

Fifteenth Infantry Regiment



15th Infantry Regiment Association Newsletter

July 2000

Remembering the Rendezvous



Above: American fighting men and a lady



CPT Ring, LTC Pricone and CPT Grainger at the HHC Change of Command



Above: CPT Ruth reenlisting SGT Wood, SGT Overstreet and SGT Thomas
Left: LTC Pricone at the St. Maurice presentation to John Burke

The Dragon

Officers

The Dragon is the quarterly publication of the 15th Infantry Regiment Association. It is published in January, April, July and October. Neither its editorial nor articles content carry official endorsement of the Association.

John Burke.....President
Michael J. Horn.....Editor
Richard R. Guimond.....Treasurer

Objectives of the Association

- To perpetuate and foster the history and traditions of the Regiment.
- To provide opportunities for uniting past and present members of the Regiment into a close and cooperative alliance.
- To promote morale and high esprit de corps among members of the Regiment.
- To acquire and maintain a repository of regimental historical memorabilia.
- To assist in the maintenance of monuments dedicated to the units of the 15th Infantry Regiment.

Send dues and new addresses to:

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Annual dues \$10 for regular members and \$5 for active duty members, due October 1 each year.

Life membership: To age 60 = \$150; Age 61-69 = \$120; Age 70-79 = \$100; Age 80 and above = \$50.

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1st Battalion News

by LTC Bob Pricone

CAN DO!! Thanks to all those who participated in the CAN DO RENDEVOUS 2000. It was a great event, and our soldiers truly enjoyed the opportunity to spend time with the veterans of the Regiment. As I write this article we are about eight hours out from deploying our Immediate Ready Company to Fort Bragg North Carolina. Charlie Company is currently our Immediate Ready Company. They will deploy by Airforce C-17 aircraft into a field landing strip on Fort Bragg. We are flying in Bradley Fighting Vehicles and M1 Abrams tanks along with additional support equipment, and approximately 100 personnel. This will be a tremendous operation for our soldiers, and a great opportunity for the 82d Airborne Division to see the capabilities of the CAN DO Soldier.

We recently also conducted squad live fire certification for all our infantry squads, quickly followed by platoon live fire certification for all our infantry platoons. As expected our soldiers executed this training with the normal CAN DO attitude and excelled at all assigned tasks.

Shortly we will place portions of the Battalion on block leave, to begin to set the conditions for an extremely busy upcoming training year for our soldiers. We will execute expert infantry training in October, followed by another gunnery density where we will qualify our Bradley crews. In January we are back out live firing platoons, and conducting company standard training lanes. We are then off to Fort Stewart in March and April, followed by a deployment to the Mojave Desert at Fort Irwin California in May.

On the 14th of July at 0900 hours I will relinquish command of this great Battalion to LTC Dennis Smith. I cannot believe how quickly two years have passed.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to every soldier, family member, Veteran of the Regiment and friends of our great Battalion, for their support throughout the last two years. The opportunity to command the 1st Battalion 15th Infantry Regiment with its rich and proud history has been truly an honor.

DRAGON 6
HOOOOOAAHHH!!

Rendezvous Raffle Winners

STANLEY J. BOSOWSKI
MODESTO, CA
HQ CO. WW II

FREDERICK KNEPPER
HUSTONTOWN, PA
CO. F KOREA

ARTHUR J. LOCKE
HOOKSETT, NH
SERVICE CO. CHINA HAND

DONALD R. WILCOX
ROSEVILLE, CA
MORTAR BATTERY READY FORCE
WAS PRESENT AT THE DRAWING.

Coming 1 October 2000

This may appear to be too early to remind folks that annual dues are to be paid by 1 October 2000. But, there is a reason.

Notices of when dues are to be paid are published in THE DRAGON so that notices will not normally have to be mailed to members. In this manner, mailing expenses can be minimized. However, this will be the last edition of THE DRAGON until October. When receiving an early notice some folks are inclined to declare they will take care of their dues later. You know the drill though. Something gets in the way and come October a reminder is necessary to get the delinquents back on board. An expense is incurred that otherwise could have been avoided.

If the mailing label on this edition shows 2000 your annual dues are paid to 1 October. Won't you please make sure that you send your dues to the Treasurer before that date? Better still, why not send them in today. Lets make this the best year yet for having all dues paid at the start of our next year. CAN DO? CAN DO

New Treasurer Needed

By Dick Guimond

Recently I decided to vacate the position of Treasurer at the end of my two year term on December 31, 2000. I really enjoyed the office of treasurer, but I have to slow down a little. With my wife and I traveling to Florida and Illinois every six months and I attending the Rendezvous and National Reunion, it has become too much of a hardship on yours truly.

