

***Taro***  ***Leaf***  
**FIRST TO FIGHT**

***Wanted***  
***Taro Leaf***  
***Editor***

**Please Contact President Frederick Immediately**

# ~~~ President's Letter ~~~

As I sit here writing this letter while recovering from major surgery, with the blessings of sleep and the help of those wonderful little pills they send home with you from the hospital, I have once again discovered an age old truth.

I pulled my finger from the bucket of water and it didn't even leave a hole.

Association Members stepped in and the plans for our reunion are right on schedule. When emails from the Reunion Brat asking for information went unanswered one member informed the Reunion Brat of my surgery and said "send the emails to me, I'll get you the information."

With the passage of time, rest and recuperation, I hope to be in good health by the time of the reunion.

The notices and ads about the reunion in numerous publications have paid off; I have received many emails and phone calls from former members of the 24th who are interested in the Association. Many are planning on attending; they did not know our Association even existed.

This Association is amazing. I can't begin to tell you how we have pulled together.

At the risk of leaving some out I would like to tell you some of our



progress. First, Don Maggio. Not only has he found a successor for his job as Sec/Treas, he has also agreed to train him, and be on hand to help him. Don, thank you for all your work over the years and we will miss your talents.

John A. Dunn from Westover, AL will take over as Sec/Treas at the end of this fiscal year. John is a new Life Member and personally is responsible for gaining over a dozen new member. John served with the 24th in Germany.

I had asked Dan Rickert to serve as Reunion Program Coordinator and he has preformed above and beyond. He, and various others, have been making phone calls to promote attendance and sending letters requesting donations to help fund some of our guests expenses.

In the small world category, one of the letters that Keith Hagen

had sent out snagged a donation that caught my eye. When I served in the Minnesota Senate the House of Representatives member in the adjoining district was also named Frederick, and Donna and I spent many hours together with he and his wife during the sessions. I knew he had lost a brother, a BAR man, in the fighting in Korea, and that we had also both served in the 135th Infantry Regiment at one time. I was really surprised when I learned he had also served in the 34th Infantry Regiment and was a member of our Association. He is now riding with me to the reunion in Rapid City.

Dan Rickert delegated a portion of the program to Gene Spicer; Gene says Dan dumped it on him and Dan says he delegated it because "a General can get more done than a private." Whatever the choice of words, it worked as the reports I receive show a memorable program in store for us in Rapid City. We truly have a program planned that should please everyone. Thank you for your efforts.

And then there is our Vice President Sal. They must have 36 hour days in New York, and Sal has been filling them with his efforts chairing the Verbeck Committee,

*(Continued on page 15)*

# The Taro Leaf

Vol. 63, No. 3 Summer 2009 The Official Quarterly Publication of the 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division



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Vacant

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## DIRECTORS

NAME	YEARS	UNIT	PHONE	ST.
Gene E. Spicer	2006-2008	19th Inf. Regt.	812-273-6996	IN
Wes Morrison	2003-2006	21st Inf. Regt.	831-883-2156	CA
James F. Hill	2000-2001	19th Inf. Regt.	770-998-3749	GA
Thomas Cochran	1997-1998	34th Inf. Regt.	931-647-4793	TN
James F. Hill	1995-1996	19th Inf. Regt.	770-998-3749	GA
Vincent Gagliardo	1993-1994	5th RCT	415-279-1982	CA
Albert McAdoo	1991-1992	5th RCT	813-837-2728	FL
Donald C. Rosenblum	1987-1988	Div. HQ	912-233-6717	GA
Warren C. Avery	1986-1987	21st Inf. Regt.	203-239-3406	CT
Richard C. Watson	1985-1986	19th Inf. Regt.	765 -378-3721	IN
John R. Shay	1983-1984	21st Inf. Regt.	708-724-5133	IL
John E. Klump	1977-1978	34th Inf. Regt.	812-623-4336	IN
William C. Muldoon	1970-1971	19th Inf. Regt.	941-743-7179	FL
Donald C. Williams	1968-1969	34th Inf. Regt.	586-566-4627	MI

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**Publication Guidelines:** Please send all **TAPS notices, Manuscripts, and Articles to the Editor** at above address. You may send either electronically as email attachments in text (word processor) format, or by USPS as typed or printed originals. Short handwritten material is acceptable, but may be incorporated as is in a graphic image. Articles may be limited to **two or three pages typewritten**.

**PHOTOGRAPHS are desired for TAPs and all articles**, and may be submitted in electronic format (300 dpi resolution or higher) as email attachments, or as prints (Note that *Xerox* or *Newspaper* Photos do not copy well; prints are much preferred). For all photos please provide the photographer's name and where they appear in the article, identify each person or other subject in the photo, and if you wish it returned. Copyrighted material should have permission to reprint. **Please include your current correct full name, address, phone number and email with all submissions.**

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## Taro Leaf Deadlines and Publication Dates

VOL	NO	ISSUE	DEADLINE	DELIVERY
63	4	Fall	Oct. 1, 2009	Nov. 2009
64	1	Winter	Jan. 1, 2010	Feb. 2010
64	2	Spring	Apr. 1, 2010	May 2010
64	3	Summer	Jul. 1, 2010	Aug. 2010



# Secretary-Treasurer Reports

by Don Maggio, Past - Secretary/Treasurer

## Auf Widersehen

01 July 2009

Dear Association Members,

Thank you for the privilege of serving you, and our great Association. During the past four years I have had the pleasure of talking with many of you, receiving complimentary notes and critiques, and learning to appreciate everyone's contributions to the defense of our country.

It is time for a change in this of-

fice so we can have a new perspective as we move forward.

Please note we have spent over \$100 on postage for returned *Taro Leafs* due to incorrect addresses. It would be nice if everyone would let us know their new location so the *Taro Leaf* can arrive on a timely basis.

Also we spend a lot of money sending out reminders for folks to pay their dues despite all the reminders in the *Taro Leaf* and everyone's expiration date above their address. I will be sending

out over 200 postcards this month at the cost of over \$60. Please pay your dues on time.

The results of the Constitution and Bylaws Ballots were: Accept 65, Reject 18, Recommend acceptance of Bylaws 63. There were 2 spoiled ballots and 1 ballot cast by an ineligible Associate Member.

With luck I will see y'all in Buffalo at our 2010 reunion.

Sincerely,

Don Maggio

## New Members

Name	Regiment	Company/ Battery/Troop
------	----------	---------------------------

Baca, Michael L.

Assoc

Sponsor: Wes Morrison Stepson of Frank Loughead, 21st Inf, TFSmith, Japan & Korea

Clark, Malcom W.

19th Inf

G

Dye, Sr., Autrey E.

19th Inf & 13th FA

A & A

Sponsor: Larry Gay

Lees, Benjamin G.

24th Admin

Found us via *Taro Leaf*

Panizzera, Carlo D.

533rd Trans

Sponsor: Andreas Christiansen

Porras, Luis

21st & 34th Inf

L

Sponsor: Larry Gay

Sechrist, Gary L.

2nd Inf

A

Sponsor: John Dunn

Shleton, Danny

Assoc

Sponsor: Alvin A. shelton, Father

**New Lifetime Members...** see page 15.

**Financial Reports...** see page 30.

## Donors

Name	Unit	Amount
Baker, John J.	34th Inf	\$25
Brockmann, Lawrence H.	34th Inf	\$40
Castner, James N.	Assoc	\$10
Cretaro, Daniel A.	34th & 19th Inf	\$100
Crouch, Thomas H.	34th Inf	\$60
Dowdy, Jr., William c.	11th FA	\$100
Federwitz, Wilbur L.	21st Inf	\$10
Hawk, Linda J.		\$50
Jacketti, Victor	24th Med	\$10
Klugh, Robert J.	3rd Eng	\$100
Koschak, Lawrence E.	52nd FA	\$20
Landes, Robert E.	24th Med	\$20
Larew, Harold J.	34th Inf	\$10
Lewis, Frank	34th Inf	\$10
Lopera, David M.	21st Inf	\$5
McManus, Francis W.	24th Sig & 19th Inf	\$50
Ray, Robert E.	13th FA	\$10
Reed, Marvin	26th AAA	\$26
Roberts, Clinton A.	34th & 21st Inf	\$35
Sheppard, Guy & Marie	21st Inf	\$50
Sheppard, Ulysses F.	724th Ord	\$50
Smith, James	5th RCT	\$10
Wood, jewel	52nd FA	\$50
Yoshizawa, Arnold Rikio	21st & 19th Inf	\$40

For the *Taro Leaf*

For the *Taro Leaf*

In memory of father, Louis L. Castner, WWII, "C" 19th Inf

For the *Taro Leaf* (Omitted in error from last issue)

For the *Taro Leaf*

General fund & *Taro Leaf*

For the *Taro Leaf*

In memory of George L. Heatherly

For the *Taro Leaf*

In memory of Charles J. Leaf & Dallas Heston

For the *Taro Leaf*

For the *Taro Leaf*

For the *Taro Leaf*

For the *Taro Leaf*

For the *Taro Leaf*

For the *Taro Leaf*

In memory of Donald Peniston who died this Spring

For the *Taro Leaf*

For the *Taro Leaf*

For the *Taro Leaf*

In memory of COL Kenwood Ross

For the *Taro Leaf*

In memory of "Dutch" Nelsen.

In his memory from niece, Wendy Petrouski

**Donors** continued on page 25



# Taro Leaf Production Costs

On April 13, 2009, a Director wrote to his fellow Association Board and Officers: "... *I can see no significant attempt made to reduce the cost of publishing and distribution of the Taro Leaf.* [sic]" This article addresses this serious lack of understanding.

DATE	VOL;	NO	COVER	TOT COST	EDITOR	PRINTER	PCT CHG
Su-Fall 06	60	3&4	MacArthur	\$12,685	Johnson	Classic	0
Wntr-Spr 07	61	1&2	Spicer	\$14,234	Thiel	Classic	12
Su-Fall 07	61	3&4	Johnson	\$12,974	Thiel	Classic	2
Winter 08	62	1	Jap Flag	\$12,277	Thiel	Classic	-3
Sprng 08	62	2	Keeble	\$9,497	Thiel	Leesburg	-25
Summer 08	62	3	Song	\$7,366	Thiel	Leesburg	-42
Fall 08	62	4	Nomad	\$7,440	Thiel	Leesburg	-41
Winter 09	63	1	Ann	\$7,363	Thiel	Leesburg	-42
Spring 09	63	2	Cold War	\$6,985	Thiel	Leesburg	-45
Summer 09	63	3	Editor	\$3,500	Anon	Leesburg	-72

The Total Costs of producing and mailing each of the last ten issues of the *Taro Leaf* are shown in the above table.

The top row, Su-Fall 2006 with General MacArthur on the cover, was used as the basis for this comparison.

The rightmost column in the table shows the percent change in Total Costs of the issue shown in that row from that for the MacArthur issue.

These range from +12 to -72, meaning that subsequent issues cost more or less than the MacArthur issue.

While there are many variables not detailed in this analysis, what this table clearly shows is that the Spring 2009 issue of the *Taro Leaf*, the Cold War issue, was done at a Total Cost of \$6,985, and that this was 45 percent less than the MacArthur issue!

That is what *had been* achieved in reducing costs up until now. And it was to have been the end of this article on *Taro Leaf* Costs.

