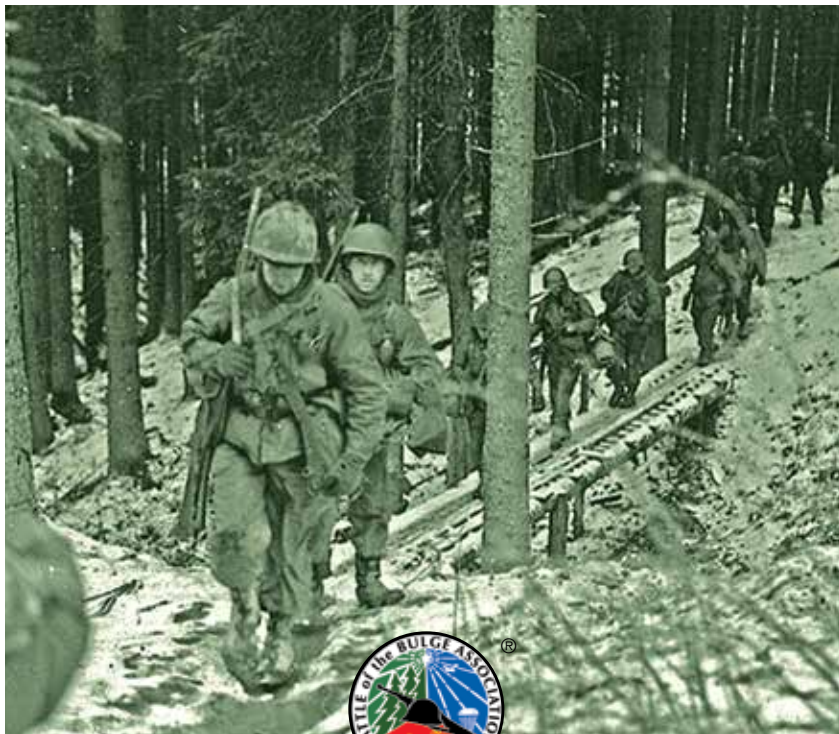


The BULGE BUGLE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION • BATTLE OF THE BULGE ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOLUME XL NUMBER 3 THE ARDENNES CAMPAIGN SUMMER 2021



Honoring Those Who Fought in
**THE BATTLE
OF THE BULGE**



Support BOBA's 77th Commemoration of the Battle of the Bulge ★ Read more on page 8.



Battle of the Bulge Association®, Inc.

P.O. Box 330, Mechanicsville, VA 23111-0330
(703) 528-4058

The Battle of the Bulge Association® is a membership organization instituted to: perpetuate the memory of the sacrifices made by those who participated during the Battle of the Bulge; preserve historical data and sites relating to the battle; promote friendship among Battle of the Bulge veterans, their relatives and others interested in the battle; foster and maintain international relations and good will with all Allied countries who were a part of the battle; support Chapters of BOBA. BOBA is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Donations to BOBA are tax-deductible.

Published quarterly, *The Bulge Bugle*® is the official publication of the Battle of the Bulge Association®, Inc.

Editor: Betsy Rose (**NEW EMAIL:** bulge.bugle@gmail.com)

BOBA MEMBERSHIP OFFICE

NEW CONTACT: Audra Yerian, audra.boba@gmail.com
or (703) 528-4058

*Send all correspondence relating to membership
and all BOBA matters to:*

Battle of the Bulge Association®, Inc.; P.O. Box 330,
Mechanicsville, VA 23111-0330; (703) 528-4058

VISIT THE BOBA WEB SITE: www.battleofthebulge.org
FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

BOBA, INC. BOARD ELECTED OFFICERS

President and CEO: John Mohor

Executive Vice President:

Barbara Mooneyhan

Vice President Membership:

[OPEN]

Vice President Chapters:

Dr. Andy Waskie

Vice President Military &

Veteran Affairs: [OPEN]

Treasurer: Ken Larke (*Interim*)

Recording Secretary: Gail Larke

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD:

Alan Cunningham

ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

David Bailey, 106th INFD

Madeleine Bryant, Chaplain

Kristen Faller

Steven Landry

Jim Triesler, Historian

APPOINTED OFFICERS

(*non-voting*)

Public Relations: Gary Higgins,

Immediate Past President

Webmaster: Carl Carraway

PAST PRESIDENTS

Clyde Boden* 1981-84

Robert Van Houten* 1984-86

George Chekan* 1986-88;

2003-05

William Greenville* 1988-90

Darrell Kuhn* 1990-92

William Hemphill* 1992-93

William Tayman 1993-94

Grover Twiner* 1994-95

Stanley Wojtusik* 1995-97;

2005-07

George Linthicum* 1997-99

John Dunleavy* 1999-01

Louis Cunningham* 2001-03

Demetri Paris* 2007-10

David Bailey 2010-12

Douglas Dillard* 2012-14

Alan Cunningham 2014-16

Gary Higgins 2017-19

* *Deceased*

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Many members of the Battle of the Bulge Association® belong to individual chapters located throughout the United States.

The following is a list of the present chapters, the state in which they are located, and their Chapter President's name.

Please contact BOBA at audra.boba@gmail.com or 703-528-4058 for their local meeting times and contact information.

CALIFORNIA

Golden Gate (10): Doris Davis

Southern California (16): Chapter President in transition

CONNECTICUT

Yankee Chapter (40): Richard Egan

COLORADO

Rocky Mountain (39): A. Wayne Field, 6th ARMDD

FLORIDA

Citrus (32): Minot N. Richardson, 26th INFD

INDIANA

Central Indiana (47): Chris Schneider

KANSAS

Kansas (69): Greg Penfield

MARYLAND

Maryland/DC (3): Chapter President in transition

MICHIGAN

West Michigan (23): Gary Higgins

MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi (33): Chapter President in transition

MISSOURI

Gateway (25): Dave Schroeder
Visit website gatewayvbob.org

NEW JERSEY

Peter F. Leslie, Jr (54): Jerry Manning

Fort Monmouth (56): Larry Lynch

Fort Dix/McGuire (60): Donald "Coach" Brien

NEW YORK

Mohawk Valley (28): Julian Scatko

Hudson Valley (49): Matthew J. Swedick

Staten Island (52): William Abell

Duncan T. Trueman (59): Elliot Hermon, 87th Chem Mortar Bn

Long Island (63): William Mueller, 106th INFD

OHIO

Blanchard Valley (42): Leonard Skonecki

Ohio Buckeye (1): Chapter President in transition

Alton Litsenberger (68): Tom Tomastik

PENNSYLVANIA

Delaware Valley (4): Dr. Andy Waskie

Lehigh Valley (55): Steve Savage

Reading (64): George Moore, 1252nd ECB

SOUTH CAROLINA

South Carolina (7): Douglas Patterson

VERMONT-

NEW HAMPSHIRE-MAINE

Tri-State (17): Edward Deverell

VIRGINIA

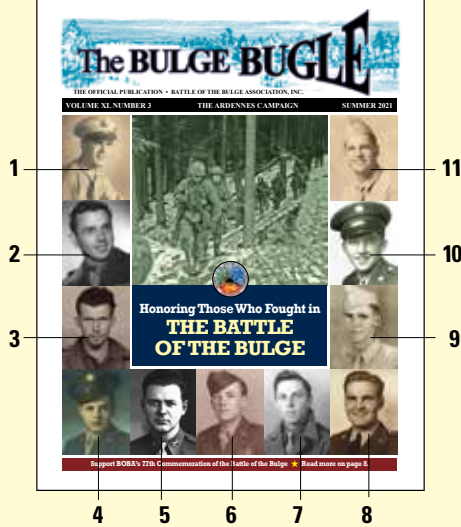
Crater (43): Mary Ann Coates Smith

WASHINGTON

Northwest (6): Jim Pennock

SEND CHAPTER UPDATES TO:
audra.boba@gmail.com

ON THE COVER



OUR COVER IS DEDICATED TO THE MEN OF THE 106TH INFANTRY DIVISION (THE GOLDEN LIONS).

Center top photo: Soldiers of the 106 Infantry Division, 424 Infantry Regiment advancing through the woods near Berk, Germany in early 1945. Contact BOBA if you can identify any soldiers. It is believed that they belonged to the 2nd Battalion. *Read more about the 106 INFD on pg. 10.*

Soldiers, counter-clockwise from top left:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Bob Pope (590 FA BTRY A) is current 106 INFD association president. He resides in New York. | 6. John R. Schaffner* (589 FAB) |
| 2. David Bailey (422-F) is BOBA past president and current Board member. He resides in Virginia. | 7. Richard Lockhart* (423-AT Co) |
| 3. Robert Wood* (423-I) | 8. Russell Lang (423-I) resides in Massachusetts. |
| 4. Victor Fuchs* (591 FAB) | 9. John Glen Beville (424-K) resides in Florida. |
| 5. Jack Roberts* (592 FA BTRY C) | 10. Harold Blalack* (423-F) |
| | 11. Robert G. Allen (422-A)*
*Deceased |

How to submit stories for *The Bulge Bugle*®

The Bulge Bugle® is published quarterly in the months that coincide with Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall. Please continue to send us your Battle of the Bulge stories! All members are reminded to submit stories about veterans you know who fought in the battle. Guidelines for submitting stories and photos are:

Stories and letters: Please email or send typewritten (not handwritten) text whenever possible, and limit word count to up to 500 words. We reserve the right to edit for length or clarity. Clippings/articles from recent newspapers or other periodicals must contain the name & date of publication, so we can obtain reprint permission. Original stories will be given preference over reprinted articles. NOTE: We cannot reprint from books or pamphlets, unless you are the author. **Stories or clippings will not be returned, so please do not mail originals you want to keep—send legible copies.**

Photographs: Please identify the place and/or people in the photograph. Photos copied on a copy machine, or printed on a laser printer, are not suitable for publication. Scan original photographs at high-resolution (300 dpi), or take a cellphone photo, and send us largest digital file possible. **Printed photos will not be returned, so please do not mail valuable originals—send duplicates.**

Please include your e-mail address or telephone number, in case we have to contact you.

