



The Email for the
Association is:
goldstarmuseum@iowa.gov
WEB Site is: www.34indiv.org

34th Infantry Division Association
7105 NW 70th Avenue
Johnston, Iowa 50131

Fall 2008 Issue
The 34th ID Assn. newsletter is
published three times a year. The
issues are, Fall 2008, Spring 2009

34th Infantry Division Assn 2008
Reunion - A Grand Success - Des
Moines

The 2008 Reunion of the 34th Infantry Division was held 4-7 Sept 2008 at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Des Moines. The reunion was a great success and we had over 60 people attend the event.

President, S. Don Singlestad, 135th Inf Regt, greeted everyone and conducted the association meetings. We especially appreciated the families of former Red Bull members who attended the reunion and made acquaintances with their fathers' old war buddies. New Officers of the association are; President, Richard Holmes, 1st VP, John Ray 2nd VP, Pat Skelly, 1 Year Trustees: Leslie Jerome, John Churchman, Don Prock. 2 Year Trustees: Roque Riojas, Michael Beaman, John Sunins. 3 Year Trustees: S. Don Singlestad, Larry Lewer, Gene Alexander. Secretary Russell Bierl, Treasurer Michael Musel, SGT at Arms Mildred Fencil, Historian Pat Skelly & Chaplain Clinton Wolf.

Next year the 2009 National Reunion of the 34th Infantry Division Association will be hosted by the Tri-State Chapter at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, on July 15th- 19th. Carlisle is the home of the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center, its Military History Institute, and the Army War College. All of these organizations will be supporting us as we explore our 'Red Bull' and Fifth Army history, and learn of and discuss the future of our Armed Forces and its upcoming leaders.

Current 2009 Carlisle 34th Inf. Div. Reunion plans include a tour of the Gettysburg battlefield, an extended visit to the Military History Institute library, and tour of the Army Heritage Center reconstruction of World War II camp buildings, World War I trenches, and even earlier representations of America's military life.

Chuck Sweeney and Clark Lease listen intently to discussion in the Reunion



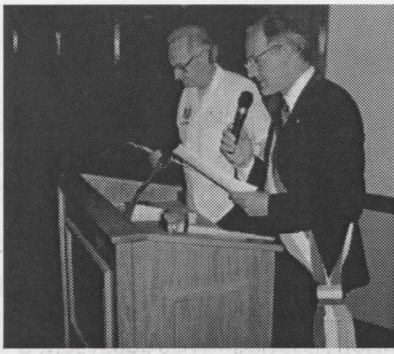
Outgoing President S. Don Singlestad is congratulated on a job well done by past President and current Trustee Roque Riojas at the 2008 Reunion of the 34th Infantry Division Reunion, Des Moines, Iowa. Our new president, elected at the business meeting of the association is Richard Holmes of Ames, IA.

New Officers for the 34th Infantrv Div Assn. 08-09



American Cemetery Decorations

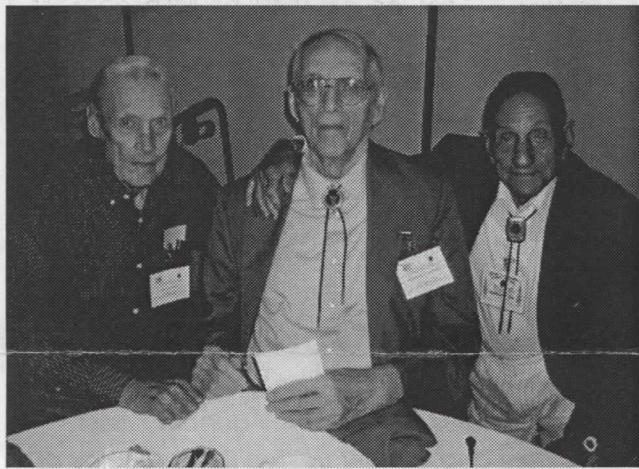
The 34th Infantry Division Association has again sent a request to the American Battle Monuments Commission to place Veterans Day wreaths at the Sicily-Rome, Florence and North Africa cemeteries this year. Wreaths have been placed at each of the three cemeteries by the association for the past 61 years. We will not forget our fallen comrades who fought with us in WWII.



