



# Santa Fe Express

## "DIVISIONNAIRE"



35th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

www.35DivAssn.org

35DivAssn@gmail.com

JULY-AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2025

NUMBER THREE

The 35th Divisionnaire USPS 700-160

## Message from Association President COL (R) Bruce Becker

As we undergo another transition, I look forward to serving as your new 35th Infantry Division Association President. I want to thank COL(R) Geoff Lanning for his service to the Association during his time as President. I would like to congratulate MG Martin Clay on his promotion and assumption of command. I wish MG John Rueger luck in his future and thank him for the cooperative relationship we have shared with the 35th Infantry Division.

I served as the 35th Infantry Division Assistant Chief of Staff G9 Civil Military Operation Officer from 2011-2018. While assigned to this position I deployed in 2013-2014, to Kosovo for KFOR 18. The Division supplied augmentees to the 504th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade from Ft. Hood, Texas. In 2017-2018, when the Division deployed in Support of Operation Spartan Shield, I served as the G0 for the deployment. During the deployment I was selected for promotion to Colonel.

When we returned from deployment I transferred to the United State Army Reserve and was assigned to the 352nd Civil Affairs Command in Ft. Meade, Maryland. I was promoted to Colonel and served as the Chief of the Government and Functional Specialist Section. On September 1, 2020, I retired after over 33 years of Service between the National Guard and United States Army reserve.

My wife, LaNae and I reside in Troy, Missouri. I retired in August of 2022, from the Missouri State Highway Patrol after over 27 years of Service. I was a Master Sergeant assigned as the Officer in Charge of the Gaming Enforcement Unit at Horseshoe Casino St. Louis, Missouri. I am currently serving on the Board of Directors for the



Lincoln County Fire Protection District # 1. I also work as a Deputy assigned to the Court Service Division of the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office. I serve as the Commander of Lincoln County Memorial VFW Post 8828 and Finance Officer for John I Wilson Memorial American Legion Post 94.

As your Incoming President, I look forward to continuing our support for the Division and preserving the heritage of those who came before us. I encourage Soldiers of the Division to join the Association and our members to recruit their comrades to join us. I ask for your help in continuing our Hall of Fame by making nominations for those who have faithfully served and supported the Division throughout the years. A special thank you for BG (Ret) Ed Gerhardt for his many years as Chairman of the Hall of Fame. His excellence and level of care and detail have made each presentation special and the Hall of Fame of great value to the 35th Division.

## Message from MG Martin Clay, 35th Inf. Division Commanding General

I am deeply honored for the opportunity to continue to serve with the Soldiers of the Santa Fe Division. I am also humbled by the trust placed in me assuming command from MG John Rueger in September, 2025. Having deployed twice with the 35ID in support of Operation Spartan Shield, I possess a deep tie to the Soldiers of the division and could not be prouder of the current readiness of the division. Under the leadership of MG John Rueger, and his predecessors, the division has developed into a highly ready division headquarters that, if asked, could fight to-night.

Since the 35ID headquarters returned from overseas in late 2022, building readiness and strengthening relationships with its aligned brigades have been top priorities. From my fighting position, it is clear that MG Rueger led the Santa Fe Division to success in these priorities. Growing relationships with aligned brigades, a deliberate manning plan for the division headquarters, and an exceptionally strong performance at Warfighter Exercise 25-05 are the proof.

My intention is to continue to build upon the existing relationships with the aligned brigades from Tennessee, Missouri, Arkansas, Texas, Kansas, and Oklahoma, reinforcing the efforts of the respective State Adjutant Generals. Although the United States Army is the best trained and equipped Army in the world, highly refined relationships with higher, parallel, and subordinate organizations are key to ensuring we can fight and win together. Accordingly, the 35ID headquarters will actively work with the aligned brigades to identify opportunities to support their training efforts and collaborate with their respective State Joint Forces Headquarters to support their manning and equipping efforts.

The division headquarters will continue to seek the cross-pollination of personnel talent from the aligned brigades and their respective Joint Forces Headquarters. Understanding how a division fights is difficult unless one has experience in training to fight a division. Accordingly, the division will continue its efforts to proactively seek division staff assignment opportuni-



ties for Soldiers from aligned states in order to broaden their understanding of the division fight. Additionally, the division headquarters will continue its efforts to proactively engage with the Kansas and Missouri Joint Forces Headquarters to ensure that the 35ID headquarters force structure is optimally aligned across both states to ensure division level developmental opportunities for Soldier from both states. Ultimately, the goal remains the assurance that the 35ID will continue to attract the top talent needed to fight and win in large scale combat operations.

Top talent that knows how to fight the division and win in large scale combat operations is needed because, as the geopolitical environment demonstrates, the lives of Soldiers may well depend on the warfighting proficiency of the Santa Fe division. As such, over the next nine months the Soldiers of the 35ID will continue to refine their warfighting skills through two Command Post Exercises as it prepares for its next Warfighter Exercise in June of 2026. Ultimately the Soldiers of the Santa Fe Division will continue train, build readiness, embrace Army Transformation, and win the day!

Santa Fe!

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**The 35th Divisionnaire  
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**Division  
Association**

**"FOR ALL 35<sup>th</sup> DIVISION - PAST,  
PRESENT AND FUTURE"**

**PRESIDENT:  
COL (R) Bruce Becker**

**1st Vice President:  
COL (R) Douglas Plummer**

**2nd Vice President:  
LTC (R) Doug Jacobs**

**3rd Vice President:  
*Pending***

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COL (R) Geoffrey Lanning**

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**Treasurer  
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Marilyn Bowers Jensen**

**Historian:  
Roberta Russo**

**Sergeant-at-Arms  
CW4 (R) Carl Bush**

**Judge Advocate/  
Outreach Committee:  
COL (R) Paul Waters**

**Executive Committee**

Victoria Frisenda, Holli Harwell, Patricia Faulkner Harwell, Judy Bradford, COL (R) Cal Warrem, Paula Evans Baker, International Committee; COL (R) Thomas Arnold, International Committee; CSM (R) Dale Putman, MAJ Georgia Schafer, Outreach Committee; CSM (R) Tim Newton, COL (R) Steve Pierce, SGM (R) Lynn Holt, CSM Rob Istas, MG (R) Wayne Pierson, BG (R) Robert Windham, BG (R) Ed Gerhardt, BG (R) Alex Duckworth, BG (R) Anthony Mohatt.

**35th Division Association  
PO Box 5004  
Topeka, KS 66605  
913-772-8130**

# Note From The Executive Secretary/Treasurer

**35th Division Association  
2025 Annual Conference**

The following notes and the published events in this Fall 2025 edition of the Santa Fe Divisionnaire capture the business meeting and record of conference events held at Fort Leavenworth in the 35th Division Headquarters building. The Conference location provided the opportunity to attend the Divisions Hail and Farewell gathering, the 35th Division Change of Command Ceremony and Dining Out. This location also provided the 35th Division soldiers with an opportunity to attend the Hall of Fame Ceremony. The support of the association events from the 35th Division leadership and soldiers was exceptional. The re-enactors provided an amazing display of historical equipment and knowledge as well as posting colors and doing the Missing Soldier Table ceremony at the Dining Out. These notes were sent to the Executive Officers and Council as well as to those attending the annual meeting for corrections or approval.

The conference began with the annual meeting at 1500 hours (3 P.M), 5 September 2025 at the Division Headquarters. The President, COL (Ret) Geoff Lanning, called the meeting to order, an invocation, roll call and introductions of those present. The Associations value to the 35th Division was emphasized by our support to the award program, fund raising for the Christmas dinner and major contribution to the museum that displays the history and Hall of Fame. We also maintain a record of those that have passed away each year and provide a newspaper three times a year to consolidate a record of events and inform our members of recent or future events. The historical program and MIA support from an Association Officer, Roberta Russo, has made a tremendous impact on families for many years. The International Program led by Marilyn Jensen and her team has provided a connection with our supporters in Europe.

