



117th Cavalry Association

102nd CAV (Mecz) 38th CAV (Mecz) 117th CAV (Mecz) 50th RECON 5TH RECON 5/117th CAV 1/102nd CAVALRY
Volume 30, Number 1 122nd Issue (post WWII) Spring 2009



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE COL (Ret.) Dennis Dougherty The 117th Cavalry Association draws its strength from its membership. It is the lifeblood of our organization. Our 2008 Biennial Reunion was a time for our members to come together to remember those past and present who carry on the traditions of the Cavalry in New Jersey Army National Guard...Those cavalymen who served proudly in the organizations that are emblazoned in the masthead on our 117th Cavalry Association newsletter "The SPUR".

More than eighty members of our association came together on the weekend of October 17-18, 2008 to remember and celebrate the over eighty years of service since cavalymen first served in the Westfield, New Jersey National Guard Armory. The highlight of Friday night's business meeting was the naming of Arnold Lasner, Dan Melso, and John A. Crescenzi as *Distinguished Members of the Regiment*. It was also a time to come together in friendship and camaraderie, offer a toast or two and to remember those who have served and those who continue to serve.

The Biennial Reunion resumed with Saturday night's dinner at Gibbs Hall, Fort Monmouth. It started with the posting of the colors by the Rear Detachment of the 1-102nd Cavalry and was followed by the invocation given by SGM (Ret.) Jim Dooley. Our program included remarks by CPT Peter Zabita the Rear Detachment Commander of the 1-102nd Cavalry. He gave an update of ongoing Squadron operations in Iraq. Our guest speaker for the evening was Mr. Harry Yeide. Mr. Yeide is a noted World War II historian and author. His most current work is *Steeds of Steel*. This book tells the story of the transition from horse cavalry to the mechanized cavalry of World War II. Harry brought history alive as he made an excellent presentation on the role played by New Jersey Cavalymen in the defeat of Nazi Germany. He made an instant connection with "Class of 41" members Bob Lutz and Joe Pocaroba as he told their story by highlighting the contributions of the 117th, 102nd and the 38th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadrons.

The evening continued with the presentation of awards. Our 2008 *Member of the Year* and Editor of *The SPUR*, Phil Notestine, was honored with the *Noble Patron of Armor Award*. LTC's Mike Hrycak and Chris Sands were awarded the *Bronze Medallion of the Honorable Order of Saint George* and BG (Ret.) Ken Wondrack was awarded the *Silver Medallion of the Honorable Order of Saint George* for their long and continued service to our 117th Cavalry Association. SSG (Ret.) Emil Allgeier and Joe Pocaroba were recognized as *Distinguished Members of the Regiment* and Mr. Harry Yeide was named an *Honorary Member of the Regiment*. The 2008 Biennial Reunion came to an end with the retirement of the colors and benediction.

I would also like to recognize our 2008 Biennial Reunion Committee: SGM (Ret.) Ken Mahan, CW4 (Ret.) Don Tracy, MSG (Ret.) Bill Gruss, LTC Chris Sands and SGM (Ret.) Jim Dooley for all the hard work and many hours they all put in making the 2008 Biennial Reunion the success it was.

A special thanks to all our members who have made contributions to help defray the cost of the publication of "The SPUR." Please continue to show your support in your sponsorship (Boosters page) of our 117th Cavalry Association newsletter "The SPUR." Many of you have made and continue to make donations to help pay the cost of publication and its mailing. Thanks to all of you for your generosity in support of our associations many initiatives in support of our membership and the 1-102nd Cavalry.

Please remember in your thoughts and prayers the troopers of the 1-102nd Cavalry who are currently deployed in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Show 'em the Way!

