



103d INF DIV WWII

**2013
STAFF**

PRESIDENT

Cranston "Chan" R. Rogers
17 Deerfield Rd
Medway, MA 02053
(508) 533-0422

VICE PRESIDENT & WEBMASTER

Larry Wayne (Associate Member)
146 Cold Creek Road
Madisonville, TN 37354
(423) 545-9021

ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT

Robert E. French (Associate Member)
83 Durfee Street
New Bedford, MA 02740
(508) 207-7681

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Patricia A. Wayne (Interim)
P. O. Box 1263
Madisonville, TN 37354
(423) 545-9021

HISTORIAN

Lucas C. Martin
37800 Salty Way East
Selbyville, DE 19975
(302) 436-4928

CHAPLAIN

Walter Modrzejewski
5604 N. Ozark Avenue
Chicago, IL 60631
(773) 631-0571

NFTCP EDITOR

Chan Rogers

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(Term Ending Year In Parenthesis)

Robert L. Leslie – 409th (2014)

David E. Gilbert – 410th (2014)

Michael F. Toohig – 411th (2013)

John J. Anania – Support Trp (2014)

James E. White – Past President

***Cactusmen, families, and friends, start your engines!
Get revved up for Indy!!
JULY 31 – AUGUST 4th
MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS TODAY!!***

Columbia Club, 121 Monument Circle, Indianapolis, IN 46204

CALL FOR RESERVATIONS AT (800) 635-1361 or (317) 767-1361

The 2013 Annual 103d Infantry Division Association reunion is scheduled for July 31 – August 4 in Indianapolis, Indiana. The format this year is a bit more laid back as there are no structured formal tours planned. You will have plenty of time to visit with old friends, peruse the 103d display of World War II memorabilia and documents, and take in the sites of Indianapolis on your own.

Monument Circle is the center of the city and presents two of Indy's outstanding landmarks; the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument and the Indiana War Memorial Museum. A befitting tribute to those who served with the Cactus Division, Indianapolis is second only to the District of Columbia in the number of memorials to veterans. The Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument was dedicated over 110 years ago and remains a central attraction in downtown Indy. The monument is adorned with some of the country's finest examples of sculptures, but just as exquisite is the interior dedicated to the city's fallen warriors. You will also find the Colonel Eli Lilly Civil War Museum; founder of the famed pharmaceutical company.

Within a stone's throw of the Columbia Club is the Indiana War Memorial which features three levels dedicated to those who were Missing in Action and died on the battlefields of Korea and Vietnam. The top floor is a living symbol of world peace; a goal of every war this nation has ever fought. Crafted using material from around the world, the blood-red marble support pillars are symbolic of those who have given all in the name of peace. The Altar of Consecration commemorates the patriotic soldiers who have fallen in battle. The Indiana War Memorial Museum also features a collection of memorabilia from the Battle of Tippecanoe to present time. You will find fascinating military displays, featuring a Korean War helicopter, numerous weapons, and a nuclear missile.

As the racing capitol of the world, no visit to Indianapolis is complete without taking in the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile Museum. This museum has over 120 cars on display, ranging from 1894 to 1999 models. Here you will find the largest display of Duesenberg automobiles in the world.

Indy also offers a chance to visit one of the oldest and largest art museums in the United States at the Indianapolis Museum of Art. There are numerous collections in various mediums, as well as films and exhibitions.

When you think of a zoo, you automatically think lions, tigers, and bears, oh my! The Zoo features a landmark botanical attraction with hundreds of plant varieties on display, plus the traditional zoo exhibits, and an aquarium. The White River Gardens is an international showplace for Indiana where visitors can enjoy and learn about the bounty of the natural world.

So, make your reservations now to attend the 103d Infantry Division Association 2013 Reunion! Relax; enjoy the fellowship of comrades in arms, their families, the historical Zack Sigler World War II display, and the excitement of Indianapolis.