**Executive Secretary and Treasurer's  
Report presented by  
COL (Ret) Robert Bloomquist**

Executive Secretary: There are some positive trends and unique challenges for the association. The support of the Division leadership for our conference is outstanding. The financial health of the organization allows for continued business as usual due to generous donors currently supporting the organization. We have published three "Santa Fe Divisionnaires" this past year and thanks to numerous people providing articles, I believe they are worth the

value. The relationship between the 35th Division Museum and the association is great. The Orphan's and families of WWII Veterans are still superb supporters. The international relationship is strong. The Hall of Fame is still a gem of the organization. We have 365 members, 260 life, 90 annual and 15 international. This membership trend is down, with only 5 new life members and 5 new annual members registered this year.

Challenges and Opportunities. There are two major challenges facing the association this year. A new Executive Secretary and treasurer with the skills and vision to maintain this positive trend must be hired. The other is the Chairman of the Hall of Fame. BG (Ret) Ed Gerhardt has created a magnificent Hall of Fame process and has been there since its creation. He is resigning at the end of this conference. Note: LTC (R) Doug Jacobs volunteered later in the conference to be the new Chairman.

**Treasurer Report**

General status of the Organization: The 35th Div Association Operating Fund and Museum Operations Investment fund are sufficient to maintain operations at the current level and even improved this last fiscal year. This improvement was due to some unexpected generous donations and new fund-raising initiative and strong market on investments and did not represent a consistent change in the downward trend over the past many years. The donor appreciation list included in the program and published in every "Santa Fe" shows the generous donors and purpose they intend the donation to be used for. Transactions throughout the year are captured by category and sent to key leaders or any member of the Executive Council that wish to be included. This 501c4 tax exempt organization has its' tax year from 1 July to 30 June, and the membership reported each year are based on our tax year. Taxes are completed by Cummings, Coffman and Schmidtleim, CPAs, in Topeka, KS which file both Federal and State (KS) taxes on our behalf. Since the two funds are separated for different purposes, additional details by funds are below.

Operating Funds: The raffle fund raiser, some unexpected major donations (which can be found on the donor list), and special contributions due to the loss of supporting WWII members helped our balance. However, we received \$2,360 less this year in membership fees and the donations to the museum capital improve-

ment fund were down by \$1,265 this fiscal year. We continue to capture all donations for publication in the Santa Fe Newspaper and continue to offer categories as an option for members to provide input on the use of funds. Based on the Executive board's prior approval, a \$15,000 CD collecting interest was opened for this account and held with Ameriprise Financial.

The Museum Capital Improvement Fund balance remained healthy due to some donations, but in large part the investment growth. We presented a check for our annual \$5,000 contribution to the museum fund at the conference. The account is managed by Ameriprise Financial and invested in a conservative to low-risk account to grow while accepting little market risk. Members continue to donate to the 35th Museum Capital Improvement Fund to offset the amount of money we draw from our Museum Investment Account. The Association Chairman for this fund is COL (Ret) Robert Dalton. There were no changes to the amount of funds contributed to the museum, nor was the investment strategy changed this year.

**Pistol Raffle:**

COL (Ret) Bruce Becker reported on the very successful Fund raising from the M17 Commemorative Pistol Raffle. This is the second year and the interest in the pistol commissioned each year is growing. Tickets were sold before and during the conference, raising \$2,685 dollars after expenses. He also donated and raffled a cooler with the 35th Div logo, raising additional funds.

**Hall of Fame Committee Report presented  
by BG (Ret) Ed Gerhardt, Chairman**

The three deserving soldiers for the 2025 class of the 35th Division Hall of Fame were PFC Lewis A. Barondeau (WW II), COL Rex Bartlow (Korean War & Cold War), and 2LT Kenneth L. Gaines (WW II & Korean War). Representatives of the Barondeau and Bartlow families were present at the ceremony. We were unable to locate family for 2LT Gaines, who was from Georgia.

At this point there are 11 nominations to be considered for induction in 2026. They are 2LT Burnett G. Bartley, CSM Gale D. Beck, PFC Martin H. Duehring, 2LT Theodore Dulchinos,

COL Richard E. Eckert, 1st Lt Stevie F. Fox, Staff Sgt Craig A. Schoeller, Staff Sgt. Ralph L.

Shear, Sgt John R. "Bob" Sirk, MAJ Norvin L. Vogel, and CPT Edwin S. Young.

Only one new nomination was made this past year by General Gerhardt, COL Richard E. Eckert. Expenses for the year were approximately \$150.00 for photo frames, Hall of Fame frames, photo mats, and pin engraving, plus the cost of the reception. Due to my age, I am resigning as the 35th Hall of

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

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 due yearly. This includes your 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.



# Note—

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Fame Committee chairman effective at the conclusion of this year’s conference.

### 35th Division Museum Report by BG (Ret) Ed Gerhardt, President, KNG Museum Board of Directors

A very detailed and impressive report on the museum activities since last year’s conference was presented in writing to the members. This is published separately in this 2025 fall edition of the “Divisionnaire” with a section about the Hall of Fame. The museum continues to be free to the public and financially secure. The Association members thanked General Gerhardt for his years of service at the museum. Several association board officers also serve on the Museum board, and the President, Executive Secretary or Officer from the Association are invited to present an update at each monthly meeting. Many members of the 35th Association are also members of the Museum. The museum newsletters, annual commemorative coin and support to the numerous activities throughout the year make membership of the museum a great value.

### Publications Committee Discussion facilitated by COL (R) Bruce Becker

COL (R) Becker, the new President, asked that members review the number of sites sharing information about the 35th Division and Association and will host a meeting at Fort Leavenworth in the next few months. He suggested that future planning meetings be conducted during the Division training events to increase the visibility of the association. He has reactivated the Association Facebook account and has been posting events about the conference and the 35th Headquarters training and social events. There are numerous websites that can capture the 35th Association events and news. The 35th Inf. Division and the Museum have a website, as well as Mike Ven’s “Remembering the 35th Infantry Division WWII” Facebook and our own Facebook account. We also thank MAJ Georgia Schafer and BG Ed Gerhardt for their involvement in the current website. A discussion on the value of the Association website, based on cost and time when other websites cover the same thing was tabled until the meeting later this year. The “Santa Fe” Divisionnaire will maintain the current three editions a year unless more articles are received through the year making it cost effective.

International Friendship Group Committee Report submitted by Marilyn Jensen

There are almost twenty European groups who continue to honor and recognize the 35th Division. They regularly meet with groups or individuals connected with the 35th Division and take them to the battlefields of their relatives. They hold special memorial services on the date of the liberation of their communities; they visit American National cemeteries and

build museums highlighting the 35th Division’s World War II experience. They all receive copies of the Divisionnaire and share them with their friends and regularly submit articles for publication. On several occasions they have attended the reunions of the Association. They send their wishes for another successful Reunion. The International Committee of Paula Baker, Tom Arnhold and Marilyn Jensen have provided a strong connection with our supporters in Europe. Colonel Thomas Arnhold’s work with his associations in recent combat zones has expanded and enhanced the efforts of the International Committee. Submitted by: Paula Evans Baker, daughter of Pct. Richard H. Evans, F-134-35, KIA September 30,1944; Marilyn Bowers Jensen, daughter of PFC Re M. Bowers, C-134-35, KIA January 25,1945; COL (R) Thomas Arnold, 35th Infantry Division

### Historian’s Report by Roberta Russo *Missing in Action Project*

PFC William B Coleman: 134th Infantry Regiment PFC William B Coleman, reported missing November 1, 1944, near Nancy, France, was identified by the Defense POW-MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) in January 2022. He had been buried at Lorraine American Cemetery as Unknown Soldier X-4. Since his identification, the Army Human Resources Command has tried without success to locate family members to make burial arrangements. His niece, who provided the DNA reference sample, passed away shortly before he was identified. As of my last follow up in August 2025, burial arrangements are still pending. SGT Edward W Aho, 134th Infantry Regiment SGT Edward W. Aho, captured by German troops in October 1944 and held prisoner at Stalag IIIC near Kostrzyn, Poland, was killed in the crossfire when Russian troops overran the camp in 1945. His remains were never recovered. The Defense POW-MIA Accounting Agency visited the area in 2013 and discovered an abandoned cemetery with many unmarked graves near where SGT Aho was killed. SGT Aho’s nephew submitted a DNA sample several years ago, however DPAA has not yet revisited the area to investigate the cemetery. I have contacted the DPAA historian researching this case and asked for a status update but have not yet received a response.

