)

HONORING
ALL WHO
SERVED

Deadline for the
Jan-Feb-Mar 2017
issue of the
Santa Fe Express
is **January 10**

Scenes from the reunion

Memorial service Posting of colors



**Paula Evans Baker,
daughter of Richard Evans,
134th IR WW2**



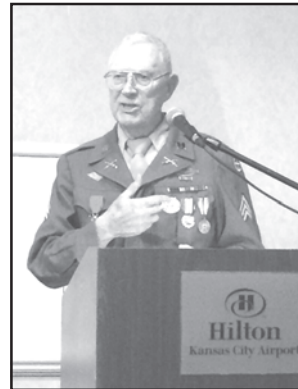
**Roberta Russo and
Jim Graff**



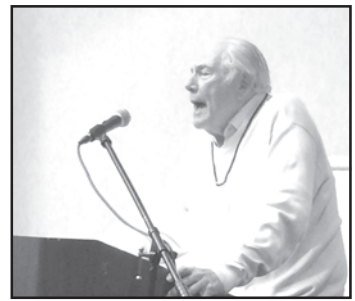
**Roberta Russo and
Mike H Ven**



**Kathryn Frantz, widow of
Carl Frantz, 137th IR WW2**



**Richard "Dick" O'Brien,
137th IR WW2 Veteran**



**Angelo Demos, 137th
IR WW2 Veteran**



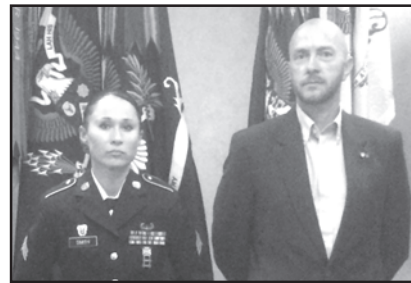
**Pat Rowe Cook,
daughter of Carl E. Rowe,
320th IR WW2**



**Jim Graff, Dick
O'Brien, Angelo Demos,
all WW2 veterans**



Mike H Ven



**AT LEFT: Sgt Jessica M
Smith, awarded with the
Plat Sgt Ken Faulkner Non
Commissioned Officer
Award with Mike H Ven,
grandson in
law of Sgt Ken Faulkner**

Minutes

continued from page 2

Warrem and COL Dalton.

Museum Operations Fund: COL Bob Dalton reported that the 35th Association Financial Committee approved to continue the \$5,000 annual support to the Kansas National Guard and 35th Division Museum. COL Bob Bloomquist also commented that he has added an option to the donation form to donate funds specifically for the Museum.

Outreach Committee Report (formerly publications committee): Murray Leff, Chairman was absent from the conference, however the following issues were introduced and discussed. We currently have approx. 550 members receiving the DIVISIONAIRE newspaper which is our largest expense. In addition, complimentary papers are sent to several units that are assigned to the 35th Division in Kansas and Missouri. It was discussed and decided we would continue with 4 issues of the Divisionnaire. The cost ranges from \$1200-\$1400 depending on size, time of article preparation, and number/location of recipients. For example, extra copies for 35th units during a membership drive will increase the cost.

International Committee Report: Marilyn Jensen/Paula Baker commented that they are thinking of sending "Save the Date" postcards to our European friends informing them of the date and place of the 100th Anniversary Reunion next year. This will happen as soon as we know date and place, probably after the first of the year. We have 20 individuals or

groups in Europe who honor and support the activities of the 35th Division Association. There were numerous compliments for all those that work so hard overseas to keep the memories of the Division's contribution in the Wars alive.

Historian's Report: Dick O'Brien reported on Presentations in California of 6 French Legion of Honors to WWII Veterans by the French Consulate. He also discussed programs in his area on the education of youth, talking to school kids in conjunction with teacher's programs.

Next Reunion The topic of the 100th Reunion in 2017 was discussed and BG Windham's intent on coordinating something with the WWI Museum in Kansas City.

35th Division Leadership Awards
CSM Jack Elliott Outstanding Enlisted Award:

SPC Kenneth G Armfield
Platoon Sgt Kenneth Faulkner Outstanding NCO Award
SGT Jessica Smith
CPT Walter R. "Hank" Harrington Outstanding Company Grade Officer Award:
CPT Jordan Clark
COL Angelo P. Demos Outstanding Field Grade Officer Award:
MAJ Jason Inskeep

2017 Annual Conference – President BG Robert Windham discussed his coordination with the WWI Museum in Kansas City for the 100th Anniversary of the 35th Division. There will be additional information in the January edition of the "Santa Fe".

Saturday Evening Dinner



**Pat Cook with
husband**



**LTR Marilyn Jensen and
Maggie Fenstermacher**



35th Division Museum Activities Continue

35th Division Museum Donations & Exhibit Updates Continue

Roberta Russo of Palatine, Illinois continues to provide paper copies and CD's from 35th Division units during their WW II time in combat—July 1944 to May 1945. For the 134th Inf Regt units she has provided Morning Reports, After Action Reports, S-2 and S-3 Reports, Award Recommendations, War Material Reports, and other documents. She has provided After Action Reports for the 60th Engr Bn, the 110th Med Bn, 35th Division Artillery, and the 127th, 161st, and 216th Field Artillery units, as well as Unit Journals for the 216th FA. She has recently provided Morning Reports for all units of the 137th Inf Regt. and has begun work on the 320th Inf Regt. These documents are invaluable as visitors come to research family members who served in WW II.

Nancy Skrocki of Allen Park, MI, has provided three notebooks of individual soldier information for 35th Division soldiers who served during WW II, and with whom contact was maintained over the years.

CSM Gale Beck's family has recently provided another treasure trove of information. CSM Beck was the historian for Co A, 137th Inf for many years, and last attended the 35th Division Conference in 2012. His home was in Iola, Kansas, where he served for many years in the Kansas Army National Guard. He passed away less than a year later. His information includes two photo albums of training at Camp Robinson, AR; a notebook of Co A, 137th Inf Newsletters; rosters of Co A, 137 Inf at Camp Robinson, on April 12, 1944 in Germany, and the list when they returned from Camp Lucky Strike, LeHavre, France to Boston in 1945; a roster of Co L, 137th Inf; a notebook of news articles from Co A, 137th Inf in WW II; and a notebook of information on Co A soldiers as they passed away, kept current until his death. The Museum also received two laundry bags of his uniforms, from the Ike jackets through Fatigues and BDU's.

MSG James Wilroy, Topeka, KS, has donated two ANPRC/6 handheld radios, used by squad leaders in Infantry units following WW II, in Korea, and into the 1960's.

Don Younger of Ellis, Kansas, has brought in a collection of WW II items from **T/4 Guy M. Harvey**, a member of the Medical Detachment, 137th Infantry. Harvey served as a POW from 12 Sep 44 to 31 Jan 45, when he was freed by the Rus-

sians, eventually finding his way home by way of Naples, Italy in April of 1945. He received the Bronze Star for his work in the 137th Aid Station during the battle of St. Lo. The items included two diaries from the time of his service in the 137th Inf, including his time as a prisoner of war and his nearly 3 month exfiltration home. Also included were his Purple Heart, his dog tags, his POW tag from Stalag XII in Prussia, and a record of his military service and Bronze Star citation. Harvey spent the last four years of his life in the Kansas Soldiers Home in Dodge City, KS, died in 1996, and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

Judy Bradford, Lake Isabella, CA, has donated two swords and a machete, which had belonged to her father, Everett Bradford, a member of the 35th Division in WW II.

CSM David Wright, Topeka, KS, has donated a Tank Sabot Training Round and a U. S. Army flag pole w/casing. He served as Command Sergeant Major of the 1st Bn, 635th Armor.