Dennis



Biennial Reunion 17 – 18 October 2008

Dougherty, Yeide, Mahan



Mahan, Melso, Lasner, Crescenzi, Dougherty



Dougherty, Pocoroba, Allgeier, Mahan



Some of our WWII Combat veterans include Danny Melso, Joe Pocoroba and Arnold Lasner. Danny and Joe are "Class of '41" members; Arnold joined them in France as a replacement recon trooper after *The Battle of Montrevel*. All fought with distinction in *The Battle of Bitche* in the Vosges Mountains, Dec. 31 1944 – Jan. 2 1945 (Germany's last big effort - *Operation Nordwind*)

Armor Association Awards – BG Wondrack, Silver Order of St. George; Notestine, Noble Patron of Armor; LTC Sands, Bronze Order of St. George; LTC Hrycak, Bronze Order of St. George



FROM IRAQ Along with the rest of our NJARNG units in Iraq, the 1-102nd Cavalry is making a difference in the lives of Iraqis, and very much for the better. I didn't collect the pictures that I saw in a 42nd ID report of a safe and joyous Christmas at the Anglican Church of St. George's, Baghdad. Our soldiers had insured safety and many presents for children, Christians and their Moslem friends. "Father Christmas" was "stood in for" by the Rector, Canon Andrew White, an English clergyman who works day and night for peace and reconciliation amongst Christian and Moslem.



Greetings from Camp Bucca, Iraq!

You'll be happy to hear that Cavalry Troopers of Headquarters and Headquarters Troop of the 1st Squadron, 102nd Cavalry Regiment is keeping busy and treading new ground while performing our base support operation mission in Southern Iraq. Camp Bucca, named after FDNY fire inspector Ronald Bucca who died on 9/11, is the largest detainee facility in the world with an important mission to hold those people deemed a threat to Iraqi security. Part of the HQ Troop mission is to take care of those soldiers and civilians who act as a guard force. We perform the essential 'life support' activities that ensures 5,000 joint service members and 3,000 more civilians live and work in a comfortable and safe environment. Many of these duties may seem mundane but are as vital as any other in our military's mission in Iraq.

More than half of HQ personnel have formed what is affectionately known as the 'Mayor cell'. This group, led by the Squadron Operations officer, Major Andy Hague, performs all manner of base support activities; from housing administration to construction of new facilities and safety inspections.

Also a part of the Mayor cell is the Facility Engineer Team or FET. Under the steady hand of Captain Tim Eachus, this 32 man team is comprised of soldiers, sailors and airmen. Their job is to build or oversee the construction of numerous projects on the base. A busy job indeed, with dozens of projects across base.

Other HHT troopers perform myriad other duties in such fields as; logistics, procurement, security screening and morale programming. The Squadron HQs; Lieutenant Colonel Dean Spenzos, Command Sergeant Major Timothy Marvian and Squadron Executive Timothy Coakley have formed the backbone of the base HQs under the direction of active duty Marine Colonel Tom Burton.

Right now we are more than halfway through the deployment and I can state as fact that we have a fantastic Troop that is made up of true Citizen Soldiers. While this deployment has been enriching and rewarding, many of us cannot wait to get back home to our families in the spring.

See you then.

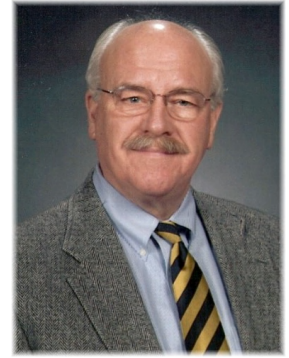
Captain Adam Kama
Commander
Headquarters Troop/ 1st Squadron, 102nd Cavalry Regiment
Purchase Request & Commitment Chief
Forward Operating Base Camp Bucca



A cavalryman that served with C Troop during the last deployment and just had to get back to the big sandbox, returned ready to deal with the ubiquitous camel and their particular ways. He truly impressed the locals! Who was this good soldier! Irwin of Iraq? Who was he?



FROM THE EDITOR Phil Notestine It's been a while since we last issued *The Spur*. That was immediately preceding the Biannual Reunion, way back in September. As you may have noted, we are now back on the regular schedule of *The Spur* – Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. We did a *Special Edition* in 2007 and 2008 for reasons of urgency in getting the unit histories published to all. We continue that of the 38th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mecz), of the 102nd Cavalry Group. Due to a limit of 12 pages, the 38th CAV series will go on for a bit. However, it's good reading – about the “Lucky Little 38th”, don't you agree?



We continue to receive inquiries from families of our WWII veterans who gave it their all during WWII. Our web site, with the WWII histories of our 3 related mechanized cavalry squadrons as well as *The Spur* issues provide much info, and we often get an email inquiry. For me, it's an honor to help a family learn more about an uncle or a brother that died for their country, so long ago. One such search is related in this issue.