60th Combat Engineers: Three Unknown Soldiers disinterred from Lorraine American Cemetery in June 2023 are still undergoing DNA and forensic testing at the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory (AFDIL). They are most likely three of the thirteen 60th Combat Engineers still missing when a truck load of landmines exploded at Ajoncourt, France on October 10, 1944. Testing is complicated by the fact the remains are most likely commingled due to the circumstances of their deaths. AFDIL is also in the process of updating its DNA testing technology which may further delay the identification process.

Summary : There are 42 remaining 35th Infantry Division WWII MIAs: 134th Infantry = 10; 137th Infantry = 9; 320 Infantry = 9; 60th Combat Engineers = 14.

### 134th Infantry Regiment - 35th Infantry Division Research Center

Website [www.coulthart.com/134](http://www.coulthart.com/134)

Photos and biographies for 732 of the 2,972 35th Infantry Division soldiers who were killed in action during WWII have now been posted on the website. Also available are photographs and biographies submitted by the families of numerous 35th Infantry Division veterans. Morning Reports, Unit Journals, General Orders, After Action Reports, unit histories and other WWII era official documents are also available. Many of them are indexed by soldier name. The website receives frequent inquiries from the relatives of 35th Infantry Division veterans researching the military service of their family members. Anyone seeking research assistance can contact me at: [Roberta.Russo@yahoo.com](mailto:Roberta.Russo@yahoo.com)

### Executive Council Nominations facilitated by the President

Discussion on current and future possibilities ended with leaving the third vice president vacant as a few members will be contacted on their interest to serve. LTC (R) Doug Jacobs was approved as the new Chairman of the Hall of Fame. The Officer

and Executive Council is published in each paper.

### 35th Division Leadership Award Sponsorship

The association continues to sponsor the leadership awards named after these former members that distinguished themselves for their service. The awardees’ names and the receiving of the award is captured in this (Fall 2025) paper. The support includes paying for the awardee’s dinner tickets and a guest at the dining out. These awards are:

CSM Jack Elliott Outstanding NCO Award

Plat Sgt Kenneth Faulkner Outstanding Enlisted Award

CPT Walter R. “Hank” Harrington Outstanding Company Grade Officer Award

COL Angelo P. Demos Outstanding Field Grade Officer Award

These notes supplemented by the Fall 2025 edition of the “Divisionnaire” are submitted as a record of the conference.

Robert D Bloomquist  
COL (R), Armor  
Executive Secretary/Treasurer





## Outgoing President's Message

Greetings Fellow Association Members, I would like to express my appreciation for the privilege of serving as President of the 35th Division Association for the past year. I thank all members of the Association and especially the Executive Committee for your support during my Presidency. The 107th Conference, Hall of Fame Induction and Joint dinner with the 35th Division Staff was highly successful due to the efforts of the committee.

We have made progress in updating association access to social media. COL (R) Becker and COL (R) Waters were instrumental in updating access to these platforms. They have also furthered Association outreach to former and current members of the 35th Infantry Division to increase our membership. My thanks to both for their efforts.

I would also like to extend the Association's thanks to BG (R) Gerhardt for his tireless efforts as Chairman of the Hall of Fame Committee. He has chaired the committee for 16 of the 17 selections. He not only chaired the committee, but he also prepared the packets for presentation. He put together the Induction Programs and was Master of Ceremonies for the event. All these activities required long hours and intense effort. His contributions will be difficult to duplicate. I would also like to recognize the efforts of COL (R) Bob Bloomquist and his wife Betty for their performance of the myriad duties as Executive Secretary and Treasurer for the Association. These activities consumes a significant amount of time and effort and are essential for smooth functioning of our Association. I extend my best wishes to my successor, COL (R) Bruce Becker. I know Bruce will bring youth and innovation to Association activities.

Win the Day- Santa Fe  
COL (R) Geoffrey Lanning  
Past President, 35th Division Association

# 35th Div. Museum Report

*35<sup>th</sup> Division Museum*  
*1 Sep 24 – 31 Aug 25*

Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

- 1. Museum Displays Construction & Repair**  
Obtained, restored, and placed on exhibit a JD 610 Backhoe and Loader.  
Completed restoration/re-painting of M-4 Sherman Tank, DUKW Amphibious Vehicle, M-54 5-Ton Truck, and M-7 Priest 105mm SP Howitzer.  
Accessioned 55 artifacts and artifact collections, added 26 document files and document boxes to the Museum Library, cataloged and filed 197 additional library books and CD's, placed several new prints on exhibit, and made minor improvements to many exhibits.  
Re-catalogued and established new data base for all books in the "Reading" library.  
Overhauled brake system in M-20 Armored Car and made other operational improvements.  
Completed large map exhibit on "Global War on Terrorism" deployments.  
Created and displayed an exhibit on "Task Force Reaper – 1-635<sup>th</sup> Armor/170<sup>th</sup> Maint Co Deployment to Kuwait, Syria, and Israel."  
The Museum purchased and installed a new Visual Surveillance System, with cam-

eras both outside and inside (15 total), with a new large monitor in the Museum Office.

The Museum purchased and installed new computers and software for the Museum office.

- 2. Museum Operations and Attendance**  
The Museum of the Kansas National Guard hosted 19,424 visitors who signed the Visitor Register, and several hundred others who did not sign the register, from 43 states and 9 foreign countries, utilizing Volunteer Hosts. The Museum was open 301 days from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. for routine visitor hours and 57 additional times for events and activities for a total of 2248 hours of volunteer host labor. The Museum has no admission charge, but accepts voluntary contributions.

The Museum answered 194 internet, personal, and telephone historical inquiries pertaining to military service, unit histories, insignia, photos, etc.

The Museum serves as the location for the Kansas National Guard Hall of Fame and the 35<sup>th</sup> Division Hall of Fame, with photo displays prepared for 2024 inductees into each.

The Museum Libraries and archives continue to serve as research centers for soldier and unit history, as well as check-out of reading books by the public.



The Museum hosts an updated website at [www.kansasguardmuseum.org](http://www.kansasguardmuseum.org), which provides a history and virtual tour of the Kansas Army and Air National Guard exhibits inside and outside the Museum, as well as a Museum Facebook page with at least weekly postings.

The Museum provided tours for 11 school and community groups.

Museum staff provided speakers for 7 community group meetings outside the Museum.

The Museum was a partner in a Kansas Commission on Humanities grant to interview Vietnam Veterans for the Library of Congress and Kansas Museum of History, with 17 Vietnam veterans interviewed in the Museum.

- 3. Museum Events**  
The Museum hosted the following events during the year, all open free:  
**Quarterly Luncheons** – The Museum hosted three Quarterly Brown Bag Luncheons with speakers on the topics of "Early Kansas Aviation," "1LT Wallace Buford-The First Combat Death in Vietnam," "The Legacy of Erwin Bleckley," and "The Manhattan Project – A Look Back."  
**Heartland Military Day** – The Museum hosted Heartland Military Day in June, complete with military equipment displays, two WW II battle re-enactments, two Civil War Cannon Drills, two band concerts, a Vietnam War exhibit, a Pancake Feed, a Cookout Meal, and other activities.  
**Christmas Volunteer Luncheon & Volunteer Recognition Dinner** – The Museum sponsored a Christmas Volunteer Luncheon and a Volunteer Recognition Dinner in September for Volunteers and Board members.  
**Trunk or Treat** – The Museum was a co-sponsor with National Guard Family Programs and the host for the Kansas National Guard Trunk or Treat in October. Attendance was nearly 1,000 kids and parents.  
**Fulltime Retiree Luncheon** – The Annual Luncheon for Fulltime Topeka Area Guard Employees was held on 2 Apr 25.

**Korean War/Cold War Day** – The Museum was a co-sponsor of the annual Korean War & Cold War Remembrance Day held on 23 July 25.

**Monthly Coffees** – Monthly Coffees were hosted on the first Wednesday of each month.

**Girls in Aviation Day** – The Museum hosted, in conjunction with the Combat Air Museum, a Girl Scout Girls in Aviation Day in September.

**Veteran's Day Breakfast** – The Museum, in conjunction with the National Guard Assn of Kansas and the Enlisted Assn. of the Kansas National Guard, hosted a free Veteran's Day breakfast in November.