The **226th Engr Co** of the Kansas Army National Guard constructed five exhibit pads, a bridge and sidewalk to a handicapped viewing area for outside exhibits, and office walls in the back of the Museum during their 2016 Annual Training in August. New exhibits coming in the near future are a M-916 Light Equipment Transport tractor, a 5-Ton Dump Truck, and a 5-Ton Wrecker.

The **1st Bn, 108th Avn** painted the AH-1 Cobra, OH-58 Kiowa, and the UH-1 Huey helicopter during their Annual Training in July. Yet to be painted is the CH-54 Skycrane helicopter.

New and refurbished exhibits include four **WW I** exhibits in the 35th Division Museum, four **Civil War** exhibits, and exhibits on **"Women in the Kansas National Guard," "The Kansas National Guard at Haskell,"** and **"Unexploded Ordnance—Mines and IED's."**

It's Not Too Late!

If you haven't joined as a 2016 member, 2016 Major Donor, or Perpetual Sustaining Member, or wish to purchase an exterior or exterior brick, it's not too late. Please use the form included with this Newsletter.

Native Americans in the 35th Division

Haskell Indian Nations University, formerly Haskell Institute, at Lawrence, Kansas was opened in 1894. From the beginning, students were divided into battalions and placed into a military environment.

By 1913, Faustino J. Domingo, a sergeant in the Kansas National Guard, was a Major in the Military Department at Haskell. By 1920, Capt. Paul Cannady, of Hqs Co, 137th Infantry, Kansas National Guard, was the disciplinarian at Haskell.

The first unit at Haskell was Co D (Machine Gun), 4th Kansas Infantry, of the Kansas National Guard, organized on April 18, 1921.

It included 65 students from 20 tribes and was the first All-Native American National Guard Company in the U. S. It later became Co D, 137th Infantry and was disbanded in 1934.

On May 5, 1924 Troop C, 114th Cavalry was formed at Haskell, commanded by Capt. Paul Cannady. It included members from the Cherokee, Choctaw, Seminole, Pueblo, Navajo, Apache, Pima, Ute, Arapaho, Sioux, Cheyenne, Chippewa, Sac and Fox, Seneca, Oneida, and Menominee tribes.

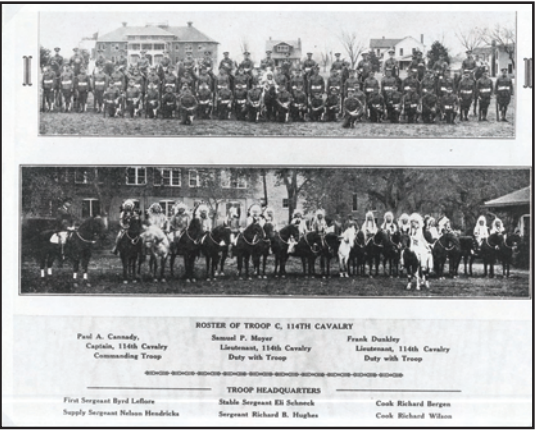
On April 11, 1929, Troop C became Troop I, 114th Cavalry. It continued as a "show troop" for the

Kansas National Guard through the 1930's and attended Annual Trainings at Ft. Riley. Most of the officers were white. Many members performed in the 1939 World's Fair in New York.

In Oct, 1940, Troop I became Battery E, 127th Field Artillery. In Dec, 1940, they were mobilized for WW II as part of the 35th Inf Div. Shortly after they left Camp Robinson, AR for California in 1941, Battery E was reorganized and ceased to be an identifiable Indian unit. Members were scattered into other 35th Division Artillery units, and served until the end of World War II.



Co D, 137th Inf, Kansas National Guard, is shown at Haskell Institute, now Haskell Indian Nations University, Lawrence, KS in the 1920's. This unit was disbanded prior to WW II.



These native American soldiers at Haskell Institute, Lawrence, KS, are shown in the late 1930's, prior to their mobilization with the 35th Division.



Troop C, 114th Cavalry, Haskell Institute, shown here at Ft. Riley in 1936, later became Battery E, 127th Field Artillery, and was mobilized in 1940 as part of the 35th Inf Div.



Native American soldiers of Battery E, 127th Field Artillery, in native dress, fire their howitzer at Camp Robinson, AR in 1941.

CPT Paul Cannady, commander of the Haskell unit, is shown with Chief Magpie of the Cheyenne tribe during a visit to Haskell.



New 35th Division Museum Bricks

Glenn W. Farrell
WW II 35 ID
I Co, 3d Bn, 134 Regt

Captain
Robert Phillips
D Co, 320th Inf

Pvt R. D. Stein
C 134 35th ID
KIA 1-4-45 B O B

DONOR APPRECIATION

OCT 2015-OCT 2016

These are donations made in addition to the Annual or Life membership.

Donors \$1,000 and above

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, \$2000 for “Santa Fe”

*Greg, Gary and Wade Beadle (In recognition of Frank Beadle, for 35th Museum and Assoc. operating expenses)

Donors \$500 to \$999

*Co G Re-enactors

*USAA

Donors \$200 to \$499

*Judy Bradford

*Jack and Alice Brauntuch

*Angelo and Chrissie Demos (recognition of Al Navarrette, and **Conf. Spons.**)

*Gary L and Laura Beadle (**Conf. Spons.** and Op. Exp.)

*MG (Ret) Philip Finley

*BG (Ret) Ed Gerhardt (**Conf. Spons.**)

*James and Alice Graff (**Conf. Spons.**)

*COL Larry and Donna Hahn (**Conf. Spons.** and operating expenses)

*Rick and Jo McClellan (**Conf. Spons.s** and Recognition of Ferry G Schoonover)

*MG Wayne Pierson (**Hall of Fame**)

*Roberta Russo (**Conf. Spons.**)

*Ben Weber (**Hall of Fame Sponsor**, Hall of Fame pins, and Operating Expenses)

BG (Ret) Alex Duckworth

Donors \$150 to \$199

*MG (Ret) Jack Strukel, Jr. (**Conf. Spons.**)

Donors \$125 to \$149

*COL Edward D Brown

*Woodrow W Hoffman (**Conf. Spons.**)

*Marilyn Bowers Jensen (International Mailing).

*John F Walsh (**Conf. Spons.**)

Donors \$100 to \$124

*Paula Baker (International Mailing and **Conf. Spons.**)

*Ceo E Bauer (35th Museum)

*Jack and Alice Brauntuch

*COL (Ret) Robert Bloomquist (**Conf. Spons.**)

*CW4 (Ret) Carl Bush (**Conf. Spons.**)

*LTC Leslie Chambers

*Chaplain Ronald L Cobb (In recognition of Corporal Albert Lincoln Cobb, Okinawa, WWII)

*Pat Cook (**Conf. Spons.**)

*COL (Ret) Bob Dalton

*Mary H Enyeart (Operating expenses)

*Kathy and Fred Esker (Operating expenses and 35th Museum)

*Maggie S Fenstermacher (**Conf. Spons.**)

*Arthur Germano (In recognition of his father Arthur C. Germano)

*James and Alice Graff (**Conf. Spons.s**)

*Patricia Harwell (**Conf. Spons.**)

*Woodrow W Hoffman (**Conf. Spons.**)

*Dave Hruska (**Conf. Spons.**)

*Marilyn Bowers Jensen (International Mailing) and \$100 donation

*CSM Charley Johnston (**Conf. Spons.**)

*Rick and Jo McClellan (**Conf. Spons.s**)

*ISG Richard O’Brien

*LTC John W Rueger (**Conf. Spons.**)

*MG (Ret) Mike Ryan (**Conf. Spons.**)

*Scott’s Hometown Foods (**Conf. Spons.**)

