

# Special Post-Reunion Edition, Houston '73

## The T-Patcher

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION of the

36th  Texas  
Division Association



Published Quarterly For The Men Who Wore the T-Patch in World War I & II

OCTOBER 1973

## 48th Annual Reunion Was Astronomical!



NEW LEADERS for the 36th Division Association: Archie McDugal is your new President; his wife Lela is head of the 36th Auxiliary. Both are long-time devoted workers for our great Association. Congratulations!

## AstroWhirl Hotel Withstands Avalanche Invasion of T-Patchers

Biggest surprise was the large turnout of Early-Birds. That means arrival on Thursday. A special Div. CP was set up next to the registration desk, and about 80 had signed up by 10 PM.

Coffee-Hour Friday morning got things off 1st day. Visiting and meeting with ole buddies went on all day. First tour of the Celestial Suite was 6 to 7:30, then the reception Friday night. All CP's were in full swing and the building began to sway a little.

Saturday was the biggie and Sunday Memorial services closed out the 48th reunion at noon Sunday. Most troopers checkout, but about a 100 stayed through Sunday, and when we left Monday morning the hotel was still standing, intact. A great great reunion in Hospitable Houston. Our thanks to all who worked long and hard for its success.

## It's Dallas Again For '74 Reunion

Selecting a location for a 36th Reunion is not an easy task. There are many logistical things to consider. Over the years, it has been held mostly in the 4 largest cities of the great state of Texas: Houston, Dallas, San Antonio and Fort Worth.

### LIEBERT WINS LONG DISTANCE 'TROPHY'

It's a fer-piece from Tacoma, Washington, to Houston, Texas but that was no hill for Herbert M. Liebert, 111th Engineers.

And Herb, next year when you fly into Dallas, you will land at the new "World's Largest" Dallas/Fort Worth Airport. It was dedicated last month, but will not be operational until January.

The super-port costed \$700,000,000, covers 17,500 acres, and is as big as Manhattan island. We do it big in TEXAS ya know.

However, times have changed. More and more out-of-state T-Patchers are attending. So airline connections have become an important factor.

This year in Houston proved that we are getting a mother lode of troops from midwest, east and west. Dallas has always been a great airport terminal. Love Field in Dallas is one of the busiest in the U.S. NOW, with the new regional super-airport, the Dallas/Fort Worth complex which opens in January is the world's largest. So all you guys from out-of-state will arrive at the new "biggie" half way between Dallas and Fort worth.

The selection of the hotel will not be made until a board meeting is held sometime this fall. . . announcement will be made in the February T-Patcher. PLAN NOW for this 1974 bash in Dallas. . . Aug. 30, 31 and Sept 1, 1974. That's an order.



EARL HIGGINBOTHAM, presides at the general assembly at the Houston Reunion. Earl wore out a set of tires traveling far and wide on behalf of reunion business during his term in office as president.

# T-Patchers Travel Far For Fun & Games. . .

## OHIO HAS BIGGEST OUT-OF-STATE TURNOUT

### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Members:

I am sincerely grateful for the opportunity to serve the 36th Division Association. As president I expect to serve as a pivot point to a cooperative, spirited, group of elected officers and volunteer bands who have pledged their whole-hearted support to making the 1973-74 reunion in Dallas even better than the last one in Houston. If you were one of the 500 present in Houston you already know that will be no easy task.

Next Labor Day week end in Dallas, Texas! Make it your goal . . . live and relive a little.

Your friend in Service,

Archie McDugal

### Reunion Dinner Dance Was Best Ever; Good Food, Great Music, Tall Tales & Fun

The big Dinner Dance at the 1973 Reunion was fabulous!

A grand total of 508 plates were served (these figures are from the Astroworld). The food was good, the lies and jokes told were great, and the music by Al Marks and his big big band was the best ever.

Al Marks knew the kind of tunes the old T-Patchers wanted, and they were from the 1940's! The dance floor was packed with all the tanglefoots, and fun was the name of the game.

An evening of delight and our thanks to all who put it all together . . . like Earl Higginbotham, Zeb Sunday and Ken Nixon who spent days, man, not just hours getting all the goodies together so our 48th Reunion would go down in history as GREAT. We salute you great T-Patchers.

Hard working Ken Nixon sends in these interesting statistics on the Houston Reunion: 18 from Ohio was Number 1, Michigan was second with 10 and Illinois third with 9.

Here it is by state:

Alabama . . . . . 7	Michigan . . . . . 10
California . . . . . 4	New York . . . . . 1
Connecticut . . . . . 1	New Jersey . . . . . 4
Colorado . . . . . 1	New Hampshire . . . . . 1
Illinois . . . . . 9	Oklahoma . . . . . 3
Florida . . . . . 8	Ohio . . . . . 18
Georgia . . . . . 2	Pennsylvania . . . . . 3
Kansas . . . . . 6	Tennessee . . . . . 1
Indiana . . . . . 4	Virginia . . . . . 5
Louisiana . . . . . 1	Washington . . . . . 1
Missouri . . . . . 1	South Dakota . . . . . 2
Mississippi . . . . . 3	West Virginia . . . . . 1
Nebraska . . . . . 1	Out of state total 98

Add to this 235 'Texans' and you have a grand total of 333 who registered at the Astroworld.

### Advance Registration Helps A Lot. . .

This year the Association tried a plan of registering in advance for the reunion for the first time.

While not as many members sent in advance registrations as was hoped for, the program was nevertheless successful. For example, some 16% of those attending the Saturday night dinner registered in advance by mail.

Advance registration has a number of obvious advantages. For one thing, it reduces the amount of work and saves time at the registration desk during the reunion — and no one likes to wait. Also, this enables a more nearly accurate forecast of the number who will attend the Saturday night function, and with ever increasing costs this is a very, very important aspect. The hotel must have a firm estimate of the number who will attend the Saturday night dinner at least 24 hours in advance. This figure can be increased later, but it cannot be reduced. In other words, it's a guarantee. It is therefore easy to imagine the consternation on Saturday morning when registrations are still 175 short of the number of meals guaranteed for Saturday night.

So advance registration for the reunion is probably something that will remain with us, with more and more emphasis being placed upon it in the years to come. Next year, all members are urged to participate in this plan.

K. Nixon

### 101 HOUSTON T-PATCHERS ATTEND 1973 REUNION

Wish there would have been more, but that ain't bad for a city the size of Houston. Since the Bayou City is a hot bed of 143rd troopers, that regiment had the biggest turnout, with 137 signed up. Good show!

### 143rd Has Biggest Unit Registration

The following is a list by unit, of members and their guests attending:

141st Infantry . . . . .	79
142nd Infantry . . . . .	72
143rd Infantry . . . . .	137
144th Infantry . . . . .	7
Division Artillery:	
131st . . . . .	19
132nd . . . . .	22
133rd . . . . .	24
155th . . . . .	25
111th Engineers . . . . .	90
Special Troops:	
D Hq . . . . .	23
36 QM . . . . .	10
736 Ord . . . . .	7
111 Med . . . . .	5
36 QM . . . . .	6
36 Recon . . . . .	4
636 TD . . . . .	5

TOTAL MEMBERS AND GUESTS . . . . . 502

### Another T-Patch European Tour

This one looks good. International Royal Services, Inc., of Houston are sponsoring a trip for T-Patchers to: Rome, Sorrento, Cassino, Capri, Amalfi, Salerno, Paestum, Naples and trip to Pompeii, plus Paris and London.

