Ed. Note: With declining, older membership and budgetary concerns, the decision has been made to cease publication of the “Blizzard;” instead, information will be carried on the website of the National Association. We asked a former editor for her historical perspective on the long-standing newsletter.

Sally Oesterling
SISTER, WILLIAM H. FRICKE (87-HQ-3)

The 10th Mountain Division’s newspaper began as the Camp Hale Ski-zette in 1942. It became the “Blizzard” in 1944, with a new banner designed by Jacques Parker (86-C). It ceased publication as the Division deployed to Italy, but surfaced again in Italian battle zones in February 1945. It withered somewhat during the post-war years, but 26 years later, in 1971, it became a powerful communication tool for the newly established National Association of the 10th Mountain Division, Inc. Editors of the “Blizzard” since 1971 have been A.J. “Mac” McKenna (126-Eng-HQ); Wendell Cheney (86-F); Richard M. Wilson (85-M); Ray Zelina (605-FA-B); Sally Fricke Oesterling (Sister, 87-K, HQ-3), and Felicity Hallanan (Assoc).

During my tenure as editor (2001 to 2007) there was never a lack of articles — the challenge was to select which ones to use and to edit them to fit in the available space. Rather than choose my favorite articles (of which there are many), I will list highlights of the 10th Mountain Division Association activities covered by the “Blizzard.” First, the introduction by John Imbrie (85-C) of the 10th Mountain Division WWII database, containing the files of the more than 31,000 men who at one time or another served in the 10th Mountain Division. From that sprang a regular column called “Ask the Database,” with John Imbrie as answer man.

Each “Blizzard” ran a report from the 10th Mountain Division Resource Center, along with the Colorado Historical Society, that collects military papers, maps, letters, and other memorabilia from WWII 10th veterans. An article titled “How I got into the Ski Troops” gave birth to a series of articles relating to how others got into the Ski Troops — all different, all interesting.

Beginning in 1985, Tenth WWII veterans were pleased and proud to see the large number of media items about soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), trained at Fort Drum, the most deployed unit in the U.S. Army. News of the 10th (LI) became a regular “Blizzard” feature, and chapters were encouraged to Adopt-a-Platoon of the 10th, in the form of sending packages, letters, books, and other items requested that were hugely appreciated.

See CLOSE on PAGE 3


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The National Board of Directors shall be composed of the following: Chairman of the Board, President, Senior Vice President, National Secretary, Treasurer, all Chapter Presidents, the Blizzard Editor, the Executive Director, the President of the 10th Mountain Division Foundation, the President of the 10th Mountain Division Descendants, Inc., and two voting members at large who may be appointed at the option of the President. The number of directors may be increased or decreased in the manner set forth in the Certificate of Incorporation. (Article IV, Section 2, National Bylaws, National Association of the 10th Mountain Division, Inc.)

The National Executive Committee shall consist of the President (Committee Chairman), Senior Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, the Blizzard Editor, the Executive Director and two members at large, if needed, to be appointed by the President. The Executive Director shall assist the President in the administration of this committee. (Article VII, Section 1, National Bylaws, National Association of the 10th Mountain Division, Inc.).

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**National Executive Committee**

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**President’s Message**

ASSOCIATION SUFFERS A TRAGIC LOSS

Galen Jackman
MG, RET. 10TH MTN DIV [LI]

Dear Members, Colonel (Ret.), Mark Forman, the Secretary of the National Association, was tragically killed on June 1, 2017, in a biking accident near his home in Leavenworth, KS. Mark served as an Infantry officer in the U.S. Army for 30 years including an assignment with the 10th Mountain Division (LI); and, he had worked diligently at his position with the Association.

Mark is survived by his wife Tish, two sons, Sam and Ben, and three labs, SC, Bella, and Ruby. He was buried in Leavenworth National Cemetery on June 7. Tish has approved that donations can be made in honor of Mark Forman to our Scholarship Fund. Donations can be made in two ways:

A. Go to the National Association Website www.10thmtdivassoc.org and click on Fund Raising and then click on the Scholarship Fund

B. Send a check to Northern NY Community Foundation 133 Washington Street Watertown, NY 13601

Make the check out to NNNYCF and on the For/Memo line write in 10th Mt Div Scholarship Fund. IHO Mark Forman.

On a happier note, I participated in the Descendants’ recent Return Trip to Italy this past June.

Steve Coffey and his organization put together a fantastic trip that included a visit to the American Cemetery near Florence, where we were able to honor those 10th Mountain WWII Veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice in Italy, and visits to the Hill Towns and Gothic Line battlefields where the 10th Mountain Division fought.

It is one thing to read about these campaigns and to view pictures and maps, but walking on the ground there vividly portrays the significant challenges and accomplishments of the men of the 10th who fought there. The people of the Hill Towns showed us tremendous respect and hospitality. Hats off to president Steve Coffey and the Descendants.

The next opportunity for a Return to Italy Trip will be in 2020 for the 75th Anniversary of the fighting there. I encourage everyone to consider participating.

The next major event for the National Association will be our hosting of the 32d Anniversary of the International Federation of Mountain Soldiers (IFMS), 13-17 Sept., 2017. We will host the assembly at the Harbor Hotel 1000 Islands, Clayton, NY. We expect representatives from all 11 countries in the Federation, including the Secretary General, BG (Ret.) Renato Genovese. Major events will include the opening ceremony, a wreath-laying at the Fort Drum Memorial Park, a 10th Mountain Warrior Demonstration at Fort Drum, a winery tour, boat tour on Alexandria Bay, Antique Boat Museum tour, Executive Committee Meeting, General Assembly Meeting, closing ceremony and evening gala. Jim Redmore, National Association VP, is in charge of planning and preparation.

As I have mentioned before, The National Association has made considerable progress in cleaning up its membership database. We are currently down to about a 2 percent error rate. I would ask that if you are moving your residence, please let Executive Director Dave Pavey know your new address.

Additionally, we are driving to gather proof of service documents to assist in “qualifying” our veteran membership according to the rules of the IRS for tax exemption. If you have not provided proof of your veteran service, such as a copy of your DD 214, or otherwise indicated your period of service, I ask that you contact Dave Pavey and provide him with that information. This allows donations to the Association to qualify as tax deductible.

We need your help in encouraging Veterans, Cadets, and Descendants to join the Association. It is a wonderful way of sustaining the unique brotherhood of the 10th Mountain Division. It is easy to join through our website. We are thrifty to capture the stories of the soldiers who fought, and are fighting, with the modern Division in Iraq and Afghanistan. If we can perpetuate their legacy as we have done with the WWII Veterans of the Division, we can better honor and value their service to this Nation.

Finally, I would like to welcome MG Walt Piatt, the new Commander of the 10th Mountain Division (LI). Walt is a distinguished officer and leader with considerable experience in the Division. We look forward to continuing to support the Soldiers, Families, and Veterans of the Division.

Galen Jackman is president of the National Association of the 10th Mountain Division Inc., 8199 Pinewoods Road Houghton, NY 14744
10TH RESOURCE CENTER HAS EXPANDED ITS DIGITAL COLLECTION

Keli Schmid
ARCHVIST

The Western History and Genealogy department (WHG) at Denver Public Library is always striving to make its resources easily accessible, even if its customers are nowhere near Denver, Colorado. One way to do this is to digitize items so they may be viewed online. WHG has chosen a portion of the undigitized photos within the 10th Mountain Division Resource Center as its pilot project for a revamped digital workflow, with a goal of adding the nearly 4,000 images to the library’s digital collections over the next year. Already, nearly 200 new images have been uploaded, and more are going up every week.

To view the entire collection of 10th Mtn Div photos currently online, visit digital.denverlibrary.org and type 10th Mountain Division in the search box. (You may narrow your search further by adding keywords like 86th, Camp Hale, or Italy.)

WHG’s next step would be digitizing the Resource Center’s collection of over 250 oral histories, with a goal of making them all accessible online. Researchers, family members, students – or anyone! – would be able to listen to or view the oral histories on the library’s website, ideally accompanied by a transcript of the interview.

While the main goal of these projects is to provide access to resources, there is an added benefit of protection for original items. Once an item has been digitized, it can be tucked away in the archives, safe from sunlight, unstable temperatures, and human hands. The duplicate item can be viewed over and over, causing no wear to the original.

Close
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

As I go back over the issues between 2001 and 2007, I am amazed at the enormity of the work that has gone into keeping the history of the 10th up to date and alive. The book “10th Mountain Division Campaign in Italy 1945” by John Imbrie (85-C) and Tom Brooks (85-G), and “Mission Udine: The 10th Mountain Division at the Yugoslav Border, May 19 to July 17, 1945” by the same authors, are outstanding publications for those seeking detailed information about the 10th in WWII.

I am fortunate to have had the chance to work for and meet so many 10th Mountain Division veterans. It was a privilege and a great pleasure to be editor of the “Blizzard.”
VETS HELP DEDICATE COLORADO FREEDOM MEMORIAL

Thomas Hames
DESC 87-K

Veterans of the 10th Mountain Division participated in a May 27, 2017, dedication of an addition to the Colorado Freedom Memorial.

Richard Over (110-SIG) and Frank Romano (86-K) represented the Division at the dedication of a 10th Mountain Division flagpole as part of a ceremony at Aurora.

The event included a 50-man choir, the Air Force drill team and the interment of soil from European cemeteries where Coloradans are buried. Master of ceremonies was Rick Crandell, who with his wife is founder of the memorial and organizers of the ceremony.

It was a moving and powerful event. If you have a chance, visit this memorial. It lists Coloradans who perished in conflict, including 38 members of the 10th Mtn Div during WWII.

Ed. Note: Word has been received that on the weekend of July 4, it was discovered that the Memorial had been vandalized. One of the glass panels that list these selfless men and women’s names was shattered. Cost to replace the panel is estimated at between $30,000-70,000. Help is being requested to restore it, through a “Go Fund Me” account at www.gofundme.com/restoreCFM.

10TH NCO MAKES HISTORY AT RANGER SCHOOL

1st LT Rachel Fransiol
2ND BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

Command Sgt. Maj. Rob Fortenberry, 2nd Brigade Combat Team (BCT) senior enlisted adviser, 10th Mtn Div (LI), doesn’t ask of his soldiers what he wouldn’t do himself, and that includes attending Ranger School.