*COL (Ret) Cal and Terri Warrem (Hall of Fame)

*John F Walsh (**Conf. Spons.**)

Donors \$50 to \$99

*Roy Albert (Second Life membership)

*ISG Richard O Blatz

*Philip Butler (Sponsored 2 new memberships)

*John Evers (Recognition of CPT Maurice Knott)

*David G Futch (In recognition of BG T.L. Futch)

*Diana Hardison

*Charles R Gentile(In recognition of SSG Charles R Gentile and SGT Maurice Markworth)

*Dorothy A Rodriguez(In recognition of Fred Rodriguez)

*Virginia Bartlett Weaver (In recognition of Frank Bartlett)

Donors up to \$49

Joe G Ayres

Gregory Bell

Ronald L Cobb

Rosemary Corbett (In recognition of Martin H Huschka)

PFC Edmund J DiBianco

Butch Dowse

SFC Anthony S Eberz

Randolph Fair

PFC Robert L Hagel

John J Harakal (Recognition of Joseph Toth)

Alex Hawkins (35th Museum)

PFC Bernard Kirsch

SGT Willie E Lambert

SGT Maurice J.A. Markworth

Lori L Meyer

Isabella Miles (In honor of Chester Miles, laid to rest in 2013)

LTC (R) Robert Mott (Recognition of Tom Tholan)

James S Poage

PFC Joseph Siegel

Mark and Peggy Weddle

Nancy Skrocki for Museum Trust

HONORARY ATTENDEES (Paid Conf Fee in absence)

Marge Bullock

James E Drew

COL Malen and Marilyn Dowse

David G Futch

Sue D Headly

Woodrow W Hoffman

Donald E Keysor

SGM Allen Kirby

Edgar G Miller

James E Moore, Jr.

Louise E Moore

Robert O Paoli

Frederick H Parks

John F Walsh

CPT Larry Wheeler

Ronald E Winchell

(Conference Sponsor) is a \$100 or more donation.

Presentation “Into the depth of Hell” The division during the Battle of the Bulge”



General Pierson introducing Mike H Ven



Mike H Ven, Jim Graff, Maggie Fenstermacher and General Pierson



Mike H Ven talking about the Division during the Battle of the Bulge



Mike H Ven with Jim Graff, 134th IR WW2

Two Opportunities to Support the Museum Without Cost to You Dillon’s Community Rewards

If you have a Dillons Card, sign up for the Community Rewards program at www.dillons.com/communityrewards. The Museum number is 85714. At no cost to you, a portion of your sale will go to the Museum.

Thrivent Choice

If you do business with Thrivent Financial (Insurance & Investments), you can designate “Thrivent Choice” dollars to the Museum, by locating the Museum on the list and selecting it for free Thrivent Choice dollars.

International Liaison Committee Column

October 5, 2016

The end of summer brought “accounting time” for 35th Division support groups in France.

Members of the 35th Division “Santa Fe” Normandie group could reflect on a satisfactory continuation of tradition after the departure of their president for many years, Andree Chan.

The group carried floral tributes to the Brittany American Cemetery at St. James on June 26, 2016. They visited the Normandy American Cemetery at Colleville-Sur-Mer on July 3, 2016. Photos were sent by Jean-Francois Percy, one of two vice presidents who followed Andree Chan. The other is Yann Renaud.

Following the death of her husband, Maurice, Andree is now established 15 miles from her daughter in Brittany. She is happy to share her address with friends in the 35th Division. It is Andree Chan, 2 lotissement Kampostal, 22110 Rostrenen, FRANCE.

In northeastern France, the association of “L’Espace Memoire Lorraine 1939-45”, finished its museum season with a flourish Oct. 1. Two days before, there was a special opening for George and Beckie Weber of Springfield, Ill. George is the nephew of BG Edmund Sebree, assistant commander of the 35th Division to MG Paul W. Baade during the liberation of France. “Task Force Sebree” liberated Nancy on Sept. 15, 1944. George is the brother of Ben Weber, an active member of the 35th Division Association. Ben is the new chairman of the Hall of Fame committee.

A special showcase of photos honoring Gen. Sebree’s time in Nancy was put together for the visitors. General Sebree was made an honorary citizen of Nancy by the municipal council on Oct. 28, 1944. He returned to accept the illustrated proclamation on March 31, 1945. Gen. Alexander Patch, commander of the US Seventh Army, attended the ceremony.

Also honoring the guests was the presence of Roland Prieur, retired superintendent of the American Epinal Cemetery at Dinoze, south of Nancy. Prieur served under Gen. Sebree in the 28th Division in Germany and the 23rd Division in Vietnam. Francois Cesar also was a museum host.

“This is a most impressive museum,” George Weber wrote in the guest book. “Thank you for the honor of the tour and keeping alive the memory for all.”

The Webers’ visit coincided with the “return to active duty” of Jerome Leclerc, museum animator. After a summer’s recuperation from shoulder surgery, his surgeon pronounced him ready to drive and return to work.

While his movements were limited throughout the summer, Leclerc managed to keep in touch with the many activities carried out by the association. He also organized an exhibition of photos and information on Gen. George Patton’s three months in Nancy following Liberation. The exhibit was displayed in the city hall of Nancy during the week following Liberation ceremonies.

On the previous weekend, the opening drive on Nancy was remembered at the annual ceremony at Flavigny Bridge on September 11. Numerous patriotic organizations sent flag bearers to the ceremony which was also attended by elected officials.

Research into the tragedy at Flavigny Bridge, when the second battalion of the 134th infantry regiment was decimated, led to the creation of the association of “L’Espace de Memoire Lorraine 1939-45.” The educational organization preserves the memories of all aspects of WWII in Lorraine. It operates the only WWII Museum in Lorraine in the summers. The museum is located across the street from the railroad station at Vezelise, south of Nancy.

Photos and more information about the association’s activities are available at the website: espacedememoire.fr. English translation is available. The site carries news of visitors, obituaries and songs and film of the WWII years. Even the International Relations column of the Santa Fe Express is posted!

On Sunday, September 18, 2016, the people of Agincourt remembered the actions of the 35th Division during the “Sugar Loaf Battle.” The ceremony was organized by Emmanuel Peignier from the Sugar Loaf Battle Association in Agincourt, France. Guy Reichert, President of the Association “Les Portes de la Memoire—The Gates of Memory” was in attendance and spoke on behalf of those who were killed during this battle. The Monument lists the names of the 35th Infantry Division men who were killed during this action.

Patrick Beck has forwarded this news from Luxembourg: “For Memo-



Annual memorial at the Flavigny Bridge at the Monument to the 35th Division, September 11, 2016



Memorial Wreath



Roland Prieur, Francois Cesar, Beckie Weber and George Weber at the espace de Memoire Museum



Members of the Normandie 35th Division Association



Ceremony in Agincourt, France, at the Memorial to the 35th Division. The names of the men killed during the Sugar Loaf Battle are inscribed on the monument, September 18, 2016.



General Sebree in 1944 talking with 35th Division soldier (unidentified)



Photo of headstone of Capt. Wilbur Davis of the 320th

Continued on next page



“635TH ARMOR REGIMENT AND 137TH INFANTRY REGIMENT 2016 SCHOLARSHIP RESULTS

On behalf of the Scholarship Committee, these four applicants were selected from a long and very impressive list of candidates for a \$500 grant each from the 635th Armor Regiment and 137th Infantry Regiment Scholarship fund.

Katie Saltkill, Bolivar, MO
Emma Harmon, Emporia KS
Emma Kibbe, Topeka, KS
Corey Cochran, Kansas City, MO

Eligibility for scholarships is linked to honorable service of parents and/or grandparents in the following past and present military organizations:

1st, 2nd, or 3rd Battalions of the 137th Infantry Regiment.