On a personal note – I was surprised, grateful and honored to be awarded with the Armor Association's *Noble Patron of Honor* medallion and certificate. I am very proud of it! Imagine, after 40 years out of uniform – getting my first “decoration”!

February 2009 Meeting of the Association Presided over by our president, COL (Ret.) Dennis Dougherty. After the Pledge of Allegiance and remembrance of those recently deceased, the colonel spoke of the Coffee Express activities and the many shipments to Iraq. He introduced Mrs. Nancy La Court, Family Readiness Group (FRG) president who spoke of the Casino Night to be held at the Westfield Armory. The proceeds will be for the financial support of the trooper's families. Mrs. La Court gave an enthusiastic appeal and also spoke of her sons, both in Iraq, with Troops B & C.

SGT Pablo Chavez, NCOIC rear support for B Troop, spoke of his artwork that he painted while stationed in Iraq with C Troop, 5/117 CAV in 2007. Some of his paintings are on display in the Armory.

In attendance: Jim Pressman, Donald Emery, Emil Allgeier, Henry Forstenhausler, Lou Belardino, Rick Luciano, Jack Nafus, Bill Merring, David Mormak, Dave Ellis, Ron Nier, Joe Arca, Guy Haddix, Frank Patrick, Al Aballo, Frank Mnich, Dan Mahon, Walt Lawrence, Dutch Gauthier, Ken Mahan, Arnold Lasner, Don Kondrowski, Pablo Chavez, Phil Notestine, Frank Wiswall, Omar Munoz, Bill Gruss, Dennis Dougherty and Don Tracy.

Class of '41 Luncheon Gibbs Hall, Fort Monmouth 18 February 2009. Members and guests gathered for a fine buffet luncheon and good comradeship, before going to the National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey at Sea Girt. <http://www.nj.gov/military/museum/>

We were received quite hospitably by Assistant Curators Carol Fowler and Joe Bilby, who gave us a comprehensive tour and talk. While in the vehicle display area, pictures were taken of the WWII veterans standing by a Jeep and an M-3 “Stuart” light



STUART

tank, similar to the M-5's that the F Troop tankers fought in. Later, Ms. Fowler brought us into a conference/lecture and display room, where she showed several videos of WWII oral histories. Shown were parts of the videos of Frank Wiswall and Frank Prettyman, both *Class of '41* members. Interesting and moving, especially when Prettyman, then a recon SSG of C Troop, 117th CAV described the combat action when he was badly wounded in both legs, life and limbs saved, and spent 18 months in recuperation and rehabilitation. The action took place in Southern France, in August 27, 1944 near Grane or Loriol, by the Drome River. They were the “Tip of the Spear” in the famous *Task Force Butler*.

LTC du Tertre's son William was fascinated by the displays of WWII firearms, and could properly identify many. In attendance: *Class of '41* members Frank Prettyman, Joe Pocoroba, John Ferguson and Frank Wiswall.

Also guests Jack Coogan, Stanley Krenkowitz, Myles Rahill, Charlotte & Bill Merring, Robert Apgar, Don Tracy, Dennis Dougherty, Patrick du Tertre and his son William, Phil Notestine, and Ken Mahan. Several of the good men were unable to attend: Bob Lutz, Jimmy Kane and Irv Partelow; all were on Sick Call. Excuses were accepted with regret.

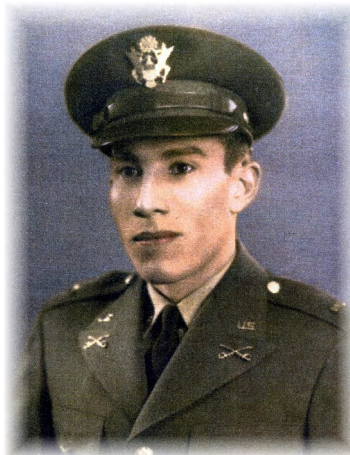
**Prettyman, Pocoroba, Wiswall and Ferguson >>
Jeep and M-3 "Stuart" light tank w/37mm**

William duTertre knows his WWII firearms! Points at US M-1903A3 rifle, carried by Essex Troopers in 1941



<< M-4 "Sherman" tank and crew - William and Papa - LTC duTertre, enduring wind and rain This American medium tank in its many variations was used as the primary tank by the Allies in Europe. Valiant crews overcame the technically superior German *Panther* and *Tiger* tanks by tactics, numbers and guts.