The officers and trustees have been wonderful to work with. I have nothing but good words for everyone especially Edd Adam, who has been my mentor and guide as Treasurer. This would be an ideal time for a new Treasurer to take office, with the other officers having another year to go in their term. It would make for an easier transition, with experience to guide him.

I will continue to assist the Association by mailing out the raffle letter and tickets, with the understanding that the tickets and money go to the new Treasurer. Also, I will continue being the Public Affairs Chairman, sending out news releases about the Rendezvous to all National veterans organizations.

The Association is hoping someone will step forward and volunteer to be Treasurer as I did at the Forth Worth Reunion. This person will receive my full cooperation in the change over. If interested please call or write John Burke or myself.



Mary Barbone
 Address: 844 Ortiz SE #2
 Albuquerque, NM 87108
 Telephone: 505-268-0737
 email: mebarbone@aol.com

I'm looking for information on my fiancée, Jack W. Griffin who was KIA in Sicily on 8/6/43. He was in Company A. He was in the invasion in North Africa and fought thru N. Africa until he went to Sicily. I'd appreciate any information possible.

Ryan M. Davis
 Address: VMI Box 80155
 Lexington, VA 24450
 email: davisrm02@hotmail.com

I am searching for anyone who might have known my grandfather, Quinton Davis from West Virginia. He served as a Staff Sgt. in North Africa, Sicily, France (where he was wounded in the leg at a stone quarry), and he was at Anzio. He was originally in supply but was assigned to man an anti-tank gun. He passed away a few years ago so I have been curious about hearing about him. He mentioned a man by the name of Jack Roddy from California.

Matthew J. Phillips
 9737 Mt Pisgah Rd. Apt. 403
 Silver Spring, MD 20903
 (301) 434-5795or
Win30CalM1@aol.com

My father's step-father, David C. Collinsworth, was a member of Easy Company in WWII. He was severely wounded around Colmar in January, 1945 after serving 16 days on the line as a replacement. He never said much, save that he made a river crossing under fire and in full gear. (My father found out about the wounding at Colmar somehow--I was present when Pepaw mentioned the river crossing.) I am at present seeking anyone who knew David Collinsworth during those 16 days or before, when he went through the replacement system.

George Battani
 53761 Briarcliff Ct
 Shelby Township, Michigan 48315

Looking for information about Company F. I was wounded November 8, 1943 in Southern Italy. I was told in hospital that

Mail Call continued on Page 6



William L. Bibb

Bill of Sacramento, CA died on June 7 due to heart failure after a colon cancer operation. He is survived by his wife, Mary, son William III, daughter Debie and stepsons Robert and Jim. Bill served in Cannon Company durinh WWII.

Charlie D. King

Both the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division aand the 15th Infantry Regiment Association, lost a staunch, hardworking, and all around great American when Charlie died on Saturday, July 8, 2000. He served in Company I in WW II. Charlie's wife, Betty, proceeded him in death on Nov 7, 1994. Charlie was a Life member of the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division. He served two terms as President of the Society and worked for us as Editor of the Watch on the Rhine for several years. He also served for many years as the President of OP 13, the position he held at the time of his death. Charlie was a Charter Member of the 15th Infantry Regiment Association having joined in its' early stage in October 1993. He was also, a Distinguished. Member of the 15th Infantry Regiment. Charlie was buried at Fort Custer, Michigan.

Edwin Seehafer

Edwin was a resident of Augusta, WI. He died of terminal cancer on March 31st. Edwin served as a Lieutenant in Cannon Company during WW II.

James A. Gregory

Jim died on April 11th at his home in LaGrange, TX having heart and kidney problems. His wife Betty and son Michale survive him. Jim served in Cannon Company in WW II. He was a regular and loyal supporter of Society and Cannon Company events.

Taps Continued on the next page

Chaplains Corner

By LTC Chuck Trout, Sr.

Dear God: We want to take this opportunity to give ourselves "time-out" and slow down so we can appreciate all you have done for us. We had no choice as to where we would be born, but somehow we were blessed to be born in this great country of America. We thank you for that blessing. We also thank you for all the brave men and women who sacrificed their dreams and in many cases their lives that we could remain a free people. We pray that all our great citizens will remember that this freedom for not free. God Bless.