**Museum Car & Truck Show** – The Museum sponsored/hosted a Museum Car & Truck Show on 24 May 25.

The Museum hosted **Staff Calls, Commander's Calls, Promotion Ceremonies, Officer and NCO Professional Developments, and other activities** during the year, including the Change of Command Ceremony for the Kansas Army National Guard.

The Museum hosted NGAKS, EANGKS, National Guard Hall of Fame Board and Selection Committee meetings; Civil War Roundtables; Cub Scout and Girl Scout meetings and campouts; Kaw Valley Chapter of the Military Officer Assn. meetings; Blue Sky Squadron meetings; Sons of both Confederate and Union Veterans meetings; Kansas National Guard Foundation meetings; Railroad Retirement Group meetings; Kansas Army National Guard Recruiter meetings; Army and Air National Guard meetings and briefings; USAR Physical Fitness Tests; a USAR battalion change of command ceremony; a Model Railroad Show and Sale, Celebrations of Life; Rolling Thunder MVPA meetings; American Legion Capitol Post 1 meetings; Kaw Valley Amateur Radio Club meetings; etc. on a regular basis during the year.

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



# *The 81<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the Liberation of Orléans!*

Dear friends,

Here are pictures of the visit of the 52nd Signal Bn to Orléans on August 16th for the commemoration of the Liberation of the City by the 35th Infantry Division in 1944

A team of twenty soldiers and officers from the 52nd Signal Bn with the Battalion Commander LTC Joseph SCHWENDEMANN and CSM Eric BUENAVENTE .

Claude ROZET



52nd Signal Bn at the Victory Memorial for the Army ceremony.



Downtown Orléans



Vintage US Navy vehicle on display on Joan of Arc Square in Orléans. Vehicle presented by M.V.C.G. Association.



Vintage US Military Vehicle (with Claude Rozet and Françoise Bérard/ Franco-American Association, and Gilles Roserens/ ODC)





# 35<sup>th</sup> Inf. Division Change of Command Ceremony

The 35th Infantry Division held its Change of Command Ceremony on Saturday September 5th 2025 at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, marking a proud and historic moment for the “Santa Fe Division.”

During the ceremony, Major General John W. Rueger relinquished command, and Major General Martin Clay assumed leadership of the division. The event honored MG Rueger’s distinguished service and welcomed MG Clay as he takes on this vital role.

We extend our deepest gratitude to MG Rueger for his outstanding leadership and commitment to the mission, Soldiers, and families of the 35th Infantry Division. We look forward to the continued excellence under MG Clay’s command.



Incoming Commander MG Martin Clay



Outgoing Commander MG John Rueger



The Passing of the Colors



# Hall of Fame Induction

## Barondeau, Bartlow, and Gaines

### Inducted into 35<sup>th</sup> Division Hall of Fame

PFC Lewis A. Barondeau, COL Rex H. Bartlow, and 2LT Kenneth L. Gaines were inducted into the 35<sup>th</sup> Div Hall of Fame at the 2025 35<sup>th</sup> Div Assn. Annual Conference, held in the 35<sup>th</sup> Division Headquarters, Ft. Leavenworth, KS. The Hall of Fame is located in the 35<sup>th</sup> Division Museum at the Museum of the Kansas National Guard, Topeka, KS.



**PFC Lewis A. Barondeau**  
**1920 - 2008**

PFC Lewis A. Barondeau, Anti-Tank Section, 134<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, was a WW II veteran of the battles of Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes, the Rhineland, and Central Europe, serving with the unit from 1942 through the end of WW II. A native of South Dakota, he received the Bronze Star Medal, Good Conduct Medal, WW II Victory Medal, EAME Medal, Combat Infantryman's Badge, French Legion of Honor, and Distinguished Unit Badge, serving as an anti-tank weapons operator, driver, and mechanic. Discharged after WW II, he returned to farming in his beloved South Dakota, raised a family, and remained active in 35<sup>th</sup> Division Assn. and local community activities. He passed away in 2008 and is buried in Sunset Memorial Gardens, Aberdeen, South Dakota.

**COL Rex H. Bartlow**  
**1932 - 2014**

COL Rex H. Bartlow, a veteran of the Korean War, served as the first Chief of Staff of the 35<sup>th</sup> Inf Div, following its reactivation in 1984. He was the key leader in the organization of the multi-state 35<sup>th</sup> Inf Div, with Hqs & 137<sup>th</sup> Inf in Kansas, the 134<sup>th</sup> Inf in Nebraska, the 149<sup>th</sup> Armor Regt in Kentucky, the 35<sup>th</sup> Avn Bde in Colorado, and the Div Spt Com in Missouri. Born in Oklahoma, he enlisted in the OKARNG at the age of 17 and soon saw action in Korea during the Korean War. He later joined the KSARNG, becoming an Engineer officer and later commander of the 891<sup>st</sup> Engr Bn and the KSARNG Facilities Officer, where he was key in building the new 35<sup>th</sup> Div Hqs at Ft. Leavenworth. COL Bartlow passed away on Dec. 26, 2014 and is buried in Highland Cemetery, Ottawa, Kansas.



**Second Lieutenant Kenneth L. Gaines**  
**1925 - 2008**

2LT Kenneth L. Gaines received the Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star, and Bronze Star for heroic actions as an Asst. Squad Leader in March and April of 1945 while serving as a Sergeant in Co B, 320<sup>th</sup> Inf, 35<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. He also received the Purple Heart for wounds sustained at the battle for St. Lo. After being discharged at the end of WW II, he re-enlisted in 1946 and then fought with the 24<sup>th</sup> Inf Div in Korea. He received a battlefield commission, then received a serious head wound on Aug. 30, 1950, for which he received a second Purple Heart. He was medically discharged on Feb. 29, 1951 at the rank of Second Lieutenant. He spent the remainder of his life in his beloved Georgia, passing away on Nov. 5, 2008. He is buried at White Chapel Memorial Gardens, Duluth, Georgia.



# Minutes of 2025 Hall of Fame Committee Meeting

The 35th Division Hall of Fame Committee met at 0800 hrs. on Sat, Sept. 6, 2025 in the Conference Room, 35th Division Headquarters, Ft. Leavenworth, KS.

Members present were BG (Ret) Ed Gerhardt, Chairman, BG (Ret) Kevin Fujimoto, COL (Ret) Paul Waters, COL (Ret) Cal Warrem, COL (Ret) Geoff Lanning, COL (Ret) Bruce Becker, LTC Michael Spriggs, LTC (Ret) Doug Jacobs; CPT (Ret) Doug Plummer, CW4 (Ret) Carl Bush, CSM (Ret) Lynn Holt, and CSM (Ret) Dale Putman.

BG Ed Gerhardt, chairman, called the meeting to order and reviewed the criteria for selection into the 35th 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 35th 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 35th Infantry Division, the 35th 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 35th Infantry Division, the 35th 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 eleven (11) nomination packets were submitted. Nominees considered included 2d Lt Burnett G. Bartley, CSM Gale Beck, PFC Martin H. Duehring, 2d Lt Theodore Dulchinos, COL Richard E. Eckert, 1st Lt Stevie F. Fox, Jr.; Staff Sgt Craig Schoeller, Staff Sgt Ralph L. Shear, Sgt John R. "Bob" Sirk, MAJ Norvin Vogel, and CPT Edwin S. Young.

Following review of and voting on the nomination packets, the following were selected for 2026 induction into the 35th Division Hall of Fame:

- 2LT Burnett G. Bartley
- COL Richard E. Eckert
- MAJ Norvin L. Vogel

It was noted that the committee chairman, BG (Ret) Ed Gerhardt, has resigned as chairman, effective at the conclusion of this year's Conference, and the Executive Committee has appointed LTC (Ret) Doug Jacobs as the HOF Committee Chairman. He will be assisted by BG (Ret) Kevin Fujimoto.

The confidentiality of the committee process was emphasized, as well as the names of those selected until the announcement is made by the 35th Div Assn president.