When people attend leadership courses, the instructor will often talk about what it means to be a good leader. Often leaders are described as well spoken, fit, always in front. But what about the one who grabs his or her rucksack and joins you on your way to one of the toughest schools the Army has to offer — often saved for the young and elite — Ranger School?

For Fortenberry, leading soldiers meant more than just inspiring words, it meant action. In July, 2016, at the age of 45, he became the oldest Ranger School graduate in the history of soldiers to pass through the school.

Fortenberry said he had always wanted to be a Ranger, but with his career flying by and never really finding time to set aside to go to school, he had come to terms with not ever achieving that goal. Or so he thought.

At his previous unit, 2nd Bn, 22d Inf Regt, the motto is “Deeds not Words.” After six months of telling his soldiers about the importance of going to Ranger School, Fortenberry sat his wife down and told her that he needed to stop being a hypocrite.

“It was the hypocrisy of standing in front of them, trying to message the importance of it in their career, knowing that they are looking back at me saying, ‘But you don’t have yours, Sergeant Major,’” Fortenberry said. “It goes back to about the most honest thing in the Army, and that is ‘Lead by Example.’ That’s why I did it.”

He intentionally locked himself in a corner so that he couldn’t let anyone down, by messaging it to everybody. He pulled down the 60-day Ranger physical training plan off the 4th Ranger Training Battalion website. “Initially, I was trying to juggle intricacies of being a forward (command sergeant major) in Iraq and setting up systems and ultimately following the physical training program by myself, being self-disciplined,” he said.

There were no shortcuts. Fortenberry followed the Ranger School path as all Ranger candidates do.

“As a CSM, I could have just gone to Ranger School without doing all the pre-qualifications, but my thing was that it was important that I go through every personal and financial sacrifice that every Soldier would go through,” he said.

On a personal level, “I’ve got a daughter and a wife that I would miss,” he said. “I went through all the pre-Ranger gates,” Fortenberry continued. “At the time, I was in Iraq, and coming back early for Ranger School is about $1,000 a month loss of deployment pay, plus paying for all the kit to go to Ranger School.”

Most soldiers need to buy additional equipment and uniforms that they were not initially issued. “I needed to face every hardship of every soldier that has to go to Ranger School,” Fortenberry explained. “I had to get up extra early for five-mile runs, and during battlefield circulation, I would bring my ruck and use every chance I had to prepare. Every spare moment I had was dedicated to training myself.

“I had to be able to look soldiers in the face, and they had to know that I faced every challenge they did, whether that’s going home and telling your wife ‘I’m about to go to Ranger School’ or sacrificing pay for equipment,” he continued. “The other part of it was, I had to leave three months to conduct every single part of training.”

First LT John Lintner, a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear officer with 2-22 Infantry, attended Ranger School during the same cycle as Fortenberry. Lintner said that he was not surprised to learn that Fortenberry had decided to go, nor that he had refused to forego a single pre-qualification.

“In the brief time I knew him before Ranger School, I could tell that he was a man of action,” Lintner said. “He leads from the front in everything he does, and his ability to motivate soldiers while he does it makes him a rare breed.”

10TH NCO MAKES HISTORY AT RANGER SCHOOL

1st LT Rachel Fransiol
2ND BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

Command Sgt. Maj. Rob Fortenberry

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Flags of all U.S. states set off those of 10th Mountain Division units during an impressive Mountainfest parade June 21, 2017, in observance of July 4th on Fort Drum.
Ed. Note: Even though this story was broadcast a few years ago, it will likely strike a chord with many, including your editor, who may have similar memorabilia in their home.

Tony Dokoupil & Joe Fryer
NBC Nightly News, Dec. 27, 2014

Warren McCauley was a war hero, a recipient of the Bronze Star who helped push Germany out of Italy in 1945. His silver identification bracelet came off somewhere amid 114 days of bloody progress, peak to peak, through the mountains of Tuscany.

It didn’t stay where it fell.

Three days before Christmas, almost exactly 70 years after McCauley lost the bracelet, a group of his relatives gathered in Buena Vista, Orange County, California and watched as his widow pulled the ties on a small red pouch. It had just arrived from Italy and the 85-year-old reached in with two trembling fingers.

“It’s unreal to hold it now,” said Twila McCauley, gazing at the 7-inch chain and small plaque. “It’s just so amazing.” She took a seat by a window and closed her eyes, running her fingers over the worn name and serial number of her late husband. “Oh Lord,” she said. “What are you trying to tell us?”

The silver bracelet’s long journey home is a story of luck, technology, and the spooky power of artifacts, especially those carried in war. It began when McCauley joined the Army and his family — farmers from Stockton, KS — gave him the silver bracelet as a gift. It was a fashionable choice at the time but also practical. Nearly 300 Americans a day were dying in modern, mechanized combat. Here was a way to help identify their bodies.

McCauley didn’t seem like much of a soldier, a 19-year-old trombone player with a mega-watt smile. But the Army liked his mind. It schooled him in the fledgling science of radio and sent him into the Rocky Mountains to perfect it. He joined at Camp Hale, CO, staging ground for what would become the 10th Mountain Division, an elite new alpine unit. McCauley’s big test came in early 1944, when he and thousands of other men fought a mock battle and slept in the snow. For six weeks the teams weren’t allowed to make fires, even when temperatures fell below zero. Hundreds of men quit. The rest got on a boat to Italy. McCauley’s regiment arrived on the Tuscan coast in January of 1945, along with most of the 10th Mountain Division, more than 10,000 men in all. They headed straight for the Apennines range, watchtowers of the German defense. In the last year, thousands of Americans had died trying to break the line.

Only the 10th prevailed. They destroyed five German divisions in three months. After a German patrol sliced some of his communication lines, the young corporal advanced under “a hail of small arms fire” to restore communication, an act of “undisputed heroism,” the Army said.

As McCauley’s division rolled northward they made only one significant stop, resting in a shattered crossroads town called Castel D’Aiano. They entered in March, moved out in early April, and drank cognac and champagne when the Germans surrendered that May.

McCauley’s silver bracelet didn’t move with them. Rubble from artillery damage fills the streets of Castel D’Aiano, Italy, in March, 1945. The strategically-important town was captured by the 10th Mtn Div on March 5, 1945.

In ways big and small, the Anderson family has found ways to remember. Mrs. Anderson said the seventh anniversary of the death of her son, who was known as “Bucky,” and Tuesday’s ceremony brought back a lot of memories.

Those memories included watching her son’s success as a high school football player and wrestler. Their last hug, March 25, 2010, was right before he deployed from Fort Drum, when he also said his last words to her.

“I’ll be alright,” Mrs. Anderson recalled her son saying. “I’ll be home, Mom.”

In ways big and small, the Anderson family has found ways to remember. Mrs. Anderson said. Spc. Anderson’s brother recently had a daughter, named Brianne Michala, after her uncle.

“She’ll never forget who he is,” she said.

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**Gold Star**

Continued from Page 1

Dawn Esposito, whose son, Sgt. Michael J. Esposito Jr., was killed in March 2004 in Dehrawood, Afghanistan, told attendants that she came back to the ceremony every year to not only honor her son, but to let current soldiers know she and her family are moving forward.

“Slowly, yes, pausing at times, but we are still staying active and supporting those that serve,” she said.

For many families in attendance, the pain of their loss remained years after their loved ones’ deaths.

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“She’ll never forget who he is,” she said.
Doug Schmidt
10TH MTN DIV (L) HISTORIAN

The 10th Mountain Division Sustainment Brigade traces its lineage back to the quartermaster platoon that provided support to the first ski troops that trained at Fort Lewis, WA. The muleskinners, quartermasters, ordnancemen, and medics eventually evolved into the 10th Medical Battalion; 123rd Ordnance Company; 255th, 256th, and 257th Quartermaster Companies (Pack); 110th Signal Platoon; and the 10th Military Police Platoon. All became a part of the Mountain Training Center (MTC) when it was activated on Sept. 17, 1942 at Camp Carson, CO.

WORLD WAR II

Moving to Camp Hale, the sustainment soldiers continued supporting the training of the MTC; on July 15, 1943, the MTC was deactivated. When the 710th Mtn Bn was activated as a basic training division, to provide much-needed services for the mission, the 10th Medical Battalion; 123rd Ordnance Company; 255th, 256th, and 257th Quartermaster Companies (Pack); 110th Signal Platoon; and the 10th Military Police Platoon. All became a part of the Mountain Training Center (MTC) when it was activated on Sept. 17, 1942 at Camp Carson, CO.

By June, 1955, the Division was ready to deploy and by November the entire Division was in Germany. With the majority of the sustainment units stationed in and around Wuerzburg, detachments from the 710th Ord Bn located with the maneuver units; garrison duties and training in Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels were routine.

However, changes came quickly as advances in technology brought helicopters and nuclear weapons to the Division. The helicopter allowed the 710th Ord and 10th QM Bns to quickly supply units and the 10th Med Bn to evacuate casualties. Nuclear weapons were the catalyst for the development of the Pantemic division; the nuclear weapons presented new challenges.

On 1 July, 1957, the 10th Inf Div Trains was activated, consisting of the 710th Ord Bn, 10th Med Bn, 30th Trans Bn, 10th QM Co, 10th Admin Co, 10th Avn Co and the 10th ID Band. The Army’s new strategy centered on the Division’s five Battle Groups. With the battle groups spread out across the battlefield making them less of a target, the Division’s jobs became difficult. However, the time in Germany was at an end. By May, 1958, the last unit left Germany and on 14 June, 1958, the 10th Inf Div was deactivated at Fort Benning, GA.

LIGHT INFANTRY DIVISION

On 13 Feb., 1985, the 10th Mtn Div Supp Comd (DISCOM) was reactivated. Drawing on its World War II lineage. DISCOM assumed the name “Muleskinners” and adopted the motto “Supporting the Climbing.” By 1990, DISCOM consisted of the 33rd Finance Ctr, 10th Supp and Trans (S&T) Bn, 710th Maint Bn, 10th Med Bn, 10th MP Bn (Provisional) and the 548th Supply and Services Bn (SSB).