Michael: Last month the Governor of the state of California commissioned me as a LTC in the State Military Reserve. My assignment is post Chaplain at the Los Alamitos Training Base. God is good!!!

TAPS
FOR LONG TIME ASSOCIATION OFFICER,
EDWIN K. ADAM

Sadly, just prior to going to press with this issue, news was received of the death of the Association President, Edwin K. Adam. Edd passed away on July 12, 2000 following a heart attack. He was 74. Edd served with A Company in 1945-1946.

Edd was a great patriot in the Association, serving in several positions. He had served as Secretary, Treasurer, Dragon Editor, Vice President, and most recently as President. On several occasions he performed two or more duties at the same time. He will be remembered as the glue that kept things together and the motivator for all involved in Association activities. He contributed many long hours of his time and energy towards establishing and maintaining a close alliance between past and present members of the Regiment. His presence and assistance to all will be sorely missed by his many friends, Can Do Soldiers, and members of this Association.

Edd retired as a Colonel. He was well known for his work as Curator of the 100 Infantry Division Museum in Louisville, KY.

His funeral was held 11:00 AM July 17 at Ramsey, Indiana and Internment at Indiana Memorial Cemetery, Madison, IN.

Edd is survived by his wife Deanna; son Ralph E Adam; daughters Terri C. McCray, April L. Hamsley, and Cheri A. Atchley; one brother, five sisters and six grandchildren.

As we will miss Edd who always had a big "Can Do" for everyone, we can now add "Well Done" to our fallen comrade. Edd, rest in peace, we will miss you.



Edd's Last Message

A few weeks ago, I returned from attending the 2000 Can Do Rendezvous hosted by the officers and men of the 1-15 Infantry at Ft Benning, GA. Each year the rendezvous takes on added importance and more interesting and meaningful proportions. This year LTC Bob Pricone and his soldiers clearly out did themselves. The members of the Association and their guest who attended were clearly impressed. We are most appreciative of the considerations and courtesies extended by the 1-15 Infantry!

Those of you who did not attend missed an outstanding and professional 3 days! From the Golf tourney to the Dinner, everything was superb!

Elsewhere in this issue you will learn of the recognized winners of the Golf tourney. I am proud to say that my son-in-law, Brent Atchley, who accompanied me, was in that elite group!

The HOTEX (Hands On Training Exercise) on Thursday, served to show the firepower and accuracy of our Bradley's and snipers. An outstanding equipment display featured the equipment of a mechanized battalion. They are a far cry from the equipment, weapons, and weapons platforms that we had in WW II and Korea!

During lunch on the range, it was a first time for many to sample the new MRE (Meals Ready to Eat). They are a far cry from the old "C" and "K" rations and much improved from the early MRE's.

Our business meeting on Friday morning was well attended and there was much interest as shown by the lively discussion of the topics. Hopefully, we have been able to get more attention and interest in the operations of your Association!

Again, lunch with the troops in a mess hall was perhaps a first for some of the ladies and a new experience for many of us older soldier veterans. The food was wholesome, attractive and tasteful, much improved from my memory of days gone by.

The dedication service for the new barracks for 1-15 INF was a solemn yet a joyous occasion. It honored the memory of 1LT Francis X. Burke, who served in 1-15 INF as Bn Motor Officer and later in Co D, earned the Medal of Honor during the hard fighting in Nuremberg.

The deactivation of a unit is always a solemn occasion. The current draw down of the Army, active and reserve causes this to happen all too frequently. I am sure that the Battalion will keep the Guidon on display in the China Room and the memory of Company D's actions and accomplishments alive.

The Change of Command of the Battalion Hq & Hq Co from CPT Jon L. Ring to CPT Peter W. Granger was a very professional and pleasing activity.

During the dinner, LTC Pricone and MAJ (Ret) John T. Burke were honored with the award of the Saint Maurice Medallion. John was also made a Distinguished Member of the Regiment. Several other soldiers were recognized with awards for their outstanding service.

Again, those of you who did not attend missed a very professional and interesting 3 days!

CAN DO!