1st or 2nd Battalions of the 635th Armor Regiment.

2nd Combined Arms Battalion, 137th Infantry Regiment.

635th Tank Destroyer Battalion (WW II).

The primary criteria upon which grants are decided include: Scholastics, aptitude and involvement in the many forms of extracurricular activities (in and out of school), participation in civic and community services, career intentions with a spe-

cial emphasis on service to state and nation, and for consideration, “financial need”.

This joint scholarship fund evolved from the 635th Armor Regimental Scholarship fund under the leadership of MG (Ret) Jack Strukel Jr. Scholarships have been granted over the years to a wide range of students, to include descendants of WW II Veterans (635th Tank Destroyer Battalion), and former and current members of the 635th Armor Regiment and 137th Infantry Regiment. Recipients of these scholarship funds have reflected immense appreciation for the assistance and have honored their recognition through exceptional effort in their post high school academic endeavors.

The Scholarship Program is managed by former members of the 137th Infantry and 635th Armor Regiments along with Infantry/Armor Officer and Enlisted representation from the 2-137th CAB, Headquartered in Kansas City, KS.

This year’s scholarships are made possible by the generous donations of the following supporters. The following categories represent the cumulative level of their

contributions since the creation of the scholarship: (Gold: Over \$1500), (Silver: \$500 to \$1500) and (Bronze: \$100 to \$499)

Gold

MG (R) and Mrs Jack Strukel Jr.

LTC (R) and Mrs Larry Farmer

Silver

SGM Patrick Cullen

CSM (R) Joe Romans

Bronze

LTC and Mrs Robert Stinson

COL Roger Aeschliman

SGM (R) Viviano Reveles

LTC (R) Ricky Dodson

LTC (R) Gregory Mittman

SGM (R) Robert and Marilyn Johnson

COL (R) Calvin and Terri Warrem

COL (R) Robert Dalton

COL (R) and Mrs Lyn Smith

LTC (R) Duke Hester

COL (Ret) Robert and Betty Bloomquist

Marge Bullock in memory of Keith Bullock, WW II Veteran (137th)

The committee in conjunction with the Topeka Community Foundation manages the 137th/635th Regiment Scholarship Fund.

The donations are held at the Topeka Community Foundation which assists in managing the funds and providing donors with proper documentation for their tax exempt donation. If you are interested in donating to this scholarship, you may contribute via the web site, www.topekacommunityfoundation.org or mail to Topeka Community Foundation, ATTN: 635th/137th Scholarship, 5431 SW 29th Street, Suite 300, Topeka, KS 66614-4486. Contributions are income tax deductible and easy to accomplish. 100% of the administration fees are paid by investment return or covered by a board member, so your entire contribution goes to the scholarship.

If you want information on the committee representatives, periodic updates on the fund or scholarship applications please contact COL (R) Robert Bloomquist at 785-234-2688 or bbloom843@aol.com.

Robert D Bloomquist
Colonel, US Army (Ret)
Committee Chair

International Committee

Continued from page 8

rial Day the USVF have sponsored the placing of a single red rose on every grave since 1994. We put the flowers together with a set of US and Luxembourg flags at the foot of every one of the 5.076 graves at Hamm cemetery. On Memorial Day, several members of the USVF laid wreaths, some of them on behalf of American associations (e.g. AWON) or families from abroad.

Although their increasing age, it is still amazing how many groups or even single veterans we had the pleasure to welcome this year. Every veteran is awarded the “USVF Medal of Honor” and presented the book “Mir soe Merci - A grateful Nation remembers!”.

Numerous ceremonies that are still held throughout the year are attended by delegates of the USVF. A very particular ceremony to be mentioned, was held on September 10th at Wiltz (www.wiltz.lu). In remembrance of the 1st Liberation of Wiltz on Sept. 10th 1944. Several Luxembourgish Associations and communities have sponsored the complete refurbishing of an original Sherman M4 tank. This American tank was lost during the defense of Wiltz in December 1944. A whole new public place for the tank and information boards had been specially designed and set up at the south-eastern entrance of the town. (<http://www.rtl.lu/fotoen/26448/overview>)

USVF’s annual meeting will be held on Veterans Day as usually. On schedule after the meeting is a ceremony at Hamm followed by a luncheon.

Last but not least on December 16th our yearly “Night Vigil” ceremony, in memory of the beginning of the Battle of the Bulge, will take place at Hoscheid 6.30am.

Finally I’d like to mention the USVF’s website has been refurbished too. It can be reached under www.usvf.lu or www.usvf.eu. The latest News, pictures and much more can be found there. Webmaster – myself.”

Plans are now being formulated by the 35th Division Association for the 100th Anniversary Reunion next year. Special invitations will be sent to all of our European friends in anticipation of this big event.

International Liaison Committee Co-Chairs

Paula Evans Baker, daughter of Pvt. Richard H. Evans, F-134-35, KIA 9/30/44
dicknell35@hotmail.com

Marilyn Bowers Jensen, daughter of PFC Rex M. Bowers, C-134-35, KIA 01/25/45
mbowersjensen@msn.com



Outline of Major General
Braden's comments

This is the outline of the comments from Major General Braden, Commander, 35th Infantry Division during the 2016, 35th Association Dining Out. There were several requests for his comments and upon our request, he took the time to write the outline of his summary of the world in which we live.

LEADING IN A COMPLEX
WORLD

Summer of 1914 in France
Sipping wine, eating a croissant
Not a care in the world

Within four years
1.7 million Frenchmen killed
A generation of young men gone

Some estimates between ages
18 to 30, only one male for every
15 females

Devastation of the WWI
Caused by tactics
That had not caught up with
technology

*The World today is an unstable
and complex place*
More diverse
Racially, economically, religiously,
and culturally

USA itself – more than half of
children by 2020 will be of
a minority race or ethnic group

Population trends
3 billion in 1960
7 billion now
9 billion by 2050
Largest growth Sub-Sahara
Drastic decline in W. Europe
Rise of Mega Cities
> 20 million
Subset will be feral cities - un-
governable

More connected
Nano technology will revolutionize
our world

I-Phone dinosaur
Resource constrained
Competition for
·Clean water sources
·Energy sources
·Budget friction – entitlements

for an aging population versus national
security requirements

Tour around the Globe
Pacific
Increasing economic strength
Competition for energy and
water sources

Are leading to intense traditional
state versus state friction
Middle East

Ancient religious fractures
Sunni and Shia have reappeared
Europe
Remain united

Go it alone
Africa

Potential for economic growth
Suffer from chronic poor governance

About to experience population



Major General Braden

explosion, but no water to support
WHEM

Networks that move commodities
N-S – humans, human parts,
drugs, weapons, money
To highest bidder

Arctic – an emerging competition
for energy source ownership
and climate change multiplier

*·Role of the 35th ID within this
dynamic and changing World is to
develop leaders that thrive in
complexity through three avenues*

Experiences in a wide variety of
assignments that allows that
provides in-depth exposure

With people of various cultures
With groups with diverse interests

With individuals with varying
views

Repetitive training that is
challenging and relevant

Education
Practice influencing through the
written word

·Concisely
·Coherently

Be able to inform through feeding
one's mind - read

·Anthropology
·Geography
·Demography

*·Whether part of the military or
not, we all play a role in National
Security*

We can strengthen National
Security through

Providing loving and nurturing
care to our children

Ensuring they receive a solid
formal education, to include learning
a second language

Seeking to provide them with an
atmosphere that fosters sound emotional,
mental, spiritual, and physical health

·So, yes, we are faced with
Difficult challenges ahead

But challenges
Make life interesting,

However, challenges overcome
make life rewarding

Band photos from reunion



New Association
LIFE Members

Terry Meinke
Allyn Weddle

Museum Events

Monthly Coffees 0900 Hrs

Wed, 9 Nov 16

Wed, 14 Dec 16

Quarterly Brown Bag

Luncheons

Wed, 2 Nov 16

Wed, 1 Feb 17

Wed, 3 May 17



35th orphans Victoria Frisenda. Marilyn
Jensen. Paula Baker

Roberta Russo
receives
flower bouquet



Hope this finds you well. I have a request to make but am unsure who to direct it to at the Association. In short, I would like someone to present Roberta Russo with a bouquet of flowers at the upcoming 99th Annual Conference. Roberta has notified me she is scheduled to present an update to the Conference regarding MIA S/Sgt Gerald L. Jacobsen. I thought this event would be an ideal venue to honor Roberta on behalf of my family.

