



# Santa Fe Express

## "DIVISIONNAIRE"



The 35th Divisionnaire USPS 700-160

35th INFANTRY DIVISION

www.35thInfDivAssoc.com

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2019

NUMBER FOUR

## President's Message



I am humbled to be the new president for the 35<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Association. Before I can address my vision for the association over the next year, I have to comment on the success of our 102nd Annual Reunion that was held 6 through 8 September 2019 at the Hilton Kansas City Airport. Many thanks to our past president BG (Ret) Alex Duckworth for his leadership and guidance over the past year. Thanks you Alex! I also thank COL (Ret) Robert D. Bloomquist and his wife, Betty, for their work in preparing for the reunion and providing countless hours to ensure operations of the association are executed in a professional manner. Thanks You Bob and Betty! Allow me also to thank BG (Ret) Ed Gerhardt for his work as the chairman of the 35<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Hall of Fame 2019. His efforts allow the Hall of Fame inductions to remain to be one of the big events of the annual reunion each year. Thank you for everything you do! This event along with the participation of the G Company reenactors each year allow the reunion to continue to honor the heroes that have served in our great divisional units through the years.

A special thank you to the Major General William B. Blaylock II, Commanding General of the 35<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, and all of the Soldiers serving in the Headquarters and Headquarters Company for hosting the annual dining out. This was a great event and as we move the association forward the ability for the association to incorporate the currently serving Soldiers into its activities is essential to the associations growth and ability to honor the division's great past. Keeping this thought in mind I propose a few thoughts for the next year: The executive staff, current association membership, and the currently serving Soldiers of the 35<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division must continue to research and account for 35<sup>th</sup> ID WWII Soldiers, seek membership and participation from Soldiers that served in the division since the post 1984 re-organization that includes Soldiers from Kentucky and Nebraska as well as Missouri and Kansas that have traditionally had a strong presence in the executive staff and membership. This requires each of us to personally re-connect with the great Soldiers we have served with in the past from outside our own state of affiliation and ask them join our fellowship and re-connect and enjoy the comradery that they enjoyed during their service in the 35ID. Additionally, there are a number of great things happening in our current formation and we must continue to recognize the currently serving heroes and share the great stories that they have from their service in peace keeping operation, support to our civil authorities, and recent support of contingency operations in Central Command. I encourage the membership to encourage Soldiers to share their memories from their participation in exercises, deployments, and current activities with the 35ID with a letter in the "Divisionnaire." Lastly, we need to generate nominations for an association secretary and another for an association treasurer. The splitting of these two very important duties will allow each to receive the focus they require without a significant burden as the association reenergizes committees to assist with the accountability and coordination of the associations activities. If you are interested in participating in a committee please let COL (Ret) Robert D. Bloomquist or myself know as we plan the first Executive Staff meeting for November 2019. Please keep all of our Soldiers in your prayers.

Santa Fe – Leads the Way

Anthony V. Mohatt

35 ID Association President

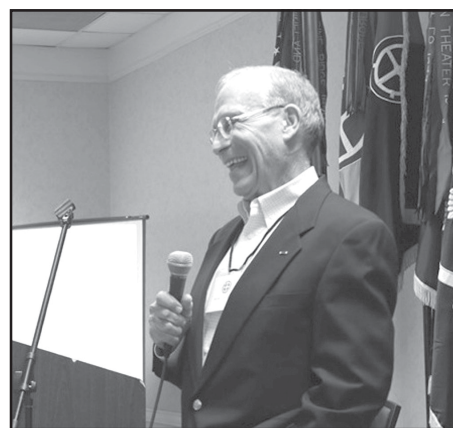
BG Mohatt Bio on page 2

## Maj. Gen. (Ret) Krase Inducted into 35<sup>th</sup> Division Hall of Fame

MG (Ret) Lloyd E. Krase served from the rank of Private in an Infantry Squad to the Commander of the 35<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (Mech) during a 40-year military career. Wounded twice in Vietnam as an Infantry Platoon Leader, his awards included the Silver Star, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star w/OLC, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Air Medal, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, and the Combat Infantryman's Badge. He commanded several Companies, the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn, 137<sup>th</sup> Inf; the 69<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde; and the 35<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (Mech). He served as Chief of Staff for the 35<sup>th</sup> Div and the Kansas National Guard. He was an expert in infantry tactics and Battalion, Brigade, and Division-level maneuver operations.



Ret. Maj. Gen. Krase along with his family during his induction into the Hall of Fame.



Ret. Maj. Gen. Krase giving remarks.



MG Lloyd E. Krase

See Pg 4 for additional inductees

This edition of the Santa Fe Express is courtesy of the

35th Division Association  
Operating Fund

Please consider sponsoring the next edition.









# 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference



Marilyn Jensen



President's Reception

## President's Reception

Members of the 35th ID Association gathered at Granite City in Kansas City, Mo. Friday for the 102nd Annual President's Reception. Each year the association comes together with members who have past or present ties with the 35th ID to meet the incoming President and share stories and memories of their time with the Santa Fe Division.



Marilyn Smith

## 35th Division Banquet



Maj. Gen. Will Blaylock, Commanding General 35th ID, welcomed the attendees and thanked them for their support to the division.



Co. G requesting permission from Maj. Gen. Will Blaylock to post the colors at the beginning of our banquet.

## Presentation of Awards



Maj. Gen. Will Blaylock presented the Colonel Angelo Demos Field-Grade Officer Award to Lt. Col. Wallace Miller, formally a member of the G5, in Company A.



Plt. Sgt. Ken Faulkner's granddaughter, Holly Harwell, presents a plaque depicting her grandfather to Sgt. First Class Spitzer.



Maj. Gen. Blaylock gives Co. G the order to retire the colors at the end of the night.



CSM Kevin Westerhold presented the Command Sergeant Major Jack Elliott Junior Enlisted Award to Spec. Wesley Cole from Company C.



Lt. Col. Dwayne Griffey presented the Captain Walter Harrington Company Grade Officer Award to Capt. Emily Posala from Headquarters and Service Company.



Senior Non-Commissioned Officers paid tribute to the Division's glorious past and acknowledged those who have contributed to our successes in the Santa Fe punch bowl ceremony.



## Plat Sgt. Long and SSG Holmes inducted into 35<sup>th</sup> Division Hall of Fame

Three more heroes of the 35<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division were inducted as part of Class XI of the 35<sup>th</sup> Division Hall of Fame in a ceremony on Sept. 7, 2019, held at the Kansas City Airport Hilton. They were SSG Frank Holmes, killed in action in WW II; MG Lloyd E. Krase, a Distinguished Service Cross recipient of the Vietnam War and former commander of the 35<sup>th</sup> Division; and PSG Noel Long, a WW II veteran.

The 35<sup>th</sup> Division Hall of Fame is located in the Museum of the Kansas National Guard, Topeka, KS.



