



Santa Fe Express

"DIVISIONNAIRE"

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35th INFANTRY DIVISION

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APRIL-MAY-JUNE 2019

NUMBER TWO

Major General Braden retirement ceremony

Mon. April 1 Maj. Gen. Victor Braden, commanding general of 35th ID, provided some guidance to Soldiers in his command as he prepares for his retirement from the Army National Guard. "The 35th Infantry Division is a vital part of the National Security structure," Braden reminds his Soldiers. "Our Army, our Nation asks us to be ready to deploy, to fight and to win." Throughout his tenure with the Division, he has always required dedication and professionalism from his Soldiers. When asked what he would like his Soldiers to take away from his time as commanding general, he responded with a challenge. He asked for all Soldiers, at every level, to continue to be "innovative, thoughtful, smart, leaders of character that are comfortable with complexity and can operate from the tactical to the strategic level."



Maj. Gen. Victor J. Braden, commanding general of the 35th Infantry Division, address friends, family and fellow Soldiers in a speech during his retirement ceremony at the Kansas State Capitol building on Friday



Maj. Gen. Victor J. Braden, commanding general of the 35th Infantry Division, calls forth fellow Soldiers to be recognized for their service and sacrifice during his retirement ceremony at the Kansas State Capitol building Friday.

Editors note: MG Braden shared his Command Observation, Insights, and Lessons (OIL) with his team on a routine basis. This is a shorter version that is appropriate to share as he leaves command. See Page 2.

President's Message

GREETINGS ALL. We are finally thawed out in the Midwest, and green grass and Dandelions are beginning to appear. As warm weather of Spring approaches, Summer and our August 2019 Reunion will be here soon.

I recently attended the Relinquish of Command for MG Victor Braden as Commander of the 35th Division, and his subsequent first day as a "New Member" into the 35th Association formation, or also known as Retirement.

MG Braden's last official action, as Commander, was to attach the Division's two Campaign Battle Streamers to the Division Colors. One Streamer was for the campaign in SOUTHWEST ASIA and the second for Combat Action in the GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM.

The last time I wrote I announced that my Strategic Vision was "to develop the processes and initiatives to honor and incorporate the next generation of accomplishments".

Adding Streamers to your Unit Colors is a "Huge Accomplishment", and the last Battle streamers earned by the Division was for combat operations in CENTRAL EUROPE in 1945.

This accomplishment is even more momentous when acknowledging that the Division Headquarters structure was composed by dual State traditional soldiers from Missouri and Kansas. This is a very unusual command structure, unique only to the 35th Inf Division and reflects our heritage and legacy of WWII comrades.

When Retirees or "Ancients" (as identified by one very recent retired Division CSM) gather and the question is asked; What



do you miss the most about serving? They unanimously reply: "I don't miss the work I miss the comradery and fellowship". The Association's purpose is to rekindle the comradery and fellowship. Our Chartered Mission is to "Foster and Promote the memories, incidents of service, and friendship of all those who served in the 35 Inf Division, in War and Peace".

Notice in our Charter it says "Foster and Promote the Memories". As we get older and become more Ancient, our memories tend to transform our Historical Legacies into undocumented Legends and old war stories. This "fosters and promotes" the dynamic of Comradery and Fellowship.

Get ready and make plans to attend this year's Association Reunion and celebrate our historic past, AND present. This is a chance to meet a current Division soldier and tell your story as best as you can remember, so they can retell the legend, the best they can remember, years later. Conference information is posted in this edition.

"E Pluribus Unum" Out of Many One.

BG (R) Alex Duckworth

35th Association President.

Conference and 35th Infantry Division Dining Out 6-8 Sept 2019, Kansas City

The Commander of the 35th Division is hosting a Military Dining Out at Kansas City Airport Hilton on September 7, 2019. Please consider returning to Kansas City to be with our Veterans and Families of the 35th. This is a wonderful way to honor those Veterans and families associated with the 35th Division while enjoying family, friends and local attractions. We are blessed to have generous sponsors who help keep this a reasonable expense. We will be mailing out registration forms with details and how to reserve your rooms once we have the details locked.

The schedule will be similar to last years, with the official conference to start with local attraction visits Friday afternoon and President's Reception Friday night. By keeping the business sessions and Hall of Fame on Saturday, we can increase participation from members that could not attend due to the work day.

Saturday will be the keystone day of our conference, starting with the Executive Council Meetings, Hall of Fame Selection Board and Annual Membership meeting. Saturday after-

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NEW LIFE MEMBERS

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Major Matthew Hapke

MG Braden's Command Observations, Insights, and Lessons (OIL)

After almost three years in command of the 35th Infantry Division (ID), I am providing the following OIL to foster discussions and dialogue as the *Santa Fe* Division moves forward as a vital member of the Nation's Security Structure.

During my tenure from March 2016 to January 2019, the 35th ID built readiness as an operational reserve for world-wide contingency plans and as an operational force for rotational missions. This building process included two warfighter exercises (WFX), four command post exercises (CPX), one culminating training event (CTE), and a nine-month deployment to Southwest Asia. The Southwest Asia mission was the first time the 35th ID had deployed as a two-star headquarters outside the United States since 1944. During those nine months, the *Santa Fe* Division commanded a mission that included 10,000 Soldiers in five brigades arrayed over 10 countries supporting three named operations in theater.

We must embrace our doctrine and bring those words to life in our actions. With that belief, my command philosophy was driven by the principles of mission command – building cohesive teams through mutual trust, creating a shared understanding, providing clear intent, accepting prudent risk, using mission orders, and exercising disciplined initiative.

I received some sage advice from a senior leader while assigned to the Combined Arms Center from 2013 to 2016, "Vic, as a commander, focus on those tasks that, based on your position, only you can do." By our doctrine, those three tasks are driving the operations process, developing teams both inside and outside the organization, and informing and influencing audiences.

Understanding the situation –

Our doctrine calls upon us to use critical and creative thinking to facilitate understanding and support decisionmaking. For me, that understanding required using my training, education, and life experiences. Within the education element, I had a daily process to better understand the operational environment. This practice included iPhone-based scanning of the New York Times, Washington Post, British Broadcasting Company, and Al Jazeera to get a flavor of the national and global dynamics that were shaping the 35th ID's role within the national security structure. In addition, I read as many warfighting lessons learned publications as possible. While in theater, reading the recurring reports and feedback from the Defense Secretary, Central Command Commander, and Army Central Command Commander was vital to synthesizing how the theater was being

shaped and how I needed to drive division-level operations to support the national objectives in Southwest Asia.

Visualize the operation unfolding – Commanders must take the time to think, observe, and contemplate. This requires adhering to a routine of setting aside time within their battle rhythm. If possible, this allotment should be individually tailored to fit into the best part of the commander's day. For me, it was right after breakfast. Then MG Wallace described it best in the third story of "66 Stories of Battle Command." In this article, he described being at the National Training Center and sitting in his vehicle, by himself with a cup of coffee and a map, taking time to visualize the next day's operation. A sage comment that applies today as much as it did in 1999 – "You get so involved in the urgency of the right now, that you don't take time to think."

Describe the visualization to the staff and subordinates – Doctrine teaches us that commanders express their visualization in terms of intent, planning guidance, critical information requirements, and essential elements of friendly information.

1) Commander's intent –

i. Overview – I spent much time preparing my intent. For each major operation, I wrote it personally, taking the time to ensure that it was clear and concise, trying to avoid the tendency to write too much and lose the essence of the message.

ii. Expanded Purpose – When describing the expanded purpose, I kept in mind the tendency to get into "the weeds" and strived to describe the broader purpose of the mission. For the 35th ID, this broader purpose was most always strategic in nature.

iii. Key Tasks – My assessment is that we struggle with key tasks, confusing these with specific tasks for certain units. The crucial question to keep in mind is what are those activities the force must perform as a whole to get to the end state? For example, what activities must be performed as a whole to protect the lines of communication? What activities must be performed as a whole to keep fires forward to maximize range?

iv. End State – I tried to keep the end state as simple as possible within the context of our relationship to the desired conditions of the enemy, terrain, and civil considerations.

Conclusion: As I leave this command, I reflect on my senior leadership thoughts and core purpose statement that I wrote in my command expectations memorandum. Those thoughts were – remember, pride cometh before the fall, but with humility comes wisdom; take time to think, observe, and contemplate; and the performance triad (nutrition, fitness, and rest) is a life-enriching formula. Finally, a commander should sit down and write out a core life purpose. Although I fall short, my core purpose is to strive to live an authentic life with humility that influences others in a positive way. Santa Fe!

Victor J. Braden

Major General, USA Commanding

Dining Out Conference—
continued from page 1

noon will be our Hall of Fame Ceremony and Reception. Saturday evening will be a formal Military Dining Out hosted by the Commanding General of the 35th Division, which includes the memorial service to honor our fallen.

The hotel has given us an excellent rate for the area, \$105 plus local taxes, with free breakfast buffet and complimentary drinks at the bar in the evening.

The hotel is located in the Kansas City Airport area with complementary shuttle from the airport and the local Zona Rosa shopping area. Consider coming in early if you have never been to Kansas City. The hotel is located with easy highway access to the Power and Light and Downtown business districts which has 85 acres of shops, restaurants and attractions. Crown Center is the Midwest's premier family destination, thanks in large part to our collection of Attractions & Theaters. • Two world-renowned family attractions, the SEA LIFE Kansas City Aquarium and LEGOLAND® Discovery Center. • Hallmark Cards sponsors the FREE Hallmark Visitors Center and Kaleidoscope, where children and their families create amazing art. • KC is a hub for live theatre with the nationally recognized Coterie Theatre and Musical Theater Heritage, whose intimate settings bring alive the American Musical as never before! •, including Union Station, the National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial, and The Money Museum at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. There's something here for the whole family!

As always, we can't do this without the generosity of our many members and friends of the 35th Division. These "Honorary Attendees" and "Conference Sponsors" make this event possible. Your support is critical and greatly appreciated; we could not do this without you. These donations will be prominently displayed at the conference and in each edition of the "Santa Fe".

Search for new Executive Secretary

As I informed the Executive Council at the last reunion, I am resigning as the Executive Secretary once a replacement is found. This position was a blessing, as I have met and heard from so many outstanding Veterans and Families, I would not have had if I not taken the position. The term (Retired) is misleading, as I am only retired from Active Duty. I still teach National Security as an Adjunct Professor with a local University and travel with the Army as needed with a contractor. I just made the decision to return full time to the Command and General Staff College and I help my wife run a small rental property business. In addition, I serve as treasurer and board member for our Museum. I simply can't spend the time required to do the level deserved. I could not do what I do without my wife's support in the treasury portion of the association, but the paper, reunion and fund raising are time consuming and usually hit at the worst time for us.

We may need to change how business is done and where the address of the association is if we cannot get someone in the Topeka area. Splitting duties between a treasurer and executive secretary and/or moving the main address from Topeka (Museum) to Leavenworth (35th Headquarters) are ideas I have sent to the Executive Council for comment and options to fill this position.