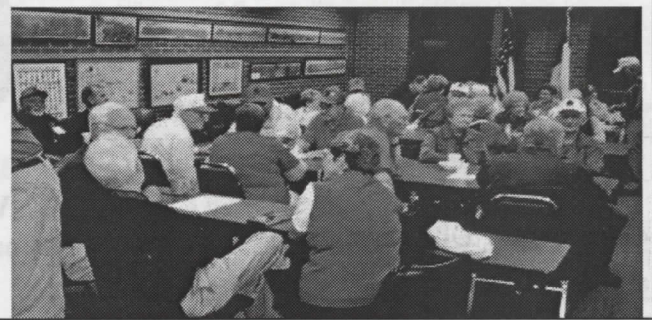
**Italian
Road
Designated
34th Inf Div
"Red Bull"
HWY**

Mayor Paolo

During the 34th Infantry Division's 2008 reunion, an official Italian highway sign from the 34th U.S. Infantry Division "Red Bull" Road was presented by Raolo Cecconi, the mayor of Vernio, Italy. The ceremony included presentation of an official proclamation from the Commune of Vernio, with English translation copies also available. The road connects Vernio to the A1 Autostrada at Barbarino di Mugello, which passes near the memorial to Torricella (Hill 810), which will be dedicated on Sept. 20, 2009. Any Association members who will be traveling in Italy at that time are invited to attend the dedication ceremony as honored guests. We now have a Red Bull Road in Italy in honor of our great WWII division!



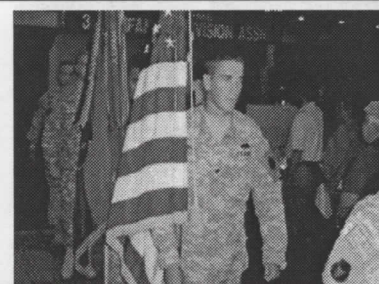
Left to Right. Ben Thatcher, Dominic DellaVedova and Joe Boitnott are together again 67 years after training together for WWII. Ben Thatcher and Joe Boitnott were members of the National Guard and mobilized from the same unit on Feb 10, 1941. DellaVedova joined them in D Co. 168th Infantry at Camp Claiborne, LA and they served in Northern Ireland and North Africa and Italy. Dellavedova received a battlefield commission and later served as a lieutenant and later Captain and Co. Commander of M Co., 168th Infantry throughout the late African and Italian campaigns. This photo was taken at the Reunion Banquet on Sept. 6th at the Holiday Inn in Des Moines.



Reunion members enjoying the Ice Cream Social at the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum on Friday at the 34th Infantry Division Reunion in



The 34th Army Band Combo providing entertainment at the 34th Infantry Division Reunion in Iowa.



Color Guard from the 2nd Bde Cbt Team, 34th Inf Div, Iowa National Guard at the Reunion Banquet.



Larry Lewer, 168th Infantry and Norman Rainer, Cannon Company, 133rd Infantry share a conversation at the reunion

FINAL ROLL CALL 07-08

EDWARD C. HUTTERER
NORMAN MORGAN
HARRY L. GROVER
CAMILO MORNES
CARL T. JOHNSON
RONALD SALTZMAN
THOMAS H. ALLEY
PASQUALLE TOSKOS
HARRY

D. WOODWARD
DALE VOGT
FRANCIS E. BANAS
ABE W. THOMAS
MAX AVERY SMITH
ROBERT KOLOSKI
GEORGE W. TRODE
HARRY GROVER
CHESTER HARVEY
WAYNE ROBINSON
JOHN SUCHOR
WALTER RYDUN
GILBERT H. WHITE
ALFRED THIEL, JR.
JOSEPH EDAKOWSKI
ROGER B. WILLIAMS
PAUL MCGINNIS
LILLIE SALMONS
TOM RALSTON
ROBERT SCHEFFLEY
HOWARD ASHCRAFT
CALVIN NADING
WILLIAM HIGGINS
MATTHEW TARABORELLI
MARTIN WINCKLE
GEORGE W. TRODE
PAUL E. LACKLAND
DON SCCHILDKNECHT
JOHN TAYLOR
ERNEST BIASUCCI



34TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
 7105 NW 70TH Avenue
 Camp Dodge, Museum Bldg A-9
 Johnston, Iowa 50131

Date _____

SUBJECT: 34th Infantry Division National Membership Application

NOTE: If your address Label is (L), (W), or (9) you do not owe dues for the Current Year

(Check One Box)

Enclosed is \$10.00 for my Annual Membership in the 34th Infantry Division Association. Annual membership period is – 1 Sep thru 31 Aug of each year.
 (Open to past and present members of units / organizations assigned to the 34th Inf Div or soldiers who have been members of the National Guard for six years or longer.)

Enclosed is \$10.00 for my Associate Membership in the 34th Infantry Division Association. (Annual Fee) (Period is – 1 Sep thru 31 Aug of each year). (Individuals who do not meet membership requirements, ie: Spouses & Friends)

Enclosed is \$_____ for my LIFE MEMBERSHIP in the 34th Infantry Division Association. (See Fee Schedule Below) {No Further Annual Fee}.

| | | | | | |
|-----------|----------|-----------|---------|-------------------|---------|
| To Age 60 | \$100.00 | At age 62 | \$80.00 | At age 64 | \$60.00 |
| At age 61 | \$90.00 | At age 63 | \$70.00 | At age 65 & older | \$50.00 |

Enclosed is \$_____ for a donation to the operation of the 34th Inf Div Assn.