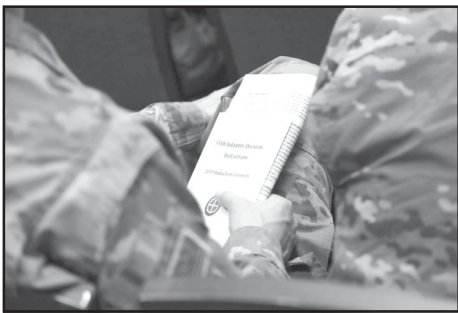
PSG Noel Long

Plat Sgt Noel R. Long served heroically as a Platoon Sergeant in Co F, 137<sup>th</sup> Inf, 35<sup>th</sup> Div, during WW II, and was an active member of the 35<sup>th</sup> Division Assn. until his death on Sept. 27, 2009 while returning from the 35<sup>th</sup> Div Conference in Topeka. Mobilized in 1940 with Co F, 137<sup>th</sup> Inf, Kansas City, KS, he trained with the 35<sup>th</sup> Div from then until it's landing on Omaha Beach, France on July 6, 1944. He became the Platoon Sergeant during the battle of St. Lo and served in that capacity for the rest of his time in combat. He was wounded first in Normandy, then during the Battle of the Bulge on the Rhine Herne Canal, ending his wartime service. He maintained his contacts with his wartime friends for the rest of his life.



SSG Frank Holmes

Staff Sgt Frank Holmes was killed in action on Dec. 27, 1944, near Bastogne, Belgium during the Battle of the Bulge after six months of combat and four years of service in "doing what he had to do." Mobilized in 1940 with Co M, 3d Bn, 137<sup>th</sup> Inf, as a Machine Gunner, he trained with his unit until they landed on Omaha Beach on July 5, 1944. He was wounded on July 31, 1944 near Torigni sur Vire south of St. Lo during a fierce confrontation with crack German paratroopers, but quickly recovered. He fought through the battles of Normandy and was with his unit when it crossed the Saar and Blies Rivers. He was killed by artillery shrapnel while undergoing heavy enemy fire on Dec. 27, 1944.



Soldiers attended the 2019 35ID Hall of Fame Ceremony.



35ID Band

## Minutes of Hall of Fame Committee Meeting

The 35<sup>th</sup> Division Hall of Fame Committee met at 10:15 a.m. on Sat, Sept. 7, 2019, in the Kanza Room, Kansas City Airport Hilton Hotel, Kansas City, MO. Members present were:

- 134<sup>th</sup> Inf Regt - Roberta Russo
- 137<sup>th</sup> Inf Regt - Holli Harwell
- 320<sup>th</sup> Inf Regt -
- 69<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde - COL Calvin Warrem (Ret)
- 35<sup>th</sup> Inf Div - BG Robert Windham (Ret)
- Arty/DivHq/Spt Units - BG Alex Duckworth (Ret)
- Orphans/Widows/Families - Marilyn Jensen
- Post WW II Retirees - CSM Dale Putman (Ret)
- At Large - Marilyn Smith
- At Large - Mike Venn
- At Large - BG Anthony Mohatt
- Chairman - BG Ed Gerhardt (Ret)

BG Ed Gerhardt, chairman, called the meeting to order and reviewed the criteria for selection into the 35<sup>th</sup> Division Hall of Fame from the Rules and Regulations. It was emphasized that

1. Primary consideration should be given to extraordinary meritorious service in the 35<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (which includes organic and attached units) and is supported by wartime or peacetime service accomplishments which reflect merit beyond that of being routine.
2. Secondary consideration should be given to service rendered in war and peace to the 35<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, the 35<sup>th</sup> Division Association, and other services outside the military community, but which reflects favorably upon the nominee's service to the community, state, and nation, the 35<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, the 35<sup>th</sup> Division Association, and uniformed services of our nation.

The selection process was reviewed, emphasizing that each member would vote for three (3) candidates this year, with candidates required to have a minimum of seven (7) votes (a majority of the committee present) for selection, with re-voting until that occurs. It was further emphasized that nominees not selected will again be considered the following year, and for five consecutive years if not selected. Upon non-selection after five consecutive years, the nomination will be withdrawn, although it may be resubmitted after revision.

A total of ten (10) nomination packets were submitted. Nominees considered included PFC Lewis Barondeau, MAJ William Denney, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Stevie F. Fox, CPT Otto Hine, T/Sgt Clarence Kemper, COL William H. Sachs, Jr., Staff Sgt Ralph L. Shear, T/Sgt/Maj Norvin Vogel, Sgt James T. Winslow, and CPT Edwin Young.

Following review of and voting on the nomination packets, the following were selected for 2020 induction into the 35<sup>th</sup> Division Hall of Fame:

- MAJ William M. Denny
- CPT Otto L. H. Hine
- T/Sgt Clarence T. Kemper

The confidentiality of the committee process was emphasized, as well as the names of those selected until the announcement at Saturday evening's banquet.

- The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.
- Respectfully submitted,  
Ed Gerhardt  
Ed Gerhardt, BG (Ret)  
Committee Chairman



Ret. Brig. Gen. Ed Gerhardt, Association Hall of Fame Chairman, welcomed everyone to this year's ceremony.



# Three Selected for Class XII 35<sup>th</sup> Division Hall of Fame

Three more heroes were selected for the 35<sup>th</sup> Division Hall of Fame for induction in 2020 at the 35<sup>th</sup> Div Assn Conference in Kansas City.  
They are Major William M. Denny (WW II), Captain (Doctor) Otto L. H. Hine (WW I), and Tech Sergeant Clarence T. “Click” Kemper (WW II).

**Major William M. Denny** commanded Co C, 134<sup>th</sup> Inf Regt, 35<sup>th</sup> Inf Div, during combat action in World War II, receiving a Silver Star, two Bronze Stars, a Purple Heart, and the Combat Infantryman’s Badge for heroic actions across France, Belgium, and Germany. A native of St. Louis, MO, he was mobilized with the 35<sup>th</sup> Division in 1940. He received Bronze Stars at Morhange and Puttelange, France. For capturing the town of Habkirchen, Germany, Co C received the Distinguished Unit Citation and Major Denny the Silver Star. He was captured during the Battle of the Bulge and spent time as a POW. After rescue he remained in the Army and was medically discharged in 1947. He died in 1999.



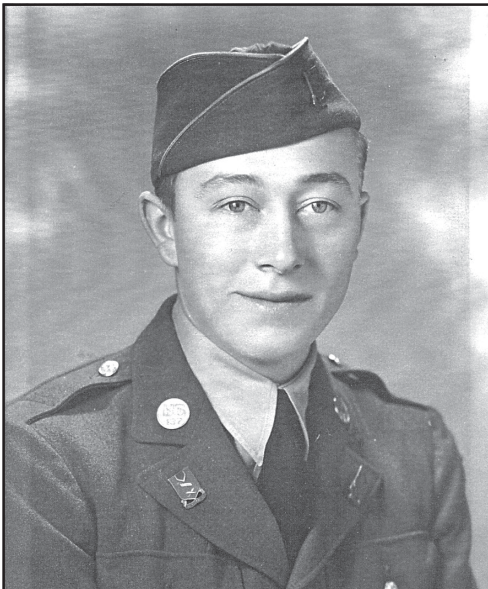
MAJ William Denny Photo

**Captain (Doctor) Otto L. Hine**, Muskogee, Oklahoma, received the Distinguished Service Cross during the Meuse Argonne Offensive of WW I while with the Medical Detachment, 139<sup>th</sup> Inf Regt, 35<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. Trained as a dentist, he volunteered when WW I broke out in 1917. He was in charge of an Aid Station at Chaudron Farm, France, when the 139<sup>th</sup> Inf withdrew, leaving the Aid Station exposed to German artillery fire. He went behind the lines to secure artillery counterfire, then returned to the Aid Station to assist in the successful evacuation of his 94 patients. During that time he required treatment for exposure to mustard gas. After some Post-WW I service, he returned to dental practice in Oklahoma. He died in 1962.