Send material: (Preferred method) by email: bulge.bugle@gmail.com, or by mail: Battle of the Bulge Association®, Inc, P.O. Box 330, Mechanicsville, VA 23111-0330

NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE: OCTOBER 29, 2021

QUESTIONS? Please contact Bugle editor Betsy Rose, at her **NEW EMAIL:** bulge.bugle@gmail.com

Thanks to our vendors who provide valuable services to support BOBA: Apple Press, Inc. (Printing/Fulfillment); Eye D Communications (Layout/Design); RBI Services, Inc. (Accounting Services)

IN THIS ISSUE

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 2. Contacts, Board, Chapters | 6. BOBA Member Books | 12. Bulge Memories |
| 3. On the Cover | Members in Memoriam | 16. Thank You for the Donations! |
| How to submit stories for <i>The Bulge Bugle</i> ® | 7. No Mail, Low Morale: The 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion | 17. Our Heroes Stay Busy! |
| 4. President's Message | 8. BOBA Events | 18. Chapter News |
| 5. BOBA Letters & Announcements | 9. 2021 Reunion Registration Form | 21. Welcome, New Members |
| New BOBA Contacts | 10. INFD Spotlight: 106th INFD "Golden Lions" | New Member Spotlight |
| | | 22. Stopping the Germans and Saving the Bees |
| | | 23. Membership Application |



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

John Mohor

MEMBERS OF THE BOBA, in my ongoing efforts "...to perpetuate the memory of the sacrifices made by U.S. Military personnel during the Battle of the Bulge," I would like to honor a Bulge Veteran who spent the last 75 years MIA. Army Sgt. Bernard J. Sweeney, Jr., killed during the Battle of the Bulge, was accounted for on June 14th, 2021. He was a member of I Company, 330th Infantry Regiment, 83rd Division. While his unit was engaged in battle with German Forces near Strass, Germany in the Hurtgen Forest on December 16th, he was reported missing (from the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announcement). May we never forget the sacrifices made for our freedom. You might want to check out the 83rd Infantry Division Reunion being held in November 2021.



As with every edition, *The Bulge Bugle*® attempts to ensure we never forget by sharing examples of what our KIA soldiers and Bulge veterans endured during their service. We are in the process of providing access of our archives of *The Bulge Bugle*® to The Library of Congress, which further helps us preserve these precious memories. Thank you Bulge veterans and Bulge members for sending your stories to us!

I am pleased to report our Annual Reunion in Charleston, SC this October is well on its way. Thanks again to our Executive VP Barbara Mooneyhan and the SC BOBA Chapter for their efforts! It was even announced in the August edition of the *American Legion Magazine*. I hope as many of you that can will attend this year's reunion and annual business meeting. All current Board members are running for re-election this Fall at our annual meeting. We have two openings: VP of Membership and VP of Military Affairs. Members, please consider serving!

Change has been a constant since the last time I wrote my President's Message. I'm happy to announce that we have hired a new Membership Administrator, Audra Yerian. Betsy Rose is stepping aside from her office duties after a death in her family to focus solely on Editor of



BOBA President & CEO John Mohor with South Carolina Chapter President Doug Patterson.

the *Bugle*. Welcome Audra and thank you Betsy for your continued dedication to BOBA! I'd also like to thank Ken Larke, budget committee member, who has stepped into the role as interim Treasurer on our Board of Directors. Hylton Phillips-Page and Al Cleghorn resigned from their Board positions — best wishes and thank you for your past support with implementing BOBA's new budget processes. Our new volunteer Webmaster Carl Carraway has been accomplishing numerous things behind the scenes in his spare time. Thanks Carl! As mentioned previously, we're still looking for volunteers to help the organization in advertising; serving possibly as seller/advertising coordinator, e-commerce, social media, grant writer, legacy coordination to name a few. Volunteers are needed to help, regardless of location. If you have some time available and you'd be willing to help, please let us know by contacting the BOBA office.

We appreciate all the extra donations that have been sent in to help us contain costs! They are listed on page 16. If you want to honor someone that served in the Battle of the Bulge, consider sending in a charitable donation. We are still accepting donations for the 28th ID Memorial being built near the National Guard HQ in Pennsylvania, and for our Wreath Fund to support our annual commemoration event. Please, when you send your donation, mark the memo line accordingly as to your wishes. Remember we are a 501(C)(3) tax-deductible organization.

The Commemoration in Washington DC will take place in January 2022, and we hope to tour the new National Army Museum in addition to holding our annual wreath-laying ceremonies. Check out more about that on

page 8. Stay healthy everyone, and thank you all for being members of BOBA.

"Carry On"— motto of the 359th Infantry Regiment, 90th "Tough Ombres" Infantry Division in WWII.

—John Mohor, President & CEO



CONSIDER GIVING TO OUR WREATH FUND

Almost every gathering with BOBA includes a wreath-laying to honor those fallen during the Battle of the Bulge. This year we began collecting money to start a perpetual wreath fund, so that funds would be readily available when these events occur. If you would like to give to the Wreath Fund, go online to: battleofthebulge.org > donate and indicate "Wreath Fund" in the notes OR mail a check (note "Wreath Fund" in memo area) to BOBA, PO BOX 330, Mechanicsville, VA 23111.

BOBA LETTERS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



together a narrative story for his family. There may be a few members of your Association still living who served in the same Engineer Battalion (or company) who might be interested in a copy of the Battalion Commander's notes and I would be happy to transmit a PDF copy of the notes to any living member of the 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion who might be interested.

Henry W. Meetze, Major General, USA Ret

JACK BORNSTEIN OF THE 78 INF— WE SALUTE YOU!

I was a Forward Observer with the 78th Infantry Division, 308th Service Battery. We attacked on Dec. 13th, captured Lammersdorf, Simmerath and Kesternich. On Dec. 16th, the Germans attacked which became known as the Battle of the Bulge. We were with the 99th and 106th Divisions. The latter Division was practically decimated. We were part of the Malmedy Massacre when the Germans killed the men instead of taking them prisoner. After that we took no prisoners, too. It was a hellish time, but you never forget.

**Jack Bornstein (78 INF 308 Service Battery),
Veteran member in Florida**

From the Editor: Thank you for your service, Jack! We love to hear from our veterans!

CAN YOU IDENTIFY THESE SOLDIERS?

Great job on the latest edition of *The Bulge Bugle*[®]. Our Philadelphia Chapter seems to be getting quite the ink lately. I know that you are glad to get any information you can to publish. Hopefully, you will be able to print this photo and help out one of our newest members, Jim MacElroy. He is anxious to find out who the soldiers are in the photo and if they, or their family members, can give him any insight into when, where the photo was taken and any stories that might be available regarding his Dad and his military experiences with these soldiers. His Dad is pictured lower right side and he served in Battery B, 796th AAAW Battalion. I hope you can identify the War period.

Joanne Moss, PA BOBA Chapter

ATTENTION 2ND COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION VETERANS!

Some time ago, I was intrigued that a member of my wife's family (Private Donald Russel Wright, #33757571) had landed in Normandy on D+1 as a member of the 2nd Infantry Division's 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion (Company B), was apparently wounded when his company was overrun during the Battle of the Bulge and subsequently evacuated to a hospital in England and thence to a hospital in Ohio before being released from the Army. I decided to write a brief paper for his family describing what he may have experienced with his Battalion and began searching for documentation which might help me. Well, fortune was with me and I found that the Military Library in Carlisle, PA had handwritten and typed notes written by the 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion Commander on a day by day basis as the Battalion moved from England to Normandy and thence to Germany. With input from PVT Wright's son, this gave me what I needed to put

83RD INF ASSOCIATION 74TH REUNION RESCHEDULED

The new dates for the 83 INF Association are November 10-14, 2021 in Washington, DC! Visit <http://www.83rdassociation.com> often for updates, and join their organization!



**To reply to letters/announcements, contact bulge.bugle@gmail.com
or call the BOBA office.**

Attention, Members!

OUR CONTACTS HAVE CHANGED

Send all correspondence relating to membership and all BOBA matters to:

Audra Yerian

Email: audra.boba@gmail.com

Mail: Battle of the Bulge Association[®], Inc.

P.O. Box 330

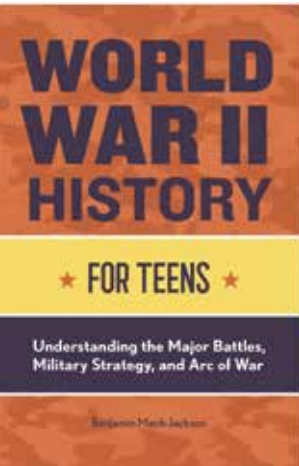
Mechanicsville, VA 23111-0330

Phone: 703-528-4058

*Send all "Bulge Bugle" material or inquiries to editor
Betsy Rose: bulge.bugle@gmail.com*

WORLD WAR II HISTORY FOR TEENS

By Benjamin Mack-Jackson



This newly released (June 2021) book, *World War II History For Teens: Understanding the Major Battles, Military Strategy and Arc of War*, by member Ben Mack-Jackson gives a good overview of WWII from what led to the war, the German conquest of Europe, the war in the Pacific Theater, Mediterranean and North Africa, the aftermath, the impact of the war on the world and the efforts to rebuild. It also has a chapter devoted to the Battle of the Bulge. We highly recommend this 150-page book. It would appeal to anyone of any age, and it is very easy to read.

The author wanted to learn more about WWII and felt he wasn't getting enough information about the war from his high school history class.

He wanted to talk to men and women who were actually there to get the 'real story.' He was just 13 years old and contacted a WWII Veteran and asked if he could visit and listen to his account of the war. He recorded the session. During the past 6 years, he has conducting over 100 interviews of veterans who served in the Army, Air Corps, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard as well as women who served in the front lines to stateside. From this, he accomplished his goal of learning more than he gained from his history class. The interviews motivated him to write this book in order to keep the story of WWII alive. So Ben the student (at age 13) evolved into a teacher (at age 19.)

Ben dedicated the book to the WWII Veterans, our nation's greatest generation, and the future generations who have the responsibility to remember the past. His interviews can be found on <https://ww2veteranshistoryproject.com/interviews>.

