



ASSOCIATION REPRESENTED AT WHITE HOUSE CEREMONY FOR DIVISION'S SECOND MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT

Mike Plummer (10th Mtn Div [LI])

Mike Plummer, President of the National Association of the 10th Mtn Div, Inc. and Bill Morrison (86-L), President, Upstate Chapter, attended the Medal of Honor Ceremony for SFC Jared Monti (3-71 CAV), 10th Mtn Div, at the White House on 17 Sept. They also attended a ceremony at the Hall of Heroes in the Pentagon on 18 Sept. as guests of the Division. They were joined at the White House by Bob O'Malley (85-L).

SFC Monti is the first 10th Mtn Div soldier to receive the Medal of Honor since PFC John Magrath (85-G) in WWII.

Monti's citation read: "Staff Sergeant Jared C. Monti distinguished himself by acts of gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a team leader with Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3d Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment, 3d Brigade Combat

Team, 10th Mountain Division, in connection with combat operations against an armed enemy in Nuristan Province, Afghanistan, on June 21, 2006.

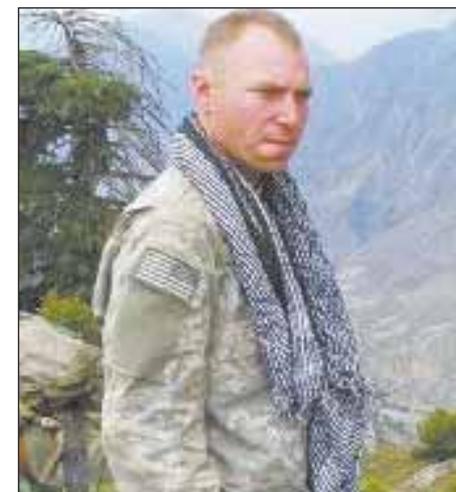
While Staff Sergeant Monti was leading a mission aimed at gathering intelligence and directing fire against the enemy, his 16-man patrol was attacked by as many as 50 enemy fighters. On the verge of being overrun, Staff Sergeant Monti quickly directed his men to set up a defensive position behind a rock formation. He then called for indirect fire support, accurately targeting the rounds upon the enemy who had closed to within 50 meters of his position. While still directing fire, Staff Sergeant Monti personally engaged the enemy with his rifle and a grenade, successfully disrupting an attempt to flank his patrol.

Staff Sergeant Monti then realized that

one of his Soldiers was lying wounded in the open ground between the advancing enemy and the patrol's position. With complete disregard for his own safety, Staff Sergeant Monti twice attempted to move from behind the cover of the rocks into the face of relentless enemy fire to rescue his fallen comrade. Determined not to leave his Soldier, Staff Sergeant Monti made a third attempt to cross open terrain through intense enemy fire. On this final attempt, he was mortally wounded, sacrificing his own life in an effort to save his fellow Soldier. Staff Sergeant Monti's selfless acts of heroism inspired his patrol to fight off the larger enemy force.

Staff Sergeant Monti's immeasurable courage and uncommon valor are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3d Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment, 3d Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, and the United States Army."

Also attending the ceremony were the surviving 13 members of the patrol whose lives were most likely saved by SFC Mon-



ti's call for and adjustments of fires. To them he was the epitome of Army values and what they hoped to be as a NCO. They were joined in the evening of 17 Sept. by Mike and Bill, and many a glass was raised and downed in tribute.

At a reception held on 18 Sept. in honor of SFC Monti, President Plummer presented parents Janet and Paul Monti a 10th Mtn Div blanket in honor of the heroic actions of their son and to remind them that Jared Monti will always be a part of the Mountain.

MAGRATH FAMILY RECEIVES ITEMS FROM MEMORIAL DEDICATION

Steve Coffey (Desc. 87-F)

A highlight of the 2009 Sempre Italia: Return to Italy trip was the dedication of a new memorial to — at that time — the Division's only Medal of Honor recipient, PFC John Magrath (85-G) on Hill 909 outside of Castel d'Aiano (see article by Dave Ware (Desc. 85-A) in Edition #2, 2009, Blizzard).

During the ceremony, past Association President John Duffy (86-HQ-2) was presented with a replica of the plaque on the memorial, along with the U.S. flag used to shroud the monument, to be given to the Magrath family.

Over Labor Day weekend my wife and I had the pleasure of going to St. Michaels, MD, on the Chesapeake Bay to visit with Washington, D.C. Chapter members Bill and Elaine Magrath, to deliver these gifts sent by our Italian friends in their brother's honor. We also presented them with a video of the ceremony and other activities during that day, prepared by Dave Ware.

Lastly, there was also a SETAF (Southern Europe Task Force) Challenge Coin sent by COL Mark Oswald, who led the Army color guard during the dedication. As the



Washington, D.C., chapter members Bill and Elaine Magrath receive gifts sent by Italian friends in their brother's honor. A ceremony in Italy remembered PFC John Magrath's feats.

accompanying photograph shows, Bill and Elaine proudly display John's Medal of Honor in their home, the citation signed by President Truman, and the many other medals and citations earned by their brother.

Note: The Medal of Honor was not awarded again to a member of the Division for another 61 years; it was presented recently to the family of SFC Jared C. Monti (3-71 CAV).



Paul Monti, Jared's father, reaches out to members of his son's unit.

--Photo by Robin Hoecker, "Stars & Stripes"



Editorial material and photographs should be clearly marked with the sender's name and address. No photographs will be returned unless specifically requested. All materials should be sent to Felicity Hallanan, Blizzard Editor, 95 Zahler Tract, Sandy Creek, NY 13145, or by e-mail to blizzarded@gmail.com. Opinions expressed in this publication reflect those of the magnificent soldiers of the 10th and do not necessarily conform to accepted journalistic standards. Editor reserves the right to rewrite, renegotiate or refuse materials submitted for publication. Questions? Contact the editor at 315-387-2929 or by e-mail. Members should also feel free to contact National President Mike Plummer at 315-782-4178 or e-mail plummike@aol.com. Subscription rate for non-members: \$20. per year.

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The National Executive Committee consists of the President (Committee Chairman), Senior Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, *Blizzard* Editor, Executive Director, Quartermaster and two members-at-large, if needed, to be appointed by the President (Article VII, Section 1, National Bylaws, National Association of the 10th Mountain Division, Inc.)

The National Board of Directors consists of the Chairman of the Board, National President, National Senior Vice President, National Secretary, National Treasurer, *Blizzard* Editor, Quartermaster, Executive Director, President of the 10th Mountain Division Foundation, all Chapter Presidents, and two voting members-at-large who may be appointed at the option of the President. (Article IV, Section 2, National Bylaws, National Association of the 10th Mountain Division, Inc.)

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mike Plummer (10th Mountain Division LI)

1. The paid membership numbers through 1 September, 2009:

Category	2006	2007	2008	2009
WWII 10th Mtn. Div. Veterans	1850	1718	1321	1094
WWII 10th Mtn. Div Widows	323	335	259	225
10th Inf. Div. Veterans, Cold War	69	73	56	38
10th Mtn. Div. (LI) Veterans	166	269	893	314
Other Mtn. Units	23	30	23	14
Associates	77	77	77	38
Associates Widow				1
Honorary	24	26	28	23
Friends	24	64	71	58
VTANG				18
Total	2556	2592	2612	1823

2. John Russell has stepped down as chairman of the Membership Committee. In June he launched a national membership campaign to "enlist" some of 180,000 10th Mtn Div (LI) Alumni as members. He has Facebook contact with over 900 former members. We thank him for his time, and hopefully a new volunteer will "enlist" to fill his slot.

3. Bruce Campbell (86-M), Chairman, of the 2010 National Association nominating committee, is implementing his plan to present one or more slate(s) by end of Jan., 2010. If you have any recommendations for President, VP, Secretary or Treasurer, please contact Bruce and provide the name(s) (brumar2320@sbcglobal.net).

4. Bill Morrison, Bob O'Malley and Mike Plummer represented the National Association at the Medal of Honor ceremony for SFC Jared Monti of Raynham, MA, at the White House on 17 Sept. and at the Pentagon Hall of Heroes on 18 Sept.

5. One hundred Climb to Glory bathrobes, hats and tee shirts have been purchased and sent to Walter Reed and Brooke Army Medical Centers for our Wounded Warriors. Most are from the 3rd BCT in Afghanistan. Thanks to all who support the 10th Mtn Div Wounded Warrior Program.

6. The information on your membership application will be used to update our membership files, and for the 2010 National Roster, so be sure and check the data to ensure it is accurate.

7. MG James Terry has replaced MG Michael Oates as the Commanding General of the 10th Mtn Div during a change of command ceremony conducted on 3 Sept. on Sexton Field.

8. The 2009 Tenth Mtn Div Foundation Board Meeting was held July 16-17 and the Descendant's Board Meeting was held on July 18 in Denver, CO. I attended both.

9. The National Association's Web Site has been updated. If you want to know more about what is going on in the National Association go to: www.10thmtndivassoc.org and if you want to know more about the 10th Mtn Div go to: <http://www.drum.army.mil>

10. The 2009 International Federation of Mountain Soldiers (IFMS) Congress was held in France in October. See a report, this Edition.

11. Internal flooding at the Colorado Historical Museum caused the closing of the 10th Mtn Div Exhibit. No damage was done to any of the artifacts. The Resource Center at the Colorado Historical Museum requests no additional new items (three-dimensional items such as clothing and military paraphernalia) during this transition period. Questions, call Dan Whittmore, 303.738.9571.

12. The semi-annual EXCOM meeting was held in Watertown, NY, 25 Oct., 2009. Minutes of the meeting were to be sent out to Chapter Presidents in November.

13. The Hale and Farewell: 10th Mountain Division 2007 Reunion book is out. If you paid for it and don't receive it by 1 Nov. 2009 contact Chere Mitchell at 303-831-9243, cherehbc@aol.com or Hugh Evans at 720-562-8135, hevans621@aol.com

14. The 2010 National Association's Reunion will be held in Watertown, NY, 8 – 11 July. It will be hosted by the Fort Drum Chapter. A world class air show is included on 10 and 11 July. For more, see ad, this Edition.

15. Update on your Division:

A. Aviation Brigade (2,300 soldiers) and Sustainment Brigade (1,000 soldiers) redeploying back from Iraq, should be all home for Christmas.

B. 3rd BCT (3,500 soldiers) is in Afghanistan and in the middle of the fight.

C. 2nd BCT will deploy in Oct. of 2009 to Iraq and 1st BCT will deploy somewhere in Jan., 2010.

Climb to Glory!

INTERNET ACCESS TO RESOURCE CENTER COLLECTIONS GROWS

Dennis Hagen

Did you know that if you search the Internet for information about Medal of Honor recipient John D. Magrath, using a popular search engine like Google, your search results would include a link to a finding aid created by your Resource Center?

As a matter of fact, if you search the Internet for information about any one of more than twenty 10th Mtn Div veterans, you will discover links to archives finding aids created as part of the EAD project at the Denver Public Library.

So, just what is EAD, and what does it mean? Without being too technical, EAD means “encoded archival description.” Broadly speaking, that is a computer language, which enables the Resource Center to create what are essentially web pages, or online finding aids, that contain folder-by-folder descriptions of the materials contained in our veterans’ collections.

The significance of creating these online finding aids is that researchers no longer need to know that a particular collection is housed at the Denver Public Library in order to find it. Descendants no longer need to specifically search our library catalog or even come to the library to learn what materials are available about a particular veteran. Rather, a general search of the Internet from a home or office computer for names like John Woodward, George Hays, John Magrath or Charles “Minnie” Dole will automatically direct researchers and descendants to the Denver Public Library collection and to the Resource Center.

Finding aids created in an encoded archival description format are completely searchable electronically. This means that researchers no longer need to flip through pages to locate names or subjects within or among finding aids. Rather, they can simply enter a search term into a computer allowing them to maximize their efficiency.

During the past year, your Resource Center has created finding aids for 10 additional collections, bringing the total number available online to 24. Creating an online finding aid is a labor-intensive and time-consuming project. Nevertheless, we are committed to creating an additional 10-12 each year.

If you would like to examine the Resource Center’s online finding aids, please check them out at the Denver Public Library’s website: www.denverlibrary.org. Select the link at the lower left for “Western History & Genealogy.” This will lead you to a link for our “Archives Finding Aids.” Select this link, and then click “10th Mountain Division Collection.” From this point, it is possible to access individual finding aids by selecting them from an alphabetical list. To view the contents, simply click on “Table of Contents,” and then “Introduction.”

If you are viewing the online version of the Blizzard, simply click the following link: <http://eadsrv.denverlibrary.org/sdx/pl/mountain.shtm> to view a list.

Stated simply, online finding aids are another example of how the 10th MTN Div Resource Center continues to incorporate technology into the management of its collections. These aids have dramatically expanded the visibility of Resource Center collections via the Internet and have enabled access to these collections literally all over the world.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 20, 2010	Midwest	Mt. Belvedere Day Luncheon	Carrollton, KY
February 20	Midwest	Mt. Belvedere Day Luncheon	Bloomington, IL
February 27	Washington, D.C.	Luncheon	Linthicum, MD
May 2	Midwest	Spring Luncheon	Lombard, IL
May 31	Lower Michigan	Memorial Service, Luncheon	Frankenmuth, MI
July 8	10 th MOUNTAIN DIVISION ASSOCIATION	2010 NATIONAL REUNION: Arrival & Welcome Social	Watertown, NY, and Fort Drum
July 9		Memorial Service, lunch with soldiers, Salute to the Nation, Fireworks	Ft. Drum
July 10		Tours, Air Show, Unit Dinners	Ft. Drum
July 11		Tours, Air Show, Farewell Banquet	
July 12	Homeward bound		



STABLE CALL

Felicity Hallanan (Associate)

Seventy years later, the eerie, high-pitched wail of an air raid siren in London is still enough to give one chills. But then the music begins, because it’s a recording —“I’ll Be Seeing You,” “In the Mood,” and Vera Lynn’s “We’ll Meet Again” (Lynn’s songs have been re-released on the 70th anniversary of Britain’s entry into World War II, and shot to the top of the hit parade—a fact which astonishes the now-92 year-old singer).

On another front, a small group of veterans gather and remember their entry into Tokyo after the long, hard battle, hopping islands across the Pacific, and it’s obvious their friendships have grown over the years through these reunions.

Back on the other side of the world, mountain men and their children and children’s children walk *their* battlefields, pause before the headstones of fallen comrades and are welcomed by Italians who remember why they, too, are free.

It’s been an emotional Summer and

early Fall for many, made all the more-so by news from the fronts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Not a day passes that there is not some reminder of the involvement of men and women of the 10th Mountain Division, whether in a report on the evening news from those harsh mountains on the Pakistani border, the announcement that the Army’s new Secretary is former-Congressman John McHugh whose 23rd District includes Fort Drum, or yet-another release from the post, with word of the death of another soldier. Let all be assured their Division carries on its noble tradition.

On a lighter note, this edition of “Blizzard” ranges far and wide with stories of efforts to recognize WWII vets, previews of the 2010 National Reunion, more sharing from last June’s Sempere Italia: Return to Italy journey, and creative ways in which volunteers are reaching out to today’s soldiers who carry on the heritage of the red, white and blue crossed bayonets.

Sempere Avanti, and Climb to Glory!