EDD

INCOMING HONORARY COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT

During the business meeting of the 15th Infantry Regiment Association, MG (Ret) James "Jim" Boatner introduced his replacement as Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, LTG (Ret) Jared L. "Jerry" Bates. Jerry has over 33 years of active duty service. He attended the Infantry School, Command & General Staff College and the Army War College. His assignments include service as a platoon leader, company commander, Advisor, Instructor, Operations Officer, Personnel Management Officer, Director of Personnel and Community Activities, Commander 1-15 INF, G-3, Brigade Commander, Chief of Staff, Assistant Division Commander, Director of Operations J-3, Division Commander and Army Inspector General, his last assignment. His awards and decorations include Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit w/3 OLC, Bronze Star Medal w/OLC, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, CIB, Master Parachutist Badge, Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge and the Ranger Tab. He has served in the United States, Germany and Vietnam. He is currently the Vice President and General Manager of the Defense Group. Unfortunately, due to the illness of his father, Stanford C. Bates, he was unable to remain for the entire 2000 Can Do Rendezvous at Fort Benning, GA to include the Dinner. The 15th Infantry Regiment Association extends a welcome hand to our new HCOR, Jerry Bates! We also, give a hearty "Well Done" to outgoing HCOR, Jim Boatner!

Society of the Third Infantry Division Reunion

Burlingame, CA
15TH INFANTRY REGIMENT DINNER

The 8th 15th Infantry Regimental Dinner will be held on Saturday, September 2, 2000 at the San Francisco Airport Marriott, Burlingame, CA beginning at 1800 hrs. There is a two entree menu selection.

CHICKEN WELLINGTON at \$36.00 or
NY STRIP STEAK at \$45.00.

Reservations must be made before **August 25, 2000** by contacting Richard Guimond at 845 S. Yates Ave, Kankakee, ILL 60901-4845. Please send your name and the name of any guest along with a check in the appropriate amount. We will not be able to guarantee anyone for dinner if reservations are not received before August 25, 2000. This year the theme is recognition of the Korean War Veterans 50th Anniversary. We will have a short and interesting program. One highlight will be the introduction of a new HCOR and new HSGMOR. For any additional information, please contact either Richard Guimond PH: 815.932.4858 or John T. Burke, 5704 Hastings Sq, Columbus, GA 31909-4737.

CAN DO!

Mail Call continued from Page 4

there were only 3 men left in the Company. I was never able to find out what happened to the others, eg KIA, MIA or what. I'd appreciate any information anyone has about Company F.

John F. Roberts
Address: 1020 6th street
Beaver, PA 15009
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dotandfrank@hotmail.com

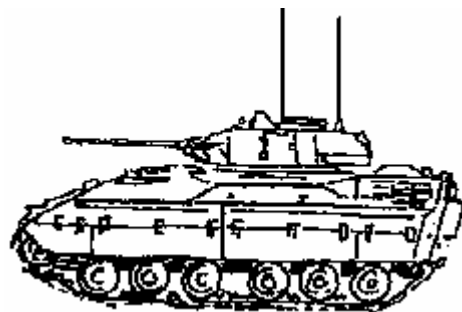
I'd like to find Timothy Tumulty from San Antonio, TX with whom I served in Item Company. I'm also looking for any fellow Army buddies who served at France, Anzio, Italy.

Bob Phillips
Address: P.O. Box 3160
Converse, LA 71419
Telephone: 318-567-9918
mphil17@afo.net

My stepfather, Private David C. Collinsworth, Serial No. 38525325, was a rifleman in Company E in January 1945. He was in combat from about January 14, 1945 until he was wounded on January 30. He spoke very little about his experience. The few times he did talk he told about crossing a river under fire. He did not know how to swim and said that he never knew how he got from one side to the other. He only remembers that he did. He also spoke of wading in snow knee to waist deep. He said that on one occasion they came upon some Americans the Germans had taken prisoner, tied to trees, and killed. Does anyone remember him or know of the actions or incidents of which he spoke? I never pressed him to talk of his memories, but wish I had. Now that he is gone I have no more opportunity to learn. Can anyone help me?

Marilyn Walchusky
us101682@aol.com

Looking for information on my father William H. Baker, he was 36 at the time of his death. He went to Korea from Otis AFB in Hyannis, MA. His mailing address was ARC, Office of Field Director, 15th Infantry Reg't, 3rd Division, APO 468, C/O PM San Francisco, CA. I have a letter from PFC Mitchell V. Bell who I believe was his driver and worked closely with him. He went to the field to see a soldier and went into the trenches. They were both hit by a shell. I don't think the soldier died.





Old timers assembled outside 1st Battalion Headquarters



Above: Making Can Do Punch
Right: Dick Guimond and Howard Smith at the monument dedicating a barracks to 1LT Francis Burke (MOH WWII)

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