DISCOM units began deploying in 1990 when the 511th MP Co went to Panama and the 548th SSB deployed to Southwest Asia for Operations Desert Shield/Storm. At the same time, DISCOM conducted its first reorganization, after which the Brigade consisted of the 10th Fwd Supp Bn (FSB), 210th FSB (formerly 10th Med Bn), 710th Main Support Bn (MSB), and the 548th SSB.

In late August, 1992, following Hurricane Andrew, the Brigade, 10th FSB, and 548th SSB deployed to southern Florida to conduct relief operations. Then, in early December, 1992, the U.S. became involved in Somalia. To help support the Division, the 46th FSB was activated. The Brigade and its units supported operations throughout Operations Restore/Continue Hope until March, 1994, when the last Muleskinner returned to Fort Drum.

While operations were ongoing in Somalia, DISCOM again went through more changes. The 46th FSB was deactivated and the 548th SSB was redesignated as the 548th Corps Support Bn (CSB). The new designation better reflected the unit’s mission of supporting the 10th Mtn Div with additional Corps level assets.

During OEF IV, DISCOM provided logistical support to the entire theater to include the fledgling Afghan National Army. The 210th FSB returned to Fort Drum in November, 2003, and the rest of DISCOM returned in July, 2004. In March, 2003, US forces invaded Iraq, expanding the GWOT. In May, 2004, the 210th FSB once again deployed with 2nd Brigade, this time supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF).

Following DISCOM’s return to Ft Drum, the Brigade began the process of transitioning to the Army’s new modular force structure. On 16 Sept., 2004, 10th DISCOM was redesignated the 10th Mtn Div Supp Bde and the Troop Battalion was activated. With this redesignation the Brigade took on a new unit insignia. In addition to this, the 10th FSB and the 710th Mtn Bde were redesignated Brigade Support Bn (BSB) and reactivated to the 1st and 3rd Bde Combat Teams (BCT), respectively. Additionally, the 548th SSB was redesignated the 548th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion (CSSB). The 10th Supp Bde and its Troop Bn were again redesignated in early 2005 as the 10th Support Bde and the Special Troops Bn, respectively. In July, 2005, the 210th FSB returned to Fort Drum and on 16 Sept. was redesignated 210th BSB and reassigned to the 2nd BCT.

The 10th Support Bde continued its transformation on 14 Oct., 2005, when the 10th MP Bn (Provisional) was deactivated and the 91st MP Bn was activated in its place. Also in 2005 the 63rd Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Bn was activated and on 27 Oct., 2006, the 7th Engr Bn was activated. Over the next decade the 10th Support Bde deployed three more times in support of OEF (2006-07, 2011-12, and 2014) and once in support of OIF (2008-2009). The Brigade’s subordinate battalions also deployed more than fifteen times in support of OEF and OIF.

On 17 Oct., 2014, the 10th Support Bde once again transformed in line with a new force structure. This time the 7th Engr Bn was redesignated the 7th Bde Engr Bn and reassigned to the 10th Mtn Div’s 1st BCT. On 16 May, 2015, the Brigade was redesignated the 10th Mtn Div Sustainment Bde. The Brigade once again donned the 10th Mtn Div patch. On 19 Jan., 2017, the 63rd EOD Bn deactivated.

Today, through a wide range of operations over the course of many years and in every climate, the Muleskinners have provided support to combat units by packing mule and truck, rucksack and fork-lift. Throughout its history, the soldiers of the 10th Mtn Div Sustainment Bde have excelled at providing, sustaining, and treating those soldiers it was tasked with supporting, with world-class logistics support.
When someone plans on going to Italy for a vacation, they probably imagine themselves riding a gondola through the passageways of Venice, or rampaging through the ruins of the Colosseum. My experience was very different as I rode in a passenger bus, and hiked through the narrow switchbacks and hillsides of Emilia-Romagna with the relatives and friends of soldiers who once were in the 10th Mountain Division.

It was that very Division — of which I am now a part — that in 1945 was busy bringing about the destruction of the Nazi war-machine and doing their part in freeing the oppressed peoples of Europe. Beyond that, I didn’t know much and the purpose of my attendance was to learn more about that history.

At the start, I felt very much like an outsider. Compared to most of the people on the tour, I didn’t have any relatives who were part of the 10th Mountain Division during the war. I didn’t have the opportunity to grow up listening to war stories about the attack on Mount Belvedere or the assault on Riva Ridge. I didn’t have the opportunity to “play Army” when I was younger, in an Army-issued Mountain Jacket or Ski Parka from Camp Hale, Colorado.

The only thread of a connection I had with those going on this trip was the subdued patch on my shoulder bearing a pair of crossed bayonets inside a powder keg, the prestigious patch of the 10th Mountain Division.

Once there, and to my relief, however, I wasn’t treated like an outsider. I was a curiosity, even feeling like an idol, to not only the relatives and friends of the trip, who treated me like family, but to the Italian citizens and Alpini (Italian Mountain Soldiers) who accompanied us as well.

I was treated with the utmost respect, and included in every aspect of the tour possible by everyone I met. The Italian WWII re-enactors were especially fond of me; many asked for photos with me in uniform and many time and time again went out of their way to make sure I had the most in-depth, and exciting, tour possible.

So I had the pleasure of not just laying a wreath at the top of Mount Belvedere, and getting to climb Riva Ridge, but also getting to drive an original Jeep through the countryside, and marching at the head of many parades, feeling almost like a hero by the local towns.

We visited many battlefields and cemeteries, and I was privy to listening to the stories told down from family member to family member along the way as everyone tried to gain a better understanding of their relative’s trials and sacrifices, regardless if this was their first reunion or not.

To me, this was an adventure and an experience I will never forget. I’ve walked away with not just more knowledge of the 10th’s role in WWII, but with a bond forged among those who went on this trip that will last a lifetime. It is one that I believe gives at least a small sense felt by those who came before and fought and bled on these now-lush Italian hillsides.

Editor’s Note: Asked about his participation in the Italy trip, Private Lucibello shared with us that, “I did request to come to Fort Drum and luckily the Army assigned me to the 10th. As for my heritage, I am Italian with family on my Dad’s side coming from Amalfi, so it definitely swayed me into coming as well. Indeed, many of the Italians there who saw me in uniform bonded with me when they read my nametapes on my jacket and cap, asking if I was Italian and where my family was from. Most of the soldiers back at Drum in my unit were very envious that I got the opportunity to go, especially because Leave normally isn’t approved unless it is during the designated Block Leave period. In the end, when I returned, many were interested and asked about it.” It should also be noted that he paid for his own trip because of his keen interest in the history of the 10th.
John C. Russell
10TH MTN DIV [LI] RET.

Gathered at the Memorial Day ceremony at Tennessee Pass, CO, were several WWII veterans with their families and some new friends. They included 85th Mountain Infantry veterans John Tyler (85-A), Marlin Wineberg (85-D) and Clark Wingate (85-L), with families.

Special guests included Gold Star Parents John and Linda White of Fort Collins, CO, whose son CWO3 Ryan died while serving with the 10th Aviation Brigade, 10th Mtn Div (LI), in Afghanistan in 2011. The Whites were assisted by the Clark Wingate family in laying a Gold Star wreath. Also present was former CWO Zac Mott (6th Cavalry Sqdn) who coincidentally flew with Mr. White for two tours in Iraq.

The luncheon following the ceremony was made complete with a serenade of 10th Mountain songs by Marlin Wineberg, Hugh Evans (85-C, A) and Crosby T. Perry-Smith (86-HQ-2). It should be noted that both Evans and Perry-Smith are enshrined in the Colorado Ski and Snowboard Hall of fame, and that Perry-Smith became an Olympic ski jumper after the war. He also won the Soldiers Medal for heroic lifesaving before the 10th moved up into combat in Italy.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION SET TO MEET IN NNY

Mountain soldiers from at least 11 countries will participate in the 32nd Congress of the International Federation of Mountain Soldiers (IFMS) from Sept. 13-16, 2017 in Northern New York. It will be the first time the U.S. has hosted the Congress since 2005, when members gathered at the Von Trapp Family Lodge in Stowe, VT; two sons of that family had joined the 10th Mountain Division after the family escaped from Austria during WWII. This time it will be the Fort Drum Chapter of the National Association of the 10th Mtn Div that will be hosting the event. Approximately 60 attendees are expected from Austria, Bulgaria, France, Italy, Germany, Poland, Montenegro, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland and the United States.

IFMS is comprised of mountain soldiers from several countries, including those who’ve been on opposite sides in times of war, who still share a fellowship these many years later. The organization was founded in 1985, meeting first in Mittenwald, Germany. Camaraderie in the group has brought them together regularly since then.

Based out of the 1000 Islands Harbor Hotel in Clayton, NY, the Congress will open with a ceremony at 9 a.m. on Sept. 14; Association members are invited to join the occasion. That will be followed by a memorial service at 10:45 a.m. at the Military Mountaineer Statue in Memorial Park in front of Hayes Hall, post headquarters, on Fort Drum.

Additional events during the Congress for those registered include demonstrations on post by members of the Army’s most-deployed Division, wine tasting at the Thousand Islands Winery, tours of the Thousand Islands area, and more.

In the end, Chapter members expect to offer an opportunity for the European guests to experience the scenic beauty and hospitality of the North Country and Fort Drum.
Amy Scanlin

High on Hill 913, a son sees for the first time where the father he never knew was killed fighting to liberate Europe some seventy years ago. A 1ST SGT in the 10th Mountain Division, the soldier paid the ultimate sacrifice and in an instant the life of his family was forever changed. The son makes his way to the top of the hill in a restored Willys jeep, thanks to an Italian who is dedicated to helping preserve the 10th’s legacy in the place generations of his family call home. The son listens as the wind rustles the trees and feels at peace as he watches the wingspread of a majestic bird soaring over the valley below — a sure sign, he feels, that his father is there with him.

Making their way to the small Tuscan town where their grandfather met and fell in love with a Red Cross volunteer working in Club 85, two brothers see for the first time their grandmother’s homeland, the battlefields where their grandfather fought and the church where the two were married. They call Grandad, sharing their adventures and thanking him for ensuring that they saw firsthand not only what he did, but why and how the Americans’ arrival in 1945 brought hope and ultimately freedom.