ST LAWRENCE CUP TOURNAMENT CARRIES ON TRADITION

The Fort Drum Chapter sponsored the United States Team in a competition with the Canadian Team in the 59th Annual St. Lawrence Cup Tournament 2009. The competition was held Aug. 14-16 at the Carlowden Country Club in Denmark, NY (near Watertown). Fourteen players (12 men and 2 women) from each team competed. The Canadian Team headed by MG Guy Thibault, Asst. Chief of Land Staff, came to the tournament with a seven win in a row record, but were stopped by a US Team lead by General Charles Campbell, Commander, USAFORSCOM (US Army Forces Command). Members of both teams were from all over the US and Canada and represented their nations well.

The US Tournament Director was David C. Mushtare and the team captain was MG Michael L. Oates, then-Commanding General of the 10th Mtn Div and Ft. Drum.

The Chapter is proud to have sponsored the US Team and be part of this great event. It has a long-standing tradition and a common bond between professional warriors both in the defense of freedom and the competitiveness on the golf course. We knew that at the conclusion of this tournament a victor would



National and Ft Drum Chapter president Mike Plummer presents a check for \$250 from the Chapter to Col. Rick Fawcett, Base Commander, Canadian Forces Base, Kingston, Ontario. The money, given at the farewell banquet of the St. Lawrence Cup competition, went toward the Canadian Wounded Warrior Fund; at press time, nearly-130 Canadian soldiers have died in the war.

emerge. But we also know that our professional and recreational bond will remain untarnished.

—Mike Plummer (10th Mtn Div [LI])



At its 50th Anniversary at Timberline Lodge, the Mountain Rescue Assn honored the 10th Mtn Div as an honorary founder of the group.

ARMY FREEDOM TEAM SALUTES VETERAN

Art Farash (CW3, Ret.)

Members of the Mountain Rescue Association Honor Guard were surprised to find they were being recognized by the U.S. Army Freedom Team Salute program as Army Veterans and Supporters, during the 50th Anniversary celebration of the Mountain Rescue Association at Timberline Lodge on Mt Hood, OR, on June 26, 2009.

The 10th Mtn Div had a key role in the founding of the MRA. At the 2007 Reunion in Denver, the Honor Guard brought in the colors and provided 5 ceremonies in Denver and Camp Hale, as a joint detail with the Division's Honor Guard.

Spearheading planning of the 50th anniversary was Tim Kovacs, Commander of the Honor Guard. CW3 Art Farash, Freedom Team Salute Ambassador, arrived armed with 20 personalized commendations signed by the Secretary of the Army

and Army Chief of Staff to distribute to 5 veterans and 15 supporters. Member Dave Clark, Portland, served as a Sergeant Major with the Division in 1950-1952.

Among those also receiving special recognition as a vet was world famous climber and 10th vet Jim Whittaker. He and his twin brother Lou were instructors at the Army Mountain and Cold Weather Training Command at Camp Hale in 1953-1954. Jim was an early member of the Mountain Rescue Assn. and the first American to summit Mt. Everest in 1963. He mounted a new streamer on the MRA flag honoring the 10th Mtn Div.

Another famous mountaineer honored was Dee Molenaar (MC&WTC), who was a civilian advisor at Camp Hale in 1953. Dee is a member of the Rainier Chapter in Seattle, WA.

QUILT FOR WOUNDED FINDS ITS WAY HOME

Jack Davis (10-RECON, 87-I)

Women of the Elk Avenue Church of Christ Quilters, of Duncan, OK, have been forwarding Patriotic Quilts to the Armadillo Chapter through me, to be presented to the Purple Heart Inpatients at Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC) at Ft. Sam Houston, TX.

Their gifts have been sent for several years. This Oct. 7, 2009, a quilt was presented to PFC John Eichenberger (A Co, 2/87 INF, 3rd BCT) with his wife Alicia present on Ward 4 West. Assistance was provided by SFC Garthineia Cunningham and SSgt Fredrick Williams of the 10th Mtn Div Wounded Warrior Liaison at Brooke, who do truly outstanding jobs of helping our wounded soldiers.

The presentation was worthy of special note, because the quilt made in Oklahoma and sent to Texas was in turn given to a soldier from Oklahoma. Coming from their home state, it meant all the more to Eichenbergers.

The Quilters are providing wonderful, morale-raising support with their handiwork, and are greatly appreciated by soldiers and their families.



Patriot quilt from Oklahoma reached Oklahoma native PFC John Eichenberger (A Co, 2/87 INF, 3 BCT), at Brooke Army Medical Center, Ft. Sam Houston, TX, here with his wife Alicia.

BRONZE STAR CONVERSION AWARD

Gil Pearsall (10th Mtn Div [LI])

In accordance with Army Regulation 600-8-22 (Military Awards), WWII veterans who served after December 6, 1941, and were awarded either the Combat Infantryman Badge or Combat Medical Badge are eligible to apply and be qualified for an award of the Bronze Star Medal as a conversion award.

The regulation specifically states that the award for a Bronze Star Medal "may be made to each member of the Armed Forces of the United States who, after 6 Dec. 1941, has been cited in orders or awarded a certificate for exemplary conduct in ground combat against an armed enemy between 7 Dec. 1941 and 2 Sept. 1945, inclusive, or whose meritorious achievement has been otherwise confirmed by documents executed prior to 1 July 1947. For this purpose, an award of the Combat Infantryman Badge or Combat Medical Badge is considered as a citation in orders."

In order to apply and be qualified for an award of the Bronze Star Medal as a conversion award based on your Combat Infantryman Badge or Combat Medical Badge you must have your discharge papers showing the award of the CIB or CMB or a copy of the General Orders making the award.

Requests for this award must be initiated either by the individual or his primary next of kin (Spouse, Eldest Child, Mother/Father, Oldest Sibling or Eldest Grandchild in that order). If a relative submits the application, he or she must state how

you are related to the individual to whom the award will made.

Veterans and retirees may submit letter application to National Personnel Records Center, ATTN: NPRMA-M, 9700 Page Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63132-5100. Soldiers who retired or were discharged after 1 October 2002 and the next of kin of Soldiers who died after 1 October 2002 should send their letter application to the Commander, U.S. Army Human Resources Command, ATTN: AHRC-CC-B, 1 Reserve Way, St. Louis, MO 63132-5200. The letter application should include documentary evidence, if possible.

A sample letter:

National Personnel Records Center
ATTN: NPRMA-M
9700 Page Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

Dear Sir or Madam,

Under the provisions of AR 600-8-22, paragraph 3-14d(2), I request authorization of the Bronze Star Medal (BSM) for (Name, Rank and serial number). Documentary evidence is enclosed to substantiate the award of the (Combat Infantryman Badge or Combat Medical Badge) on (Date) entitling me to the BSM as a conversion award.

Please mail orders and award to the following address:

(Applicant's address)

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. Sincerely, (Name).

NEW ENGLAND GATHERING REUNITES FORMER NATIONAL OFFICERS

Wendell H. Cheney (86-F)

On Oct. 4, 2009, in Keene, NH, three 10th Mtn Troopers spent a wonderful four-hour visit plus having a delicious roast port dinner at Barbara and Mac MacKenzie's (85-C) home.

Earl Clark (87-HQ-1) was in New England to spend five days with our hosts. Wendell Cheney and his wife Betty drove to Keene from their home in Shrewsbury, MA, to share many interesting 10th Mtn moments. Mac was President of our National Assn from 1978-86, Earl was first National President, and Wendell was "Blizzard" editor during the same eight years. Earl was also chairman of the Board and one of the original Association "Blizzard" editors.

Newc Eldredge, (85-L), who lives in Newport, NH, north of Keene, and was National secretary at the same time, would have been a member of the group but he had another commitment with Dartmouth College activities. On Oct. 5, Earl, Mac and Barbara drove to Newport for lunch with Newc and Sally.

The three other members of the com-



Old friends treasure time together; left, Wendell Cheney, Earl Clark and Mac MacKenzie enjoyed visiting one October day in New Hampshire. All three are former members of the National Board of the Association.

mittee were Bill Cruickshank (86-C), treasurer, Bob Lewis (85-A), executive director, and Nelson Cochran (87-F), quartermaster (both Bob and Nelson are deceased).

Two great days -long to be remembered!

FOUNDATION NEWS

(Continued from Page 12)

freshman. With these additions to the roster, the Foundation is supporting 5 seniors (\$5,500), 3 juniors (\$3,000), 4 sophomores (\$4,000), and 2 freshmen (\$2,500) for a total of \$15,000.

The Board received six "good works" requests. Three were aligned with the Foundation Mission Statement, and partially funded: the Wounded Warrior Winter and Mountain Sports Clinics Program is a core program: \$10,000 was requested; funded at \$5,000. The 10th Mtn Div (LI) Scholarship Fund requested \$10,000; funded at \$4,000. The WWII 10th Mtn Div Memorial to be placed along the hero's walk at Ft. Logan National Cemetery in Littleton, CO, requested \$6,000; funded at \$5,500. Total "good works" funding for 2009-10 is \$14,500. The 2010-11 due date for special project grant applications is April 15, 2010.

Other actions and items include:

Approved a proposal to create an interpretive sign at the Tennessee Pass Memorial site to display the Gen. Hays letter, which praises the actions and dedication of the Division during WWII.

Established a Memorial Day Ceremony Committee to oversee arrangements, preparation, and execution of the annual ceremonies at Tennessee Pass, near Leadville, CO. Dave Little has been managing this, and will continue, with co-chair Flint Whitlock and member

Toni Newbill.

Communications Committee chaired by Pat Thornton will be updating the Foundation web page and increasing quality of communication through the web, the Blizzard, and other avenues.

The Foundation operates with the help of several committees and their dedicated members. In addition to the Memorial Day and Communications committees, Finance, Scholarship, Special Projects, Fund Raising, Governance and Long-term Planning committees also serve. If you are interested in volunteering for one of these, please email your name, contact information and committee of interest to Gary Burton or Frankie Barr at admin@10thmdf.org.

The next meeting is July 8, 2010, in Watertown, NY, in concert with the Descendant Board meeting and the National Association's reunion activities. Please remember "Your Foundation is Forever," and every little bit helps. Consider establishing a bequest to the general Foundation Fund, and think about donating WWII papers, memorabilia and equipment to the Resource Center (<http://www.10thmtdivassoc.org/resource.html>). The three organizations also need your active participation to remain strong and manage the business of the 10th Mtn Div organizations.

Sempre Avanti!

VETERAN AND VOLUNTEER RECOGNIZED FOR SERVICE TO WOUNDED

New Commanding General, 10th Mtn Div, MG James Terry, presented the Commander's Award for Public Service to Bob O'Malley (85-L) during the Northern New York – Ft Drum Chapter Association of the United States Army (AUSA) reception in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 6, 2009.

Bob is an 87-year-old, WWII 10th Mtn Div Veteran. The citation outlined his significant sustained contribution to the Division Wounded Warriors and their families at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Since 2002, Bob has visited them in the hospital and given them 10th Mtn Div logo items, taken them to ball games and other sports activities, escorted them to Hooters and taken them and their family members to dinner during the holidays if they couldn't go home (asked why he takes them to Hooters, Bob said, "Hooters Helps Heal").

The next day Bob received the 10th Mtn Div and Ft Drum Mountain Man award at the AUSA 1st Region awards breakfast. The award is presented annually to a man and a woman who provide extraordinary support during the year to our 10th Mtn Div soldiers and their family



Bob O'Malley (85-L)

members. Bob told the audience that raising funds and supporting soldiers and families has added years to his life. During a standing ovation, there was no doubt that everyone in the audience understood that his impact on the lives of those he has so generously touched will be long and emotionally remembered.

THE 2007 REUNION BOOK IS OUT

Hugh Evans (85-A, C)

After three years of major pain, toil, and effort, *Hale and Farewell: 10th Mountain Division 2007 Reunion* is out. If I say so myself, it is a beauty! The Reunion Committee started this project about two years before the Reunion, when John Litchfield proposed to publish a book on the 10th history and the Reunion. Chere Mitchell, a Denver-based writer, came in about a year before the Reunion and proposed doing a pictorial history of the Reunion. It seemed sensible to leave the history to John and the photographs to Chere. John had his great Commemorative Book ready for distribution at the Reunion, and the costs were covered in the registration fee.

Completing Hale and Farewell was another matter. Chere's professional photographers, Barry Gutierrez and Bob Chavez, did a superb job of capturing the spirit and life of the Reunion. Attendees provided their personal photographs as well. Getting everyone in the photographs identified proved a daunting task in itself! Eight months or so into producing the book, we changed the format and layout considerably when we realized there was too much overlap between the Litchfield and the Mitchell books. We maintained a component of history in the introduction as well as in the chapter titled "Ways We Remember," which includes a 10th history "by the numbers," along with wonderful artwork, poetry, and prose that members of the 10th painted, drew, or wrote, on the front line and afterward. The additions caused us to increase the size of the book from 128 to 192 pages and to select excellent 100# matte paper that would showcase the images. This, of course, increased the cost.

The last six months before actual printing could begin, we went through the

multiple drafts, format and style proofs, and galley, final, and printer's proofs required by our publisher, the Donning Company Publishers. The final product is a beautiful and meaningful book that we sincerely hope all of you will appreciate and will consider worth the wait.

Not knowing what the book would cost, but wanting everyone to be able to buy one, we set a low Reunion price, including shipping, of \$20 per copy. Recognizing that the price would not cover the full expense, we obtained sponsorship from National, the Foundation, seven individuals, and one corporation. An amount of \$45,500 was contributed. Now that the project is finished, we find the true cost of the book is about \$80 per copy, including all administrative, professional, and publishing costs. The bottom line is, to cover the cost of the publishing only, we have increased the price to \$50, including shipping, for the books remaining to be sold. There were 1,075 books printed of which approximately 600 were sold at the Reunion price. Even with the higher price and all books sold, we are still about \$10,000 short. So if you have not bought a book and wish to do so now or would like additional copies of Hale and Farewell, or wish to make a contribution to help us break even, here is what to do. Please send a check to National Association of the 10th Mountain Division, Hale and Farewell Reunion Book, PO Box 46014, Denver, CO 80201. Make your check payable to National Association of the 10th Mountain Division. On the memo line, indicate the number of copies you want and your donation amount. For additional information, contact Chere Mitchell at 303-831-9243, cherehbc@aol.com or Hugh Evans at 720-562-8135

35TH TENTH ANNUAL SKI-IN AND 23RD YEARLY HUT TRIP

It's time for the 35th Tenth Annual Ski-in. Come join us at Frisco Holiday Inn (# 970.668.5000) Make your own reservations, arriving Feb. 16.

Schedule is:

Feb. 17: Ski Keystone, reception at Holiday Inn, dinner at Tuscatos';

Feb. 18: Ski A-Basin;

Nights of Feb. 19-20: Move to Columbine Inn (1.800.954.1110)

Feb. 19: Ski Cooper Hill; 3 p.m. Memorial Service at Tennessee Pass, libations at Silver Dollar Saloon, dinner, Golden Burro;

Feb 20: Ski at Cooper Hill,

Feb 21: On your own, catch-as-catch-can dinner at Denise Taylor's;

Move back to Frisco Holiday Inn for the nights of Feb. 21-24;

Feb. 22: Ski Breckenridge, lunch at Vista Haus;

Feb. 23: Ski Vail, lunch at Eagles Nest;

Feb. 24: Ski Keystone, lunch at Berghof; dinner at Holiday Inn;

Head for home or Hut Trip.