DUES FOR 2013

We do appreciate if you have already sent your dues. Thank you. However, if you have not sent in your dues for 2013, please send your check for \$25 to:

103D INF DIV ASSOC WWII, P. O. BOX 1263, MADISONVILLE, TN 37354

COLUMBIA CLUB DRESS CODE

All persons are required to wear neat and clean "Business Casual Attire" in the Harrison Dining Room. This generally means slacks and collared shirt. Coats and ties are not a requirement, but may be worn if so desired. There is a strict prohibition of hats or caps in the Club house. Other than these two restrictions, the rest of the club is pretty much a relaxed atmosphere.

Inappropriate attire includes but is not limited to: Tee shirts (tank tops, halter tops, crop tops), sandals (beach sandals, Birkenstocks, flip-flops), athletic wear (sweatpants, sweatshirts, jogging suits, spandex) except in the Fitness Center or between the front door and stairwell to Fitness Center, torn clothing (holed or ragged clothing of any type), any clothing with offensive or profane language or provocative or revealing clothing.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY/TREASURER

Our Secretary/Treasurer Gloria McLeod requested to step down from her position. Gloria writes: "This is hard to write as I hate losing contact with this wonderful group of veterans but I find it necessary for health reasons. I have loved being of service to this group and it has been a labor of love in memory of my husband, Harry McLeod. I will miss having the contact I have had with all of you. I will make every effort to come to the reunion so I can say my goodbye and tell you how much I love all of you and what a joy and privilege it has been to serve in this position. It is a time in my life that I shall cherish always." The Association will never find adequate words to thank Gloria for the selfless dedication to preserving the memory of all veterans who served their country with the 103d Infantry Division. President Chan Rogers has appointed Patricia Wayne to fill Gloria's unexpired term. **The new address for the Association is: 103D INF DIV ASSOC WWII, P. O. BOX 1263, MADISONVILLE, TN 37354**

2013 INDIANAPOLIS REUNION INFORMATION

WELCOME TO INDY! The historic Columbia Club is a setting that will make the 2013 reunion one of the most memorable in recent years. Currently, there are plans in the development stage that will honor the legacy of all those who served with the 103d Infantry Division. We hope that you can make this reunion, as it certainly has all the makings of a truly unforgettable experience. We look forward to seeing you in Indianapolis!!

ACCOMMODATIONS - This year accommodations are at the Columbia Club, located in the heart of downtown at 121 Monument Circle. Room rates are \$89 per night plus taxes. Check-in is July 31 and check-out Sunday morning, August 4. The beautiful Columbia Club clubhouse is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Columbia Club features fine and casual dining, 99 guest rooms and a complete fitness center. Please make your reservations as early as possible but not later than July 1. Make your reservations by calling toll-free (800) 635-1361 or the commercial number at (317) 767-1361. Identify yourself as making reservations for the 2013 103d Infantry Division Association reunion.

PARKING - For those of you driving, the parking fee is \$25 per night, which is added to your room charge. However you may leave and enter throughout the day without additional charges

AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION - There are several options for transportation to and from the airport. One is the Indigo Green Line for \$10 per person; however Indigo only makes three stops in downtown. You will have to walk some distance to get to the club. Share Ride is \$14 - \$16 per person and will take you door-to-door. Limos are also available for reasonable rates and door-to-door. Cabs are \$30 - \$35 per person.

EVENTS – With our more relaxed agenda, you are free to explore history through the many museums dedicated to patriots who fought to defend our nation. Top-class museums, a zoo, and Indy's old downtown landmarks have become cultural, shopping, and dining complexes for your entertainment and enjoyment. Plus, Thursday and Friday you are free to take in the extensive variety of Indianapolis eating spots. Registration begins Wednesday at noon with a welcome dinner scheduled for that evening. You will have three choices for your Wednesday meal: (1) Slow roasted prime rib, baked potato, veggie and horseradish sauce; (2) Double cut pork chop with apple cornbread stuffing, a calvados demi-glace, and creamy potatoes; and (3) a vegetarian Napoleon, with grilled marinated Portobello mushrooms, zucchini, squash and sweet onion marmalade. On Saturday night, we will cap off a wonderful reunion with a banquet dinner consisting of three choices: (1) Seared NY strip steak with wild mushroom ragout and parmesan risotto; (2) Roasted young chicken, a French cut chicken breast served with rosemary lentil pilaf and natural jus; and (3) a vegetarian pasta primavera which is penne pasta with broccoli, cauliflower, asparagus & mushrooms tossed in a marinara sauce. Each meal also includes salad, chef's seasonal vegetables, fresh baked rolls, coffees, teas, and water. For those who wish to partake of breakfast, the Columbia Club offers individual breakfast in the Club