More information about Ben and his mission can be found on his website: <https://ww2veteranshistoryproject.com>. His book is available through Amazon. BOBA is very proud of our young members, like Ben, who show an avid interest in our Bulge veterans. Thank you, Ben!

NOTE: This book was recommended by Doris Davis, President of the Golden Gate Chapter, and also by veteran Irving Locker (4 INFD, 116 AAA Gun Bn, VII Corp.)



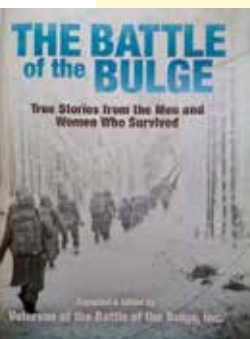
**MEMBERS
IN MEMORIAM**

Please notify us when you hear that any member of our organization has recently passed away, so that we may honor them in a future *Bulge Bugle*®. Also, kindly notify us of any errors or omissions. Please send notices by mail: BOBA, Inc., P.O. Box 330, Mechanicsville, VA 23111-0330; or by phone: 703-528-4058; or by email: audra.boba@gmail.com.

We have been notified as of August 16, 2021 that these BOBA members have recently passed away:

- LIONEL P. ADDA 99 INFD 393 INF 1 BN D
- JAMES BURBANK 84 INFD 334 INF F
- ARTHUR HOFFMAN 78 INFD 310 INF 2 BN E
- DR. JAMES HUNT 1 INFD 18 REG K
- JOHN M KOLLING 9 ARMDD 89 CAV RECON SQDN C
- LEIF ERIK MASENG 17 ABND 507 PCHT
- ELMER MULLINS 583 AMB CO
- JACK STITZINGER 87 INFD 346 INF 2 BN H
- FRED M. WHITAKER 87 INFD 347 INF 2 BN HQ
- BERNARD WYATT 285 ENGR COMBAT

BUY THE BOOK OF YOUR STORIES



Now available for \$34.99 (hardcover)

Barnes & Noble bookstores: Place an order with ISBN and title*

Online: Amazon: www.amazon.com;
Barnes & Noble: www.barnesandnoble.com

*To order, provide the ISBN and the title of the book:
ISBN: 978-0-9910962-3-7
Title: *The Battle of the Bulge: True Stories From the Men and Women Who Survived*

The book is not sold by BOBA, but we receive royalties from books purchased. THANK YOU!

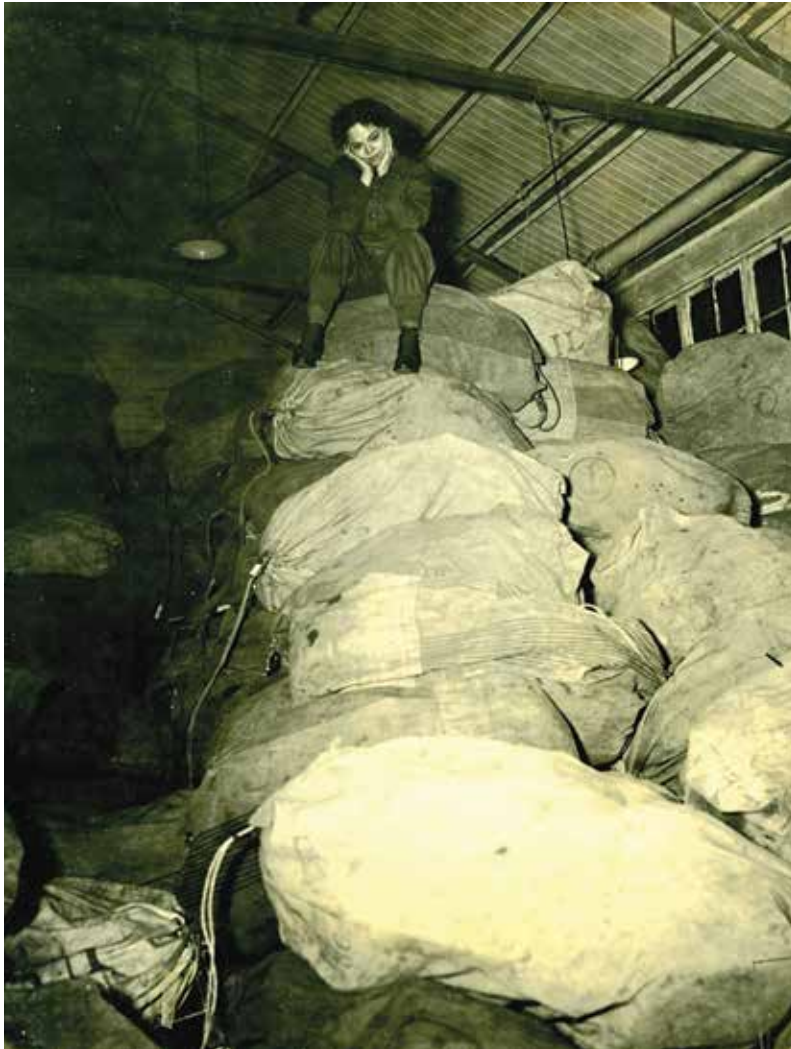
NO MAIL, LOW MORALE: THE 6888TH CENTRAL POSTAL DIRECTORY BATTALION

by James Triesler, VWM Director of Education and BOBA Historian

The salient created by the Germans closed by the end of January 1945. The Battle of the Bulge, or what Winston Churchill called, “undoubtedly the greatest American battle of the war,” was finally over. The situation during the battle was often one of confusion and the location of our military personnel was difficult to track. According to 1st LT Demetri Paris, of the 9th Armored Division, “the early days of the battle were confusing. There were missions every day and you didn’t know where you were or what you were doing.” Letters and packages, of the utmost importance to our soldiers, were deemed undeliverable and piling up in hangars. On January 2, 1945, Medic Jack King of the 47th Field Hospital, wrote to his mother, “. . .when we move, the mail gets messed up for a while. It will straighten out soon, I hope.”

The assignment to reduce the backlog fell to Major Charity Adams and the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion. The “Six Triple Eight” was a battalion made up of service members from the Women’s Army Corps and was the only all-female, completely African-American unit to serve overseas during the war. In her book, *One Woman’s Army*, Adams wrote, “We were important to the success of the war; morale could not be maintained without mail from home. We worked three eight-hour shifts, seven days a week. When we began work in February 1945, there was a large backlog of mail, including six airplane hangars of Christmas packages, returned to the United Kingdom from the continent during the Battle of the Bulge. Our job was to get these packages to the troops.”

Undelivered mail went to the directory service, “where an address card was on file for all U.S. personnel in the ETO. There were over seven million persons in the files.



PFC Mablyn Ortiz of the Women’s Army Corps in Birmingham, England.

Each time a person moved to a new area, it was his or her responsibility to send in a change-of-address card. Those at or near the front moved frequently, sometimes sending in two or three changes each week. The directory service checked for a new address and delivery was again attempted. Each piece of mail was ‘worked’ for thirty days and, if undeliverable, returned to the sender.”

The “Six Triple Eight” had six months to complete the task. Through continuous hard work, the battalion quickly got the mail moving and was able to clear the backlog in only three months. Each eight-hour shift processed approximately 65,000 pieces of mail. February 28, 1945, a few weeks before constructing a pontoon bridge across the Rhine River, Urban Allen of the 87th Engineer Battalion wrote to his cousin Cattie, “I returned

yesterday and had quite a few letters. Oh yes, I received your box of stationary. . . .”

Russell Cobb, a BAR man in the 87th Infantry stated, “I did not write home very often. We just never had time. I was on the line for 130 days.” When asked about receiving mail, Cobb said, “Oh yeah, we got letters. Might get three weeks at a time, whenever they caught up to us!”

On March 30, 1945, Charles Stables wrote to his mother, “Gosh, but I am swamped in the letter answering business. I have about two or three to answer from you, three from Richard, and I don’t know how many from Barbie. All these letters seem to have come in the last two or three days. I am very glad and pleased that I hear from you so often and know all about what is going on back home.”

It was unknown to the soldiers that the mail situation greatly improved because of the work of Major Charity Adams and the women of the “Six Triple Eight.” It is not too late to thank these women

for their service and for getting the mail to our military personnel in Europe. On February 11, 2021, Representative Gwen Moore (D-Iowa) introduced H.R. 1012, the “Six Triple Eight” Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2021. Congress will recognize the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion for the “pioneering military service of those women, their devotion to duty, and their contributions to increase the morale of all the U.S. personnel stationed in the European Theater of Operations.” On April 30, 2021, the U.S. Senate unanimously passed the bill. A few of these amazing women are still with us and you can help give recognition to the women of the 6888th by letting your Representative know that you would like to see passage occur for H.R. 1012. Now is our time to deliver for the “Six Triple Eight!”



BOBA EVENTS

DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR BOBA REUNION IS SEPTEMBER 30, 2021



There's still time to register for BOBA's 39th Annual Reunion in Charleston, SC! Join our Bulge veterans, their families and friends for an unforgettable vacation in Charleston, SC. We'll visit landmarks such as the Battery, Rainbow Row, and the Market. We'll also be special guests of The Military College of SC (The Citadel), cruise the Charleston Harbor, and have an evening sunset dinner on the fantail of the *USS Yorktown*. To remember the Battle of the Bulge, we will have a wreath-laying, a special banquet, and our BOBA Historian will have a guided discussion with our veterans. You won't want to miss this!

To register, visit battleofthebulge.org and select "Attend Reunion" or use the order form on the next page.

FREE LIVESTREAM

The Hürtgen Forest: Prelude to the Battle of the Bulge TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2021 AT 2 PM

Hosted by James Triesler, BOBA Historian and Director of Education at Virginia War Memorial

From September 1944 to February 1945, American forces fought to contain the German army in the Hürtgen Forest in an attempt to keep the Germans from reinforcing their troops in the north. The Germans desperately needed to hold the Hürtgen Forest as a starting point for the winter attack in the Ardennes, known as the Battle of the Bulge. Join Edward Miller, author of "A Dark and Bloody Ground – the Hürtgen Forest and Roer River Dams, 1944-1945," as he discusses this bloody and pivotal battle that cost over 33,000 American casualties.

Visit battleofthebulge.org for the link to register.