If you are one of 16 going on Vance Hut Trip, show at Cooper Hill, 10 a.m. Feb. 25 (you must have reservations with H. Evans). Ski-in will take about four hours, with lunch. We'll spend the nights of Feb. 25 & 26, come out on 27th; probably will climb Chicago Ridge on 26th

Questions or need more details? E-mail hevans621@aol.com or call #720.562.8135. *Sempre Avanti!*

--Hugh Evans

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF MOUNTAIN SOLDIERS XXIVth CONGRESS MEETS IN FRANCE

Anna Marie Mattson

The International Federation of Mountain Soldiers held their 24th Congress 6-10 Oct., 2009, in Chamonix, France, in the Alps. Delegations from Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland and the United States attended.

The Federation was formed after WWII as a means of opening communications between mountain soldiers who had fought each other, with an expectation that if we talked more we would fight less. So far it has been very successful.

Delegates were welcomed at an opening ceremony at the Chamonix Military Mountain Training School. Next day the Executive Committee meeting was followed by a traditional "mountain" lunch at a restaurant with a vista of Mont Blanc. In the afternoon LTC Dennis Sullivan, (HHC, 10th Mtn Div [LI]) gave a presentation about what the U.S. has learned about mountain warfare in Afghanistan. A reception for delegates and participants followed, hosted by the Mayor of Chamonix, Eric Fournier.

The General Assembly the third day was held at Montenvers where the business of the Federation was conducted by General Secretary BG Jaime Coll from Spain. A new Secretary General from Slovenia, Bojan Pograjc, was elected for the next three years. One of the most important aspects of the next year will be the launching of an IFMS website in order to improve communications and awareness

about mountain soldiers.

Another traditional lunch was served at La Calèche restaurant in Chamonix, followed by a visit to a local factory. Somfy is an important sponsor of the French Military Ski Team. Next day delegates visited the 27th Infantry Brigade of French Mountain Soldiers with displays and an assimilation of how the wounded are evacuated, and had lunch with the soldiers. The French 27th is preparing for another deployment to Kipasa in Afghanistan next year. In the afternoon there was a walking tour of Annecy, an historic town founded by the Romans, followed by a closing ceremony and farewell banquet.

Attending from the United States were Bert Anger (86-B) who has represented the U.S. at almost all of the Congresses; his son Brad Anger, and Harvey Wieprecht (86-F) with Betty Anderson. Anna Marie Mattson was also there from France, serving as Congressional translator. She was awarded a Certificate of Merit for her support of IFMS.

The 25th Congress will be held in Bled, Slovenia, May 31-June 4, 2010, to coincide with the International Military School Congress. The 26th Congress will be held in the German Alps in 2011. IFMS days will be held in Bergame, Italy; IFMS will also be awarding trophies at the International Military Ski and Alpine Championships in Aoste, Italy.



A full suitcase of goodies for wounded 10th Mtn Div soldiers. Donations are delivered by, left, Anna Marie Mattson, Beresford Hayward (US Army Air Corps, WWII) and SFC Wendy Werner, 10th Mtn LNO (Liaison Nurse Officer).



LTC Dennis Sullivan with General Pierre Martre at the reception hosted for IFMS Congress by the Mayor of Chamonix. Sullivan gave a presentation about 10th Mtn Div involvement in Iraq and Afghanistan wars

BLIZZARD SCHEDULE 2010

Issue No.	Period covered	Articles Deadline
1	January - April	February 15
2	May - August	June 15
3	September - December	October 15

SEND MATERIALS TO:

Felicity Hallanan, 95 Zahler Tract, Sandy Creek, NY 13145, blizzarded@gmail.com

AMERICANS ABROAD PROVIDING CARE TO WOUNDED IN TRANSITION

Anna Marie Mattson, niece of Ralph Mattson (87-L Deceased), one of our very active Association members, reports that the proceeds from an Election Night Party on Nov. 4, 2008, attended by Americans living in Paris, France, were used to donate a pool table worth 2,500 Euros or \$3,687.50 to Wounded Warriors at Landstuhl Regional Army Hospital, Germany.

Anna Marie has been supporting 10th Mtn Div wounded at Landstuhl, Walter Reed Army Medical Center and Brooke Army Medical Center since 2003. Thanks to support of the Americans living in Switzerland another 3000 Euros or \$4,459.20 will be donated in December.

A *Top of the Mountain Salute* to Anna Marie for her visits and gifts she takes to those at Landstuhl, the largest American hospital outside the U.S., and the soldiers' first stop on their way home from the battlefield. If you make it to Landstuhl, you're good to go. It has been said that it is an article of faith among soldiers and Marines in Iraq and Afghanistan that if the medic stopped the bleeding, and the

field surgeons stitched up the important organs, and the Air Force got you all the way to the Army hospital in Landstuhl, then you'd live.

Unfortunately, soldiers arrive with what is left of the clothes they fought in and little else. To help, you can send a care package to 10th Mtn Div point of contact:

SSG Rafael Hernandez-Ortiz
CMR 402 Box 1320
APO, AE 09180

What soldiers are asking for: the wounded appreciate chocolate, cologne, and cards. Also: new pillows (to prop up limbs with casts and fixators); new DVDs (no extreme violence); new CDs (no violent lyrics or profanity); new portable CD players with headphones; new washcloths, hand and bath towels; lip balm; mouthwash, shampoo, conditioner and hair gel; toothbrushes and bar soap travel holders; mint and cinnamon chewing gum; new duffle bags; new men's and women's boxer shorts/underwear; new sweatshirts, sweat pants, T-shirts, and baseball caps.

—Mike Plummer (10th Mtn Div [LI])

ASSOCIATION'S WOUNDED WARRIOR FUND HELPS HOMES FOR OUR TROOPS CONSTRUCTION

Gil Pearsall (10th Mtn Div [LI])

The Fort Drum Chapter's "Wounded Warrior Fund" donated \$250 to the "Homes for Our Troops," a national non-profit, non-partisan 501(c)(3) organization that is constructing a home in Carthage, NY, just outside of the post for SFC Roy Mitchell. He was serving in Afghanistan with the 10th Mtn Div when he was severely injured on Nov. 23, 2003.

On Oct. 21, 2009, Gil Pearsall, National Secretary and Chapter Secretary, represented the Association and presented the check to Homes for Our Troops Veterans Liaison, Larry Gill, at the opening ceremony of the construction of SFC Mitchell's home in front of over 30 volunteers.

Homes for Our Troops was founded in

2004 and is strongly committed to helping those who have selflessly given to our country and have returned home with serious disabilities and injuries since Sept. 11, 2001. They assist severely injured servicemen and servicewomen and their immediate families by raising donations of money, building materials and professional labor and coordinating the process of building a home that provides maximum freedom of movement and the ability to live more independently.

To date they have completed 44 homes for wounded veterans, at NO COST to the vets.

To find out more or to donate, visit their web site at <http://www.homesforouttroops.org>.

SKIING HERITAGE TAKES FRIEND OF TENTH TO OLYMPIC SLOPES

When skiers line up on the slopes of Vancouver, Canada, for the 2010 Winter Olympics, they'll be supported by hundreds of volunteers, including at least one Friend of the Tenth.

Enno Heuscher, who with his wife Penny participated in the Sempre Italia: Return to Italy trip last June, has been accepted as an Olympic volunteer. He will work with the Alpine Team on the men's downhill events in Whistler/Blackcomb ski area.

A physician by profession and a member of the National Ski Patrol since 1999, Enno works at a mountain in Grand Junction, CO, with medical field rescue. In 2002 he participated on Course Crew for the Men's and Women's Downhill in the Salt Lake Winter Olympics. This involved working with others from Germany, Scandinavia and many parts of the U.S. and Canada. He says it was an experience that was stimulating and involved much steep mountain ski activity. His ongoing specialty professional interests are in the sports medicine field and are

likely to be invaluable on the slopes of British Columbia.

Charlie Leggiero (10-HQ) is both a patient and longtime friend, and invited the couple on the Italy trip. Enno says that helped motivate him to apply for the next Olympics. "There was, in fact, a ski mountain in the Hill villages in Italy," he says, "that several of us on the trip are interested in going back to in the winter, perhaps organized by the 10th Descendants. Alberto Tomba learned to ski at that mountain in training for the Olympics."

As for the upcoming Winter Games, volunteers are trained for about a week to brush up on skier safety, and outfitted with uniforms for the occasion. The steepness of the terrain calls for expert ability and equipment and, he says, "The international flavor and the peaceful and joyful camaraderie between international countrymen is a definite attraction—and my Swiss family heritage undoubtedly plays a role."

—Felicity Hallanan (Assoc)

VOLUNTEERS MAKE HONOR FLIGHTS HAPPEN

each flight locally.

Here in Washington, DC, the organization provides "ground crew" to greet arriving flights at area airports, help out at the WWII memorial, and serve lunch to those groups who have requested it.

Our very own Senator Bob Dole (85-I) greets as many veteran visitors as he can on each Saturday morning.

Website <http://www.honorflight.org/> provides much more on the history and goals of the program, as well as details for



anyone interested in applying for a flight from the hub nearest to you. Please note that the 2009 flying season is just about over, and lists for the 2010

season are filling up fast, so if interested visit the website for details on applying for a future flight as soon as possible.

I have volunteered at both Dulles International Airport and at the WWII memorial recently, and can attest to how

wonderfully and professionally volunteers take care of veterans, and how warmly veterans are greeted by tourists in the area. If you have a story to tell, there is guaranteed to be an audience there to listen. Descendants—the network also provides terrific opportunities for volunteers both here in Washington, D.C., and with each of the hubs, so please take a look at the HFN site as well and consider helping out in some way.

—Steve Coffey (Desc 87-F)

Note: see *Blizzard Edition #2, 2009*, for an account by Marty Daneman (85-HQ-2) of his trip.

PROJECT HEALING WATERS

Spider Rybaak

(The author is an award-winning outdoor writer who has been published in more than 20 periodicals. His blog is <http://fishingandhuntinginoswego.blogspot.com/>)

History is loaded with references to water's curative power. Every culture has its own version of the Biblical Pool of Bethesda or Ponce de Leon's Fountain of Youth. On the weekend of Sept. 18-20, 2009, the Salmon River of Oswego County, NY, was put to the test.

It passed with flying colors.

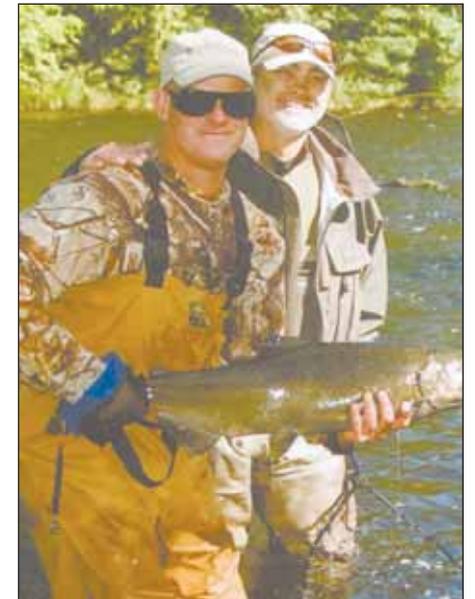
That's when Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing brought 15 wounded soldiers and veterans to the Salmon River for the most exciting water treatment of all: fly fishing—the art of casting colorful, all-but weightless flies tied of yarns, feathers and threads, to trophy salmon and trout.

Famed as the country's most productive hot spot for these species, the Salmon River met the challenge, surrendering Chinook salmon averaging 17 pounds, and brown trout running three to five pounds.

For the second time in as many years, the main movers and shakers of the event were Fred Kuepper, Project regional director, and Fran Verdoliva of the NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation. According to Kuepper, "This year two-thirds of the participants are active duty soldiers stationed at Ft. Drum, and the rest are disabled veterans from the VA Medical Centers at Syracuse and Batavia, and the Oswego County outpatient clinic."

Verdoliva arranged access for the group on the closed waters behind the State hatchery, a sanctuary for fish lucky enough to make it through the 11-something-mile gauntlet of anglers fishing downstream. Fishing this uncrowded stretch insured the recovering warriors had all the room they needed to cast flies, and angling technique requiring a lot of space to execute effectively.

"Besides being fun, this program is a win-win situation for everyone involved—first and foremost for the vets, but also their families, the volunteers, and spon-



SSG Shawn Outwater, member of the 10th Mtn Div, holding his 17-pound Chinook salmon caught with the help of guide Norm Normandin during a "Healing Waters" weekend for wounded soldiers held in the Salmon River of Pulaski, NY.

—Photo by Ray Hrynyk

sors," Kuepper said. "The whole community pitches in and benefits."

Local assistance came from Brookfield Power which with DEC provided dinner the first night. Churches, businesses and veterans' organizations furnished additional food and supplies, and area guides and Project members offered fly fishing lessons and expert advice on the water.

Retired Navy Capt. Ed Nicholson started Project Healing Waters in 2004, and it has now grown to 45 programs in 35 states. Trout are not the only target. In other parts of the country there are outings for ocean specials like red fish and bass. Other warm-water fish in Central NY are likely to be part of the program in the future. More information is available at web site www.projecthealingwaters.org.



When the new Commanding General of the 10th Mtn Div stopped in at Walter Reed Army Medical Center recently, whom did he meet but members of the Washington, D.C. Chapter on one of their regular visits. MG James Terry is joined here by president Hassell Vass (10-A-T-A) and Abbie Kealy (Niece 86-L). A former mess sergeant, Hassell's known by both patients and staff for the homemade pound cake he brings along.

WASHINGTON D.C.

Hassell Vass (10-AT-A)

Washington D.C. Chapter members cast their nets wide this Spring, Summer and Fall and were literally all over the place.

Our annual Flag Day steak dinner in Virginia at the farm of Arnold Holeywell (86-HQ) was a smashing, sizzling success attended by veterans George Welch (86-E), Al Nencioni (85-I), Hassell Vass, Carl Lindh (86-H) and Vince Macaluso (86-G) plus a crowd of families and friends. Steaks were furnished by the Chapter and excellently prepared by chef extraordinaire Al Nencioni and his daughter.

On Maryland's Eastern Shore, Bill and Elaine Magrath (brother of John Magrath [85-G], MOH recipient) were presented with a replica of the plaque erected in memory of PFC Magrath near Castel d'Aiano, Italy, on Hill 909. Meanwhile in Syracuse, NY, a special benefit for the Operation Homecoming Wounded Warrior program featured the 10th Mtn Div double feature "Blackhawk Down," and "The Last Ridge" produced by Chapter member Abbie Kealy (Niece, 86-L).

Our adopted 2-87 mortar platoon in Afghanistan is on the move and expected to return home in January after a long, action-packed deployment. The Chapter continues to visit wounded warriors at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, providing sweet treats, 10th Mountain goody bags and support.

Finally, our Chapter had the honor of attending the recent burial service at Arlington National Cemetery of one of our most loyal members, Ock Covington (86-MED-HQ). Ock faithfully attended Chapter visits to Walter Reed, where he was excellent at connecting with current 10th soldiers. He is already missed.

FORT DRUM

Felicity Hallanan (Assoc)

The Chapter continues to send backpacks full of 10th Mtn Div logo items to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., and Brook AMC in Texas, for distribution to wounded soldiers. The packs contain items ranging from bathrobes to baseball hats. Hats are also going to Landstuhl MC in Germany. Chapter members appreciate Association members in those areas who are making sure the items reach 10th Mountain soldiers so that they know we care about them.

Another form of caring is through scholarships. Chapter and National President Mike Plummer awarded seven \$5,000 scholarships this year and will award eight in 2010. Applications can be downloaded from our web site at: www.10thmtndivassoc.org. At the same time, with the arrival of winter, 10th Mtn Div Foundation monies are going to support ski clinics planned for wounded soldiers.