The meeting adjourned at 0905 hrs.  
Respectfully submitted,  
Ed Gerhardt, BG (Ret)  
Committee Chairman



# Bartley, Eckert, & Vogel Selected for Induction into 35<sup>th</sup> Division Hall of Fame in 2026

2d Lt Burnett G. Bartley, COL Richard E. Eckert, and MAJ Norvin L. Vogel, Sr. were selected by the 35<sup>th</sup> Div Hall of Fame Committee for induction into the 35<sup>th</sup> Division Hall of Fame at the 2026 Annual Conference.

## Second Lieutenant Burnett G. Bartley 1924 - 2013

2d Lt Burnett G. Bartley was the epitome of “The Greatest Generation.” serving through WW II in Co H, 137<sup>th</sup> Inf, and promoted from Private to Sergeant to 2d Lieutenant. He survived hand-to-hand combat in the battles at Lorraine and the Gramercy Forest. Commanding a heavy machine gun squad he was wounded at Destry, France, on Nov 14, 1944. He recovered quickly and was involved in the capture of 33 towns and the taking of 1500 prisoners as the 137<sup>th</sup> Infantry fought across Europe, including the Battle of the Bulge. Besides the Bronze Star and Purple Heart, he received many other medals. After the war he became a successful businessman. He passed away on April 3, 2013 after an exceptional life.



## Colonel Richard E. Eckert 1922 - 2009

COL Richard E. Eckert was mobilized for WW II as a Private in Co E, 137<sup>th</sup> Inf and sent to Camp Robinson, AR. In 1943 he completed OCS and the U. S. Army Parachute School at Ft. Benning, GA. He served as a Rifle Platoon Leader in the 11<sup>th</sup> Airborne Division in the Pacific Theater during the rest of WW II. In 1948 he re-joined the 137<sup>th</sup> Inf and served on the 35<sup>th</sup> Division Staff, while having a great teaching and coaching career. A founder of the KSARNG OCS, he served as its Commandant and as the KSARNG Chief of Staff. After retirement, he served as a Kansas State Representative. His awards include the Legion of Merit, Parachute Badge, and the WW II Victory Medal. He passed away in 2009.



## Major Norvin L. Vogel, Sr. 1921 - 2021

MAJ Norvin L. Vogel, Sr. served as a Platoon Sergeant in Co L, 134<sup>th</sup> Inf, during WW II, fighting through France, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Holland into Germany as a Platoon Sergeant. He was involved in the Crossing of the Roer River and the capture of Hilfarth as he fought his way into Germany with the 134<sup>th</sup> Inf. After WW II he transferred to the U. S. Army Reserve, then the Pennsylvania ARNG, receiving a commission and serving as a Battery Commander, Operations Officer, and Signal Officer. His awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Presidential Unit Citation, Combat Infantryman’s Badge, and WW II Victory Medal. He passed away at the age of 99 on Sept. 11, 2021 in Allentown, PA.



# 35<sup>th</sup> Division Hall of Fame Nominating Form

At this time, there are eight (8) nominations for the 35<sup>th</sup> Division Hall of Fame consideration in 2026. They are CSM Gale D. Beck, PFC Martin H. Duehring, 2d Lt Theodore Dulchinos, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Stevie F. Fox, Staff Sgt Craig Schoeller, Staff Sgt Ralph L. Shear, Sgt John R. “Bob” Sirk, and CPT Edwin S. Young.

Members of the 35<sup>th</sup> Division Assn., as well as others, are encouraged to submit additional nominations for the 35<sup>th</sup> Division Hall of Fame for induction in 2026. Nominators must sign the nomination form and provide data for future contacts.

### Three things are required for the nomination:

1. The completed Hall of Fame Nomination Form below.
2. Separate page(s) of the biography of the nominee giving military service and emphasizing what the nominee did in service in the 35<sup>th</sup> Division and/or 35<sup>th</sup> Division Association 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, family information, civilian work, etc. are also appreciated. The 2027 class to be inducted will be selected at the Annual 35<sup>th</sup> Div Assn Conference in 2026.

Send nominations to LTC Doug Jacobs, Chairman, 35<sup>th</sup> Hall of Fame Committee, 125 SE Airport E. Drive, Topeka, KS 66619, or e-mail at [office@kngmuseum.org](mailto:office@kngmuseum.org) so as to arrive not later than 1 August 2026.

## Hall of Fame Nomination Form

Rank/Title of Nominee:

Name of Nominee:

Address of Nominee (if living):

Name & Address of Next of Kin (if deceased):

Nominee Date of Birth:

Nominee Date of Death:

Nominee List of Military Awards:

Nominator Name:

Nominator E-Mail:

Nominator Address:

Nominator Telephone:



# 35<sup>th</sup> Division Hall of Fame Ceremony

During the 35th Div. Association Annual Reunion, three deserving soldiers were inducted into the 35th Division Hall of Fame ceremony. They are PFC Lewis A Barondeau (WWII), COL Rex Bartlow (Korean War and Cold War), and 2LT Kenneth L Gaines (WWII and Korean War). BG (R) Ed Gerhardt led the ceremony, which was attended by distinguished active 35th Division soldiers, as well as members of the Association. Also, representatives of the Barondeau and Bartlow families were present at the ceremony. We were unable to locate the family for 2LT Gaines, so the Division Commander BG Martin Clay accepted his award on his behalf.



BG (R) Ed Gerhardt conducted the ceremony



Family of Barondeau receives his award from COL(R) Lanning



Family of Bartlow receives his award



MG Clay received 2LT Gaines award on his behalf



Cake for the Hall of Fame Reception



35th Div. Band members supported the event with their talent.  
SSG Andrew Easley (NCOIC), 1SG Todd Hollis, SGT Samuel Griffitt, SGT Derrick Hibler,  
SGT Katrin Renyer, SGT Jacob Schepp, SPC Lyle Simpson



# Hail and Farewell Ceremony and Association's President Reception

A Hail and Farewell Ceremony was held on Friday night at Luigi's Restaurant in Leavenworth, by the 35th Infantry Division to formally recognize incoming and outgoing Soldiers within the division's ranks, in conjunction with the 35th Div. Association's president's reception.

Traditionally observed across the Army, the Hail and Farewell serves as a moment to reinforce unit cohesion, recognize transitions in leadership, and uphold the values of professionalism and mutual respect.

The evening's events were attended by Soldiers, leaders, retirees, and families, all of whom play a vital role in the strength of the 35th Infantry Division.



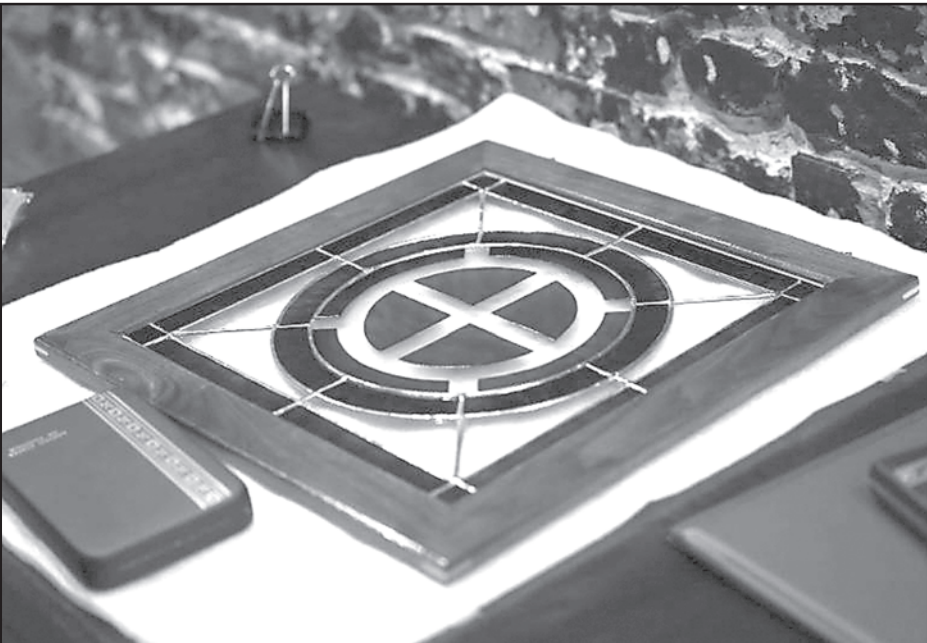
The Association's President, COL (R) Geoff Lanning, gave his speech to the crowd.