BATTLE OF THE BULGE COMMEMORATION SET FOR JANUARY 2022

Every year, veterans, families and friends of BOBA gather to commemorate the anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge which took place from December 16, 1944 - January 25, 1945. The upcoming commemoration is scheduled for January 2022 in Washington, DC. We're currently looking at the weekend prior up until the 25th of January. Exact dates will be coming out on the website in the Fall. In addition to the wreath-laying ceremonies, we are considering a tour of the National Museum of the US Army.

While we do not have specific details to share with you at this time, please mark your calendar as a reminder, and visit our website often for the latest updates.



BOBA Veteran Members David Bailey and Alvin Sussman, both with 106 INF, participated in a wreathlaying ceremony, December 2018 in Washington, D.C.

Photos: Meet Charleston (carriage ride); Carol Higgins (DC)

BOBA REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION FOR REUNION: **Thursday, September 30, 2021**

There are two options for registering for the reunion: **Complete this form OR register online at www.battleofthebulge.org** (Click on the “Attend Reunion” and complete the Registration Form.) Registration for the reunion must be received no later than **September 30, 2021**. Please note that any cancellation could result in forfeiture of the \$75 registration fee becoming a tax deductible donation to help defray the fixed costs after the September 30th deadline. Refunds requested will be handled on a case by case basis. We’re trying to cover cost of bus reservation and event fees. Individual travel insurance is recommended. **Full details are on pgs. 12-15 of Spring 2021 Bugle, or at www.battleofthebulge.org.**

Name _____

Additional Guests _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Birthday _____

Email _____

Division, Regiments, etc _____

Check here if you need a wheelchair Check here if you will be using your own wheelchair Motorized? Yes No

IMPORTANT: Please indicate No. of Persons attending free events as well!	No. of Persons	Cost per Person	Total Cost
Registration Fee (all attendees must pay the Registration Fee)			
Adult (21 and Over)	_____	\$75	_____
Child (20 and Under)	_____	\$35	_____
Late registration fee after September 30 - add \$20 per person	_____	\$20	_____

Thursday, October 21, 2021

Evening Wine & Cheese reception in the Hospitality Room _____ Free _____

Friday, October 22, 2021

Bus tour of downtown Charleston with guide _____ \$50 _____

Box lunch by Groucho's Deli at Hotel:

 Turkey Sandwich/Chips/Pickle/Cookie/Drink _____ \$10 _____

 Ham Sandwich/Chips/Pickle/Cookie /Drink _____ \$10 _____

 Greek Salad/Drink _____ \$10 _____

Tour of the Military College of South Carolina (The Citadel) _____ \$45 _____

Individual Pay Dinner at Water's Edge Restaurant on Shem Creek _____ individual pay _____

Saturday, October 23, 2021

Carriage ride tour of Historic Charleston _____ \$65 _____

Dinner & sunset over the harbor onboard the *USS Yorktown*, Patriot's Point _____ \$65 _____

Sunday, October 24, 2021

Charleston Harbor Tour and Box Lunch

Choose box lunch (included in tour):

 Chicken Salad Sandwich/Pasta Salad/Cookie/Drink _____ \$65 _____

 Ham & Cheese Sandwich/Pasta Salad/Cookie/Drink _____ \$65 _____

Membership Meeting _____ Free _____

Banquet at the Charleston Convention Center attached to hotel

Choose dinner entrees:

 Lowcountry Shrimp & Grits _____ \$65 _____

 Grilled Cypress Chicken _____ \$65 _____

TOTAL _____

**Mail this form and check (payable to BOBA) to: Battle of the Bulge Association, Inc.® P.O. Box 330, Mechanicsville, VA 23111-0330
Or, to pay with a credit/debit card by PayPal, register online at www.battleofthebulge.org, click on “Attend Reunion”**



Members of the 106th Division band at Anthisnes, Belgium in January 1945. The band was deployed in front line service on several occasions and was given a unit citation for their actions in the defense of St. Vith. Soldiers pictured include A.C. Cool (3rd from left) and Donald Schowalter (5th from left). Can you identify any of the others?

106TH INFANTRY DIVISION “GOLDEN LIONS”

The 106th Infantry Division Association, founded by its veterans in August 1945 in Karlsruhe, Germany. It is still active in the US and has held a reunion each of the past 75 years — with the exception of last year. The first issue of “The CUB” magazine was published in August, 1946. During the war years it was the unit’s newspaper. The first annual reunion was held July 14-16, 1947 in Indianapolis, IN.

The Association was created to promote friendships between the veterans and their families, to honor all of those

who made the ultimate sacrifice, and to be a source of information for those conducting research. The 106 INFD fought in the Battle of the Bulge, in the European Theater of Operations as part of VIII Corps, First Army, 12th Army Group.

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE 106TH INFANTRY DIVISION IN WWII

Activated: Mar. 15, 1943 at Ft. Jackson —The last ID activated for WWII

Training at Fort Jackson: Mar. 1943 – Jan. 1944



Tennessee Maneuvers: Jan. to Mar. 1944

Training at Camp Atterbury: Mar. 1944 to Oct. 1944

Overseas: Nov. 10, 1944

Major Operations: Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace, Central Europe

Days of combat: 63

Distinguished Unit Citation: 1

Awards: DSC-6; DSM-1; SS-77; LM-9; SM-26; BSM-352; AM-10

Commanders: Maj. Gen. Alan W. Jones (Mar 1943 to Dec. 1944);

Brig. Gen. Herbert T. Perrin (Dec. 1944 to Feb. 1945);

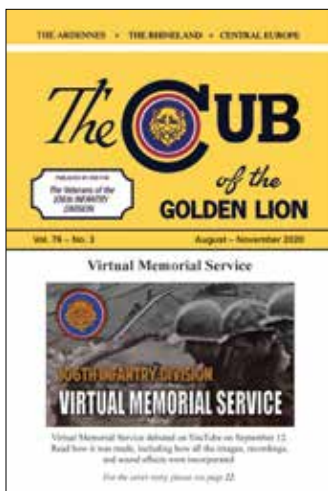
Maj. Gen. Donald A. Stroh (Feb. 1945 to Aug. 1945);

Brig. Gen. Francis Woolfley (Aug. 1945 to inactivation).

Returned to US: Oct. 1, 1945

Inactivated: Oct. 2, 1945

Training was conducted at Ft. Jackson, SC, Camp Atterbury, Indiana, and maneuvers were held in Tennessee. In October and November 1944, the division was transported overseas on three British steamers: the *Queen Mary*, the *Aquitania*, and the *Wakefield*, landing in Greenock, Scotland, and Liverpool, England. Assembled briefly in the English Midlands, the 106th moved from England to France on 1-2 December, and then by train and motor to East Belgium, where they were to take over a quiet sector held by the 2 INFD, which was about to move north. They replaced the 2 INFD on 12 December.



The Division front, oriented from northeast to southwest, started with the 14th Cavalry Group, then the 422nd Infantry at the West Wall near the Schnee Eiffel Ridge, passing to the east of Saint Vith, then manned by the 423rd Infantry, and finally the 424th Infantry down to the area of Grosslangenfeld. The 106th Division sector, was stretched over 22 miles of terrain — about three times the front normally covered by a division.

Early in the morning of 16 December, the massive German counter-offensive started, centered on the 106th front, with a murderous hail of artillery fire. By later in the day, a wedge had been driven between the 423rd Infantry and the attached 14th Cav. Grp. Early on the morning of 17 December, a wedge was driven further south between the 423rd and 424th. This allowed the Germans to use a pincher movement to eventually surround and isolate the 422nd and 423rd Infantry. Now, cutoff from reinforcements, virtually out of ammunition, with no food or water, the Germans continued to squeeze the defenders with little resistance. The 424th and 423rd commanders decided that in order to save as many lives as possible, they would surrender the units. Around 7,000 men were marched off and eventually taken to P.O.W. camps.

The 424th, which occupied better defensive terrain, was able to withdraw across the Our river and join in the defense of St. Vith. While many accounts mention the fighting at Bastogne, they neglect the critical importance of the hub of railroads and highways centered in St.

Vith. By denying the German's access to those resources, the American forces forced the Germans to expend two vital resources: fuel and time. In the end, the delaying actions caused a loss of momentum, thus allowing for reinforcements, and ultimately resulted in the failure of the German plan.

* * *

TO LEARN MORE: Visit their website at www.106thinfdivassn.org and visit the largest collection of 106th information at Jim West's website at www.indianamilitary.org/106ID/SoThinkMenu/106thSTART.htm. Here you will find a large collection of photos, over 300 personal accounts, newsletters, historical archives, and other resources.

JOIN THE 106TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

by contacting Jackie Coy at membership@106thinfdivassn.org

106 INF D 2020 VIRTUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE:

<https://youtu.be/6S4Ke-Tfitg>

"Lasting friendships do not always depend upon long periods of comradeship. The sacrifices, trials and sufferings in the white hot crucible of the Bulge created friendships which will last as long as two men of the Division still survive."

—The CUB, Vol 3, No. 1, August 1946



(Top photos, from left:) 106 INF D veterans in the BOBA family include: Alvin Sussman, Herb Sheaner, and John Schaffner. (Bottom:) 106th Vets at reunion in Providence, RI, Sep. 2019: Russ Lang, Everett Howland, Herb Sheaner, Bradford Holmes, Bob Pope, Harry Martin, Richard Idstein, and William Busier.

BULGE MEMORIES

BOBA has been collecting memories and photos from veterans who were there so many years ago. If you are a veteran member and have not been featured in our magazine before, we want to hear from you!



J. David Bailey 106 INFD 422 REG F



It is important to note that we stopped the Germans gaining the Belgian port of Antwerp, and garnering a truce with the Allies. Not only did the battle turn the tide of German aggression in that region, but the almost six-week battle depleted German forces and allowed Russia to mount an offensive against Germany in Poland earlier than planned.

David lives in Alexandria, VA and is 99 years old.

Excerpts from David Bailey's accounts (read more on battleofthebulge.org > Search "David Bailey" in the search window). On VE Day, May 8th (Victory in Europe) David and some of his 106th comrades appeared on the cover page of the Army newspaper The Stars and Stripes celebrating the end of the war in the European Theatre of Operation.