CPT Otto L. H. Hines

**Tech Sergeant Clarence T. “Click” Kemper** received two Purple Hearts and the Bronze Star for heroic actions as a Platoon Sergeant in Co M, 137<sup>th</sup> Inf, during WW II. He joined the 35<sup>th</sup> Inf Div at Camp Robinson, AR in 1941, and remained with Co M until the end of the war. He received his first Purple Heart at St. Lo, France, his second during the Battle of the Bulge, and the Bronze Star for heroic actions with his Machine Gun Section at Livarchamps, Belgium on Jan 2, 1945. He served on occupation duty when the war ended, and returned with his unit in Sept. of 1945. Following discharge, he returned to his home in Forest Grove, Oregon, where he enjoyed baseball, fishing, and other sports until his death.



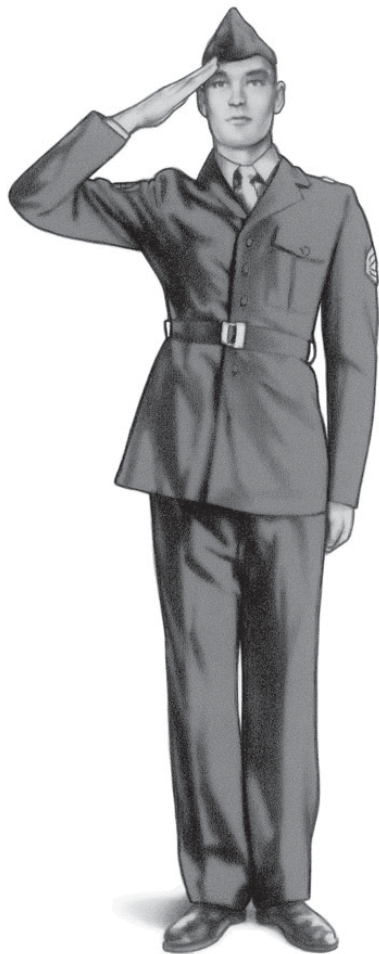
TSgt Clarence Kemper

# COL Mickan’s going away ceremony



35th Infantry Division  
September 14

Col. Chris Mickan, the Chief of Staff, received the 35th ID colors from Maj. Gen. Will Blaylock in a ceremony on Sept 8. Col. Mickan departed the Division to be the Chief of Staff for the Missouri National Guard in Jefferson City, Mo.



# NEW ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS 2018-2019

- SGT EVAN T ANDREWS
- CORP. JAMES R DAVIDSON
- DORIS DAVIS
- CW5 KEVIN B HARSCH
- JUSTIN JERELE
- 1LT ALVIN LEVIN
- COL (R) STEPHEN H PIERCE
- MAJ KIMBERLY SCOTT
- CW2 BRENT SPEAKS
- ANDREW S TAPLEY
- CSM KEVIN WESTERHOLD
- MICHAEL YANNAGHAS

# NEW LIFE MEMBERSHIPS 2018-2019

- COL (R) THOMAS D ARNHOLD
- BG WILLIAM B BLAYLOCK II
- COL/CH GARY GILMORE
- ISABELLA GRAFF
- ZADOK W GRAFF
- CW3 STEVEN R GROVE
- MAJ MATTHEW HAPKE
- SGM (R ) LYNN E HOLT
- MAJ ADAM L JOHNSON
- SGM PAUL JOHNSTON
- SFC (R ) JAMES KNIGHT
- COL (R) GEOFFREY LANNING
- BG ANTHONY MOHATT
- LTC/CH JOHN R POTTER
- CSM JOE ROMANS
- SGT LAUREN E SWENSSON
- ANDREW S TAPLEY
- CSM HAROLD WHITLEY
- LTC KIMBERLY YOUNG

**Deadline for the  
Next Issue  
of the  
Santa Fe  
Express  
is 8 January**

Please send your favorite reunion stories and pictures to share.



# G Co Re-enactors



We remembered our fallen comrades and family members who left our ranks since last year’s reunion. As each name was called a poppy was placed into the helmet by Co. G, 137th Infantry Regiment.



Displays from the local living history group, G Co Re-enactors. Our thanks for their continued support of the 35th Division Association.

This year’s members were:

- Dave Hruska
- Joe Taylor
- Dan Fullerton
- Rusty Elliott
- Bill Burns
- Rick McClellan
- Kelly Jones



## New Monument in Achain, France

By Mike Ven

On September 15, 2019, the French Association “Portes de la Mémoire” and their President Guy Reichert reveiled a new monument for the Division in the center of Achain, France.

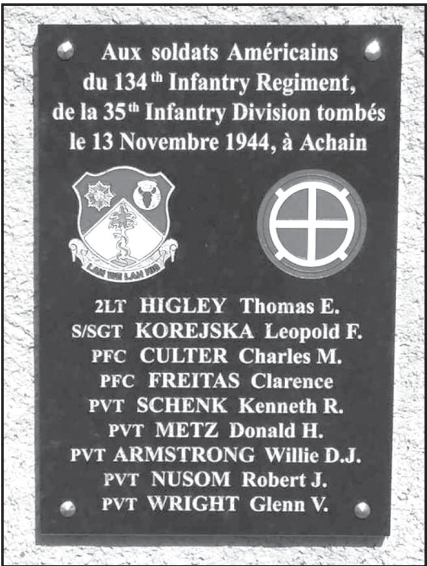
The battle at Achain, France in November 1944, was one of the greatest battles fought by the 2nd Battalion of the 134th Infantry Regiment. The city is also known for the actions of **James Spurrier, Jr. who received the Medal Of Honor**. On November 13, 1944, Spurrier singlehandedly attacked and fought Germans in the village of Achain, France. Spurrier repeatedly returned to his company’s command post with prisoners, and replenished his ammunition from both American and enemy weapons to continue his attack on the occupied village.

The monument is dedicated to the soldiers of the 134th Infantry Regiment that lost their lives to liberate the city.

These are the men:

- PVT Willie D.J. ARMSTRONG
- PFC Charles M. CULTER
- PFC Clarence FREITAS
- 2nd LT Thomas E HIGLEY.
- SSGT Léopold F. KOREJSZA
- PVT Donald H. METZ
- PVT Robert J. NUSOM
- PVT Kenneth R. SCHENK
- PVT Glenn V. WRIGHT

Thanks to Guy Reichert and the people from Achain, these soldier will be remembered forever.





# 35<sup>th</sup> Division Hall of Fame Nominations Sought

Members of the 35<sup>th</sup> Division Assn., as well as others, are encouraged to submit nominations for the 35<sup>th</sup> Division Hall of Fame for induction in 2021. Nominators must sign the nomination form and provide data for future contacts.

At this time there are only seven (7) 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 35<sup>th</sup> 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 2021 class to be inducted will be inducted at the Annual 35<sup>th</sup> Div Assn Conference in 2021.

Send nominations to **BG Ed Gerhardt, Chairman, 35<sup>th</sup> Hall of Fame Committee, 125 SE Airport E. Drive, Topeka, KS 66619**, so as to arrive not later than 1 August 2020.

-----**Hall of Fame Nomination Form**-----

**Rank/Title of Nominee:**

**Name of Nominee:**

**Recipient of : Medal of Honor:**  
**Dist. Svc Cross:**

☐

☐

**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:**



# International Liaison Committee Column

October 9, 2019

A blue and white dove surmounting a red “75” was the theme of the year in France.