Airline, hotel, guides, Portage, etc. included, via KLM Royal Dutch Airline 747. Departure from Houston July 2, 1974 return to Houston July 18th. All interested contact: Millie or Gregg Wiley, Box 227, Kingsville, Texas 78363 — or phone 512 592-7853. . . and bon voyage.



The REUNION FRIDAY NIGHT Reception held in the giant ballroom was wall-to-wall with happy T-Patchers. This occasion is always a great one. A stand-up, mix-and-mingle kind of party. And giant tubs of cold TEXAS beer got things going. Entertainment was provided by our Houston Ladies Auxiliary (as shown above) which added an extra touch to the whole evening. This event ended at 10 PM,

# 36th's Texas-Size (105 lbs.) Watermelon Ruffled

If You're Gonna Do It — Do It BIG Says Zeb!

Pup Tent at Hotel Entrance Greets All Delegates. . .

One of the big surprises at the Houston Reunion was this King-size Texas Watermelon that was 'obtained' by Zeb Sunday. And this took alot of doing.

Though Texans are accustomed to bigness, a watermelon this size is sometimes hard to find.

Phillip Vann was winner of the giant melon.

Another item provided by Zeb: As this reporter drove in the driveway of the Astroworld, what caught your eye but a "real" PUP TENT, complete with all the trappings, of the lawn next to the entrance. A bravo to Zeb and his great imagination for the unusual!



ZEB'S 'SUNDAY BEST' — a real Texas-Size Watermelon was a rare treat for our Yankee T-Patcher. From left: Tess Steinberg and Tina Hetmanski, whose old man Gene (142nd) submitted this rare photo.

## Ladies Auxillary

Dear Ladies:

We had ninety one ladies to register at Houston plus a few who mailed in their \$2.00 dues. It was all one big beautiful success . . . Please join us next year in Dallas. I'm very pleased to be serving as president of the Ladies Auxillary, along side my husband Archie. Our three teen age children always enjoy the reunions and look forward to seeing other teenagers who have become their friends through past reunions. Besides sharing the T-Patchers fun, the following ladies and I promise to plan something special for you and the kids. Please feel a part of all this by sharing your ideas with us.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Lelia McDugal  
President, Auxillary



GIRLS GALORE! — If you T-Patchers think that an Army reunion is for men only . . . better think again. These are only a few — a very few — of the lovelies who attended the Houston bash with their husbands. Hey! How did Tom Best get in there? Photo courtesy Gene Hetmanski.



Col. and Mrs. Charles H. Owens, in their home at Bradenton, Florida with Hank Gomez of San Antonio. Col. Owens was last Regtl. CO of 141st, also served as Chief of Staff, Division Hqs.



EARLY ARRIVALS — How's this for a turnout? The all-out efforts of Bob Richie, Tony Pellerin, Lucian Lee and others resulted in this picture (Thursday night). Standing: Paul Borelle, Art Cosner, Monte Heard, Bob Richie (142 VP), Carl Ventola, Pete Gambini, Alvin Meyers, "Perk" Purcell and Gene Hetmanski. Sitting are Dave Strader (recovering from open heart surgery) — nothing keeps these boys from attending the Reunion), "Donny" Donovan, Tom Best and Tony Pellerin. All are "H" Company 142.

# Heard from

Former Asst. Division Commander, GEN. WILLIAM H. WILBUR presented several hundred copies gratis of his book "The Making of George Washington" to the reunion delegates. The General is doing research for another book on his favorite subject. These books were gratefully received, and thank you, General Wilbur. **TOM WHITSON, 3340 Poneman Dr., Fenton, Mich. 48430** attended a reunion a few years back, didn't find any of his buddies from kCo. A, 111th Engrs. When he got back home he started a one man campaign to get some of his buddies to attend. This year in Houston he had on tap from Washington State to Washington D.C. In addition to being one of our better soldiers, these out-of-state T-Patchers are NOW our 'better' TEXANS! Bravo, Tom.

**SAM F. KIBBEY**, the flamboyant 'Kentucky Kolonel' from Ashland, Ky., and his board of the fast-growing MID-WEST Chapter are hard-at-it on plans for their reunion next July 13-14 in Columbus, Ohio. Kibbey was a delight at the Houston reunion, kept everyone in stitches with his song parodies. (Plans for next year include teaming up KERRIGAN & KIBBEY for a 30 minute show of gags and songs as a feature attraction at the Dinner Dance).

**B.G. PULLEN, P.O. Box 310, Shelbyville, Tx 75973** missed the Houston bash (his first one AWOL) but did phone the 111th Eng. CP to pay his respects to fellow Engineers (and of course mailed in his '74 dues).

**OVERHEARD** in the 143rd CP: Gene E. Jameson said — "Did you know that there's a law in Logan County, Colorado that prohibits any man from kissing any woman without waking her up first". (We're glad to know that).

**WALTER KRZYSTOFIAK "Christy"** and his beautiful wife Helen left the reunion for a visit to Poland to see the homeland and visit some cousins. Christy is, according to a comment from Stovall "as Irish American as Is Amil Kohutek". Walter and Helen visited all the CP's and of course added a touch of class to the whole goings-on.

The Artillery CP was a gourmet's delight. Host **ARMAND JONES** was host and brought alot of goodies from his Italian Inn restaurant of Fort Worth. Especially the sauce prepared by wife Kay. The Cannoneers had a good turn out — 90 in all.

**FLASH:** Neiman-Marcus Xmas Catalog just arrived. The feature this year is a 12x15' egg capsule for complete privacy. Offered in His & Her combinations at \$80,000 each, we just sent in our order for two. It's the answer for a quite place to edit the T-Patcher.

**DALLAS IN 1974**

## Celestial Suite Was Reunion Hilite



**STANLEY CHAPMAN**, of So. Sutton, N.H. shown at right (with Amil Kohutek) was the most wounded man in the 132nd FA. Has had 55 major operations, spent five years in hospitals. Write Stan at P.O. Box 23.



**MILTON CROW** of Houston, the good-looking former CO of Co. H. 142nd chats with **Bernice Maxfield**, who really gets around at the reunion. Bernice has more medals, (look close) than anyone. Her 31st reunion, since 1937.



**GEO. 'Red' JOHNSON**, 155th FA lives with this lovely lady in Peninsula, Ohio. Red also attended Mid-West reunion in Louisville. Photo by Amil.

A visit to the fabled "Celestial" Suite on the two top floors of the Astroworld Hotel was like a trip to never-never land. Tours were held Friday and Sat. during the reunion.

This tour was a special bonus for the reunion delegates, and is not available to the run-of-the-mill visitor to Houston. It was a "Look, See, Don't Touch" kind of deal. So fabulous, that even Jackie and Onassis would have been slightly bug-eyed.

The suite covers the entire top of the hotel. You can only enter by key-operated "bubble" glass-enclosed elevator, and when you arrive at the top, you have really "arrived".