HISTORICAL 103D WORLD WAR II DISPLAY – No reunion is complete without gathering around the tables of memorabilia, artifacts, and documents put together by Zack Sigler. Thanks to the untiring efforts of the Association Historical Archivist, Zack Sigler, the annual reunion display has grown into a museum all its own. The entire display features items pertaining to the Cactus Division and its veterans. For those who are not aware, Zack is the nephew and namesake of 103d veteran, T/SGT Zack T. Sigler, Company D, 409th Infantry Regiment, who was killed in action at Selestat,

SEE YOU ALL IN INDIANAPOLIS!

2013 INDIANAPOLIS REUNION RESERVATION FORM

EVENT	NUMBER PEOPLE	COST PER PERSON	TOTAL COST ENCLOSED
REGISTRATION FEE		\$30.00	\$
WEDNESDAY WELCOME DINNER – JULY 31, 2013 (CHOOSE FROM THE FOLLOWING MENU OPTIONS)			
Roasted prime rib, baked potato, veggie & horseradish sauce		\$60.00	\$
Pork chop w/apple cornbread stuffing, calvados demi-glace, & creamy potatoes		\$55.00	\$
Vegetable Napoleon w/grilled marinated Portobello mushrooms, zucchini, squash and sweet onion marmalade		\$35.00	\$
SATURDAY BANQUET – AUGUST 3, 2013 (CHOOSE FROM THE FOLLOWING MENU OPTIONS)			
NY strip steak with wild mushroom ragout and parmesan risotto		\$60.00	\$
Roasted French cut chicken breast served w/rosemary lentil pilaf & natural jus		\$50.00	\$
Pasta primavera penne pasta w/broccoli, cauliflower, asparagus & mushrooms tossed in a marinara sauce		\$35.00	\$
50/50 RAFFLE TICKETS (as many as you like)	Tickets	@ \$1.00 each	
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES – 2013 (if you have not paid already)	*****	*****	\$25.00
DONATION TO SUPPORT RESEARCH TO PRESERVE 103D LEGACY	*****	*****	\$
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED WITH REGISTRATION	*****	*****	\$
Each meal also includes salad, chef's seasonal vegetables, fresh baked rolls, coffee, tea, water and dessert			
NAME (as you want it to appear on your badge)			
SPOUSE OR FRIEND'S NAME			
GUEST NAMES (if you need more room include another page)			
YOUR ADDRESS			
CITY	STATE	ZIP	
HOME/CELL PHONE NUMBER	email address		
EMERGENCY CONTACT	HOME/CELL PHONE	WORK PHONE	
DISABILITY/DIETARY RESTRICTIONS			
YOUR 103D UNIT	TYPE MEMBERSHIP <input type="checkbox"/> REGULAR <input type="checkbox"/> ASSOCIATE		
ASSOCIATE MEMBER – NAME OF 103D VETERAN RELATIVE			
ASSOCIATE MEMBER – YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO 103D VETERAN			
FOR THOSE DRIVING THE COST FOR PARKING IS \$25 PER NIGHT, ADDED TO YOUR ROOM CHARGE			
PLEASE COMPLETE REGISTRATION FORM & MAIL WITH YOUR CHECK FOR THE TOTAL			
BY JULY 1, 2013			
103D INF DIV ASSOC WWII			
P. O. BOX 1263			
MADISONVILLE, TENNESSEE 37354			
ASSOCIATION USE: DATE RECEIVED	CHECK NO.	AMOUNT	

Available!