On a quaint cobblestone square at sunset, a woman smiles as she sits next to her grandsons and granddaughter-in-law, listening to an Alpini choir. This is her ninth time making this journey. The first years she was accompanied by a dear husband who was able to reconnect with old friends and battle buddies, and now she comes with her grandchildren who lovingly sit beside her and share in the many memories that make Italy so special to her.

These reflections and countless like them are just part of the story of the 10th Mountain Division’s June 2017 Return to Italy trip, which continues a 50+ year tradition where descendants, associates and friends come together in continuation of their quest to learn more about these faraway places where their fathers, grandfathers and even great-grandfathers climbed to glory.

For 10 days, thanks to the careful and dedicated planning of the Trip Committee, over 90 of us traveled over hills and through towns in Bologna and Tuscany, retracing steps up Riva Ridge and marking pivotal points in our nation’s and family histories.

We laid wreaths, stood in foxholes, were warmly hugged by the many Italians who came to say thank you to the Americans for saving them. Tears were shed, hearts were warmed, new friendships were forged and old ones rekindled. There was time for somber reflection, and there was time for celebration for what these men did and how we honor them today.

We broke bread with our Italian friends who created beautiful and hearty meals for us in every town and we were all energized that this bond remains strong, even 72 years later. As one man said when he dedicated his father’s uniform to a local WWII museum, when his father was alive he accepted the Italians’ thank you to him, but now that his father is no longer with us, it is our time to say thank you to the Italians for remembering.

As flowers were laid at the Florence American Cemetery and Memorial, the final resting place for far too many brave soldiers who paid the ultimate sacrifice, that young boy who never knew his father, now traveling with sons of his own, rests a hand on his father’s gravestone. His father, as all of our 10th soldiers, are “presente” in these hills and in our hearts.
A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Steve Coffey
DESC 07-F

10th Mountain Division Descendants Inc. (TMDD) continues to work to fulfill our mission of preserving the legacy of the 10th Mountain Division and to give support to the veterans, wives and widows of the Division. Some of the current TMDD highlights include:

**Membership:** Membership renewals as well as first-time memberships to date for 2017 total almost 800 at last count, on a par with last year. Increasing membership across all chapters remains our highest priority as we work to attract second- and third-generation descendants, as well as those of the 10th Light veterans. We continue to ask for everyone’s help building our numbers by signing up a family member or two so we can reach — or better yet, surpass — the 1,000-member goal we’ve set again for this year. Memberships are our only real source of revenue, revenue that is needed to continue the programs and outreach that we do to meet the mission.

As always, we should also all thank Don Perkins and Wil Niebles for their hard work processing the renewal mailing and subsequent membership applications so quickly and professionally throughout the year.

**Annual Board of Directors Meeting:** The 2017 TMDD BoD meeting will be held on 21 July at the Denver Public Library. We will be reviewing a number of important topics at this meeting to include: possible changes to streamline and modernize our membership processes; changes to our financial processes aimed at strengthening the TMDD financial position; taking a look at our chapter structure to address the issues of leadership voids in the smaller chapters; and others.

Look for more information soon stemming from the wide variety of topics that will be discussed at the meeting.

**Scholarship:** As reported earlier, last year’s Finn-Thomson Scholarship of $2,500 was awarded to Charles Thomas, grandson of Sam and Ann Thomas (87-I). We have continued to receive donations from several chapters and individuals. Taken together with our Association’s annual budgeted amounts, the fund totals over $7,000 prior to making this year’s award.

As part of our efforts to substantially beef up the fund, we included an insert in the membership packet providing background on this scholarship, and included a donation line on the membership application. These actions generated additional donations to this important fund.

Those interested in making a donation to this fund can do so by sending their donation to Don Perkins, our Treasurer, noting that the amount is for the Finn-Thomson Scholarship. In addition, please encourage students to visit the Descendant website for information and an application. After all, the goal is to support 10th Mountain Descendants in their academic pursuits.

**Quartermaster:** Melanie Lovelad of the Rocky Mountain Chapter is off to a great start as our new QM. She has put together a brochure of available items that was also included in the membership mailing. The brochure is available on our TMDD website as well. Melanie provided items for sale on the recent return trip to Italy as well. Please visit the TMDD website or contact Melanie directly to purchase items from the QM. In addition, 10th Mountain items remain available through the “Off the Beatin’ Path” gift shop at Fort Drum, and can be viewed via a link provided on the National Association website (http://10thtmddivassoc.org).

**Finance:** TMDD will continue to provide financial support when possible to projects that further our goal of preserving and spreading the word about the Division’s history. The most substantial example of this so far was our contribution of $2,500 to the Honor the Mountain Memorial recently dedicated Watertown, NY (http://www.honorthehometown.com/). 10th Mountain Division Descendants Inc. is listed on the Donor Plaque as a result. We would like to take things up a notch or two with a project to honor the 10th Mountain legacy that will be supported by a dedicated fundraising effort.

If you have ideas for such a project that you would like to see your Association support, please contact your chapter Director or myself any time.

**Italy 2017 and 2020:** Ninety descendants and friends recently completed a return to Italy trip from 9-18 June. The trip focused entirely on the Hill Towns combat route, the exception being our traditional visit to the Florence American Cemetery and Memorial where we conducted a very moving ceremony and visit to each 10th Mountain soldier. Our goal was to visit battle sites related to the February-April 1945 operations in more detail than in the past, as well as get off the big buses to see some of the more out-of-the-way but nevertheless important sites in the area. With the help of our many friends in Italy, we were able to do so and visited important sites, such as Torre lussi and M. Croce in Tole. We also had a group of hardy descendants who climbed Riva Ridge, eventually joining the group in Trignano for a visit to the museum and festa in the square. Of course, we enjoyed the incredible hospitality of our hosts and friends in the villages along the way, as always.

See PRESIDENT on DESCENDANT PAGE 3
ARMADILLO

Phebe Davol
DESC 86-L, HQ

During the Italy Hill Towns Discovery Tour this June, Karen Case (Desc James W. Stanley, Sr. 86-HQ) met descendants of Lester S. Ersland (87-C), who was a First Sergeant and was Killed in Action (KIA) on April 15, 1945. Lester’s son Anthony Ersland (Desc 87-C) and grandsons Jonathan and David Ersland accompanied their father, Anthony, on the Italy trip in June. They recently joined the 10th Mountain Descendants organization and are members of our Armadillo Chapter. We warmly welcome them all and their families to the Descendants organization.

As the Chapter Coordinator for the 10th Mountain Division Descendants, I have been in contact with our webmaster to post events for all chapters on the Descendants website. If you go to the 10th Mountain Division Descendants website and click on the tab “News” and then click on Chapter News, there is a listing of all Chapter Events. If you have an event that you would like posted, please send the event to me and I will have our webmaster update the calendar. Refer to the article from the Chapter Coordinator in this Blizzard discussing the new feature.

Plans are underway for the Armadillo Annual Reunion to be held in Dallas, TX, Sept. 8-10, 2017. Other Chapter Veterans, Descendants and Friends are invited to attend. Activities include visits to the Frontiers of Flight Museum and the George W. Bush Presidential Library.

For more information and to request a reservation form please contact Karen Case at 501-472-4588 or via email at karencase0303@gmail.com.

DESCENDANTS BUILD HOMETOWN TRIBUTE

Andrea Perkins Miller
DESC RUSO PERKINS 87-I

After our parents Jean and Ruso passed away, my brother Don and I began preparing to sell our 1895 family home in New Berlin, NY, to our cousins. We wondered what we would do with Dad’s 10th Mountain memorabilia and ski equipment after we picked out items that we could not part with. We considered donating the remaining items to the Denver Public Library and the New England Ski Museum, but in my heart I wanted to keep them in our hometown so they would not be far away from us.

I talked with the librarian at the New Berlin Library, which is also the town’s historical museum. She instantly said that she wanted the 10th Mountain items in the library for all to see and to maintain the history of a community WWII veteran.

With great enthusiasm I began to organize a display that included copies of Mom and Dad’s love letters, photographs, ski equipment, books, DVDs, Army clothing and our mother’s wedding dress (our parents were married two weeks before Dad left for the Army). Don and I installed the display in 2012.

I was recently asked by the librarian to do a presentation about the history of the 10th Mtn Div and to show the film “Climb to Glory” for upcoming Memorial Day observances.

People in the community appreciated learning about the 10th and veterans’ impact on the U.S. ski industry.

My brother and I would like to encourage other descendants to consider spreading the word in their own communities and perhaps exploring the possibility of placing your parent’s 10th Mountain History at your local library or historical society.

Volunteer: Volunteer to organize activities or suggest ideas to your chapter Directors or the Association Board. We also continue to look for expertise in some key areas such as membership, education, and social networking, to name a few.

Please visit the Descendant web page (10thmountaindivisiondescendants.org) often for information on activities and initiatives, and don’t hesitate to call on any of us with your ideas and suggestions.

As always, when your chapter hosts an event, please attend if at all possible. It’s the best way I know of to show our respect for our 10th Mountain veterans and all they’ve done.

President

CONTINUED FROM DESCENDANT PAGE 2

It’s not too early to begin thinking about 2020! That will be the 75th anniversary of victory and the end of WWII in Europe and we anticipate it will be well-celebrated, something we want to be a part of. This trip will go back to the more traditional version that will include the complete combat route to Lake Garda, along with more sightseeing opportunities.

Social Media: Our TMDD Instagram page has continued to be quite successful, with almost 700 followers so far. For all you Instagram users, it can be followed at “10thmountaindivisiondescendants.” This provides yet another avenue for sharing pictures among the members, and also wave the 10th Mountain flag. It continues to attract a large number of modern 10th Mountain serving soldiers and veterans as well as ski industry organizations and personalities.

If you have pictures you’d like to have posted (past trips to Italy, reunions, “throwbacks,” for example), please forward them to “adriancoffee@10thmtndivdesc.org.” Members also continue to visit and post on the 10th Mountain Descendants and Friends Facebook page. This continues to provide a venue for sharing pictures, stories, asking questions, making connections, etc. I’m amazed at how much 10th Mountain History is surfaced and discussed on this page, so please visit and contribute often.