The 8th wonder of the world, the Astrodome is clearly in view (about a hoop & holler away). This suite rents for the bargain rate of \$2,500 a day. (This was established to keep out the riff-raff).

The playroom part is a miniature of the interior of the Astrodome, complete with miniature electronic score board and closed circuit TV. (Frankly, it is a far cry from an evening in a pup tent with a GI buddy).

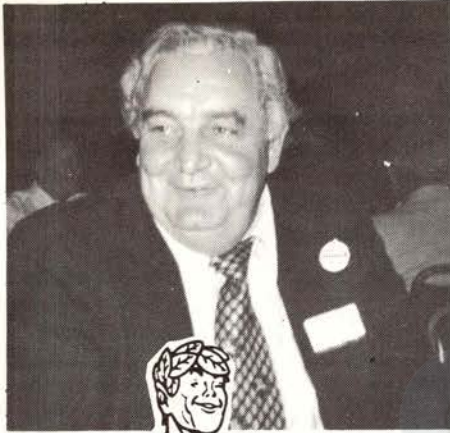
The place is alive with rare and expensive antiques, and trappings of the turn-of-the-century . . . dozens of old player pianos (one from a bawdy house in Laredo). Walls are covered with ancient colorful circus posters, all framed and encased in gold plated trim (a King's ransom, no doubt).

Conducted tours were made through the 9 (yes nine) super deluxe bedrooms. Each with a theme depicting some time out of the past, and as lavish as a Nabob's dream, plus every bathroom had enough marble in it to satisfy an oil rich Arab Shiek, (the bathtubs were reportedly said to have been hand-carved out of solid marble by a tribe of pygamies from the Amazon).

Being curious about all this opulence and splendor, I asked one of the Astroworld staff members if anyone knew how much all this cost (built in 1968) and he said \$2 million. And that's a lot of bread just for a place to entertain. And the man who did all this was the great Judge Huffhines, creator of the Astroworld complex. I assume he paid for the Celestial Suite out of 'petty cash'.



**EARL Nance** and **Knight Kruger**, 111th Engrs., captured on film by Amil at Louisville reunion of the Mid-West Chapter, July 1973.



## Jolly Green Giant Comes On Strong

### Kol. Kibbey The Korn-King Offers New Slogan for 36

For years we have needed a good slogan for the 36th Division Association. Now I believe we have one. . . .

"FOR TRULY GREAT AMERICANS, ONE NEEDS TO LOOK NO FARTHER THAN THOSE WHO SERVED IN THE 36TH".

This one sounds great to us. Say it a few times, print it on your letterhead; be proud you are a veteran of the great Division. SAM KIBBEY sent it in. All those in favor, say aye!

Sambo, you are genius.

SAM KIBBEY was captured on film by Amil at the reunion, looks a little like Jackie Gleason, but really more LIKE the Jolly Green Giant. Look close at the expression on the photo and the illustration. Incidentally, Sam performs on occasion in Ashland. One night at a local stage production, he sang "SWANNEE River" so realistically, two boys dove off the balcony.



J.R. RAMSEY of 111th Engineers . . . this lovely couple never miss a reunion. Reside in Garland, Texas (near Dallas). Amil photo.

### More 'Herd Frums'

MILES FOX, P.O. Box 651, Mesquite, Tx 75149 of Co. F, 141st pays dues for his brother W. B. Fox, San Angelo; also bro-in-law Louis Bartling, 1108 Houston, San Marcus, Tx of Medics 141st. Plus James O. Hoover, P.O. Box 1738, Columbus, Ga. Fox builds Stone Crest Homes, drops \$13 in the till, and that's lucky. Thanx Miles.

THOMAS A. LEWIS, 21 Spinning Wheel Rd., Penthouse, Hinsdale, Ill. 60521 of Co. L, 141st is financial wizard with F. S. Mosely & Co., (Wall Street of Chicago) is one of the 36th greatest boosters. Sends money and best wishes to all T-Patchers. Tom is Chairman of the national Infantry Museum, planned at Fort Benning. His area is Chicago and Illinois. (see story in Oct. '72 T-Patcher).

### Recon T-Patcher Wins Own Wife In Zodiac Club Drawing

As announced in the Aug. T-Patcher, a special bunch of gifts, prizes & games would be awarded in the "Earth-shaking" contest of astronomical proportions.

Entry blanks were distributed to all T-Patchers who visited the Spec. Troops CP. 156 were filled out, and now, after much consultation with the Queen of the Cosmic Calendar, Madam Zonka, the winners are:

George K. Fell, 4112 O'Keefe, El Paso 79902, whose birthdate is Sept. 26 — a LIBRA (with Venus as the ruling planet). His wife Peggy, birthdate April 22 is a TAURUS with same ruling planet, Venus.

So according to Madam Zonka, who says that since solar bodies move at different speeds, and after charting these two birth dates, she says: "Two are most perfectly matched". Our congratulations to George and Peggy, you're now on your own.

(For all those who lost, we'll try it again in Dallas).



## T-Patcher

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
36th DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Bill Jary, Editor

P.O. Box 1816

FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76101

## Heard from

HOWARD J. MAC KILLIGAN, 526 Franklin St., Reading, Mass. 01867 sends in dues and wants info on the Meeting next May 1974 at Cassino, Italy. See story in this issue. Howard served with 143rd.

HADLEY D. ETHRIDGE, 1537 Garcia, Coral Gables, Fla. 33146 was a T/Sgt. 1st Platoon, Co. L, 143rd, phoned in that he would be in Houston, but had to cancel out at last minute. Promises to make Dallas in '74.

JOSEF. C. DINE, formerly of New York, and a kingpin in the (now defunct) NY Chapter sends in announcement of his new position. News Release received by Amil says: "Joe Dine appointed Director of Public Broadcasting for Corporation of Public Broadcasting, Washington, D.C." A former Co. F, 143rd T-Patcher, Dine was with CBS News, also NBC Press Department and before that, a Massachusetts newspaperman. His new address: C P B, 888 16th Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006, And good luck to you Joe!

R.D. 'Pete' RODGERS, a Legislative Consultant, 1920 Swift St., No. Kansas City, Mo. 64116 says: "I read in the August issue that San Antonio had bid for the 1974 reunion. I wholeheartedly 100% endorse this. Quite frankly, as an out-of-stater, I have seen enough of Dallas and Houston from the standpoint of reunions and business and I LOVE San Antonio. Been ten years since we met in the Alamo City, and it's about time. I attended the 1960 reunion in SA and I want to go back". Bravo, Pete, maybe in 1975 if we start now.

FRANK MOSLEY, 5412 Odell, Ft. Worth TX 76134 of Bat. C, 132nd pays dues for CHINK SMITH, 4254 Green Ct., Denver, CO. 80211.

GORDON ROSE, 6565 Dykes Way, Dallas, Tx 75230 of Co. K, 143rd pays dues for wife's kinfolks, LOUIS HEINE, 4911 Bernadine, San Antonio, Tx of Co. L. 142nd. Did ya know Co. L and their reunions in Breckenridge, Tx?