But almost at the very last minute, we became aware of activities that suggested we test regressing the *Taro Leaf* another step to a level lower than any in recent memory. This issue of the *Taro Leaf* has a four-page color cover, and the other twenty-eight pages are in all black and white.

Total Costs for this issue will be less than \$3,500, which means that it will have been produced and mailed for about 70 percent less than the MacArthur issue!

But you must keep in mind that this issue has only about one-half the number of pages.

The 25 percent reduction associated with the Keeble issue was singularly due to changing to Leesburg (FL) Printing; this will be very difficult to surpass.

The additional 20 percent reductions achieved with the Song, Nomad and Letters to Ann issues resulted from going to half color and half black and white.

And the additional 5 percent reduction for the Cold War issue

was from reducing paper weight.

The further reduction in the Editor issue came about by going to all black and white printing except for the cover, and also reducing the number of pages. (A 56-page issue would have cost about \$5,600.)

It is obvious that changing printers and eliminating color had the greatest impact on costs.

But removing all color also has the greatest impact on quality, especially on TAPS, articles of more recent vintage, reunion and other photos, etc.

**This article clearly shows that not only have highly significant cost reduction efforts been attempted, they have been quite effective! And it offers some viable options for a stable *Taro Leaf* future.**

Do you want only black and white, or do you prefer half color and half black and white?

That is for you, the members, to decide!

# The *Taro Leaf*TAPS

## Association Members

**Otto Clyde Bailey**, Major, retired, 79, of Sewanee, TN died May 5, 2009 after a lengthy illness. Life Member 2301, Otto served with "K" **21st Infantry Regiment** from August 1950 to June 1951 in Korea. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Helen Bailey, 409 Kentucky Ave, Sewanee, TN, 31375-2102.

**Dr. Andrew Wesley Baird**, 79, of Starkville, MS, died April 13, 2009, at Oktibbeha County Hospital. Dr. Baird served with the **21st Infantry Regiment** in Japan and Korea in 1952 and 1953. He earned degrees from Mississippi State and Louisiana State Universities, and retired in 1992 as professor of sociology and research sociologist at Mississippi State. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Maxine Baird, 204 Mangrove Palm, Starkville, MS, 39759-2750.



**Robert F. Brabham**, Life Member 113 of Charlotte, NC, passed away on October 21, 2007. Robert served with **Division Headquarters** during WWII; last residence 901 Maple St., Georgetown, SC 29440.

**Richard C. Brielh**, Life Member 579, **21st Infantry Regiment**, Korea, passed away in 2007 per his sister, Ms. Patricia A Lauffenburger, 4317 Cobblestone PL NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109-2909.

**Victor W. Buzzinotti**, Life Member 337 passed away April 1, 1997 in Kittanning, PA. Victor served with the **19th Infantry Regiment** during WWII. Last known address: 2216 Chaplin Ave., Ford City, PA 16266-1609.

**Ralph B. Cunningham**, Life Member 630, Headquarters Company, **34th Infantry Regiment** from October 1942 to December 1944 in the

South Pacific Theatre passed away in South Bend, IN on March 8, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Joan R. Cunningham, 19871 Lucinda St., South Bend, IN, 46614-5658.

**Kenneth M. Ellis**, Life Member 866, passed away on March 30, 2005. Kenneth was assigned to Battery C, **555th FA Battalion** from 1948-1951. Last known address: RR 2, Box 297, Walnut Grove, MS, 39189-9572.

**Joseph T. Fischetti**, Company C, **5th RCT** in Korea 1950-1951 passed away on January 18, 2009, in Palm Beach Gardens, FL. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Marjorie Fischetti, 4088 Old Oak Drive, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410-6392.

**Edward J. Hagan**, Life Member 974 of Albion, MI, passed away on October 27, 2005. He served with the **34th Infantry & 24th Recon**. Last known address: 210 S Monroe St, Apt 2, Albion, MI, 49224-1760.

**Dallas T. Heston**, 78, Youngstown, OH, passed away on April 17, 2009. Dallas served with H & S Company, **3rd Engineer Combat Battalion** in Japan and Korea from 1949 to 1951. He successfully recruited many of his fellow 3rd Engineer Battalion to the Association. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Shirley Heston, 239 N. Cadillac Dr., Youngstown, OH 44572-3319.



**Jack L. Higgons**, MG, Life Member 1346, **304th Signal Battalion**, WWII and Korea, passed away December 17, 2008, in Las Vegas, NV. BG Higgons, Nevada National Guard Reserve, of Las Vegas, Nev., received a battlefield commission from chief warrant officer to second lieutenant; from February 1951 until June 1952 in Korea, he



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served as first lieutenant with **987th Armed FA Battalion**, Battery C, 105 Self-Propelled Artillery. No known family.

**Harold Harvey Holbrook**, 79, Life Member 1519, of Batavia, IL died June 23, 2009. He served in the Illinois National Guard and in 1952-53 he served in Japan and Korea with the **13th Field Artillery Battalion**. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Marjorie "Marj" Holbrook, 214 S Prairie St, Batavia, IL 60510-2770.



**Joseph W. Holloway**, Life Member 1349, of Grand Island, FL, passed away at Waterman Hospital, Eustis, FL, on February 2, 2003. Joe served with the **34th Infantry Regiment** from Dec. 1944 to April 1946 in the Southern Philippines, and the Japanese occupation forces. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Dorothy Holloway, 13041 Lemon Ave., Grand Island, FL, 32735-9221.



**William F. Hunt Jr.**, 76, of Cranford, NJ and Naples, Fla., died on Friday, March 28, 2008. He served with both **infantry** and **artillery** units in Korea and Japan with the **24th Infantry Division**. Mr. Hunt is survived by his wife, Jean Hunt, 25081 Peacock Ln, Naples, FL 34114-9709, also 325 Dorchester Ave, Cranford, NJ 07016-2801.

**Robert K. Makaiwi**, 87, Life Member 1133 passed away on June 15, 2009 in Marina, CA. He served 30 years with the U. S. Army serving in WWII, the Korean War with the **5th RCT**, and in Vietnam. He was preceded in death by his wife Eva, and 4 sons, and is survived by two daughters and two sons. He is survived by his wife, Ms. Luita Makaiwi, 3247 Fitzgerald Cir, Marina, CA 93933-2606.

**Charles M. McBryde**, Life Member 638 of Sanford, NC passed away November 12, 1998. Charles served with the **19th Infantry Regiment** during WWII; he was a Pearl Harbor survivor. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Lois McBryde, 633 Spring Ln, Sanford, NC 27330-3432.

**James L. McReynolds**, Life Member 396, passed away on January 7, 2000, in Birmingham, AL. He served in Korea with the **19th Infantry Regiment**, and also served in WWII. Last known address was: 2831 Highland Ave. #605, Birmingham, AL 35205.

**James C. Merritt**, "E" **19th Infantry**, Korea, 1951-52, passed away May 1, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Margie Merritt, P.O. Box 1075, Anacortes, WA 98221-1075.

**James C. Monje**, Life Member 614, passed away April 10, 2004 in El Monte, CA. He served with the **34th Infantry Regiment** during WWII and in Japan. Last known address 1235 W. Fir Ave., Oxnard, CA 93033-3053.

**Joe E. Payne**, Life Member 1696 died December 28, 2008. Joe served with "E" **21st Infantry Regiment** July 1944 to December 1945. Burial in Arlington National Cemetery April 7, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Louetta Payne, 1078 Cross Country Dr, Columbus, OH 43235-5138.

**Donald Lee Peniston**, 80, passed away Thursday, March 5, 2009, in Kansas City, MO. Donald served with "B" Co. **21st Infantry** and the **24th Medical** in Japan 1946 to 1947. He is survived by his wife: Mrs. Diane L. Peniston, 10106 Raytown Rd, Kansas City, MO 64134-2244.

**Frank J. Pesko**, Life Member 659, served in WWII with the **34th Infantry**. Last known address: 3967 Katherine, Dearborn, MI, 48125-2613.

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From internet: Death Date: Mar 9, 1995 , Residence: Westland, Wayne, Michigan, Place of Death: Garden City, Wayne, Michigan.

**Joseph M. Petrausks** Life Member 569 passed away October 23, 2004, in the Fairview Nursing Home, Hudson, NH. He served with the **21st Infantry Regiment** during WWII. Last known address: 203 Lowell Rd., Hudson, NH, 03051-4909.

**Alex Poland**, Company L, **34th Infantry Regiment**, March 1941 to October 1945 during WWII, passed away on March 12, 2006 in New York, NY. Last known address: 160 W 71st St, Apt 14P, New York, NY 10023-3901.

**Edward L. Pugh**, died in November 2008 per notice from Melissa Jeffress. He served with **3rd Engineers** in WWII, March 1945 to November 1945. Last known address: 4260 Brussels Dr., Jackson, MS 39211-6105. Melissa M Jeffress, 169 Cotton Wood Dr, Madison, MS 39110-4737.

**Edward F. Robinson** Life Member 447 passed away on October 28, 2005, in Hyde Park, MA. He served with the **19th Infantry Regiment** during WWII. Last known address: 605 Truman Hwy. Apt. B1, Hyde Park, MA, 02136.

**Fred N. Shroyer**, Life Member 1481 of Statesboro, GA passed away January 30, 2009. MAJ Shroyer served with the **34th Infantry Regiment** in Japan. Contact: Steven Shroyer, PO Box 586, Brooklet, GA 30415-0586.

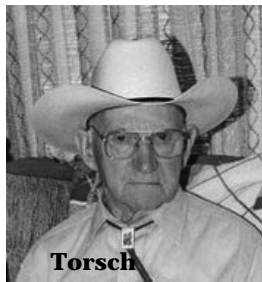


**Ernest Pierce Terrell Jr.**, Col. (Ret.), of Norman, OK, Life Member 1192, passed away on June 11, 2009. Col. Terrell served the **11th Field Artillery** during the Korean War from 1950-51, earning the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star and the

Distinguished Service Cross. Services were held at the New Post Chapel, Fort Sill, OK on June 15, 2009, with burial at nearby Fort Sill National Cemetery. He is survived by his wife Mrs. Allene White Terrell, 313 Lone Oak Drive, Norman, OK 73071-2486.

**Edward C. Thompson**, Life Member 297, Company A, **21st Infantry Regiment** in WWII passed away on March 20, 2009. Edward served from July 1940 to July 1945, and was a Pearl Harbor Survivor. He is survived by his brother, Frederick E. Thompson, 395 Gracie Ave N #194, Frostproof, FL 33843-8341.

**Enos E. Torsch**, 91, of Lachine, MI passed away September 17, 2008. Life Member 464, Mr. Torsch served with the **34th Infantry Regiment** in New Guinea, Leyte and in the liberation of Corregidor. Enos is survived by one brother, and three sisters. Contact: Marvin G Torsch, 525 River St, Apt 229, Alpena, MI 49707-2449.



**Bill Traylor**, Life Member 1719 died April 7, 2008. He served with the **3rd Engineers** April 1950 to July 1951 in Korea. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Traylor, 102 Willowchase Dr., Scottsboro, AL 35769-6234.