How You Can Help: Attend chapter and national meetings; at the most basic level, we can all simply attend the chapter or national meetings and other gatherings (Skis-In, Memorial Day at Camp Hale, National Reunion, Italy trips, etc.) to support those members who give their time and effort to organize these events.
The following is a letter sent to those with affiliation with the 10th Mountain Division, in the Metropolitan NY area; the author, Rus, is currently acting director for the Descendants Chapter:

Greetings to all 10th Mountain Division Descendants, their families, friends, 10th Mountain veterans from all eras, as well as those currently serving or planning to do so.

It is especially appropriate on the eve of Memorial Day weekend, I believe, that our attention be directed and consideration be given to the greater purpose of a Tenth Mountain Division Descendants group. We would love and honor — and in most cases now, the memories of — our fathers, mothers, uncles, brothers, grandfathers, great-grandfathers, etc. certainly, even if they had never served our nation during the greatest, and most terrible event in human history.

But certain facts remain, ones that intensify the affection for those we already love beyond measure. Our forefathers, it’s not an exaggeration or cliche to state, did serve, and magnificently. They were a vital part of what arguably, and in my opinion is truly, the “Greatest Generation” when one considers what their momentous tasks were as Western civilization teetered on the brink of the abyss of an enslaving ideology of evil and death.

A simple, lighthearted and yet prayerful gathering this summer would be a small but significant step in the right direction along a path that Whittaker Chambers once reflected about and inclined toward, regarding the protection and preservation of our beloved land, when he said: “The life of a nation is about as long as its reverential memory.”

Those quotes were sent, along with a donation from Metro NY, for a wreath that was displayed at Tennessee Mountain on Memorial Day, May 29, 2017.

We’ve contacted six (6) WWII-era veterans and three (3) are able to and are interested in joining us. They are: Herman Freeman (85-E) of West Islip, NY; Anthony J. Sileo (85-I) of Bristol, CT; Walter Stewart (85-B, D) of Riverhead, NY. Others will be with us in spirit. They are: James G. Martin (86-M) of Matawan, NJ; Stanley Missiewicz (710-ORD) formerly of Rego Park, NY; Duane N. Smith (85-HQ-3) of Binghamton, NY.

Ed. Note: Blizzard wishes Rus well in getting the Chapter going again!

Upstate New York Chapter members meet scholarship recipients, from left, Jessica Leary, Brittany Olfano and Greg Sileo with Nancy Looby; seated are Dave and Bill Morrison.

Bill Morrison
86-L
& Dave Morrison
DESC

In April, 2017, we were again pleased to attend the Sienna College Scholarship Appreciation Dinner. There we met the three recipients of the Company I-85 10th Mountain Division Scholarship.

Recipients were Brittany Olfano, a senior and English ed major, Jessica Leary, a junior and computer science major, and Greg Sileo, a freshman biology major, as well as grandson of one of the scholarships founders, Tony Sileo (85-I).

Association members present were Nancy Looby, wife of Jim Looby (85-I), Bill Morrison and Descendant Dave Morrison.

On June 15 we attended a luncheon meeting at the Raindancer Restaurant in Amsterdam, NY. After a moment of silence for lately departed member Horton Durfee (86-L) and others, we took care of a little business which included discussion of the upcoming rededication of the 10th Mtn Div monument at Whiteface Mountain this August and the placement of our paver at the 10th Mountain Monument in Thompson Park in Watertown.

With the business out of the way, we were treated to a nice presentation from Bill Millette on the role of the artillery divisions and the use of the pack howitzers, especially the end-run on the German defenses in Torbole and the crossing of Lake Garda. He also demonstrated a working scale model of the pack howitzer.

Those in attendance included veteran members Loraine and Harold McAfee (85-L), Bev Felderman and Bill Millette (605 FA), Al Soria (87-L), and Nancy Looby (Jim Looby 85-I). Descendants included Carol McKenney and Paul Sonricker (Earl Sonricker 87-B), Dan and Jan Mancini (Ray Farmer 86-I Medic), Charlie Wheeler Jr. (Charlie Wheeler 87-I-HQ), event organizer Jill Hamlin (Norton Stanton 86-A), and Dave Morrison.
In May, Armadillo Chapter member Christie Hoff (Desc 86-D) stopped off in Evant, TX, to visit Charles Lloyd (Jack) Elam (86-D) who celebrated his 100th birthday earlier this year. Christie is always fond of Jack, since her father and he served in the same unit during World War II.

Karen Case (Desc James W. Stanley, Sr. 86-HQ) joined Merrill (85-K) and Bette Clark at Marvin Woodland Gardens in Hot Springs, AR, for lunch and touring the gardens. Merrill and Bette had in the past volunteered at Marvin Gardens and were excellent tour guides, including history of the gardens as well as explanation of all beautiful flowers, plants and trees. As always, Merrill shared stories of his time in Italy during WWII during the day.

We were saddened to hear that Betty Jones, wife of Thomas (Tom) Jones (86-B), passed away on Feb. 13, 2017. Tom and Betty attended our reunion in Little Rock, AR, last year and have always been dedicated members of our chapter. We extend our condolences to Tom and their family.

Plans are underway for the Armadillo Annual Reunion to be held in Dallas, TX, Sept. 8-10, 2017. Other Chapter Veterans, Descendants and Friends are invited to attend. Activities include visits to the Frontiers of Flight Museum and the George W. Bush Presidential Library.

For more information and to request a reservation form please contact Karen Case at #501/472/4588, or karen-case0303@gmail.com.

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**BIG SKY**

Joanne Manchester (W, 87-K) made all the arrangements for the western part of the Big Sky Chapter to gather for its Belvedere Day celebration on Feb. 18, 2017, in Missoula, MT.

Those in attendance were Larry Wilson (Desc 87-HQ-1), Jerry Reed (Desc 87-HQ-1), Trevor McFadden, Linda Whitmoyer Armstrong (Desc 87-HQ-1), Joanne Manchester, Suz Cramer Rittenhouse, Bill (Desc 87-HQ-2) and Marge Cramer, Olivia Wielke (Desc 87-HQ-2), Carol Cramer (Desc 87-HQ-2) and David Knight and Lexi Cramer Rausch (Desc 87-HQ-2). Joanne also provided a beautifully decorated cake with the 10th Mountain insignia for dessert.

Jerry played a phone message from Ray Johnson (85-G) telling us how sorry he and Vicki were to be missing the luncheon but the roads from Coeur d’Alene were just too treacherous this year. Jerry and Larry brought a 10th Mtn Div plaque in memory of Joe Devlin (87-B) for Kay but she was unable to attend. Lexi will deliver it to the Devlin family. Larry thanked everyone for coming and especially Joanne for making it all happen.

The Big Sky Chapter will be holding its annual meeting in Missoula, Sept. 8-10, 2017. For further information, please contact Nancy Lausch at 406-628-8547 or email at nlnancydavid8@gmail.com, or Louisa Durkin at 208-818-2442 or email at leory1@earthlink.net.

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**ARMADILLO**

**Rebecca Joyce**

The Roadrunner Chapter has 18 members. Two are veterans: Paul Brusuelas (85-A) and Richard Wright (87-E). Two are widows: Bobbie Foil (W Sid Foil, 87-L) and Rosemary Sisneros, (W, George Sisneros, 85-HQ, 604-ABF). Nine are descendants: Rebecca Joyce and Vincent Sisneros (George Sisneros (604-ABF); Donna and Bob Tomky (Orville Tomky (126-ENG-B); Larry and Michael Brusuelas (Paul Brusuelas (85-A); Alan and Patricia Wright (Richard Wright (87-E); Ron Mariner (Friend of the 10th); Connie Tilger, sister of veteran Stamatis Tsigris (KIA 85-B). And three are grandchildren: Walter Fazio (Walter “Chappy” Chapman (86-HQ-1) and Mathew and Elizabeth Wright (Richard Wright (87-E)).

We live spread throughout the state and it’s a large state, so we meet only once a year. This year’s weekend will be Sept. 1-2, 2017, in Los Alamos. Friday night dinner is optional. Plans include a tour of Bradbury Science Museum and Los Alamos Historical Museum on Saturday and a Banquet on Saturday from 5-7 p.m. at the Sirphey restaurant.

These plans are subject to change. I’ll get in touch.

Our chapter is quiet but we are a 10th Mountain family with occasional get-togethers and some visiting back and forth. I do wish we lived closer together, because being with this family is something you all know about — it’s something to look forward to when we get together.

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Find us on or online at: www.10thmtndivassoc.org
ARIZONA

Carol J. Maywood
FRIEND OF THE 10TH

The Feb. 14, 2017, meeting of the Arizona Chapter was presided over by president Randy Payant (Desc 87-K). Members and guests included Darlene Balto, Bill Payant (87-K), Al Field (85-I), and Nancy Payant Middlemas (Desc).

We noted the passing of AZ Chapter member Elmer Susie (87-F) on Aug. 19, 2016. A resident of Cushing, IA, Elmer was a “snowbird” who wintered in Arizona and had attended AZ Chapter meetings when in the state.

For anyone interested in participating in an Honor Flight, here is contact information: for flights from Phoenix: www.honorflightaz.org, phone 928-377-1020 or via email to info@honorflightaz.org; for flights from Tucson: www.honorflightaz.org, phone 520-204-1391 or via email to info@honorflightaz.org.

Tom Duhs, COL, USMC (Ret.) has written a screenplay that tells the story of the 10th Mtn Div, 1941-1945. He is working with a Hollywood producer to bring the story to the Silver Screen. A release form has been provided that would allow the use of an individual veteran’s actual name in the movie. This is just in case that veteran’s image appears in photos or video on screen, or if he is otherwise included in the story.

The veteran himself can sign the form, or a spouse or descendant can sign if he is deceased. The desire is to get as many names of WWII 10th Mountain veterans as possible, along with the unit they served in, and rank they held. Please sign the form with your personal information and return it to Tom Duhs, 2170 Warrington Ct., Colorado Springs, CO 80920, by mail; or scan it and email it to tduhs@q.com.