Over the summer, the Chapter supported the 59th St. Lawrence Cup golf tourney between Americans and nearby Canadians. In addition to \$500 for the event, \$250 was presented for the Canadian Wounded Warrior Fund. Our comrades in arms are serving with U.S. Forces in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In another direction, members have been attending "Right-Arm" nights of Division units in an effort to interest soldiers in joining the Association.

UPPER PENINSULA

Walter R. Cook (86-I, Div HQ)

The summer meeting of the Upper Peninsula Chapter was held at Dan Oja's (Desc 86-I) beautiful summer home seven miles northwest of Marquette, WI. (Oja's Uncle John Koski (86-F) was killed in the final weeks of WWII with the 10th Mtn Div –see "Blizzard," Edition #2, 2009).

After a fantastic brunch put on by the Ojas, a short meeting was held. June Oja, Dan's wife, has planned a big scrapbook about the Division. All members and wives will contribute items and stories, and we will bring them to our next meeting on Feb. 19, 2010. The scrapbook will then be placed with the 10th Mtn display at the National Ski Hall of Fame at Oshpenning, MI.

Members and wives present were Ken Oja, Joe Peiersalt, Don Stille (86-K), Bob Jensen, Walt Cook, Angie Valencie, Gerry Keskimaki, Bernadette "Buck" Verhamme (85-I [W]). Not able to make the meeting was Eugene Keskimaki(87-H, M) who is at the VA facility at Marquette, and Uno Isaacson (87-K), who has lost his eyesight. We wish them the very best.

NORTHWEST

Frank Chuk (85-Med-2)

The annual picnic July 12 at Harvey Wieprecht's (86-F), Troutdale, OR, estate on the Sandy River, was as usual a huge success with a great turnout. We had a brief shower, but because of Harvey's huge tree cover it was hardly felt. Anne Craig, wife of Warren (86-HQ) reports the food was delicious and plentiful for the over-65 there.

July 17 was Pick and Plant day, and Anne Craig reports President Jim Bray (87-K) led a group of 25 10th Mtn folks at the Memorial Grove in policing trash and planting a Purple leaf Beach in remembrance of Don Kresse (86-K). Seven members of Don's family were present. There are now 69 trees in the Grove. Next gatherings are Oct. 31, and in Jan.

Northwest and Rainier Chapters luncheon was held Aug. 18 at Timberline Lodge, OR, in the Crows Nest Room with a breath taking view of Mt Hood and North and South Cascade Mountains. Fifty attended and John Tullas, general manager, updated us on plans for major improvements, while Jennifer saw to it that our food quality and service were excellent. Ralph Lafferty and Karl Stingl led in rollicking 10th Mtn songs. Marney Roddick's (Chap Desc Pres) father Bob (85-B) came in from California and was joined by his 10th buddy Hans Thompson (85-K), and his sons Adele, David and Doug, down from Washington. Bob and Frank Rinella (87-I), both hosted four from their families

On Oct. 13, the Chapter board meeting was held at Jim Bray's home. Attending were Jim Bray, Frank Chuk, Warren Craig, Bob Emerson, Ed Flabetich, Mike Myers, Dick Powers (87-B-C-D), Frank Rinella, Marney Roddick, and Lorraine Youngs. Questions of passing the torch of leadership and changing the time, place and location of monthly meetings will be brought up at next luncheon meeting.

Meetings are held the last Wednesday of each month at the Elk's Lodge, 13121 SE McLoughlin Blvd, Millwackie, OR, 11:45 a.m., unless announced otherwise in advance.

In attendance since the last Blizzard were Paula (85-K [W]) & Steve Barnes, Marge Becker (85-HQ, G), John & Myrna Bell (85-L), Dick & Pat Burling (86-C), Jim Bray & Lorraine Youngs (87-K), Frank Chuk, Warren & Anne Craig (86-HQ), Harrison Dusenbery (86-HQ-1 & C) & daughter Dian Waggoner, Bill & Donna Eimstad (86-C), Bob & Bobbie Emerson (604-HQ), Ed & Connie Flabetich (86-A), Kamron & Melo Dee Glaser (10th Mtn [LI]), Elmer Griffin (87-K-2), Bill Hamilton (86-F), Ken Harding (Assoc), Orval & Helen Herndon (85-E), Barbara Hoffsetter (85-E), Gunther & Gretchen Heeren (86-B), Paul Koenig (86-B, C, 90-C), Bob & Lore Labby (86-HQ-2, 87-I), Ralph & Traudl Lafferty (86-HQ-2), Hank Lewis (86-G) and nephew Denny Hubel, Hank Lewis (86-G), Kennie & Ruth Namba (Assoc), Mike & Connie Myers (Hon), Dick & Jean Powers (87-B, C, D), Frank Rinella & daughter Pam, David & Matt grandsons (87-I), Bob Roddick (85-B), Marney Roddick (Pres Dec NW Chap- 85-B), Bob Sabin (85-I), John Skillern (86-A-Svc), Bob Smith (Friend-Ski Patrol), Greg Soroichinski (Friend- Ski Patrol), Lee & Janet Squires (Assoc), Karl & Sunny Stingl, (87-HQ-1), Vi Tallman (604-A [w]) & Dawn Farrar, Darrel & Nancy Tarter (85-A, MTG), Hans Thompson (85-K) & Dec's Adele, David & Douglas, Dick Updegraff & Ann Marie (10-AT-A), Alice Wagstaff (86-C [W]), Harvey Wieprecht and Betty Anderson (86-F), John Wilson (110-Sig), and Ben & Bev Yett (10 Recon, 85-G), Saul Zack (Friend). Never Stop Exploring and Enjoy the Journey!

"It was written long ago that 'The bravest are surely those who have the clearest vision of what is before them, glory and danger alike, and yet, notwithstanding, go out to meet it.' Jared Monti saw the danger before him. And he went out to meet it."



Descendant BLIZZARD

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VOLUME 11

2009

NUMBER 3

GENERATIONS VISIT FLORENCE CEMETERY TOGETHER

Jeff Sims (Desc. 87-K)

It was with five busloads of 10th Mtn Div veterans and their families that we attended the Memorial Day service at the Florence cemetery. The group included me, my brothers Larry and Mark, my nephew Kyle, and my dad, Elwood Sims (87-K). For one momentous year of his life, Dad was a frontline infantryman with the 10th Mountain. Of the original 192 men of his company who landed on Jan. 13, 1945, at Naples, 29 would be killed and 144 would be wounded. Of those 29, 11 lie in peace at the cemetery in Italy.

After the ceremony, we walked down the gentle slope with its lush, manicured lawns. The precise symmetry of the layout brought to mind Flanders Fields—"In Flanders fields, the poppies blow, between the crosses, row on row." We made our way to Plot D, Row 4, Grave 15. This is the final resting place of William H. Wentworth (87-K), native of New Hampshire, killed in action April 21, 1945. Wentworth and my dad were foxhole buddies in the same platoon.

When I was growing up, Dad told a lot

(Continued on Descendant Page ?)



Elwood Sims (87-K) at the Florence, Italy, cemetery site of his comrade, William H. Wentworth.



ISOLA BELLA DINNER SUITABLE CONCLUSION TO JOURNEY

Christina Wilson (Desc. 87-K)

Standing on a small pier on Lake Maggiori in the rain, my jacket hood nearly blocking my vision, I could not help thinking how appropriately matched the weather was to my mood. This was my last day in Italy. Our group had said their goodbyes at the Farewell Banquet the evening before; this morning we'd left Riva del Garda and those going on to Austria for the extended tour, and honestly, I was not ready to go home.

Rain and hail pounded the bus during

the whole ride from Milan. Once in Stresa, we were greeted with yet more heavy rain. Sloshing through the flooded, narrow streets doing last-minute panic shopping with my brothers, I envied the smart people who had ducked for cover in a pub. The rain began to let up, and we were signaled to gather on the dock where about 60 of us loaded onto slippery boat taxis to whisk us off to little Isola Bella (beautiful island).

Excitedly we hopped off the boats to explore the truly magical setting. Once a humble fishing village, it was transformed by an aristocratic family who built a fabulous villa in the mid 1600's. Past visitors include Napoleon and his wife Josephine, Joseph Stalin, Edward Gibbon and Caroline Brunswick, the Princess of Wales. Some of us took a tour of the palace and gardens where pure white peacocks could be spotted. I chose to dry off a bench and soak in what I knew would be some of the final banter to be had over beer and ice cream with my new 10th Mtn Descendant friends.

The group then gathered for dinner where we also celebrated Chuck Emerson's (Desc 604-HQ) 10th birthday with an enthusiastic rendition of "Happy Birthday". He was a good sport, knowing that he probably would have preferred a chocolate "Transformers" cake instead of the celebratory desert with live, enor-

(Continued on Descendant Page 4)



Members of the Descendants Board of Directors at their July, 2009, meeting in Denver, Colorado.



The *Descendant Blizzard* is edited by Bryan Pullen. Descendants: News, stories, announcements, letters, photos etc. are most welcome — this is your *Blizzard*! Contact Bryan Pullen at 708 S. 6th Street, Davis OK 73030 or email: bryanpullen@cablone.net.

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(* denotes Executive Committee)

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Val Rios (Desc. 87-K)

Dear 10th Mountain Descendant Family:

Yesterday, the Sierra Nevada Chapter had its annual meeting in Sacramento and the message this time is a result from that meeting.

The first thing that was quite noticeable was the absence of several regular attendees. I did receive a few email regrets prior to the meeting. One veteran cited poor health for not being able to attend. Another said the distance was a bit much, and a third veteran said he is no longer driving. Each of them apologized for not being able to attend and each of them said how much they have enjoyed past luncheons and how they miss getting together with their buddies.

So, the first request I have for descendants is to become involved. Try to attend your local Chapter activities and, more importantly, see if it is possible to help with transportation for our veterans and their wives. For many of our veterans, unless we can provide transportation, they will not be able to attend Chapter events. Besides my father, I took two other veterans and a descendant to our luncheon, and the conversation along the way was just great!

Second, have you considered visiting or calling homebound veterans and/or widows? I know our lives are quite busy and full, but visiting or calling our veterans just makes their day! I am going to make this one of my personal goals and I will keep you posted on my progress.

Third, get your dad's oral history done right away! One descendant came up to me after our meeting and told me how important it is to get the oral histories of our 10th veterans done as soon as possible. We cannot afford to lose our 10th veterans without having their histories recorded and preserved for future generations. If you need help or would like more information on how to conduct an oral history please contact me! I will do whatever I can to help.

Fourth, please consider applying and/or renewing your membership for 2010. It is extremely important that you become and/or continue your membership. A portion of your dues goes back to your local chapter to help support chapter events and activities. But more importantly, your membership helps ensure that Descendants Inc. will continue to preserve the legacy of our fathers and the WWII 10th Mtn Div soldiers. Applications can be downloaded from our web site at <http://10thmtndivdesc.org/>.

Finally, as I looked around the room at our luncheon on Saturday, I felt so honored to be in the midst of such esteemed men. Men, who some 65 years ago, put everything on the line for their country. So we concluded our luncheon with the singing of "Ninety Pounds of Rucksack" and you should have heard them sing. Eighty- and ninety-year-old men; some hard of hearing, some vision impaired, and others quite frail, belting out the chorus "Singing 90 pounds of rucksack, a pound of grub or two..." It was indeed a sight to behold!

Sempre Avanti!

GENERATIONS AT FLORENCE CEMETERY

(Continued from Descendant Page 1)

of humorous stories about things that happened during "The Big Show," but here at this military cemetery several thousand miles from home, I heard a war story from Dad, for the first and only time.

In hushed tones, his voice nearly breaking up, he took us back to a Spring day in 1945. The German army was on the run, in full retreat across the Po Valley, with the 10th Mtn Div in close pursuit. Co. K was in the vicinity of Madonna della Provvidenza, about halfway between Bologna and Modena. The 3rd platoon was in a flanking movement, closing in on the rear of a German company. Dad and Wentworth were several yards apart, going through a field, when a German

sniper opened up from under a haystack. In that split-second the German only had time to pick off one of the two Americans, and he chose Wentworth.

At 39, William Wentworth was one of the oldest men in a company filled with soldiers in their late teens or early twenties. Back in rural New Hampshire, his wife, Flora, would have received the news many weeks later by way of a telegram, and probably a personal letter from Captain Eddy, the company commander.

At Wentworth's grave 58 years later, Dad grappled with the fate which randomly chose him over Wentworth, chose him to finish out a long and fulfilling life while his buddy's life was cut short. Just twelve days after Wentworth's death, the war in Europe would end.

VISIT THE DESCENDANTS WEBSITE

www.10thmtndivdesc.org



ARMADILLO

Phebe Davol (Daughter 86-L, HQ)

Since the Armadillo Chapter Veterans and Descendants seem to work very well together with great assistance from Jeannie Guerras (Daughter 710 ORD-HQ) and Heidi Brendemihl (Granddaughter 10-HQ Chaplain-3-BN) and Phebe Davol, it is often difficult to prepare two separate articles for the Blizzard.

To elaborate on the DVD mentioned under the Armadillo Chapter article, the original letters written by Phebe's father Donald, from enlistment and training at Camp Hale, Camp Swift and finally deployment to northern Italy, were scanned and are electronically maintained on the DVD for herself and family members. During the Descendants' board meeting in Denver this summer, she donated the original letters to the Denver Public Library as part of the 10th Mtn Div Resource Center collection.

As mentioned in the Armadillo Chapter article, a reunion is planned in New Orleans from February 18-22, 2010. Activities will include a tour of the National WWII Museum where a future exhibit regarding the Northern Italy Campaign is in the works. The Chapter cordially invites other members from other chapters to join them for a fun-filled weekend (after Mardi Gras when New Orleans is more relaxed). Please refer to the announcement inset in this Blizzard, or contact Phebe Davol at #512.917.0423 or Davol_Phebe@bah.com.



SIERRA NEVADA

Val Rios (Desc 87-K)

A fall luncheon was hosted by the Sierra Nevada Chapter on Oct. 10 at the Dante Club in Sacramento.

Sixteen descendants along with 18 veterans/wives attended the luncheon. Chapter President Val Rios gave updates concerning the Association, Foundation, and Chapter. He encouraged Descendants to renew their membership and to make plans to attend the 2010 National Reunion in Watertown, NY.

A HIDDEN PIECE OF HISTORY

Enno & Penny Heuscher (Friends of the 10th)

Penny and Enno Heuscher, friends of the 10th and affiliates of the National Ski Patrol, were very happy with the Sempre Italia trip and all the new friends they made. Their own extended trip in Europe took them into Switzerland just beyond the Italian border. In Ascona, they had the opportunity to meet a minister who had close affiliation with the Steines family, who moved from Germany to Switzerland just before the war broke out in 1936. They bought a house in Ascona, very close to Enno's grandfather's place.

Some of the Steines family moved to the USA during the war, where the brother of Mr. Steine's wife had immigrated and had landed a job with the CIA. This brother was in charge of getting the German Generals in Italy and the Allies together in one place to hammer out a peace

agreement. He decided to use the Steines family home in Ascona as a secret meeting place. The German leaders were disguised and secretly came across the border into Switzerland around March 1945, to meet with the Allied leadership at the Steines residence.

These officers were risking their lives if discovered in Switzerland because they were acting without Hitler knowing of it. Multiple meetings took place there, and a cease-fire agreement was finally reached on May 2, 1945. A granite plaque commemorates the meeting site.

This was very exciting to see after knowing all that went on with the 10th Mountain Campaign. We wanted to share this find with all the 10th Mountain Veterans and descendants.