Gerald is my uncle and we are currently attempting repatriation and DNA identification of remains in France. Without Roberta's exhausting research, we would be nowhere in the process and the DPAA would have shuffled us to the side. In my opinion. Of course that may

still happen. And it may turn out the unidentified remains are not my uncle. But I am hard-pressed to find a way to thank Roberta for her stellar work. A couple of months ago, I always believed Gerald's remains were lost. Until contacted by Roberta. Now there is at least hope Gerald can be identified and repatriated. I've attached two background documents for you.

A couple of flowers won't come close to expressing the gratitude I feel. But, I'm hoping the acknowledgement in front of Roberta's peers will be somewhat meaningful to her.

Please let me know if this is at all possible. Thanks for your help.

Respectfully, Brad Jacobsen

The Roer River Battle and the liberation of Venlo. February/March 1945

Richard van Kessel
The Netherlands

Dear friends of the
35th Infantry Division
As some of you might know, I'm the adoptant of Donald L Giles's grave (320th Infantry Regiment) at the American Cemetery in Margraten, the Netherlands. As soon as I adopted his grave I started my quest to find more information about this man who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. After some research I contacted the 35th Infantry Division Association. With help of Marilyn Bowers Jensen and a very kind woman at the local library in Nebraska City I visited the farm where Donald Giles grew up before he was send to Europe. This visit meant a lot for me and I still have warm feelings about that visit in October 2011.

Due to this experience I know that it's sometimes difficult to find the locations you are looking for when you arrive in a foreign country. I was glad that local people in Nebraska City were dedicated to help me and showed me around.

As I'm living at the Roer river here in the Netherlands I'm very interested in the Roer

River battle that took place in February 1945. The 35th Infantry Division took part in this battle. At this moment I'm setting up a Battlefield Tour as a dedication to the 35th Infantry Division and their part in the liberation of the Netherlands. The time period covered will be from February 6th, 1945 when the division arrived at the Roer river until March 1st, 1945 with the liberation of Venlo.

Points of interest during the Battlefield Tour:
The Roer river
Hilfarth
Westwall (Siegfriedline) defenses
Route of Task Force Byrne to Venlo

And more.....

If you want to tour Europe and trace your own footsteps or you want to trace the footsteps of your father, brother, uncle or granddad during the Roer river battle and the liberation of Venlo I hereby would like to offer you my services in assisting you and show you around in this vicinity. To assist you with a visit to the American Cemetery in Margraten belongs also to the possibilities.

So when you are planning your visit to Europe and you would like me to assist you please don't hesitate to contact me and I'm glad to help you out as good as I can. Also when you're not touring Europe please feel free to contact me. My email is: richardvankessel@ziggo.nl

Hope to hear from you and maybe see you on the banks of the Roer river.



Receive a Free 35th Division Product
to show your pride when you join the association that helps communicate your success and maintain your history.

***DVD – “A Living History of the 35th In Div in WW II” By Murray Leff**

***35th Division Coin**

***35th Division Hat**

***35th Division Lapel Pin**

***35th Div Belt Buckle (“Santa Fe Leads the Way”)** (for standard belts up to 1.5 inches wide)

***35th Div Belt Buckle (35th Div Patch, for military style Belts, 1 1/8 inch wide**



35th Division Association
P O Box 5004
Topeka, KS 66605



**Membership Renewal/Application,
Donor or Order Form**

Name: _____ Rank/Title: _____
(First) (MI) (Last)
Address: _____ City/State/ZIP: _____

E-Mail (Optional): _____ Telephone: _____
Organizations of Service with 35th Division: _____
(i.e. 69th Bde, 137th, 134th, 320th 161 etc): _____

	Amount Enclosed
Annual Renewal Dues or New Member Annual Dues - \$25.00	_____
Life Member Dues for WW II Veterans - \$75.00	_____
Life Member Dues for All Others - \$140.00	_____
Donation for 35 th Div Assn Operating Expenses	_____
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35 th Div Conference Sponsor - \$100 or more	_____
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I want to purchase: (will be mailed to you)
DVD – “A Living History of the 35th In Div in WW II”
By Murray Leff - \$12.00
35th Division Coin - \$12.00 (\$10.00 no mailing needed)
35th Division Hat - \$15.00
35th Division Lapel Pin – \$3.00
35th Div Belt Buckle (“Santa Fe Leads the Way”)
(for standard belts up to 1.5 inches wide) \$20.00
35th Div Belt Buckle (35th Div Patch, for military style
Belts, 1 1/8 inch wide) - \$20.00

Total Amount Enclosed _____
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35th Division Association, P O Box 5004, Topeka, KS 66605)



137th INFANTRY REGIMENT

137th News

Friend of PFC Murray Leff honored at 99th Annual Reunion of the 35th Division Association

By Mike Ven

Last year in his Hall of Fame induction speech, Murray Leff talked about his friend, PFC Howard D. Keplinger. Keplinger was Killed in Action on March 9, 1945. Murray shared his Hall of Fame honor with his friend Howard who served with him in Company E of the 137th Infantry Regiment. Murray indicated that that he did not know much about his friend but had thought of him repeatedly over the years.

We decided to find out what we could about Keplinger's family. We found the Keplinger Family in Maryland, and uncovered a lot of other data. During our last gathering in Kansas City, Missouri at the 99th Annual Reunion, we presented a booklet with the story of PFC Howard D. Keplinger, 137th

IR-Company E.

Company E soldier, PFC Murray Leff, arrived at Gremercey Forest on October 1, 1944, as a replacement. He was told to dig a fox-hole right away because the regiment was expecting incoming artillery fire from the enemy. PFC Keplinger helped him dig his fox-hole and they became friends. There was not really time to talk about personal things to get to know each other better.

PFC Keplinger was KIA on March 9, 1945 during intense enemy fire near Ossenberg, Germany. It was the strongest opposition encountered during this operation also known as "88 Alley" referring to the 88mm enemy artillery.

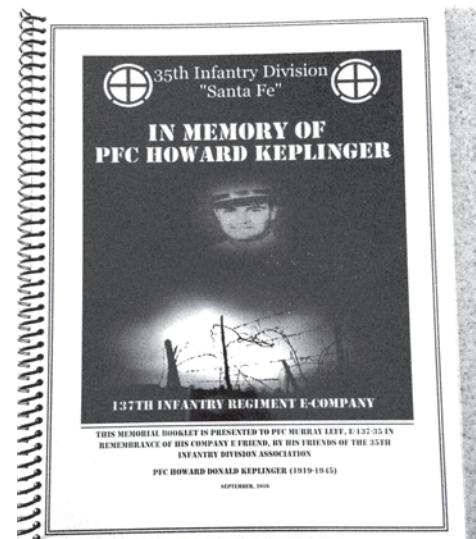
Murray Leff never had the chance to really know his buddy.