SIDNEY S. MINTZ, 785 Fimey Trail, Cincinnati, Ohio 45224 sends in '74 dues, tried to get to Texas but didn't quite make it. Says his job as a baker makes it hard to get off at the reunion time (however he does make alot of dough). ugh. Did time with Co. I, 141st Inf.

BERNIS SADLER, Lord Mayor of Port Arthur, Texas didn't quite make the Houston reunion, and was missed. Made the scene last year in Dallas. Port Arthur is a hotbed of 111th Engineers, and Sadler who was known as "The Gray Fox" rose from the ranks of Co. D, 111th to rank of Corps Engineer 1940-1944. Note to his honor: "If you have trouble next year, bum a ride with Charlie Kainer & bride".

DALLAS IN 1974

# Heard from

# These Men Want To Hear From You

**MYRL YAEGER**, 5th & Washington, Glasgow, Mo. 65254 who did time with 141st sent in dues, plus \$22 for the Sustaining Fund. Couldn't make Houston, but swears he'll be in Dallas in '74. ALL THE WAY FROM ROME: Stovall receives order for a Gen. Walker book from STEFANO GRAZIANI of Via Cogoletto 112, 00168 Roma. Those Italian historians are getting smart. They know the TEXAS TO ROME is one of the best source material for reference to the Italian Campaign 1943-1944.

**HANK GOMEZ** sends in dues for Lt. Col. C. J. LOTT (ret). Was former 1st Sgt. Hqs. Co. 36th Div. Gets his mail: Col. C. J. Lott, 6410 Madeleine Dr., San Antonio, Tx 78229.

**ABRAHAM SPIEGEL**, 639 E. 58th St., Brooklyn, NY 11234 wants to help, so he sends ole Amil a flock of stamps. . .and you know with this kind of help we can 'lick' the dropouts and strays.

**JOHN E. CURTIS**, Whitewright, Texas 75491 a devoted WWI T-Patcher has passed the 82 mark, and still takes time to wish all the 36thers best wishes. John always pays his dues, served with Co. A, 141st. Sends along this advice to the WWII boys: "Get it while you are young". Amen.

**JOSEPH H. DUMONT**, 23345 Hughes, Hazel Park, MI 48030 writes to Amil for two items (both scarce). . . a 36th Shoulder patch and a 142nd Regimental Insignia Pin. Joe served with Co. E, 142nd "I'll Face You" gang, and if anyone can help, please write to Joe.

**JOHN G. LITTLETON**, Frye Apts. #525, 3rd at Yesler, Seattle, Wash. 98104 wants to hear from any A.T. 142nd men who crossed the Moder River, night of March 14-15 1945. Quote: "or riflemen, and especially the 14 others, including Capt. Vernon Scott who were cut-off from the rest of the company with me when I got hit in the chest. That night finished my army career, and I'd like to find out what happened to some of the buddies".

**RAY RUINCE**, Co. K, 143rd sends in new address: 1851 Cranston Rd., Apt. 109A, Beloit, Wis. 53511; also new address for JACK A. HADDICK, from Houston to: 1703 E. Virginia, Victoria, Tx 77901. Jack was with Co. B, 143rd.

**h. ross glover**, 7 Van Campen St., Dansville, NY writes to Amil that he could not be in Houston, but sends best to Co. D, 142nd, liked the story on Jim Minor in last issue, and says: "Don't forget, Minor was in Co. D before he moved to Bn. Hqs. They sure made soldiers, there, hun Amil?". See two pixs in this issue from Glover.

**JOHN J. JONES**, 105 Edgehill Rd, Norwood, Mon., former Supply Sgt. of Co. D, 141st made Dallas, missed Houston and wants more action from RONDO RED and especially Rondo Red DOG.



CARTER

ADAMSON

SCOTT

EPPERSON

This is first in a series of Profiles on your new officers & Directors. They need your support, so please write and tell 'em all about it. (Address on Page 7).

**WARREN L. CARTER** V/P 141st: Felt the draft winds on May 4, 1943, trained at Camp Shelby and ended up in Co. L, 141st. Was wounded at Anzio, rejoined after 5 weeks in the hospital; was wounded again near Rhine River, discharged Aug. 23, 1945. Carter joined the Army Reserve in '53 and is currently with Miss. Air Natl. Guard, M/Sgt E-7 and his oldest son is S/Sgt. same unit. The Carter's have missed only 2 reunions since 1956; was V/P 141st in 1964-65.

**FRANK ADAMSON**, V/P Artillery: Joined the guard in '39 with Med. Detachment 133rd FA in San Antonio, later to Bat. D, 133rd and then 626th TD Bn. Was S/Sgt. when he left Mannheim for home. Frank has made most all reunions, has been loyal member of Armand's Army, and promised to have a "go-in" CP ready for you next year in Dallas.

**JACK L. SCOTT**, V/P 111th Engineers is an Okie, born in Okla. City, attended OSU, was inducted in Mar. 1943, got his gold bars in Sept. 1943. Arrived in Italy Feb. 1944 and joined Stovall's gang, Co. C, was discharged Capt. Feb. 1946. Scott lives in Irving. has 4 children and partner in Scott-O'Malley & Associates Engineers, Architects and Planners of Dallas.

**GEORGE R. EPPERSON**, Recording Secty, of Coleman is one of the prime-movers in Co. B, 142nd, and their western-half of that famous outfit (who meet in Coleman). George will work closely with Amil Kohutek, will process all the membership data, mail cards etc., also the mailing of the T-Patcher. This is a new and better arrangement than before, giving Amil 'full' time to GET more drop-outs and strays.

NOTE: Next issue will carry the remainder of the "workers", who are dedicated to making the Assn. bigger & better.

"THE TEXAS  
ARMY"

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*Robert L. Wagner*

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"THEN THERE WAS THAT TIME, REMEMBER, WHEN . . ." — "Donny" Donovan (back to camera) reminisces with Tom Best, Pete Gambini and Art Cosner, all of "H" Company 142. Those were the good old days . . . or were they? Photo by Hetmanski.

# Here's Your '74 36th Assn. Officers & Directors

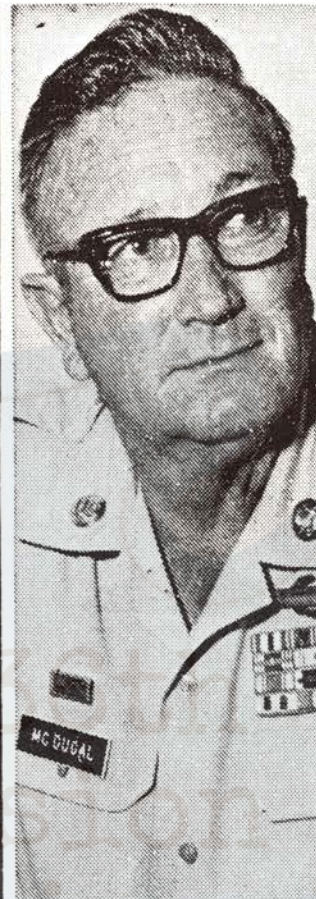
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 11017 Pandora Dr., Houston, Tx 77029  
 WILLIAM J. HEFNER, V/P 144th Inf.  
 1221 West Drew St., Fort Worth, Tx 76110  
 FRANK W. ADAMSON, V/P Div. Artillery  
 3642 Embassy Drive, San Antonio, Tx 78228  
 CHARLES LINTON, V/P Special Troops  
 3601 Allen Parkway, Apt. 335, Houston, Tx  
 JACK L. SCOTT, V/P 111th Engineers  
 2813 Van Couver, Irving, Tx 75062  
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 PAULINE KOHUTEK, 1st V/Pres.  
 2404 Lincoln Cts., Irving, Tx 75061  
 CATHERINE McCAULEY, Treasurer  
 3021 Bright St., Fort Worth Tx 76105



NEW PRESIDENT of the 36th Division Association is Archie H. McDugal of Waco. McDugal was elected at the recent annual national reunion in Houston. McDugal's wife, Lelia McDugal, was elected 1973-74 president of the women's auxiliary to the division association.