The outgoing Division Commander, MG John Rueger, addressed the attendees.



Special recognition awards were given to those whose leadership and service have been marked by excellence and commitment.





# 35<sup>th</sup> Division Dining Out

*(Story and pictures from the 35th Division Facebook page)*

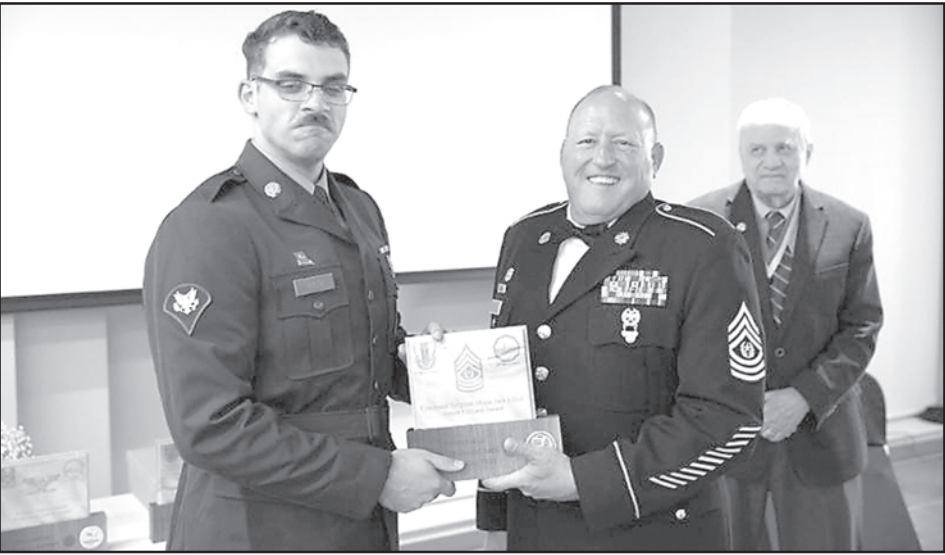
Ft. Leavenworth, KS.- The 35th Infantry Division recently hosted its annual dining out and awards banquet, bringing together Soldiers, Families, and distinguished guests for an evening of tradition and fellowship.

A military dining out is a formal, ceremonial dinner designed to foster camaraderie, esprit de corps, and celebrate unit accomplishments in an atmosphere of tradition and nostalgia. This time-honored event celebrated our unit’s history, reinforced the values we uphold, and strengthened the bonds that make our team resilient and ready.

We thank all who attended and contributed to making this evening a success.



The outgoing Association President, COL (R) Geoffrey Lanning, passed the Gavel to the incoming President, COL (R) Bruce Becker.



The Association's "CSM Jack Elliot Junior Enlisted Award" was given to SPC Michael Cheek.



The Association's "COL Angelo Demos Officer Award" was given to CW3 Rowdy Isbill.



The Association's "Platoon SGT Kenneth Faulkner Non-Commisioned Officer Award" was given to SSG McKenzie Hotwagner.



The Association's "CPT Walter Harrington Company Grade Officer Award" was given to CPT Hannah Byun.



"Missing Soldier" table



Presentation of the Colors was conducted by the G Company 137th infantry 35th Division Reenactors.

Thank you to the support of the Reenactor, Joe Taylor, Dave Hruska, Rick McClellan, Dan Fullerton and Jeremy Villalobos.



# Memorial Day 2025

Submitted by Daniel Pfennings  
Santa Fe Military Vehicle Association  
The Netherlands

The US cemetery at Margraten in the Netherlands is located on the rolling hills in the southern part of the Netherlands. There are 8302 graves and 1722 names are on the wall of the missing. Buried here are 94 members of the 35th Infantry Division.

On Saturday 24th May a small ceremony was held by the American WWII Orphans Network (AWON) on the grounds of Margraten. My brother and I where invited to attend the ceremony. My brother made a speech about the 8th Armored Division that had fought near his hometown.

As part of our gratitude to the men and women who fought for our freedom and gave the ultimate sacrifice, we, as the Santa Fe Military Vehicle Association, have adopted 11 graves out of the 94 of fallen soldiers of the 35th Infantry Division. When you adopt a grave at Margraten cemetery it is custom that you lay flowers at the grave on special occasions, not just on Memorial Day.

After the ceremony my brother and I placed flowers at 11 graves of the Santa Fe soldiers and 4 graves that my brother and I adopted. One of the graves I adopted is of a soldier of the 320th IR. Robert W. Smith from Minnesota. S/Sgt Smith joined Company C of the 320th Regiment on January 20, 1945 Sgt. Smith was reported missing in action on February 6, 1945, during fighting near Dremmen, Germany. His status was later confirmed as Killed in Action on that date. He was 30 years old, married with a baby on the way.

Smith’s daughter visited her dad’s grave for the first time last year November. It was a special moment for her and me. I’m still researching what happened to him.

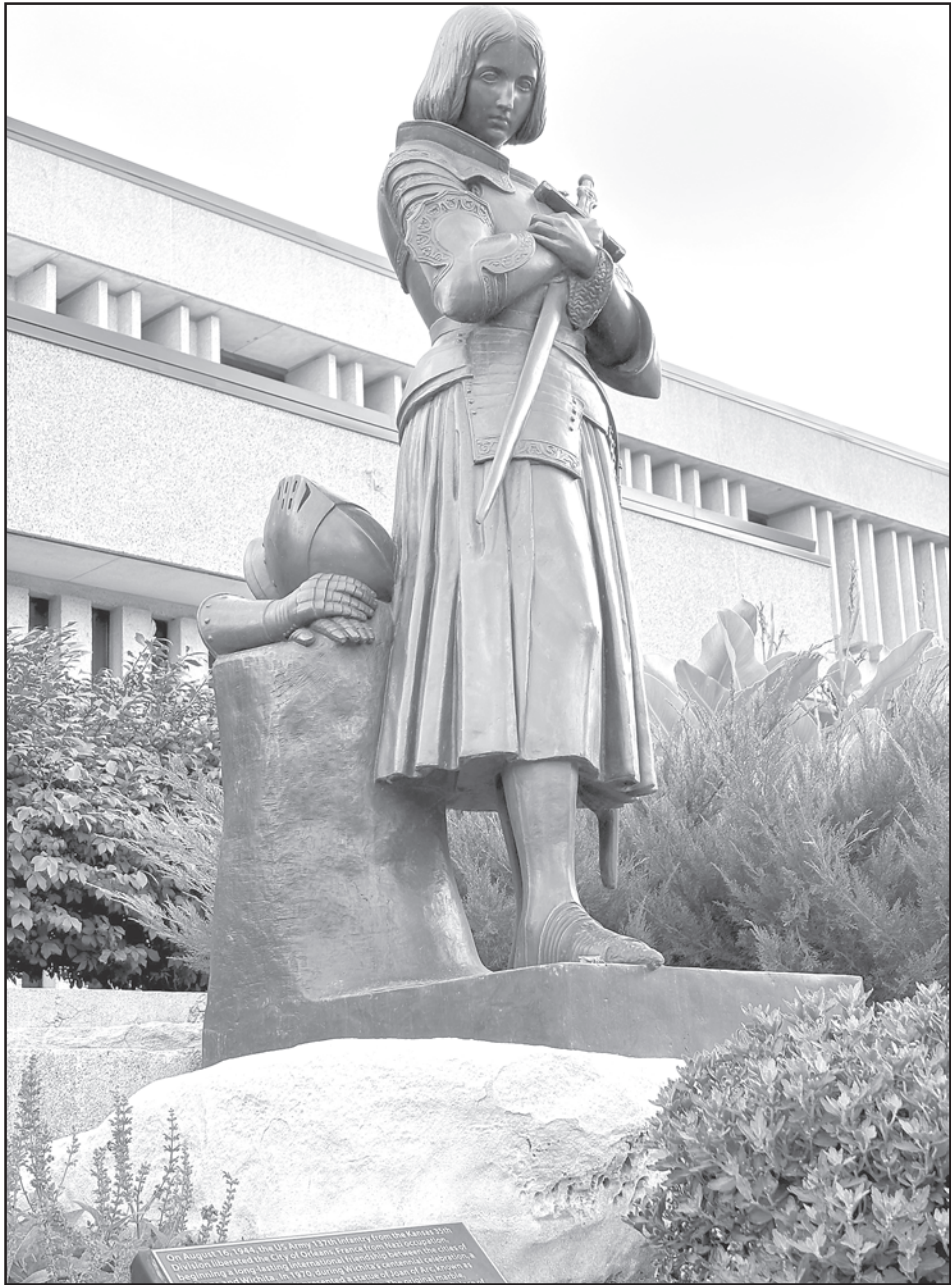
Sunday 25th May was the Memorial Day ceremony. Most of the graves had flowers or flowers being brought to them. Every grave had 2 flags next to them. One of the Unit States and the other from the Netherlands. Some have even their state flag planted. Even in front of the wall of missing where lots of lowers. All of the names on these two walls are adopted. They are remembered and not forgotten.