Al Field presented his Newsletter #75, and distributed copies to attendees. Among the many interesting articles, maps and photos in the newsletter are excerpts from books and documents pertaining to the 10th. Cover photos from 1943 show an aerial view of Camp Hale and a view from the summit of Homestake Peak.

Al also provided and introduced a DVD of a 1987 KRMA-TV presentation entitled “Soldiers of the Summit: The 10th Mountain Division Story.” He noted that, except for the erroneous suggestion that the assault on Mt. Belvedere took place with artillery barrage, the video was an extensive and thorough presentation of the development and accomplishments of the Division and of the men who served in it, both during and after the war.

Martha Rainey
DESC

Summer is almost upon the Northwest Chapter as I write. A couple of activities are planned, beginning with a luncheon at the Old Spaghetti Factory in Portland on June 25.

Then on July 30, the annual summer picnic is being held. Debbie (Desc 87) and Rich Metzler have graciously offered their beautiful Tigard patio and yard for this year’s picnic.

Often times I’m asked “How is so-and-so doing?” Well, I had the great pleasure of NW Chapter members Dick (10-AT-A) and Anna-Marie Updegraff stopping by as customers. They and their Honda are doing pretty good despite the miles. Dick is a 10th Mtn Div Anti-Tank Battalion guy and they are both tops in my book.

Jean Saveraid (87-C), husband David and horse Kurt joined Midwest Chapter for summer gathering.

Patty LaRocca
DESC 616 FA-HQ

The Midwest Chapter celebrated Mount Belvedere Day on Feb. 25, 2017, at Venuti’s restaurant in Addison, IL.

Sixteen members were in attendance for a delicious Italian meal. Unfortunately we didn’t have any Veterans attend, but we did have spouse Flo Nawrot (W Stanley 87-MED-D) and Lance Lopez (10th Mtn Div [LI]) with his wife Kelly.

Also, Jean Saveraid (Desc 87-C) and husband David arrived with a very unusual guest ... a horse! They were on their way back from a horse sale in Champaign, IL, and had to bring the horse with them. He was in the parking lot during lunch in his trailer. His name is Kurt. We went out to see the big fella before we went home.

Our chapter also had a Spring Luncheon at K’s restaurant in Glendale Heights, IL, on May 7. We had three Veterans join us that day: Jack Pollack (85-HQ2) with his wife Sophie, Larry Eckstein (85-M) with his daughter Dorry and Bill Hill (10-HQ); Bill drove two hours all by himself to get there. You have to love the strong will of these Mountain Veterans.

Our youngest Descendant to attend was 10-year-old Gwendolyne Evans (Desc 616 FA-HQ). She had the honor of holding the 10th flag when we took the picture of the Veterans. It was a beautiful Spring day, so after lunch we sat outside to enjoy the warmth of the sun and the fellowship of friends. Our time spent with our Veterans is very special; these moments are cherished and the memories will last a lifetime. God Bless the 10th.

Northwest Chapter members enjoying sunshine, from left, Sophie and Jack Pollack, Bill Hill and Larry Eckstein, and Gwendolyne Evans, 10, standing.

Martha Rainey
DESC

Summer is almost upon the Northwest Chapter as I write. A couple of activities are planned, beginning with a luncheon at the Old Spaghetti Factory in Portland on June 25.

Then on July 30, the annual summer picnic is being held. Debbie (Desc 87) and Rich Metzler have graciously offered their beautiful Tigard patio and yard for this year’s picnic.

Often times I’m asked “How is so-and-so doing?” Well, I had the great pleasure of NW Chapter members Dick (10-AT-A) and Anna-Marie Updegraff stopping by as customers. They and their Honda are doing pretty good despite the miles. Dick is a 10th Mtn Div Anti-Tank Battalion guy and they are both tops in my book.

If you’re in the area, do get in touch with the Northwest Chapter and join us!
Bracelet

Continued from Page 5

roads and was captured by the Tenth Mountain Division on March 5, 1945.

Bruna de Maria was a child when the Americans arrived in Castel D’Aiano, hollow-eyed and mangled, hoping for a home-cooked meal and their first baths in weeks. She screamed at the sight of them. “What do you expect from an 8-year-old?” she said. Her father hung a white sheet, a signal that the home was open for use as a field hospital and canteen. Within weeks de Maria was afraid again. The Americans were gone and her father was dead, killed by a German land mine. That’s when she saw the bracelet, sitting in a glass-front cabinet in her home. McCauley might have left it as a tribute, or a tip, or a form of payment for care. He might have simply forgotten it. Or lost it on the land nearby. No one can say for sure.

But de Maria remembers its allure. “I just took it,” she said. “I was very poor, so a bracelet for me was a treasure.” But this was a melancholy kind of treasure, a remembrance of the war and its many departed heroes. She never wore the bracelet or contemplated selling it. Instead she cleaned and cared for the bracelet, keeping it in her bedside table for reasons she can’t readily explain. “I always asked myself, does it belong to? But I never tried to find the man,” she explained. “It almost felt as if it were mine.”

Her son Stefano Sedita felt differently from the moment he first held the relic in September. “This bracelet made history,” he explained recently, speaking through a translator. “It belonged to an American soldier who came here to fight, to defend our country — that’s why I thought of giving it back.”

He tried the internet, but he mistook the maker of the bracelet for the owner of the bracelet. A search for “Stuart Sterling” came up empty. He gave that same name to the American consulate in Milan, but they said they couldn’t trace a soldier for him. That’s where the case of the lost silver bracelet might have rested if not for luck. Stefano showed the bracelet to a dinner guest. The guest sent a picture of the bracelet to a cousin in Oklahoma, a lawyer named Carolyn Thompson.

The lawyer tried a journalist at NBC News, who tried Dennis Hagen, the official archivist for the 10th Mtn Div. His private search by the number of the bracelet produced a name, Warren D. McCauley, which led to a last known address, in Buena Vista, CA, and a woman named Twila. “I’m about to hit the floor,” she said, when a reporter first called about the silver bracelet. “You know the Lord, He is really there — have you ever felt him close? I can feel him now.”

Warren McCauley came home in August of 1945 and by the following spring he was at Kansas State University. He played his trombone, and pushed ahead, believing that forward momentum was good for the soul. He met Twila that summer, an 18-year-old clarinet player in a small town parade. He married her the next winter and became a father soon after. He worked as a music and math teacher and rarely spoke of the war, except self-deprecatingly. “I wish he had talked more,” said Twila. “You wonder what else he could have told us.” He died at home in 1986, suffering a heart attack in the family room.

But now the silver bracelet is bringing more of him back. “We just are so thrilled that they cared enough, and loved that bracelet, and took care of it with love,” added Twila McCauley, thinking about their new Italian side of the family. “That’s a special memory for us now, too.” Bruna de Maria and her son Sedda agree. “This closes the circle,” he said, as he sent the silver bracelet on its way to America. “Now it goes home.”

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Kim Hudyma
DESC 86-SVC

Our Washington, D.C. Chapter Patriotic Picnic was to be be on Sunday, July 9, 2017, at the home of Kim and Gene Hudyma.

Since the hostess and several other chapter members were going on the Hill Towns Discovery Tour, our traditional Flag Day was not a good idea this year.

So we did some creative scheduling so more chapter members would hopefully attend. The traditional menu of hot dogs and hamburgers was the highlight of the meal, with Chapter members invited to bring sides and desserts to share.

The Chapter met on Saturday, March 25 at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Triangle, Va. Attendees enjoyed a two-hour docent tour of the extensive museum. The architecture of the building was worth the trip in itself. After the tour, the group adjourned to the Devil Dog Diner for a leisurely lunch.

Our Chapter newsletter, the Capital Column, will now be edited by Abbie Kealy (Desc 86-L). A big thanks to Pam Pikla (Desc 10-AT-A) for editing and mailing it for many years!

WASHINGTON, D.C. Chapter members always have interesting places to go, here at the National Museum of the Marine Corps. From left are Antigone Doucette, Steve Coffey (Desc 87-F), Christopher Doucette (Desc 10-QM-HQ and 87-HQ-3), Abbie Kealy (Desc 86-L), Ashley Templeton, Richard Templeton (Desc 85-HQ-3, 10-HQ), Kim Hudyma (Desc 86-SVC), Ralph Tuccillo (10th LI), docent J. Hoy and Sandy Tuccillo.

NORTH CENTRAL

Jessica Adza
DESC 85-HQ-2

Members of the North Central Chapter held their annual Spring Luncheon on Saturday, June 3, 2017, as a picnic at Williams Park in Edina, MN.

Williams Park is named after fallen 10th Mountain Division soldier Dwight C. Williams. Williams was killed in action on April 30, 1945, in Nago, Italy.

He grew up in this neighborhood, and as a young boy would play very near to this park. Upon his death, his parents helped to create this park in his name, and we were able to properly honor him.

We were so blessed to have three 10th Mountain veterans join us for the picnic: Curt Bestul (85-HQ) and spouse Beaty, Stephen Woodrich (86-F), and Bill Sheets (87-L).

North Central Veterans Curt Bestul (85th HQ), Stephen Woodrich (86-F) and Bill Sheets (87-L).

Bill Sheets attended the same college prep school, the Blake School, as Williams, and was recruited by Williams to join the ranks of the 10th.

Others at the picnic were Nancy Huninghake, Steve Woodrich, Connie and Buzz Swanson, Pam and Clint Schnier, Brandon Schnier, Claire Anderson, and Tony and Jessica Adza.

There was talk about having our Fall Gathering up in Northern Minnesota, so please keep in touch if that location may work out for you and your family.
LOWER MICHIGAN

Camilla Williams  
DESC 87-E

It was gorgeous, warm and sunny at the Michigan Military and Space Heroes Museum in Frankenmuth, MI, for the Lower Michigan Chapter Memorial Day Ceremony. It began at 12 noon with the raising of the flag from half to full staff by John Auger. Chapter President Robert Lafean (son of John Lafean (86-K) led the group of about 50 in the Pledge of Allegiance, introduced the veterans and the chapter officers, and opened with a prayer.

We mourned the passing of Harrison Coleman (86-B) and Oliver Heth (85-E).