**George M. Trendell**, Life Member 2293 died November 11, 2008; he served with the **5th FA Heavy Mortar and 19th Infantry "B" Co.** in Korea and Germany. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Martha Trendell, 28 Diamond Rd, Hartselle, AL 35640-5512.

**Edward S. Trexler**, Life Member 568, with the **26th AAA Battalion** in Korea passed away December 8, 2004, in Philadelphia, PA. Last known



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address: 6200 Ardleigh St #414, Philadelphia, PA, 19138-1521.

**Van B. Truelove**, Life Member 2000, passed away on October 7, 2004 in Fort Worth, TX. Van served with the **13th FA** in Korea. No additional information.

**Walter F. Winton, Jr**, Brigadier General, Life Member 528, passed away on May 19, 2007. He served with **Headquarters, 24th ID**, in both WWII and Korea. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Alice Winton, 235 Walker St., #134, Lenox, MA 01240-2746.

**Anthony J. "Papa Tony" Wojtas**, 85, of Oneida, NY, died on May 23, 2009. Life Member 1074, Tony served in the Pacific Theatre with the **21st Infantry Regiment** during World War II. Papa Tony was the owner and founder of Pepi's Pizza, in Oneida. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Audrey Wojtas, 228 Genesee St., Oneida, NY, 13421-2709.



**Arnold Rikio Yoshizawa**, Life Member 1469 died June 22, 2008. Last known address 24616 Marbella Ave., Carson, CA 90745-6411.

## 24th Division Members

**Vincent Aguilera**, Headquarters, 2nd Battalion, **5th RCT** in Korea passed away on February 7, 2009 in Ft Worth, TX. Vincent was a POW in Camp 1. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Lucy Aguilera, 2313 Ross Ave, Fort Worth, TX 76164-8175.

**Arthur G. Angell, 5th RCT**, Tank Company 1950 to 1951 in Korea, passed away on February 13,

2009 in Jackson, MI. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mary Lou Angell, 404 O'Brien Rd., Jackson, MI 49201-8981.

**Duane Charles Balts**, age 79 of Eau Claire, WI, who served in the **21st Regiment** in Japan, died on December 19, 2007 at Sacred Heart Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Marian P Balts, 4105 Rudolph Rd, Eau Claire, WI 54701-7911.

**Alfred D. Baumann**, 75, of Stanley, NY passed away March 4, 2009 at his home. He served as a Platoon Sergeant with the **24th Infantry Division** in Korea. He is survived by Joanne Perry Baumann, 2487 State Route 245, Stanley, NY 14561.

**Kenneth L. Benesh, 21st Infantry Regiment**, Korea 1950 to 52 passed away March 19, 2008.

**Romeo Bourque, 5th RCT**, Korea passed away February 20, 2009 of cancer in Augusta, ME. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Carmelita Bourque, 124 Mount Vernon Ave, No. 3, Augusta, ME 04330-7538.

**Theodore R. "Ted" Boudinot**, 78, of Glendale, AZ., passed away December 9, 2008. He served with the **24th Infantry Division** in the Korean War, and is survived by his wife: Genevieve R Boudinot, 5908 W Myrtle Ave, Glendale, AZ 85301-1851.

**Raymond "Old Ray" Boulds**, age 86, of Poplar, MT passed away March 5, 2005. He served in the Pacific Theater in the **24th Infantry Division** until Aug. 1945, receiving the bronze star. He is survived by his wife Jeanne of Wolfe Point, MT.

**Peter O. "Pete" Brinkman**, 76, died on August 26, 2007, in Oscoda, MI after a battle with cancer. He served for two years with the **79th Engineers Battalion**, 24th Infantry Division in Korea. He is survived by his wife, Barbara A Brinkman, 114 N Lake St, Oscoda, MI 48750-1735.

# The *Taro Leaf*TAPS

**John George "Jack" Bryant**, 77, of Proctor, MN died October 1, 2005. He served in the **24th Infantry Division** in Korea. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Joanne, 4004 London Rd, Apt 1319, Duluth, MN 55804-2577.

**Robert H. Burns**, Medical Company, **21st Infantry Regiment** 1950-51 passed away on January 4, 2008 in San Antonio, TX. Last known address: 426 Castle Ranch Dr., San Antonio, TX 78245.

**Ralph Butler**, 81, of Wood River, IL, died May 9, 2009 at Jefferson Barracks in St. Louis. Butler served in the **Company E, 21st Infantry**; he was captured on April 27, 1951, in Uhucn-Ni, South Korea, and held as a POW. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Lorene Butler, 524 Monroe St., East Alton, IL 62024.

**Andrew P. "Babe" Catalano**, 67, of Largo, FL, died April 10, 2003. He was an Army veteran of the Korean War and served with the **24th Infantry Division**.

**George A. Clark Jr.**, 84, died April 30, 2005 in North Springfield, VA. Major Clark served on an Army transport ship in World War II and attached to the **24th Medical Battalion** in the Korean War. He is survived by his wife, Adele D. Clark, 5617 Queensberry Ave, Springfield, VA 22151-2711.

**Robert Colesberry Jr.**, 57, a veteran film producer, co-creator of the HBO drama "The Wire" and an occasional actor, died Monday, February 9, 2004 in New York of complications from heart surgery. Colesberry entered the Army in 1965, where he became a first lieutenant and battery commander in the **24th Infantry Division**.

**Martin "Ed" Conlon**, 76, of Whitman, MA passed away on February. 20, 2009. He served with the **24th Infantry Division** during the Korean War, and is survived by his wife, Dorothy A. Conlon, 199 Plymouth St, Whitman, MA, 02382.

**Anterio Da Costa** of Newark, NJ passed away on May 1, 2009. He served in the **24th Infantry Division** during the Korean War and is survived by his wife Rosina, 89 Barbara St, Apt 1, Newark, NJ 07105-3401.

**Ralph Edward Denton**, 85, of Amarillo, TX died Thursday, Sept. 20, 2007. Ralph served in the **24th Infantry Division** as a medical technician in the South Pacific in WWII. His wife preceded Ralph in death; he is survived by sons; Gary and Roger Denton.

**Bill Drumheller**, age 83, of Beckley, WV and Flagler Beach, Fla., passed away on May 5, 2009, at the Beckley VA Medical Center. He served in Korea with Co. L, **21st Infantry Regiment**. Bill is survived by his wife, Jean Drumheller, 118 Wildwood Ave, Beckley, WV 25801-5640.

**John J. Dunn**, 97, Retired Colonel of Huntsville, AL passed away Thursday, June 11, 2009. (See separate article page 24 by Shorty Estabrook .) He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mary Frances Dunn, 5617 Woodridge Street SW, Huntsville AL 35802-1615.

**Robert "Bob" Andrew Dyrdaahl**, 81, died May 16, 2009, at the Marcus Daly Hospice Center in Hamilton, MT. He served with the **24th Infantry Division** in the Far East. Bob is survived by his wife, Donna Dyrdaahl, 101 Dogwood Ct, Hamilton, MT 59840-3121.

**Robert L. Evarts**, Hvy Mtr Company, **19th Infantry Regiment**, Japan and Korea, 1954-55 died on June 9, 2009. Last known address: 19 Bank St., Mystic, CT 06355.

**John D. Frazier**, 94, passed away March 2, 2006, in Quincy, CA. John was wounded in action while serving with the **24th Infantry Division** from 1942-1945 in the South Pacific. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Frazier, 304 S Mill Creek Rd, Quincy, CA 95971-9400.



# The *Taro Leaf*TAPS

**Alfred L. Fortini**, 79, of West Carthage, NY, died April 17, 2009, in Watertown. Mr Fortini served from October 1945 to January 1956, in Austria, Germany, Japan and Korea with the **24th Infantry Division**. He is survived by his wife, June R. Fortini, 113 Bridge St, Carthage, NY 13619-9583.

**Ray Martin "Doc" Graybill**, 72, of Strasburg, PA died October 14, 2004 at the Lebanon VA Medical Center. He served in Korea with the US Army Corps of Engineers, **24th Infantry Division**, and is survived by his wife Pauline A. "Polly" Graybill, 49 Lancaster Est, Mount Joy, PA 17552-1704.

**Vaughn T. Hall**, H&S Co, **6th Med Tank Battalion** in Korea passed away on March 26, 2009 in Spartanburg, SC. Vaughn was a POW in Camp 1. He is survived by his wife: Mrs. Blanche Hall, 62 Airport Rd., Spartanburg, SC 29306.

**Roy D. Haynes**, 90, died June 22, 2009 in Omaha, NE Interment with military honors by the **24th Infantry Division (Mech)**, Ft. Riley, KS. He is survived by wife, Esther M. Haynes, 6791 Emmet St, Omaha, NE 68104-3127.

**Fred L. Hess** passed away May 6, 2006 in Dayton, OH. Fred served with Lima Company, **19 Infantry Regiment** in Luzon, Mindoro, and was wounded in combat at Leyte. Hess was a sports writer in Dayton. He is survived by his wife: Mrs. Virginia K Hess, 1451 Courtyard Pl, Dayton, OH 45458-3975.

**Arne L. Hovdesven**, Battery A, **555th FA Bn**, Korea 1950—1951, passed away March 12, 2009 in Wilmington, NC. He received the Bronze Star for meritorious Service, and is survived by his wife. Mrs. Helen Hovdesven, 1425 Regatta Drive, Wilmington, NC 28405-4271.

**Richard A. Humphreys**, Company M, **21st Infantry Regiment**, Japan and Korea, 1948 to 52 passed away on November 15, 2008.

**Marion Itza** of Battle Mountain, NV passed away on May 28, 2009. Marion served the **Division** during WWII in the Philippines. He is survived by his wife Mrs. Jeanette Itza, 205 3rd St., Battle Mountain, NV 89820-1944.

**Kevin Francis Jamieson**, 62, of Jeffersonville, NY, died October 28, 2003. He served with the **24th Infantry Division in Germany** during the Berlin Crisis, and is survived by his wife, Virginia Jamieson, at 53 County Road 164, Jeffersonville, NY 12748-5801.

**MG Leo Bond (Buck) Jones**, Retired, 88, of Ocean Springs, MS., died on Monday, March 5, 2007. In 1954, he was assigned to the 24th Infantry Division in Korea as **11th Field Artillery Battalion** Commander. He is survived by his wife, Patricia Dees Jones of Ocean Springs, MS.

**Raymond Whitard Jordan**, 94, passed away May 8, 2009 in Columbia, SC. He was an officer in the **24th Infantry Division** in the Southwest Pacific and the Philippine Islands, earning a Bronze Star. He is survived by his wife, Wren Scott Jordan, 4837 Carter Hill Dr, Columbia, SC 29206-4607.

**Paul E. Kaempfer**, age 86 of Warren, IL, died on August 3, 2007, at Monroe Hospital. Paul served with the **24th Infantry Division** in the South Pacific during World War II. He is survived by his wife, Rita Kaempfer, 304 W Hyde St, Warren, IL 61087-9469.

**William J. "Bill" Kilkenny III**, 38, died February 18, 2006, in Wilmington, DE. One of Princeton's most outstanding Army ROTC graduates, Bill served with the **24th Infantry Division** in Operation Desert Storm. Bill leaves behind two young children, daughter Ali and son Jack, who live in Georgia with their mother, Becky Kilkenny, 3880 Mountain View Rd NW, Kennesaw, GA 30152-2387.