I was asked to do some more research on PFC Keplinger and other information was provided by his friends of the 35th Infantry Division Association. After collecting all the information, I was asked to put it all together in a booklet. This booklet was presented to PFC Murray Leff in remembrance of his company E friend and to the Keplinger Family in honor of their father.

Murray Leff was grateful saying:

"How can I thank you for the unbelievable presentation you created? It focuses attention on Howard Keplinger in a way I never thought possible. It's obvious you

must have spent an unbelievable amount of time putting it together. Seeing the photos of Howard's family adds another dimension to the immense loss created by his death. Adding to this tragedy is another fact I did not know. It is his brother's death in the Philippines only a few months later. The effect on the family must have been unbearable. Somehow seeing photos of Howard's family brings me closer to him. Without question the presentation has become a Leff family heirloom...and just saying thanks doesn't seem enough. Thanks again and again!"



Killed in action over 70 years ago, I finally learn of his family!

By Murray Leff E-137

On October 1, 1944 I arrived at Gremercey Forest in France as a replacement. It was late in the afternoon and soon would be dark. I was told to dig a foxhole because we would be getting incoming enemy artillery that night.

As I started digging Howard Keplinger, who I had never seen before, joined me in furiously digging my foxhole. Sure enough, the next morning I saw how the trees around us were all shattered from the previous night's bombardment, Howard was that kind of guy....always helping when he could.

Three Battle Stars later, including the Battle of the Bulge, brought us to March of 1945. We were attacking the town of Ossenberg in Germany when we were hit with the most intense concentration of artillery you can imagine. I was covered with glass and plaster but I wasn't really hurt. Howard was killed.

For over 70 years Howard has been lying under a white marble cross. And the crosses around him seem to go on forever. It was a matter of chance. I could be there and he could be alive today. I have lived a full life. He has a white marble cross. If it had been me it would be a white marble Star of David.

Through the years I have often thought of what a great guy Howard was. He is buried in the American Military Cemetery in Margraten, Holland. Ten years ago I visited his grave.

And now, over 70 years after he died, I learn of the family he left behind....all owing to Marilyn Jensen. Marilyn's father, a 35th Division soldier, was also killed in WW II. She is a very active member of the 35th Division's Orphans Organization.

During our 2015 Reunion, I spoke of my experiences and memories of Howard Keplinger. Fascinated, Marilyn decided to research Howard and his family's background.

Motivated by her personal history, she and Mike Ven, a friend, produced a memorial book that has to be seen to be believed. For me it jumps over the 70 years and brings back Howard's spirit in one giant leap.

Howard's three daughters are a living connection to their heroic father. Very few American families paid the heart wrenching price of the Keplingers. Only a few months after receiving word of Howard's death, the Keplingers received word that a second son, Rudolph, had been killed in the Philippines.

How can a family bear such a burden? The unimaginable grief must have been devastating. Now, over 70 years and two generations later, we feel, once again, the true cost of WWII.

At right: A note to me from Peggy Keplinger Dudley. After 70 years the three Keplinger sisters have just learned of their father's experiences in World War II. The book mentioned in the note is described on the internet It is called, "LENS OF AN INFANTYMAN" At right: A note to me from Peggy Keplinger Dudley. After 70 years the three Keplinger sisters have just learned of their father's experiences in World War II. The book mentioned in the note is described on the internet It is called, "LENS OF AN INFANTYMAN"

Dear Murray,

What a joy it was to hear about you from Marilyn and to find someone who knew my father! I read your book, as did my sisters and all of our children, and have a better understanding of all you men went through, very difficult to read and even worse to imagine actually being there.

Thank you for your service to our country and for remembering my father in such a kind way.

Sincerely,

Peggy Keplinger Dudley

PFC. Howard Keplinger
E Company, 137th Regiment
Killed In Action in Germany
March 9, 1945



Howard Keplinger's three daughters
L-R; Jean, Peggy and Jane

35th Division at St. Lo

By BG Ed Gerhardt

Almost everybody has heard of the 35th Division’s “baptism of fire” at St. Lo, and the costly victory that followed. But, there’s really a lot to the story.

On Independence Day, 1945, the 35th sailed across the choppy English Channel. From July 5-7 troops poured from landing craft onto Omaha Beach near Colleville-sur-Mere. The next stop was a concentration area two miles west of Columbières. The 35th was attached to XIX Corps, under the command of Gen. Charles H. Cortlett, whose mission was to take St. Lo.

Anchored in the base of the narrow Cotentin Peninsula, St. Lo was surrounded by the toughest offensive, best defensive terrain. Here was the gateway to the French interior.

To smash through the heavily-defended thick hedgerows, root Nazis from deeply-entrenched positions, and to take the city were mammoth tasks. Spearhead of the assault was the 35th Inf Div, which had the 29th Inf Div on its left flank, and the 30th Inf Div on the right, across the Vire River.

Col Butler B. Miltonberger’s 134th Inf Regt was the first to attack. The 2d Bn, 134th Inf moved into front line foxholes near St. Nicolas on July 8. Its initial fire destroyed a mortar position and killed four Germans. The 219th FA Bn, commanded by Lt Col Kenneth H. Reed, sent out the first artillery round when PFC Ralph Thompson of Trinity, Alabama pulled the lanyard of a Battery B gun. Capt. Jesse G. Beattie was the Battery Commander.

In the hot, jungle-quiet night of July 10, the 35th Division moved silently along dusty roads to form a battle line running southeast from

the Vire River above La Meauffe to La Nicollerie. The 137th Inf Regt, commanded by Col Grant Layng, was on the right and the 320th Inf Regt, under Col Bernard A. Byrne, was on the left. Behind them was the powerful 35th Division Artillery, commanded by Brig Gen Theodore L. Futch.

The 35th Division’s first World War II combat casualty was recorded that night. While Co H, 137th was moving into position, a shell killed Pvt. Owen J. McBride, an ammunition bearer.

Just before dawn on July 11, more than 200 35th Division guns and supporting Corps Artillery pounded Nazi positions in a thunderous barrage. Then, at 0600 hrs, infantrymen stormed “over the top” of the hedgerows.

The 137th Inf Regt rushed along the area following Highway 3, where the Germans awaited the attack on a small road leading from the highway to the Vire Canal. Dungeon deep foxholes, connected by underground tunnels and heavily-protected mines, lined the road.

The regiment lunged forward with bayonet, grenade, and point-blank fire. Green troops fought like veterans as they marched along the narrow road until reaching La Meauffe. There they ran up against Germans barricaded in houses and shops, where every building was a converted pillbox. Artillery crashed in and leveled the strongest points with deadly accurate salvos. Infantrymen rushed other positions, driving Nazis from the town.

The 137th continued up the road to “Purple Heart Corner,” pushed the Germans from a solid stone chateau used as Gestapo Headquarters, then took the Cheateau of St. Gilles, a key defense in the area. When Col Layng was wounded by machine

gun fire during the battle, Col Robert Sears took command. Lt Col John W. Wilson, commander of the 219th FA Bn, was killed.

The 320th had been fighting from an L-shaped line on the division’s left flank. To straighten the line against a leather-tough salient and keep the battalions in constant contact during the attack was an intricate, difficult operation. When 3rd Bn was in danger of being driven back by a strong counterattack and losing contact with 1st Bn, Company K, commanded by Capt Kenneth H. Trossen, called for more ammunition. The remainder of the battalion reformed and attacked. Capt Thomas A. Swanson, 2d Battalion Operations Officer, was killed while leading a patrol against a machine gun position.

The 137th smashed through to the north bank of the Vire on July 18. Meanwhile, the 134th Inf Regt, with elements of the 737th Tank Bn, the 654th Tank Destroyer Bn, Co A of the 60th Combat Engr Bn, and Co A of the 110th Medical Bn launched a drive north of St. Lo. The immediate objective was tall, forbidding Hill 122, dominating the town.