Before and after the ceremony, some of us toured the Museum. We then went to the Bavarian Inn for lunch and fellowship. Harold Humble (604-HQ) shared that his grandson, Kyle Humble, was in the 10th Mtn Div (3rd BCT 1/32 Bn) at one point in his military career. Also Arthur Schwartz’s (86-H) grandson, Ryan Puckett is in the 10th at Fort Drum in the 511 MP Co, 91st MP Bn. We welcomed new Descendant member Elana Muehliep, daughter of Delbert Muehliep (604-C).

Veterans of the 10th attending included Arthur Schwartz (86-E), Howard Garland (87-E), Harold Humble (604-HQ), Charles Hoffman (87-L), Henry Bonnes (MP), and 10th (LI) veterans Robert Klim-  (10-HQ), Andrew Ealy (HHC 2/14) and Phillip Cox (HHC 2/14).

We look forward to visiting again.

SIERRA NEVADA

Val Rios  
DESC 87-K

The annual Sierra Nevada Chapter picnic was held Saturday, May 13, 2017, on the grounds of Sebastiani Winery in Sonoma, CA.

Chapter members enjoyed a potluck picnic, along with vino from the winery. The folks at Sebastiani have allowed us to use their venue for our annual picnic and are always extremely accommodating.

Chapter President Val Rios gave updates regarding the three 10th organizations — Association, Foundation and Descendants — and about the upcoming 2017 Return to Italy trip. Everyone had a great time and we ended by singing “Ninety Pounds of Rucksack.”
NEW ENGLAND

Bob Linscott
DESC 86-G

Harris McWade
DESC 87-HQ-3

Michelle Bartlett & Bonnie Beyer
DESC 87-I

The Hannes Schneider Meister Cup Race (HSMCR) is an annual winter fundraising event hosted by the New England Ski Museum at Cranmore Mountain Resort in North Conway, NH, that honors the founding father of ski instruction, Austrian Hannes Schneider; he brought his world-renowned skiing skills to Mount Cranmore in 1939. This year’s 21st running of the HSMCR was held on March 11, 2017, in the most extreme winds and coldest temperatures in recent memory. So “brisk” were the conditions that all of the ceremonial and non-skiing festivities were hosted inside!

This year, the New England Chapter’s two, five-person teams; “The Veterans,” and the descendants’ team, “Sempre Avanti,” both brought their “A” game and exemplary skiing abilities to battle for the coveted 10th Mountain Division Cup:

- **The Veterans:** Led by WWII 10th Mtn Div veteran team captain Dick Calvert (86-HQ-2), along with team members COL (ret.) Matt Fitzgerald (VT ANG) and youngest son Kiernan, CAPT (ret.) Ray Gilmore (10th Mtn Div (LI)), and SPC1 Joseph Guion (Desc AMWS).

- **Sempre Avanti:** Led by team captain Harris McWade (Desc 87-HQ-3), along with team members Paul Lemieux (Assoc 87-HQ-3), Bob Linscott (Desc 86-G), Emilie Gerber (Desc 87-HQ-3) and fiancé Martin Kuncicki.

Both teams raced superbly against talented and well-seasoned teams from the 10th Mountain Division (LI), Fort Drum, NY, and the Army Mountain Warfare School (AMWS) out of Camp Ethan Allen, Jericho, VT.

At the end of the day, two military mountain teams and one New England Chapter team succeeded in reaching the podium. Third place was awarded to the 10th Mtn Div (LI). The New England Chapter’s “Veterans Team” took second place, and in an extraordinary upset victory, first place and this year’s 10th Mtn Div Cup went to the Army Mountain Warfare School!

Among the non-ski-racing competitions, congratulations go out to Chapter members Michele Bartlett, (Assoc 87-I), Sue Hagerman (Desc 86-SVC), Linda Taylor (Assoc 87-I), Andrea Miller (Desc 87-I) and Bonnie Beyer (Desc 87-I), who dressed up as snow bunnies and, with a “bugle assist” from Dick Calvert (86-HQ-2), performed the Andrews Sisters’ 1941 hit, “Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy of Company B.”

**NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER NEWS**

**DELTA NAVER VALLEY**

**Barbara Catterall**
DESC JOSEPH CROKE 85-G, KIA

The Delaware River Valley Chapter held its annual picnic in honor of Memorial Day on May 21, 2017, at Barbara Winters’ farm in Pottstown, PA. The azaleas were in perfect bloom this year. As the group has become smaller and older, we have moved the picnic indoors from the barn to Barbara’s lovely dining room. Barbara and her niece Lily prepared a delicious meal for us.

Two of our group, Mary and Lance Donaldson, planned to attend the 2017 Italy trip. Those of us who have been on previous 10th Mtn Return to Italy trips shared our fond memories and suggestions of things not to miss.

Attending the luncheon were Paul Kitchen (86-I) and his daughter Janis Darlington; Albert Soria (87-L) and his son Peter and his daughter-in-law; Judi and Bob Anderson (Gerald Bren 85-A); Michael and Sherri Ziminsky (Joseph Ziminsky 87-C); Mary Donaldson-Evans and husband Lance (Lawrence Prudhomme (Ord 710 Reg); Barbara Winter and her niece Lily (Burdell Winter 85-M) KIA); Barbara Catterall and Adolfo DeMarko.

On a sad note, we lost two of our most active veteran members this spring. Al Condo and Ted Beckhardt. Al, a former DRV Chapter president, passed away in April. A veteran himself, he became active in the 10th Mtn Div Assn because his brother, Richard Condo (85-G) was killed in action. I had a special tie to Al because his brother and my father were in the same unit and both were killed in action. Al was very welcoming to my mother and me when we first joined the Association in November of 2003.

Ted Beckhardt (85-A) died in May. Those who knew Ted were familiar with his very wry sense of humor and tales of his experiences overseas, and especially his dealings with Pat Thornton’s father, who was his senior officer during the war. Ted’s nephew told me that while Ted had a very full life with many accomplishments: fine porcelain expert and raiser of prize German Shepherds. But the aspect of his life that Ted most prized was his involvement with the 10th Mountain Division.

They will both be missed, along with Peter Binzen (86-H), who passed away last fall, 2016.

The next gathering of the Delaware River Valley Chapter is Nov. 12, Veterans’ Day weekend, at a lunch at the Overbrook Country Club in Villanova, PA; for further information, contact me at barbacat9@aol.com.
Benson, John (86-C), 96, February 18, 2017, Woodbury, MA. Survived by three daughters, nine grand- and four great-grandchildren; predeceased by wife Betty (Smith). Worked three decades with Waterbury Buckle Company, from sales department to CEO, then board chairman. Served on variety of boards including YMCA, United Way, Waterbury Savings Bank, Centerbank and Connecticut Business and Industry Association. Beautiful skier, had a mean drop shot on tennis court, and resolute golfer. Favorite places were cottage in Weekapaug, RI, cabin in Timber Ridge, VT, and any place to tinker.

Bowers, Delbert Duane, 87, December 26, 2016, Harker Heights, TX. Survived by wife Jean, a son, a daughter, four grand- and eight great-grandchildren. Served in U.S. Army for 27 years, retiring as CW4. Second career as a funeral director, beginning Crawford-Bowers Funeral Home Killeen and Crawford-Bowers Funeral Home Killeen in Copperas Cove. Remained active as consultant. Life Member, VFW Post 3892 in Harker Heights, Life Member, DAV Post 147 in Killeen, Life Member, American Legion Post 223 in Killeen; also member, Elks Lodge of Falls City, NE, Killeen Evening Lions Club and Chamber of Commerce, Harker Heights and Copperas Cove Chambers of Commerce. Member, Skyline Baptist Church. He enjoyed spending time with his family, working out at his place in Triple 7 and playing golf.

Carbonneau, Clyde George (87-K), 94, November 22, 2016, Lakeport, CA. Survived by wife Nancy and family. Well known as first “Datsun/Nissan” dealer in Lake County.

Coleman, Harrison “Harry” Ladoux (86-B), 93, March 31, 2017, Tampa, FL. Survived by wife Lorraine, three daughters, a son, 12 grand- and 26 great-grandchildren. Tool and die maker, Munger Trade School in Detroit, then started own company, Lorraine Tool and Die, Inc., first incorporated in Detroit, MI. Worked with engineering department at Mosler Aromatic Div in Wayne, NJ, then developed “RegenAir,” country’s largest manufacturer of regenerative blowers, for Trotan in Novi, MI. Moved to Greenville, SC, under name of Lorraine Manufacturing Inc. Later Lorraine Machine Inc., engaged with five Air Force bases, completed 12 contracts making spare parts for B52, F15, C131 and H53’s. Current owner Gerald, Harry’s son, part of company during 60-year history. Longtime active member, National Association of 10th Mountain Division.

Cram, Wendall R. “Wendy” (87-K), 96, April 30, 2017, Manchester, VT. Survived by nieces and nephews, friend Joe Charbonneau. Employed 34 years as head groundskeeper, Palmer House and over 35 years during winter as ski instructor at Stratton Mountain. Known throughout community as an avid cyclist, proprietor of Wendy’s Ski Shop. President, Manchester Chamber of Commerce, President, Yankee Peddlers, first bicycle club in Vermont; life member, Fraternal Order of Eagles and Veterans of Foreign Wars. Member, U.S. Olympic Ski Team, 1940; inducted into Vermont Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame in Stowe, VT. Life member, Professional Ski Instructors of America. Also enjoyed hiking, travelling and fine wines.

Dennison, David Lawrence (87-HQ-3), 95, June 14, 2016, Carefree, AZ. Survived by three daughters, companion Michele; predeceased by wife Margaret Lee (Skinner), wife Margaret (Lillian), and a son. Worked for DuPont Co., retiring as Europe Director of Plastics, Geneva, Switzerland. Member, town council, commissioner of water company, active in Desert Foothills Library, Kiwanis, Junior Achievement, American Legion.

Devlin, Joseph Eugene (87-B), 92, December 18, 2016, Bonner, MT. Survived by wife Helen Kay (Keeley), three daughters, a son, nine grand- and 20 great-grandchildren; predeceased by a daughter. Worked for Anaconda Forest Products, later for Champion International and Exchange Lumber. Volunteer, Pizitzville station, Missoula Rural Fire Department; longtime parishioner, St. Ann Roman Catholic Church. Spent many years raising horses, hunting, walking and doing yard work.