Descendants in the Midwest Chapter start young, including Winnie Evans, (616-HQ), left, here joining Ethelyn Schlueter (604-A) Patty Larocca (616-HQ), Janice Fuglsang (126-A), Joy Hafer (87-G) Mary Broughton (126-A) and Meg Evans (616-HQ).

MIDWEST

Patty Larocca (Desc 616-HQ)

The Midwest Chapter Descendants had their annual reunion with the Veterans Oct. 1-4 in Carol Stream, IL. The month before the reunion we had a meeting at my house to go over details and come up with new ideas to entertain the vets. Louis Clarizio came to talk to us Thursday afternoon. Louis was one of three white players on the national Negro Baseball team during the 50's. He told us of his experiences and challenges he had back then. Everyone really enjoyed his talk and most of all his sense of humor.

We held a fun afternoon playing Wii bowling. Many of our veterans said they had not bowled in years. They sure could have fooled us. Once they got the hang of how to play the game they got pretty competitive. Bob Miller's (85-A) wife Erika had a 151 game.

We also had fun with Fantasy horse racing. We watched recorded races from Arlington Park racetrack and made pretend bets on the horses. John LaRocca and I paid the winners in play money.

Friday night was game night, with a Hawaiian theme. Most had on Hawaiian wear and of course the customary lei was worn by all. Blow-up palm trees, flamingo lights and tiki lanterns were part of the décor. Thanks to our new president Jerry Jurina (Assoc 616-B) for help hanging the lanterns and lights. Descendants helped with the games and fun was had by all.

Saturday night was inauguration. As in many Chapters, Descendants are taking on leadership positions. New officers are Jerry Jurina, President, Patty LaRocca, Vice-President, Carl Nawrot (Decs 87-Med-D) Treasure and Diane Jurina, Secretary. Janice Fuglsang (125-A) and Joy Hafer (87-G) were appointed as board members. All look forward to upholding our new responsibilities in the customary fashion that the 10th Veterans have held for so long. We will carry on all the traditions and represent the Midwest in the way our fathers did before us. I really would like to thank our fathers once more for all their efforts in keeping the spirit of the 10th alive. I thank my father for giving me the chance to share this time with him and all his comrades. It has changed my life and the lives of others.



On Sempre Italia trip, from left, Harry Coleman (86-B), Denise Taylor (Desc 126-D) and Harvey Wieprecht (86-F) at the base of Riva Ridge.



Descendants' "Vacation-Action-Committee" made use of 10th Mtn huts in the Leadville, CO, area last summer. Happy hikers are Debby Clem, Nancy Kramer, Debbie Edwards, Shawn Edwards, Steve Clem and Abbie Kealy.

COMMITTEE GETS PEOPLE OUT

Abbie Kealy (Niece, 86-L)

The fabled Vacation-Action-Committee (VAC) led its inaugural event in July, an overnight hike to the 10th Hut Association's Sangree Froelicher Hut near Leadville, CO. Hitting the trail were Debby Clem, Nancy Kramer, Debbie Edwards, Shawn Edwards, Steve Clem and Abbie Kealy.

Everyone is welcome at VAC events, which are low-key, self-organized, cheap, easy and a good time. Look for another Vacation-Action-Committee adventure to explore the amazing 1000 Islands region a couple of days preceding the 2010 National Reunion. Besides connecting with very fun 10th Descendants, families, vets and friends of all ages, there will be a public service component. Exact details are TBD, but in the meantime you can check out the 1000 Islands region online at www.1000islands.com.

ISOLA BELLA DINNER

(Continued from Descendant Page 1)
 mous flowers presented in gourmet flair. Then, not to be outdone by our birthday singing, Hugh Evans (85-A,C) stood up and treated us with a fine vocal. It was an unforgettable moment. I'm certain I was not the only one in the room who was reflecting on this incredible, life-changing trip retracing our fathers' boot prints. I felt extremely grateful for my own Dad and all those living and now gone without whom we'd not be having dinner and singing at Isola Bella. The sun had broken out from behind the clouds just in time to rest on the day. It warmed the room with a glow as Hugh sung passionately, as if the sun also wished to pay tribute to the moment. It was then I noticed that, once again, the weather had perfectly matched my mood.

SLOVENIANS WELCOME TENTH VETS WITH POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE

Several participants in the Sempre Italia: Return to Italy trip went on north after the initial journey, to be welcomed by Slovenians who remember the part the 10th Mtn Div played in bringing and maintaining peace to the area in the aftermath of WWII.

Headed by BG Janez Kavar (Ret.), president of the Slovenian Organization of Mountain Soldiers, a contingent of area residents gathered with their guests in Hotel Alp at the base of Mount Mangart.

The mountain was the scene on June 3, 1945, of a race featuring soldiers of the 10th. At Log pod Mangartom, a grand opening was held of an exposition of the "Great Race" at which photos, equipment and other items are featured in several exhibits.

Activities also included a ceremony at the Monument to Fallen WWI soldiers, where the Americans, led by former Association president John Duffy (86-HQ-2), laid a wreath. Other vets attending were Jim Bray (87-K), William Eimstad (86-C), Ervin Huckbody (85-B), Gerry



Some travelers in Sempre Italia trip went on to warm welcome in Slovenia, where they participated in impressive ceremony at monument to soldiers of World War I.

Nash (605-A), Phillip Stevens, (85-C, E) and Harvey Wieprecht (86-F).

The hospitality of our Slovenian hosts was greatly appreciated! The Association

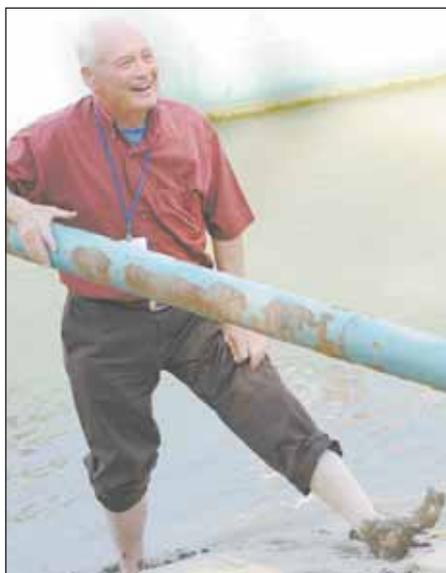
especially wishes to recognize BG Kavar for his work locating the site of the 1945 ski races, and for his leadership throughout our group's visit.



Armed with flags of their countries, Sammy Maitin (Desc 85-K) forges a fourth-generation friendship with an Italian friend atop Mt Belvedere.



Italian friend Roberto shows Eric Clifton (Desc 85-M) and Robby White (Desc 604-HQ) original WWII equipment during Sempre Italia trip.



Hugh Evans' (85-A,C) feet were popular among Sempre Italia photographers as he washed the Po River mud off them. Hugh's feet were captured 65 years earlier as he was drying out his socks on a training maneuver.



Armadillo Chapter

--All Chapters Invited!--

RIVA RIDGE-MOUNT BELVEDERE CELEBRATION

In New Orleans, Louisiana
 February 19-21, 2010



Activities Include:

- National World War II Museum Tour
- Banquet Saturday Night

Block of rooms reserved (2/18-22) at Dauphine Orleans Hotel

For more information or to register:

Phebe Davol,
 #512.917.0423,
 or
 Davol-Phebe@bah.com



ARMADILLO

Heidi Brendemihl (Granddaughter 10-HQ Chaplain-3-BN) and Phebe Davol (Daughter 86-L, HQ)

Many thanks to veterans and descendants who participated in an enjoyable luncheon on June 27th, in San Antonio, TX. Twenty-six attended, an excellent turnout for our mid-year get-together. Once again Col Jack Davis (10-RECON, 87-I) hosted the Chapter in the lovely Sky Lounge at The Army Residence Community.

Most attendees were from the Central Texas Region, but we were fortunate to also have Norman Dorsey (87-HQ) and his family make the trip from Houston. Other veterans included Mogens Halgren (85-C), Jack Davis, Dillon Snell (86-L) and Charles(Allen) Stewart (86-C). Col Davis also introduced Col Tom Kane (85-I) as his guest.

As he typically does, Col Davis had a table displaying his extensive collection of 10th Mountain books, papers and memorabilia. There are always several new periodicals or books that reference 10th Mountain history that are interesting to peruse and Joe Anne Halgren's (85-C, wife) photo albums of past trips to Italy were enjoyed.

Phebe Davol's DVD of over 200 of her father's letters to his family as he made the trip from Camp Hale to Camp Swift and finally to Italy during his enlistment in the 10th Mountain Division was also on exhibit. She scanned the original letters and the DVD includes the original envelopes with postmarks. During the Descendants' board meeting in Denver this summer, she donated the original letters to the Denver Public Library as part of the 10th Mtn Resource Center collection.

The Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation by Col Davis and an introduction of the veterans in attendance preceded an excellent three course lunch. Phebe gave an update of Armadillo Chapter business with further discussion of the annual meeting in New Orleans, LA, in 2010. We are all looking forward to this meeting, which will include a trip to the WWII museum and exhibit containing the 10th's role during the war.

Other business included encouraging participation of descendants and 10th (LI) members in Armadillo Chapter events, and discussion of having at least two events per year as part of continuing support in the organization. Mogens Halgren told a very funny story about how he enlisted in the Army, and we concluded with all singing "90 Pounds of Rucksack."

Future Chapter activities include a reunion in New Orleans Feb. 19-21, 2010. For more information, see ad on Decendant's Page 4.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN

Hugh W. Evans (85-A, C)

The Rocky Mountain Chapter has been contacted by Honor Flight to see if there are 10th WW II Veterans that they can honor by flying them to Washington, DC to see the War Memorial. A number of years ago this very fine effort began in the Midwest and has been expanding all over the country (see article, this Edition).

Turn about is fair play. There are those that wish to honor us, and now Chapter president Phil Berg wants us to honor those that are serving by Adopting-a-Platoon. Many other Chapters have led in this endeavor. We plan to take on a unit in the next brigade headed to the Middle East. Phil also thanks past Chapter president, George Loudis (86-H) for great guidance he is giving our new, Descendant, novice president.

The last 2009 Glen Hines (85-A) Honorary Trash Bash took place on October 27. In 16 years of picking up trash, Glen has been in on 15. The Northwest Chapter headed by Jim Bray (87-K) has been the only other chapter follower. Their program also includes planting a tree along the highway for every chapter 10th vet that dies.

Chapter Descendants' now-annual brunch, took place on Saturday, Aug. 1, 2009 at Sterne Park in Littleton. It has become a grand affair topped off with raffle prizes and Orville Tomky's (126-B) giving everyone some of his superb cantaloupe. About 60 of all ages attended.

On Aug. 19 the Colorado Historical Society had an official ground breaking ceremony in Denver at their new building site one block south on Broadway from where they presently are. There is going to be a two-year transition period.

Join us for Chapter lunches the last Monday of each month at the Country Buffet just off C-470 and Quebec at 11:30 a.m. Some 25 made it to the free lunch Sept. 28 when Edie Kaufman told about her life as a teenager in Linz during WW II bombing raids, and how at the end she met this American GI that turned out to be OK. She married him three years later. Sempre Avanti!

SOUTHEAST

Cindy Partridge (Assoc)

The Chapter's October Festivities were held at the Embassy Suites in Greenville, SC, Oct. 9-11, 2009. Don't let the Oktoberfest in the title worry you; Vets are still telling their stories in which they re-fight WWII battles against the Germans.

President Ed Van Romer (87-I) and his companion Coness Gillespie planned and executed a superb reunion. Kudos for their outstanding efforts. The number of participants increased quite a bit. Last time there were 9 veterans and 31 participants, and this time the numbers were up to 13 out of 40.

Bill (616-HQ) & Mary Weber, both in their 90s, were welcomed back after an absence of several years. They drove from Florida to South Carolina with their granddaughter and her husband, Mary & Bill Edling. Treasurer Cindy Partridge, former National and SE Chapter President Paul Gunderman (605-MED), his wife Dolores, as well as Robert (110-Sig) & Jeanne Strong completed the Florida group.

Ever-faithful Bernice Detwiler (86-L [W]) & JoAnn Shahan (Desc) made the trip from Ohio, bringing Eileen Joy (87-B&D [W]). Mogens (85-C), & Joe Anne Halgren made the trek from Texas. Harry & Lorraine Coleman were there from Michigan, along with their son Jerry, a Greenville local. Other locals included Vera Lee Pickens, Stan (86-F) & Barbara Young with their grandson Jeffrey & wife Heather. Jewell Hunt, recent widow of Charlie Hunt (86-C), helped Coness Gillespie at banquet check-in time.

Georgians present included Clarence "Dick" Hawkins (85-L), Jim (86-L) & Arlene Carden, Ruben (87-G) & Julia Mobley, and Ed O'Quinn (605-B) & son Frankie. Carol Rains, Ernie's daughter, and Kristina Kegley (daughter of George (85-E) & Geri DeSalvio hail from North Carolina, along with Glen (87-M) & Mary Robinson. Others were Margaret McCoy-Wyatt (605-A [W]) & Chris Proudfoot.

A unanimous vote maintains the same officers, despite Ed Van Romer's plea for a change of leadership. Ed remains President, Ray Zelina (in absentia) is Vice President, and Cindy Partridge continues as treasurer. Ray (605-A) & Carol had to cancel at the last minute when he took ill; we wish him a speedy recovery.

Mogens Halgren suggested having the next reunion at Ocala, FL, but eventually it was agreed that there was no way that we could find a better place than Greenville.

The Adopt-A-Platoon program founded by National President, Mike Plummer (10th Mtn Div [LI]). was discussed. Some veterans are sending care packages and receiving acknowledgements whereas others don't know whether or not the soldiers receive their gifts. As an alternative, Patti Coleman, Jerry's wife, is secretary to the Greenville Upstate Blue Star Moms. They are those who have a son or daughter serving in the military. Arrangements were made for Chapter members to donate to this group which has already adopted a 10th Mtn Div platoon and will be adopting another one in January. Our donations to this organization would be used directly for the 10th Mtn Div soldiers. Since the group is voluntary, there are no administrative costs.

We had our own SE Chapter Bailout Plan at the banquet; each and every attendee received some sort of monetary award; grand prize went to Vera Lee Pickens, local friend of the Colemans. Glen Robinson gave the invocation and Eileen Joy provided entertainment.

Our next reunion dates are April 16-18, 2010, again at Embassy Suites, Greenville, SC.

"There was Jared's compassion. He was the kid at school who, upon seeing a student eating lunch alone, would walk over and befriend him. He was the teenager who cut down a spruce tree in his yard so a single mom in town would have a Christmas tree for her children. He even bought the ornaments and the presents. He was the soldier in Afghanistan who received care packages, including fresh clothes, and gave them away to Afghan children who needed them more."

--President Obama,
at White House Medal of Honor Ceremony



Southeast Chapter member Bill Weber (616-HQ) is in his nineties. He missed the past few reunions, but showed up this time with his motorized scooter.



Midwest Reunion participants, front row, left, Jake Pollack (85-HQ-2), Bull Ludemann (85-HQ-3), Robert Duvall (85-B), Les Davis (86-HQ), Edmund Barys (604-C), Bob Miller (85-A), Donald Steffen (604-A). Back row, Kroy Ostergaard (85-D), Dick Soutar (616-HQ), Ray Jorgensen (604-B), Ken Hanson (85-MED-2), Gerald Lundby (86-L, M) and Joe Badamo (86-B). Not pictured, Bob Foreman (85-I, M).

MIDWEST

Janice Fuglsang (Desc 126-A-ENG)

Fourteen vets and their families attended the Chapter reunion at the Holiday Inn, Carol Stream, IL, Sept. 30-Oct. 4, 2009.