Here is repro of clipping of article that appeared in Waco newspaper, Sept. 1973.

## Wacoan New 36th Division Group Chief

Archie H. McDugal of Waco was elected president of the 36th Division Association at the group's annual reunion in Houston this month. The reunion drew more than 500 division members and their families from 26 states.

The reunion celebrated the 30th anniversary of the historic Salerno Invasion.

McDugal has been association secretary and treasurer three times, vice president and as executive secretary and "T-Patcher" editor from 1967 to 1970.

He joined the 36th Division at 17 and served through World War II, earning the Silver Star, Bronze Star and Purple Heart.

McDugal has been employed by the Texas National Guard and worked at the Waco Armory during most of the years since the war.

He was recently elected president of the 143rd Infantry chapter in Waco. Rufus Cleghorn, Waco Civil Defense director, is secretary and treasurer. David Tepe of Robinson, a Texas National Guard employe, is chaplain.

Mrs. Lelia McDugal, McDugal's wife, was elected 1973-74 president of the women's auxiliary to the 36th Division Association. She has held other auxiliary offices, serving as national president in 1963. She is the author of "Up Hill and Down," a history of the Central Texas participation in the Texas National Guard.



FROM GOMEZ SCRAPBOOK: This rare pix was made 32 years ago at Camp Bowie 1941 of 3 sterling characters: From left: Marvin 'Noisy' Bennett, G-3 Section; Hank of Hq. AG, and C.W. Wood, Div. Finance. In background, John Hampton.



ENJOYING a cold one, somewhere in Germany: Norbert Meyer, Evergreen Park, Ill., and Howard Watson, Fort Worth — (who departed Aug. 1973). Photo from Tony Pellerin, Co. H, 142nd.

# Heard from

**TOM GUDMESTED**, a student historian of Seattle, Wa., pays his 1974 dues. Still working on the 36th history, and was one of the 'first' to join the CLUB 36th with a check for \$36. Bully for Tom!

**LEE & ANE BEAHLER**, Colorado Spgs, CO., had their bags packed for Houston but had to go to Chicago when son John lost a foot in an accident.

**CHARLIE LINTON**, new V/P Spec. Trps. told this one about the rich Texan who hurriedly went into Neiman-Marcus to get his gal friend a girdle. The attractive sales lady said "Do you wanta PLAY-TEX? He said, not now lady, I'm double parked!

**EUGENE G. HETMANSKI**, 25309 Castle-  
reigh, Farmington, Mich. 48024 (Co. H, 142nd) arrived in Houston with his color camera and shot-up-a-storm. We are grateful to Gene for these history-making photos of the troops at play.

**TOM L. ROSELLE**, Box 617, Brackettville, Tx 78832 (that's the town where the famous Alamo Village is located) did time with 36th QM, asked us at the Spec. Trps. kCP if we knew the difference between a dipsomaniac and a polydipsiac. Naturally we did not. Tom said "A dipsomaniac gives in to an uncontrollable craving for liquor. A polydipsiac is just flatout thirsty almost all the time for whatever's wet". (You learn something new every day).

**MOULTON L. WIGGINS**, Box 10, Munday, TX 76371 who learned all the tricks about money while serving in Hqs. 36th Finance office, is now a Big banker in his own town. Sent in his dues, but failed to show up at the houston reunion. An All-Points-Bulletin was sent out for his capture, but he locked himself up in his own bank's vault. Look out WIG, we'll get you in Dallas next year!

AWOL and missed in Houston . . . **JAMES C. GOSSETT**, 605 S. Elm St., New Boston, Tx 75570. Jim is a great worker for men of the 736th Ordnance. He is currently Chief Adm. Svcs. Division, Red River Army Depot, Texarkana. He is also historian and hard worker on many projects. We had written some time ago to get WWII figures on the TO of the 736th, and was surprised to find it was not a 'big' numerical group: Wartime strength — 8 officers and 150 EM's.

**DR. WALTER NARDINI**, an Italian writer/historian advises Col. Stovall that he has finished his book, "RAPIDO" and will be available early in 1974. It will be welcomed, as Dr. Nardini has called upon the 36th, and has received much info that we feel sure was helpful in his book. More on this in the March T-Patcher. Footnote: The 36th has had MORE books written about it, than any other ONE division in U.S. Army history. And if I am wrong, I'll eat my briefcase.

## some good news and some bad news

First the good news. The 36th Division Association is "on the go". We are stronger now in numerical strength than we've been in 20 years.

Attendance percentages of "out-of-state" T-Patchers is growing each reunion. One reason probably is, a lot of our buddies now have "grown" children and are more available to travel. And, many have reached retirement. What ever, it's great to have a good turn out and growing membership.

The bad news. We know that we have a few thousand DROP OUTS. Yes, good ole Fightin' 36thers who just QUIT paying dues or coming to a reunion. So let's all resolve in the coming year to get in there and hustle. WRITE letters, make calls (collect if necessary) as we are shootin' for the 3,000 mark in membership by next Labor Day.

Can we count on YOU, YOU and YOU? Write ole Amil and He'll get on their tail.

### More 'Herd Frums'

**WILLIAM J. HEFNER**, 1221 W. Drew St., Fort Worth, Tx 76110 is the guy who keeps the 144th Inf. in good shape. Attended the Houston reunion, brought along **JAMES SHAMBURGER**, who also served with 141st, and gave us a roster of members broken down by towns. Bill reports that the 144th has lost 10 old buddies since the Oct. 1972 reunion last year. Time takes its toll.

**GEORGE JOHNSTON**, 1869 Bronson Ave., Peninsula, Ohio 44624 and his bride, Berhadene (new to the reunion) were filled with the 36th Division Spirit (or spirits) invited all to attend the Mid-West reunion next year at Columbus, Ohio.

**ROBERT STEINKE**, 1008 S. Elizabeth, Mt. Pleasant, Mich, 48858 did time with 143rd arrived at the Houston Reunion, and in spite of all the beautiful Texas gals, looked a bit lonesome without his lovely Jane.

**WALTER KERR**, 122 King Ave., New Castle, PA 16101 (same town that you take coals to) drops \$10 for dues and sweetin' the pot. Walt did time with Co. E. 143rd.

**ARMAND G. JONES** and **FRED H. BLUB HALL** and their wives took a tour on the "36th Division Trail" in Italy this past summer. Both are Hq Btry. 155th Artillery, and from reports it was a great trip. They visited all the places the 36th spent some time. This was about the fourth for Jones. Fred Hall who joined the artillery from Mansfield, Texas has recently built a big spread at Ceder Creek lake (that fancy one about 60 miles south east of Fort Worth).