Interviews and accounts by and about 103d Infantry Division veterans

Cactus Soldiers Remember: Interviews—Narratives (July 2009—Nashville, TN)

The Three Sisters: Selestat, Sessenheim, Schillersdorf (July 2010—San Antonio, TX)

Remembering / Extra! Extra! /A Funny Thing Happened (July 2011—New Orleans, LA)

Of Officers and Men (August 2012—Kansas City)

Coming this summer!

The Girls We Left Behind / A Soldier's Story Continued (July-August 2013—Indianapolis)

These booklets of interviews and accounts by and about 103d Division veterans are from the *103d Infantry Division of WWII Albums of Remembrance*, compiled by Luke Martin, 103d Association Historian. They are available free of charge.

To get copies, contact Bob French by phone (508.207.7681),
e-mail (rfrench@northstarlc.org), or mail (83 Durfee Street, New Bedford, MA 02740).

103d Division Morning Report Archival Project

The end of the three year process of Zack Sigler's transcribing the 103d Division unit's Morning Reports is in sight! Our Association objective is to preserve the legacy of all veterans who served with the 103d Infantry Division. All 103d Division unit Morning Reports will eventually be posted to the Association website for veterans, their families, and researchers. Zack's goal is to complete the project in late fall of this year. Due to the time consuming process of proofing, his recent job transfer to Oklahoma City, and family commitments, that goal may not prove realistic. It is clearly possible that achievement of the goal may not occur until early 2014. Thanks for all the support received from veterans and their families.

MEMORIAL DAY WREATH LAYING CEREMONY – May 27, 2013

The annual Memorial Day Wreath Laying Ceremony will occur in Gainesville, TX at the 103d Infantry Division Monument honoring the combat veterans of the 103d Infantry Division. Ceremonies will begin at 1:00 PM, May 27, 2013 at the Monument, located at the TxDOT Travel Information Center, on I-35. The TxDOT Travel Center is adjacent to the former Camp Howze where the 103d Infantry Division trained in the art of war.

Memorial to the 103d Infantry Division in Landsberg, Bavaria

By Robert E. French, PhD

As the 103d Infantry Division advanced into Bavaria, elements of the 411th Infantry discovered a Nazi concentration camp just outside of the city limits of modern-day Landsberg—one of the eleven subcamps, known as the Kaufering concentration camp complex, near the towns of Kaufering and Landsberg. For this action, the Cactus Division was accorded “liberator” status in 1985 by a joint program of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and the U.S. Army’s Center of Military History to recognize U.S. Army units that took part in freeing prisoners from Nazi concentration camps. A memorial in Landsberg honors the men of the 103d Division for liberating the Nazi camp. Here is the story behind it.

After the war, memories of the camp receded. Amid the ruins of concentration camp bunkers and last traces of concentration camp earth huts, the memorial site “at the site of the crime” includes ten stones donated by European heads of state commemorating the deported and murdered Jews from their home country. The stones were installed at a central spot on the camp grounds, the former *Appellplatz*, where prisoners lined up for roll call. When the German government balked at donating a stone in remembrance of the German Jewish victims, the Landsberg association placed a memorial in their memory.

One of the association’s original eight members, Anton Posset was, in his own words, “a victim as a child of Nazism.” As a young child in Munich, he saw first-hand the air-raid horrors brought upon the German civilian population by the war that Hitler had started. Anton Posset was instrumental in installing a memorial stone donated by American liberators and their French supporters in the eastern corner of the Holocaust Memorial at Kaufering VII. The affixed metal plaque reads “NEVER AGAIN” in English, Hebrew, French, and German and recognizes the 103d Division in name and image in relief of the cactus insignia.