Our thanks to Patty LaRocca (Desc 616-HQ), for organizing another great reunion enjoyed by all. Our chaplain, Gerald Lundby (86 L, M), planned the Saturday memorial service that included the color guard from the American Legion Post #76 of Carol Stream, singing of 'God Bless America' and Taps. On Sunday morning, he led us in a service of morning prayer with music provided by local talents, Lisa Ashley and her son Hayden

The torch has been passed to the MW descendants, and we welcome our new Chapter officers: Jerry Jurina (Desc [son-in-law] 616-B), president; Patty LaRocca, vice president; Diane Jurina, secretary; and Carl Nawrot (Desc 87-MED-D), treasurer. Joy Hafer (Desc 87-G) and Janice Fuglsang were elected board members. A sincere thank-you to all past MW chapter officers for their leadership and guidance since 1975.

Our sympathy to Donald Steffen (604-A) and his daughters in the loss of his wife, Joan, in April, 2009. We are also saddened at the passing of Frank Roccaforte (85-MED-B) in Aug., 2009. Frank was dedicated to the 10th, served as past Chapter president and for many years was membership chairman. His leadership, humor and friendship will truly be missed but he will remain in our hearts with cherished memories. Our condolences to Frank's sister, Toni, and her family.



Quartermaster's Corner

QUARTERMASTER - FRANK THORNTON (Descendant)

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UPSTATE NEW YORK

Bill Morrison (86-L)

To commemorate the birth of the 10th in 1943, the annual Whiteface Mountain Ceremony took place on Aug. 12, 2009, a beautiful day in the Adirondacks. This is our most popular activity, and nearly 30 Chapter members and friends were present.

Ft Drum provided a large contingent, led by MG and Mrs Mike Oates, CSM and Mrs. Redmore, the very talented Division band which was recently featured in the "Green Book" of the Assn. of the U.S. Army,* color guard and colors of various units, and a firing squad. This is a major commitment for the Division, and one we very much appreciate. The Roll Call segment of the program reminds us deeply of comrades lost on distant battlefields. We also remember that for many soldiers of the 10th (LI) their wars are not yet over. (Ed. Note: The "Green Book" also features SSG Michael Johnston, U.S.A. Drill Sergeant of the Year, on the cover; he completed 2 combat tours in Afghanistan with the 10th Mtn Div.)

After winning the "honors" of past years with some 16-17 family members attending, Bill Gallagher (86-E) & Thomasina came alone, since their annual gathering did not coincide with Whiteface this time. Others present were Bill Millette & Beverly Forderman (605-FA), Howard Sebald (605-FA), George & "Mugsy" Fuge (86-C), Norma Harter (86-E), Carl & Marjorie Newton (86-C), Weir Stewart (86-F), Bernie Bola (86-E), Harold McAfee (85-L), Bob & Rose Dakin (87-D), Bruno Baldachi (87-F), Mike Plummer (10th LI), John & Lois Woodward (87-HQ), Eudora Shuler (86-MED [W]) & Patricia Benson, Francis & Jeanne LaDuc (86-E), Shirley & Gene Ernst-Haase (86-A), Dave Hanning (Assoc), Phil Santasiero & Emmy (87-K), Mary Parry, longtime Friend of the 10th, and Bill Morrison.

Mike Plummer, Association President and I were invited to witness the presentation of the Medal of Honor to the family of SFC Jared Monti at the White House on Sept. 17, 2009. Sergeant Monti was honored posthumously for his great heroism and self-sacrifice when his patrol was ambushed in Afghanistan in 2006 (see full story, this Edition). President Obama stressed his personal commitment to the welfare of his soldiers. The next day at the Pentagon ceremony, this 10th Mountain soldier was formally inducted into the Hall of Heroes, dedicated to the memory of America's greatest warriors.

We attended several events at Ft Drum recently. On July 21, "The Timbers," new housing for single soldiers, was dedicated; each of the four new units is named for a ski area: Whiteface, Aspen, Vail and Pico. Information presented at the dedication was provided by Art Thompson (86-F), John Imbrie (85-C), Dick Wilson (85-M), Howard Koch (86-C) and Doug Wolfe, Research Center at Whiteface. Soldiers housed there will be very comfortable, certainly not as Spartan as the barracks at Camp Hale.

The 10th has a new commander: MG James Terry has succeeded General Oates as leader. He is not new to Drum, having served in other capacities in previous tours. Present to welcome Gen. Terry were Norma Harter (86-E), George & "Mugsy" Fuge (86-C), Bill Millette & Beverly Felderman, Howard Sebald (605-FA), Nancy Looby (85-I), Walt Chapman (86-HQ-1) and family, Bonnie O'Shea and Bill Morrison.

A luncheon was held at the Log Jam Restaurant at Lake George on Oct. 8. Nancy Looby (85-I) sent out notices. Howard Sebald offered fine words of all we have to be thankful for. Joining us for beautiful North Country scenery were Bob & Rose Dakin, Harold & Lorraine McAfee, Mike & Jane Melas (87-E), Bill Millette & Beverly Forderman, Phil & Emmy Santasiero, Phil & Marguerite Stevens (86-C), Stan Heidenreich (86-G) & Delores Van Deusen, Bob Krause (87-G), Bob & Florence Wright (85-G), first-time visitor Jill Hamlin (Desc 86-A), Treasurer and new President of the Upstate Descendants, and Bill Morrison.

UTAH

Sandy Eldredge (Desc 85-L)

Veterans and Descendants gathered at Ron Sawdey's (Desc 87-B) on Sept. 12, 2009.

Thanks to the driving force of Frank Chuk (85-MED-2), visiting from the Northwest Chapter, the social event was attended by eight descendants, 7 veterans and four wives: Bill Christensen (87-E), Maxine MacDuff and son Malcolm, Valorie Winter Calef (Desc), Jock Glidden (Desc 87-L), Fred (126-A) and Edith Leach, Leif and Ruth Syversen (85-F), Jim Powell, Rai Kalyan (Desc), Emmett Parker (85-F) and son Jeff, Chapter President Sandy Eldredge, and Bob (85-C), Barbara and daughter Stephanie Woody.

Members are considering how best to replace the plaque at Park City Ski Resort that honors Utah's 10th Mtn Div soldiers who were killed in action in WWII. Not only is there another name to add, but the Chapter is hoping to have the plaque placed in a more prominent position.

VISIT THE 10TH WEBSITE

www.10thmtndivassoc.org



Autumn sunset cast warm colors across Big Sky members as they enjoyed dinner and conversation at the Stensgar Pavilion. A generous drawing saw several highly-prized 10th Mtn afgans and jackets being won.

BIG SKY

Suz Rittenhouse (Desc 87-HQ-2)

The Chapter returned to Worley, ID, for its 2009 annual meeting in September. The Coeur d'Alene Casino provided a perfect setting at the Stensgar Pavilion, since the glassed-in pavilion sits on the edge of an attractively landscaped golf course. Attendees could enjoy the beautiful Fall colors while staying out of the weather.

On Friday attendees registered, visited and enjoyed feasting on smoked salmon. Saturday included a business meeting chaired by President Jerry Reed (Desc 87-HQ-1), with reports from secretary/treasurer (87-HQ-1) Larry Wilson.

The 10th Mtn Veterans Administration Big Sky Chapter memorial bench project features a bench built for the Columbia Falls VFW park. Benches are proposed for the Missoula, MT; Boise, ID; Pocatello, ID; and Laurel, MT, V.A. cemeteries if there is interest.

John Cramer (87-HQ-2) accepted a Big Sky Chapter plaque and 10th Mtn Div Assn Distinguished Service Award for Orlo Johnson (87-HQ-2), who died this year. John will present the awards to the family.

The 10th Mtn Div Descendants meet annually in Denver. Larry Wilson is board member representing the Chapter. Because these trips are expensive, Joanne Manchester (87-K [W]) moved to make \$250 available to each of two proxies for Big Sky Chapter to attend.

Chuck Hauptman (85-HQ-3) attended the funeral of Montana 10th Mtn Div (LI) soldier Sgt Terry J. Lynch, who died in Afghanistan this past year ("Blizzard" Edition #2, 2009). Division CG MG Michael Oates also attended. Chuck was especially touched with how General Oates treated him, Bob Coop (87-B) and Fred Ernst (87-B) at the funeral.

The Chapter will again adopt a 10th Mtn Platoon. Suz Rittenhouse as current Vice President will become the president on November 1; Jim Walsh is new Vice President (Jim was not present, so let this be a warning to those who do not attend!). Larry was to stay on as secretary/treasurer until a successor was found, and after the meeting Louisa Durkin (85-HQ-3 [W]) graciously volunteered to replace him.

On Saturday afternoon a white elephant auction was held to raise money to publish the Chapter's "Mini Blizzard" and other special projects. Mae Bagley (85-G) did a great job of assisting, while Larry Wilson and Jerry Reed gave a repeat performance of keeping everyone laughing uproariously while wringing the last pennies from the bidders, raising over \$700. Attendees at the event were James Ayres (604th FA BN), Jenny Dancy (604th FA BN), Bob and Mae Bagley, John and Shirley Cramer, Louisa St. John Durkin, Chuck and Anne Hauptman, Ray and Vickie Johnson (85-G), Hilton LaBow (85-E, 90-L), Linda Seibel, (D 85-E, 90-L), Teles and Marjory Lauzon (604-A) and their children: Kelley, George, Maria, Rich, Thomas, John and Margene McLellan (87-HQ-1), Joanne Manchester, Lex and Kevin Rausch (D 87-HQ-2), Suz Rittenhouse, Jerry Reed, Dan and Joann Ruddell (604-HQ), Larry Wilson, Jim and Lorraine Bray (87-K), Bob and Roberta Emerson, (604-HQ), Robert and Eleanor Coop, and Jim and Monique Belcher (87-B, HQ).



With video camera in hand, Hilton LaBow (85-E, 90-L) became meeting videographer at a Fall gathering of the Big Sky Chapter. DVD's were sent to attendees, but Hilton says he'll bring more tape next year.

MT. RAINIER

Dale Smith (10th MP)

The June Chapter meeting was held at the Seattle Yacht Club, and Dr. Betsy Devin-Smith, coach of the Methow Valley Biathlon Team, as well as a veterinarian, presented the program. She is the daughter of Doug Devin, a well known skier and friend of many of our members. The principle problem for the team is availability of biathlon rifles which are specially-made for competition and can cost upwards of \$4,000. A number of members sent their contributions to Dr. Devin-Smith.

Twenty-seven attended the July 14 meeting at the Golden Steer in Kent. Eleven U.S. Army Veterans were presented with Freedom Team Awards and Pins. They are signed by Gen. George W. Casey, Chief of Staff, and Pete Geren, Secretary of the Army. They are for outstanding service to the Nation and recognize patriotism and continued support of the Army family. Veterans not present will receive awards by mail. Art Farash (CW3 Ret.) from North Bend, is a local Army Freedom Team Salute Ambassador.

We watched a videotape of the 1989 ski outing at Snoqualmie Pass photographed by Jim Nussbaum. Karl Stingl had the troopers outfitted with white coveralls to imitate the WWII garb.

Good luck with weather started with the August annual picnic at Karl and Sunny Stingl's home. We were honored to have a couple of visitors, including Stingl's neighbor, Chris Wedes, who performed on local TV as a clown on the kid's show, JP Patches, and is always entertaining. Joe Martinez from Lynwood VFW described Post 1040 Veterans Park Brick Program. Donors can honor a veteran or family by purchasing a brick that can be inscribed with a name or a message.

Tom and Evelyn Campbell were there from Sequim courtesy their daughter and son-in-law, Carol and Charlie Michel. Tom is still playing golf, and says you do not need two arms to shoot a decent score.

The annual Return to Mt. Rainier, Sept. 8, was a huge success attended by 41. The mountain put on a great show for us, with hardly a cloud in view. After the meal, we all congregated on the patio for the annual group picture. A number of the younger crowd went up to the monument, some aided by ski poles handed out by Gordy Dick. We were pleased at the presence of Harvey Wieprecht, Betty Anderson, and Ben and Beverly Yett from our neighbors to the south, the Northwest Chapter. They are old friends, and it was nice to be with them again.

Lou and Ingrid Whittaker again invited us to stop at Whittaker's Bunk House for a free ice cream cone or mocha, hot or iced. They are great hosts, and a number of us enjoyed refreshments and stories and information on mountain climbing.

Sadly, on Sept. 26, we lost Hal Alford, who was a longtime faithful member of the Chapter, a past president and editor of the "Avalanche." He was 92 years old, lived a very productive life, and will be greatly missed by all.

SIERRA NEVADA

Val Rios (Desc 87-K)

The Chapter held its annual Fall meeting Oct. 10, at the Dante Club in Sacramento, CA. Eighteen veterans/wives attended along with 16 descendants and everyone had a wonderful time. Chapter President Val Rios gave some updates concerning Association, Foundation, and Chapter activities. Members were pleased to know that contributions are being made to the current 10th Scholarship fund and that we are coordinating efforts to Adopt-a-Platoon.

The Chapter may be the only one to sponsor a Biathlon and we approved purchasing additional medals for the next few years.

Five members attending the luncheon participated in the 2009 Sempre Italia trip earlier this summer and reported having an absolutely wonderful time. Praises were also given to Descendant Senior Vice President Steve Coffey, who was instrumental in organizing and leading the Return to Italy trip. The luncheon concluded with a hearty singing of "Ninety Pounds of Rucksack."



FOUNDATION ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

(Continued from Page 16)

which WWII 10th Veterans participated. Resignations of Chairman, Earl Clark, and our remaining Veteran members, Hugh Evans and John Litchfield, were reluctantly accepted. These three are the last of a long list of veteran officers and directors who have served with diligence, dedication, honor and love to create, grow, and manage the Foundation so successfully over the decades. Stories were told, history relived, advice given and some tears shared as the now Descendant-managed Board honored these vets, who move to Honorary Board status. They and their numerous predecessors deserve our highest recognition.

Foundation funds have suffered along with most other financial resources as a result of the economic downturn over the last two years. In 2008, assets were peaking at approximately \$2.4 million. Over the next year they declined to a low of about \$1.7 million. Through intense strategies by our financial management firm, Cornerstone Capitol Advisors, and with the addition of significant contributions from the 10th community, assets in-

creased to about \$2.1 million as of the July meeting. To put this in perspective, as much of the rest of the market suffered 40-60% losses, the Foundation experienced approximately a 30% loss. Conservative guidance given by the Board and skills of our financial management firm have served us well, relatively speaking. At this writing (August report) assets are over \$2.2 million.

The slim financial year resulted in a pared-down budget for 2010. The Foundation guideline, articulated succinctly by our veteran directors, is "Don't spend more than you earn!" Although we have occasionally invaded corpus for specifically approved purposes, the Board endeavors to adhere to this guidance (read "Your Foundation is Forever"). After budgeting for the usual costs, we were left with approximately \$6,000 to fund additional "good works." Some additional monies were identified which increased this amount to \$15,000.

A bit about Scholarships. Three new scholars accepted were Dominic Rios, freshman and Boddington Scholar, sophomore Robert Mason, and Kaori Zinke,

(Continued on Page 5)



Employees at BAE Systems in Binghamton, NY, are staunch supporters of 10th Mtn soldiers. Assn. president Mike Plummer receives another hefty check for scholarship and wounded soldiers fund.