Enclosed is \$_____ for my donation to the 34th Inf Div Memorial Fund.
 (Maintain all monuments and annual flowers for the Cemeteries in North Africa, Italy & U.S.)

Name _____ Street _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

E-Mail: _____

AGE _____ Military Unit/ Organization _____

Signature: _____

Note: The purpose of the 34th Infantry Division Association is to preserve the history of the divisional units and soldiers that have served their nation since 1917. The National Association schedules an annual meeting at a site designated by the hosting Chapter. Each local chapter schedules their own activities as needed.

The National Secretary is COL (Ret) Russ Bierl who takes U.S. mail at the above address. His E Mail address is russell.bierl@iowa.gov The National Association WEB Site is <http://www.34infdiv.org/index.html>

The association is a Non Profit Iowa Corporation. A newsletter is sent to current members three times a year by U.S. mail. The Gold Star Military Museum maintains an office for the association. WEB site www.iowanationalguard.com Phone No 515-252-4531 or email goldstarmuseum@iowa.gov

Enclosed is \$5.00 for my Annual Dues for the - Des Moines Chapter of the 34th Infantry Division Association. (Annual Fee Only) (Period is – 1 Sep thru 31 Aug of each year).

34th Infantry Division Association
 7105 NW 70th Ave, Camp Dodge, Bldg A-9
 Johnston, IA 50131

ITEMS PRICE LIST – 1 NOVEMBER 2008

| | |
|--|--|
| 34 th Red Bull Polo Shirts _____ \$ 22.00 | 34 th Red Bull Div Insignia Pins \$3.50 |
| Size | (Lapel Pin) |
| 34 th Red Bull T-Shirt _____ \$12.00 | Red Bull Patch (Black & Red) \$3.50 |
| Size | |
| 34 th Div Red Bull Ball Cap \$10.00 | 34 th Div Refrigerator Magnet \$1.00 |
| 34 th Red Bull Window Decal \$ 1.50 | 34 th Div Red Bull Neck Tie \$8.00 |
| 34 th Red Bull Jacket _____ \$30.00 | 34 th Div Red Bull Flag (3X5') \$65.00 |
| Size | |
| 34 th Red Bull Coffee Mug \$6.00 | Red Bull Memo Pads, 50 Sheet \$ 1.50 |

Books Available:

| | |
|---|---------|
| Dogfaces Who Smiled Through Tears | \$30.00 |
| (The 34 th Red Bull Infantry Division in WWII) | |
| The Other Side of War | \$6.00 |
| Citizen Soldier in WWII | \$10.00 |
| (Story for the 168 th Inf from Lt /CPT/ MAJ / LTC Ed Bird) | |
| 2-133 rd Infantry Battalion Mobilization for Vietnam | \$8.00 |
| The Camp Dodge Story 1917 thru 1923 | \$10.00 |

*Add \$5.00 for shipping Dog Face Book. or * Add \$1.00 for shipping any other items.

Sub Total \$ _____

Shipping \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Name: _____

Street Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

Email: Iowagoldstarmuseum@iowa.gov

or Call 515-252-4531 if you have a question.

SECTION III NEWSLETTER - October

As the cold and wet weather increased the needs of the troops, the task of supplying them became more and more difficult. The front lines were generally several hours away from the dumps, so that carrying an emergency load often required the time and labor of large units of combat troops.

The road net itself was not only limited but had the further disadvantage of being intersected by the Volturno River, a stream capable of sudden fury. High water from 15 to 18 November washed out the temporary bridges which our engineers had thrown across the upper river, and a flash-flood again closed the upper bridges from 5 to 7 December. Rain, traffic, and the enemy combined to keep the road system in a condition that required constant work. On the II Corps front, road and bridge maintenance was the principal task of the 111th Engineer Battalion, for whom "Mignano mud" made life a nightmare. Heavy traffic moving over the roads turned them into streams of mud, full of seemingly bottomless pits. Ton after ton of gravel and rock was spread in the worst places. Enemy artillery not only harassed the men at work but blew craters that had to be filled.

A very large part of VI Corps traffic had to pass Venafrò. Every twenty-four hours in December, four thousand vehicles were moving through this bottleneck; as a result convoys had to be controlled strictly to keep unnecessary motor movement down to a minimum. To lighten the load on Highway No. 85 and the narrow road to Pozzilli, the 120th Engineers constructed two additional roads from Venafrò to Pozzilli and followed close behind the combat troops to repair the Sant' Elia road. Eventually, however, the engineer roads came to the steep mountains where mules and men with pack-boards had to take over on the narrow, twisting trails which were the only supply and evacuation routes for most of the infantry.