# The *Taro Leaf*TAPS

**Irving Langell**, Item Company, **21st Infantry Regiment**, passed away on June 4, 2009. Irv served in Korea where he was captured on July 12, 1950, and repatriated on August 26, 1953. He was a Tiger Survivor. He is survived by his wife, Gloria Langell, 11441 Claggett Avenue, Port Charlotte FL 33981-6702.

**Hal William Leech**, **5th RCT** in Korea passed away on March 1, 2009 in Modesto, CA. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Emo Leech, 1709 Irene Ave, Modesto, CA 95355-4316.

**Clifford G. Livangood**, 81, of Watertown, WI, passed away February 12, 2009. He served in the **6th Tank Corps** in Korea from Sept. 1950 to July 1952. He is survived by his wife, Marie Livangood, 1612 Nee-nah St, Watertown, WI 53094-6903.

**Edwin C. Lundquist**, Company L, **5th RCT** in Korea passed away on January 16, 2009 in Hickory, NC. Edwin was a POW in Camp 5. His family may be reached at: 407 25th St, Hickory, NC 28601

**John Martinez**, 81, died June 13, 2009, in Hutchinson, KS. He served with the **24th Infantry Division** in Sasebo, Japan, during World War II, and in Nagasaki. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Antonia Martinez, 412 E Avenue F, Hutchinson, KS 67501-7731.

**Laughlin McEnroe**, Company K, **5th RCT** in Hawaii and Korea from 1949 to 1951 passed away February 14, 2009 in Marina, CA. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Josephine McEnroe, 3009 Concord Court, Marina, CA 93933-4003.

**Michael McGraw**, passed away on May 28, 2009 in Bakersfield, CA. Michael served as in Korea from 1951 to 1954 with Headquarters Company: **24th Medical Battalion**. He is survived by his wife: Mrs. Virginia McGraw, 721 Charlana Dr, Bakersfield, CA 93308-2333

**John F. McNulty Jr.**, Lt. Col., retired, 87, of Ocean City, MD., the former Dean of students at John-

son & Wales University, died Monday, June 21, 2004. He served as Deputy Commander of the **24th Infantry Division, 21st Infantry Battle Group** in Munich, Germany, from 1960 to 1963. He is survived by Mary Jane (Peters) McNulty, 162 Old Landing Rd, Ocean City, MD 21842-4810.

**Paul Anthony Merola**, Lt. Col. Ret. died May 15, 2009 in Austin, TX. He entered the Army during the Korean War and graduated from West Point in 1956. He went to Augsburg, Germany with the 11th Airborne Division, which became the **24th Infantry Division**. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Nancy Merola, 5505 Merrywing Cir, Austin, TX 78730-1447

**Charles F. Milburn** of Brownwood, TX, 89, passed away June 4, 2009. Charles served in the **19th Infantry Regiment** in the Central Pacific Theater during WW II. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Billie Milburn, 140 Azalea Dr, Brownwood, TX 76801-7939.

**Leon Minahan**, Headquarters, 2nd Battalion, **21st Infantry Regiment**, Korea 1950 to 51 passed away on January 2, 2008.



**David A Mitts** ~ Sergeant United States Army, Age 24, died December 4, 2004 in Mosul, Iraq, 3rd Battalion, **21st Infantry Regiment**, Stryker Brigade

**Donald Mosness**, **5th RCT** Heavy Mortar Company in Korea 1951-1953, passed away February 14, 2009 in Livingston, MT. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Adeline Mosness, 320 East Lewis St., Livingston, MT 59047-5117.

**Larry Reginald Myrick** passed away February 18, 2009 in Stanton, TX. He served the **24th Infantry Division** 2nd Brigade in the 1960's in Germany. He is survived by his wife Mary F. Myrick, 2951 E Fm 1212, Stanton, TX 79782-5054.



# The *Taro Leaf*TAPS

**Robert L. Nash**, Company K, **19th Infantry Regiment** in Korea passed away on July 3, 2008 in Rogersville, AL. Robert was a POW from January 1951 to February 1951. He is survived by his wife: Mrs. Elizabeth Nash, PO Box 132, Rogersville, AL 35652.

**Dr. Bennett Olshaker**, 82, a retired child psychiatrist in Washington, DC, and an author, educator and consultant, died of cancer March 8, 2004, at Sibley Memorial Hospital. Dr. Olshaker served with the **Army Medical Corps**, 24th Infantry Division in Kyushu, Japan, during the Allied occupation. He is survived by his wife, Thelma A. Olshaker of Bethesda, MD.

**Lynn A. Overdorff, Jr.**, HHC, **21st Infantry Regiment**, Korean War died October 3, 2007 in Williamsport, PA. Jackie W Overdorff, 2341 Linwood Ave, Williamsport, PA 17701-1320

**Roscoe P. "Hoss," Owen**, 79, of Louisville, KY passed away Tuesday, May 12, 2009. Hoss served in the Weapons Platoon of Company "E" **19th Infantry Regiment** from the outset of the Korean War to the fall of 1951. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Doris "Dotsy" Owen, 8414 Michael Ray Dr, Louisville, KY 40219-5221.



**Major General William A. Patch**, retired, 77, died Aug. 1, 2004 in Rockville, MD. He served as a company commander in the **24th Infantry Division** during the Korean War, when he was wounded in combat. Gen. Patch is survived by his wife, Helena Fletcher Patch, 7707 Hidden Meadow Ter, Potomac, MD 20854-1789.

**James Paul Palmer, Sr.**, 77, of Wheeling, WV, died on February 11, 2008. He served with the **24th Infantry Division**, and was among the first to engage the North Koreans in July 1950 receiving the Purple Heart and Bronze Star. He is survived by his

wife, Mrs. Mary Alice Matthews Palmer, 2368 Overbrook Ave, Wheeling, WV 26003-5376.

**James B. Pardue**, Company I, **5th RCT** in Korea passed away December 8, 2008 in Winston-Salem, NC. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Helen Pardue, 1028 Willowlake Rd., Winston-Salem, NC 27106-4423.

**Burt A. Pendergrass**, 61, of Sheridan, WY, died on July 19, 2008 of natural causes while camping in the Big Horn Mountains. He served four tours of duty in Vietnam where he received the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. He served as an Operations Sergeant with the **24th Infantry Division**. He is survived by his wife Kathleen of Sheridan, WY.

**Vat (Walter) Pjetraj**, 76, passed away March 1, 2008, in Fayetteville, NC. He was born Albania, and spent his early life in Communist work camps. He joined the U.S. Army in 1957 in Frankfurt, and served in the 101st Airborne Division, the 11th Airborne Division and **24th Infantry Division**. His wife, Maria, preceded him in death; he is survived by: Lt. Col. Walt Pjetraj of Chapin, SC, Donika Murray of River Forest, IL, and Michael Pjetraj of Raleigh, NC.

**Rufus Harold Pruitt**, Colonel Retired, 80, of Athens, Ga., died May 14, 2009. Col. Pruitt served as an enlisted man during World War II, and as Company Commander of the **6th Tank Battalion** in Korea. Col. Pruitt is survived by his wife, Mrs. June Pruitt, 100 Turkey Creek Rd, Athens, GA 30606.

**Dr. Raoul Constantine Psaki**, a retired Army Colonel, passed away on April 29 2009. Dr. Psaki was a medical officer with the **24th Infantry Division** in the Philippines during World War II. His wife, Mary Agnes Psaki preceded him in death in 1987. He is survived by sons James and Michael Psaki.

**Charles E. Rambo**, 80, died July 28, 2003, in Brooksville, FL. He served in the Korean War with the

# The *Taro Leaf*TAPS

**24th Infantry Division** and is survived by his wife, Alma Rambo, 8023 Morelli Ave, Brooksville, FL 34613-5757.

**Ronald Roesner**, 60, of Aurora, IL, died of pancreatic cancer on October 30, 2008. He was drafted in 1968 and completed his tour of duty with the **24th Infantry Division** in Augsburg, Germany. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn Lee Roesner, 1945 Swarthmore Dr, Aurora, IL 60506-5749.

**David H. Sanchez Sr.**, died December 22, 2008 in Stayton, OR. He lived in Las Vegas for the past 33 years. David served from 1967-1973 and served two tours in the Vietnam War. He served with the 34th and **24th Infantry Divisions**.

**David P. Schlossman**, 36, formerly of Lititz, PA passed away in Homestead, FL January 4, 2009. He served in Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1991, and was a paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne and a communication specialist with the **24th Infantry Division**. He is survived by two sons: David P. Schlossman II and Zachary S. Schlossman.

**Carl "Rocky" W. Surratt**, 72, of Leavenworth, KS passed away Nov. 3, 2003. Carl served in the Korean War with the **24th Infantry Division**. He is survived by his wife, Bonnie M. Surratt, 820 Ottawa St, Leavenworth, KS 66048-1827.

**Johnny Vernon Tabor**, CSM Retired, Co. G, **19th Infantry**, 24th Infantry Division, Fort Benning, GA, passed away March 5, 2009, in Portland, OR. Originally from Chattanooga, Tennessee, he is survived by his wife Ollie Ailene Tabor, 4411 SE 136th Ave, Portland, OR 97236-3803.

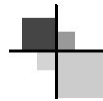
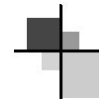
**Bill R. Tate**, 67, of Lake Leon, TX died Tuesday, August 2, 2005 at in Abilene, TX. He served in the U.S. Army between 1957 and 1960 in Augsburg, Germany with the 11th Airborne Division and the **24th Infantry Division**. He is survived by his wife, Imogene of Eastland, TX.

**Carl Stanley "Stan" Wahlberg**, age 89, passed away at Grand Junction, CO on June 1, 2009. Stan served with the **24th Infantry Division** in the South Pacific in WWII. He is survived by sons Jon of Richmond, VA and Steven of Denver, CO.

**Calvin A. H. Waller**, Lieutenant General, United States Army, 58, died on May 9, 1996 of a heart attack in Washington, D.C. Waller's 32- year career in the Army included being Chief of Staff, 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) Fort Stewart, Georgia. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery after a mass at the Fort Myer Memorial Chapel. He is survived by his wife Marion.



**John F. Ward**, 5th RCT in Korea passed away on March 20, 2009 in Syracuse, NY. He was predeceased by wife Constance, and son Douglas.



## Notice

**Until New Editor Obtained  
Send All TAPS Notices to the  
Secretary-Treasurer  
John A. Dunn—2nd Infantry  
9150 Hwy. 51  
Westover, AL 35147-9527  
205-678-6165  
jokdunn@aol.com**



## President's Message

(Continued from page 2)

the 2010 Reunion and his work on this year's program. I have not yet learned any results of the Verbeck Committee, but I'm sure we will hear at the Reunion.

Thank you Sal.

Finally I have to mention Tom Thiel. He was one of my right hands in combat in Korea and has continued that dedication as the editor of *The Taro Leaf*.

Tom took over as editor when Billy Johnson got too ill to continue. He had little time to get out the first issue and no guidelines except his copy of *The Taro Leaf*.

When he saw the costs were escalating he went about to seek ways to bring the costs down while still maintaining the quality product we had come to expect. He changed printers, checked ink, paper weight and quality and size of the publication. He finally, single-handedly, reduced the costs to a manageable figure while still maintaining a quality product.