Harold Grant Stoops 80 INFD 317 REG C

Like many soldiers, my father, Private First Class Harold Stoops, cherished his Combat Infantry Badge. He talked about having to use his bayonet several times to free himself from ice in his foxhole and everything being frozen. My father claimed he, as most, were not issued proper winter gear and as his unit turned north on the march to Bastogne with Patton, many suffered greatly. After the Battle of the Bulge, Father was admitted with severe frostbite that affected him the remainder of his life.

After his release from care for frostbite, he was wounded in Luxembourg and returned to the hospital. He was in a train station in Antwerp, Belgium, on his way to the docks to board the *USS Ward Hunt* for the return home to Michigantown, IN when he heard on a radio that his Commanding Officer (Patton) had passed away. He cried upon hearing the news. We did not talk much about his service in WWII. I think mainly because it was still painful memories, and my age. My father returned to the USA at Boston Harbor on Christmas Eve 1945. He earned the following medals: Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Good Conduct, European Theatre with 4 stars.



My unit landed at Le Havre, France on December 6th 1944. Our division was trucked straight to the front east of St. Vith, Belgium, relieving the 2nd Infantry Division in the Schnee Eifel sector of Belgium — a snow covered ridge of the Ardennes Forest which covered a 27-mile front that bordered Germany and was just northeast of Luxembourg.

Although the Germans had launched their initial 1940 blitzkrieg attack on France through the Ardennes, faulty Allied intelligence indicated the Germans would not be capable of launching a winter offensive in 1944. The Ardennes region was now considered a quiet sector by the Allies, suitable for training units newly arrived at the front.

Needless to say and against all odds, in the early morning of December 16th, the Germans launched a surprise attack outnumbered our troops by a "factor of five" in terms of armor and manpower. Our division had only five days of front-line experience and tragically we had no air coverage due to the dense fog, and we could not connect to our supply lines.

This was the beginning of the largest and bloodiest battle of WWII where there were 81,000 American casualties and 19,000 killed. The 106th Division's 422nd and 423rd Regiments were encircled and cut off from the remainder of the Division by a junction of enemy forces in the vicinity of Schonberg. The regiments regrouped for a counterattack but were blocked by the enemy and separated from the 106th on December 18. The two regiments surrendered to the Germans on the following day.

Innumerable numbers were killed in action and many were captured and marched to Prisoner of War camps. Indeed, this was the largest mass-surrender of US troops in Europe during World War II. Those of us who were able to escape eventually reached the forward and/or rear echelon of the 106th for reassignment.

Hard hit in its initial engagement, the 106th came back with a strong offensive in January and participated successfully in the remainder of the Ardennes campaign.

—Submitted by his son Rex Stoops, BOBA Member

★
Harold W. Kimmel
212 QM LAUNDRY PLATOON

The 130th General Hospital was located at a former Catholic seminary, Mont De La Salle, just outside the town of Ciney, Belgium. The hospital was a medical unit whose specialty was the treatment of “combat exhaustion” or “shell shock” as they said in World War I. We set up in a building that, before we got there, had been used by the Germans for a hospital. We arrived and set up immediately 16 October. There was a small State (government run) laundry at the hospital. We operated that facility together with our three British type laundry trailers which we had picked up in England. We also took over a small State laundry in Ciney. It was owned by a Belgique collaborator of the Germans and it was not in operation. We set up our trailers there and washed all hospital linens and nurses’ clothes. We improvised our own working system and it proved very satisfactory.

On December 19th or so, the hospital was almost overwhelmed by casualties and had to call in surgical teams from the 12th Field Hospital and also the 3rd Auxiliary Surgical Group to help. Within 24 hours we had over 600 admissions and by December 22nd we were averaging 600 a day. Patrols of enemy tanks and infantry were seen about three miles from our installation. Heavy gunfire was heard east and south of us.

During the big counter attack by the Germans (Battle of the Bulge) two of their main objectives were Namur and the Meuse River, our post being in direct line for both. We were forced to evacuate the hospital the night before Christmas but not before we had taken care of some 7,000 wounded soldiers coming direct from the front, then only a few miles from our post. During that time, we still performed our mission and at night we helped in the hospital as litter bearers. We saw sights there and heard stories that will ever remain with us. There were sixty German tanks advancing directly toward Ciney, thirty from one direction and thirty from another. They were supposed to regroup there and then go on into Namur but were unsuccessful.

During the Battle of the Bulge, we were 500 yards in front of the



Battalion Aid Station. There was only one road then for us to escape being captured by the enemy and perhaps a second Malmedy. December 17th at Malmedy, Belgium, during the Battle of the Bulge, Germans lined up prisoners and shot them. Only a few escaped. My hospital unit was the next in line for the Germans to take, but they ran out of gas. When we left, we could hear small arms fire, and the heavy guns shook the buildings. After we came back, we picked up several unexploded 88 shells.

When we evacuated, we went to Charleroi, Belgium. We stayed in a schoolhouse and were bothered often by air raids there. About two blocks from the school where we stayed, a bridge was knocked out by enemy air activity. We stayed there just seven days and then went back to Ciney to begin operating once again. The enemy was still only about 6 miles away but their offense had turned into a defense, and they were being pushed back all the time. In leaving on Christmas Eve we partly destroyed the trailers so when returning, it took us about four weeks to get them in good running condition. From then until the end of the war things ran smoothly.

Harold was from Pennsylvania where he spent his final years. From his 50s through his 80s, he and his wife spent over 30 years in Christian ministry in the Appalachian mountains in Kentucky.

*—Submitted by his daughter
Sandra Kimmel*

This is part of Corporal Kimmel's dictation and a letter. Sandra noted that most accounts re: the Bulge

cover only combat units, and they should properly be honored. But for historical reasons, it is noted that non-combat units played a role during the Bulge as well — Signal, Ordinance, Quartermaster, etc. They are generally unheralded. Her father was in danger many times before and during the Bulge. He supported the front line soldiers through his duties in 212th Quartermaster Laundry Platoon as part of the 130th General Hospital in Europe. Battle Stars Earned: Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes, Battle of the Bulge.

★ Raymond Wenning 30 INFD 117 REG A

One night, Dec. 17th, a convoy of army trucks came to pick us up. The orders came out that we were to load up on the Red Ball Express and ship out. We were given three D-bars each. This should have told us that we would not be getting food for some time. We were not told where we would be going, and until after I got back from the lines, I had no idea what country I was in, let alone what town. It took me fifty years to trace my tracks through the area I had covered.



We started out about nine in the evening and drove until about midnight. We were met by German fighter planes, and traveled near Eupen, to Hauset, to Malmedy then Stavelot, Belgium. The first thing we knew they dropped a couple flares in the sky. They seemed to hang there like a lot of shining street lights. Then they buzzed our convoy. The GIs on the truck next to the fifty-caliber machine guns would shoot at them as they flew in right over us. I happened to be in the third truck in the front of the convoy. This was all right until they got company upstairs and several fighter planes came screaming down at us with their guns blazing. It was the most chilling experience you can ever have. Our truck unloaded in two seconds or less. We didn't crawl over the side of the trucks. We hit the side and fell over to get the H out of their path. We had a black driver on our truck who was the only black man I had seen in the forty-one days I spent in the Battle of the Bulge. Those drivers just jumped out of their trucks while they were driving, and the trucks banged together like a freight train. We lay on the ground out from the gravel road and the German fighter planes kept coming back and giving us the works. The longer it lasted the farther back we got away from the road. Sometimes they didn't fly too straight and those shells sounded like hail coming at us. We could never figure out which way to lie on the ground, long ways facing them, or cross ways. I finally thought if I was to get hit it would not matter.

After the fighters got their pieces in us, then came the bombers. Those bombs would go off and pick me up and just drop me. This made me get even farther from the road. This bombing went on for an hour or more. It seemed like forever. Finally it got quiet and we went back to the road. It was night and it was dark, and we could not find our convoy. We figured the convoy turned and went back. So the three of us decided to get back from the road and take cover. When we took off from Aachen, we were told nothing about what was to happen so we didn't know where we were to go. It took me fifty years to track back and know where I was at that time. Not only did we not know what was happening, but there were no names on these towns, not even the country we were in. I think we were between Malmedy, Francorchamps, and Stavelot. Capt. John Kent and Lieut. Murray were our officers. We stumbled on to a farmstead in the forest fairly close to the road. I told the guys we would try to get into this farmstead if possible, for

it was very cold and the snow was about a foot deep. We got into the house/barn combination. From the house I could smell the cows, and I checked around to see what was in the area. Opening the door I saw a lot of cows in the dark. We tried to rest on the cobblestone floor. Those stones were cold! We didn't try to sleep, but just kept looking out the window and trying to find out what was going on. When it got light the next morning something was very obvious, for all I could see were German SS soldiers going over the

road we had been on. They were going the way we came from. We were about one hundred feet from the road. We thought that the rest of our company had been captured, for the Germans were driving our trucks and had a lot of American equipment with them. There were three of us, one who was a Medic who never carried a rifle, but was a prince of a guy from Jersey. The other soldier lost his rifle in the bombing. I had a Browning automatic rifle, with a full belt of ammo and two hand grenades. These guys looked at me for protection, and asked what they could do. I said just keep inside and don't get exposed, for if you do we're dead meat. We were in this place several days, which later I learned was Hauset, Belgium.

My Dad got a "missing in action" report on this. I was actually "missing in action" for ten days. I never knew my dad got this message. Being lost was right, for I didn't know where I was. There was no radio, no news, no signs, no native people to talk to or understand, no signs left on buildings. Everything was either run over or shot up. All I had to eat was three D-bars, which were like chocolate bars. I would take two bites a day from those bars, and of course there was always the snow to drink. I don't remember ever being hungry. I guess it takes longer to starve to death than being shot to death. We saw the German paratroopers land right in front of this house. I can still see them get out of their chutes, get their gear together with their burp gun and take off. I was told this was their last jump in the war. There were about 100 planes dropping those paratroopers, including Nazi Colonel Joachim Peiper's Crack Force of 6,000 SS troops. They were responsible for massacring the 400 people near Malmedy, Belgium. If they had known we were in this house they would have blown it to pieces. I'm sure the owner of that house was somewhere around, but he never bothered us and I guess he kept his cover from the Krauts (Germans).