VETERANS SEARCH El Paso PD SGT Pete Salcido had never met his uncle **1LT Manuel Salome Salcido** (pictured below) a WWII cavalryman who died in Italy while serving with the 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mecz).



Pete was developing information at his father's request in order to honor his beloved brother. The family had some information, but it was incomplete. Pete was able to piece together some data and found the *117th Cavalry Association* on the internet. We helped to fill in the gaps. The young officer was severely wounded in combat, fighting with C Troop (recon) while advancing on Fallonica, north of Rome, on 24 June 1944 and died on 26 June 1944. Commissioned 2LT of Cavalry, 13 February 1941, Salcido joined the 102nd Cavalry at Ft. Jackson; he had been recruited by COL McGowan while at the Cavalry School, Fort Riley, KS. 1LT Salcido was well liked, so I gathered, from speaking with several *Class of '41* men who remembered the popular young officer. He had a number of assignments including F Troop (tanks) motor officer and platoon leader. Salcido was decorated with the Bronze Star, Purple Heart and more. He is buried at Fort Bliss, TX.

His brother **Robert Salcido Sr.** served in WWII with the 746th Tank Battalion <http://home.hiwaay.net/~blan/> as a Recon Car Crewman (M-8 "Greyhound" Armored Car) from 14 June 1943 to 20 July 1945. He landed on Utah Beach, Normandy. He fought in Northern France, Rhineland and the Ardennes. He suffered from combat fatigue and trench foot and was sent home and given an Honorable Discharge 27 July 1945 with the rank of Corporal.

He was awarded the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with 4 Bronze Service Stars and an Arrowhead for amphibious landing on D-Day.

Recently, doctors from the VA treating his trench foot problem and advised that it was a combat related injury suffered during the war; he was recently awarded the Purple Heart. He was also awarded the World War II Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal WWII, the Army Good Conduct Medal, Army Presidential Unit Citation and Army Meritorious Unit Citation Ribbons, *Special Order of the Day of the Belgium Army Citation* for action along the Meuse River and *Special Order of the Day of the Belgium Army Citation* for action in the Ardennes.

Upon his return to El Paso, he started his family and worked for 30 years in civil service as a pressman for William Beaumont Army Hospital. After retiring, he volunteered until about 2005 cleaning graffiti throughout El Paso, earning much civil recognition.

He and his wife Dolores have three grown sons, all Police Officers. Robert Salcido Jr. the oldest and Manuel D. Salcido, who both served for over twenty years with the El Paso Police Department and have since retired. Robert is an Army veteran and Manuel served as a Marine in Vietnam. Pedro (Pete) M. Salcido, the youngest of the three, served six years with the Dallas Police Department before moving back to El Paso where he has served with the El Paso Department for 15 years, and currently assigned to the department's Criminalistics Unit. Proud American Patriots, this Salcido family!

CPL Robert Salcido 1945 >



Robert Salcido Sr. sends his very best regards to his fellow WWII veterans, especially those troopers who knew his beloved brother 1LT Manuel Salome Salcido.



Tom Robbins, son of *Class of '41* man **Albert M. Robbins** has been going through his dad's memorabilia and has contacted us, offering many pictures of the (then) young *Essex Trooper* taken before and during WWII. LT Albert M. Robbins served with the 117th CAV and was recognized for his heroic leadership during the battle of Mouterhouse, Germany; later receiving a battlefield commission. Tom fondly remembers his father telling of his exploits as a horse soldier before the war, and of the outstanding achievements and sacrifices of his brothers, from North Africa, Italy, France, Germany and into Austria. We have

just received the CD for use of the 117th Cavalry Association. We will also share the over 400 pictures with our brothers of the *Essex Troop Association*.



CONTINUED – The WWII History of the 38th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mecz) with 1SGT (Ret.) James A. Kane, Essex Trooper



Jim remembered the Germans as “good soldiers, well trained, and with terrific equipment.” He noted that the German 88MM cannon, which was used as an anti-tank, anti-personnel and anti-aircraft weapon, was superior to any similar gun fielded by the American army. He remembered seeing, from his vantage on the side of a road, a high velocity 88MM round pass by like a “streak of lightning” to hit and totally destroy an American jeep. German Tiger tanks were equipped with “88s” and were much more formidable than the American tanks.