COMPANY'S EMPLOYEES PROVIDE STRONG SUPPORT FOR WOUNDED

Employees of BAE Systems Controls Inc, Johnson City, NY, concluded their 2008 - 2009 Operation Noble Cause Campaign by donating \$31,700 to the Ft. Drum Chapter's Wounded Warrior and Scholarship funds.

Funds were raised as the result of several efforts by the workers. They included the 2nd Annual Tournament for the

Troops golf outing, a 10th Mountain flag and clothing raffle, and polo shirt sales.

In total, the BAE Systems group has donated \$70,000 to the 10th. In addition, the group has supported 50+ platoons through the Adopt-A-Platoon Program and is currently organizing to support the next deployment of a 10th Mountain brigade.

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Buddy Hunter

To the Editor:

My sister and I are looking for 10th Mountain men who may have known our Uncle, PFC Fedor (Fredy) Benjamin. He was in the 87th Regiment, Company E, and arrived at Camp Hale around March, 1944. He was killed on March 7, 1945, near Castel d'Aiano, Italy. My grandmother later received photos of the cemetery in Italy from Lt. Dale F. Barlow, Salt Lake City, UT.

It would be much appreciated if you can post this announcement in the "Blizzard." We are also curious to know of other Jewish soldiers in the 10th Mtn Div.

Karen Small

121 Graham St., Highland Park, NJ 08901, email ksmall@rci.rutgers.edu

To the Editor:

During our visit in Slovenia (following the Sempre Italia: Return to Italy trip), the guide mentioned the museum had a picture of a soldier—probably from the 87th—but did not know his name.

Here's the picture. Perhaps someone will recognize him and could pass along the information to "Descendant Blizzard" editor Bryan Pullan, at bryanpullen@cableone.net, or #580.369.5515.



Kathy & Hank Gullett
Lawrenceburg, KY

To the Editor:

I am the editor of the Durant, OK, "Daily Democrat" newspaper. My great uncle, Alvin Austin Swearingin (86-D), was KIA in Italy in Feb., 1945. He is buried at Florence. I have the letters that he wrote home before he was killed, plus his Bronze Star and Purple Heart. I have visited his grave twice and hope to go again some day. If anyone has any info on my great uncle, or there are any veterans who might have known him, please let me know.



Matt Swearingin
1945 W. Elm St., Durant, OK 74701; (h) #580.924.4104;
mswearingin@heartlandpublications.com



Adams, Clarence "Tubby" (87-K), 90, July 26, 2009, Presque Isle, ME. He is survived by 2 daughters, a son, 5 grand- and 7 great- grandchildren, and was predeceased by his wife Donald (Duncan). He was a firefighter at northern Maine U.S. Air Force SAC (Strategic Air Command) bases. He was active in sports and an avid outdoorsman, a member of the Presque Isle Country Club and American Legion, and had a special knack for cribbage. He was honored for his service with the 10th Mtn Div when the Ft. Kent Olympic Biathlon training center was opened.

Alford, Harold J. (10-HQ), 82, September 26, 2009, Bremerton, WA. He is survived by his Marie and one daughter; he was predeceased by his first wife Winifred. Born in Lincoln, NE, he joined the 10th as a special service officer at Camp Hale, and overseas was responsible for the distribution of fine wines and liquors captured from a stash of the German Officer Corps. He taught creative writing at the University of Washington, Dean of Instruction, Education Testing Service, Princeton, NJ, and Dean, College of Continuing Education and professor, journalism, Rochester Institute of Technology. He wrote six books and numerous articles on adult education, and was elected to West Seattle High School Hall of Fame. He served two terms as President, Mt. Rainier Chapter, and as editor of the "Avalanche" newsletter.

Bailey, Conrad L. (126-HQ), 87, Louisville, KY, January 20, 2009, Louisville, KY. He is survived by 2 sons, 7 grand- and 6 great- grandchildren, a sister, brother and daughter-in-law, and was predeceased by his wife Beverly and 2 sons. He was a retired carpenter and member of the carpenters union and had lived in Columbus, OH, and the Charleston, WV, area. He was a member of the VFW, the National Association of the 10th Mtn Div. and Lakeside Baptist Church in Louisville.

Baliek, William "Bill" (85-F), 88, October 24, 2008, Macon, GA. He is survived by 3 daughters, 3 grand- and 3 great- grandchildren, and was predeceased by his wife Martha (Tyner). He was a member of Forest Hills United

Methodist Church and the Marshall Sunday School class, president of the Vine-Ingle Lions Club and District Governor, Dist. 18E, Lions International.

Barry, Edward P. (86-E), February 2, 2009, Simsbury, CT. He is survived by his wife Ruth, a daughter and a son. He was severely wounded during service in Italy, but went on to earn degrees in electrical engineering and law, and spent 35 years as professional electrical engineer with Northeast Utilities Co., and was Connecticut State chairman of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers. The couple enjoyed attending many national reunions of the 10th as well as one of the Return to Italy trips, especially reuniting with other members of 86-E and their families.

Bauer, James "Jim" (85-F), 87, January 16, 2009, Storrs, VT. He is survived by 2 sons, 3 grand- and 4 great- grandchildren, a brother and sister, and was predeceased by a son; his wife Elizabeth died in July, 2009. He was wounded in the arm in Northern Italy and during extensive rehabilitation he learned to play piano, as well as trumpet, banjo and harmonica. He earned Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Rehabilitative Education from Springfield College was an instructor at the University of Connecticut at Storrs, retiring a full professor in 1980. He was President of the Connecticut Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association, and a Physical Therapy Consultant to the Mansfield Public Health Nursing Association, Natchaug Nursing Home and Hospital, and Somers prison. A member of the Lions Club, he served as president, coached the UConn wrestling team, and was an avid runner, tennis player and skier. As an amateur magician he delighted the young and the gullible with his tricks.

Covington, Octavius M. "Ock" (86-MED-HQ), September 17, 2009, Silver Spring, MD. He is survived by wife Regina (Barbella), 3 daughters, a son and 4 grandchildren; he was predeceased by a son. He spent 42 years with the Horace Mann Insurance Company, known for insuring America's teachers, in 1983, commissioned Senior Account Executive. He held many leadership positions with local

associations and civic groups, including Vice President of the Wheaton, MD, Chamber of Commerce. He served as Regional II Republican Chairman and steering committee member, and ran for office in the House of Delegates, Montgomery County, MD. An avid sports fan, he also medaled in numerous Senior Olympic events and was an avid tennis player, playing in two "Over Age 80" leagues right up to last June. A longtime member of the "Toastmasters," he loved public speaking and visiting wounded 10th Mtn Div patients at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

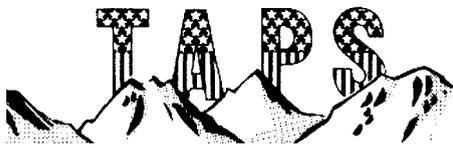
D'Agata, Fiorello J. (87-C, 86-H), March 29, 2009, Bronx, NY. He is survived by his wife Angela, a son, a daughter, 5 grand- and 6 great- grandchildren. He fought in the Spanish Civil War with the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, and in the 10th Mtn Div he taught bayonet and weapons use. His career was with the Counter-Intelligence Corps. He played golf and tennis, and skied until he was almost 80.

Foley, Forrest Lee, 84, January 5, 2009, Tilton, NH. He is survived by 4 sons, 2 daughters, 11 grand- and 5 great- grandchildren, a sister, many nieces and nephews, and was predeceased by his wife Dorothy Mary (Colburn). The couple took in many foster children as well. They lived in Belmont, where he was employed for 32 years at Markem Corporation in Keene. He served in the Army National Guard, was a member of the Marlborough Volunteer Fire Department, and a founding member of Marl-Harris Volunteer Ambulance Service. He was an active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, serving in multiple leadership capacities. He enjoyed years of service as a Boy Scout leader and loved mountain climbing, hunting and fishing. He was always ready to help anyone in need and spent countless hours in service to others. Following retirement he was self employed as a handyman in Keene and later in the Lakes Region.

Grayum, Gordon H. (110 SIG), 85, January 17, 2009, Olympia, WA. He is survived by his wife Colleen "Mickie" (Kelly), 2 daughters, 2 sons, 20 grand- and 22 great- grandchildren and a brother. A native of Puyallup, WA., he earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Washington, College of Forestry. The couple traveled the Northwest, then the world, while raising their four children. He worked for West Tacoma Newsprint, the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, the World Bank and Manke Lumber and owned his own forestry and consulting business.

Henke, Dan F. (85-E), Sept. 8, 2009, Orinda, Calif. He is survived by his wife

(Continued on next page)



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Shirley, his son and daughter-in-law, his daughter and 2 grandchildren. After the war, he attended Georgetown University Law School on the G.I. Bill and became a Professor of Law and Law Librarian at the University of California at Berkeley and the University of California, Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco. During his career, he authored several books including *The California Law Guide* and the *California Legal Research Handbook*. He enjoyed traveling in the U.S. and abroad, including a visit in the 1970s to Tuscany and sites where he had served as a soldier. He made certain all of his descendants learned how to ski.

Hillenbrand, Robert (605-HQ), 84, July 24, 2009, Naperville, IL. He is survived by his wife Betty, 2 daughters and 2 grandchildren. He began a teaching career in the 1950's after receiving a master's degree in education from the University of Chicago. He later served as principal at several Naperville schools over the years and was president of the DuPage Elementary Principal's Association in 1965-66.

Holmes, Robert Bruce (86), 87, September 4, 2009, Bartlesville, OK. He is survived by 2 sons, a daughter and 4 grandchildren, and was predeceased by his wife Wynona Lee (Bowler). He was employed by Phillips Petroleum Company, serving in administration for the Supply and Transportation Division until retirement in 1980. He was an accomplished drummer in high school and during his college days he played drums in a dance band. His love of jazz continued throughout his life.

Hunter, Bruce A. (M&CWTC), June 6, 2009 in Maple Valley, WA. He was predeceased by just a few months by his wife, Lillian. He spent most of his career in the insurance business. Early on, he developed an avid interest in skiing and mountaineering, and was a member of the UW Ski Team, coached by Karl Stingl (87-HQ-1). When he enlisted in the Army in 1955, he joined the M&CWTC, serving in a rescue detachment at Camp Hale and Ft. Carson, CO, until the unit was deactivated in 1957. For his service in one particularly hazardous rescue mission, he received a Soldier's Medal commendation from the Commanding General of Fort Carson, CO. Those who shared adventures with him will remember him as a good companion, a warm and loyal friend.

Kirbach, Arnold R. (86-K), February 22, 2009, Mendon, VT. He is survived by his wife Eleanor, 2 sons, a daughter, 6 grandchildren, and great-grandchildren

and many nieces and nephews. He taught skiing and rock climbing at Camp Hale, and was employed by General Electric for 33 years. He was a private pilot, and was inducted into the Ski Hall of Fame in 2003.

Kirkpatrick, William A. (604-A), 85, August 22, 2009, Rockport, IN. He is survived by his wife Ellen, 3 daughters and 3 sons, 15 grand- and 2 great-grandchildren, and a brother and sister. He served in both World War II and the Korean War, and was then a sprinkler fitter with Local Union 669. He was a member of American Legion Post 254 and of Trinity United Methodist Church.

Nencioni, Albert Natale (85-I), 85, October 23, 2009, Fairfax, VA. He is survived by his wife Mary, 3 daughters, 2 sons, 12 grand- and 1 great-grandchild. A native of Washington, D.C., he worked with the U.S. Postal Service after WWII, and for 25 years was Special Agent with the FBI, later working for several companies specializing in security clearances. He was coach of a neighborhood swim team, volunteer of Neighborhood Watch and attended Holy Spirit Church in Annandale, VA. He was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame of American University, and was an active member of the 10th Assn Washington, D.C. Chapter.

Pashkofsky, Edgar A. "Posh" (616 Field Arty Bn), 85, April 10, 2009, Los Angeles, CA. He is survived by his wife Lucille, 4 children, 11 grand- and 2 great-grandchildren. He was owner of Avalon Jewelry for 45 years in the Los Angeles port area. He held many civic leadership positions, and used his artistic ability to help many charities.

Riley, John J. (86-D), October 25, 2009, Amherst, MA. He is survived by his wife.

Roccaforte, Frank P. (85-Med-B), 85, August 9, 2009, Chicago, IL. He is survived by his sister, 2 nieces, a nephew, 2 great-nieces and 2 great-nephews. He graduated from Illinois Institute of Technology with a degree in Chemical Engineering, and worked for Sipi Metals before joining his sister and husband as co-owners of All Brite Edwynn Studio/Camera Shop, retiring after 32 years. He was active in the Midwest Chapter, 10th Mtn Div Assn, as president and recently membership chairman, and was a member of DAV, VFW Post #6863 and St. Joseph Holy Name Society.

Schult, Theodore H. (87-MED-3), 87, July 11, 2009, Hampshire, TN. He is survived by his wife Carol (Dolan), 3 daughters, 2 sons, 13 grand- and 6 great-grandchildren. Born in Germany, he immigrated to the US and served as combat medic with the 10th. He earned a degree from Pratt Institute and spent a career overseeing engineering projects around the world.

Seaman, Bill Wyllys (126-HQ), 92, August 27, 2009, Ann Arbor, MI. He is survived by one son, a sister, 2 brothers, and many nieces, nephews, grand-nieces and nephews, great-grandnieces and his friend Nora Nader. A graduate of Michigan College of Mines (Michigan Tech) with BS degrees in geology and metallurgy, he had served as a compassman, surveyor, assayer and drilling inspector in Costa Rica. He was severely wounded in Italy in 1945. He was a metallurgical engineer with Burke Hill and American Cyanamid, then an announcer, DJ and TV film and cameraman. His deep and resonant voice can be heard at the AE Seaman Museum with his "Iron Sea Presentation." He was an advertising agent and motion picture producer, worked in real estate in Saginaw, then moved to Detroit to work as video editor and consultant. He was a member of the local Tango group, the Finnish Center in Detroit, and was Vice President of the Lower Michigan Chapter at the time of his death.

Swedhin, Lloyd Richard (87-SVC), 90, July 6, 2009, Buena Vista, CO. He is survived by 2 sons, 5 grand- and 5 great-grandchildren, and predeceased by his wife Shirley (Waggoner). He worked for the Division of Wildlife in Buford, was superintendent for the fish hatchery at Wray, and as postmaster for Buena Vista, then with the Dept. of Corrections. He was a charter member of VFW Post 1166, American Legion Post 55, started a movement to build Mountain Medical Clinic, and was chief of the volunteer fire department. He was also active in Grace Episcopal Church, active in Mount Princeton Mason Lodge 49, and supported numerous youth programs. He also enjoyed hunting, gardening and fishing.

Welborn, Charles (86-HQ), 86, October 1, 2009, Georgetown, KY. He is survived by his sister. A retired Florida State University professor and "Baptist Hour" radio preacher, he was one of the youngest regimental sergeants major in the Army during WWII. He began his radio preaching in 1948 while a student at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. During his 10 years at Seventh and James Baptist Church adjacent to Baylor University campus in Waco, TX, he received threats after his congregation voted to open membership to people of all races and colors. He taught at Baylor, Campbell College, NC, and was dean of Florida State's campus in London. He was a published author of books, and many articles in journals.

Werner, Nathan (727-B), 93, August 3, 2009, Wayne, NJ. He is survived by his wife Deborah, 2 sons, a daughter, 7 grand- and 2 great-grandchildren. He was a licensed real estate broker for over 60 years and owner of Werner's Dept. Store, Bag Corp. and Gas Corp. He was a founder of Temple Beth Shalom. The

family lived in Florida, NY.