Durfee, Horton Keith (86-L), 91, May 20, 2017, Ithaca, NY. Survived by wife Shirley (Morgan), a daughter, three sons, a stepson, a stepdaughter, 13 grand-, four great-grandchildren; predeceased by wife Jean (Blaney). Employed by New York State Experiment Station, Geneva, NY, and Taft School, Watertown, CT; in Darrow, taught science and coached sports. Taught at Berkshire Community College and Emma Willard School. Read widely, played the flute, attended Berkshire Music Center at Tanglewood and sang with oratorio choirs. Participated, Berkshire Public Theatre and Town Players of Pittsfield. Volunteer ambulance driver, Lebanon Valley Protective Association. Avid train and model railroad enthusiast and member, Model Railroad Club and Rensselaer Model Railroad Society. Active in National Association, 10th Mountain Division, attending Chapter meetings, national reunions, events at Fort Drum, and veteran tours of Italy. Member, St. John’s Episcopal Church.

Faulkner, Clarence Edward “Ki” (86-K), 93, April 3, 2017, Harpers Ferry, WV. Survived by a daughter; predeceased by wife Irene (MacDonald). Served in WWII, and Korean War with 101st Airborne Division. A 36-year career as Wildlife Biologist hired by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Developed bird safety procedures in wake of deadly air crash at Boston’s Logan Airport. At Midwest Region in Minneapolis, MN, developed and led teams who saved entire species from extinction, including Eastern Timber Wolf, Bald Eagles, Kirkland Warbler and Black-Footed Ferret. Founded first co-educational Boy Scout Explorer Post for Wildlife.

Forman, Mark Randolph (10th Mtn Div [LI]), 56, June 1, 2017, Leavenworth, KS. Survived by wife Tish, two sons, numerous nieces and nephews. Infantry Army Officer for 30 years, retiring as COL. Enjoyed hunting, fishing, his three Labs and his Nebraska Cornhuskers. Member, National Association of 10th Mountain Division, serving as secretary for Executive Committee (EXCOM).

Hamilton, William A. (86-F), 93, March 10, 2017, Newberg, OR. Survived by wife Hazel Mary (Harrison), three sons, six grandchildren; predeceased by first wife Ina Mae (Walter) and a son. Surveyor/inspector, Oregon State Highway and Bridge Divisions, Salem, Ontario, and Gold Beach; assistant city engineer, San Mateo, CA; nuclear test engineer, Lawrence Radiation Lab, Livermore, CA; city engineer, LaGrande. Couple traveled in RV around USA and Canada, working as staff engineer, Anderson Perry and Associates, Eastern Oregon and Washington. Member, St. Michael’s Episcopal Church; Masonic Lodge #104; Order of Eastern Star Newberg Chapter No. 55; 10th Mountain Division, Northwest Chapter; Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity, Oregon State U.; Scottish Rite of Freemasonry. Also active in Friendsview Community in later years.

Heth, Oliver Robert (85-C), 92, March 10, 2016, Ortonville, MI. Survived by a daughter. Active in ski school and ski patrol at Pine Knob. Enjoyed skiing in winter, golfing in summer, shooting skeet spring to fall, hunting field birds with his dogs, hunting deer and turkeys, taking trips to Alaska for trout and out west to Spring ski.

Howe, Stanley E. (87-HQ), 89, June 24, 2015, Reading, PA. Survived by three daughters, five grandchildren; predeceased by wife Margaret G. (Mack). Worked for many years for Alpha Industries in Woburn. Longtime active member, First Baptist Church of Wakefield. Enjoyed downhill skiing, biking, roller skating, square dancing, playing tennis and photography. Also spent time at cottage in Harrison, ME; life member, I.E.E.E, member, National Association 10th Mountain Division; member, Historical Society of Wakefield and Harrison.

Jackson, Arnold S. “Pepper” Jr. (86-C), 93, April 19, 2017, Madison, WI. Survived by three sons, a daughter, eight grand- and three great-grandchildren; predeceased by wife Kathryn Odgen (Brum). Science teacher and principal, Todd Seminary for Boys, Woodstock, Ill.; took boys sailing off Florida coast, hiking in Canadian Rockies. Couple traveled by canoe to Hudson Bay, northern Canada, sailed North Channel of Lake Huron, skied Rockies and Alps, explored wilderness of Mexico. Established family farm, Dane, WI, applying lessons of ecology, development of minimal-tillage farming practices, providing sanctuary for birds and other wildlife; area preserved as Jackson Waterfowl Production Area, dedicated by Madison Audubon Society and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Miller, Carlton S. (85-B), January 22, 2017. Active member, New England Chapter, National Association of the 10th Mountain Division.

Morrison, Samuel J. (87-HQ-3), 96, March 6, 2017, Yonkers, NY. Survived by a daughter, 12 nieces and nephews. Known as “The King of Coin” from years working in New York City vending machine business that included pinball machines, pool tables, juke boxes and video games. Also known as playful in spirit, with a great sense of humor, and being the life of any party. Led active retirement as member of Croton Lodge; active in NYC Chapter, National Association of the 10th Mountain Division.
New England

Continued from Page 13

taking second place in the Vintage Fashion Show competition.

On Saturday, June 10, New England Chapter members, descendants and guests gathered for the Chapter’s Spring Luncheon at the Makris Restaurant in Concord, NH, to commemorate the life, memories and contributions of Chapter member and past President Chester H. Morley, Jr. (85-C) who passed away in March, 2013.

Looking ahead into 2017, New England Chapter members can anticipate enjoying each other’s friendship and camaraderie at the following upcoming events:

• The 19th Annual Bartlett-Crist 10th Mtn Div Memorial Service, Saturday, July 22, at the Donnellan Farm, Landaff, NH.
• The 35th annual Mount Washington Climb and Memorial, August 9-10.
• The Jean Dearborn Memorial Fall Luncheon, October (date to be announced), at the Makris Restaurant, Concord, NH.
• Veterans’ Day flag ceremonies, Nov. 11 and 19 at the Massachusetts National Cemetery, Bourne, MA.
Northern Colorado Ski and Outdoor Industry Team (NEW)
NOLS Scholarship
Wounded Warrior Scholarships
20th Mountain Hut Association

Ski and Outdoor Industry Team (NEW)
Ski Show, Snow, X-Promo Partnerships
Veteran Job Transition Support

Scholarship Team
Undergraduate
Graduate – Military History

Foundation Structure: bold outline is our existing core structure, dotted outline represents new structure.

Tenth Mountain Division Foundation
1 January – 12 June 2017

President’s Message (Trux Dole)
The first half of the year was a busy 6 months for the Foundation. We distributed $89,605 to our core partners and grant recipients as decided at the 2016 annual meeting in July.

We received $19,128 in donations. We’d like to extend special thanks to the team at Icelantic Ski’s for developing a limited edition ski and contributing 15% of sales (www.icelanticski.com). Their generosity yielded $6,875 and accounted for 36% of total donations. You can look forward to purchasing the ski next ski season as well.

Foundation officers continued to solidify relations with our core partners, and much work was done by Secretary, Dave Little, to coordinate and begin systematizing the various artifact collections.

Continuing our transition to a program-focused structure, I have laid out in the table below how our key program categories span the three areas of focus, and how the relevant partners align to each category. This approach will, I believe, clarify where people can volunteer and guide both donors and grant seekers.

In terms of administration, my end goal for the year ahead is to get board members and volunteers from the 10th community to populate a team for each program category. These specific teams will manage budgets and grants to defined partner programs with much less ad hoc grant making. We are not there yet, and I’d like to hear your input. Does this make sense? Is it clear how you can help?

On a more immediate front, we are in need of volunteers for our Marketing team. This is where you can participate! Please email admin@10thmdf.org if you are interested. It’s your Foundation, add your voice!

Lastly, because this is a transition year, we are not actively seeking grant proposals beyond the core programs listed below, but will consider those already received. Thanks to our marketing efforts we saw an uptick in scholarship applications received by our May 1 deadline. We will be evaluating proposals and scholarship applications against our rubric and guidelines for decision at our July annual meeting.

Since this will be the last printed Blizzard, please stop by the Foundation website and add your email address or follow our Facebook page so we can keep you updated going forward. Onward, 

President, Tenth Mountain Division Foundation

Sepp Scanlin
MUSEUM DIRECTOR
As the new director of the U.S. Army’s 10th Mountain Division and Fort Drum Museum at Fort Drum, New York, it is a bittersweet opportunity to contribute my first article to the “Blizzard’s” final print issue. Throughout the unit’s history, the “Blizzard” has informed and documented thousands of proud Mountain Soldiers through the decades and across continents. As with all endings this one comes with a level of sadness, though it also represents the continuing reality of the Division’s history — constant change.

When the inaugural “Blizzard” was published I doubt that many would have foreseen the history it would eventually capture, the transition from training to the harsh combat of Italy, to a resurrection in Kansas and documenting our support to our former adversaries in Germany. As with the Division’s history itself, the “Blizzard” was sustained by the Division’s proud veterans when the colors were cased, standing by to connect to its rebirth in the 1990s. The “Blizzard’s” archives continue to provide us insights into the thoughts, events and incredible changes at the heart of the Division through the years. Though the transition of the “Blizzard” to digital is another example of these changes, it will always remain foundational to the Division’s history.

The museum here at Fort Drum remains committed to collecting, educating and inspiring visitors of the full history of the 10th Mountain Division.

Sepp Scanlin
MUSEUM DIRECTOR

Farewell to an Icon

The museum here at Fort Drum remains committed to collecting, educating and inspiring visitors of the full history of the 10th Mountain Division. As symbolized in our Military Mountaineer statue, the events and actions of the Division Veterans are the foundation from which the current soldiers and families start. As both a Division Veteran and museum professional, I have both lived this and understand its importance. I look forward to connecting with many of you over the coming years either face to face or on the various screens that will display the “Blizzard” moving forward.

Like you, I will miss the joy of receiving the “Blizzard” in our mailbox, but it will always remain a foundational stone to the history of the Division.

Climb to Glory and Stay Curious!

For more information, email: joseph.e.scanlin2.civ@mail.mil, call 315-774-0391 or go to www.facebook.com/FortDrumMuseum.