He recalls when The 38th CAV crossed the Marne River on a pontoon bridge one moonlit night and drove up the slope on the opposite side of the river. As the Americans crested the hill, Kane looked to one side and saw a haunting scene, row upon row of white crosses – an American military cemetery from World War I. “And here we are again,” he thought.

...CONTINUED FROM "A Short History of the 38th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mecz) Written by Major Charles E. Rousek, Exec. Officer of the 38th eff: 8 August 1944"

The Falaise Gap was closed on 15 August and all of the Allied Armies pushed vigorously to the east in pursuit of the German Army in the West. Bridgeheads were taken over the Seine on either side of Paris. The honor of actually entering Paris was reserved for the V Corps, the dean of the American Corps in France. The Squadron, as part of the 102nd Cavalry Group marched to Mortree on 20 August 1944, where the group received the mission of protecting the left flank of the Corps in the area Sees-St. Andre d' Echauffour, Coulmer, St. Gauburge-Merlerault, for this flank had been exposed by the rapid eastward march of the Corps, and the slower movement of the British on the north, due to increased resistance in the British sector. Troops "A" and "B" moved out at first light of the 21st on their missions of forcing reconnaissance in the sector Coumer-St. Gauburge for Troop "A" and Coulmer to the British for Troop "B". The two Troops reached the limit of reconnaissance at the road Coulmer-St. Gauburge after the 2nd platoon of Troop "A" drove back a determined delaying force of twenty men near St. Andre d' Echauffour and the 1st platoon of Troop "B" sparked by Sgt. Otto overran an enemy outpost near Coulmer.

That afternoon, the British 11th Armored Division rolled down the road across the Squadron front, thus pinching out the Squadron and securing the Corps flank.

On August 22, the Squadron moved to Alencon and on August 23 made a grueling night march of 125 miles to Sons Champs to swing in front of the 4th Infantry Division which it was to screen toward the Seine south of Paris. The Squadron assembled at dawn of the 24th near Villiemoissan-Sur-Orge, and set off with the mission of capturing the bridges across the Seine River between Villeneuve-St. Georges and Champ-Rosay. Troops "A" and "B" forced reconnaissance ahead throughout the day encountering negligible resistance until Troop "B" ran into delaying forces at Longumeau and the three platoons of Troop "A" drove enemy delaying forces back across the Seine at three points east of Sequigny.

On August 25, at 0530 hours, the Squadron was ordered to push vigorously to the north and screen the 12th Infantry into Paris. At 0830 hours, Troop "A" reached Notre Dame Cathedral through a surging mob of hysterical Frenchman. Troop A's early arrival into the city caused them to be the first complete unit to enter the city, since they arrived ahead of the 2nd French Armored division. With the arrival of Troops "C" and "E" and Company "F" shortly thereafter, the Squadron became the first American unit to enter the city. The Frenchmen left no doubt that they were glad to see us.

Lt. McAloon's platoon of "B" Troop broke through a German bridge Guard at Ivry, crossed and secured the bridge with the help of F.F.I. Troop "A" then moved to secure three bridges over the Seine near the city limits.

The Commanding General of the 4th Division commended the Squadron in an Order of the Day on 28 August, an extract of which reads:

"For the final stages of the drive, the 38th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron was attached to the 12th Regimental Combat Team and given the difficult mission of securing and protecting all intact bridges over the Seine River in the city of Paris, prior to the entry of the 12th Regimental Combat Team into the city proper. Employing excellent tactics, the 38th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron entered the city of Paris early on the morning of the 25 August 1944, reporting the arrival of its leading elements at Notre Dame Cathedral at 0830 hours, and by so doing, became the first American troops to enter the city of Paris. By 1400 hours of that day, all designated bridgeheads had been successfully and swiftly captured.

TO BE CONTINUED...