A variety of events celebrating the 75th anniversary of the liberation involved 35th Division support groups across the country.

Jean-Francois Percy, president of the Santa Fe “Normandie” Association, recalled several meals and ceremonies honoring 75 visitors from the Nebraska National Guard Museum Association. Nebraska guardsmen furnished the initial soldiers in the 134 Regiment.

Percy was honored to meet Major General Daryl L. Bohac, adjutant general for Nebraska, as part of the celebrations.

Two busloads of the museum supporters spent three days in the hedgerow area around Saint Lo. Mayors of Conde sur Vire and La Meuffe provided meals for the visitors. The “Normandie” association paid for a meal at Saint Lo.

Several members of the “Normandie” association were thrilled to receive rare 110 Medical Battalion crests. Other offerings included challenge coins and French-American flag pins.

Nebraska Senator Mark Kolterman traveled with the group. The mayor of Seward, NE, gave a proclamation to the mayor of Saint Lo. Photos will follow in a later edition of the “Santa Fe Express.”

The city of Nancy also honored the Nebraska museum group with a ceremony at its city hall. The group also paid a short visit to the museum of L’Espace de Memoire Lorraine 1939-45 at Veslize. The Espace association researches and educates about all aspects of the 1939-45 war in Lorraine. Most of the association members live in the area around Nancy that was liberated by the 35th Division

Doug Hartman of the Nebraska NG Museum tour presented the Espace museum with a map of the Nancy Mirecourt area that had belonged to Col Butler Miltonberger, commander of the 134 Regiment. Hartman inventoried and reclassified Miltonberger’s papers for the Nebraska Historical Society and Archives. He rescued the map that was being discarded. Pictures of the 75th anniversary trip may be viewed at [\[nenationalguard\]\(#\).](http://www.flickr.com/photos/</a></p></div><div data-bbox=)

A ceremony at Flavigny, south of Nancy, marked the beginning of liberation ceremonies for Nancy. A large stele outside the bridge over the Moselle at Flavigny honors the 35th Division who “fought in our area and died for our peace and freedom.” The stele cites the 2nd Battalion of the 134 Infantry Regiment. It was virtually decimated by a German counter-attack when the infantrymen were crossing the bridge.

A special addition to this year’s ceremony was a large group of school children who sang the “Star Spangled Banner” in English while waving American Flags.

Many groups and individuals were celebrated during an intense period of wreath-laying around Nancy.

An event special to the writer occurred at Armaucourt, northeast of Nancy. The event honored the mayor of Armaucourt, Aime Gabriel, who was executed by the Nazis on September 9, 1944 for refusing to requisition the villagers’ food for the occupying forces. The mayor’s granddaughter, Ghislaine Beyel, planned the event at her grandfather’s plaque on the side of the church.

Mme Beyel arranged to have my father’s name read at the ceremony. My father, Pvt. Richard Harlan Evans, was killed at Armaucourt September 30, 1944. His name leads the wording on a plaque on the same side of the church. The plaque is dedicated to my father and “his comrades of the 35th American Infantry Division who gave their lives for our freedom and to their American orphans.

A ceremony to dedicate a new memorial to the 35th Infantry Division was held at Achain. In addition a memorial ceremony honoring the war dead of the 35th Division was held in September in Agincourt, France. See Mike Ven’s articles in this issue of the Santa Fe Express.

Michele and Bill Anonsen, first time attendees at the 35th Division Reunion in Kansas City in September, left on September 22 to retrace

Continued to next page



2019 Flavigny Ceremony



Michele and Bill Anonsen with Michael Yannaghas 2019



Michele and Bill Anonsen at Espace de Memoire Museum



2019 Flavigny Ceremony 2



Ceremony at St. Lo



Ceremony at St Lo 2019



# International Liaison Committee

Continued from previous page

Michele's father's steps in Europe when he was with the 35<sup>th</sup> Division in World War II. Michele's father, was S/Sgt Clarence (Click) T. Kemper. He was with Company M of the 137<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment. He landed on Omaha Beach with the Division in July 1944, and fought through with them to the end of the war. He is the recipient of three Purple Hearts, and a Bronze Star. He received the Bronze Star for "heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy of the United States in the vicinity of \*\*\*, Belgium on 2 January 1945." We know now that he received this Bronze Star near Lutremange, Belgium.

We have received two early reports from the Anonsens on their trip. They were able to locate where S/Sgt. Kemper was wounded the first time with the help of Michael Yannaghas, of the Madeleine Chapel Memorial Association. The couple toured the Espace de Memoire Museum with Guy Reichert, Jerome Leclerc and members of the Espace de Memoire Museum a few days later.

Patrick Beck, of the US Veterans Friends-Luxembourg, and the 7<sup>th</sup> Company, 35<sup>th</sup> Division, Luxembourg prepared detailed maps and location descriptions for them for when they entered Belgium and

Luxembourg. Patrick will be in Scotland and will not be able to greet the American visitors. The Anonsens will continue their travels stopping in villages liberated by the 35<sup>th</sup> Division until their destination at the Elbe River. A full report of their adventures will be presented in a later issue of the SFE.

Richard vanKessell from The Netherlands reports that he is busy preparing special exhibits for an Operation Grenade Exhibition depicting battles in the Roemond area in the Netherlands in February and March of 1945. The 35<sup>th</sup> Division will be part of that exhibit.

Richard also reports that The Faces of Margraten Committee's goal is to find 7,500 pictures of soldiers buried in the Margraten Cemetery before the end of the war celebrations in May, 2020. Richard serves on the Faces of Margraten Committee. There are many 35<sup>th</sup> Division soldiers buried in the Margraten Cemetery.

International Liaison Committee Co-Chairs

Paula Evans Baker, daughter of Pvt. Richard H. Evans, F-134-35, KIA 9/30/44  
[dicknell35@hotmail.com](mailto:dicknell35@hotmail.com)

Marilyn Bowers Jensen, daughter of PFC Rex M. Bowers, C-134-35, KIA 01/25/45  
[mbowersjensen@msn.com](mailto:mbowersjensen@msn.com)



Nebraska National Guard Society tour group at Espace de Memoire Museum 2019



Nebraska National Guard Reception at l'hotel de ville de Nancy



Espace de Memoire Museum with Nebraska National Guard and 35th Flag



Jerome Leclerc and Doug Hartman with Miltonberger map



DONOR APPRECIATION

Special Acknowledgement and Appreciation

The 35<sup>th</sup> Division Association members wish to thank and recognize the following corporations, foundations and individuals for their financial contributions.

