



Tri-State Chapter 34th Infantry Division Association

PO Box 1166, Pocasset MA 02559

Newsletter • March 2007

<http://www.34infdiv.org/tristate/>



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As always, we will open with Ray Rudolph's familiar newsletter greeting, so,
Dear Red Bulls, the Ladies, and Friends:

An Apology

I've let you down as the Chapter Secretary-Treasurer. I am now in the final three months of my work toward a Masters degree in Military History at Norwich University. Promoted as 15-20 hours a week, it turned out to require at least 40+ hours a week.

As a friend recently reminded me, I have done a disservice to you and your Chapter. That should not be excused, for it was poor judgement on my part.

The end is in sight. The emphasis now is on my final paper. It will all be behind me when we meet next in Pittsburgh. I look forward to speaking to you about it, because it involves several of our best Red Bulls.

I will soon return to my pleasure in focusing on the Red Bulls, of and for you and your history. Thank you.

- Pat Skelly

Tri-State Chapter's Officers and Trustees

- President:
Richard **Tennant** A/168, West Friendship MD
- 1st Vice-President:
Raymond **Rudolph** HQ/135, Pittsburgh PA
- 2nd Vice-President:
Joe **Kolakowski** Wheeling WV
- Sergeant-at-Arms:
Martin **Winkle** G/133, Monaca PA
- Chaplain:
Leighton **McKeithen** C/133, Fayetteville NC
- Secretary-Treasurer:
Patrick **Skelly** Pocasset MA
- 3-Year Trustees:
Philip **Daurio** F/135, Garden City NY
William **Bennett** B/133, Weirton WV
Rosemary **Mayer** Tonawanda NY
- 2-Year Trustees:
Carl **Snyder** HQ/133, New Tripoli PA
John **Minotti** 1Bn/135, West Lake OH
William **Berry** Med/135, Greensboro GA
- 1-Year Trustees:
Gilbert **White** F/135, Cottonwood AZ
John **Taylor** L/168, Newtown Square PA
Donald **Rogers** I/133, Buffalo NY

Recent Death Reports:

Stephen **Petronchak**, I Company, 135th Infantry, and husband of Pearl, passed away 29 October 2006. He was buried with military honors with American Legion and VFW posts participating. Stephen, from Olyphant PA, was a member of Tri-State Chapter since 1989.

Paul R. **Barnett**, Service Co, 133rd Infantry and Ormond Beach FL passed away in October 2006. A Past National President, he is survived by his wife Mary.

Thomas W. **Ralston**, B Battery, 151st Field Artillery, and husband of Catherine, passed away 8 November 2006. He was buried with military honors. Thomas, from Cape Coral FL, was a member of the Tri-State Chapter since 1989.

Elizabeth Riojas of Kansas City MO, wife of Roque **Riojas**, our National Association President and 1/135 veteran, passed away without suffering at home on October 10th.

Brig.Gen. Jerry L. **Gorden** (Ret.) of Johnston IA, the 194th Field Artillery, and our National Association Secretary-Treasurer, passed away on February 4th. His service included military honors by his former command, the 194th Field Artillery.

*"May they have no more hills to climb,
nor cold, nor rain, nor mud, nor enemy fire,
and may they now rest in Peace."*

Reverse Drawing Winners

Winners in our **2006 Reverse Drawing** at the Buffalo reunion were Marilyn **Andrews**, Lorraine **Catalano**, James H. **Feutz**, Charles L. **Hastings**, Laverne **Lewis**, and, for the \$950. Grand Prize, Darline C. **Smith**.

The first of the ten preliminary drawings, \$25. each, for the **2007 Reverse Drawing** went to Marion **Rudolph**. Because of a late start we will make the preliminary pulls every two weeks from now through June. Please consider entering now for the best chance in the early pulls.

The **entry form** is part of the Chapter Membership dues form with this Newsletter. Please consider this means of supporting our operations. Thank you.