Did you know that the "Lucky 38th" has been stood up again, this time as a "Regular Army" unit, part of the 504th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade (BFSB)? I made contact with the CO of the first Troop to be activated:

Mr. Notestine,

Thank you for sending me the link to your website as well as the newsletter. I am currently the Commander of Bravo Troop 38th CAV (LRS) (ABN). Our Troop was activated on Ft. Hood 15 FEB 08, as a part of the 504th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade (BFSB). 1st SQD is being activated at Ft. Bragg, 2nd SQD will be at Ft. Hood and the 3rd SQD will be at Ft. Lewis. Each of the Squadrons will be Recon Squadrons attached to a BFSB in order to conduct Reconnaissance and Surveillance and collect combat information. My Troop was activated prior to my 2nd SQD in order to stand up and deploy. We are currently serving in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Unlike the 38th CAV of WWII, we are not a mechanized unit. We are a Airborne (ABN) Long Range Surveillance (LRS) Troop, and happen to be the only ABN LRS Cav unit in the entire Army, and we are proudly flying the B Troop 38th guidon. We continue to uphold the mantra of the Lucky 38th, being all of our call signs begin with "Lucky" and when rendering salutes subordinates say "Always in Front" When we activated in February we had Mr. Michael DiMiglio as our guest of honor, he was a member of C Troop, 38th CAV during WWII and it was a honor and a privilege to have him. I look forward to keeping in touch.

PFC M. DiMiglio>

v/r
CPT Reginald B. Williams





COFFEE EXPRESS! Members of the 1st Squadron 102nd Cavalry are now deployed as part of the 50th Infantry Brigade Combat Team of the New Jersey Army National Guard in Iraq. This is the single largest deployment of New Jersey Troops since World War II. We all know that an army travels on it stomach and the fuel that keeps the troops moving is coffee.

You can help by joining the "Coffee Express"! How do you become a member of the "Coffee Express"? Just go down to your local grocery store and buy a pound or two of coffee and send it to one of the below addresses or to the soldier of your choice at either unit. We have sent 63 twenty pound boxes - over 1,000 lbs of coffee & snack food, and 22,000 minutes of phone cards, to Guardsmen, Reservists and Regulars.

CPT Adam Kama
HHT/1-102 Cavalry
Camp Bucca, Iraq
APO AE 09375

CPT Mike Tarricone
A Troop 1-102 Cavalry
Camp Bucca, Iraq
APO AE 09375

CPT Noel Lyn-Kew
519th MP BN
B Troop 1-102 Cavalry
Camp Ashraf, Iraq
APO AE 09391

CPT Joe McNamara
C Troop 1-102 CAV
Box 5
APO AE 09391

1LT Vincent Tirri
519th MP BN
CO D 250th BSB
Camp Ashraf, Iraq
APO AE 09391

CPT Thomas Fischer
50th Chemical Company
Camp Bucca, Iraq
APO 09375

MAJ John P. Cogbill
HHC 3-8 CAV
FOB Marez
APO AE 09334

1LT Jon Walsh
328th MP Company
Camp Cropper, Iraq
APO AE 09342

CPT James Eagan
CO F 250th BSB
Camp Bucca, Iraq
APO AE 09375

What will it cost you? Two pounds of coffee \$12, Postage \$5, Feeling when you put the package in the mail PRICELESS! Don't hesitate, send that coffee now and become a member of "Coffee Express"! Thanks for your Support! COL (RET) Bill Rooney, *the DISCOM ALUMNI of NEW JERSEY* & COL (RET) Dennis Dougherty, *117th CAVALRY ASSOCIATION*

Membership Update – SMG (Ret.) Ken Mahan



Trooper! Look at your address label! If the date is not Sept. 09 or later, you are behind in your dues. Your subscription to *THE SPUR* is going to run out because of non-payment of dues. A sample of label:

SEPT 09

KENNETH L. MAHAN

12 W. WALNUT ST

METUCHEN NJ 08840-2616

To Members behind in their dues, you will have date circled in RED! This is the only notice you will receive. Send information and/or dues to me at the Metuchen address shown above. **Annual dues are due in September;** regular dues are \$15 annually. Make checks payable to **117th CAV Assn.** **Note:** If you have an e-mail address, please send to me at kmahan@aol.com We are in the process of compiling an e-mail list of members and we want to include you! **Association web site:** www.117th-cav.org/

New Member: SFC Joseph Toomey (Wife Sabrina) Serving with "B" Troop, 1/102 CAV in Iraq.