Unfortunately the demands of

the *Taro Leaf* and those of his health are not compatible, and we need to find a replacement. His will be big shoes to fill.

Please let me know if you are interested in being Editor.

Tom also chaired a committee to revise the Association Constitution. One of the committee's recommendations was to create two new Board Members At Large in addition to our requirement that the Board be made up of Past Presidents. This was to better ensure that we have a quorum at the Board Meetings. We have not had a quorum at recent meetings and it has made it difficult to manage the Association's business by surveying Board Members by mail or phone.

The proposed revision of the Constitution passed overwhelmingly, and I would therefore like to appoint two members to fill the Director at Large positions until the election at the Annual Corporation Convention Member Meeting.

Two members have indicated an interest in serving the Association, and I would like to appoint

Loyal Vincent of Omaha, NE and John J. Slattery of Hobe Sound, FL to serve in those Board positions until the election at the annual meeting. They both served with the 24th in Germany and both bring a love of the 24th Association and a willingness and desire to serve. More importantly, they bring what the Association desperately needs, some younger blood.

Your Association has arranged a Certificate of Appreciation to be mailed to each member. This certificate is suitable for framing and is signed by George Casey, Army Chief of Staff, and by Pete Geren, Secretary of the Army. A lapel pin will also be enclosed. Wear it proudly—you deserve it!

My first year as your President has been a learning process. I hope I have been worthy of your trust. I don't have a new *Taro Leaf* Editor at this time, but still have not given up.

Hope to see you at the reunion in Rapid City as we have a fantastic agenda planned for you. Don't miss it !

*Mel Frederick*

## New Lifetime Members

Name	Unit	Company/ Battery	Life No.	Date	Comments
Ballou, Daniel J.	24th Avn	D	2345	01 Apr 09	El Salvador Opn "Redhawk"
Christner, Albert L.	21st Inf	A	2346	18 Apr 09	Sponsor: Clark McMinn
Van Fossen, Roger R.	2nd Inf	HHC	2347	27-May-09	Sponsor: John Dunn



# THE 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



I desire to be: Enrolled ☐ (or) Reinstated ☐; as a Member ☐ (or) Associate Member ☐  
(please check the proper two boxes)

*of the*  
**24th "Victory Division" Association**  
The Greatest Combat Division the United States Army has ever known.

☐ **Annual Dues - \$15.00 (1) Year From date of joining in The Association.**

☐ **Life Member - \$150.00 Payable in one sum or 5 yearly payments of \$30.00 each.**

~~~~~

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE+4 \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

***Served IN the 24th Division, OR was Member of Any Unit Ever Attached TO the 24th at any time.***

Unit: \_\_\_\_\_ Squad \_\_\_\_\_ Plt/Bat \_\_\_\_\_ Co \_\_\_\_\_ Bn \_\_\_\_\_  
(e.g., 5th, 19th, 21st, 3rd Eng, etc.)

Location Served: \_\_\_\_\_ From (Yr.) \_\_\_\_\_ To (Yr.) \_\_\_\_\_  
(e.g., Pearl H., WWII, Japan, Korea, Germany, Ft. Stuart, Lebanon, Somalia, Desert Storm, Ft. Riley, etc.)

POW: From (Yr.) \_\_\_\_\_ To (Yr.) \_\_\_\_\_

Other Unit Served With: \_\_\_\_\_ From (Yr.) \_\_\_\_\_ To (Yr.) \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks in above amount payable to the **"24th Infantry Division Association"**  
And mail with this completed application to:

**John A. Dunn, Secretary/Treasurer**  
**24th Infantry Division Association**  
**9150 Hwy. 51**  
**Westover, AL 35147-9527**

June 25, 2009



## 24th infantry Division Association Quartermaster Order Form

| Item #                                                | Description                                       | Price   | Quan. | Amount |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------|-------|--------|
| 1                                                     | Philippine Liberation Medal Hat Pin               | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 2                                                     | National Defense Service Medal Hat Pin            | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 3                                                     | Good Conduct Medal Hat Pin                        | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 4                                                     | Silver Star Medal Hat Pin                         | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 5                                                     | Pacific Campaign Medal Hat Pin                    | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 6                                                     | Armed Forces Reserve Medal Hat Pin                | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 7                                                     | Army of Occupation Medal Hat Pin                  | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 8                                                     | POW Medal Hat Pin                                 | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 9                                                     | Distinguished Service Cross Medal Hat Pin         | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 10                                                    | ETO Campaign Medal Hat Pin                        | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 11                                                    | The Soldiers Medal Hat Pin                        | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 12                                                    | Meritorious Service Medal Hat Pin                 | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 13                                                    | United Nations Service Medal Hat Pin              | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 14                                                    | American Defense Medal Hat Pin                    | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 15                                                    | Vietnam Service Medal Hat Pin                     | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 16                                                    | American Campaign Medal Hat Pin                   | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 17                                                    | Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal Hat Pin          | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 18                                                    | U.S. Flag Pin                                     | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 19                                                    | Distinguished Flying Cross (Army) Hat Pin         | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 20                                                    | Korean Service Ribbon Hat Pin                     | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 21                                                    | Army Commendation Medal Hat Pin                   | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 22                                                    | WW II Victory Ribbon Hat Pin                      | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 23                                                    | Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal Hat Pin          | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 24                                                    | Korean Service Medal Hat Pin                      | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 25                                                    | WW II Victory Medal Hat Pin                       | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 26                                                    | Bronze Star Medal Hat Pin                         | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 27                                                    | Purple Heart Medal Hat Pin                        | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 28                                                    | Air Medal                                         | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 29                                                    | 24th Infantry Division Hat Pin                    | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 30                                                    | Korea 8000 Missing Hat Pin                        | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 31                                                    | 19th Infantry Regiment Hat Pin                    | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 32                                                    | Remember our POW/MIA Hat Pin                      | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 33                                                    | POW/MIA Bring 'Em Home Hat Pin                    | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 34                                                    | Combat Infantryman Badge (Mini) Hat Pin           | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 35                                                    | Combat Infantryman Badge Hat Pin                  | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 36                                                    | Combat Infantryman Badge (2nd Award) Hat Pin      | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 37                                                    | Combat Medic Badge Pin                            | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 38                                                    | U.S. Army Desert Storm Hat Pin                    | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 39                                                    | Vietnam Heaven & Hell Hat Pin                     | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 40                                                    | 19th Infantry Regiment Ladies Necklace            | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 41                                                    | 19th Infantry Regiment Ladies Bracelet            | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 42                                                    | 24th ID Color Patch                               | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 43                                                    | 24th ID Association Patch                         | \$6.00  |       |        |
| 44                                                    | Cap, 24th ID Black Taro Patch                     | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 45                                                    | Cap, 24th ID White w/ Taro Patch (First to Fight) | \$12.00 |       |        |
| 46                                                    | 24th ID Window Sticker (2.5" x 2.5")              | \$2.00  |       |        |
| 47                                                    | Taro Leaf Bolo, Gold with Gold Braid              | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 48                                                    | Taro Leaf Bolo, Gold with Black Braid             | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 49                                                    | Taro Leaf Bolo, Silver with Black Braid           | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 50                                                    | Taro Leaf Belt Buckle, Silver                     | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 51                                                    | Taro Leaf Belt Buckle, Gold                       | \$15.00 |       |        |
| <b>Total This Page (Include on rear of this form)</b> |                                                   |         |       |        |

Please Detach and Complete Both Sides Continued on Reverse Side

The **Taro Leaf**



| Item #                                          | Description                                       | Price   | Quan. | Amount |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------|-------|--------|
| 52                                              | 24th Signal Battalion Unit Crest                  | \$9.00  |       |        |
| 53                                              | 19th Infantry Regiment Unit Crest                 | \$9.00  |       |        |
| 54                                              | 21st Infantry Regiment Unit Crest                 | \$9.00  |       |        |
| 55                                              | 34th Infantry Regiment Unit Crest                 | \$9.00  |       |        |
| 56                                              | 11th Field Artillery BN Unit Crest                | \$9.00  |       |        |
| 57                                              | 13th Field Artillery BN Unit Crest                | \$9.00  |       |        |
| 58                                              | 19th Infantry Regiment Color Patch                | \$6.00  |       |        |
| 59                                              | 21st Infantry Regiment Color Patch                | \$6.00  |       |        |
| 60                                              | 34th Infantry Regiment Color Patch                | \$6.00  |       |        |
| 61                                              | 11th Field Artillery Battalion Color Patch        | \$6.00  |       |        |
| 62                                              | 13th Field Artillery Battalion Color Patch        | \$6.00  |       |        |
| 63                                              | 24th Infantry Division Unit Crest                 | \$9.00  |       |        |
| 64                                              | Cap, 19th INF Dark Blue with Crest                | \$12.00 |       |        |
| 65                                              | Cap, 21st INF White with Embroidered Patch        | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 66                                              | Cap, 21st INF Dk Blue with Embroidered Patch      | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 67                                              | Cap, 34th INF DK Blue with Crest                  | \$12.00 |       |        |
| 68                                              | Cap, 24th IDA Dk Blue with Taro Patch             | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 69                                              | Cap, 24th ID White with Taro Patch (Germany)      | \$12.00 |       |        |
| 70                                              | Cap, 24th ID Red with Taro Patch (Germany)        | \$12.00 |       |        |
| 71                                              | Cap, 24th IDA Red                                 | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 72                                              | Cap, 24th IDA White                               | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 73                                              | Cap, 24th IDA Green                               | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 74                                              | Cap, 24th ID White Mesh with Taro Patch           | \$12.00 |       |        |
| 75                                              | 3rd Engineer BN Unit Crest                        | \$9.00  |       |        |
| 76                                              | 14th Engineer BN Unit Crest                       | \$9.00  |       |        |
| 77                                              | 5th RCT Pocket Patch                              | \$6.00  |       |        |
| 78                                              | Cap, 5th RCT Red with Crest                       | \$12.00 |       |        |
| 79                                              | 24th ID License Plate with Taro Leaf              | \$8.00  |       |        |
| 80                                              | Cap, Desert Storm Veteran Black                   | \$12.00 |       |        |
| 81                                              | Cap, POW MIA Black                                | \$15.00 |       |        |
| 82                                              | Cap, WWII Veteran Black                           | \$12.00 |       |        |
| 83                                              | Cap, Korean War Veteran Black                     | \$12.00 |       |        |
| 84                                              | Combat Infantryman Badge Window Sticker (3"x7")   | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 85                                              | Combat Infantryman Badge Window Sticker (2"x5")   | \$3.00  |       |        |
| 86                                              | Bumper Sticker, 24th ID Proudly Served            | \$3.00  |       |        |
| 87                                              | 6th Tank BN Color Patch                           | \$6.00  |       |        |
| 88                                              | 24th ID Neck Tie                                  | \$20.00 |       |        |
| 89                                              | 24th Medical BN Unit Crest                        | \$9.00  |       |        |
| 90                                              | 24th ID Flag, 3' x 5' Outdoor Screen Print        | \$65.00 |       |        |
| 91                                              | 63rd Field Artillery BN Color Patch               | \$6.00  |       |        |
| 92                                              | 24th ID Sticker, 1" Taro Leaf, set of 12          | \$1.50  |       |        |
| 93                                              | 24th ID Christmas Cards, Set of 10 with Envelopes | \$8.00  |       |        |
| 94                                              | 24th ID Neck Wallet, Green                        | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 95                                              | 24th ID Keychain                                  | \$10.00 |       |        |
| 96                                              | History of the 24th Inf. Div., Book, 2nd Ed. Rpt. | \$41.00 |       |        |
| 97                                              | Patch, 24th ID Korean War Veteran                 | \$5.00  |       |        |
| 98                                              | CD-Audio, 24th Division Song and March            | \$10.00 |       |        |
| 99                                              | DVD, 24th Division Memorial at Punchbowl, Hawaii  | \$15.00 |       |        |
|                                                 | Add Shipping and Handling (see below)             |         |       |        |
| <b>Grand Total (Include Totals From Page 1)</b> |                                                   |         |       |        |

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Please allow 4-6 weeks for  
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City & ST: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_



# RAPID CITY REUNION, IT'S NOT TOO LATE

## Rapid City Banquet Seating

Banquet table seating arrangements will be designated at time of registration; if you have a group that wishes to be seated together, be sure to have the person who registers first at the Reunion Registration Table make the arrangements for all desiring to be seated at that table.



You glad you came to the Reunion, Ed?

Yep Chuck, I wouldn't have missed it for all the bucks in the stimulus package!

## Hotel Information

**Best Western Ramkota Hotel in Rapid City**, 2111 N La Crosse Street, Rapid City, SD 57701.

**Call the Ramkota 605-343-8550 immediately to make your hotel reservations. Room rates are \$82 per night, plus tax (but because of the lateness we cannot guarantee that rate). Say you are with the 24th IDA Reunion and ask for the \$82 rate.**

<http://rapidcity.ramkota.com/index.php>

**Located off of Interstate 90 at Exit 59.**

**Free hotel parking and airport transportation.**

**These prices are available 3 days prior to and after the Reunion, "Based on availability," should you choose to extend your stay.**

## Past President Spicer on Our Reunion

This will be one of the best 24th Reunions ever, I guarantee it!

Not only are there excellent side trips, but our Friday and Saturday night banquets will be awesome!

Be sure to get your own Hawaiian shirt, and your better half a muumuu, and join in the Friday night fun. We have a good selection of food, and will have the 24th Infantry Divi-

sion Association Drawing after the banquet. Then the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Drum Group will provide the entertainment.

The Saturday night banquet is dedicated to Woody Keeble and his family.

Our Color Guard will the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Dakota Kit Fox Society Vietnam Veterans Organization, and they are spectacular.

Butch L. Felix will sing the National Anthem in both Native and English. And representatives of the new Woodrow Keeble American Legion will also be there.

And we will finally recognize Merry Helm for her inspiration and efforts to guide Woody's M.O.H. to fruition.

See you in Rapid City

Gene Spicer

# 24TH IDA REUNION LATE REGISTRATION FORM

***YES, SIGN ME UP FOR 24<sup>th</sup> INFANTRY ASSOCIATION 2009 REUNION!!!***

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT \_\_\_\_\_ YEARS \_\_\_\_\_ LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

GUESTS NAMES \_\_\_\_\_

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY NOTIFY \_\_\_\_\_

IS THIS YOUR FIRST REUNION? YES: \_\_\_\_\_ NO: \_\_\_\_\_

## MEAL SELECTIONS:

ALOHA \_\_\_\_\_ PORK \_\_\_\_\_ FISH \_\_\_\_\_ VEGETARIAN \_\_\_\_\_

BANQUET \_\_\_\_\_ BEEF \_\_\_\_\_ CHICKEN \_\_\_\_\_ VEGETARIAN \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE LIST ANY SPECIAL NEEDS: \_\_\_\_\_

## REGISTRATION FEES

|                             |           |       |   |      |   |       |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-------|---|------|---|-------|
| REGISTRATION FEE (REQUIRED) | # PERSONS | _____ | x | \$20 | = | _____ |
| ALOHA BANQUET               | # PERSONS | _____ | x | \$44 | = | _____ |
| MENS BREAKFAST              | # PERSONS | _____ | x | \$15 | = | _____ |
| LADIES BREAKFAST            | #PERSONS  | _____ | x | \$15 | = | _____ |
| MEMORIAL BANQUET            | #PERSONS  | _____ | x | \$45 | = | _____ |
| COSMOS/MT RUSHMORE TOUR     | #PERSONS  | _____ | x | \$29 | = | _____ |
| CHUCKWAGON DINNNER          | #PERSONS  | _____ | x | \$41 | = | _____ |
| THUNDER MT GOLD MINE TOUR   | #PERSONS  | _____ | x | \$35 | = | _____ |

**GRAND TOTAL ENCLOSED .....** \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT DUE DATE JULY 26, 2009, WHICH IS ALREADY PAST.**

**PLEASE SEND PAYMENTS TO THE ADDRESS BELOW, AND MADE PAYABLE TO:**

**THE REUNION BRAT**  
**50721 State Hwy 410 E**  
**Greenwater, WA 98022**  
**(360) 663-2521**

Pick up your Confirmation of Registration and Itinerary when you register in Rapid City. You will not be able to cancel.

Call the Best Western at 605-343-8550 immediately to make your hotel reservations. Mention you are with the 24th Infantry Association Reunion and ask for the group rate of \$82 a night, plus tax (since it is after the deadline, we cannot guarantee that rate). We hope to see you in Rapid City, South Dakota!!



# 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Association Reunion Itinerary

August 26-30, 2009

~~ **Rapid City, South Dakota** ~~

*To be held at the Best Western (Ramkota Inn). Room rates are \$82 per night, plus tax (but due to the late date we cannot guarantee that rate). Parking at the hotel and airport transportation are free. A hospitality room stocked w/snacks, beverages and cocktails will be provided each day.*

## **Wednesday August 26**

*2 pm Registration and Hospitality Room opens*

## **Thursday August 27**

*9 am – 3 pm Tour of Cosmos Mystery Area and Mt. Rushmore*

*5:15-9 pm Chuckwagon Western Dinner Show*

## **Friday August 28**

*9 am Board of Directors Meeting*

*9 am – 3:30 pm Tour of Big Thunder Gold Mine and Gold Panning*

*6-10 pm Aloha Banquet Dinner, Drawing and Program*

## **Saturday August 29**

*9 am Member Breakfast, to be followed immediately by the*

*Annual Corporation Convention Member Meeting*

*TBA—New Board of Directors Organizational Meeting*

*9-11 am Ladies Breakfast & Entertainment*

*6-10 pm Memorial Banquet Dinner and Program*