This year was a special note to the Ceremony. Not only was it the 80th year of our freedom but also the King of the Netherlands attended the Ceremony. Also, a special guest was the American writer, Robert Edsel. He wrote a book about the adoption program of Margraten “Remember us”. After the speeches and laying of the wreaths, the Netherlands Airforce performed a missing man formation over the cemetery.

Thanks to Roberta Russo, historian for the 35th Division Association, for the details about Sgt. Smith’s service with the 320th Infantry Regiment.







We went to Wichita many times, years ago.

Best regards,  
Claude ROZET



**Deadline for the  
Next Issue of the  
Santa Fe Express is  
15 January 2026**

[illegible]



# Donor Appreciation List

## October 2024 - August 2025

### SPECIALACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND DONOR APPRECIATION

The 35th Division Association wishes to tank and recognize the following foundation and individuals for their financial recognition.

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

#### Donors \$3,000

\* The Breidenthal-Snyder Foundation (Fall edition of the Santa Fe “Divisionnaire” January 2025 and Operating Expenses)

#### Donors \$1,000-\$1,300

\* COL (R)/ Chaplain Benjamin F Mirtz (Sponsor of the Santa Fe “Divisionnaire” May 2025, Op. Expenses, Museum Op. Expenses, Hall of Fame Expenses)

\*COL (R) Bob and Betty Bloomquist (In Honor of WWII veterans, Division Christmas Party)

#### Donors \$800

•COL (R) Geoff Lanning (Conf. Sponsor, President’s Reception, in Recognition of Jim Graff, COL Angelo Demos and Dick O’Brien)

#### Donors \$500

•CPT (R) Doug Plummer (Conf. Sponsor, Division Christmas Party)

#### Donors \$300-\$400

•COL (R) Roger Aeschliman (Conf. Sponsor, Op. Expenses, Division Christmas Party)

•Roberta Russo (COL Angelo Demos Memorial, Division Christmas Party, Conf. Sponsor, Honorary Attendee, Op. Expenses, Museum Op. Expenses, Sponsor of new annual member)

•MG John Rueger (Op. Expenses, Conference Sponsor, in Memory of MG James F Rueger)

•COL (R) Cal Warrem (Conf. Sponsor, Op. Expenses in memory of MG Jack Strukel, Hall of Fame expenses)

#### Donors \$250

•COL (R) Robert Dalton (Conf. Sponsor)

#### Donors \$200

•Ceo E Bauer (Op. Expenses, Museum Op. Expenses, in recognition of Howard Berry, KIA, E-137)

•MG (R) Will Blaylock (Conf. Sponsor)

•COL (R) Mike Dennis (Division Christmas Party)

•COL (R) Butch Dowse (Op. Expenses)

•Maggie Stein Fenstermacher (Museum Op. expenses, Jim Graff memorial)

•BG (R) Ed H Gerhardt (Conf. Sponsor)

#### Donors \$100-\$150

•Paula Evans Baker (Conf. Sponsor)

•COL (R) Bruce A Becker (Conf. Sponsor, Division Christmas Party)

•Judy Bradford (Op. Expenses)

•CW4 (R) Carl R Bush (Conf. Sponsor in honor of COL Rex Bartlow)

•Rosemary E Corbett (Op. Expenses, Museum Op. Expenses, in recognition of Martin H Huschka)

•Bruce Hawkins (Op. Expenses)

•LTC (R) Dave Hruska (Conf. Sponsor)

•MAJ Peter Euler (Division Christmas Party)

•LTC (R) Doug Jacobs (Conf. Sponsor)

•Marilyn B Jensen (Conf. Sponsor, Div. Christmas Party)

•James Knight (Op. Expenses)

•Howard D Lippin (In Memory of Warren G Lippin, 137 Inf)

•CSM (R) Timothy Newton (Op. Expenses)

•COL James A Patton (Op. Expenses)

•Sue Sirk Landaw (In Recognition of John Robert Sirk)

•CPT (R) Ray Simmons (Op. Expenses, Division Christmas Party)

•COL (R) Ron Winchell (Conf. Sponsor)

#### Donors \$80

•Terry Meinke (Op. Expenses, Honorary Attendee)

•Richard C Miles (Op. Expenses, in recognition of PFC Chester C Miles)

#### Donors \$50

•Barb Bryson (Division Christmas Party)

•Marge Bullock (Honorary Attendee)

•Doris Davis (Division Christmas Party)

•Annette Hall Roehrbein (In recognition of Edward O Hall)

•SGM (R) Lynn Holt (Division Christmas Party)

•CSM (R) Tim Newton (Division Christmas Party)

•Phillip Plank (Division Christmas Party)

•COL (R) Paul Waters (Division Christmas Party)

#### Donors up to \$40

•SGM Megan Albert (Op. Expenses)

•David Bear (Museum Op. Expenses)

•MAJ (R) Charles G Bredahl (Op. Expenses)

•Jose Coppola (Division Christmas Party in honor of Jose Coppola, father)

•Jay Frye (Jim Graff Memorial)



## Gun Raffle Winner

The Santa Fe Sig Sauer Commemorative M17 Pistol Raffle for 2025 was a success for the 35th Division Association. This was our second year conducting the event. The drawing was held during the 35th Division Association Conference in September 2025.

Congratulations to the winner for this year, LTC Wesley Dickman.

We thank COL (R) Bruce Becker for coordinating this fundraiser.

## NEW ANNUAL MEMBERS


**Jimmy Price**  
**PVT Ronald Hanson**  
**(Sponsored by Roberta Russo)**  
**COL Timothy Marlar**  
**LTC Robert Sands**  
**PVT Michael R Ortiz**

## NEW LIFE MEMBERS

**CW2 Travis Lamar**  
**BG Brady Leonard**  
**COL (R) Matthew Twombly**  
**SGM David Wichman**  
**CPT John Lednický**  
**SGM Magen Albert**  
**COL (R) Michael McCoy**  
**MAJ (R) Norman Cox**  
**CW5 Jay D Hedke**



# Taps



## Paul Collins

Paul Glenn Collins, 92, of Florence, KY, passed away on Monday, Sept. 8, 2025. He was born in Helena, KY, on Feb. 8, 1933, to the late Henry S. and Mae Manion Collins.

Paul was a graduate of May's Lick High School. He attended Eastern Kentucky University and played basketball under coach Paul McBrayer. Upon graduating from ECU, Paul served in the US Army where he was a second Lieutenant and the Battery Executive Officer in the 28th Artillery. After being released from active duty, he joined the Kentucky Army National Guard. His final assignment was commander of the 35th Infantry Division (Mechanized).

Paul retired as a Major General with 36 years of military service and numerous awards and decorations. His primary oc-

cupation was with the Square D Company where he started as a foreman in manufacturing. Following 34 years of various job titles and promotions, he retired as the manager of international marketing. After retirement, "Gran" enjoyed playing and working with his children and grandchildren at his farm in May's Lick. Paul was a faithful member of the St. Timothy Catholic Church in Union, KY, and was also a member of the Knights of Columbus.

He is preceded in death by his parents; loving wife and best friend of 65 years, Patricia Collins; brothers Henry S. "Red" Collins Jr., James T. Collins, Eugene Collins, and John J. "Jack" Collins; sisters Edna Gallenstein and Annette Weber; and daughter-in-law Susan White Collins.