Remember: The Soldiers of **50th Brigade Combat Team** and **1/102 Cavalry Squadron** and their Supporting Units, as they adjust to their Mission in Iraq. The teams are in many different areas, which makes it hard for the Squadron Commander and Staff. **15 Members of the 117th CAV Assn. are serving in Iraq.** The **1/150 Aviation Battalion** are next to depart for the Sand Box; by the time you read this they will be in Kuwait. There have been a lot of their personnel that came out of **5/117th CAV.** **3 Members of the 117th CAV Assn. are in 1/150 Aviation Battalion.**

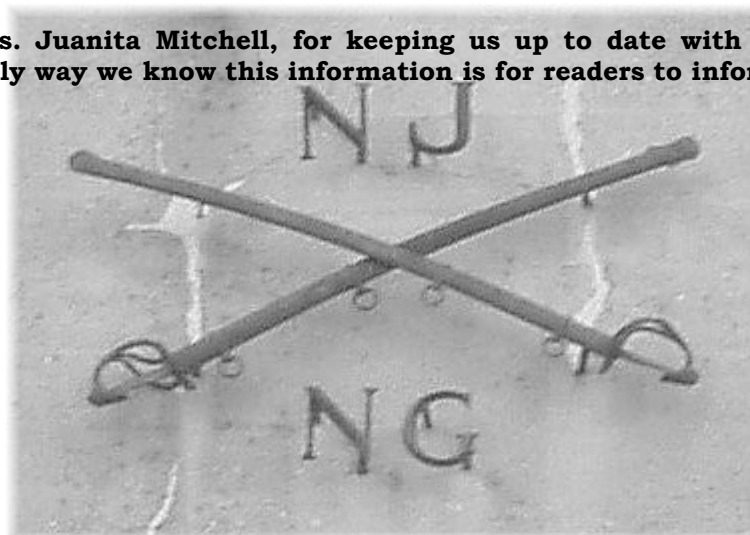
Update: Belt Buckles of the Last Ride are in - cost is \$39.00 plus \$2.50 shipping. When ordering, use my above address.

Something to think about: Would you be interested in once a month gathering to refurbish and maintain the Heritage Room? We could also plan to meet over coffee, lunch, or evening over a beer or soda. This would be a good time for retirees to spend time together.

We are in the process of putting a list together of all COLs, General Officers and Top NCO's who have served in the Westfield Armory NJARNG CAV.

Congratulations: To CW5 Robert J. Richardson on becoming Chief Warrant for the State of New Jersey National Guard.

Would like to thank Mrs. Juanita Mitchell, for keeping us up to date with on the Passing of Mrs. Katherine O'Neil. The only way we know this information is for readers to inform us! Please help!



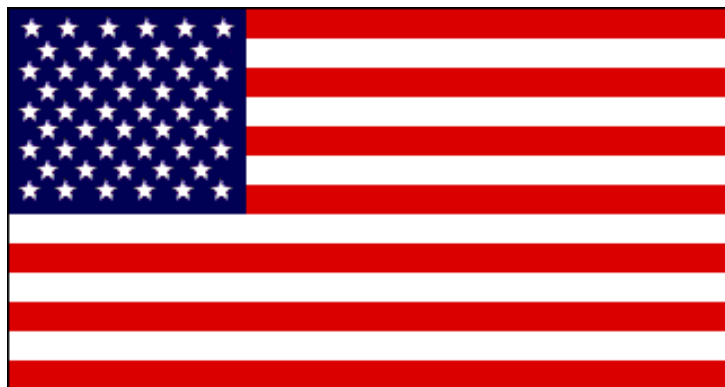
TAPS

JAMES JOSEPH MINNITI Passed on Sunday, 27 December 2008 at his home in West Orange, NJ. He was a Special Police Officer for the Township of Orange for many years. A proud Essex Trooper, Minniti was a WWII veteran, joining the 102nd Cavalry Regiment in 1942. He saw action throughout the war as a driver for the squadron commander. He was active in the VFW and the Essex Troop Association. Survived by his children Joan Dittrich, Jos. E. Minniti and Diane Cross; brother of Anthony, Jeannette Scala, Benny, Carmen and Michael and survived by eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

ROBERT MARK GOLDSTEIN of Green Brook, NJ. Died on 1 February 2009. Son of Barbara and COL (Ret.) Sandford B. Goldstein. An attorney, he was a graduate of University of Colorado with a degree in Astrophysics, and William Mitchell College of Law. Survived by his parents, a brother Kevin and his family; his children Saiya and Ilona of Colorado and Isadore of Minnesota; and his loving companion Isabella Volz.