~~~~~

Call the Best Western Ramkota Hotel Immediately at 605-343-8550 to make your hotel reservations.  
Ask for the \$82 rate for the 24th IDA (but due to lateness we cannot guarantee it).

**COME JOIN U.S. AS WE SHARE OLD MEMORIES AND MAKE NEW ONES!!!**

**For More Information, Contact:**

**Mel Frederick—Phone: MN 507-455-1639 email [melfrederick@msn.com](mailto:melfrederick@msn.com)**

**Dan Rickert—Phone: 949-215-7553**

**The Reunion BRAT—Phone: 360-663-2521; email: [Info@TheReunionBRAT.com](mailto:Info@TheReunionBRAT.com)**

## Honor those who served our nation

I read with some nostalgia the Julie Muhlstein column on Sunday about the return of the remains of Lt. Edward Schwartz ("DNA match allows family closure after 59 years"). I remember well those traumatic days. I was a member of the 24th Infantry Division, a sister division the 35th Infantry Division to which Lt. Schwartz was assigned.

It was noted that Eddie was killed on Nov. 28, 1950. This was the day after Thanksgiving, and I well remember the bitter cold weather, and how some of us did not have proper cold weather gear. I remember the hordes of Chinese in their cold weather padded cotton uniforms coming at us. Also the surprise they were even there, due to the breakdown of intelligence information. As a result the young officers of the West Point class of 1950 took terrible losses. I was one of the lucky ones who came out in one piece.

When Memorial Day weekend arrives each year, take time to remember those who served their country with honor. Some say we memorialize war. No we do not! Those of us who went through war know it is not a thing to be honored. We honor those who served our country with honor. Please take some time to do this.

Carl S. Wipperman, 724th Ordinance, Life Member 1227, 12805 51st Ave. SE, Everett, WA, 98208-9618, 206-337-8741

Everett, Washington, The *Herald*  
E-mail: letters@heraldnet.com

## RE: Mindoro Beach Landing

I read the article in the *Taro Leaf* (Spring 2009, Mindoro Beach Landing Question Solved!) about the bombing of the SS John Burke during the landing at Mindoro Island in the Philippines. The picture and date were very familiar to me. We had traveled from Leyte and I was aboard an LCI at the time of this event. I served as a spotter and was positioned on the middle turret of the ship. The LCI I was aboard was further out but just behind the three ships pictured.

Through my field glasses, I observed two planes approaching and reported. I recall the comment: "Good, we need an escort." As the planes approached I reported that they were not ours, but instead Japanese dive bombers. I heard bullets pelt-ing the steel of our ship.

I watched the explosion of the SS John Burke. Our LCI was then commissioned to move to the location of the bombed ship and rescue survivors. My memory of this sight is seeing only a mattress floating on top of the water. There were no survivors.

Thank you for the *Taro Leaf* magazine which has allowed me to remember and pass on several experiences to my children.

Robert L. Clark (Corporal), WW II, 21st Regiment, Hq Co., Intell & Recon Platoon, Life Member 995, 321 S. 7 th Street, Memphis, TX 79245, 806-259-3268.



Harold "Tommy" L. Thompson, originally from Modesto, CA, is looking for **Barney Snorggrass**, originally from Tehachapi, CA and/or **Robert Vonholt**, originally from the St. Paul-Minneapolis, MN area. All three served together in "F" Company, 2nd Battalion, **19th Infantry Regiment** in Korea in 1951. Mr. Thompson would also appreciate a contact from the families. **Harold "Tommy" L. Thompson**, Box 686, Arlee, MT 59821 -0686, Ph 406-726-4571.



## RE: Augsburg, Germany --- My "Duty" Station in 1967

Hi Don (Maggio)

Was just rereading your article (Augsburg, Germany --- My "Duty" Station in 1967) and wanted to call to your attention the fact that the 11th Airborne Division was deactivated on July 1, 1958, not 1956 as your article states.

I was the clerk-typist for the S-1 Captain, Wheeler G. Bowman, from September 1957 until February 1959 stationed at Henry Kaserne. I have a copy of the 11th Airborne Division document AETGCG

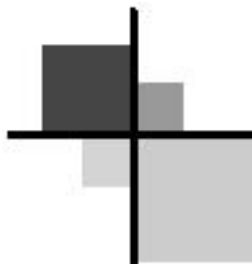
250/16, dated 3 March 1958, which I will bring with me to the Rapid City reunion. The 24th was reactivated on that same date of 1 July 1958.

Thought you might be interested in this bit of trivia. Like you, I thoroughly enjoyed my eighteen months overseas, and was able to visit no less than nine European countries during my various travels. Hope to see you in SD.