**RUTH RICHIE**, wife of Florida Robert and Ole Amil talking reunion business. Richie was the hard-working VP-142 who gathered a great turn out. Photo from Hetmanski.



**CALVIN ENGLAND** and his Tenn. bride made the Coleman, Louisville, and Co. B, 142nd Eastern Reunions (how bout that). Lives in Pontiac, Mich. Drives a Chrysler, but his wife builds PONTIACS (natch).



**CAUGHT IN THE ACT:** Bernice Maxfield shown here by our candid camera with all the loot from the CP's. In her right hand is a 5th of Tequila stolen from the Spec. Trps CP, was a gift from **JOSE SANCHEZ** Of El Paso. (Hetmanski Pix.)

**HELP WANTED** for WORLD WAR I book, now underway by Bernice B. Maxfield, 1007 Marion, Fort Worth, Texas 76104. She already has compiled a giant collection of 36thers in the 'first' great war. If you've got something, send it in — now. It will be returned if you request it.

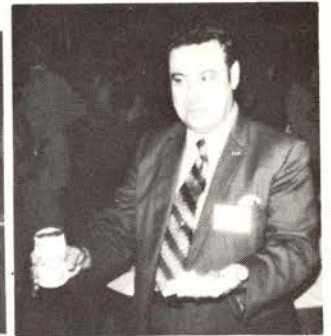
# "It's Always Fair Weather When Patchers Get Together"



Cliff Oakleaf (with cluster), Stan Cross and Robt. J. Massago, all of 132nd A Bat., get together for 1st time in Houston.

Robert Mehaffey and charming wife from Breckenridge. Bob lead a Bn. across the river.

Shaffee T. Courey, Pittsburg, CA., a school teacher, never misses a reunion.



Bill Nagel, Hidden Lake, Ill., of 141st at reunion dance. Sends regards to Sammie Petty and Marry McGowen.



John Davenport, Evansville, Ind., Father John Yadrich, Olathe, Kans. (other 2 not identified, please help) and Dunny Phillips, all of G 143rd.



Above: At reunion dance: Tim McCoy of Austin. Served with 143rd Infantry. Right: Roger Cannon, Charles Barker and lovely lady named Rose, always shows up with Chaz. Still in the Guard, Barker lives in Austin.



SWAPPIN' STORIES (left to right) Art Cosner, Monte Heard, Perk Purcell and Pete Gambini in the 142nd C.P. at the Astroworld Hotel.



The HAT & the BEARD, ole Zeb Sunday and Eloise enjoying a cold one after all that work of hauling in that 105 lb. watermelon he stole.



Hank Gomez, the best dressed T-Patcher tells a funny one to lady friend. Note his camouflage slacks.



MORE of Richie's Regiment, from left: Alvin Meyers, Tony Pellerin and Monte Heard, making plans for next year to have over 100 at the Dallas Reunion 1974. Let's do it!

## "Ohh No! Club" Organized

Probably one of the craziest things that happened in Houston was a new idea of a new club that is especially designed for T-Patchers.

No dues (just alot of laughs) and no password or special handshake. Once you sign up, you are then a member who gets a real reception when you walk into a CP: Every one stands up and shouts "Ohh NO!"

This little gem was the brainchild of Tom Roselle, (36th QM) a real 'Private Eye' (Tex. Lisc. #679).

Memberships are open, and you can get a card from Tom at P.O. Box 617, Gateway Bldg., Brackettsville, TX 78832.



# Heard from

T.O. CONNER, 8952 Storey Rd., Belding, Mich. 48809 of Stovall's Engineers sends in a contribution for the cause. Is member of Midwest Chapter, plans to be in Dallas next year. Which brings up a point. 18 of the Midwest boys who attended their July reunion in Louisville, Ky., also "showed up" in Houston. Good show, you men of Midwest.

**DORIS TOMPKINS**, wife of Sgt. RAY TOMPKINS (Co. F, 142nd), RR No. 1, Adhville, Ohio would like to buy a copy of the "Fighting 36th". The one that was published back in 1946. Note: these books were a great bargain at \$3.50 when printed, and are so scarce you could make a fortune if you had a bunch. If any of your guys have a spare. . .write and give price. The Tompkins are members of the Midwest chapter, still wave the Lone Star Flag and say they will be in Columbus July 1974.

**VIOLET MARIE BONNETTE**, 4044 6th St., Port Arthur and **LUCY SAVAGE**, 106 Norwich Glen, Victoria, Tx who both recently lost their Engineer husbands attended the Memorial Services in Houston.

**VSTL PRYRTDON** (Co. B, 111th Engrs.) and wife Catherine of 1618 Sheridan Dr., Olathe, Kan. attended both the Louisville and Houston reunions, have this quote: "To make the reunions better, we need YOU, YOU and YOU".

**BERNARD JEVOTOUSKY**, 2932 W. 5th St., Brooklyn, NY 11224 served with Co. H, 142nd and writes in he wants to join up. Sends his dues, and he is IN.

**WILLIAM J. "Jack" SMYTH**, 81 Maple Ave., Blairsville, Pa. 15717 sends in dues and stamps and request for bumper stickers. Jack served with 143rd 2nd Bn. Rangers, saw a pix of Stewart Kessler in the last T-Patcher — says "I served with Stu and T/Sgt. Butler (KIA)". Try for Dallas next year, Jack.

**ROBERT H. CASTEEL**, 4810 Beech St., Bellaire, Tx 77401 old time 36th MP made the scene at the Astroworld, and was good to see Bob after all these years.

**JAMES J. BOATRIGHT**, also of Houston and an old 36th MP also made it.

**JOSE G. SANCHEZ**, 5236 Marietta, El Paso, Tx 79932 made it to Houston, his first reunion, Brought his charming wife and arms full of Tequila. Jose served with 111th Medics. A great T-Patcher.

Be sure and be in Dallas next year, Jose and I'll help you push a Tamale cart through all the CP's.

**WARREN AUDLAND**, 4975 Old Dilliard Rd., Eugene, Oregon 97405 sends in dues, but could not make it. Issues best regards to the men he commanded. Co. A, 111th Engineers.

**DALLAS IN 1974**

## Sammie Petty Is Your New Exec. V—President



The Number 2 man in the Association is well-known to most T-Patchers. Sammie D. Petty of Pasadena, Tx. grew up in Red Rock, Tx., mobilized with Co. F, 141st Nov 25, 1940 in Lockhart, Tx.

Petty spent the entire war with this unit as Platoon Sgt., spent 360 days on the front line. After the big fracas, Sammie went to work for Sinclair Pipeline (now ARCO) where he is still employed as a foreman.

ABOVE PHOTO was made this July when Sammie and Ruth celebrated their 25th Anniversary. Have two sons, and will be grandparents in January. We salute a great team: The SAammie D. Petty's of Pasadena!

## Fillmore Writes Book About 131st F.A. "Lost Battalion"

In 1946, while recuperating from four years as a prisoner of war, attorney Clyde Fillmore of Wichita Falls wrote his experiences into a book-length manuscript. Afterward, he returned to office as Wichita district attorney, and the manuscript was put away in a storage closet. A few months ago, with interest high in the accounts of returning Vietnam POWs, Fillmore was reminded of his manuscripts. Excerpts were published in the Wichita Falls Times. Response then led to the publication of the full manuscript.

The book, "Prisoner of War" (Nortex Press, Quanah, \$6.75), describes Fillmore's capture while a member of the 2nd Battalion, 131st Field Artillery, detached from the 36th Division, and his battle for survival in working on the railroad later the subject of Pierre Boulle's "Bridge Over the River Kwai". Included is a roster of known survivors of the "Lost Battalion" who, along with men from the cruiser USS Houston, were taken prisoner by the Japanese in Java in March of 1942. Fillmore is now in private practice in Wichita Falls.

## It Pays To Support Your Local Tavern

"While visiting my brother in Greenville, So. Carolina the latter part of July we were having a cold beer in a place one afternoon and a man next to us heard that I was from Texas and remarked that he had been in a Texas outfit in World War II. After finding out that he had been in the 36th Division, 141st Reg. we had quite a reunion. He had never been to a reunion and did not know of our association. His name was **William O. Pruitt**, 1715 Reidville, Road, Spartanburg, So. Carolina 29301. He was interested in attending the Reunion."

This dispatch was received from **PAYNE V. RUCKER**, 6337 Tulip Lane, Dallas, Texas 75230 who was V.P. of 143rd and host of the CP at the Houston Reunion.

What this proves, is that sometimes, it's a good idea to drop in a bar and have a beer. You never know when you might find a 36th "stray" or "drop out".



**GLOVER'S SCRAPBOOK:** This photo was made in Kufstien, April 1945; From left: Ed Caldera, Stockton, CA; Homer Churchley, Huber, OR; Larry Schoepfer, Chicago; Eugene Moiles, Owasso, Mich; and H. Ross Glover, Danville, N.Y.



**CHOW LINE**, somewhere in Austria: Co. D, 142nd. With back turned, Robt. Garvey, Muskegon, Mich; also Chas. Thomas, Nepelman, N.J., Leon Bechard, Detroit, Sgt. Kane looking at Garvey, and the guy with neon stripes is Francis Hutchinson, Blue Springs, Miss. Photo from H. Ross Glover.

## Kerrigan Kills Krowd With Klever Komedy Kapers

The ole T-Patchers are loaded with talent. We have men of achievement in all fields of endeavor, but at the Houston Reunion we discovered a new "star".

GEORGE KERRIGAN, 8008 Talman, Chicago, Ill, 60652 attended his first reunion in 1971 in Houston at the royal Coach Inn. Aparently he had a good time, and became one of our great boosters. He did a replay in Dallas in '72, and was in-like-Gangbusters at the Astroworld in '73.

George, a great Irishman who grew up in New York, served with Co. A, 142nd, ended up in the Windy City after the war.

Saturday night after the reunion Dance which closed at 1:00 AM, Kerrigan and his good buddy Steve Kujawa ended up in the Spec. Trps. CP which has been noted for operating "after hours". Somehow, Kerrigan started a few impromptu short funnies that had the dozen or so T-Patchers in a series of belly-laffs. This was about 2:30 AM. Everyone howled, and George kept on. He told one after another . . . each one funnier than the one before. His informal routine would make a famous stand-up comic like Henny Youngman hang his head in shame. This went on and on. The troops kept laughing, and George kept his steady staitico of gags going. Laughter rang thru the now darkened hall of the Parlors, and finally at 5:40 AM (according to someone semisober) said it was time to give up, and a fabulous THREE HOUR monolog came to an end.

Kerrigan is a very modest guy, and has already turned down a guest shot on the Johnny Carson Show. (He must be crazy).

Moral of this story is . . . be in Dallas next Labor Day and maybe we can get George to "do it again".

**GORDON A. ROSE**, 6565 Dykes Way, Dallas, Tx 75230 writes to Amil with thanks for all the good work he does in behalf of memberships [he's Executive VP of the North Dallas Chamber] says he attended a family reunion in San Antonio and discovered one of his relatives was in the 36th, but not a paid-up member, so sends in dues for **LOUIS HEINE**, 4911 Bernadine, San Antonio 78220. Rose served with Co. K, 143rd, got a few medals, a lot of friends, and enough of Altavilla to last a lifetime.



Six members of Co. H, 142nd: Kneeling Left to right: Tony Pellerin, Francis J. Henry and David L. Strader. Standing: Chas. W. Thompson, Robt. J. Hovenor and Harry M. Purcell . . . in WWII. Three of these men were in Houston: Pellerin, Strader and Purcell. Goal is to get the other three.

## JOIN UP NOW \$3

AMIL KOHUTEK, Membership Chm.  
36th Division Association  
2404 Lincoln Ct.  
Irving, Texas 75061

## Wartime Vignette

"In Italy during World War II our Unit was ordered to make a night attack. Co. B 142nd Infantry 36th Division passed through the enemy lines to high ground above the city of Velletri in rear of the Germans. At dawn the men of Co. B came upon an enemy radio communication center located in a log house. wo German soldiers, unaware that American soldiers were nearby, approached from the building. One of them carried a wash basin of water. One of our soldiers raised his rifle and remarked, "watch me shoot that pan out of his hands." He did just that. The Germans were not only surprised but grateful that our soldiers had a sense of humor. They were made prisoners and the radio equipment taken into custody."

(From Dewey W. Mann, 2105 21st St., Nitro, W. Va. 25143)

**LYLE LUNDBURG** and wife, wheels of the 111th Engrs. and Mid-west . . . all the way from Michigan. Amil did it.

**ED NORTHOUSE**, high-roller of the 111th, former Mid-West President, poses for this one at the Louisville reunion.

**ALFRED Ross 'Jug' Williams**, Weatherford, Texas, once an ambulance driver, trdes same for coal minors shovel, now lives in Kentucky. Amil Photo.

# Heard from

**GOLD STAR MOTHER**, Mrs. Ealon J. Coleman of Canton, Tx has made just about every reunion since 1945. Writes in her regrets for not being able to attend the Houston reunion. Mrs. Coleman, a most gracious lady was missed. Her late son served with 155th FA. Please plan to be in Dallas in '74.

**ROBT M. DRUMMOND**, P.O. Box 217, Kemp, Tx 75143 discovered his neighbor was a 36ther, and sends in dues for John M. COLLIER, Rt. 2, same city, same zip. Robt. was with 111th Medics, Collier was an MP.

**TOM BULOVA**, 505 Onondaga, Syracuse, NY 13219 of Co. B, 143rs drops ten to pay dues for **RICHARD BLACKWELL**, 11605 Parkedge Dr., Rockville, MD 20852 — also **ROYAL GAGE**, 1030 S. 32nd St., Abilene, Tx 79602 of Co. L, 142nd.

**JAMES R. PILLOW**, 3205 Sashbaw, Drayton Plains, Mich. 48020 of 141st knew **EDDIE BUTORA** of same place, but neither knew the other was in the 36th until they met in Louisville, for the Midwest reunion in July. Butora did time in Stovall's Engineers. Small world isn't it?

**HARY J. JETT**, Dist. Mgr. of C & H Transportation Co., Kansas City, sends in dues plus enough for 3 buddies. Harry served with Hqs. Svc. 111th Medics.

**JACK SIDNEY**, 17502 Parthenia St., Northridge, Calif. 91324 is director of International Marketing & Booking for "Disney On Parade" couldn't make the Houston deal but says "Pour one for me", and my best wishes to all the fine people of the 36th". Sends his dues plus more for buddies.

**CHARLIE WEAVER**, 2771 Warner Dr., Orchard Lake, Mich. 48033 of Co. L, 143rd sends in 10 for the cause, says he enjoys the T-Patcher and has also received a T-Patch ring from Chas. Linton which he likes. Also purchased a copy of Bob Wagner's "THE TEXAS ARMY" which he also likes. Good loyal and devoted 36thers, we need more like Weaver.

**BRALEY VILLANUEVA**, 608 Withers St., Denton Tx 76201 sends in dues and best wishes to the troops.



## Co. B, 142 Eastern To Meet In Ocilla, Ga., 1974

BARBARA DAVIDSON, better half of VICTOR, 22 Queen Ann St., Friendship, NY 14739 sends in this report on the Eastern half of Co. B, 142nd:

We had the largest gathering even in a suburb of Cleveland, Ohio, Aug. 3rd-5th, since we were organized. 20 T-Patchers and 13 wives. Ten had never been with us before. In 1970 in Charleston, W. Va., we had 7 men and 5 wives. In 1971 in Nashville we had 9 men and 7 wives . . . and in Nitro, W. Va. last year: 12 T-Patchers and 8 wives. Hosts for the 1973 bash was Emil and Marie Hardulak, 8324 Avery Rd., Broadview Hts., Ohio, with business meeting and Smorgasboard in their home. A fabulous couple of hosts.

Dempsey Albritton was re-elected president; Dewey Mann, re-elected V/P; Col. David Sisco elected 2nd V/P and Mrs. Victor Davidson re-elected Secty/Tres.

The 1974 Co. B, 142nd Eastern will be held in Ocilla, Ga., with Col. and Vesta Sisco as hosts.

One highlight of the reunion was a ceramic plaque, designed and appropriately printed by JOE LOPRESTITI, before he died July 13, 1973, was presented to Dempsey Albritton, the 1st president of the Eastern half of Co. B 142nd.

## WWI Co. C. 143rd To Meet In Beaumont

The WWI veterans of Company C, 143rd Infantry Regiment, 36th Division will hold their 45th annual reunion on November 10, 1973 in the Gold Room of Moncla's Cafeteria, 535 Mariposa Street, Beaumont, Texas. The commander of the group is Joseph Prue Benson, Kirbyville, Texas 75956. The secretary is Milan Parks Stewart, 1475 Cartwright Street, Beaumont, Texas 77701. These reunions normally are attended by thirty or more of these veterans, and the wives are invited.

Sent in by R.R. Cahal, 205 Eleanor St., Jasper, Texas 75951.

## More 'Herd Frums'

GUTHRIE A. HAMMONS, 2501 Redondo Beach, Calif. 90249 called Amil from west coast, wants to join and did. He got back issues of the Patch and a big welcome. Hammons served as T/Sgt. Hqs. Co., 1st Bn. 142nd.

HUGH PETETE, owner of Petete's Drapery Center, 3209 Cheryl, Wichita Falls, Tx 76309 drops \$15 for dues and stamps, says he heard the Houston Reunion was great . . . will be in Dallas he promises. Hugh was with 36th QM.

WILLIAM E. LAHAIR, 21 Nelson, N. Grafton, Mass 01536 couldn't make the bash, but says his heart was in TEXAS. Was in Co. H, 142nd. Tells about parking in a NO Parking Zone, with 2 other cars. The officer saw the T-Patch decal, skipped him and gave tickets to the other two. Toldya its pays to let 'em know you are a 36ther.



COCEK ZAHIRNIAK KNDELKA

## 3 POW's of 143rd Hold 30th Anniversary Reunion

On Sept. 13, 1943, four days after the invasion of Salerno, on a hot muggy day in sunny Italy, at about 5 PM, the Nazi armor, artillery and infantry smashed into the ranks of the 143rd. Many were killed and countless number taken prisoner, including the men shown above.

Yes, the familiar phrase uttered by the German's, "For you der var ist ofer," still rings in these men's ears.

On Sept. 13, 1973, these same men met in West, Texas (near Waco) to talk over old times. They were liberated April 26, 1945 in Luckenweld, Germany.

Harry Zahirniak and Edmund Kudelka still live in West; William Cocek came all the way from San Matio, Calif. for the reunion. Zahirniak was host for the trio.

Note: If any you T-Patchers get down that way, you can get the best Czech sausage in Texas in West. Czech & double Czech.

## Letter From Astroworld Hotel

"My salute goes to every man who "slugged it out" against the fierce and formidable enemy and emerged victorious. The cost was inestimable but for those surviving — you have the eternal thanks of a grateful country.

It was our pleasure and privilege to serve you here at the Astroworld otels and we hope that the T-Patchers of the "Fighting 36th Division" will allow us the honor of hosting one of your great reunions again soon.

Lest we forget — I would like to thank the ladies and gentlemen who assisted us in the tours of the Celestial Suite. We really could not have done without them.

On behalf of the entire staff of the Astroworld Hotels, we wish the 36th Division Association all the success in the world and many, many more happy reunions."

"My salute

Joe Pace, Asst. Sales Manager,

Astroworld Hotel, Houston

The late Walter Humphrey (Fort Worth Press) was 36th's biggest booster . . . he was father of the 36th Division Memorial at Temple, TX, which unfortunately never came off.

From our old files: This was published Nov. 24, 1945.



By WALTER R. HUMPHREY

FIVE years ago tomorrow, the Texas National Guard was mobilized.

On that day, it developed, the World War II 36th Division was born . . . born out of a great tradition and heritage handed down from the Alamo through one world war.

Tomorrow, those men of the 36th who have survived, may look back with satisfaction on their heroic role in another world war . . . and all Texas may look back with pride on the achievements of our own great division.

When it returns to the United States next month, only 600 Texans will be in its ranks. The original division is almost entirely replaced.

Too much of the depletion in the division's ranks came about, not as a result of rotation, but as a result of enemy action.

Only two divisions sustained heavier losses.

So, as we remember the division on its war-time birthday tomorrow, let us remember with gratitude the men who did not return and those who did come back as casualties . . . even above, perhaps, those who came back unscathed.

They fell by the hundreds on the beaches at Salerno, in the assaults on San Pietro, in the bloody and ill-advised crossing of the Rapido river, at Cassino and Anzio . . . on the beaches and along the faster but still bloody line of march through France, Germany, Austria.

There has been some talk of a parade somewhere of the returning 36th.

As a parade, it would be fine. But the division wouldn't be our 36th as we know it.

Only a smattering of old Guardsmen who fought in the toughest theater of the war . . . in Italy . . . would be there.

They are the men who deserve a special salute on their division's mobilization birthday. Thank God for those who came back and thank God for those who gave their lives that we all might be free.