The Breidenthal-Snyder Foundation  
G Company, 137<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment Historical  
Reenactors Society

Rick L McClellan (In recognition of Ferry G Schoonover)  
Ronald J Paskey (In recognition of PVT Joseph M. and  
Rose Paskey)

All the generous contributors below

Donations from Sept. 2019-Oct. 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 \$150-\$199

\*COL (R) Bob Dalton (Conf. Sponsor)

Donors \$50-\$99

\*CW4 Carl Bush (Museum Op. Expenses)  
\*James Graff (Honorary Attendee)  
\*Roberta Russo (Op. Expenses)  
\*James Jerele (Op. Expenses)

Donors \$100-\$149

\*Marilyn Smith (Conf. Sponsor)  
\*William Graff (Conf. Sponsor)

Donors up to \$49

\*M. Eileen Schneider (Museum Op. Expenses, in honor  
of Robert R Holmes)

Donations from Sept. 6, 2018 - Aug. 31, 2019

Donors \$1000

\*Breidenthal-Snyder Foundation

Donors \$500 to \$999

\*G Co. Reenactors (Conf. Sponsors)  
\*Rick L McClellan (Op. Expenses, Museum Op. Expenses,  
Conf. Sponsor, in recognition of Ferry G Schoonover)  
\*Ronald J Paskey (Op. Expenses in recognition of PVT  
Joseph M. and Rose Paskey)

Donors \$250-\$499

\*COL (R) Roger Aeschliman (Conf. Sponsor)  
\*Dave Hruska (Op. Expenses, Conf. Sponsor)  
\*MG (R) Wayne Pierson (Conf. Sponsor)  
\*Jeanette Price (Op. Expenses, Conf. Sponsor in recogni-  
tion of Joseph A Price, Jr)  
\*BG Robert Windham (Conf. Sponsor)

Donors \$200 to \$249

\*Paula Baker (International Mailings, Conf. Sponsor)  
\*Gary Beadle (Op. Expenses in recognition of T. Sgt. Frank  
W Beadle, Conf. Sponsor, Honorary Attendee)  
\*MAJ (R) Charles Bredahl (Conf. Sponsor)  
\*Jack Brauntuch (Conf. Sponsor, \$100 matched by JM Foun-  
dation)  
\*BG (R) Alex Duckworth (President Reception)  
\*BG (R) Ed Gerhardt (Conf. Sponsor)  
\*William Graff (Hall of Fame, Conf. Sponsor)  
\*Patricia Harwell (Conference Sponsor in recognition of  
TSGT. Ken Faulkner)  
\*CH/COL (R) Ben Mirtz (Op. Expenses, Conf. Sponsor,  
Honorary Attendee)  
\*MG (R) Jack Strukel Jr. (Conf. Sponsor, Honorary At-  
tendee)

Donors \$150 to \$199

\*Larry Hahn (Op. Expenses, Conf. Sponsor)  
\*COL (R) Bob Dalton (Conf. Sponsor)

Donors \$100 to \$149

\*Scott and Susan Achenbach (Conf. Sponsor)  
\*William & Michele Anonsen (Conf. Sponsor)  
\*Gary Beadle (Op. Expenses in recognition of T. Sgt. Frank  
W Beadle)  
\*CW4 (R) Carl R Bush (Conf. Sponsor)  
\*Dr. Ronald Cobb (Conf. Sponsor)  
\*Pat & Curtis Cook (Conf. Sponsor)  
\*COL (R) Angelo Demos (Conf. Sponsor, Honorary At-  
tendee)  
\*LTC (R) Ricky L Dodson (Hall of Fame)  
\*Margaret Fenstermacher (Conf. Sponsor)

Donors \$100 to \$149 cont.

\*Arthur Germano (Op. Expenses)  
\*Marilyn Jensen (Conf. Sponsor)  
\*MG (R) Lloyd Krase (Conf. Sponsor)  
\*COL (R) Geoffrey S Lanning (Conf. Sponsor)  
COL (R) Mike & Sharon Lind (Conf. Sponsor)  
\*Terry Meinke (Conf. Sponsor)  
\*BG Anthony Mohatt (Conf. Sponsor)  
\*Jackie Moore (Op. Expenses in recognition of James E  
Moore)  
\*Timothy Nay (Conf. Sponsor)  
\*BG John Rueger (Conf. Sponsor)  
\*Roberta Russo (Conf. Sponsor)  
\*COL (R) Cal Warrem (Hall of Fame)  
\*John Walsh (Conf. Sponsor, Honorary Attendee)  
\*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)  
\*COL (R) Lyn Smith (Conf. Sponsor)  
\*Ben Weber (Op. Expenses)

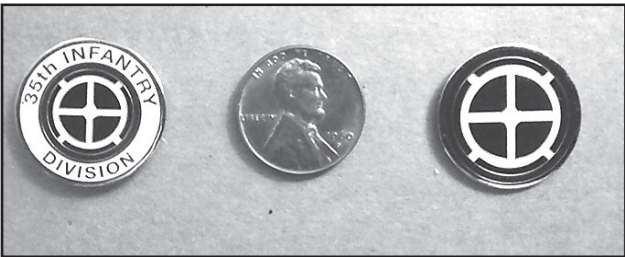
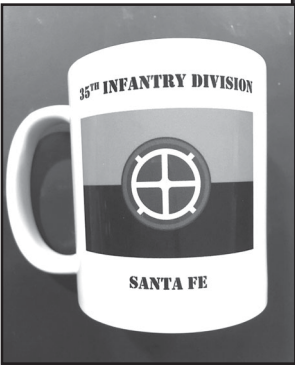
Donors up to \$49

\*Gregory Bell (Museum Op. Expenses)  
\*Doris Davis (Op. Expenses)  
\*Michael Dwyre (Museum Op. Expenses)  
\*Lynne Freeman (Op. Expenses in recognition of Lt Col  
Carol John Freeman)  
\*CH/COL Gary Gilmore (Op. Expenses)  
\*John Harakal (Op. Expenses in recognition of Joseph Thot,  
PVT KIA)  
\*Diana D Hardison (Op. Expenses)  
\*SGT John Iatzko (Op. Expenses)  
\*SGM (R) Lynn E Holt (Museum Op. Expenses)  
\*Dr. John A Kerner (Honorary Attendee)  
\*PFC Bernard J Kirsch (Op. Expenses)  
\*CSM (R) Howard McCoy (Honorary Attendee)  
\*Isabella Miles (Op. Expenses)  
\*Louise Enders Moore (Honorary Attendee)  
\*Ellen Newman (Honorary Attendee)  
\*MAJ (R) Stephen R Page (Op. Expenses)  
\*COL (R) Jerry K Patterson (Honorary Attendee)  
\*Kimberly Rich (Op. Expenses)  
\*Ken Rowlings (Op. Expenses)  
\*CPT Larry Wheeler (Honorary Attendee)  
\*COL (R) Ronald Winchell (Honorary Attendee)

Sale Items

DVD – “A Living History of the 35<sup>th</sup> Inf Div  
in WW II” By Murray Leff \$8.00  
35<sup>th</sup> Division Coin \$10.00  
35<sup>th</sup> Division Lapel Pin \$5.00  
Pin of DIV Patch with 35<sup>th</sup> In Div written on edge  
Pin with DIV Patch only  
35<sup>th</sup> Division Ceramic Mug \$8.00  
Patch with “100 years, Santa Fe”  
Division colors (flag) with patch in center  
Tumblers \$6.00  
Stem Wine Glasses \$6.00

Order using enclosed donor form on page 16.  
Some prices higher if mailed.



Lapel Pin Division Patch with Name  
Lapel Pin Division Patch only  
Size: .8125 inches.



# Agincourt and the Sugar Loaf Battle

By Mike Ven

The Sugar Loaf Battle Association in France remembered our soldiers who paid the ultimate sacrifice during those severe days in September 1944 and to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Liberation of Agincourt in France.

The monument 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 Loa, September 16-21, 1944. The official Dedication Ceremony was held on Sunday, September 20, 2015.

Sugar Loaf was the nickname of the hill close to Agincourt, France. This was a key terrain feature. It rose, a knob independent of other hill systems, to a height as great as that of the Plateau de Malzeville, and afforded excellent observation in every direction. It commands practically the entire valley. That is why it was such an important object for the Division.