The strength of the attack carried the 134th to Emilie, which was taken in a house-to-house fight. Here the regiment was held up by extremely heavy German resistance. Between July 15 and 17, Nazis counterattacked twelve times, netting only 100 yards.

On July 18, the 134th Inf Regt, with the 2d Bn of the 320th Inf Regt attacked in a coordinated assault with both air power and tanks on Hill 122. While aircraft bombed and strafed, tank-infantry teams destroyed machine gun nests and other emplacements. The leadership was outstanding. Infantry commanders rode tanks to direct attacks. At the day’s end, the 35th Division controlled Hill 122, and the road into St. Lo was open.

That evening, the 134th Inf Regt’s Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon entered the city. Under 1st Lt John F. Tracy of Brooklyn, New York, the platoon included Cpl Joseph Stefansky of Cleveland, Ohio; T/5 Charles Piercy of Elgin, Tennessee; PFC Eutimio Espinoza of Bianca, Colorado; PFC Arthur Peck of St. Louis, Missouri; PFC Robert Lee of Newberg, Oregon; PFC Elgin Wilkinson of Venice, California; PFC Edgar Hal of Little Rock, Arkansas; and Maj Dale Godwin of North Platte, Nebraska. Under constant mortar fire, the platoon reconnoitered the center of St. Lo and returned. The next night the 134th Inf Regt entered St. Lo in force. After 11 days of fierce, exhausting combat, the 35th Division’s first mission had been completed.

St. Lo had been taken.



The memorial for Company E, 137th Inf Regt, in Linscott Park, Holton, Kansas contains the names of 17 men killed between July 11 and July 18, 1944 in the battle for St. Lo. A total of 73 names of men killed in World War II are listed on the Company E memorial. Many others were wounded in action. Similar monuments may be found in cities throughout Kansas and Nebraska. Co E was a Kansas National Guard unit from Holton, KS, mobilized in 1940.

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35th Division soldiers move into St. Lo, France, in 1944 after their first and a hard fought battle.

35th Division at Camp Robinson – 1941-42

When mobilized on Dec. 21, 1940, a full year before Pearl Harbor, the 35th Infantry Division, consisting of Guardsmen from Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska, was sent to Camp Robinson, North Little Rock, Arkansas.

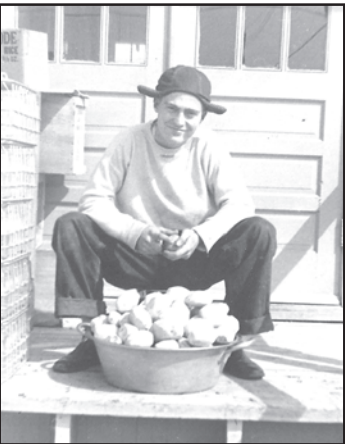
Camp Robinson is now home to the National Guard of the United States Professional Education Center, the National Guard Marksmanship Training Unit, the Adjutant General of Arkansas, the Joint Force Headquarters of the Arkansas National Guard, several Arkansas National Guard units, the Arkansas National Guard Museum, and other entities.



35th Division Headquarters at Camp Robinson



2 – 35th Division on Parade at Camp Robinson



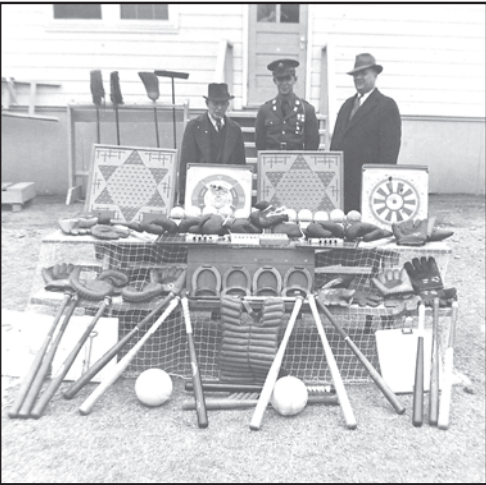
8 – KP was the worst. Carlton Harmon peels potatoes outside a 35th Division Mess Hall.



35th Division soldiers board the train for the trip to California following the attack on Pearl Harbor



7 – Cookies arrived from hometowns across Kansas, Nebraska, and Missouri. Shown is a collection of 50 dozen from the American Legion Auxiliary at Atchison, KS on 6 April 1941.



6 – Athletic equipment and games arrived from Atchison, Kansas on 6 April 1941. Shown are Charles Minks, Sgt. W. L. Diggs, and Jack Weatherford



3 – The Camp Robinson PX was always a busy place.



The trip to California wasn't bad at all.

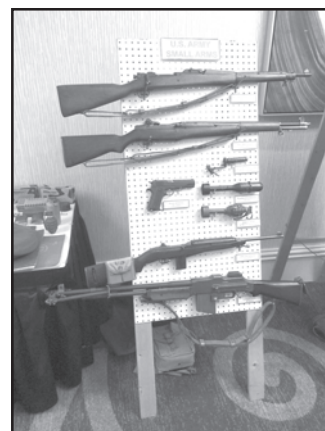


9 – Living accommodations were not the greatest at Camp Robinson.

Re-enactors, Co G, 137th Regiment



Some pictures from the display of Militaria provided by the reenactors.



Editor's Note: The following note was sent to General Windham by Yun Tian, a K-State intern that helped us at the conference. The young lady is an International (Chinese) Student studying hotel management.

Good evening, Mr. General!

I have arrived home safely, thanks for the opportunity you provided, and the patience when COL. Bob took care of me. For the hospitality side, I learned the great event planning examples just like the courses I got from school, and I am more familiar with the Military banquet routines and rules. But the most important thing I do really cherish for is what I felt and learned about this conference! Till now I still remember these spiritual visions of the army. I remembered you worried that if I felt worthy for spending the weekend there! My answer is still the same, totally worth it!

I enjoyed the moment at the first day morning meeting when I talked with Ms. Peggy and her mom. And the moment when we doing the afternoon visit of the museum and dinner gathering. Especially the morning ceremony about "Color"! I experienced many great military ways I never felt before, and I had a lot of military questions but COL. Bob had already explained for me. I think I

will respect more in my future time for these people, who devoted their lives for a country and the people, no matter the soldiers in U.S, or the soldiers in homeland country!

Everything, everyone and every small conversation is a journey for me, no matter for the career or the personality. People's words are always the precious guides for me, I can always gain something from the talk, sometimes are the truth of the life, sometimes are the career and social networks, and this time is more than that. The best thing I learned is appreciation. I knew some history backgrounds about these wars before, what these 2 days are like real history repeating. I felt the history and the reality of those wars so closely. And honestly, I am kind of emotional, when I was looking the orphan's pictures in the museum and heard the story from those ladies, I cried. I can feel the empathy with them and I know how hard for them when they experienced all these especially after I experienced the grief of my grandpa's death by cancer, but they are always put their efforts to keep looking at the life of the family members even they don't know. This is so touchable. And all these cute old soldiers, who had been through battles, and got the badges, they are very nice people.

War is cruel, and the survival is not easy, like you said, freedom is not free. Devoting personal life for the great wish that free the country is not an easy thing. The man who did that is hero, not just for the U.S, it is worldwide impact.

Anyway, I really have a lot of thoughts in my mind after this event, and so much appreciations for you, COL. Bob, and all these people who came to this event. This is not just a volunteer, this is a lifetime guiding for me that made me understood something in two days which some people may need the whole life to understand. If there are some events in the future, I will still have passion for any possible chance to assist your division!

Once again, thank you, and all the people I met from 35th Infantry Division!