2006 Tri-State Reunion – Buffalo – July 13–16

Those who enjoyed our weekend in Buffalo were:

- Daniel and Marilyn **Andrews**
- Brig.Gen. Michael **Beaman** (our keynote speaker)
- William and Eleanor **Bennett**
- Richard and Doris **Birkemeier**
- Lawrence and Eloise **Board**
- Stanley and Lorraine **Crandall**, with Brandon & Sarah Gross, Kendra Bellah
- Phil and Antoinette **Daurio**, with John, Phoebe, Maya, Gabriel, Concetta, Susan, Ana, Mary, Peter & Brian Belanger
- Francis "Frank" **Day**
- Irwin and Josephine **Gibson**
- Walter and Norma **Havran**, with Ted, Helen, Walter J, Sue Rigby, Frank Zorechak & daughter
- Edward **Hess** with Eddi Hess Jr, Richard Hess
- Ken and Ruth **Hoffman** (88th Inf. Div. veteran)
- Kermit and Jean **Laidig**
- James and Leona **Machunas**
- Rosemary **Mayer** with Steven & Carol Mayer
- Leighton and Edna **McKeithen**
- John and Ann **Minotti**
- T. Jack **Pikkarainen**
- John **Ray**
- Donald **Rogers** with Peter, Sally
- Raymond and Marion **Rudolph**
- John and Esther **Sigmans**, with Patti, Roger
- Patrick **Skelly** with Genevieve Kazdin
- Carl "Dutch" **Snyder**
- John and Alma **Taylor**
- Richard "Dick" and Bettie **Tennant**, with Steve, Jacquie
- Michael **Valosin**
- Martin **Winkle**

Others planning to attend, but unable to join us were:

- Bernard **Brosky**, Joe **Kolakowski**
- Kurt **Kolben** with Sandy Kolben-Helps
- Mac and Flora **McKinnon**

2007 National Reunion – Des Moines – Sept. 6–9

The National reunion will again be at the Holiday Inn, 4800 Merle Hay Rd. Details will be posted on the Association website

<http://www.34infdiv.org/>

In late news from National, Russ **Bierl** of the Iowa Gold Star Museum and Don **Prock** of the Des Moines Chapter are acting as National Secretary Treasurer.

2007 Tri-State Reunion – Pittsburgh – July 12–15

The Holiday Inn – GreenTree in Pittsburgh, where we had our 1998 and 2001 reunions, will once again be our hosts. Additional copies of the registration forms may be printed from the Association website:

<http://www.34infdiv.org/>

Details on the Friday Breakfast meeting of Officers and Past Presidents, and on special activities will be in the next newsletter and will also be posted online.

The Reunion Registration form, included with this mailing, invites you to consider several optional activities.

I (Pat Skelly) will also offer copies and a discussion of my final Masters degree project, *World War II Military Chaplains in Combat*; it features Father Albert **Hoffman** of the 133rd Infantry Regiment and Pastor Israel **Yost** of the 100th Infantry Battalion (Nisei).

Online News

This newsletter is available online at

<http://www.34infdiv.org/tristate/0703.pdf>

and additional copied of the reunion and membership forms can be printed from there

The Red Bull **1st Brigade Combat Team**, currently deployed in Iraq, has an excellent and frequently updated website at:

<http://www.redbullweb.com/>

Their tour of duty has recently been extended by four months, until approximately August

Tri-State Chapter, Interim Financial Report

This is an unaudited report covering the recent 'year' of our Chapter's financial status. Significant impacts to be considered are:

- waiver of dues for widows of members,
- an 18-month fiscal year, June '05 to December '06,
- two reunions (Carlisle and Buffalo),
- refunds of reunion fees given medical necessity,
- \$100/month stipend for the Secretary-Treasurer,
- + dues increase from \$5. to \$10. per fiscal year,
- + invited donations to support operating expenses.

Our June 2005 balance was \$10486; later items for a 'fiscal closing' balance brought it to \$9471.

Our December 2006 balance was \$7841; later items for a 'fiscal closing' balance bring it to \$6770.

A detailed report will be provided to your Audit Committee, for subsequent presentation to the Chapter business meeting in July

***Attack! Attack! Attack, no turning back!
For when the Old Red Bull starts marching,
their battle streamers waving high,
then it's time to tell the enemy to retreat
or stand and die!***

- Homer R. Ankrum, © 1991