After some time in this German house, I didn't see any movement on this road. I told the medic (he was the only guy I could talk to for the other GI was too afraid to even speak) that if the road was clear the next day we would venture out and try to find some Americans. We waited 'til about noon the next day, and up to that time I had not seen any movement on this gravel road. Of course there were a lot of trees and you could only see a short distance. We took off for the road. When we got to it we tried to figure out what direction to take. It was cloudy

weather all the time, so we had no sense of direction. The medic finally said to me, "Ray, we are with you. You go where you think is best." "OK," I told them. "Let's go to the right, for the Krauts (Germans) all went to the left and I'm not trying to catch up with them." We took off.

After only a half mile, I spotted a German SS trooper coming at us. Our cover had been blown now, so we stopped and talked this over. At this time I told the guys I would never be a prisoner and I would shoot it out. They never answered, so I said let's keep on going and we will see what happens. We were about a third of a mile apart at this time. This SS trooper had his burp gun slung on his shoulders and kept coming to us. Finally I said this guy is going to give up since he didn't try to get cover and get away. This is exactly what he did. When he got close to us, about two feet from me, he said, "Comrade, Comrade," and put his hands up begging for his life. He wanted to give up and be a prisoner. I told the other guys I couldn't take a prisoner, for we were lost and I didn't want a German prisoner with me. So they asked me what I was going to do with him. I said just let him go for he would not shoot us. They said, "Aren't you going to take his burp gun?" I said no, he wouldn't shoot us, and I told the German to move out. I had to tell him this in my broken German several times, and he insisted that I take his burp gun. As he walked off he kept walking sideways and I realized later that he was thinking I was going to shoot him in the back. Anyway he went his way and we went our way. He is probably still wondering



Truck convoy into the Bulge on Dec. 17, 1944. Wenning says he was transported to the Bulge at nighttime in these trucks.

why I didn't take his gun or shoot him. This German soldier was with the German First SS Division.....

We went another three quarters of a mile and I spotted a soldier in the distance. We took cover as I kept watching the area for a long time. Finally the soldier's helmet was exposed to the sky, and I could make out that he was an American. We finally got to this GI, who was a front-line MP directing traffic.....

Ray is 98 years old and lives in Coldwater, Ohio. Excerpts from Ray's accounts.



Douglas Harvey **84 INFD 334 REG 1 BN HQ**

I still don't know what our mission was during the attack on Verdenne. We were an antitank unit. As usual the rifle platoon leader was not told of our presence. I felt at the time that the German Troops did not expect any action on Christmas and were possibly partying. A lot of prisoners were taken during the 25th and we helped in searching and guarding them. By midday our trucks brought up our 57-mm anti-tank guns and the trucks were used to transport prisoners to Bourdon. The road from Verdenne to Bourdon passed near the woods occupied by the Germans, the so-called Verdenne pocket. Each time we drove the road we were fired on by automatic weapons. The trips were made after dark and no one was hit....

.....Our support tanks (Shermans) refused to go southeast down the street to engage the German tank, a Mark IV. Several from the antitank platoon, myself included, volunteered to push our 57mm gun down the street and fire on the tank. We moved our gun around 100 yards to a point where the tank was in sight in the open field to the south. For some reason it had stopped, perhaps it was out of fuel or had mechanical problems. We set the gun trails on the hard surface street and aimed the gun. Several looked through the telescopic sight. I found a stick to fire the shell as without the trails dug in the gun jumps back several feet from the recoil. A 57mm antitank gun is



usually fired from a kneeling position. Elevation is by a crank screw and direction from a shoulder frame. Sergeant Cable was about to fire the gun kneeling as I approached with the stick shouting to get back, don't fire it that way it will back over you. I think then he realized what would happen and moved clear. I hit the firing pad with the stick and the gun jumped at least six feet back from the recoil. Immediately, the view of the tank was obscured by a dust cloud from the muzzle blast. One of the riflemen watching from across the street shouted, "You hit it, you hit it!" Several more

shots were registered on the tank from our gun. Then one of our Shermans came roaring down the street fired a round as it came to a stop and then backed rapidly up the street. It was the tank that refused to engage the German tank earlier. I'm sure it reported that it knocked out the tank.

Doug lives in Michigan and is 97 years old.

Excerpts from Douglas Harvey's accounts. Doug and his crew all received Bronze Star awards for hitting the tank. The citation read as follows: "For meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy in Belgium, December 26, 1944. As a member of a gun crew occupying a position from which effective fire could not be placed on an enemy tank which was firing on friendly forces, Private First Class Harvey, completely disregarding his own safety, in full view of the enemy and under direct fire, together with four other soldiers, moved an anti-tank gun by hand a distance of approximately 50 yards and from this new position delivered fire which destroyed the enemy tank. The dauntless, daring action, disdain for danger and exemplary conduct displayed by Private First Class Harvey enabled his unit to continue its advance and reflect the highest credit upon himself and the service of the United States."

Read more on battleofthebulge.org > Search "Harvey" in the search window.

BULGE MEMORIES



Thomas E. Hoke 87 INFD 312 MED BN C



SSG Tom Hoke has lived his entire life except for his WWII military service in Emmitsburg, MD. Towards the end of Winter '42-'43, Tom was walking in town with a friend when he was asked, "What are you doing here? Why aren't you in the Army?" The next day, February 12, 1943, he enlisted.

Tom's unit was caught up in the Third Army's Battle of the Bulge, the 87th Division raced off into Belgium — attacking a Panzer Division near Bastogne at the towns of Pironpre, Moiricy, Bonnerue, and Tillet. Here, Tom remembers he marched alongside Patton's tanks during this famous battle.

His most vivid memory of the war was his involvement with the liberation of the Buchenwald concentration camp. On 12 April, 1945, US forces entered Buchenwald. As a combat medic, Tom's unit was attached with soldiers of the 6th Armored Division. He remembers every detail of what he witnessed when he and others entered the camp and began freeing those held in the camp. Five years ago he went to the Holocaust Museum in DC and confirms its accuracy.

Tom is 97 and lives in Maryland.

His awards include: Good Conduct Medal, American Campaign Medal, WWII Victory Medal and the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal. His unit was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation for performance in a combat theater.



—Submitted by John Stickel, BOBA Member

THANK YOU FOR THE DONATIONS!

We are so grateful for these generous donors, whose gifts were received between April 1 - July 31, 2021:

Anonymous
David Bailey*
Marvin Bargar*
Karen Bennett
BOBA Lehigh Valley Chapter
Joseph M Chekan
Robert L. Croye
*In Honor of Member Tom Tomastik
(Chapter #68)*
Virgil Davis
Irving Felker*
Don Fox
Gene Gallagher
*In Memory of George W. McGee
USAF 61-65*
John H Gilbert MD
Thomas H. Goodrich
Cheryl Gordon
LTC (RET) John G. Greene
Scott Guptill
*In Memory of Jack Stitzinger 87 INFD
346 REG 2 BN H*
Pascal Hainaut
*In Memory of men of the 87 INFD:
John McAuliffe, Warren Batchelder,
Howard G. Teel (KIA Belgium) and
Mike Petrick*
Mr. & Mrs. David Hartzell
*In Honor of Frank C. Hartzell
11 ARMDD 21 AIB B*
*Denotes Bulge Veteran Member

Norma M Hinchy
Wreath Fund
Laura Jacobson
In Memory of Richard F. Van Arsdale 75 Div
William Jannace
*28 INFD VBOB Monument —
In Memory of Anthony Jannace*
Jeffrey Krachun
Nancy Landis
Carolyn Mamach
Donald Mayes
Andre Meurisse
Linda Miller
In Memory of Dr: Lee Rook
Barbara Mooneyhan
In Memory of Tom Ingram
Freddie & Larry Mullins
*In Memory of Elmer O. Mullins
583 AMB DIV*
Andrew Negra
Lois B Phillips
*In Memory of C.J. Phillips
84 INFD 309 CMBT ENG*
George Rentz*
*In Memory of SSGT Ward A. Goodrich
123 ORD AM MO CO 7th Army*
John R Rieker*
Edwin Root
In Memory of Edwin A. Root
Jacob Ruser*

Steve Savage
*In Memory of Willard "Bud" Fluck
84 INFD 333 REG 2 BN HQ AT*
Douglas Schreurs
*In Memory of Robert Schustef
82 AIR 505 REG*
John Sito
Ann Slusser
In Memory of Hamet L. Piercy
Stan Smith
*In Memory of George Smith
10 ARMDD 420 AFA*
Frank Steinberg*
Dean Stewart
In Memory of Dr. James Hunt
Townebank Richmond Foundation
*Matching Gift In Honor and In Memory of
Va. Crater Chapter Veterans*
Larry Watson
In Memory of Robert C. Watson 423 AFA
Diane Williams
Elaine Winters

Several members made donations In Memory of John Bowen, BOBA Historian:

Charlotte Cunningham
Michael Delaughter
Kate Diday
Susan Diday
Barbara Mooneyhan



Congressman Ken Buck pinning the medals on Art Brodin (also present is Command Sergeant Major Bill Woods).

BRODIN RECEIVES HIS MEDALS 75 YEARS LATER

A few days after D-Day, Private First Class Arthur L Brodin found himself in a plywood glider in the dark of night and braced for a crash landing. He was the medic aboard the glider full of a company of engineers with orders to either guard or blast a bridge southwest of Normandy, France, depending on whether friends or foes were coming at the bridge. The glider crash landed in the forest in the dead of night. Not all survived. He was lucky.

Soon he re-joined his outfit — the Medical Attachment of the 549th Anti-Aircraft Automatic Weapons Battalion, 87th Infantry Division (“Golden Acorn Division”) and their next destination was Metz, France. As part of Patton’s Third Army, the 87th progressed to the Saar Valley and then to Bastogne where he fought in the Battle of the Bulge. Then to Aachen, Koblenz, Mainz, across the Rhine to Falkenstein (near the Czech border). Just 3 weeks prior to Falkenstein, Art’s unit was one of the divisions that liberated Buchenwald on April 11 — something he will never forget.