Yun Tian



Jan-Feb-Mar issue of the
Santa Fe Express
 Deadline 10 January 2017



Taps

William Dean Wood, DDS
July 26, 1925 ~ Nov. 22, 2015

William Dean Wood passed away peacefully at 90 yrs of age on November 22nd, 2015. Born July 26th, 1925 in Parma, Idaho to Gladys and Harold Wood. Raised during the Great Depression he attended



Idaho Falls Schools until graduation then enlisting in the US Army in 1943 with an honorable discharge in 1945. Dean Wood participated in the European Theater in the Battle of the Bulge at St. Vith as a radio man in the 137 Infantry, 35th Div. under Patton's Army. Dean's brother, Warren, was killed in the Pacific Theater on the Island of Luzon, while serving in the 11th Airborne.

Upon returning from the War, Wm Dean entered the University of Idaho and met Catherine Reese, where they married and moved to San Francisco, CA. Wm Dean then entered Dental School at the College of Physicians & Surgeons, graduating in 1953 with a DDS degree. Wm Dean practiced Dentistry in Cupertino from 1953 to 1995 where he and Catherine raised 7 children. The Wood family resided in Los Altos and Saratoga until 2000 when Wm Dean and Catherine moved to Discovery Bay to present day.

Wm Dean accomplished many feats while practicing dentistry including Golfing, Fishing, Scuba Diving, Skiing, and Flying where he was the pilot for the Flying Doctors on humanitarian missions to outlying Mexican villages, a featured story in the San Jose News. He continued his practice and flying until 2000 then retired in Discovery Bay enjoying golf, boating, and family in his later years. An accomplished Jazz Bass player he will always be remembered for his Jazz parties with musician friends at the Saratoga hillside home. We will miss Dad for his love of sharing good times with good conversation with family and friends, always being active, and his wonderful storytelling of life experiences.

Wm Dean is survived by his devoted wife, Catherine, with whom he celebrated 67 years of marriage. Dean was a loving father to sons, Bill Jr (Pam), Warren (Alice), and David (Julie), and to daughters, Carol, Annette, and Susan. He was well loved by grandkids: Kristy (Chris), Lindsay (Duncan), Carrie, Ryan, John, Kevin, Michael, Cameron, Reilly, Rory, and Kiana. Great grandchildren are Samantha, Oliver, Kate, and Hadley. Dean was preceded in death by daughter, Tammy, grandson, Travis, and son-in-law, Brett Uchiyama.



Sgt. Carroll H. Crouch
January 24, 1921 – May 2, 2016

The death of Sgt. Carroll H. Crouch, 95, on May 2, 2016, has been reported by Colbert Memorial Chapel, Tuscumbia, Alabama. Services were conducted in the Old Brick Presbyterian Church fellowship hall with burial in the Old Brick Church cemetery.



Crouch was a member of Headquarters Company of the Second Battalion of the 134 Infantry Regiment of the 35th Division. He served in the 35th Division from stateside training until he was wounded in Germany in 1945. An interview of him at age 90 may be heard at www.historicaltruth101.com.

Crouch earned a Bronze Star for heroic service in connection with action in the Moselle River near Frolois, France, September 10, 1944.

As leader of a squad of the ammunition and pioneer platoon, he held a tunnel beneath the bridge at Flavigny through the night until the order was given to evacuate the next morning. During the night, Crouch evacuated two wounded men.

Crouch is survived by his wife of 70 years, Maxine, two daughters, Patricia Holley and Julia Guin, and a son, "Chris," (Carroll Hood Crouch II), seven grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

JAMES S. POAGE

June 22, 1925 ~ August 17, 2016

James S. Poage died Wed., Aug. 17, 2016 following a two-year battle with esophageal cancer. He was born to Charles S. and Therese M. Poage of South Bend, WA.



Following graduation for South Bend High School in 1944, Jim enlisted in the Army. He was attached to the 35th Infantry Division in Europe.

He attended CWCE and Milwaukee School of Engineering.

Jim married Shirley in 1949. He move to Vancouver, WA in 1952 and was active in many civic organizations. Jim was Exalted Ruler of the Vancouver Elks Lodge #823, 1970-71.

Jim is survived by his wife, Shirley; daughter, Eileen; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by two younger brothers, John Norval and Douglas.

Letter to editor, (Editor note: This has been passed on for information purposes only, the 35th does not nor did not validate the credibility of the letter.)

My name is Martin Madert and I am an interviewer with the Witness to War Foundation. We are an Atlanta based 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that is dedicated to preserving the oral histories of combat veterans from WWII through the War on Terror by conducting free video interviews that honor their service, preserve their story, and promote the education of military history for future generations. We publish clips of these interviews on our website, www.WitnessToWar.org, where the public can easily access over 4,000 firsthand accounts of war from the men and women who experienced it.

I am writing you today because I came across the website for the 35th Infantry Division and saw that you just had a convention in Kansas City so I wanted to reach out see if there may be any interest within your Association to have oral histories done, possibly at your next convention. I see that the 35th has their own museum so there might already be a collection, but I wanted to offer up our service all the same. I do travel often and may be able to reach anyone near their home. We do this all free of cost and it includes them receiving DVD copies of the unedited interview and having a copy donated to the Library of Congress.

Let me know what you think! I'm hoping that there are still some 35th ID vets out there that would like to share their stories! Thanks in advance.

Regards,
 Martin S. Madert

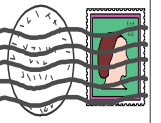
Martin S. Madert | Interviewer | **Witness to War Foundation**

O:770-628-0024

martin@witnessstowar.org

Preserving & Sharing the Oral Histories of Combat Veterans

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Mail Call

Letter from Martin Duehring September 2016

This is a short story of my 35th Cap. I wear it at all times and going out to dinner I was treated to three dinners after a short time, and a couple of drinks at other times.

I was in WWII 35th Inf., Co. H and proud of the 35th, but it isn't mentioned very often in WWII stories.

So tell your people to buy 35th caps to get free meals.

Truly,
Martin Duehrin

P.S. 90 and going strong, I tell everyone of the 35th and Pres Truman as a 35th member in WWII.

Letter to Editor

Patrick Dugan wanted to inform the members of the 35th Division Association that he has researched and collected data on the 448th Anti-Aircraft Battalion, which supported the 35th Division through most of the WWII Campaign. He can be reached at 513-423-8947 or at the address below.

Patrick Dugan
 6784 Manchester RD
 Middletown Ohio
 45042-3081

Harold Vawter



Harold E. Vawter, 87, of Topeka, passed away on Saturday, December 12, 2015. He was born June 18, 1928 in Carbondale, KS, the son of Leonard F. and Eva E. M. (Herold) Vawter.

Harold graduated from Auburn Rural High School in 1947. He was a member of the Kansas National Guard 35th Division Field Artillery Unit which was called into active duty during the Korean War. He owned and operated Vawter Sales & Service. He was a member of Philip-Billard Post No. 1650 V.F.W and Capitol Post No. 1 of the American Legion.

Harold married Betty C. Renyer on September 10, 1949 in Topeka. She survives. Other survivors include their children, Harold E. (Arlana) Vawter, II, Patricia A. Dean, Bruce E. (Kelly) Vawter, Gary L. Vawter, Penny C. Frye, Brian J. (Nancy) Vawter, 12 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

Harold was preceded in death by his parents, his siblings, Robert Vawter and Wilma Kneale and his son-in-law, Ronald Frye.

Surely we all want to know of a 35th Division comrade's passing.

Obituaries...
 an important part
 of the

35th
Divisionnaire

Mail all obituaries to
 Col. Robert Bloomquist, 35th Division,
 Box 5004, Topeka, KS 66605