Paul is survived by his children Carol (Phillip) Leedy, Paul (Elizabeth) Collins Jr., Kenneth (Deborah) Collins, Sarah Evans; grandchildren Meghann Leedy, Mason (Caroline) Collins, Geneva (Andrew) Hall, Benjamin Sasser, Derek Collins, Alex Collins, Amanda Collins, Taylor Evans, Jayden Evans; great-grandchildren James Collins, Samuel Collins; and many extended family members and dear friends.

Paul will be remembered for his kind spirit and gentle nature. His integrity and humble leadership were his greatest strengths. He will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held at St. Rose of Lima Church, May's Lick, at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 13, 2025, with Fr. Phil DeVos presiding. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the church.

Paul will be laid to rest with his wife and family at St. Patrick Cemetery in Maysville.

In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made in Paul's name to St. Timothy Catholic School 10268 US-42, Union, KY 41091.



## Martin Duehring

Martin H. Duehring passed away peacefully at home on September 8, 2025. He lived to be 99 years old and was 4 months away from turning 100.

He is survived by his wife Shirley, his five children, David, Cindy, Craig, Cheryl, and Christine, and his nine grandchildren, and 15 great grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his parents William and Freda, and his three sisters Althea, Dorris, and Gertrude.

Martin was born in Friesland, Wisconsin on January 8, 1926. He lived in Wisconsin for 36 years until he moved to Concord, California in 1962. At the age of 18, Martin was drafted into the Army and saw combat service toward the end of World War 2, receiving the distinguished Bronze Star for his heroic service. Afterwards he held various positions in sales and ultimately retired from the United States Postal Service at age 62.

Martin loved the outdoors and enjoyed camping and boating. He was a kind and generous man and will be missed. A private internment ceremony is scheduled on September 18, 2025, at the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery. There will also be a celebration of life service at 1:00 PM on September 20, 2025, at Saint Matthew Lutheran Church, 399 Wiget Ln, Walnut Creek, CA 94598.

Martin is currently a nominee for the 35th Division Hall of Fame.

## Donald Case

Donald Milton Case, known to friends and family as "Don or Donny," passed away peacefully on August 16, 2025, in Vail, Arizona, at the age of 81. A beloved husband, dad, grandpa, brother, uncle, cousin, brother-in-law, and cherished friend, Don's presence will be deeply missed and fondly remembered by all who knew him.

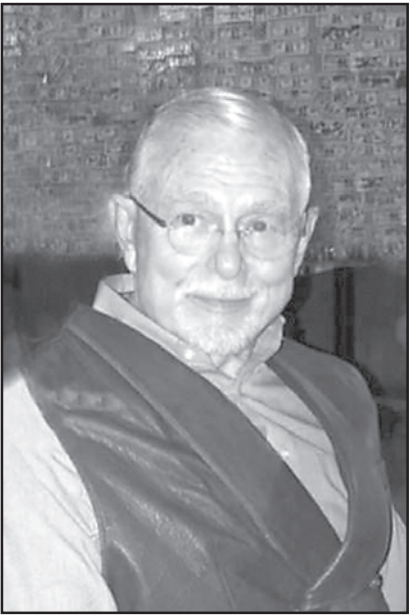
Born March 7, 1944, in Gallup, New Mexico, Don spent his formative years in Albuquerque, graduating from Valley High School in 1962. He was energetic and athletic in his youth. He played basketball and excelled in football and track, propelling him to college athletic scholarships-first in football at Tulsa University, then track at Abilene Christian College, where his Olympic hopes were dashed by a torn quadricep. Don still holds his high school state track meet record running the 100-yard dash in 9.1 seconds. Don redirected his life, later earning a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture from New Mexico State University, a Master of Public Administration from Northern Arizona University, and his Ph.D. in Practical Arts and Vocational Technical Education from the University of Missouri.

Don's patriotic spirit ran deep. He joined the Coast Guard in 1966; he separated due to vision issues. Unwilling to let adversity deter him, Don later joined the United States Army Reserves in 1979, and the following year, the Arizona Army National Guard. He went on to proudly serve in both the New Mexico and Missouri National Guards, achieving the rank of Chief Warrant Officer CW4. His military decades of service included peacekeeping missions in Bosnia-Herzegovina with the 35th Infantry Division, Panama, and Annette Island, Alaska, before retiring in 2002.

Civically, Don worked 27 years with the U.S. Forest Service as an Administrator of Natural Resources and Community Development Programs, making a significant impact on the Apache-Sitgreaves, Winema, Kaibab, Coronado, and Carson National Forests. He played a vital liaison role with the Historic Black College and University Programs at Lincoln University, committed to education, opportunity, and stewardship of the land.

Don met the love of his life, Second Lieutenant Vasquez, at Navajo Army Depot in Bellemont, Arizona. They married on April 27, 1985, in Tucson, and together built a strong, loving home. Donald is survived by his wife Christina of 40 years, son Kerry (Joleen), grandson Jonah, brother Ronnie (Jeanne), nieces, nephews, cousins, sisters, and brothers-in-law.

A man of abiding Christian faith, Don found joy and purpose as a member of the Old Spanish Trail Church of Christ in Tucson. He was a valued Christian brother and faithful friend. His work ethic, kindness, generosity, and patriotism were certainly defining traits. He was an avid reader, in his younger years he enjoyed the rodeo scene as a bull rider, he was a multi-talented art-



ist, musician, and craftsman, gifted in bronze sculpting, playing guitar, mandolin, and fiddle, with a love for bluegrass, country, Christian, and classic rock. Various families and friends own Don's handmade wooden gifts. Ever the athlete and enthusiast, he enjoyed long runs, fast cars (especially Fords), and was a proud fan of the Denver Broncos and Kansas City Chiefs. Upon retirement to Arizona, he volunteered as a Docent at the 390th Memorial Museum at the Pima Air Museum.

Don was a family-centered and a steadfast friend, filled with integrity and generosity. Don's life was a testament to faith, service, loyalty, and commitment. He will always be missed and remembered.

A viewing and celebration of life memorial service for Don are scheduled for September 16, 2025 at the Old Spanish Trail Church of Christ, 11795 Old Spanish Trail, beginning at 8:00-9:45 am. Military honors for CW4 Case at the Arizona Veteran's Memorial Cemetery in Marana at noon, 15950 N Luckett Rd, Marana, AZ.

### TAPS 2025 35th Division Association

- JIM BRAY
- COL (R) ANGELO PETER DEMOS
- BG (R) EARL "JACK" DOYLE, JR.
- BONNIE GILROY (Widow of MSG Greg Gilroy)
- WILLIAM HAM III
- PFC JAVIER E. LEDESMA
- LTC (R) GREGORY HENRY PLATT
- WILLSON ANDREW REAVES, JR.
- MAGGIE TRITSCH (Widow of BG (R) Leo Tritsch)





## Membership Renewal/Application

### Donor or Order Form 2025

Indicate if you wish to receive the “Santa Fe” Paper electronically to save postage \_\_\_\_\_  
 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.): \_\_\_\_\_

*Amount Enclosed*

Annual Dues/ New Member Annual Dues E4 and below \$25	_____
Annual Dues/New Member Dues E5 and above and Civilians \$40	_____
New Life Membership, for WW II Veterans - \$75	_____
New Life Membership for All Others - \$200	_____
Donation for 35 <sup>th</sup> Div. Assn Operating Expenses	_____
Donation specified for the 35 <sup>th</sup> Museum Operating Expense	_____
Sponsor Edition of “The Santa Fe Express” - \$1000 and up	_____
Hall of Fame Expenses & Reception - \$100 and up	_____
35 <sup>th</sup> Div. Conference Sponsor - \$100 or more	_____
Donation in recognition of	_____

_____ 35 <sup>th</sup> Division Coin \$10.00 (\$12.00 if mailed)	_____
_____ 35 <sup>th</sup> Division Lapel Pin-- \$5.00 (\$6.00 if mailed):	
_____ Pin of DIV Patch with 35 <sup>th</sup> In Div. written on edge	_____
_____ Pin with DIV Patch only	_____

***Total Amount Enclosed***

\*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.

\*Or use link to pay with Cheddar Up:

<https://35thdiv-memberships-and-donations-temp-73085.cheddarup.com>