The people of Agincourt are still very grateful. Emmanuel Peignier, President of the Sugar Loaf Battle Association organizes a ceremony every year in memory of our soldiers. We remember them and their memory alive.



September 1<sup>st</sup>/ 2019  
Dear friends in America , Bonjour !  
Here are two photos :  
ORLEANS and ARTENAY commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of their Liberation by the soldiers of the 35th INF DIV and the 137th Infantry Regiment where most of the people came from Wichita KS'. This is why there are special links with the City of Wichita . Since 1982 , the Franco-American Association led by Claude ROZET have had special exchanges with different US Army Battalions stationed in Germany .

Claude Rozet



ARTENAY ( small city north of Orleans) / August 16th, 2019  
Pascal GUDIN , Mayor of ARTENAY  
LTC Jermaine SUTTON , CDR 52nd Signal Bn  
Ms Helen PATTON , grand-daughter of General George PATTON  
( who sang a capella both American and French national anthems )  
Claude ROZET , Franco-American Association in Orleans  
CSM Douglas BRAM



ORLEANS City Hall Gardens / August 16th, 2019  
The Color Guard of the 52nd Signal Bn stationed in Stuttgart, Germany  
And on the left, Claude ROZET ( Franco-American Association in Orleans)  
and on the right, Patrick SAUTOT ( a WW2 re-enactor and car collector)





# DRAFT Minutes of 35<sup>th</sup> DIV Association Executive Committee, Nominating Committee and Annual Meeting conducted on 7 Sep 2019

Submitted in October 2019 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 102nd Minutes** from Kansas City, MO written by COL (Ret) Robert Bloomquist were published in the Santa Fe Express following the 2018 reunion and handed out at the reunion. It was moved and approved to accept those minutes as written.

**102d<sup>h</sup> Conference Reunion Report:** The conference attendees for the Friday tour event continues to be smaller each year with about 20 in attendance. The President’s reception was well attended by the 35<sup>th</sup> Division Staff, the Hall of Fame attendance was the highest in years and about 200 attended the dining out hosted by the 35<sup>th</sup> DIV Commander. The names of those that sponsored the conference were included in the conference program and will be published in the October edition of the Santa Fe.

**Nominating Committee Report:** COL (Ret) Cal Warrem, Vice President, Chaired the committee in the absence of COL (Ret) Angelo P. Demos, Chairman. He conducted the meeting and presented the recommendation of the Officers and Executive Committee at the Annual Meeting. The list of Officers and Executive Committee are enclosed in this edition of the paper.

**Hall of Fame Committee Report:** BG (Ret) Ed Gerhardt provided a separate report published in the Oct 2019 edition.

**KSARNG/35<sup>th</sup> Division Museum Report:** A verbal report discussed the continuation of educational events at the museum and comments were made again this year about the excellent newsletter that BG (Ret) Gerhardt, (President, Museum Board) publishes. If you do not receive this museum newsletter that includes events, new exhibits, etc., consider becoming a member of the museum. (Application is in each Divisionnaire) It was also noted that the 35<sup>th</sup> Association has great representation on the Museum Board of Directors: These are BG (Ret) Gerhardt, CW4 (Ret) Bush, COL (Ret) Bloomquist, COL (Ret) Warrem, and CSM (Ret) Putman. The Association donated \$5,000 to assist with operating funds from the Museum Capital Improvement Fund.

**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. 470 members receiving the DIVISIONNAIRE newspaper which is our largest expense. In addition, complimentary papers are sent to several units that are assigned to the 35<sup>th</sup> Division in Kansas and Missouri. It was discussed and decided we would continue with 4 yearly issues of the Divisionnaire. The cost of each edition ranges from \$1200-\$1400 de-

pending on size, time of article preparation, and number/location of recipients.

**International Committee Report:** Marilyn Jensen and Paula Baker discussed the continuous involvement of our international partners and the efforts overseas to educate youth on the sacrifices of our soldiers. They were thanked by the members for the relationship they built and maintained over the years and sharing this in our “Santa Fe”.

**Historian’s Report:** Capturing and sharing the 35<sup>th</sup> History is accomplished in many ways through association activity. The Hall of Fame ceremony and display in the museum, the Divisionnaire published every quarter, sponsorship of the museum operating costs allowing it to be open 6 days a week, Mike Ven’s “remembering our Veterans posts almost daily, Roberta Russo’s website, the International connection to capture what actions are ongoing to remember the sacrifices overseas. One of our proudest is the assistance in the MIA Recovery Project over the years: Here is the last update on the most recent project:

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) confirmed that Unknown Soldier X-4 was disinterred in June and is currently under analysis as a possible match for Pfc. William Coleman, 134th Infantry, who was KIA in the Greamecy Forest on 1 Nov 1944. His remains were never recovered. We were able to locate and contact his niece who provided a DNA family reference sample. There is strong circumstantial evidence that Unknown X-4 is Pfc. William Coleman. The DNA analysis currently underway will provide confirmation one way or the other. Our thanks go out to Roberta Russo for leading this effort. Watch for updates in follow on papers.

**Next Reunion** The topic of the 103d Reunion in 2020 was discussed, several options were discussed. Since the 35<sup>th</sup> is scheduled to be home next year, they may want to host the dining out in conjunction with the conference. If that is the case, it may be in a location close to the Headquarters, Leavenworth Kansas or the Kansas City Airport area. If they decline to host the Dining out due to mission requirements, Oklahoma City and a few other states were discussed.

**Awards:** No Order of Saint Maurice Awards were nominated by the Association this year

**35<sup>th</sup> Division Leadership Awards Report**

- CSM Jack Elliott Outstanding NCO Award recipient: PRIVATE FIRST CLASS WESLEY C. COLE

- Plat Sgt Kenneth Faulkner Outstanding Enlisted Award recipient: SERGEANT FIRST CLASS BRETT SPITZER

- CPT Walter R. “Hank” Harrington Outstanding Company Grade Officer recipient: CAPTAIN EMILY POSALA

- COL Angelo P. Demos Outstanding Field Grade Officer recipient: LIEUTEN-

ANT COLONEL WALLACE MILLER

**New Business:** The search for a new Executive Secretary/Treasurer was discussed. COL (Ret) Bloomquist informed the committee that although retired from Active Duty, he still does contract work with the Army and owns a property business in Topeka and finding someone that can spend more time and help with great initiatives is needed. If anyone is interested, they should contact him for details on duties and time commitments. The Association does pay a small stipend, but the real reward is meeting or helping so many great patriots here at home and abroad.

**Executive Secretary:** There are some positive trends and unique challenges for the association. The support of the 35<sup>th</sup> Division leadership, in my opinion, has never been better. New memberships from the current soldiers was the best it has been since I got involved in 2009. The Division hosted the Dining Out for the second year and invited association members as guests. The financial health of the organization allows for continued business as usual due to generous donors currently supporting the organization. We have published four “Santa Fe Divisionnaires” this past year and thanks to numerous people providing articles, I believe are worth the value. The relationship between the museum and the association is great. Sadly, this is the first year without a WWII Veteran in attendance to the Conference. The Orphan’s and families of WWII Vets are still superb supporters. The international relationship is strong. The Hall of Fame is still a gem of the organization. We have roughly 470 members. Working the delinquent list each year is an issue, but as indicated above, this has been the best year for new soldier Life and Annual memberships. These are updated in each “Santa Fe”.