TAPS (LI)

Allen, SSgt. Nekl B. "Nicky" (2nd Bn, 87th Inf Rgt, 3rd BCT), 29, September 12, 2009, Wardak province, Afghanistan. He is survived by his wife Amy (Meehan), 2 sons and a daughter, and parents Daniel and Debra, and a sister. A native of Rochester, NY, he graduated from Churchville-Chili HS, joined the Army in 2002 and arrived in Ft. Drum in May, 2008. He and Spec Daniel Cox died when their vehicle was hit with small arms fire and an IED. Third Brigade deployed in January, 2009; this was Allen's third deployment; he served twice in Iraq. He enjoyed riding dirt bikes, playing paintball and activities with his children.

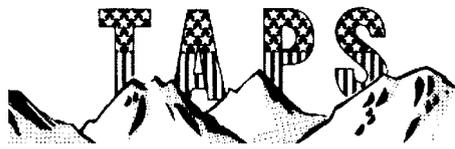
Charlton, Spc. Robert K. (2d Bn, 87th Inf Rgt, 3rd BCT), 22, October 23, 2009, Landstuhl Medical Center, Germany, of wounds sustained in Wardak province, Afghanistan. He is survived by his mother and father. A native of Malden, MO, he joined the Army in 2007, was assigned to Ft. Drum and left on his first deployment in Jan., 2009.

Coleman, Spc. Justin Dean (1st Bn, 32nd Inf Rgt, 3rd BCT), 21, July 24, 2009, Bargh-e-Matal, Nuristan province, Afghanistan. He is survived by his wife Nicole Lynn (Jenkins), and father Al. A graduate of Nature Coast Technical HS, Hernando Co., FL, he joined the Army in 2007 and was assigned to Ft. Drum that October. His unit was attacked with small arms fire and rocket propelled grenades while members were searching for missing soldier Pfc Bowe R. Berghdahl. He enjoyed computers and video games, took numerous online courses in the military, and planned to use his military pay to attend college.

Cox, Spc. Daniel L. (2nd Bn, 87th Inf Rgt, 3rd BCT), 23, September 12, 2009, Wardak province, Afghanistan. He is survived by his parents Kim B. and Sharon J., 2 sisters, grandparents, great-grandmothers, and many nieces, aunts, uncles and cousins. Born in Winfield, KS, he moved to Parsons, where he played and coached football and graduated from high school in 2005, joining the Army before graduation. He was assigned to Ft. Drum four months later. He was killed, along with SSgt. Nekl Allen, when enemy forces attacked their vehicle with in IED (Improvised Explosive Device) and small arms fire. This was his second deployment. He enjoyed four-wheeling, fishing, old trucks and cars, tinkering, and time with family and friends.

Evans, Sgt. Jerry R. Jr. (2nd Bn, 87th Inf Rgt, 3rd BCT), 23, August 7, 2009, Wardak province, Afghanistan. He is survived by his son, brother, 2 sisters and parents Martha and Jerry Sr.. Born in

(Continued on next page)



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Apopka, AL, he grew up in Eufaula. He joined the Army in 2005 and was assigned to Ft. Drum that December. He was wounded several times during his first deployment to Afghanistan. He deployed again in January, and died of wounds suffered when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle. He had been an active hunter and fisherman, and was a member of the White Oak Shores Volunteer Fire Dept. and the Eufaula Church of God.

Farris, Spec Joshua R. (2nd Bn, 87th Inf Rgt, 3rd BCT), 22, July 9, 2009, Wardak province, Afghanistan. He is survived by his father, mother Marla Farris-Calhoun and stepfather, and his grandmother. Born in Austin, TX, he grew up in Smithville where he graduated from high school, and joined the Army in 2006. He was topside gunner and was killed when an IED detonated near his vehicle. This was his second tour in Afghanistan. He had varied interests including motocross bikes and ball games, and had just ordered books sent home on how to build rock guitars.

Lightfoot, Pfc Anthony M. (4th Bn, 25 Fld Arty Rgt, 3rd BCT), 20, July 20, 2009, Wardak province, Afghanistan. He is survived by his mother Lyvonne, a brother and a sister. His home was Riverdale, GA, but he was born in Germany while his mother was stationed there, and the family moved throughout his life. He joined the Army in 2008, was assigned to Ft. Drum that June. He was a field artillery automated tactical data systems specialist and was killed with three comrades when a roadside bomb hit their HumVee following an attack by small arms and RPGs (rocket-propelled grenades). He had a passion for video games, animation and drawing, and while at Ft. Drum went on a snowboarding trip with fellow soldiers.

Lindstrom, SSgt Eric J. (1st Bn, 32nd Inf Rgt, 3rd BCT), 27, July 12, 2009, Barge Matal, Afghanistan. He is survived by his wife Tara, twin babies Olivia and Riley and his parents Ric and Kathy, a half-brother and grandmother. A graduate of Flagstaff HS, AZ., he followed his father into a job as police officer, then joined the Army in 2003; he was assigned to Ft. Drum in 2007 and had already been deployed to Iraq before his last assignment. He was killed by indirect fire from enemy forces. He had participated in marathons, among other interests.

Miller, Spec Alexander J. (1st Bn, 32nd Inf Rgt, 3rd BCT), 21, July 31, 2009,

Nuristan province, Afghanistan. He is survived by his mother Susan, stepfather Rob Nadon, a brother and 2 half-brothers. His home was Clermont, FL, and he joined the Army in 2007, completing basic training at Ft. Benning, GA, before assignment to Ft. Drum. He was killed when his unit was attacked with RPG and small arms fire. A graduate of South Lake HS, he had played football and baseball, and had hoped to attend the University of Central Florida.

Monroe, Pfc Jeremiah J. (7th Engr Bn [Combat Effects]), 31, September 17, 2009, Kandahar, Afghanistan. He is survived by his daughter, brother SSgt Robert D. Monroe Jr., mother Dolores, his grandmother, and many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews. A native of Niskayuna, NY, he joined the Army in 2008 and was assigned to Ft. Drum. He also served as a combat engineer with the 630th Engineer Company (Clearance), and 20th Engineer Brigade (Combat) (Airborne). He deployed in July 2009 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, and died when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle. It was his first deployment. He was known for his Big Brother membership, and loved drawing motorcycles and model cars.

Morin, Cpl Darby Todd (B Co, 1st Bn, 32nd Inf Rgt, 3rd BCT), 25, August 22, 2009, Charkh district, Logar province, Afghanistan. He is survived by his wife Veronica and 2 sons, parents, 4 sisters and a brother, grandparents and many aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews. A native of Victoria, Canada, he graduated from the Big River First Nation HS. He joined the Army in 2004, serving for 4 years at Ft. Eustis, VA, and was assigned to Ft. Drum in 2008. He served as a chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear specialist, and died of injuries sustained during a vehicle rollover while on night patrol on a foggy mountain road along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border.

Owens, Sgt Gregory Jr. (4th Bn, 25 Fld Arty Rgt, 3rd BCT), 24, July 20, 2009, Wardak province, Afghanistan. He is survived by his mother LaDonna and father Gregory Sr., 2 brothers and a sister. His father was in the military, and he was born in Germany but graduated from Hillcrest HS in Dallas, TX. He joined the Army in 2007 and was assigned to Ft. Drum that June. A field artillery automated tactical data systems specialist, he was one of four soldiers killed when their HumVee was struck by a roadside bomb following an attack. He was a drum major in school, an Eagle Boy Scout and active in his church. He had been scheduled for leave the week he was killed, but swapped with a fellow soldier in order to surprise his father on his 50th birthday in October.

Pellerin, Spec Justin R. (2nd Bn, 87th Inf Rgt, 3rd BCT), 21, August 20, 2009,

"...history is filled with heroes. You may remember the stories of a grandfather who marched across Europe; an uncle who fought in Vietnam; a sister who served in the Gulf. But as we honor the many generations who have served, I think all of us - every single American - must acknowledge that this generation has more than proved itself the equal of those who have come before."

**--President Barack Obama,
Ft. Hood, TX, November 10, 2009**

Wardak province, Afghanistan. He is survived by his wife Chelsey J., mother Melissa Farmer and stepfather Dale, a grandmother and aunts and uncles. A native of Boscawen, NH, and graduated from Concord HS in 2006, joined the Army in 2007 and was assigned to Ft. Drum. He was killed with an IED (improvised explosive device) detonated near his vehicle. He enjoyed karaoke singing, competitive activities and being with family and friends.

Pratt, Pfc Dennis J. (4th Bn, 25 Fld Arty, 3rd BCT), 34, July 20, 2009, Wardak province, Afghanistan. He is survived by his wife Michelle, 2 sons, a daughter, and parents Sinnamon and Jim. He is from Duncan, OK. He joined the Army in 2008 and was assigned to Ft. Drum that June. He was a field artillery automated tactical data systems specialist and was one of four killed when their HumVee was hit by a roadside bomb. Comrades called him "Pop" because he was the oldest, but he intended to make the military his career. He is remembered as someone who was fun to be around.

Roughton, Spec Andrew J. (4th Bn, 25 Fld Arty, 3rd BCT), 21, July 20, 2009, Wardak province, Afghanistan. He is survived by his wife Heather, father Mark, a stepbrother, uncle and grandparents, and was predeceased by his mother Karen. His home is Houston, TX. A graduate of Spring Woods HS, where he was a multi-sport athlete, and left Trinity Valley Community College to join the Army in 2007; he came to Ft. Drum that June. He was a field artillery automated tactical data systems specialist and was killed along with three others when their HumVee was hit by a roadside bomb. He had intended to make the military his career.

Smith, Sgt. Aaron M. (Hq & Hq Co, 2nd Bn, 87th Inf Rgt, 3rd BCT), 25, October 2, 2009, Wardak province, Afghanistan. He is survived by his mother Ann Jones and siblings. A native of Manhattan, KS, he joined the Army in 2004, completed Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training at Ft. Sill, OK., and was assigned to Ft. Drum. His deployment with 3rd BCT was his second; he served as a

fire support specialist. He was killed during a dismounted joint operation which is under investigation.

Swanson, Spec. Matthew K.S. (Spec Trps Bn, 3rd BCT), 20, August 8, 2009, Bethesda, MD. He is survived by his father Jeff, mother Ana Lara and stepfather Hakan Larsson Sr., and a brother and sister. A native of Lake Forest, CA, he graduated from Trabuco Hills HS in 2007, and deployed with the 10th Mtn Div in January, 2009. A combat engineer, he had recently been accepted for Ranger school, and had been home for a visit July 4th. He was thrown from a MRAP (Mine Resistant Ambush Protected) vehicle on July 19 in Logar province, Afghanistan, and died at the National Naval Medical Center of his injuries. He enjoyed video games, playing guitar, and camping, biking and hiking.

Wheeler, Spec Abraham Sherrod III "Rod" (3rd Sqdn, 71st Cav Rgt, 3rd BCT), 22, August 28, 2009, Logar province, Afghanistan. He is survived by his mother Winfred, father Abraham, a brother and many aunts, uncles and cousins. A native of Columbia, SC, he graduated from Ridge View HS and joined the Army in 2007, completing basic training at Ft. Benning, GA, and advanced individual training at Ft. Gordon. He was a signal support systems specialist, and was killed when an IED detonated near his vehicle. He is remembered for loving to kid around and have a good time, and work with computers.

Wolverton, Pfc Brian M. (1st Bn, 32nd Inf Rgt, 3rd BCT), 21, August 20, 2009, Kunar province, Afghanistan. He is survived by his parents Miriam and Christopher, and a brother. Born in Tarzana, CA, he earned his associate's degree at Moorpark College before enlisting, training at Ft. Benning. He arrived at Ft. Drum in June. He was killed by indirect fire from insurgents on the Pakistani border. A member of the track team at Oak Park HS in Ventura County, he was remembered for his determination and persistence. and then Ft. Drum. He was proud of a military heritage dating from the Civil War, and was a fan of war action video games as well as helping coach track.



DESCENDANT, FATHER OF TENTH SOLDIERS TAKES ON CREATION OF ASSOCIATION ART

If you have noticed some slight changes in "Blizzard" art recently, credit Robert J. Wiebel (Assoc).

Association members miss our original artist, Charlie Hunt (86-C, SVC, dec.), who contributed so many, creative works over the years. At the same time, publications and events benefit from current art work, which Bob has offered to provide.

A retired US Air Force Master Sgt and civil engineer, he currently works with the Brevard County, FL, public schools in construction quality control. He deals in

computer graphics while, in his 3-generation military family, his father Robert A. (86-E) works on canvas, while son MAJ Tom Wiebel, Inspector General for Security and Intelligence, National Guard and formerly 10th Mtn Div, is also a graphic designer.

In deference to Charlie Hunt's original logos in "Blizzard," Bob has made only slight revisions, for example the addition of a HumVee joining the mules of Stable Call. He also created the logo for Reunion 2010 seen in this edition, and promises more art to come.



TENTH MOUNTAIN DIVISION FOUNDATION, INC.

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Lakewood, CO 80228
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e-mail: admin@10thmdf.org

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FOUNDATION HAS BUSY ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

Gary Burton, President

Greetings from your Tenth Mountain Division Foundation Board of Directors. The annual Board meeting was held July 16-17 in Denver, CO, and resulted in several significant changes.

The first item rings with a sad toll of the bell. This was the last meeting at

(Continued on Page 12)

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SAVE THE DATE
July 8 – 11, 2010



2010 National Association of the 10th Mountain Division

REUNION

Hosted by the Fort Drum Chapter, Fort Drum, N.Y.

"Recruit, Assemble, To the Top"

General Schedule:

- July 8 – Foundation Board meeting
– Welcome Reception
- July 9 – Descendants and National Board meetings
– Local NNY tours
– Unit Dinners
- July 10 – Memorial Ceremony on Ft. Drum
– Visit Ft Drum Historical Collection and "Off the Beat-in' Path" Gift Shop, Ft. Drum
– Salute to the Nation (Ft Drum Airfield)
– Ft. Drum Air Show/ Military Displays/ Concert/ Fire-works
- July 11 – Air Show (day 2) and/ or departure



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kim Bateman
P.O. Box 1143
Fort Drum, NY 13602
kimbateman@yahoo.com

Look for official registration information in January 2010

Please tell your Friends and Mountain Buddies!

TENTH MOUNTAIN FOUNDATION BOARD APPROVES CHANGES TO SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR 2010-2011 ACADEMIC YEAR

Pat Thornton, (Desc 85-A, L)

At the July, 2009, annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Tenth Mountain Division Foundation in Denver, CO, the Board approved revisions to the 10th Mtn Div Foundation Scholarship Program. By adapting the scholarship criteria to meet the ever changing demands of our society, members reaffirmed the strong commitment to education by the WWII veterans.

In the 2010-2011 academic year, the Foundation will grant up to five, one-time only, \$5,000 scholarships to financially needy, direct descendants or legally adopted direct descendants of 10th Mtn Div veterans who served with the Division during WWII. Recipients must have successfully completed two years of study (and/or a minimum of 60 credit hours),

and demonstrated a knowledge, understanding, and support of the history and legacy of the 10th Mountain Division. Each scholarship provides for full-time, undergraduate or graduate study at an accredited college, university or other comparable institution, only for payment of tuition, books, or other directly-related academic costs. Only one direct descendant per veteran may receive a scholarship benefit during a five year period.

The Scholarship Committee is currently working out details of the revision, which will take effect in the 2010-2011 academic year. All scholarships awarded prior to 2010-2011 will remain in effect and be fulfilled. Specific details will be posted on the National Association website: <http://www.10thmtdivassoc.org>.