Mike Cherry, 527 Winterberry Lane, Myrtle Beach, SC 29579-7295, 843-347-5002,



**MARTIN A. SAAR**, CPL, Caucasian, from Erie County, NY, was Killed in Action while with **Charlie Company, the 19th Infantry Regiment** on June 28, 1951 in Korea. His son, **Al Saar**, and his nephew, **Robert Saar**, are looking for anyone who may have known Martin Saar while he was with the 19th. Please contact: Robert G. Saar, 51 Mariemont Ave, Buffalo, NY 14220, Ph: 716-796-8884, email: bsaar@mcguiregroup.com



## Four Ribbons?

Lowry



Dear Don (3/23/2009)

Can you tell me what the four Ribbons stand for? I wore this uniform only on R & R to Japan.

I was in "G" Company, 21st Infantry Regiment about 4 to 5 miles south of the D.M.Z. March 1955 until July 1956. The 19th was nearer to the D.M.Z.

Thanks

Charles R. Lowry  
7106 Mason Rd.  
Berlin Heights, OH 44814-9470  
Ph: 419-588-2375

# Rest in Peace Colonel John J. Dunn

*By: Shorty Estabrook, Company "B" 19th Infantry Regiment, one of the enlisted soldiers with Colonel Dunn in captivity.*

Much will be said of the life of Colonel John J. Dunn.

He was a great man, an outstanding soldier and wonderful and loving husband. Born in 1911, in New York and Irish. In early life, he bare-knuckle boxed to make money.

I want to tell you of the dark days of captivity in Korea, and I will refer to him as Major Dunn because that was his rank then.

Major Dunn was in the 34th Infantry Regiment stationed in Southern Japan when the Korean War broke out. His unit was rushed to Korea to stem the advance of the North Korean Army.

On July 7, 1950, Major Dunn was wounded twice. The most serious was in his jaw. He was able to stem the bleeding, but he was left very weak. On the next day he was captured by the North Koreans and taken to Seoul.

As the ranking officer among our group of POW's, Major Dunn assumed command. He insisted that we keep our integrity, and the North Koreans agreed.

He formed us into thirteen sections with two officers and a non-commissioned officer in each section. The Headquarters Section were those with a rank of Captain and above. Major Dunn was especially close to Captain

Alexandar Boysen, who had been the surgeon for the 21st Infantry Regiment or the 24th Division. Dr. Boysen appraised Dunn of the men's welfare.

Dunn was always pushing for more food, water and medical supplies. Medical care was primitive at best. Most of his requests were ignored; sometimes he was beaten just for asking. He knew that discipline had to be maintained, and that was of a major concern.

Major Dunn was interrogated on a regular basis; he had to answer for all the men's infractions. He was between a rock and a hard place; decisions were hard to make.

He lost a lot of weight; his beard was heavy and his hair line somewhat receding. He was tall, and began to resemble Abraham Lincoln.

His leadership always was to our advantage. Many men survived because of this superman.

But severely wounded men began to die, and we all suffered from starvation and internal illness because of the polluted drinking water. Some of the men were shot, and this troubled the Major.

Our group moved to the capitol of North Korea and we were

joined by an 81-member multinational group of civilians that were to share captivity with us. They came from the French and British Legations; there were priests and nuns, and Tatars, an American Catholic Bishop, a Commissioner of the Salvation Army of England and White Russians.

On October 31, 1950 a new North Korean Major arrived to take command of our group. He was a member of the North Korean Security Forces. This madman, whom we named "The Tiger" had already massacred many American Soldiers at the Sunchon Tunnel to the south.

The Tiger started marching us toward the snow capped mountains to the north. He gave orders that no one was to fall out of the march, and that sick and even those who died must be carried by those remaining. This was the beginning of the "Tiger Death March."

On November 2, 1950, some the North Korean guards gave permission for several men to remain beside the road, and told them a truck would come to transport them.

When the Tiger looked back and saw those men beside the road, he went ballistic. He ordered six

*(Continued on page 25)*



officers, including Major Dunn, to come to a little hill and face the rest of us.

The Tiger then declared that he was going to kill all of them. Major Dunn protested, and was struck on the side of his head. But he stood tall.

Commissioner Herbert Lord , who spoke fluent Korean, began to beg for the lives of these officers. The Tiger relented and said he would shoot only one officer. He then shot Lt. Cordus Thornton of Texas.

The Death March ended on November 9, 1950; 89 people were left shot along the roadway.

The winter of 1950-51 claimed 222 brave souls. Among them was Bishop Patrick Byrne, Catholic Church of America.

By the Spring of 1951 we were more dead than alive. A group of Russian Army Officers came to our camp; they met with Major Dunn. He took a great chance and told the Russians what the Tiger had done to the group.

The Russians apparently believed him and The Tiger was relieved of command and charged with stealing our rations and selling them on the black market. He was sentenced to two years in jail. I believe that the Tiger never saw freedom because the Communist believed in "out of sight-out of mind."

ity.

The Chinese sent our officers to another camp and enlisted men remained at Camp 3. Our condition improved somewhat as none of us would have survived one more winter with the North Koreans.

Major Dunn risked his life every-day looking after the rest of us. He even became sick himself but continued to lead.

In World War II he had served as a Company Commander in Burma and China with Merrill's Marauders. Difficult assignments seemed to follow Major Dunn.

My final tribute to this great and highly decorated man is that he was a "Soldier."

We Tiger Survivors loved Major Dunn and thank him for his leadership and dedication to those who were captured with him.

I am sure he was transferred to Heaven because he already served his time in Hell.


We love you Colonel Dunn. Rest in Peace. You earned it.

## Donors continued from page 4

Name	Unit	Amount
Bruno, Howard J.	34th Inf	\$10
Cullers, William M.	21st Inf	\$15
Davis, Ray G.	19th Inf	\$100
Delameter, H. A.	34th Inf	\$5
Deutsch, Rudolph A.	34th Inf	\$35
Gibson, Calvin N.	19th Inf	\$5
Hickey, Robert W.	19th Inf	\$40
Jackson, Shelby L.	19th Inf	\$10
Jordison, Donald L.	34th Inf	\$10
Lemon, James W.	21st Inf	\$100
Lindimore, Ray R.	21st Inf	\$15
Manselian, Robert S.	24th MP	\$40
Martinez, Nicolas	11th FA	\$160
Mecca, Daniel	13th FA	\$25
Minor, Rayford T.	34th Inf	\$20
Norton, goldy	21st Inf	\$50
Nunley, Bobby D.	34th Inf	\$15
Pammer, Michael J.	21st Inf	\$10
Petry, Joey	19th Inf	\$10
Powers, Carl L.	21st Inf	\$20
Sechrist, Gary L.	2nd Inf	\$15
Shelton, Alvin A.	19th Inf	\$10
Skinner, Franklin E.	11th FA	\$40
Underwood, Jr., John	34th & 19th Inf	\$10
Williams, Edward D.	19th Inf	\$10
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$1,671</b>

Fifty more of our group died at Andong. Then we were turned over to the Chinese Army and taken to Camp 3. Two more died during that trip, and ten more died after we arrived.

Fifty-eight percent of our group perished in captiv-

<b>24th Infantry Division Association</b> Secretary/Treasurer John A. Dunn—2nd Infantry 9150 Hwy. 51 Westover, AL 35147-9527	Send Dues & Address Changes <b>Check Your Dues Date Below</b> For TAPS, contact <b>Taro Leaf</b> Editor
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# Leyte Landing, Philippine Islands, October 20, 1944

After the Hollandia Operation in New Guinea, the 19th Infantry Regiment was in camp waiting for the next operation. When we started to get fresh meat, eggs and all the good stuff that we normally did not get we knew we would be moving out soon.

We were right and soon loaded on a troop ship headed for the Philippine Islands.

Tokyo Rose was on the radio telling us she knew that the 24th Division was on its way and that they would be waiting for us. She called us "the 20,000 Devils from Hell."

When we finally arrived at Leyte there were all kinds of ships milling about.

The troops were deathly silent as we started to climb down the rope nets draped over the side of the ship into the Landing Craft.

Then someone started to sing the Aussie Song "I Got Sixpence, Jolly, Jolly Sixpence. I got Sixpence to last me all my life. I got two pence to spend, and two pence to lend, and two pence to send home to my wife, poor wife. No pretty little girls to deceive me, happy as a lark believe me, as we go marching, marching home."

It didn't matter if all the words were correct; every soldier was



Chuck Blunt, Company C, 19th Regiment

singing as they went down the nets into the Landing Craft. It did relieve the tension and the mood changed.

I am Chuck Blunt, and I was Assistant Squad Leader of the 1st Squad, 1st Platoon, C Co, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Division.

Sgt Gladys was my Squad leader, and Sgt Don Irwin, my best buddy, was Assistant Squad leader of the 2nd Squad. Sgt Osborn, our Platoon Sergeant, was in the Landing Craft along with Company Commander Captain McNeely, and his runner.

Soon our craft, along with the others, began heading toward the beach near a town called Palo. There were two squads in our Landing Craft; we were told to keep our heads down until the landing craft hit the beach.

Suddenly, there was a tremendous explosion at the front of the landing craft and shrapnel

sprayed all over. A Japanese artillery round had hit the craft's ramp directly shattering it badly. There was a lot of screaming and moaning, and blood was everywhere.

Both Gladys and Osborn lost arms. Captain McNeely had been killed, and his runner lost an eye.

I glanced over toward where my buddy Don Irwin was and saw that he too was bleeding very badly from a piece of shrapnel in the face. After the war, when I went to see him at a hospital in Menlo Park CA, I learned that he had been blinded from that hit.

The ramp was down in the water, which was mixing with the blood. It looked like red wine.

The ramp was so mangled that the Landing Craft could not move onto the beach normally. Finally, it ground to a stop as the ramp hit bottom.

I moved to the front to lead the Squad, and saw that with the ramp hanging down like that we would not be able to walk off onto the beach. The water was about 6 or 7 ft deep, so I took a big breath and jumped into the water. When I touched the bottom I pushed forward and came to the surface. I took another deep breath of air and went back

*(Continued on page 27)*



# Member inducted into Ohio Military Hall of Fame

Association Member, Cpl. Carlos M. Easterday of Guernsey County, OH has been inducted as a member of the 2009 Ohio Military Hall of Fame. Easterday received the Bronze Star Medal.

Easterday was a member of Company E, 19th Infantry regiment, 24th Infantry Division when he distinguished himself by heroic action near Kumsong, Korea, on Aug. 8, 1951.

His platoon had the mission of taking and securing "Objective N," a steep wooded hill held by fanatical enemy forces. Easterday's squad, the reserve unit in the attack, was then committed.

The men in the squad went

around the flank of the platoon and made their way toward the top of the objective. They had nearly worked their way to the crest of the hill when they were pinned down by a murderous hail of fire from two enemy automatic weapons positions.

Since the only route of withdrawal was across an exposed area, the squad was trapped. Easterday immediately moved to the front of his comrades and, with complete disregard for his personal safety, advanced through the devastating enemy fire.

Approaching the first enemy position, he threw two hand grenades, killing the occupant. He

then charged the other automatic weapons position and, with grenades and rifle fire, killed the two enemy soldiers in it.

His fearless action relieved the pressure off the pinned down platoon, enabling them to successfully capture the objective.

Easterday's heroic action, outstanding performance of duty and aggressive initiative contributed immeasurably to the success of his unit's mission and reflect great credit on himself and the United States Infantry.