I am also recommending the Website be terminated. There are numerous websites that can capture the 35<sup>th</sup> Association events and news. The 35<sup>th</sup> Inf Division and the Museum have a website as well as Mike Ven’s “Remembering the 35<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division WWII” is in Facebook. My thanks to COL Carla Hale and BG Ed Gerhardt for their involvement in the current website, and although the cost is reasonable, I feel it is time to use the other sites for information. (This was tabled for additional information and for any responses from the members.)

**Challenges and Opportunities.** There are two major challenges facing the association this year. As conference committee members have left due to age or interest, a major void in preparing for a quality conference is getting worse. The other is my replacement as Executive Secretary. At the 2018 Reunion I announced my desire to leave as Executive Secretary and announced it several times in the “Santa Fe” over the year. I’ve accepted a position at the Command and General Staff College which requires progression towards a Doctorate. I’ve provided options and ideas

to the Executive Staff below. With either option, I would be happy to keep the treasurer duties through the tax/fiscal year that for us ends 30 June 2020, if needed. We can do this due to my wife Betty’s dedication to helping with administration.

**Options on duties:** My preference is to hand over duties entirely and would be nice if that person could be in Topeka for consistency in address and museum operations. However, I provided some options to consider. There are probably better ideas, so please offer if you have one.

(1) Someone takes over as it is currently either in Topeka or KC/Leavenworth area. In my opinion, Topeka makes more sense due to address and Museum connection, but there are advantages to being closer to Leavenworth.

(2) Split duties, maintaining address in Topeka, with treasurer in vicinity. **Treasurer** would do treasurer duties only: Mail pick up, make deposits, send receipts, pay bills, file taxes, etc. **Executive Secretary** would work the annual reunion, the newspaper, answer requests for information, membership drive, requests for corporate donations, reunion contracts, etc. This allows the option to hire the Exec closer to 35<sup>th</sup> DIV HQS for a better partnership.

**Treasurer Report**

**Operating Funds:** The financial health of the organization allows for continued business as usual due to generous donors currently supporting the organization. As of the 30 June 2019 fiscal year for our filing, the operating account was \$27,157.59. Although this varies by quarter due to expenses, publications, mailings, etc., it represents an average of the balance maintained throughout the year. My wife continues to capture all donations for publication in the Santa Fe and continues to offer categories as an option for members.

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

**Museum Capital Improvement Fund** balance is 101,219.60 and we have already paid our yearly contribution of \$5,000 to the Museum. The account is spread into two low risk income producing mutual funds with USAA. We have a category of donations now to donate specifically to the trust. These are captured on the donation appreciation list published in each “Santa Fe.”

**Membership:** The list of new members is published in each “Santa Fe”. There are 470 current paid members, down from 502.



Museum of the Kansas National Guard  
Home of the 35<sup>th</sup> Division Museum  
125 SE Airport E. Drive  
Topeka, KS 66619  
785 862-1020 or office@kngmuseum.org



Museum Donor Form for 2019-20

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)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_ 2019-20 Major Donor Club Donation - \$100 or more (Name posted in Lobby)

\_\_\_\_\_ 2019-20 Annual Membership-\$25 per year (Name Posted in Conf. Room)

\_\_\_\_\_ Contribution for Museum Operations - Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Interior Brick - \$200 35 Div Wall? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  
(Inscription - 3 lines, maximum of 14 letters/spaces per line)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_ For 35<sup>th</sup> Division Wall? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

\_\_\_\_\_ Exterior Patio Brick - \$50 Unit Area: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Inscription - 3 lines, maximum of 14 letters/spaces per line)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

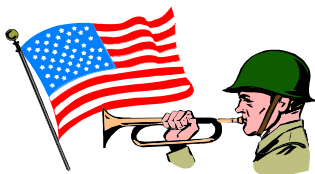


Payment Info: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Check \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Security Code on Back: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code of Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Note: Join by 1 Nov 19, receive membership for 2019 and 2020.)



# Taps



## Forrest J Strickler

Forrest J. Strickler, 97, of Bella Vista, Ark., died Monday, July 1, 2019. He was born November 7, 1921, in Monmouth, Ill. He was the only son of Forrest H. and Hazel Perry Strickler.

Forrest moved to Bella Vista over 30 years ago with his beloved wife of 48 years, Harriet Strickler, whom he referred to as “the absolute joy of my life.” Formerly he had worked as an accountant for the State of Illinois for 28 years. He was a past Grand Worthy Patron of Eastern Star, a Third Degree Mason, and a Shriner. He was a member of Highland Christian Church.



Forrest was a familiar and much-admired member of the community. He served for many years as commander of the Bella Vista Honor Guard, officiating at hundreds of veteran burials and special ceremonies. He was a World War II combat veteran of the Battle of the Bulge and attended the Potsdam Conference as part of President Truman’s Honor Guard. He was a member of the American Legion for 60 years and VFW for 20 years.

Forrest is survived by his step-daughter, Laurel (Terry) Krautwurst; six grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. Besides his wife, he was predeceased by step-daughter Carol (John) Hapke and Holly (Seymour) Bernstein.

## Arsene Streveler 1964-2019

We’ve lost another strong supporter of the 35<sup>th</sup> Division in Luxembourg. Arsene Streveler was the founder and president of the 7th Company, a living history group honoring the 35<sup>th</sup> Division in World War II, and recognizing that it was the 35<sup>th</sup> Division which liberated his village of Boulaide in 1944. He died unexpectedly at his home at the age of 55.

Among those in attendance at his burial were two active and one former Minister of the Luxembourg Government, the President and members of the Parliament a true demonstration of recognition of the work he did to promote “never forgetting.”

Patrick Beck of Luxembourg writes that “Arsene’s fading away is not only a great loss for his family and his friends, but also for the whole community of Boulaide. He was devoted to World War II history, the 35<sup>th</sup> Division, and he was proud to be a farmer.

## Janet Gayle Strukel

Janet Gayle (Holmes) Strukel of Topeka passed away Friday, October 18, 2019 following a lengthy battle with Alzheimer’s.

She was born June 21, 1936, in Fort Scott, Kansas, to Roland and Lora Holmes. She attended Horace Mann El-



ementary and Pittsburg High School. She held degrees in chemistry and elementary education from Pittsburg State University, plus a Master’s Degree from KSU in Special Education. She taught Learning Disabilities and the Gifted Programs for 35 years in Topeka Public Schools before retiring in 1995.

She married Jack Strukel, Jr. on September 2, 1956, at the First United Methodist Church

in Pittsburg, KS. They also lived in Joplin, MO, Sarcoux, MO, Girard, KS and Tecumseh, KS for 63 years of their wonderful married life.

Her talents were many, but her expertise was in dressing of dolls. She enjoyed the recognition received for her success in teaching reading, quilting and playing the organ. She made many friends in the 30 years she served at East Topeka Methodist Church. Her husband attained a senior officer status in the military and she was a faithful and loving supporter at his side.