-Col. (Ret.) Bloomquist



Deadline for the Next Issue

of the

Santa Fe Express

is 10 July

Please send your favorite reunion stories and pictures to share.

International Liaison Committee

April 10, 2019

Celebrations throughout France will honor the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the country throughout summer and fall.

Francine Lacour of Gieville, Normandy, is posting many photos of preparations in Normandy on her Facebook site. Francine's late husband, Guy Lacour, founded and was first president of the "Santa Fe Normandie Association." The association will welcome participants in the Nebraska National Guard Museum Society tour for events in Saint Lo in July 2019. Jean-Francois Percy is the current president of the group.

Farther east, the association of l'Espace de Memoire Lorraine 1939-45 reopened its museum April 27, 2019. The museum, located at Vezelise, south of Nancy, will be open Saturdays and second Sundays throughout the summer and early autumn. Special openings are available for veterans and families and groups upon advance arrangement. Information is available through the website espacedememoire.fr. English translation available by clicking the Union Jack. The website has had more than 31,000 strikes since its opening.

There will be several new exhibits in 2019. Among them will be a new model from the prize-winning miniaturist Francois Cersar. He also cleaned some donated "trench art."

Two 35th Division granddaughters and families enjoyed visits in October. The first arrivals were Jennifer Bow, her husband Curtis, and daughter Elen of Indiana. Jennifer was unable to access information about her grandfather, PFC Nick (Nicholas A.) Mentis, from the National Personnel Center in Saint Louis. Many records were lost in a fire there. Jennifer contacted the archives of Meuthe et Moselle department (state) in Lorraine for assistance. It was provided by Jerome Leclerc, retired archivist and president of the Lorraine association.

Leclerc pieced together Mentis' story. Born in Greece, Mentis was an American citizen living in Muncie, IN, when he was inducted into the Army in 1943. He trained at Camp Meade, MD, and Camp Wheeler, GA. He arrived in France one month after D-Day. As a member of L-137-35, he liberated Vezelise and Nancy where he was wounded. He was hospitalized and returned to the army. At his discharge he was a member of HQ of the 10th Reinforcement Depot. He died in 1966.

Another granddaughter and grandson-in-law of the 35th Division made a quick trip later in October. Molly (McGaughey) Evelyn and her husband Chad visited the large 35th Division memorial at Flavigny Bridge that her grandfather Ed Farris helped inaugurate. Farris, a member of G-134-35, was one of the few survivors of the battle at Flavigny Bridge on September 10-11, 1944. Farris later became an important official in Kentucky. Chad Evelyn recently compiled, edited and published a book of Farris' memories.

The Espace de Memoire association participated in the Christmas Market at Sion. Throughout the winter it has been busy working with the University of Lorraine to collect memories of those who survived the period of 1939-45 in Lorraine.

The association and region have been saddened and diminished with the deaths of many Resistants during the winter months. It rejoiced at the successful implantation of a pacemaker in Fernand Nedelec, vice president of the association. A fictionalized documentary of Nedelec's life as a Resistant created by students at the Lycee Malgrange won multiple prizes at a recent regional competition.

The 35th Division Association reenactors group in Belgium held a special event this winter when they portrayed members of the 35th Infantry Division in battle in January 1945. They spent a weekend digging foxholes and using tips and tricks learned from veterans that they had met. The weather conditions were not the same as in 1945, as there was no snow. "It was a lot warmer too," Bram Temmerman reports, "which was probably a good thing."

Patrick Beck of the 7th Company, Luxembourg 35th Division Group reports that on April 7th, the annual Catholic Service Mass was held at the Hamm Cathedral honoring all the fallen heroes buried at the American Military Cemetery at Hamm, Luxembourg. In 1995, Jim Graff (C-134) and his wife, Alice, and Marilyn Bowers Jensen and Diana Bowers Schlund, daughters of PFC Rex M. Bowers (C-134, KIA January 25, 1945,) attended this special Mass at the Hamm Cathedral and the service at the Hamm Military Cemetery after the Mass. It was a very memorable experience, and reassuring to know that it still being done today.

On Memorial Day on May 25th, the members of the U.S. Veterans Friends will be laying a rose at the foot of each tombstone in the Hamm Cemetery. Several wreaths will be presented during the official ceremony.

On a social note, in an effort to reduce Luxembourg's carbon footprint and to alleviate traffic congestion, Luxembourg will become the first country to make all of its public transportation free of fares. The Government will lift all fares on trains, trams and buses next summer.

Richard van Kessel of Venlo, Holland, will visit the graves of our 35th Division soldiers on Memorial Day at the American Military Cemetery at Margraten, The Netherlands. He has adopted the grave of Tec Sgt Donald Giles (G-320, KIA April 16, 1945) from Nebraska City, Nebraska and will honor him with a visit with his two young sons.

International Liaison Committee Co-Chairs

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

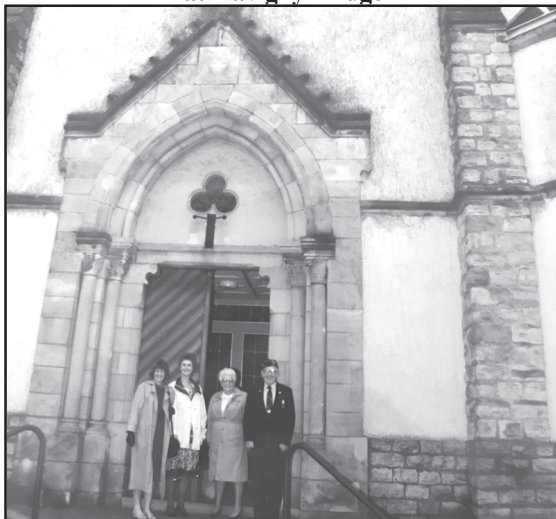
Marilyn Bowers Jensen, daughter of PFC Rex M. Bowers, C-134-35, KIA 01/25/45
mbowersjensen@msn.com



Francois Cersar and model of tank he built



Molly and Chad Evelyn visit 35th Division Memorial at Flavigny Bridge



Marilyn Bowers Jensen, Diana Bowers Schlund, Alice Graff and Jim Graff (C-134) attend Mass at Hamm Cathedral in Luxembourg in 1995



Members of 35th Division Reenactors group from Belgium on weekend reconnaissance.



Ellen Bow, Francois Cersar, Curtis Bow and Jennifer Bow in Espace Museum



Nick A. Mentis (L-137-35)

The BAR Man

Reprinted with permission of from the Minnesota Legionnaire March 2019 edition
By Al Zdon

Gene Nelson had a friend in the Army named Arvid Larson. They were friends from back home and at the very beginning of the war, they stood guard duty together in California, protecting the coastline from a Japanese invasion that was probably never going to come.

“Yeah, we called each other ‘Nels’ and ‘Lars.’ We were pretty close.”

At one point Larson looked Nelson in eye and said, “Take my hand. You’re going to come home and I’m not.”

“I don’t know how he knew that, but that’s what happened.”

Seventy-seven years later, Nelson says he still misses his friend. “I don’t know how one guy comes home and one guy doesn’t.”

Eugene Arthur Nelson was born on a farm near Eagle Bend, about as close as you can get to dead central Minnesota. It’s between Wadena and Long Prairie, just a few miles east of Parker’s Prairie.

It was a cow farm of 160 acres with 10 cows.

Nelson went to school in Eagle Bend, about a mile’s walk each way. “When we had a blizzard, my dad would hitch up the old gray mare to the cutter, and mom would drive us to school.”

Because the local school only went through 8th grade, and there were no buses, and no convenient way for Nelson to get to the high school in Parker’s Prairie, he ended his formal education and went to work full-time on the farm.

“Sometimes, I’d work for our neighbor for 50 cents a day.”

His younger brother did go to high school by staying with grandpa and grandma in town. “We’d bring him food, and on weekends, we’d go get him and bring him home.”

One day, he and his father were plowing, and Gene found a hunk of money out in the field. He looked around. “I figured there had to be a purse, and then I found the purse. We think it may have been a pheasant hunter who lost it. My dad took it down to the bank, and there was \$19 in it. I used the money to buy a suit.”

He also had a job in a creamery in Rose City, a little crossroads town not far from Eagle Bend.

He remembers exactly where he was when he found out about Pearl Harbor in late 1941. “I was heading for town to have a beer with the boys. It was Sunday and it was our day off. It was also my dad’s birthday.”

In early February, 1942, just two months after the war started, Nelson was not thrilled when his draft notice came. He was 21 and enjoying civilian life.

“My number came up,” he said. “My dad had to drive me 100 miles to Fergus Falls so I could take a bus to Fort Snelling.”

For basic training, he was sent to Camp Wolters, an infantry training replacement center near Mineral Wells,

Texas. “It was so hot, and they’d put us out in the open to talk to us. And then they just about starved you. I think they were serving goat. Anyway you could smell it about a mile away.

“I finally had to send home for some dough to go to the PX and get some snacks. I was only making \$20 a month, and I had to pay for my own laundry.”

It was at Camp Wolters that Nelson received word that his brother had been killed in Illinois in a motorcycle accident. “All the guys in the barracks chipped in whatever they could, and got me a ticket home. It took me three days to get there.”

Nelson applied to get out of the service since he was the only son left in his farm family, but the Army ignored his request.

After six weeks, Nelson and others were sent to guard the west coast at Ventura, California. He was placed in Company C, 134th Infantry, 35th division. The Division originated out of Kansas, but many of the soldiers in Nelson’s outfit came from Beatrice, Nebraska.

“Two of us would walk a half mile up the coastline and meet another pair of guards. We had signs and counter signs. Then we’d go another half mile the other way and meet another team.”

He thinks he was a good soldier. “The Army loved us farmer boys.”

Then it was on to Camp Rucker, Alabama, “Where it was hotter than blazes,” and then up to Tennessee for maneuvers. “It rained and it snowed. The corporal and I butted our tents up against each other, and we sat in there and played cards and ate candy.”

They would play a Minnesota game called “smear” or “pitch.” “I just remember you couldn’t touch the side of the tent or it would start leaking.”

Then it was onto Camp Butner in North Carolina, Camp Kilmer in New Jersey, and then aboard the troop transport USS General Anderson for a two-week journey in a convoy to England.

“There was a storm in the middle of the ocean and a lot of guys got sick, but I didn’t.” He recalls that one of the men in his regiment met up with his brother, one of the ship’s crew.

The 35th Division landed at Bristol, England, in early 1944. They settled in at Penzance in the very tip of southern England.

“One day Eisenhower and Patton came to talk to us. You know what Eisenhower said? He said, ‘See you on the Rhine.’”

The division was still at Penzance when the D-Day landings occurred.

“I was standing guard and we could hear a lot of noise when they landed.” Six days later, his division also landed at Normandy. “We went in on an LST, and they dropped the back gate and we had to walk through the water.

“They lined up all these divisions on

the beach because Hitler said he was going to drive us back into the pond. But then we started to move inland.”

Nelson was a Browning Automatic Weapon man. The Army often looked for big, brawny farm kids so they would have enough muscle to carry the 20-pound weapon and fire it while absorbing a strong recoil. A Browning could fire over 500 rounds a minute. Two others were on his team, one an assistant and the other to carry the ammunition.

The 134th Regiment (“All Hell Can’t Stop Us.”) had it first real taste of combat in the hedgerow country along the Normandy beach.

Charley Company quickly moved into the hedgerows, where individual sections of land were separated by large berms with thick hedges planted on top of them. “They put bull dozers on the front of the tanks so they could push through the rows.”

The fighting was lethal.

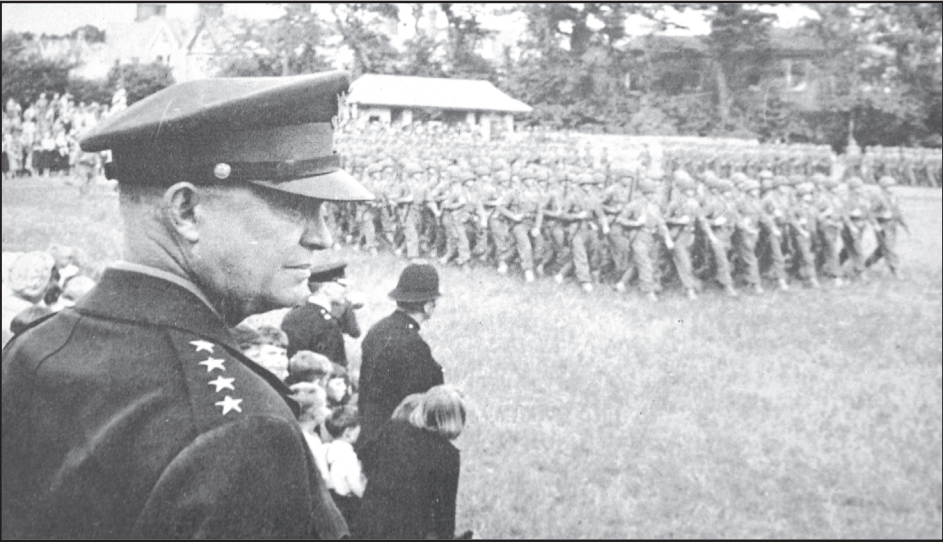
“We went in there with 175 men, and in three hours we had 40 left. We just ran into

continued on next page

Gene Nelson was a strapping young man from the farm country of central Minnesota. The Army gave him the task of carrying a Browning Automatic Rifle, a 20-pound weapon that kicked like a mule.



Nelson, left, poses with his close friend Arvid Larson early in the war. Larson predicted that he would not come home from the war.



Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, Supreme Allied Commander, inspects the 35th Division prior to the D-Day landings.



Gene Nelson
At war with the 35th Division



Gene Nelson
At home in Little Falls, MN.

The BAR Man

Cont. on next page.

some Germans. We think they were sleeping in the hedgerows. We were so close, we could hear them talking. I fired off 300 rounds. The barrel of the BAR was really hot.”

“I became a squad leader right away. “When we reorganized, we went and helped out at Hill 122.” Taking the hill was one of the toughest early encounters for U.S. troops with the German forces. It took several divisions four days to oust an elite German paratrooper regiment from the top of the 300-foot hill.

And then it was on to St. Lo, an even tougher battle. The U.S. forces held off 12 counter attacks by the Germans before taking St. Lo, which was reduced to rubble.

“I remember someone hung a dummy of a clown from the top of the only building left in town. Charley Company got into the town and dug in. We were up against a Panzer outfit and they shelled us all night. When we woke up in the morning we found we had dug our foxholes into a cemetery. That was the first thing I wrote about to my mom. Waking up in a cemetery. But when I saw the letter later, the Army censors had cut all that out.”

Nelson picked up a little shrapnel in the rear end during this time, but not enough to stop moving forward. “We’d throw our pineapples at them and they’d thrown their potato mashers at us. The wound drew blood, but not enough for a Purple Heart.” The shape of the grenades became part of the GI lingo.

The division headed down the Cotentin Peninsula. “We heading down towards Patton’s Army. I remember we were going so fast that we found a beef the Germans had just butchered. We didn’t dare eat it, thinking they had poisoned it.”

On the march, Nelson recalls a house near the road. “There were white flags coming out of every window. The officer said, ‘Sergeant Nelson, take your squad over there and find out what’s going on.’”

It turned out to be a group of Polish soldiers, who had been fighting at the behest of the Germans and now were eager to get out of the war.

A new officer arrived in Nelson’s company. “We told him to keep his head down, but he didn’t. He caught a bullet right in the middle of his forehead.”

When the division encountered the Germans resisting, the fighting was often at close quarters. “I had my helmet blown off three times by concussion grenades. It’s not easy to blow a helmet off your head. I think that’s why I still have PTSD.”

Every night at exactly 11 p.m. the Germans would send a single airplane over the American troops that the soldiers called “Good time Charlie.” It would drop a parachute with a flare to illuminate the territory below and then strafe the U.S. positions.

“You didn’t get a lot of sleep on the battlefield.”

In order to better lead his squad, Nelson put away his BAR and took up an M-1, a lighter all-purpose rifle that was used by most of the ground troops. “I loved the M-1. It was a great rifle. And it

only weighed eight pounds.”

The American forces pushed on ahead, meeting strong resistance.

“At one point we were surrounded by the Germans. They had just knocked the hell out of us. I thought for sure we’d become prisoners of war. Over 2,500 American bombers came over to help us. I saw three of them shot down, and there’s no way those crews got out.

“Our tanks got pinned down. They were being attacked by the German 88s (artillery) that were zeroing in on them. The guys in the tanks just got out of the tanks and moved away. You don’t want to be in a tank when there’s that kind of ack-ack.”

“But then we did a spearhead through the Germans. It lasted all night long.”

Nelson said his squad was constantly in the lead of the company. “The captain had me spearheading every damn day.

“And then we crossed a small river, and my bazooka man lost his bazooka.”

“One day a captain and a major came up through our lines. We told them not to go any further, but they said they wanted to see what this was all about. Only one of them came back.”

It was at Mortaine, France, that Nelson got wounded.

He was leading a squad through some hedgerow country when the Germans attacked with 88 shells, one of the most feared of the enemy weapons. “Five of us got killed, including two guys in my squad.”

Nelson was hit mainly in the hand, ripping it open near the thumb. His ear drum was also shattered.

“My hand bled to beat the dickens. They gave me some morphine right away and took me back to an aid station. I fell asleep from the morphine.”

An ambulance took him to a tent hospital that had a red cross painted on the top. He slept on an Army cot. An airplane, a C-47 transport, then took him and others to a hospital in Birmingham, England.

As the hand healed, one of the officers in his outfit who was also a patient at the Birmingham hospital, made contact with him. “I know officers and enlisted aren’t supposed to fraternize, but he wanted me to go to London with him. He made all the arrangements. We stayed at the Winston Hotel, the highest priced hotel in London. We were there four days. We had a ball.”

“When I got all healed up, they sent me back to France. I couldn’t hold a rifle anymore, so they had me giving talks to guys who were going to the front. I remember standing on a rock talking to 175 guys one time for an hour.”

Another job, which he didn’t care for, was to go out in the French countryside and disarm the artillery shells that had landed but not exploded. “The French farmers wanted to get back in the fields, but there were all these unexploded shells. We’d go out and find them, and then attach a blasting cap to them and blow them up.”

Time passed and the war ended in Europe and then in the Pacific. “One day,

one of the officers came up and said, “Sergeant Nelson, you’re going home.”

Nelson was sent to Camp Lucky Strike on the French coast and waited for transportation back to the United States.

“I was the senior non-commissioned officer in my group, so I was in charge of a group of about 50 guys.” His trip on the SS Mariposa, a converted luxury cruise liner, took six days and he arrived in Boston on Oct. 24, 1945. It was then on to Camp McCoy in Wisconsin to be mustered out.

Somewhere along the way he heard what had happened to his friend, Arvid Larson. “He and his guys were going down a road, and the Germans were lying in wait and they just mowed them all down.” As his friend had predicted, he had died and Nelson had made it home.

Nelson worked for his dad for a time before settling in to a long career with NAPA as a salesman. He moved from Eagle Bend to Little Falls.

He and his future wife June Taylor of

Marble, Minnesota, began a letter correspondence while Nelson was still in the army. When he got home, they made plans to meet in Eagle Bend. “She was there.”

Nelson and June married the next year and they had one daughter. June died some years ago.

As he looks around his room at the assisted living center he calls home in Little Falls, he is surrounded by some of the memorabilia he has gathered through the years. He has clips for both a BAR and an M-1 rifle. He has a shadow box with his medals including a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart.

And he has the small Bible his mother gave him when he was drafted. “I carried it with me every day. My mom had written in it.”

Nelson will turn 100 in November. A recent diagnosis of cancer has him worried a bit, but doesn’t seem to slow him down. He says people ask him all the time about how to live a long life.

“Be happy all the time.”



A copy of *The Santa Fe Express* that Nelson acquired along the way touted the deeds of the 35th Division in Europe.



The sunken roads between hedgerows were death traps for American troops.



A local newspaper clipping reports the death of Arvid Larson near St. Lo.

Her Family Farm Once Belonged to the Kaw Indians: She Decided to Pay Them Back

By Beccy Tanner
February 8, 2019

Back in 1879, Henrich Gronemann was a German Lutheran who homesteaded on the far southeast corner of McPherson County, near the borders of Harvey and Marion County. His 320-acres of prairie was filled with creeks and rolling hills that previously had been the hunting grounds of the Kaw, or Kanza, Indians.

Now, 140 years and five generations later, his great-great granddaughter has done something amazing. She and her siblings sold the family farm. Then, she donated \$10,000, a portion of her earnings from the proceeds, to the Kanza Heritage Society to help preserve the heritage of the Kaw Nation, whose land the Gronemann family farmed.

It is a first in the tribe’s history. “This was not always our land, said Florence Schloneger, a 71-year-old retired Mennonite minister in North Newton. “I got my part, and, I wanted to acknowledge it wasn’t always our land.”

So, when her portion of the family’s proceeds was received, she wrote a letter to the Kanza Heritage Society. Accompanying the check was a note that read “This gift is a small acknowledgment that what our family homesteaded and owned was not unoccupied land. It is an acknowledgment that no land can truly be owned and that the pride in our farm passed down through our family came at a great cost to your people. As my eyes have been opened, I have experienced great sorrow. Not only were your hunting grounds appropriated, but your rich culture and language was nearly lost through assimilation. My hope is that this small gift can help build and restore the strength of Kanza traditions for coming generations. Many blessings.”

This marks the first time in Kansas history that any kind of reparation, or amends by a private person, has been made to the Kaw Nation, though in this case indirectly to the Kanza Heritage Society. The Kanza

Heritage Society is a private non-profit organization that helps support the efforts of the Kaw Nation to preserve heritage sites and cultural activities.

“I’m humbled and a little stunned,” said Pauline Sharp, a Kaw tribal member and board member of the Kanza Heritage Society. “This is a big deal. At one time, the Kaw claimed a territory that covered roughly two-fifths of modern Kansas and parts of Nebraska and Missouri.

Then, an 1825 peace treaty with the federal government reduced the Kanza lands from 20 million acres to 2 million acres just west of Topeka. Another treaty in 1846 then reduced the Kanza land from 2 million acres to 256,000 near Council Grove, where the Kaw Mission is the town’s oldest stone structure.”

The Kaw lived in three villages southeast of Council Grove from 1848 until their forced removal to Oklahoma in 1873. With the passage of the Homestead Act in 1862, the land once owned by the Kaw became available for settlement. In 1879, Henrich Gronemann homesteaded the land.

A year ago, Schloneger’s mother died and it became apparent that the remnants of the five-generation farm would be sold. The sale of the land, Schloneger said, was akin to losing another family member. “There is a lot of grief in family land that is sold. It is a part our identity,”• Schloneger said. In the grieving process, she wrote a series of 26 poems about the occupants of the land. In one poem, titled “1873,” she speaks about the cultural ownership:

“A dignitary came from Washington, and announced, “Our latest treaty is no more, because we need your land. We’ve come to swap for tracts you’ve never seen before.” Chief Allegawaho stood up and looked around. “Great Father” he protested, “You must think us turkeys to be chased up streams and down, until we’re pushed into the sea and sink.

At dawn, the women trudged to loved one’s graves, turned their backs against the

rising sun and wailed that it was unthinkable to leave their dead, their braves. Now all their sacred grounds were up for sale. They walked to Oklahoma, forced from home. My Great-Greats bought a farm. Could they have known?”

Schloneger says the land, in many ways, is also the story of America. “Our country was built on the need to have land,” she said. “There wasn’t a way to give the land back. And what it did to people, such as the Kaw, is heartbreaking. Their hunting grounds were lost and so much of their culture was taken. This donation seemed right to me. It is really just an acknowledgment that they lived on the land.”

On Feb. 28, 2000, the Kaw Nation purchased 146.8 acres of land along the Little John Creek near Council Grove and named it the Allegawaho Memorial Heritage Park, after the tribe’s chief. It was the first time the Kaw owned land in Kansas since its forced removal. A man by the name of Pepper Henry, along with some of the Kaw elder men, created what is now known as the Kanza Heritage Society to preserve the Kaw’s Warrior Dance. The group hopes to offer grants to the Kaw Nation to do work at Allegawaho Park or other Kansas sites to preserve the heritage for the Kanza people.

A World War I Soldier’s Story

Marge Bullock, via Roberta Russo, has donated a copy of the book “A World War I Soldier’s Story – Clair C. Harkey, 1895-1918, Kansas Volunteer” to the Museum Library. It is now available for research, reference, and checkout.

This is the story of Private First Class Clair C. Harkey, who followed a family tradition and volunteered to serve his country in World War I and was called on to make the supreme sacrifice. It was written by Martha Ann Atkins, Clair Harkey’s niece, who also grew up in Ft. Scott, Kansas. She lived in the same house where her mother and uncle grew up, attended the same high school they did, and always recognized a Clair presence in her life. Recipient of a Ph.D. from Kansas State University, she is retired as an Associate Professor of English at Iowa State University.

On the day that President Woodrow Wilson asked the U. S. Congress to declare war on Germany in March of 1917, Clair volunteered to join the Kansas National Guard. His unit was Company G, 137th Inf Regt, 35th Division, American Expeditionary Forces.

All existing personal correspondence from him is included in the book, which allows him to tell his own story. Clair’s letters from college and training camp are filled with youthful enthusiasm and a strong sense of purpose. His letters from France tell of conditions in the trenches and the preparation for the great push in the Battle of the Argonne, where Clair was killed. The book is not a cold history of the war, but the human story of the war and the long-lasting impact his sacrifice had on his family and on his hometown in Kansas.

PFC Harkey died on Sept. 26, 1918, and is buried in Plate E, Row 34, Grave 33 of the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne, France. He has a new marble cross marking his grave. The American Battle Monuments Commission, after all these years, has kept the U. S. government’s promise to honor the burial sites of our soldiers. PFC Clair Harkey has not been forgotten, either in the place where he is buried, or in this book, which show that he was a hero.

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



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 \$25.00 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.

Monuments to the 35th Infantry Division in Europe

Prepared by Paula Evans Baker and Marilyn Bowers Jensen
Fathers, Pvt Richard Evans and Pfc Rex Bowers, were Killed in Action while serving with the 134th Infantry Regiment of the 35th Division

Note: If there are other monuments to the 35th Division that you know about that should to be added to this list or if you can provide wording on the monument or pictures, please notify Paula Baker (dicknell35@hotmail.com) or Marilyn Jensen (mbowersjensen@msn.com).

France

- La Meauffe (to 35th)
- Saint-Lo (to 35th)
- Le Mesnil Rouxel (to Honor the Memory of A. Thomsen Lt. Colonel 35th ID, heroically lead the 3rd Bat, 134 IR . . .)
- Domjean (to 35th)
- Guilberville (to William Notley)
- Saint Georges Montcocq (to 35th)
- Conde sur Vire (to 35th)
- Pont Farcy (to 35th)
- Gieville (to 35th)
- Torigni sur Vire (to 35th)
- St Lo Memorial La Madeleine (to 29th and 35th Division)
- Mortain (to 35th)
- Saint Jean des Baisants (to 35th)
- Saint Lo Hospital memorial (to 35th)
- Conde sur Vire (to L. M. Garner)

- Flavigny Bridge Monument (to 35th) Stele at the edge of Government bridge over the Moselle approximately 20 miles south of Nancy. Ceremony there considered the beginning of celebrations for the liberation of Nancy. Stele carries emblem of 35th ID and says: “For Those Who Fought in this Area and Died for Our Peace and Freedom.” Special mention at bottom to: “2nd Battalion, 134 Infantry Regiment.”
- Plaque on Flavigny Bridge to 1st Lt. Ralph Brennan, CO of F-134-35. Evolved from cross placed there in Brennan’s memory in 1946.
- Gerbecourt (Remembers Pvt Joseph M. Paskey (134) and American orphans)
- Armaucourt (Remembers Pvt Richard H. Evans (F-134-35) and those who died in the campaign of September-October 1944 and their American orphans. Thought to be the first remembrance of American orphans of WWII in France.)
- Espace De Memoire Lorraine Museum (A Must See) (Covers spectrum of WWII in Lorraine, but a lot of the artifacts are from the 134th IR or 35thID. At Vezelize, 20 miles South of Nancy, near Flavigny,)
- Fossieux (to the 35th Division)
- Agincourt (in Memory of all those who gave their lives for liberation This memorial is located at Agincourt, a small town near Nancy, France. It is dedicated to all the soldiers who were Killed in Action or Died of Wounds during the Battle of Sugar Loaf Hill, September 16 - 21, 1944. The official Dedication Ceremony was held on Sunday, September 20, 2015.

ing the Battle of Sugar Loaf Hill, September 16 - 21, 1944. The official Dedication Ceremony was held on Sunday, September 20, 2015.

Belgium

- Bastogne, Belgium at the Mardasson American Monument (to all units participating in Bulge)
- Lutremange/Lutrebois Monument (to 35th Division) The monument is located in Lutremange, Belgium. The town of Lutremange is about one mile from the Luxembourg border and about five miles southeast of Bastogne. The Monument is located on the road between Lutremange and Villers-La-Bonne-Eau.

Luxembourg

- Boulaide Monument (to 35th Division)
- Weiswampach Monument in Northern Luxembourg (In Memoriam C Company, 134th Infantry, 35th Division, U.S. Soldiers Killed During the Liberation of Weiswampach, January 24-25, 1945: 1st Lt. Larrieu, S/Sgt. Cooper, S/Sgt. Crider, Tec 5 Show, Tec 5 Stacy, Cpl. Polsen, Pfc Bowers, Pfc Jones, Pfc Konopka, Pfc Palladino, Pfc Patrick, and Pfc Scott).

The Netherlands

- Venlo, Holland, Hotel Wilhelmina, (March 1, 1945, The Liberation of Venlo by the US 35th Infantry Division. Their HQ was located in this hotel.)

FINDING ST. LO A Memoir of War and Family BOOK REVIEW

By Roger T. Aeschliman (COL. Ret.)

FINDING ST. LO
A Memoir of War and Family
Gordon Edward Cross
Robert Lewis Fowler
Ted Neill
Self-Published
ISBN: 9781730959738
\$13.95 on Amazon

World War II veterans Gordon Cross and Robert Fowler both served in the 134th Regiment, originating in Nebraska and assigned to the 35th Division. Both produced brief writings about their time in the service. Fowler’s grandson, Ted Neill has done history a service by compiling, editing and adding to their stories.

Fowler is the focus of the book. In his own words he relates the pre-war National Guard experience, the 100% mobilization of the National Guard in 1940, then training, training and more training. From being an underage, lied to enlist Cornhusker, to the bocage hedgerows of Normandy in 1944, we watch Fowler learn and grow. From no-stripe private to platoon sergeant trying and failing to keep his troops alive, Fowler’s narrative is clear, calm and horrifying. After eight years in the Army, Fowler has only 45 days boots in country before his wound takes him out of combat.

His grandson, Neill, adds about half of the book, describing the family dynamics of a veteran suffering PTSD and alcoholism. Neill himself struggles to come to terms with the kind, gentle and loving grandfather he knew as a child versus the angry and troubled man others knew.

The final written section of the book is a diary of Cross, writing about his longer 35th Division tour in the ETO as a medic. His descriptions, especially of the Battle of the Bulge, are riveting. Neill includes a number of photos taken by Cross. Cross did not keep notes with his photos so they are short of provenance but interesting nonetheless.

This is not the first book to read for a general understanding of the Normandy invasion, the hedgerows and the pivotal role played by the 35th Division in capturing St. Lo and enabling the breakout from the beachhead. It is, however, a great companion piece that captures the tightly focused viewpoint of individual soldiers seeing a narrow, horrible slice of the War.

FRANCO-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION ORLEANS FRANCE

Dear Friends,
Maybe I am late! but at the moment I am very busy with all sorts of Franco-American activities in Orleans.
Hope you can include my photo and text in the coming edition. Thanks in advance.
All the best, Claude Rozet

Change of Command, 52nd Signal Bn

Change of Command at the 52nd Signal Bn in Stuttgart, Germany , last May 2018 . LTC Jermaine Sutton is the new Commander of the Battalion .
The Color Guard of the 52nd Signal Bn will be in ORLEANS , FRANCE , on May 8th, 2019 for the commemoration of VE DAY and on August 16th, 2019 for the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Orleans area by soldiers from the 35th Infantry Division.

CONCERT Santa Monica High School Choir



California, USA | *chef de cœur* : Jeffe Huls
**mercredi 10 avril, 2019
18h00**

**Cathédrale Sainte Croix
d’Orléans**

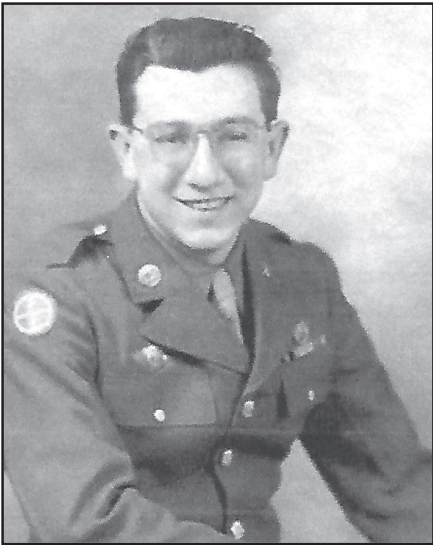
Spirituals et musique traditionnelle américaine
Concert offert par France États-Unis Orléans
Entrée Libre



Claude Rozet, President of the Franco-American Association in Orleans, LTC Jermaine Sutton, CDR of the 52nd Signal Bn and Major Rodriguez, XO of the Battalion



The Michael Linquata Story



Michael Linquata was a combat medic with Co D, 134th Inf Regt, serving in the U. S. Army from Jan. 12, 1944 to Dec. 4, 1945. During that time he was held captive as a POW for 88 days.

A native of Gloucester, MA, he was inducted at Ft. Devens, MA on Jan. 12, 1944, at the age of 18—right out of high school. Following Basic Training, he was

given initial training as a Combat Medic. By the third week of Oct, 1944, he was on the Queen Mary headed for Scotland. By Thanksgiving Day, 1944, he was on the English Channel, headed for France and assignment to the 134th Inf Regt as a Medical Aid Man in Co D.

Just before Christmas, 1944, he and most of the 35th Division were committed to the Battle of the Bulge in Belgium. On Dec. 24, 1944, at Metz he ate his last hot meal for three and a half months. He was 19 years of age, not yet old enough to vote.

As the fighting progressed in Belgium, in and around Bastogne, half of his company, Co D, 134th Inf, was killed or wounded. Those remaining, including Michael Linquata, the Combat Medic, were paired with Co C, 134th Inf. On the 4th of January in a fierce fight, the commander asked Linquata to stay with about 20 wounded soldiers as the unit withdrew to another location. They were left without guns, ammunition, or food, and they were almost out of medical supplies.

The Germans were right on top of them, and the decision was made to surrender—this 19-year-old kid had to surrender himself, along with 20 wounded soldiers under his care. The

Germans marched them back a mile behind their lines and placed them in a barn. Linquata was separated from the less critically injured, and left to care for eight of the more seriously wounded men. From here they were marched back to a farmhouse. They had no food, and the Germans gave them none. Soon after, he was separated from the wounded and held captive with about 100 others in the attic of a monastery. Here many of their captors were wearing American uniforms, all part of the German strategy during the Battle of the Bulge.

Soon about 50 of them were on the march through small towns and villages to a German railroad depot, where they were packed into boxcars and taken to POW camp Stalag 12A. From there they marched about 60 miles, over a 3-4 day period, to Bad Orb Stalag 9B, sleeping in barns and getting one hot meal of soup during the march.

At Bad Orb Stalag 9B they suffered dysentery, starvation, and constant cold, with coffee for breakfast, a cup of soup for lunch,

and a slice of German sour bread for supper. His weight went from 155 lbs to less than 100 lbs. There was no medical care, and many died—first one every other day, then one every day, then two every day, and then three every day.

But then they heard the thunder of approaching artillery, and on the day after Easter, Apr 2, 1945, they were liberated by the 7th Light Armored Div. On the 6th of April, U. S. Army 6x6 trucks picked them out and took them to a U. S. Army tent camp. Here they were stripped naked, soaked in gasoline (to kill the lice), given a hot shower w/soap, and then issued clean clothes—their first in four months.

They were taken to Camp Lucky Strike, near LeHavre, France. Here Linquata and his fellow POW’s were given the opportunity to eat several meals a day. They shipped out, eventually landing in Lake Placid, New York. After a period of recovery he was given charge of a ward of 30 patients at Lovel General Hospital, Ft. Devens, MA. He was given an Honorable Discharge on Dec. 4, 1945.

He was 20 years old.

Linquata returned to his hometown of Gloucester, MA, where he ran the Gloucester House Restaurant, beginning in 1958.

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 2019

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)



_____ 2019 Major Donor Club Donation - \$100 or more (Name posted in Lobby)

_____ 2019 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 2019 Members, Major Donors, Brick Orders, & Perpetual Sustaining Membership Payments Receive a 2019 Museum Challenge Coin)



35th Division Hall of Fame Nominations Sought

Members of the 35th Division Assn., as well as others, are encouraged to submit nominations for the 35th Division Hall of Fame for induction in 2020. Nominators must sign the nomination form and provide data for future contacts.

At this time there are only five (5) carryover nominations from this year for consideration next year..

Three things are required for the nomination:

1. The completed Hall of Fame Nomination Form below.
2. A separate page(s) biography of the nominee giving military service and emphasizing what the nominee did in service in the 35th Division to merit induction into the Hall of Fame.
3. A photo of the nominee

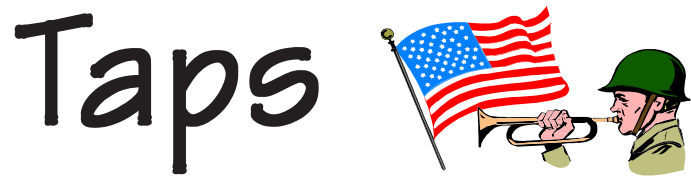
Supporting documents such as copies of award citations, listings of military awards, copies of his/her service records, letters of support, etc. are optional.

The 2020 class to be inducted will be inducted at the Annual 35th Div Assn Conference in 2020.

Send nominations to **BG Ed Gerhardt, Chairman, 35th Hall of Fame Committee, 125 SE Airport E. Drive, Topeka, KS 66619**, so as to arrive not later than 1 August 2019.

Hall of Fame Nomination Form

Rank/Title of Nominee:	
Name of Nominee:	Recipient of : Medal of Honor: <input type="checkbox"/> Dist. Svc Cross: <input type="checkbox"/>
Address of Nominee (if living):	
Name & Address of Next of Kin (if deceased):	
Nominee Date of Birth:	Nominee Date of Death:
Nominator Name:	Nominator E-Mail:
Nominator Address:	Nominator Telephone:



James E. Moore, Jr.
Co. G, 320th Infantry



James E. Moore, Jr, 99, St. Joseph, Missouri, passed away Thursday, January 3, 2019 at his home.

He was born August 20, 1919 to James Elmer Moore, Sr. and Carolina (Rother) Moore in Craig, Missouri, where he grew up.

James married Mary Slapczynski on July 18, 1942 in Leavenworth, Kansas. She preceded him in death on November 24, 1991.

Mr. Moore served with distinction in the United States Army from 1942 to 1946 with

Company G 320th Infantry during WWII and received two Purple Hearts of Valor. On returning from his service, he resumed working for Lehr Construction and worked for the company for 61 years. He had been active in the Lions Club, Meals on Wheels, and the Friday Morning Breakfast Club.

He married Jackie Barnett Buckminster on June 27, 2003. She survives of the home.

Mr. Moore was a good husband, father, and grandfather, as well as a dedicated worker, skilled craftsman, and loyal friend, who enjoyed the outdoors, gardening, woodworking and bird watching. He will be greatly missed and remembered for his lifetime of caring for others.

He was preceded in death by his parents; first wife, Mary; sisters, Marie Hines and Dorothy Mae Bridges.

Additional survivors include son, Stanley Moore (Deborah), St. Joseph, Missouri; four grandchildren, Wendy Taylor (Jeff), Joliet, Illinois, Dr. Bradley Moore (Erica), St. Joseph, Missouri, Brett Moore (Brittany), Kansas City, Missouri, and Alexandra Moore, St. Joseph, Missouri; eight great-grandchildren, Addison Taylor, Kallista Taylor, Augustin, Jude, Genevieve, Bronx, Brody and baby girl Moore; step-children, Anthony Barnett (Kathy) and family, Jeff Barnett (Jeryl) and family, Leesa Klingenberg (Edward) and son.

Louis E. Pavlicek
Co. E, 320th Inf.

Louis E. Pavlicek, 95, of Mountain Home, AR., passed away on March 24, 2019. He was born on May 18, 1923 in St. Louis Missouri to Joseph and Beatrice (Holloway) Pavlicek. He grew up in the Chicago area and married Grace Mastandrea in 1942. She preceded him in death in 1999. Lou was a WWII veteran and served in Europe with the 35th Inf Div under General George Patton. Among his

Awards are the Bronze Star and the French Legion of Honor Medal. After the War Lou was employed as a parts manager at

Martin J Kelly Chrysler for several years. He then joined Wil-Freds Construction as a commercial carpenter. In 1980 he retired and moved from Lisle Illinois to Midway, AR. where he opened Lou’s Key Shop.

In September 2001, he married Evelyn Muellenbach in Mountain Home. Lou had been an avid fisherman, golfer and bowler and in his later years also enjoyed traveling. He was a member of St. Peter’s Catholic Church, where he had been an usher for more than 30 years. He also was a member of the Knights of Columbus, Elks Lodge, North Arkansas coin club, life member of Bull Shoals VFW and The 35th Inf, Div Association.

He is survived by his wife Evelyn; son, Louis JR (Judy) Pavlicek of Cabot, AR.; daughter, Marilyn (Robert) Cisowski of Midway, AR.; 5 grandchildren; 5 great grand children; 3 great, great grand children; stepchildren, Wayne, Mark (Elizabeth), Lorie Muellenbach, Sue (Hugh) Casement; 7 step grandchildren, and many other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Grace, parents, granddaughter, Robin Vogel, great grandson, Matthew, stepson, Allen Muellenbach, 2 brothers, 6 sisters, and other relatives.



Correction

The Richard Allyn Frantz obituary contained in the Jan-Feb-March edition indicated that Richard Frantz was the father of Peggy Weddle. He was in fact, her brother. Peggy was correctly listed among his survivors as his sister.

Their father was Carl J. Frantz of C Company.

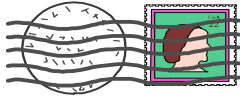
Passing of another
great American,
Major Charles
Feldman (Ret)

“Members of the 35th,
My name is Gordon James and I am sending you this note to inform you of of the passing of my father-in-law, Major Charles Feldman this past February. We have been going through some of his papers and I came across a file about “the 35th.” Dad lived into his 103rd year with vigor, class, a smile and an eye to always setting an example for those he came in contact with. He rarely talked to us about his experiences during WW II. I know that he was not alone in internalizing what he witnessed. Since his passing, in his footlocker we have been fortunate to discover letters written to his brother in New York from Europe; pictures of fellow soldiers during training, deployment and in the field. They give us a small insight into some of the experiences that he absorbed and no doubt would shape his long life.

There was no “I” in his life it was always about you”.

Gord James

Editors note: At Majors Feldman’s request, there was no obituary.



Mail Call

Finding St. Lo, A Memoir of War and Family

Hi Roberta and Robert,

I’m proud to announce that Finding St. Lo, A Memoir of War and Family, featuring the memoirs of Gordon Edward Cross and Robert Lewis Fowler, from the 134th Infantry Regiment is now on sale on Amazon! It’s been such a great adventure putting this together with the help of Bill Cross and his family. I’d love to send you both some complimentary copies as you played such an important role connecting us and acting as stewards of the 134th’s legacy. The e-books will be up and instantly downloadable later this week. We would LOVE your help spreading the word about the book to your 134th friends and family networks.

Bill and I are also both hoping to make it out to Nebraska for a visit to the National Guard museum this July for the 75th anniversary events. Hopefully we’ll see you there!

Let me know the best address to post some copies to you.

Ted Neill

Grandson of Robert Fowler

Editor’s note: See Finding St. Lo book review on page 7.

February 16, 2019

Dear 35th,

This letter is being written by my son, William Graff. He has enclosed for me what we figured, hopefully correctly for 2 lifetime memberships for Zadok W. Graff and Isabella Graff. Dad also wanted to help sponsor the Hall of Fame Reception and the Reunion. Thought you might want to include the below in the next Division newsletter.

Jim and Alice are still hanging in there. They are living at an assisted living facility in Lincoln, Illinois. I have listed their address as ours so we can make sure who sent them what and we can make sure and let them know. Mom’s health is not the best and Dad’s mind has slipped right smart the last few months. They are 93 and 92 years old and celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary last September. Dad always says it is hell to live this old. They have buried most of their friends, some of their friends’ children, a son in law, and now this past December a Great Grandson. Dad has also outlived most all of his comrades in arms. He cannot remember lots of time what was just said ten minutes ago, but he still remembers the guys that looked out for him in Europe.

Bob Landrum of Missouri; Kenneth McCrae, Nebraska; Herman Genrich, Nebraska; Joe Kelso, Texas; Marvin Gardner, Iowa; Rex Storm, Illinois; Elwell Sanborn, New Hampshire; James Steinhafel, Colorado; and Roger Pitcock, Texas.

All those and many more were his comrade in arms in the 35th Division.

William Graff

March 20, 2019

Bob,

I just wanted to fill you in on the folks. Dad is still in assisted living. His short term memory is tenuous but long term is still pretty good. Mom has had issues with her heart and is in hospice. Also, we had to move her to a memory care facility. Dad misses her. If you (or anyone else) wants to call him the # is 217-445-2570. Afternoons 2-4 and early evening 6-7:30 are best times. You may have to call twice successively as he can’t always get to the phone and it can’t be moved.

I hope all is well with you and your family.

Marilyn Smith (Jim Graff)



July-August-September
issue of the
Santa Fe Express
Deadline 10 July





Membership, Donor and Purchase Form

(Last)

E-Mail (Optional):_____ **Telephone:** _____

Amount Enclosed

(Make Checks Payable to 35th Div. Association and Mail to 35th Division Association, P O Box 5004, Topeka, KS 66605)

I Never Saw Another Butterfly

by BG Ed Gerhardt (Ret)



Amid all the good news, bad news, and fake news today we sometimes forget what our country is all about—why we continue to defend freedom and human rights around the world.

Recently Marge Bullock of Kalamazoo, MI donated a book to the 35th Division Museum Library in memory of her husband, Keith Bullock, who served in Co C, 137th Inf in WW II. The book is entitled **“I Never Saw Another Butterfly”** and is a powerful tribute to the greatest generation, including those in the 35th Infantry Division.

It is a book of drawings and poems by Jewish children who passed through the Terezin (Theresienstadt) Concentration Camp, in Czechoslovakia, in 1942-45 on their way to the Nazi death chambers. During the war, a little over 141,000 Jews passed through there. A total of 33,456 died there and 88,202 were transported to death camps. On May 9, 1945, when the war ended, there remained in Theresienstadt a total of 16, 832 Jews. Of the 15,000 children deported from there to Auschwitz, 100 survived—none under the age of fourteen.

In August of 1945, while the ghetto camp was being repatriated, two suitcases of children’s drawings and poetry were found, which were brought to the Prague Jewish community. For ten years they sat on a shelf, collecting dust. Then they were re-discovered, placed in exhibits, and published. This book tells the story of these 15,000 children in their own poems and drawings. Only 100 of them survived.

One of those poems, penned by Pavel Friedmann in June of 1942, along with a child’s drawing, reads...

**“For seven weeks I’ve lived in here,
Penned up inside this ghetto.
But I have found what I love here.
The dandelions call to me
And the white chestnut branches in the court.
Only I never saw another butterfly.
That butterfly was the last one.
Butterflies don’t live in here,
In the ghetto.”**

Another, this one written by a child named Franta Bass, again accompanied by a child’s drawing, reads...

**“A little garden,
Fragrant and full of roses.
The path is narrow
And a little boy walks along it
A little boy, a sweet boy,
Like that growing blossom.
When the blossom comes to bloom,
The little boy will be no more.”**
Another one by Franta Bass...
**“I am a Jew and will be a Jew forever,
Even if I should die from hunger,
Never will I submit.
I will always fight for my people,
On my honor.
I will never be ashamed of them,
I give my word.
I am proud of my people,
How dignified they are.
Even though I am suppressed.
I will always come back to life.”**

Finally, one my Alena Synkova...

**And thereafter come tears.
Without them there is no life.
Tears—inspired by grief;
Tears that fall like rain.”**

Virtually no trace remains of those nightmarish ghetto years. Today you can see the rolling hills, the gentle juncture of the two rivers, the Bohemian mountains. And butterflies.

Recognition for Voluntary Work to Commemorate Fallen Soldiers

Members of the Association “Les Portes de la Mémoire” (The Gates of Memory) were decorated in the town of Metz, France. Guy Reichert, President of the Association and his wife, Linda Vogel, received the Medal for their voluntary work to commemorate fallen soldiers. They both remember our fallen soldiers on regular basis during several events in the Lorraine district in Northern France, together with their Association.

Congratulations for the great work!



Silver Medal for Guy Reichert for 30 years of volunteer work.



Bronze Medal for Linda Vogel for 11 years of volunteer work.



SSGT Junior J. Spurrier– Medal of Honor WWII 35th Infantry Division

By Mike Ven

Staff Sergeant Junior J. Spurrier, Company G, 134th Infantry Regiment, was presented the Congressional Medal of Honor by the Ninth Army Commander, Lieutenant General William H. Simpson, at Kaldenkirchen, Germany, on March 6th, 1945. The award was for action at Achain, France on November 13th, 1944.

After basic training in the Army. Junior Spurrier was sent to the South Pacific where he spent the first 31 months of his time in the military. He was serving in New Guinea in 1943 when he received his first of two combat wounds. The Army sent him back to the U.S. to recover from his wounds. Spurrier had a brief leave at home before requesting reassignment to combat duty in Europe.

Once in Europe and fighting his way in France, Staff Sgt. Spurrier, was preparing to attack the German-held town of Achain, France. His company was in position to attack the town from the east, but for some reason, Spurrier decided to enter the town by himself from the west. The enemy concentrated defensive efforts against the company's strength, but Spurrier used a variety of American and German weapons to enter the town from the west. Spurrier shot the first three Nazis with his M-1 Garand. Then, picking up a BAR (Browning Automatic Rifle) and German grenades wherever he found them. He systematically began to clean out the town. He crumbled one stronghold with a bazooka he picked up, killed three more Nazis with a BAR, captured a garrison commander, a lieutenant and 14 men. Another defense point was silenced when he killed its two occupants. Out of ammunition and under fire from four Nazis, Spurrier hurled a Nazi grenade into the house, killing the four Germans.

That night, he also attacked an outpost. While checking security, he heard four Germans talking in a barn. He set fire to the supply of oil and hay, captured the four as they ran out. Later, he spotted a German soldier crawling toward a sentry, killed him when there was no reply to the password.

According to the 25-year-old Lt. Col. Frederick Roecker, his battalion CO, Spurrier killed 25 Germans, captured 20 others. In March, 1945, Sgt. Spurrier was awarded with the Congressional Medal of Honor.

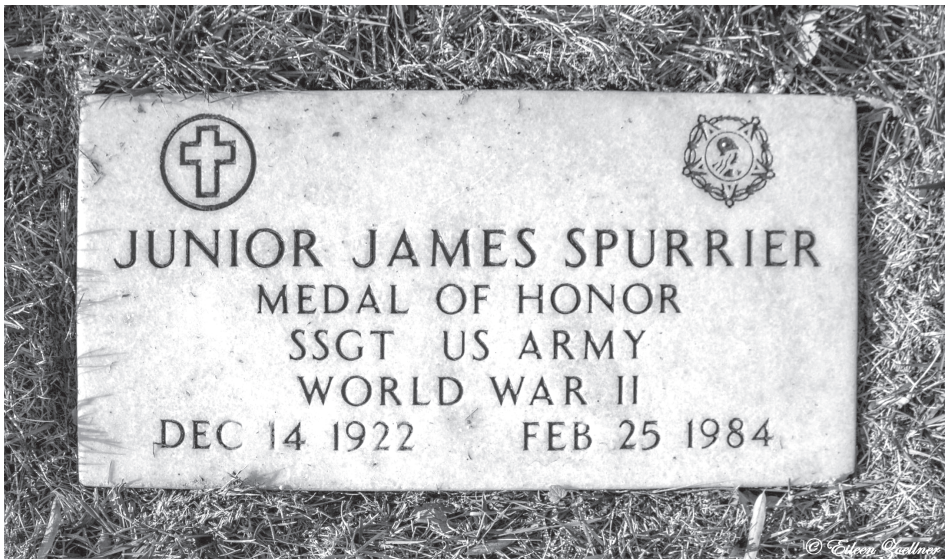
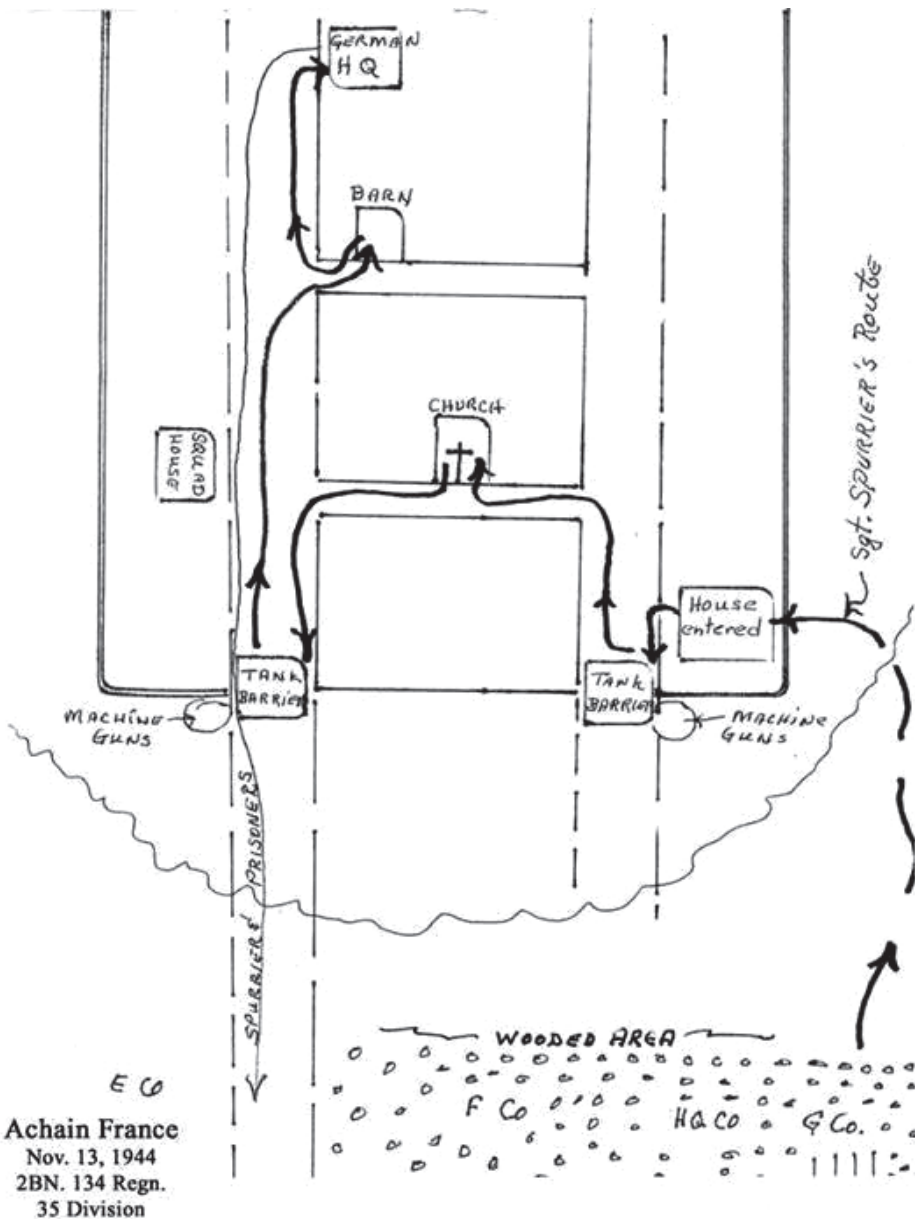
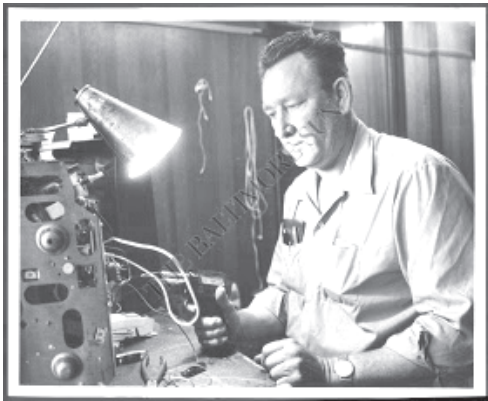
It was the first Congressional Medal of Honor in the Ninth Army. Sgt. Spurrier also holds the Distinguished Service Cross, the Purple Heart with cluster and was also recommended for the French Croix de Guerre.

Spurrier's fighting days weren't over after Achain. Spurrier had picked up his second Purple Heart while fighting in the Belgian Ardennes when he was knocked out unconscious in the snow during the Battle of the Bulge after a German mortar shell exploded right beside him.

Discharged after World War II, he re-enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1947. Due to a problem with alcohol, he was demoted to the rank of private in 1950. Spurrier deserted his post during the Korean War and the Army gave him a general discharge in 1951.

Spurrier had a turbulent and remarkable life after the military. He had a difficult time adjusting to civilian life, possibly due to posttraumatic stress disorder, and had several run-ins with the law in Virginia and Maryland. He eventually served three jail sentences, being released for the last time in 1969. Spurrier became a teetotaler, ran a radio and television repair business, and retired to a cabin in eastern Tennessee, where he died in relative obscurity on February 25, 1984, at the age of 61. He is buried in Mountain Home National Cemetery, in Johnson City, Tennessee.

A memorial to Spurrier was dedicated at the Mercer County War Museum on July 2, 2006. Several of Spurrier's original awards were believed lost, but were located in November 2011. The long lost medals of WWII Medal of Honor recipient, Staff Sgt. James "Junior" Spurrier, including the Medal of Honor were found by the Chief of police of Granville, West Virginia, who discovered the medals when he was looking into a safe that contained his father's personal effects. The Medal was given to Spurrier's family and they gave it to the Mercer County War Museum in West Virginia to be a part of the display honoring Spurrier where you can see it today.



Association Les Portes de la Memoire -The Gates of Memory

By Guy Reichert

FOR the year 2018/2019

Association is doing well and is reassuring by his work as a duty of memory and its staff:

1 member honored posthumously nationality American, Sgt. Kenneth L.Faulkner T.

2 members honored of American citizenship: Mrs. Holli Harwell, Président of the association of the 137th Infantry Regiment and Mr. Mike Ven in Denver (Colorado)

We have 3 life-members of American citizenship: Mrs. Marilyn Bowers Jensen, Denver, Colorado; Mrs Victoria (Sean) Ramirez, St. Cloud, Florida; Mr. Carl R. Bush, Topeka, Kansas; and 22 French adhérents.

The association accounts in its make 11 new members for the year 2018: Mme Martine Manchon, M. Armand Zeiller, M. Albert Elter, M. Roger Bour, M. Eric Jawureck, M. Patrick Egloff, Mme Egloff Brigitte, M. Gérard Maire Haven Honorary Major, M. Romuald Yahiaoui - Major of Hellimer, M. Carl R. Bush

LESCEREMONIES&COMMEMORATIONS:

Pour l'année 2018, Reichert Guy à représenté l'association dans 22 cérémonies ou commémorations.

May 08, 2018: Ceremony of the Armistice in 1945 in Saint-Avold; Organized and led the Ceremony of the Armistice of 08 May 1945 for the communes of Ebersviller / Ferange.

May 25, 2018: Ceremony at Lafayette in Saint-Avold

May 26, 2018: Took part in helping them take responsibility for the flags Bearers at the ceremony of the Mont St-Pierre Villers-Stoncours, with the presence of Villers-Stoncours school.

May 27, 2018: The ceremony for the Mémorial Day: LORRAINE AMERICAIN MILITARY CEMETERY DESAINT-AVOLD.

03 June 03, 2018 : Commémoration at Longeville les St-Avold.

06 June 06, 2018 : Ceremony in memory to the PVT BROWN from the 328th INF, 26th I.D in Albestroff.

Saturday, June 09, 2018: THE SPONSORSHIP OF THE FLAGS OF THE ASSOCIATION

June 18, 2018: Commémoration of the appeal of June 18

Saturday, June 26, 2018: EXIT SCHOOL HAS THE WATER OF BARST MAGINOT LINE

July 01, 2018: COMMEMORATION in memory of the PVT Stephen Jaworski - 5th I.D. to Novéant on Moselle.

September 09, 2018: COMMEMORATION IN MEMORY - 5th I.D. to Corny.

September 14, 2018: THE 12TH DAY OF THE MOSELLE MEMORY HAS DIEUZE

November 10, 2018: THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ARMISTICE OF 1918 IN HELLIMER

Novembre 11, 2018: THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ARMISTICE FROM 1918 TO BARST THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF 1918 WENT - VETERANS DAY. At the Lorraine American Cemetery in Saint-Avold.

REGIMENTS OF THE 35th DIVISIONS

Grade, Nom & Prenom du Soldat, Regiment, Adopté par, date

PVT Jack P. Benevento, 110th Medic Bn, Mathieu Hoeffel, 24/03/2018, Creutzwald

PVT Ralph F Hachmeier, 110th Medic Bn, Jean Louis Claudon, 17/09/2018, Hussigny Godbrange

PFC John T.E Malone, 137th Inf, Jimmy Dorschner, 06/10/2018, Henridorff

PVT Michael C. Konieczka, 137th Inf, Brigitte Juskowiak, 07/11/2018, Saint-Avold

PFC Norman R. Miller, 320th Inf, Jean-Louis Porche, 25/09/2018, Saverne (Bas-Rhin)

2LT G H Miller Smith, 60th Engr Cmbt Bn Jean-Louis Porche, 25/09/2018, Saverne (Bas-Rhin)

May 27, 2018: The ceremony for the Mémorial Day: LORRAINE AMERICAIN MILITARY CEMETERY DESAINT-AVOLD.



The fate of the fight wants SSGT Edward dead interposing, beside him. It was a great moment of emotion and contemplation where the tears have not been successful.

I introduced myself to Vernon N. Schmidt and I thanked him on behalf of the association of the 35th Infantry Division, and it was a magical and special time.

Thank you, sir!!!

Saturday, June 09, 2018 THE SPONSORSHIP OF THE FLAGS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The association “Les Portes de la Mémoire - The Gates of Memory” to organized the ceremony for the delivery of its flags by representatives of schools in Hellimer.

With the presence of the mayors: M. Romuald Yahiaoui of Hellimer, M. Gaston Risse of Diffembach-lès-Hellimer, M. Edmond Moritz of Ebersviller / Férange, and M. Jean-Luc Cheval, 2nd deputy:

The Chaplain Epiphane

Children representatives Hellimer school: Adrien LaGrange, Eliott Clement, Harry



Clement, Hugo Houpert, Nathan Wittmer, and Jean Remillion.

Representing their classmates from school today Hellimer, by becoming sponsors of the flag they participated at one time flagship of the association.

By their action at this event are that there will be a link and more with the students of the school of tomorrow.

With the presence of the présidents (e) and flags Bearers: Souvenir Français de Faulquemont, Souvenir Français

d'Albestroff, UNC Section de Crehange / Faulquemont, Asso Hommage aux soldats de la War 2, L'Amicale des Parachutistes de St-Avold et environs, Asso des Sous-officiers de Réserves de St-Avold et environs, Asso U.I.A.C.A.L Groupe de St-Avold et environs, Asso F.N.C.P.G.C.A.T.M., Amicale des Anciens de la Marine de St-Avold et environs, Presidents et membre d'honneur du C.I.A.P.S., and Asso Les Portes de la Mémoire – The Gates of Memory.

All members of the association held at thanked for their support finance for the purchase of the flag: Le Conseil Départementale de la Moselle, Le Maire et le Conseil Municipale de Hellimer, Le Maire et le Conseil Municipale de Diffembach-lès-Hellimer, L'Hôtel – Restaurant « LE FLORIDE » - Lydia Quieppe, La Société MLTP – Michel Nisi, M. Jean Luc Cheval, and Mme Linda Vogel.

After giving a commitment to the representatives of the school, the children give the flag to the president of the association, who takes it and goes to his door-flag and his Deputy presented.

him says his door flags which agrees in turn to wear it proudly in any of the ceremonies where he will be invited.

Then the president and his door-flag is present in the other door - flag and greet each other.

Presentation of the representatives of the school of Hellimer. The President of the association and its flag bearer.

The president of the association handed to the Director of the school, to the mayors and Hellimer-Diffembach-les-Hellimer certification of the sponsorship of the flag.

Then the wine of honour and the delivery of the small boxes to all the people present at the ceremony.



35th Association Donor Appreciation

Oct 2018 to April 2019

These are donations made in addition to the Annual or Life membership. We value the treasure you give to help the organization.
Please notify the Exec Secretary if we incorrectly captured your donation.

Donors \$500 and above

*Ronald J Paskey (Op. Expenses in recognition of PVT Joseph M. and Rose Paskey)

Donors \$200 to \$250

*COL (R) Roger Aeschliman (Conf. Sponsor)
*William Graff (Hall of Fame, Conf. Sponsor)
*Patricia Harwell (Conference Sponsor in recognition of TSGT. Ken Faulkner)
*Dave Hruska (Op. Expenses, Conf. Sponsor)
*Jeanette Price (Op. Expenses in recognition of Joseph A Price)

Donors \$150 to \$199

*Larry Hahn (Op. Expenses, Conf. Expenses)

Donors \$100 to \$149

*Paula Baker (International Mailings)
*Gary Beadle (Op. Expenses in recognition of T. Sgt. Frank W Beadle)
*MAJ (R) Charles Bredahl (Conf. Sponsor)
*CW4 (R) Carl R Bush (Conf. Sponsor)
*BG (R) Ed Gerhardt (Conf. Sponsor)
*Arthur Germano (Op. Expenses)
*LTC (R) Ricky L Dodson (Hall of Fame)
*CH/COL (R) Ben Mirtz (Op. Expenses)
*Jackie Moore (Op. Expenses in recognition of James E Moore)
*MG (R) Jack Strukel Jr. (Conf. Sponsor)

*COL (R) Cal Warrem (Hall of Fame)
*Peggy Weddle (Op. Expenses in recognition of Carl and Kathryn Frantz)

Donors \$50 to \$99

*Kathy Graff Esker (Op. Expenses in recognition of James and Alice Graff)
*Richard O’Brien (Museum Op. Expenses, Museum Op. Expenses)

Donors up to \$49

*Gregory Bell (Museum Op. Expenses)
*Doris Davis (Op. Expenses)

*Michael Dwyre (Museum Op. Expenses)
*CH/COL Gary Gilmore (Op. Expenses)
*Diana D Hardison (Op. Expenses)
*SGM (R) Lynn E Holt (Museum Op. Expenses)
*PFC Bernard J Kirsch (Op. Expenses)
*Isabella Miles (Op. Expenses)
*Lynne Freeman (Op. Expenses in recognition of Lt Col Carol John Freeman)
*John Harakal (Op. Expenses in recognition of Joseph Thot, PVT KIA)
*Kimberly Rich (Op. Expenses)
*Ken Rowlings (Op. Expenses)
*MAJ (R) Stephen R Page (Op. Expenses)

101st Annual Meeting of the 35th Division Association

By Guy Reichert

During his stay in the United States, Denver Colorado at Mike and Holli



Many thanks to Patricia and Robert, Holli parents, from the bottom of the heart, Because thanks to them I realized a dream, it’s coming home to the United States, I had the great joy of coming to the United States and I stayed at Mike and Holli, who lives in Denver, Colorado, for making me visit Colorado Springs, Denver for making me live in American time and was able to participate in the Assembly of the 35th Infantry Regiment association, through the Kansas.

I would like to thank Col (ret) Robert Dalton, the BG (Ret) Gerhardt and President the BG (R) Alex Duckworth and members have warmly welcomed me to the Museum of the 35th in Topeka and Kansas city Assembly.

I thank the MG Victor Braden Commanding the 35th Infantry Division and officers, as well as their families.

I would like to say “as I was not warned, what was my surprise and caught off guard, when the master of ceremonies, invited me to me expressed in front of you...”Fortunately for me and especially for all the people present that I’m not shy (smile) and that Mike was there to translate (thanks to him)”.

I came to you with questions and I came back in France with a lot of response and positive énergies.



Museum of the Kansas National Guard

125 SE Airport E. Drive, Topeka, KS 66619

2019 Calendar of Events

- Wed. 1 May- Quarterly Brown Bag Luncheon – 12 Noon
- Wed. 8 May- Museum May Coffee – 9 a.m.
- Sat. 8 June- Heartland Military Day – 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Wed. 12 June- Museum June Coffee – 9 a.m.
- Sat. 29 June- Korean War Veterans Day – 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Wed. 10 July- Museum July Coffee – 9 a.m.
- Wed. 7 Aug- Quarterly Brown Bag Luncheon – 12 Noon
- Wed. 14 Aug- Museum August Coffee – 9 a.m.
- Wed. 11 Sep- Museum September Coffee – 9 a.m.
- Sat. 5 Oct- Girl Scout “Girls in Aviation Day” – 8 a.m. – 12 noon
- Wed. 9 Oct- Museum October Coffee – 9 a.m.
- Wed. 6 Nov- Quarterly Brown Bag Luncheon – 12 Noon
- Wed. 13 Nov- Museum November Coffee – 9 a.m.
- Wed. 11 Dec- Museum December Coffee – 9 a.m.

2019 Museum Long Range Goals

1. Extension of the MTAA Lease – Current lease ends 2042.
2. Covers, Buildings, Shelters for Outside Equipment Exhibits – Construction of metal buildings to house outside equipment.
3. New Addition to Museum – Construction of more exhibit, storage, and exhibit prep space.
4. Interactive, Hands-On, and Electronic Exhibits – More simulators and electronic exhibits.
5. Fulltime Staffing - Curator and Operations Director
6. Marketing & Advertising – Advertising – External & Internal
7. Increase Museum Memberships – Annual, Major, Perpetual
8. More & Better Museum Events – Monthly, Quarterly, etc.
9. Water Line to Shop – Run water line to shop building.
10. Continue Emphasis on Fundraising – Pursue grants, wills, trusts, IRA RMD/s, corporate and organizational sponsorships, major donations, & memorials.

Chaplains Corner

Know Your Limits!
John Potter

During the 1800s, British merchants noticed an increase in lost ships. Vessels were completely filled with tons of merchandise, supplies, goods, and people, but they never made it to shore. Ships were sinking at a horrible pace. If the first transport ship didn’t arrive, shipping companies would send a second with an even heavier cargo. Unfortunately, the outcome was now two lost ships and many casualties at sea.

Samuel Plimsoll suggested a “load line” or “waterline” to limit how much cargo each ship could carry. By using a Plimsoll line, ships would no longer be overloaded. Merchants could limit the amount of weight put on each ship and allow vessels to safely reach its final destination. Plimsoll lines are still used today to keep ships from sinking.

We all have a Plimsoll line that keeps us afloat. That line keeps us from sinking at home or work. It is important for us to look at the water occasionally and remember how much we can truly handle.

Galatians 6:2 shares, “Bear one another’s burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ.”

I frequently read this verse and think about how I need to help lift people up who are in trouble. But I should also ask, “When should I cry out for help?” The verse shows a person in need and someone who can help. As one who is suffering with a heavy burden, when do we know to ask for help? When do you finally cry out? There are plenty of times in life when I waited too long. When we think about sinking ships, there is little time to spare. We need to understand our own limits and ask for help before the waves are lapping at the deck.

Don’t load yourself down with an incredible burden. If you feel overwhelmed, know that there are always people who are nearby and willing to help. Chaplains, battle buddies, fellow veterans, relatives, civilian pastors, and counselors are always available to help ease the stress of life. And yes, a loving God who is able to rescue us from any storm.

A Brief History of the Sword of The Maid of Orleans

For 200 years, each May 8, the population of Orleans, France has commemorated the delivery of the city by The Maid, Jeanne d-Arc who drove out the English who occupying Orleans during the Hundred Years War (May 8, 1429).

Also, in front of the most famous place in Orleans – the Place du Martroi – there is an imposing bronze statue representing Jeanne d-Arc in armor on her horse. It is a proud symbol of the Heroine of Orleans.

In June 1940 – benefiting from the rout of the French Army, the German Luftwaffe bombed cities that had no defense. On June 14 and 15 there were several terrifying bombardments. The city was in flames. West of the place of Martroi was completely destroyed. However, surrounded by ruins, the statue of Jeanne d’Arc was not injured.

During the Occupation (as in all occupied territories) Germans seized all bronze statues to melt them and manufacture guns. All statues – except one – the statue of Jeanne d-Arc. Reason unknown. It was not Nazi solicitude. In Orleans like elsewhere, there were arrests, tortures, executions of patriots, innocent hostages, deportations of Jews and the resistant ones. But Jeanne d-Arc, was a strong symbol. Her monument is not touched.

To prepare for D-Day, spring 1944, the Allies began a massive air raid campaign in the north-western section of France – including between the Loire River and the Seine River. In Orleans, there are three bridges on the Loire River. Plus, in the northern part of Orleans is one of the most significant railway centers in France. Bombardments start in May 1944. There are many – causing destruction and several hundred deaths. There is one happy event in this cataclysm – a bomb falls on the Feldkommandantur 589. But the statue of Jeanne d-Arc remains intact. It is solid on its base. It does not waver. The German Wochenschauen of Propagandastaffel tries to exploit the statue. Through filming The Maid standing brave and valiant in surrounding ruins, they want to stir up the population against the English and the Allies. However – in spite of much mourning and misery – this effort is a failure.

On August 16, 1944 – the **35th Infantry Division** and the 4th Armored Division arrive in Orleans making up Task Force S – ordered by General Sebree. North of the Loire River the Germans fold up and retreat. On August 17, there is an artillery battle along the Loire River. At this moment the shooting reaches the statue. The sword is broken. The base is seriously damaged.

During the Blitz the nearby airfield at Bricy was the site that sent destruction to London. Later it also supplied the Third Army as it moved East. The airfield at Bricy was also the station for the 440th Troop Carrier Group which brought the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions to parachute close to Sainte-Mere-Eglise and Sainte-Marie-du-Mont. These units, with pride and valiancy, financed the renovation work for the Jeanne d-Arc statue and supplied a new sword for it.

Thus, the beloved Heroine of Orleans is returned and restored for her people.

Dillons Card

If you have a Dillons Card and shop at Dillons we encourage you to sign up for the Community Rewards program. We currently have 45 people signed up, which nets the Museum of the Kansas National Guard about \$1000 a year. At no cost to you, a portion of your sale will go to the Museum and signing up for this does not affect your fuel points.

The website is www.dillons.com/communityrewards. The Museum number is NQ286.

If you were previously signed up, you are still good.

Thanks.
Ed Gerhardt, BG (Ret)
President
Museum Board of Directors

Deadline for the Next Issue

of the

Santa Fe Express

is 10 July

Please send your favorite reunion stories and pictures to share.