The date was May 7, 1945. Art was in Falkenstein, Germany and his division had taken Falkenstein on May 6. He heard the news — Germany had finally surrendered! He was in Falkenstein when the Germans began retreating. There was lots of celebration in the unit and Art wondered, “What’s going to happen to us now?”

Art often thought of home — a place he missed dearly. He missed the family farm — he missed his dad, brother, and sister. So many times, he wondered if he’d ever see them again. So many close calls over a period of 11 months. On that day, May 7, he felt like he WOULD be seeing everyone again — but when? He would have to wait, but one thing he knew — no more fighting. Everyone could put down their arms.

When he arrived home, his thoughts were on resuming life as normally as possible. Like so many others, he wanted to put the war behind him as much as possible. The furthest thing from his mind were medals. He learned that he should have applied for his medals but by the time he learned about that, he thought it was too late. He resumed his life on the farm, married his wife Luella (of 68 years) and raised a family of 3 children: Phillip, Brenda and Bob.

About a year ago, his son and daughter-in-law learned that it would be possible for Art to get the medals that he deserved. His family followed up and contacted their local Congressman Ken Buck who contacted the Army to obtain the medals. PFC Arthur Brodin received his well-deserved medals on September 26, 2020 (over 75 years after the war ended). His family couldn’t have been more proud of their father, grandfather and great grandfather — their Hero.

—Submitted by Arthur’s son Bob Brodin

SALUTING OUR HEROES



The Army’s National Museum was honored to host 97-year-old **Tom Hoke (87 INFD 312 MED BN C)** and his family for a private tour on May 4, 2021.



William Werckman (99 INFD) celebrated his 99th birthday on April 13th at his home in Fort Myers, Florida with family and friends. Members Wanda and Butch Stump presented Bill with a challenge coin picturing him. Wanda created the coin to be used for a fundraiser to assist with taking veterans back to their battlefields in Europe.



MISSISSIPPI CHAPTER (33)

Mississippi Chapter President Dr. James Hunt (1 INFD 18 REG K) passed away May 20, 2021. He served courageously during WWII, where as a veteran of the Battle of the Bulge, he was awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. Under Jim's leadership, Mississippi was the first BOBA chapter to offer scholarships. He spearheaded the program, which awarded \$1,000 scholarships to over a dozen deserving students.

—Submitted by Dr. Hunt's stepson Dean Stewart

VIRGINIA CRATER CHAPTER (43)



In August, Crater Chapter member John Payne hosted a lunch at his home in honor of Bulge veteran Ron Kimler (9 AF). Pictured from left to right, BOBA members and guests were: John C Wood, Rick Rohas, Scott Rayl, Tom Tokaz, Ken Roberson, John Payne. Seated and kneeling, Ron Kimler and Mary Ann Coates Smith, Chapter President. Rick, Scott, Tom, and Ken are veterans. Thank you for your service!

Photo: Cindy Roberson (Va Crater Chapter)

**PA LEHIGH VALLEY CHAPTER (55)
BATTLE OF THE BULGE
VETERANS AND THE
READING WWII AIRSHOW**

In June 2021, many World War II veterans, as well as local Battle of the Bulge veterans, were honored as special guests at the recent Mid-Atlantic Air Museum's "A Gathering of Warbirds" in Reading, PA. Thousands of members of the general public had the chance to see great airshows, with aircraft from P-51 Mustangs to one of the few B-29s still flying, dozen of groups of superb re-enactors, and meet many WWII veterans heroes and hear their stories.

Local BOBA members Robert Gibson (1st Army), Thomas Hoke (3rd Army Medic), John Fleming (2nd Army), Herbert Ridyard (3rd Army), and Clarence Smoyer (3rd ARMDD) were among the many veterans who attended the 3-day event. Even 99-year-old "Rosie the Riveter" Dorothy Trate enjoyed the event and showing her muscles. All veterans are looking forward to attending the show again next year.

Lehigh Valley Chapter #55 members are all anxious to meet again soon for fellowship, and to continue to tell their stories of their time during World War II. To learn more about Chapter 55, search "Lehigh Valley Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge" on Facebook.

—Submitted by Steve Savage, Chapter 55 President/Treasurer

Chapter 55 members, including Herbert Ridyard, 94 INFD veteran, and Sharon Schell, whose father also served in the 94 INFD, attended the WWII airshow "A Gathering of Warbirds," hosted by the Mid-Atlantic Air Museum, in Reading, PA this June.



BOBA Member Clarence Smoyer (wearing white shirt), 3 ARMDD, was photographed at the airshow with a tank re-enactors unit.



L to R: Maj. Gen. (ret.) Wesley Craig, former Commander of the 28 INFD; Jacob Ruser (4 INFD), highly-decorated Combat Medic who landed at Normandy and went through France to the Hurtgen Forest, Battle of the Bulge and into Germany; LTG (ret.) Roger Schultz, President of the

Army Historical Foundation and Museum founder. They are standing in front of a Higgins Boat Landing Craft that was known to have been used at Utah Beach on D-Day by the 4th Division. This means that Jacob Ruser may have actually been in that very landing craft on D-Day!

PA DELAWARE VALLEY CHAPTER (4)

Our Chapter has been very busy this summer! On Memorial Day weekend, several Chapter members attended services at the old Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) at Laurel Hill Cemetery and at Christ Church Burial Ground in Philadelphia, the most historic Cemetery in the nation!

In June, Chapter veterans Jake Ruser (4 INFD) and Ben Berry (88 QM BN) received the Ordre de Mérite du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg (The Order of Merit of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg) at the Embassy in DC.

Also in June, the Chapter visited the new Army Museum at Fort Belvoir, several monuments in Washington, DC, and were escorted around the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by Lt. Gen. Roger Schultz, president of the Army Historical Foundation. It was the 100th anniversary of the Tomb. Several members of the group were permitted to go under the Rotunda as well. Those present on the trip included Jake Ruser, Albert El, Andy Waskie, Frank Brodski, Major General Wesley E. Craig, Jr. and Louis A. Cavaliere, retired Navy Captain and Chairman of the Chapel of the Four Chaplains.

—Submitted by Andy Waskie, Chapter 4 President

PA Delaware Valley Chapter meets in person on the last Wednesday of each month in the Chapel of the 4 Chaplains at the Philadelphia Navy Yard. For information, contact Chapter President Andy Waskie at awaski01@gmail.com.



On behalf of the government of Luxembourg, (left) Ambassador Gaston Stronck had the honor to bestow the Ordre de Mérite du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg (The Order of Merit of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg) to (center) Jake Ruser (4 INFD 12 REG 2 BN MED) and (right) Ben Berry (78 QM BN) for service in Luxembourg during WWII at the Embassy of Luxembourg in Washington D.C. in June.



VETERAN MEMBER VIDEO INTERVIEWS

**Watch our veterans' videos on our website at:
www.battleofthebulge.org, then click on "Video"**

SOUTH CAROLINA CHAPTER (7) WHAT'S A "LIZARD'S THICKET"?

Before I explain the title, I would like to tell everyone that the SC Chapter #7 held its first meeting since December 2019 on June 12, 2021. Goodbye COVID, hello to a time where we can gather as a group and enjoy some great fellowship!

So what is a Lizard's Thicket? It is the name of a family-owned Columbia area restaurant chain. This is where we held our June meeting because our normal meeting place, the NCO Club on Fort Jackson, is not open on weekends



Veteran Chapter member Leif Erik Maseng (17 ABND 507 PCHT) passed on July 1, 2021, a month shy of his 97th birthday. During WWII, he volunteered as a paratrooper for the 82nd Airborne Division and participated in major engagements from D-Day — parachuting behind the lines the night before the assault — to the Battle of the Bulge, where he was wounded.



(Front row, left to right:) Joe Watson, Tom Ethridge, David Hubbard, (back row, left to right:) Gerald White, and Vern Brantley at the recent South Carolina Chapter meeting.

due to COVID. Fortunately, Lizard's was able to accommodate our 39 attendees!

We had our usual business meeting to discuss issues, especially the upcoming National Reunion in Charleston — which, by the way, we are very excited to be able to host. Our

National President, John Mohor, gave us an update on all the things that are taking place on that level. Normally after our business meeting and lunch we would have a speaker, but this time we decided not to have one and instead just fellowshiped with one another. Since we had not been together for a while, we went around the room and introduced ourselves and our visitors. We had special visitors Maddox Ashley, age 12 and his mom, Ann Marie. Maddox is a young history student, so he was introduced to all of our Bulge veterans and even had his picture taken with them.

After the photo session, we honored our Bulge veterans who had passed away since our last meeting, then played TAPS, had our closing benediction, and adjourned. I received many comments expressing how much everyone enjoyed the meeting and were looking forward to the next one. If nothing changes, we will probably have the next meeting at Lizard's Thicket. Now that you know what a Lizard's Thicket is, if you are ever in the Columbia area, you must try one.

—Submitted by SC Chapter President Doug Patterson

MO GATEWAY CHAPTER (25)

The Gateway Chapter participated in the Webster Groves, MO 4th of July Parade and won the Best Civic Entry! We were one of only eight that won awards out of 50 groups participating.

Our chapter meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except Dec) at 1 pm at Affton Elks Lodge #2635, 6330 Heege Road in St. Louis County, MO. If you are in town, feel free to stop in. We usually have one WWII vet present. Visit gatewayvbob.org and contact Dave Schroeder at (314) 961-7470 for more information.

—Submitted by Chapter 25 President Dave Schroeder



WE NEED YOUR CHAPTER NEWS!

Send articles and photos to: bulge.bugle@gmail.com [See page 3 for submission guidelines.]