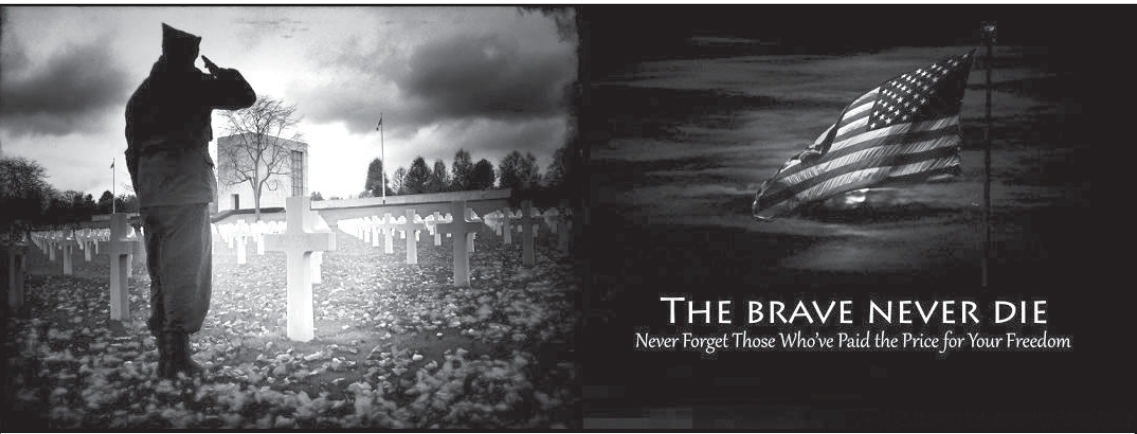
Survivors include her husband, Major General (Ret) Jack Strukel of Tecumseh, KS; sons, Jack Ed (Liz) Strukel of Corvallis, OE, Steven Eastwood (Debbie) of Lansing, KS; daughter, Robyn Lynn Pilcher of Corvallis, OE; brother Stanley V. (Pat) Holmes of Springhill, FL.; sister, Dr. Zoe Ann Holmes of Corvallis, OE; seven grandchildren, Jake, Maggie, Christine, Rose, Lora Gayle, Elizabeth, Anne and three great-grandchildren, Erik John, Molly and Gabriel.

She was preceded in death by her parents, grandson Erik Dean, and brothers Jamie and Neil Holmes.

Burial at Leavenworth National Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Brewster Place Heath Center/Retirement Home, 1205 SW 29th Street Topeka, Kansas 66611.

To leave a message for the family online, please visit [www.PenwellGabelTopeka.com](http://www.PenwellGabelTopeka.com).



## Honors to our Fallen OCT 2018-SEP 2019

Robert R Holmes  
Ray E Switzer  
David R Jensen  
Altagracia A Navarrette  
Donald J Breslend  
William Strukel  
Richard Allyn Frantz  
Lloyd R Barnett  
James E Moore, Jr

Louis E Pavlicek  
Maj (R) Charles Feldman  
Alice E Graff  
William L Baker  
Dan D Anderson  
James Alessandro  
James Michael Hau  
Forrest Strickler  
Jean Mignon





# Jean Mignon

## 1930-2019

A good friend of the 35th division in St. Lo passed away recently. Jean Mignon passed away during the night of August 10-11 at the age of 89, at his Saint-Lô, Normandy, home. He was born in 1930 - the elder of 3 children – in the German town of Trier, his father being a member of the French Army which had occupied the industrial area of the Ruhr after the First World War, and remained in the



Saar until 1935. On returning to Saint-Lô, Jean was educated at the Institute of Agneaux, a strict Catholic High School, and became an altar boy at Saint-Lô's Notre-Dame Church. It was here, while officiating in the morning mass of June 6, 1944, that he heard the stained-glass windows rattling. Caused by the shelling and bombing on the coast some 20 miles away, this announced the long-awaited D-Day. The following day, after the terrible bombing the night before, the family left the still-burning town reverberating with the explosion of delayed-action bombs, to seek safety in the surrounding countryside. The street where they lived was luckily one of the two in the whole of the town not hit by bombs. After a month of wandering around from place to place away from danger, the 3 children and

their parents were able to return to their home. However, after just 24 hours, they were forced to leave Saint-Lô on July 9, when they with the rest of the townsfolk were ordered to leave by the Germans : so began what the locals call « the Exodus », the search for refuge as far away from the fighting as possible, mainly on foot. It was during this time that Jean had his first contact with Americans, when G.I.'s liberated his grandparent's village near Mortain, inevitably handing out, candy, Hershey Bars, and chewing gum to the children! At war's end, the family made their way back to Saint-Lô, Jean finishing his education and then later finding a job in the *Préfecture*, the *Préfet's* office. [In France, the *Préfet* is the state's representative in a *département*, responsible for safety, security, and the issuance of official identity documents]. At this time, Jean carried out his national service in the French Army in Morocco, and got married fathering 2 children. He was a militant trade unionist and a founder member of the local C.F.D.T., (the French Democratic Confederation of Labour) branch, a major French trade union created in 1964, close to the Socialist Party which he joined in 1974. However in 1977, Jean launched himself in Saint-Lô's local politics, standing for election with the Socialist party which won, but he himself turned down the offer to be Mayor and instead opted for the post of 1st Deputy Mayor. A faithful member of the Town Hall over 18 years during three mandates, he held the positions of Town Councillor and Head of the Personnel and Social Affairs Departments. In 1995, when his party was defeated in that year's municipal elections, Jean was appointed Keeper of the Chapel of la Madeleine which had just been opened as a memorial to the U.S. 29th and 35th Infantry Divisions. Over the next 20 years before retiring, he devoted himself to the Chapel giving his time to the many thousands of visitors who came to this memorial, particularly the younger generation to whom he taught the importance of the duty of remembrance of the sacrifice made by Allied soldiers in liberating France and Europe. And as someone who as a child had lived through the Occupation and the fighting, he could give them a first hand account of what it was like. He paid special attention to returning Veterans and their families : as he said « I had 20 years to say 'thank you' for what they did! » Passionately interested in the history of his town, D-Day, the Battle of Normandy and French politics, Jean was a source of inspiration for many people and proud of the 35th Division Exhibit which he saw daily in the Chapel of la Madeleine. Jean, a widower since 1991, is survived by his son and daughter and their families, and his sister and brother.

### 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](http://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

### Recent 35<sup>th</sup> Division Museum Accessions

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Flight Suit, U. S. Army Air Corps, WW II</b> – SMSgt Fred Maisberger                | <b>WW II Records of PFC Raymond Schrader</b> – Barbara Schrader      |
| <b>Address Book/Roster, Co M, 137<sup>th</sup> Inf, WW I</b> – Norma Ardesson          | <b>Litter, U. S. Army Medical Corps</b> – Richard Segura             |
| <b>Survival Vest, U. S. Army Air Corps, WW II</b> – Stanton Beckett                    | <b>Bayonet, Trowel, 1863 Springfield</b> – Bernard Shepherd          |
| <b>Homecoming Edition, WWI, St. Louis Republic Newspaper, May 1919</b> – Roberta Russo | <b>M-2 .50 Cal Machine Gun Tripod</b> – U. S. Army, Ft. DeRussey, HI |



Deadline for the Next Issue  
of the  
Santa Fe Express  
is 8 January

Please send your favorite reunion stories and pictures to share.







## Membership Renewal/Application, Donor or Order Form (Oct 2019)

**Organizations of Service with 35<sup>th</sup> Div. (69<sup>th</sup> Bde, 137<sup>th</sup>, 134<sup>th</sup>, 320<sup>th</sup> 161 etc.):** \_\_\_\_\_

**(Make Checks Payable to “35<sup>th</sup> Div. Association” and Mail to 35<sup>th</sup> Division Association, P O Box 5004, Topeka, KS 66605)**