KATHERINE O'NEIL Died on 1 February 2009 Las Vegas, NV. Wife of George O'Neil, *Class of '41*, 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mecz). 5 Children.

Readers: *Please notify Membership Chairman SGM (Ret.) Ken Mahan of the death of members of the Association, WWII vets who served in the 117th, 102nd or 38th Cavalry Squadrons, or anyone who served in the post war cavalry units.*





BE A BOOSTER OF THE SPUR

Shown at the left of each name is the issue and year in which your entry will be published. SP = Spring, SU = Summer, FA = Fall, WI = Winter



WI-10 EMIL & MARGARET ALLGEIER
SU-25 BOB & LORRAINE APGAR
FA-09 ROSE MARIE BENNERT (mem. of) BILL BENNERT
SU-10 RALPH BOKINO (mem. of) by wife CATHERINE
WI-11 MSG TOM BULLOCK A Troop
FA-09 STEVE S. CUP Scout, A Troop 102nd CAV WWII
FA-09 LTC (Ret.) PETER D'ELIA
WI-09 1SG (Ret.) DON CHAMBERLAIN (mem. of)
1SG PHIL CURRAN
WI-09 CLEMENT & JEAN CURRY
WI-10 MARIE DARBY (mem. of husband) CPT JOHN DARBY
FA-09 SGM (Ret.) JIM DOOLEY & JUDY
WI-13 COL (Ret.) DENNIS DOUGHERTY
WI-10 PHILIP DUNN, 1SG (Ret.) A Troop
WI-09 DAVE ELLIS, 1SG (Ret.) D Troop
WI-17 MAUNUEL G. FERRI
FA-10 LTC (Ret.) ALAN R. FISHER
WI-22 MIRIAM FISHER, (mem. of husband)
WILLIAM E. FISHER
SP-12 WILLIAM FISHER, Jr.
FA-11 BOB FOLEY, HHT (Ret.)
WI-09 HENRY & MARION FORSTENHAUSLER
WI-31 JOHN FRANTZ, LT A Troop
WI-09 ROBERT GREEN
SP-11 BILL HETRICK, CHIEF ARMORER (Ret.)
FA-10 LTC (Ret.) JOHN S. HUFF (mem. of) C Troop,
117th CAV '43-44
FA-11 CHARLES JOHNSON
SU-10 GEORGE F. (FRED) KIMBLE
SU-09 JOANN & LTC (Ret.) KEN KLEIN
SU-10 DONALD KONDROSKI
SP-13 RON La VERDE (mem. of uncle)
T-5 THOMAS G. HENNESSY, A Troop, 117th CAV
KIA 5 JUNE 1944 ROME
WI-11 ROCHUS E. & CELESTE LAWRENCE
WI-09 WALTER & NANCY LAWRENCE
WI-11 EDWARD J. LEONARD
FA-09 GRACE LILLEY (mem. of husband) EDWARD
WI-13 JEAN & SGM (Ret.) KEN MAHAN
FA-09 (mem. of) TIM MALONEY
WI-09 OSCAR MERBER
FA-11 CHARLOTTE & BILL MERRING

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WI-09 CW5 (Ret.) FRANK MNICH & JANET
FA-10 JAUNITA MITCHELL (wife of FRANK)
WI-11 RONNIE NIER
WI-12 PHILIP NOTESTINE (mem. of) MAJ JOHN B. COULSTON
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602ND Tank Destroyer Battalion '43-'45
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117th CAV WWII
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SP-09 IRVING PARTELOW, CLASS OF '41, 117th CAV WWII
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FA-09 DOT & LTC (Ret.) KEN QUAAS
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F Company (tanks) 102ND CAV WWII
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NEXT ASSOCIATION MEETINGS: 3 APRIL 2009; 5 JUNE 2009; 11 SEPTEMBER 2009; 6 NOVEMBER 2009