He entered military service from Pleasant City.

Daily-Jeff.com, Cambridge Ohio, April 29, 2009

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*(Continued from page 26)*

down once again. Soon my head was above water.

I waved for the rest of the squad to do the same. The eight remaining squad members all made it and we moved towards some cover. There was constant machine gun and rifle fire, and men were getting hit all around.

We moved inland about 30 or 40 yards and came upon a tank trap filled with water. There were Japanese pill boxes on the other side spitting out machine gun fire as we slipped into the tank trap in water above our waste.

Japanese machine gun fire continued and we stayed in that tank trap in that water for several hours.

The Japanese guns were finally silenced, and we proceeded on toward Hill 522 behind the town of Palo. It was beginning to get dark as we started climbing.

Japanese soldiers from trenches at the top of the hill were tossing grenades down the hill and wounding some of our troops. It was almost dark and I could hear moans and groans as we dug in for the night.

The next morning we discovered

the Japanese had driven a wedge between Hill 522 and the beach, cutting us off completely. Added to that we were running out of water. We found some in a pond that water buffalo had been sloshing around in. It was awfully muddy, but we filled all the canteens. Thank God for Halo-zone purification tablets.

We secured Hill 522 the next day and waited for our next mission.

Charles E. "Chuck" Blunt  
Life Member 1271  
77 Tulare St.  
Brisbane, CA 94005-1742  
415-467-0519

# 19th Infantry Regiment opens National Infantry Museum

By Lily Gordon - lgordon@ledger-enquirer 706-576-6284

Fort Benning, GA, Saturday, Jun. 20, 2009: On Friday morning the United States Infantry welcomed into its legendary brotherhood more than 200 soldiers from F Company, 2nd Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment during a basic training graduation on Soldiers Field next to the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center at Patriot Park.

Maj. Gen. Michael D. Barbero, commander of the United States Infantry School and Fort Benning, welcomed the members of F Company into “the elite band of brotherhood that is the Infantry.”

The general explained to the new soldiers that they stood upon a field that had been dusted with “sacred soil” gathered from 10 pivotal battlefields in American history.

One by one, the men of F Company filed past the official party and viewing stands, their faces red and dripping sweat. Leading the formation was 1st Lt. Ruslan K. Emelyanov, a former Russian combat veteran who joined the U.S. Army after emigrating from Russia in 2001.



Soldiers in uniforms representing the history of the U.S. Infantry stand at the museum entrance as part of the grand opening of the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center. Robin Trimarchi@ledger-enquirer.com

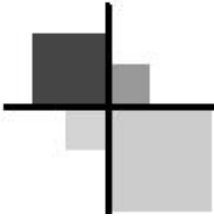
“I came over here out of curiosity because I’d heard good things about the United States,” Emelyanov said. Emelyanov started out as an enlisted Infantry soldier, then went to officers candidate school at Fort Benning. He has been deployed to Afghanistan with the U.S. Army.

For Museum: <http://nationalinfantrymuseum.com/>



Left: Photo of **Robert H. Peters**, Life Member 1312, firing the BAR in late January 1951, near Subuk, Korea, taken by renowned photographer Al Chang. This was the action for which LT. Carl Dodd received the MOH; Lt. Dodd was Bob’s platoon leader in “E” Company, 5th Regimental Combat Team.

Bob Peters  
1023 San Domingo Rd.  
Orlando, FL 32808-7127  
Ph: (407) 298-4947  
rpeters6@cfl.rr.com



## Ray Kennely, "L" 19th

I recently discovered that a friend of many years who was a widow married a retired fireman from Chicago, whose name happens to be Ray Kennely, who served with L Company 19th Regiment in Korea.

Ray and his wife now reside in the Chicago suburb of Crestwood, IL. If you remember Ray and wonder what's happened to him through the past half century, please contact me and I will help you reach Ray.

Frank J. Plata  
2628 Taunton St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19152-1522  
Ph: 215-969-3540  
Silverfjp75@aol.com

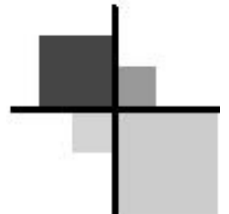
	5-18-09
<p>Hi DON,</p> <p>HERE'S MY DUES FOR 2009. THE LAST ISSUE OF THE TARO LEAF (VOL 63 #2) WAS THE BEST YET. DON'T GET ME WRONG ALL THE ISSUES I HAVE RECEIVED HAVE BEEN REAL QUALITY.</p> <p>WHAT MADE THIS ISSUE STAND OUT WAS THE ARTICLES ABOUT THE DIVISION DURING THE COLD WAR. HOPE TO READ MORE ARTICLES LIKE THAT IN THE NEAR FUTURE. TOM DID AN OUTSTANDING JOB AS EDITOR. I PRAY FOR HIS HEALTH.</p>	
<p>Philip R. Mammina 5248 N. Moody Ave. Chicago, IL 60630 Ph: 773-380-8810</p>	<p>BEST WISHES PHIL MAMMINA P.M.</p>

03/25/2009

DON:

I enclose a check for \$50.00 in memory for James E. Newdick, Died 12/15/08. He was G-2 Sect, 24th HQ 1953, We were high school classmates at Grandview Hts, Ohio since 1945. I talked to him at an alumni lunch in April '08 about our 24th experiences.

Regards, Rod Stock



# PLEASE FLY ME

Dear President Mel  
(5/14/2009)

One warm sunny day,  
I gazed out the win-  
dow and saw flutter-  
ing in the gentle  
breezes a magnificent  
American flag. This  
awesome spectacle  
inspired me to write  
the few lines (at  
right). I hope we have  
an editor for the *Taro  
Leaf* now.

Nick Marasco  
1494 Gleason Rd.  
Andover, NY 14806  
Ph: 716-624-2942



wind blows.

Sometimes the wind blows real  
hard and makes me shake and  
tremble violently as I did so many  
times in battle as the enemy was  
subdued.

At other times the breeze was gen-  
tle and I fluttered lazily as our gal-  
lant warriors also rested their  
weary bodies and nursed their  
wounds. I would flutter lazily while

The old  
veteran  
hangs  
me out  
today.  
It's cool  
and the

keeping watch over them.

Then the breeze would always  
cease as warriors lay quiet, having  
departed this life and receiving  
their reward. At such times there is  
no breeze and I remain completely  
still at attention in their honor.

Then I shall be wrapped around  
their burial box to comfort them  
home again— their duty done.  
There is no breeze to unfurl me so I  
am folded and presented to the  
next of kin for their memory.

Memorial Day and a few other days  
a breeze blows and I flutter bravely  
remembering the fallen warriors. I  
wish others would fly me often.

## 24th Infantry Division Association Statement of Financial Position As of June 30, 2009

### Assets:

1100 HomeTrust Bank-Checking	\$11,679.00
1101 HomeTrust-Money Mkt	5,943.61
1102 HomeTrust 5 mo. CD	34,523.39
1112 Fifth Third Bank-Checking	12,953.70
1113 Fifth Third-Svngs	4,754.18
1115 Chase Bank-QM	1,927.58
1210 Wells Fargo-CD	0.00
1500 QM Inventory	<u>3,000.00</u>

**Total Assets** **\$74,781.46**

### Liabilities:

3000 Opening Bal Equity	\$0.00
3900 Net Assets	71,621.41
Net Income	<u>3,160.05</u>

**Total Liab & Equity** **\$74,781.46**

## 24th Infantry Division Association Statement of Income & Expenses 01 August 08 through 30 June 2009

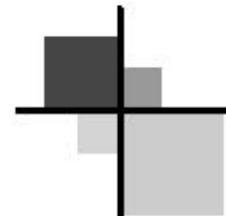
### Income:

40 Membership Dues	\$10,085.00
41 Full Life Pmts	2,400.00
4100 Reunion Donations	20,400.00
4180 Interest Income	804.24
42 Partial Life Pmts	1,215.00
43 Donations	7,504.02
44 Assoc Mbr Dues	555.00
45 Dan's Keeble Drive	3,226.00
8105 QM Sales	4,360.25
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$50,549.51</b>

### Expenses:

50 Gen'l Ofc	\$6,343.02
51 Taro Leaf Pub	29,160.37
510 Returned Taro Leafs	111.35
54 Reunion Exp	670.77
54 Drawing Payout	5,000.00
58 Misc	23.00
6150 Liability Ins.	750.00
6080 Accounting Fees	1,115.00
8160 QM Expenses	4,215.95
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$47,389.46</b>

**Net Income:** **\$3,160.05**



# Central Florida 24th Mini-Reunion

Southeast US Reunion Planned for February 2010



Photo from left: Bob and Carolyn Peters, Woodie and Dottie Woods, Bill Simunek, Ken and Barbara Bradshaw, Jim and Frances Landrum (seated), Ted and Marilyn Jansen, Ed and Clara Browne, Tom Thiel (seated), Jim and Zelma Reid, Don and Julie Van Beck (rear), John Hanusek, Billy and Zillah Gaston, Emily Allard (seated), Lester Norman, Gene Allard, Flossie Kespert and Paul Miller, and Bill Stokes.

**I**f the folks on the West Coast can hold a reunion, by golly we in the Southeast can hold one too!

A new group of 24th Division veterans and their wives and friends met for an organizational meeting on July 1, 2009, at Leesburg, FL.

They unanimously agreed to: 1) continue meeting for quarterly luncheon meetings, the next one will be September 2, 2009, in Leesburg, and 2) hold a 2010 Southeast Reunion at a place to be determined in Central Florida around the time of the Daytona 500 Auto Race, which in 2010 will be on February 14, 2010. Possible dates are February 9-11, 2010. All members are welcome.

Keep tuned; if you are interested in joining up with us you can contact either Bill Stokes, (352) 750-6952, [wsswriter@netzero.com](mailto:wsswriter@netzero.com), or Tom Thiel, (352) 357-3943, [tthiel9@gmail.com](mailto:tthiel9@gmail.com).

## Central Florida Mini-Reunion

February 2010

TBD

Bill Stokes

(352) 750-6952

[wsswriter@netzero.com](mailto:wsswriter@netzero.com)

Tom Thiel

(352) 357-3943

[tthiel9@gmail.com](mailto:tthiel9@gmail.com)

## 19th and 34th Mini-Reunion

April 26-28, 2010

Pigeon Forge, TN

Bob Taylor

Brevard, N.C., 28712

Tel: 828-884-9593

[bobnjoan@citcom.net](mailto:bobnjoan@citcom.net)

## 21st Gimlet Reunion

Oct. 5-9, 09, St. Louis

Phyllis Burke, Treas.

Dumfries, VA 22025-1037

703-298-8529

[swingingate@gmail.com](mailto:swingingate@gmail.com)



## Check Your Dues Date Below

**Send Dues &  
Address  
Changes To:**

**24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Association  
Secretary/Treasurer  
John A. Dunn—2nd Infantry  
9150 Hwy. 51  
Westover, AL 35147-9527  
205-678-6165  
jokdunn@aol.com**

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Leesburg, FL  
34748

# 2010 24th IDA Reunion

## Buffalo, New York, Sept 26-29, 2010

**Sal Schillaci— 24th Recon  
Amherst, NY 14226-3323  
716-837-1635**

**ssrecon24@roadrunner.com**