The 103d Division plaque was unveiled at a ceremony held on May 7, 2000. Among the 200 attendees were three Cactus Division veterans. William Schneck had served in Company F/411. A scout in Company C/409, George Davis spent almost six months as a German POW. A Frenchman who had fled Nazi occupation to the United States, Simon Dargols returned with the 103d Division Calvary Recon Troop to liberate his homeland. At the plaque unveiling ceremony, the three 103d veterans laid a wreath with the words “Lest We Forget,” amid the wreaths from four survivors’ associations.

At the plaque unveiling ceremony, Anton Posset was named an honorary member of the 103d Infantry Division. A boy when 103d troops lifted the yoke of Nazi occupation from his hometown of Saint-Dié-des-Vosges, Maurice Lipka also received honorary member certificate from the 103d Infantry Division.

Like the memorials erected in France to remember the men of the 103d Division who helped free Nazi-occupied France, the memorial in Landsberg came about through the joint efforts of 103d veterans and the people they liberated.

HONOR ROLL



103d INF DIV ASSN of WW II

Baxley	Olin	411 Co I
Carrier	Raymond	803 Ord
Crevcoure	Rodney J.	928 Btry B
Ditto	Jack	328 Med
Durrance	John R.	409 Co D
Frost	Robert W.	411 Co E
Galbraith	Leslie L.	411 Co M
Gantman	Sidney D.	409 Hq Co 1 Bn
Hazlett	Grant W.	410 AT Co
Healy	John V.	409 Co C
Holowka	Michael	409 Co H
Howard	Wendell J.	409 Co I
Meyer	Jack D.	411 Hq Co
Muessig	William H.	409 Hq Co 1 Bn
Nelson Jr.	James A.	411 Hq Co
Palen	Mitchell J.	411 Co F
Parish Jr.	Overton L.	409 Co F
Powers	George M.	409 Hq Co 1 Bn
Remillard	Arthur A.	410 Hq Co 3 Bn
Reynolds	Arthur A.	410 Co F
Rifenburg	Churchill W.	410 AT Co
Romei	Edward J.	410 Co D
Rowland	Richard D.	409 Hq Co 2 Bn
Sattler	Leonard S.	410 Co C
Stiles	Loren H.	409 Co B
Trembczynski	Roman G.	411 AT Co
Walter	Mahlon	410 Co B
Webster	Paul V.	411 Co A



OUR FLAG IS AT HALF STAFF IN THEIR HONOR

*(Flag photo courtesy of our deceased comrade Pierce Evans)
His website P&P WEB remains as a legacy*

Report known deaths of 103d veterans to:

Patricia Wayne – paw@103didww2assn.org

Once reported the names will appear in the
next Honor Roll.

Our nation's freedom was secured with blood
By soldiers who fought through fields of mud.
Through forests thick with hanging leaves
Leaving many dead as a nation grieves.
Attacking sea shores without a thought
Our soldiers advanced and bravely fought.
Now years later, we bow and pray
That they are resting with the Lord this Memorial Day.
God Bless them all, for their fight is done.
The Battle's over. Peace was won.

LTC Larry Wayne, USA, Retired

WEBSITE UPDATE: The website has seen a lot of activity since the last update. Foremost, at the suggestion of former Association President, Mel Wright, we have added a link on the Home Page to provide an update on newly added items, the date they were added, and a link to the page. This precludes you from having to search the entire site for newly added data. Morning Reports are complete for the Infantry Regiments. Once additional units are completed, they will be posted. The website remains a focal point for families, friends, and historians. Through the website, the Association receives numerous requests for information from families about the service of a relative. Often there is little or no background concerning the service of their veteran relative and when they receive information many are deeply touched to learn of the sacrifices. For those of you interested in the Army Specialized Training Program (ASTP), thanks to Mel Wright for scrubbing the numbers of those who were assigned the Division from the Army Specialized Training Program ASTP. Information for the three Infantry Regiments is available. Once the Morning Report project is completed, the remaining units can be added to the ASTP data. A special thanks to all who have made contributions to building the web. God Bless.

WEBSITE ADDRESS: <http://www.103didww2assn.org>

103D INF DIV ASSOC WWII
P. O. Box 1263
Madisonville, Tennessee 37354