NEXT ISSUE (FALL 2021) DEADLINE: OCTOBER 29, 2021

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

We are happy to welcome these new members who joined BOBA between April 1 - July 31, 2021:

Brita Adams	PA	Jeanne Maycroft	MI
Marshall Anderson	WA	Ed McLaughlin	PA
Arnold Blumberg	MD	Henry Meetze	PA
Jack Bornstein*	FL	Dee Ann Mezger	KS
Michael Claus	SC	John Pennington	WV
Joseph Del Vicario	NY	Stanton Pratt	PA
Linda Dieckmann	MO	Scott Rayl	VA
Robert Erickson	VA	Kayleen Reusser	IN
Justin Erickson	NC	Clarice Richards	SC
Arnold Goldman	CT	Jonathan Roder	CO
Elizabeth Gonzales	TX	Jeffrey Scull	IL
Frank Keelman	TX	J. Edward Smith	VA
Alexander Kershaw	GA	James E. Smith	VA
Zoltan Krompecher	SC	Robert E. Smith, Jr.	VA
Chris Lewis	GA	Thomas Taylor	VA
James MacElroy	PA	Kendall R. Walker	SC
Ellen Marchese	SC	Audra Yerian	VA

*Denotes Bulge Veteran Member

We certainly are pleased to have you with us, and look forward to your participation in helping to perpetuate the legacy of all who served in the epic battle. You can help immediately by:

- Talking to people about BOBA to sign up new members
- Promoting our website: www.battleofthebulge.org
- Sending us articles to be included in *The Bulge Bugle*®
- Attending our annual reunions and DC events

Special thanks to members who have recruited new members: William Jannace, Sandra Kimmel, Monte Roder, Mary Ann Smith

We Need Your Help!

In addition to membership subscriptions for our magazine, BOBA depends on generous donors to help fund general operations (ie. website, phone, member services, etc.)

The generosity of our donors helps us perpetuate the memory of the sacrifices involved during the Battle of the Bulge.

Donations can be made online to battleofthebulge.org > donate
OR mail a check to BOBA, PO BOX 330,
Mechanicsville, VA 23111.

All gifts are greatly appreciated!

★ NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT ★

Stories Behind The Stars

Welcome to Scott Rayl! Scott is an Army Veteran and ETO Special Project Director for Stories Behind the Stars (storiesbehindthestars.org). He is doing important work to ensure that every WWII fallen has a story, and is looking to network with our members across the nation. He submitted the following:



Scott took this selfie on a Huey during a retrograde operation in northern Afghanistan around 2012.

Only we know why we fight, but everyone has some sense of why we remember. This sense of remembrance is among the root causes for every military society, organization, and brotherhood. The Battle of the Bulge Association is no different.

Few can understand through description alone why someone dies during the fight, but we are the only ones that know why we fight. This knowledge of the few and the fallen is why I am writing. I am a member of the Battle of the Bulge Association and I am a representative of the Stories Behind the Stars. This is a digital memorialization and repatriation effort, with the goal of compiling the individual stories of each fallen service member from the tombs of WWII. We want to teach people that these “great stories” were made up of millions of allied troops, where hundreds of thousands of our countryman never got the opportunity to see the result of their sacrifice.

Nearly no one knows the names of these brave souls, and how they impacted the development of our country before war was even a possibility. We know why we fight, and so it is my deepest held belief that we should take a leading role in repatriating these memories and giving them new life. If anyone deserves to be heard right now, it is those that guaranteed our continued right to freedom. While we still have the privilege of this “Greatest Generation” among us, help me honor these patriots.

Find the personal healing that I have in the process of seeing these men returned. This may be the only means left to honor our promise to “leave no one behind.” It is obvious that many will never be returned in the physical sense and no one feels that more than those that stood beside them when they fell. I never had the ability to bring them home before now. Those people in my father’s and grandfather’s “stories.” People that made it a little easier for others to return, and are the reason so many lived, so free, for so long after the war.

At storiesbehindthestars.org you will see that we provide all the necessary access and training, and why we need you. Imagine every Battle of the Bulge fallen’s memory repatriated by December 16th, 2021. Come with me to the fields and the cemeteries where many of the fallen wait to be repatriated.

If you would like to provide information about a fallen soldier and/or connect with Scott to help gather and write more, please contact scott.rayl@storiesbehindthestars.org.



STOPPING THE GERMANS AND SAVING THE BEES

Modern-day photo of the area behind the church where bee hives have been kept for 70+ years in Grandmenil, Belgium.

by Dr. Edward E. Moore, SC Chapter

On December 23, 1944 outside of Grandmenil, Belgium, Vernon Brantley was ordered to help deliver land mines to the arriving 238 Engineer Battalion, in order to mine a field to stop the approaching German 2nd SS Panzer division. Brantley, a 20-year-old Kentucky farm boy, was a Pioneer and advanced Scout for the 75 INFD, 289th Regiment, Anti-tank Company, whose job was “to find the enemy and try to stop them.” Little did he know that he would be involved in one of the most unheralded battles of The Battle of the Bulge.

The little village of Grandmenil, located just a mile from Manhay, was an important road junction that lead north to Liege and west to Hotton. If the German army could get to those towns, then a northern attack would be possible and disastrous for the Allies.

With the help of the 75 INFD men, Brantley and the 238th engineers



hastily laid about 600 mines in the fields between Grandmenil — and Manhay, as the 3rd Amour and other elements evacuated Manhay. When Brantley was asked recently why so many mines were placed, he answered, “Because that was all we had!” The Panzers attacked on early Christmas morning, and although they were able to break through the defense at Grandmenil, five tanks were disabled in the mine fields and another two were destroyed by anti-tank fire. The remaining Panzers pushed on and were stopped by the 75 INFD at Tour de Loup, a winding road area outside of Granmenil. Later on the 25th and 26th the 75 INFD and 3 ARMDD were able to recapture Grandmenil after grueling combat.

A few days later among the rubble of the city, Brantley and another soldier noticed several overturned bee hives laying in a field. Brantley knew that the bees would not survive the cold and snow, so he and his friend uprighted the bee hives in a nearby field, hoping they would survive.

Fast-forward some 70 years. Brantley was contacted by Bob Konings, a BOB researcher who lives in Grandmenil. In his conversations with Konings, Brantley was curious as to fate of the bees. Konings eventually was able to find a longtime resident of the village, who stated that the village had bees hives for years after the war — they had survived! The bee hives were located behind the church, right near Konings’ house.

Brantley had stopped the Germans *and* saved the village bees! Although seriously wounded about a week later, Brantley recovered and rejoined his outfit as they crossed the Rhine later in the war. At 97 years old, he continues an active life in Columbia, S.C., growing the best homegrown tomatoes in town.

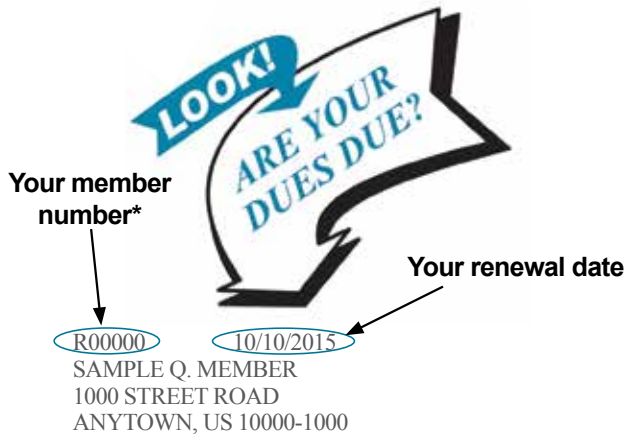
More information about the battle of Grandmenil and the mine field can be found at www.grandmenil.com.



Vernon Brantley (75 INFD, 289 REG, ANTI-TANK CO), Then and Now

WHEN ARE MY DUES DUE?

Look at the back cover address label:



***PLEASE NOTE:** If your member number starts with the letter "L," you are a LIFE MEMBER, and therefore you do not owe any more dues. However, please consider an annual donation to help support our good cause!

VETERANS MEMBERS: SUBMIT YOUR BULGE MEMORY!



If you are a veteran who participated in this historic battle, **please share a photo, a memory, and/or thoughts** about the impact it has had. It can be a few sentences or short paragraph with a picture. We will

continue to share Bulge Memories in future issues of *The Bulge Bugle*®.

Email (preferred) your responses to bulge.bugle@gmail.com or mail to: BOBA Inc., P.O. Box 330, Mechanicsville, VA 23111-0330.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Battle of the Bulge Association®, Inc.
P.O. Box 330
Mechanicsville, VA 23111-0330

YOU CAN JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE:
www.battleofthebulge.org
Click on "Join BOBA/Renew"

Veteran membership is for those who have received the Ardennes campaign credit. **Membership** is for relatives, historians or others with an interest in preserving the memory of the Battle of the Bulge. Both have the same rights and privileges. **NOTE: Memberships are \$20 per year.**

Yearly Membership: \$20 x _____ years = \$ _____ Donation: \$ _____ **Sign up a friend! Memberships are a great gift!**

Name _____ DOB _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

If applying as a Veteran member (you are a Battle of the Bulge vet), please provide the following information about yourself:

Campaigns _____

Unit(s) to which assigned during the period 16 Dec 1944 to 25 Jan 1945: Division _____

Regiment _____ Battalion _____

Company _____ Other _____

If applying as an Member, please provide the following information about yourself:

Relationship to the Bulge Veteran (if any) _____ Historian Other
(wife, son, daughter, niece, etc. or N/A)

The Bulge Vet's Name and Units _____

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

Please make check or money order payable to BOBA, Inc. Mail with form to above address. Questions? 703-528-4058



**Battle of the Bulge
Association®**, Inc.
P.O. Box 330
Mechanicsville, VA 23111-0330



NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
19464
Permit #129

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

SUMMER 2021

BOBA Reunion ★ October 2021
CHARLESTON,
SOUTH CAROLINA
Read more on pages 8-9.



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

As with all non-profit organizations, BOBA depends on the generosity of our donors to help support our mission. Please consider a donation to help sustain our mission of perpetuating the memory of the sacrifices made by those who fought in the Battle of the Bulge. You can also use the membership form on the inside cover if you have an address update or want to include a gift subscription to our magazine. All donations are tax deductible and are listed in *The Bulge Bugle*®. Battle of the Bulge Association®, Inc. is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Donations can be made online at www.battleofthebulge.org > donate OR complete the form below and include a check made payable to: Battle of the Bulge Association®, PO Box 330, Mechanicsville, VA, 23111.

Donation Amount: \$25 \$50 \$100 OTHER Your Name: _____

If desired, please choose: Gift In Memory of: _____
Name Service Units (if applicable)

Gift In Honor of: _____
Name Service Units (if applicable)

ALL GIFTS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED!