



34th Infantry Division Association
7105 NW 70th Avenue, Cp Dodge, A-9
Johnston, Iowa 50131-1824

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2007

34th Infantry Division Assn Officers for 2007-08

President	Don Singlestad F/135 Inf
1 st Vice Pres.	Richard Holmes A/113 AAA
2 nd Vice Pres.	John Ray
3 Year Trustees	Roque Riojas 135 Inf Martin Winkle G/133 Inf Mike Beaman HQ 168 Inf
2 Year Trustees	Lloyd Jerome HQ 168 Inf John Churchman 168 Inf Russell Bierl 194 FA
1 Year Trustees	Ben Krall 133 Inf Ellen Ankrum 133 Inf Phil Daurio
Chaplin	Howard Ashcraft 168 Inf
Historian / WEB Master	Pat Skelly 133 Inf
SGT AT Arms	Mildred Fencil 133 Inf
Secretary / Treasurer	Donald R Prock 34 Sig Co



Photo of Outgoing Association President Roque Riojas, (Right) and Incoming President Don Singlestad, (Left). The transfer of leadership occurred at the 60th Annual Reunion in Sept 2007 .

New Association President

The new president of the 34th Infantry Division Association is Mr. Don Singlestad. Don began his service with Company F, 135th Infantry, Owatonna, MN. When the Guard was activated for WWII in Feb 1941 he trained with the division at Camp Claiborne, LA. He fought with the 135th in North Africa and Italy. At wars end Don was a Tech Sergeant and had been honored with the Combat Infantry Badge, DSC, Silver Star, Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Good Conduct Medal, American Defense Service Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Easter Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon w/ 6 Bars, Italian Military Medal of Valor and Italian War Merit Cross. His address is: 16127 Dakota Shores Dr., Park Rapids, MN 56470 Thank you for your service Roque Riojas!

34th Infantry Division 60th Annual Reunion

The 34th Infantry Division Association conducted their 60th Annual Reunion, which was hosted by the Des Moines Chapter on 6-9 Sept, at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Des Moines. Events at the Reunion involved a Presidents Luncheon, Visit to the 34th Infantry Division Exhibit and Memorial at the Gold Star Military Museum at Camp Dodge, Visit to Iowa Governors Mansion, Hospitality Room Talks, Presentation by Pat Skelly on WWII Military Chaplains in Combat, Association Business Meeting, Banquet and Memorial Service. The famous 34th Army Band Combo played for the enjoyment of the Red Bull members at the banquet on Saturday evening.

The speaker at the Banquet was LTC Todd Jacobus, who spoke on the 224th Engineer Bn and their combat in Iraq. The Memorial Service was conducted by Chaplain CPT Gary Selof, Iowa National Guard. It was voted to have the Memorial Service on Saturday at the next reunion so people who are traveling early on Sunday can attend.

The membership voted to hold the 61st Annual Reunion at Camp Ripley, MN on 4-7 Sep 08 if Don Singlestead could make the necessary arrangements. The alternate site would be Des Moines, IA. The association is considering the Tri State Chapter hosting the 62nd Annual Reunion at Carlisle, PA, with a date TBD. A September date was preferred by the members present.

The association voted to support the ongoing mailings and newsletter printing costs from the Savings Account with up to \$5,000 input per year. This action is necessary due to the large number of Life Memberships and the increase in mailing costs. We will continue to publish three newsletters per year.

Special Thank You: Herbert H. Walker, died Dec 17, 1994, and his wife Blanch S. Walker, died Oct 6, 2005, and willed \$25,000 from their final estate to the 34th Infantry Division Association. Herbert Walker was a Red Bull soldier from Moline, IL who had served in North Africa and Italy with the 34th Division during WWII. The monies are to be used for general purposes by the 34th Infantry Division Association. At the 2007 Annual Reunion the Board of Directors voted to allocate \$5,000 of this money to offset the expense of printing and mailing the newsletters and put the remainder into CD's.

Red Bull News Bits:

- Ben Thatcher, Co D, 168th Infantry, stopped by to visit the Gold Star museum with his old friend Frank Perkins, from before and during WWII days. Frank Perkins served in the 752nd Tank Battalion in North Africa and Italy. The Battalion was habitually assigned to the 34th Infantry Division. They had a good time talking about their war years. Frank joined the 34th Infantry Division Association. Congratulations Frank! Ben Thatcher showed his friend the D Company, 168th photo with him and Joe Boitnot as SGT and Cpl in 1941.

- Martin Winkle, donated a Chaplains Kit and a piece of Trench Art made from a 105 MM Artillery Shell to the Gold Star Museum. Thank You Martin. Martin served with Co G, 133rd Inf Regt.

- Thank you to Ben Krall for playing the harmonica during the Reunion Friday evening buffet dinner and the Memorial service on Sunday. Yes, he even knows the tune to "Red Wing".

- Thank you to Russ Bierl and the volunteers for hosting everyone at the Gold Star Military Museum at Cp Dodge. The museum has a Great 34th Infantry Division exhibit and many archives at the museum.

- T SGT Russell "Bill" Smith, I / 133rd is a resident at the Bishop Drumm Care Center, 5837 Winnwood Dr, Johnston, IA 50131

Current Membership of the Association

We count our current membership at 746 Members
460 Life Members
61 Spouse and Honary Members
79 Paid 2006/2007 Members
7 Unit / Battalion / Regiment Members

All others have not updated their memberships for the 2007/ 2008 Year. Please send your membership dues in today. Dues \$10

(Please use the enclosed 34th Infantry Division Association Membership Form)



168th Infantry Regiment Soldiers met Mr. Sami Jalilov, WWII Russian soldier at the Reunion.



Chaplain Gary Selof holding Memorial Service at 34th Infantry Division Reunion.



Russian Soldier, Sami Jalilov, from Tajikistan. He was liberated by the 168th Infantry Regiment in Italy.



Red Bull Soldiers and spouses at the 60th Annual Reunion in Des Moines, IA in September 2007.



Visiting the Gold Star Museum at Camp Dodge with a briefing from COL Russ Bierl, Director.

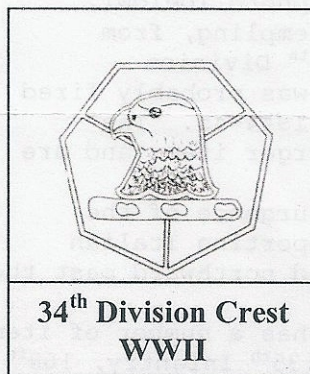


Newly Elected Officers, 34th Division Association, 07- 08

L to R: Ben Krall, Pat Skelly, John Ray, Lloydy Jerome, Martin Winkle, Ellen Ankrum, Don Singlestad, Mildred Fencl, Roque Riojas, Russ Bierl, Don Prock

34th ID Reunion, Des Moines , IA Attendees, 6-9 Sept 2007
Hosted by Des Moines Chapter

- Gene Alexander, 30972 434th Ave, Yankton, SD, 57078
- Kenneth Andresen, 5835 S. Winwood Dr, Johnston, IA 50131
- Ellen Ankrum, Box 514, Stratford, IA 50249
- Fernando Aviles, 8307 W. Taylor Rd, Mears, MI 49436
- Carroll & Ilene Baber, 1215 Cambridge Dr, Shawnee, OK 74804
- Russell Bierl, 602 SE 10th, Ankeny, IA 50021
- Joe Boitnott, 14 1st St, Apt 1-E, Collins, IA 50055
- Steve Brinza, 3850 N. Hwy 89, Prescott, AZ 86301
- George & Lorraine Catalano, 8065 Chesterton Dr, Woodridge, IL 60517
- Vincent Connors, 103 Swanson Dr, Shenandoah, IA 51601
- Jeff & Kathy Dypwick, 103000 Great Plains Blvd, Chaska, MN 55318
- Domick Dellavedova, 4626 Scott St, Davenport, IA 52806
- Mildred Fencl, 6040 South Prairie, Morris, IL 60450
- Richard & Marsha Holmes, 2208 Duff Ave, Ames, IA 50010
- John Jackson, Box 427, Fairfield, IA 52556
- Leslie Jerome, 208 Sylvan Dr, Council Bluffs, IA, 51503
- James Keane, 11452 S. Talman, Chicago, IL 60655
- Chuck King, 850 Goldfinch #608, Fairmont, MN 56031
- Ben & Imelda Krall, 1607 Salzar St, Charles City, IA 50616
- Clark & Opal Lease, 919 Washington Ave, Greenville, OH 45331
- Larry & Connie Lewer, 11 Forest Hill Ct, Crossville, TN 38558
- James & Leona Machunas, 20938 Rd I-18, Cloverdale, OH 45825
- Al & Lois Maupin, 9801 Greenview Ln, Johnston, IA 50131
- Walter Moeller, 504 N. River Road, Naperville, IL 60540
- Donald Prock, 3108 E. 38th St, Des Moines, IA 50317
- Robert & Lola Estes Prock, 816 Bell Ave, Des Moines, IA 50315
- Charles & Kathie Radford, 502 N Hazel St, Glenwood, IA 51534
- Norman & Lois Raner, 113 Allan St, Bayard, IA 50029
- John Ray, 1710 Juniper Ridge, San Antonio, TX 78258
- Roque Riojas, 1513 SW Blvd, Kansas City, KS 66103
- Robert & Lois Rodgers, 529 Longmeadow Circle, St. Charles, IL 60174
- Ralph Rose, 4020 NW Huxman Rd, Silver Lake, KS 66539-9251
- Jack Schoelkopf, 8 Sunrise Ln, Ocean View, DE 19970
- Don & Sylveste Singlestad, 16127 Dakota Shores Dr, Park Rapids, MN 56470
- Patrick Skelly, 31 Williams Ave, Pocasset, MA 02559
- Darlene Smith, 2634 Seminole Dr, N. Kansas City, MO 64116
- Richard Stammer, 3459 150th St, Durant, IA 52747



Lost Red Bull's

Help us find them.

Oran Graig
 4440 Morris NE, APT 305
 Albuquerque, NM 87111

Ray Hefner
 4411 Rink Dam RD, RR
 Taylorsville, NC 28681

Cody Klein
 1201 OFC Park, RD # 1012
 West Des Moines, IA 50265

Mrs. Paul Lacox
 3615 Tabor Rd
 Van Meter, IA 50261

Mrs. Isla Miner
 117 28th St, Dr, SE
 Cedar Rapids, IA 52403

Mrs. Clayton Peterson
 1615 Seminole Ave NW
 Cedar Rapids, IA 52405

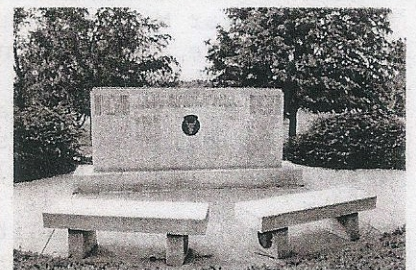
Tom Ralston
 1928 SE 13th ST
 Cape Coral, FL 33990

Gordon Thomas
 17538 Rhodes Mill RD
 Ohio City, OH 45874

Pasquale Tosco
 80-101 Ridgewood RD
 Washington TWP, NJ 07676

Francis F. Vojta
 20163 Hemford ST
 Pacific Junction, IA 51561

**34th Infantry Division
 Memorial – Cp Dodge**



John & Alma Taylor, 106 Main St, Newtown Square, PA 19073
 Dick & Bettie Tennant, 12320 Fox Meadow Dr, W. Friendship MD 21794
 Ben Thatcher, 2276 Mt Hope Ln, Toms River, NJ 08753
 Stanley Vomacka, 3900 Scheuneman Rd, White Bear Lake, MN 55110-4145
 Robert & Mary Ann Wege, 44 Lynwood Dr, Council Bluffs, IA 51503
 Earl Wingate, 1015 Terrace Dr, Napa, CA 94559
 Martin Winkle, 119 Clover Dr, Monaca, PA 15061-2611
 Jack & Lea Yepsen, 7775 NE 110th Ave, Bondurant, IA 50031

**34th ID Reunion, Des Moines, IA - Attendees Continued
 6-9 Sept 2007**

**Thank You to Des Moines Chapter for Hosting the 60th
 Annual Reunion. The 34th Army Band was great!!**

133rd Infantry, Mason City Reunion

Celeste Wingate-Weklych, daughter of Earl Wingate, sent us names & photos

- Mrs. Mary Behrens, 326 12th St., S. E., Mason City, IA 50401
- Mrs. Arlene Cunningham, 1531 6th Place, S.E., Apt. #306, Mason City, IA 50401
- Mrs. Mary Behrens, 326 12th St., S. E., Mason City, IA 50401
- Mr. John Decker, 1631 Meadowbrook Drive, Mason City, IA 50401
- Mr. Ed Etzen, 515 North 10th Street, Forest City, IA 50436
- Mr. Hans Hansen, 601 Shoreacres Drive, #203, Fairmont, MN 56031
- Mr. Ben Krall, 1607 Salzer Street, Charles City, IA 50616-3929
- Mrs. Donna Maxson, 127 - 27th Street, S.W., Mason City, IA 50401
- Mr. Lyle Sabin, 1960 Bounty Street, Aurora, Colorado 80011
- Mrs. Louise Stansbery, 314 W. Spring Street, New Hampton, IA 50659
- Mr. Earl Wingate, 1015 Terrace Drive, Napa, CA 94559



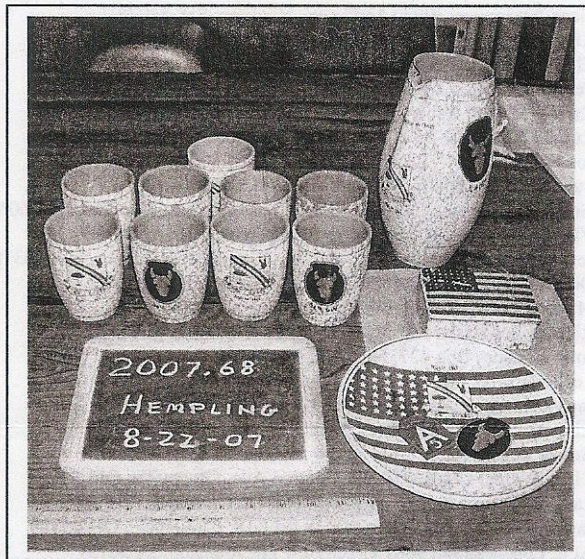
**Earl Wingate (Napa, CA) and
 Lyle Sabin (Aurora, CO)**

G. I. Souvenirs - Pottery from Italian Front, WWII

Many G.I.'s brought home souvenirs after WWII. When the war ended on May 8th 1945, the 34th Infantry Division had advanced to Northern Italy and were happy to take their well earned leave in Florence (Firenze) and nearby Montecatini Terme, which had been established as major soldier rest areas from combat.

The pottery set shown in this photo (below), donated by COL (Ret) L. Jack Hempling, from Windenmere, FL, is a common 34th Division soldier souvenir. The pottery was probably fired during or after the winter of 1944-45. The initials SACA appear on the larger items and are most likely an artisan's name.

These products reflect the resurgence of the (often cottage) industries supporting Italian tourism, as Allied forces moved northward past their regions.



The Gold Star Military Museum has a number of items of brown speckled pottery with crests of the 133rd Infantry, 135th Infantry, 168th Infantry, 125th Field Artillery, 34th Division, and 5th US Army. They include cups, pitchers, classes and cigarette holders. We encourage families to retain these items as a remembrance of their fathers or grandfathers service. The value of the pieces you've collected is largely nostalgic. They help tell a great story of our "Famed Division" and WWII service.

If anyone has other military items to donate to the Museum, please contact us at 515-252-4531, or goldstarmuseum@iowa.gov
 Gold Star Military Museum, 7105 NW 70th Ave, Cp Dodge, Johnston, IA 50131

Big "WELCOME HOME " for 1-133RD Infantry Bn from Iraq



An American Red White & Blue Event

Proud family of SPC Kirk Bridgeman



The 1-133rd Infantry "Iron Man" Battalion arrived home from Ft. McCoy on 25 Jul 07. The 640 man battalion served 16 months in Iraq and 22 months on Active Duty. Two soldiers of the organization, SFC Scott E. Nisely and SGT Kampha B. Sourivong, lost their lives during combat operations. The battalion provided security for more than 500 combat logistical patrols and escorted 62,000 trucks for more than 4.1 million vehicle miles in Al Anbar province, Iraq. The 1-133rd assembled at Riverfront Stadium to a crowd of over 10,000 family and friends. This is the largest welcome event the state has witnessed during the War on Terror. It is anticipated that the CBS "60 Minutes Show" will do a follow on show to their first feature. The 133rd Infantry Battalion is the longest serving Infantry Bn in the Army Guard. They were mobilized in Sep 2005 and were released on Active duty on 25 Jul 07.

Lord Haw-Haw and the 34th Infantry Division By COL (Ret) Russ Bierl

On Jan 26th, 1942, the troop ship *HMS Straithard*, left New York with the 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the 133rd Infantry Regiment, for Northern Ireland. Former 133rd Infantry Regiment soldier, Ben Krall, remembered that three days later the Nazi propaganda broadcaster, "Lord Haw-Haw announced on the radio that the troop ship was at sea and Nazi U Boats were preparing to sink it. The same message was broadcast when the *USS Barnett*, *SS Neville*, *Dutchess of Athol*, the *American Legion* and the *SS Betelgeuse* set sail transporting the rest of the Red Bull soldiers of the 34th Infantry Division to their destiny in North Africa and Europe. The 34th Division was the first U.S. Army division to depart for Europe during WWII.

Lord Haw-Haw was the nickname of several announcers on the German propaganda radio program 'Germany Calling', broadcast by the Nazi's to audiences in Great Britain and the United States. The program started in 1939 and continued until April 30, 1945, when Hamburg was overrun by the British Army. The nickname generally refers to William Joyce, who was the German radio's most prominent English-language speaker, but several other speakers could sometimes be confused with him.

William Joyce, was born in Brooklyn, New York in 1906, and moved with his English mother and Irish-American father to England in 1921. He joined the Nazi movement in England in the mid-'30s and fled to Germany just before the war began in 1939. He immediately became a broadcaster for Joseph Goebbels' Propaganda Ministry. His radio program reached England weekly from 1939 to 1945.

On the night of April 30, 1945, a drunken Joyce made his last broadcast from Hamburg as Allied troops entered the city. With his adopted world crashing down around him, but still committed to the Nazi cause, Joyce rambled on through his farewell speech. Captured by the British, Joyce stood trial for treason. The court denied his claim of American citizenship because he held a British passport. He was found guilty and hanged on January 3, 1946.

Lord Haw-Haw worked in concert with "Axis Sally" who was actually Mildred Gillars, a native of Portland, Maine. She was studying music at Hunter College in Germany in the 1930s and fell in love with her professor. He later enlisted her for German radio propaganda programs from a Berlin radio station. After the war she was brought back to the U. S. where, in 1949, she was found guilty of treason for a broadcast made just before the Allied invasion of Europe. Sentenced to 10-to-30 years in prison, she was eventually released in 1962. Until her death in 1988, she was a music instructor at a girl's school in Columbus, Ohio.

Most Americans to this day still recognize the name of "Tokyo Rose", who was the U.S. citizen who broadcast propaganda for the Japanese from Tokyo, Japan. Very few Americans today recognize the name Lord Haw-Haw, the former U.S. citizen who broadcast for the Nazi's and paid for it with his life.

The men of the 34th Infantry Division all remember their trip across the Atlantic on the troop ships and could never have imagined they would spend the next five years away from home fighting the enemy in North Africa and Italy.

Photo: The 2nd and 3rd Bns of the 133rd Infantry Regt were the first U.S. troops to arrive in Northern Ireland aboard the *HMS Straithard*, in Feb 1942.