Without mules our winter campaign in Italy would have been impossible. On the flats, motor vehicles could churn through the mud; on the worst slopes, only men, climbing upward a few inches at a time with a case of rations or a can of water on their pack-boards, could make the ascent. Between these two extremes were miles of trails where the mule became an exasperating necessity. At the beginning of November the 45th Division had thirty-two animals; at the end of December the number exceeded four hundred with an additional 140 in a section of an Italian pack troop. Still more mules were needed, for 250 animals were required to supply the basic needs of an infantry regiment in the line.

Mules were a novelty for many American soldiers, and at first everything had to be improvised, including the mule skinner. Each division had a provisional pack troop with personnel drawn principally, but not exclusively, from the service companies. The 3d Division had brought mules from Sicily, but all other units had to find their animals in Italy by purchase in rear areas or by requisition from the farmers. At the outset the shortage of pack animals was so great that those on hand were quickly worked to death or worn out. Not only were mules scarce, but there was also a lack of halters, shoes, nails, and packsaddles. Italian packsaddles were issued wherever possible, since those from the United States proved to be too large for the average-sized Italian mule and reduced the load he could carry, which normally totaled about 220 pounds. By the end of December Fifth Army had brought in a French veterinary hospital which helped conserve the scanty mule stock, and the arrival of regular French and Italian pack units from Africa and Sardinia relieved many infantrymen from supply duties.

Membership Renewal: It's time to Renew your membership. Annual dues are \$10 per year, 1 Sept - 31 Aug. All those who have a Life Membership or Widow Membership do not have to pay dues (shows as a **L or W** on your address label). Those who have a 06, 07, or 08 on your address label, please make out the \$10 check to the 34th Infantry Division Association and send to:

CONVERSATION WITH A MULE-by Pvt. Richard Hiorns

Now, Mule, you say you work too hard,
That you have a life of pain,
You never seem to get a rest
Through ice and sleet or rain,
You climb the highest mountains,
But remember I do too.
You have four legs to take you home,
But me - I've only two.
And when our journey's over
And the time has come to eat,
A generous hand brings food to you
While you rest your weary feet.
I carry mine for miles and miles,
Have C rations every day,
Unless my luck's against me
And the cook throws me a "K."
And when it's time for us to sleep
There's one thing I can say,
I have to sleep on mountain tops
While you bed down on hay.
Now, Mule, would you take my place,
Even though you know you couldn't?
Would you be content with a life like mine?
You know darn well you wouldn't!

"Puptent Poets", Stars and Stripes
Mediterranean, Italy 1945

THE MULE REPLIES-by Lt. Bernard Knighten

Dear Dick, you wrote and asked me,
If I'd trade my place with you
Because you think my life is free
And I've little work to do.
Well, brother, for your information
I work like hell to the very last,
And no matter what the situation
I still end up a sad, old ass.
Look at me in this same old hide,
Wouldst though wear this ugly skin?
Would you daily drink from riversides
And forsake your whiskey and your gin?
And I can't get a small promotion
No matter if I work both hard and fast,
But you at the very slightest notion
Rise up to the rank of private- yes- first class.
Now, Dick, after all I've told you,
If you still wanna be a mule,
Your request will not be considered,
For we won't accept so big a fool.

"Puptent Poets", Stars and Stripes
Mediterranean, Italy 1945

WE NEED YOUR WAR STORIES!

We need your help with stories about your experience while serving with the 34th Infantry Division. It can be anything, from attending Summer Camp with the National Guard to serving in WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Iraq, Afghanistan or the Sinai. Send them in to the Iowa Gold Star Museum WEB Site address or mail to our Association Address.

Russ



"Tha Doc says it's nothin' serious - just hardened arteries."

New Donation to the Gold Star



CW4 (Ret) Palmer Olsen, Iowa National Guard, donated a WWII, GMC, CCKW, 6X6, Army Truck to the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum. This is a great addition to the museum as it is the only World War II vehicle the museum has in its collection. The truck was an early model with a wood box. After WWII duty the vehicle served it's last military assignment with the Minnesota National Guard as a Engineer Bridge Truck. The vehicle is fully operational and will be used to tell the story of WWII.

Thanks for the Help

We have received a number of excellent donations at the Gold Star Museum of items collected by 34th Division Soldiers during WWII.

We are still looking for stories of your army life, funny or sad. - Books, notes, journals, letters home etc. They will be archived in the museum under the 34th Division file for researchers and historians.

National Office- 34th Infantry Division Assn

The National Office is located at the Iowa Gold Star Museum on Camp Dodge in the suburb of Johnston.

Address: **34th Infantry Division Association**
7105 NW 70th Ave, Camp Dodge, A-9
Johnston, IA 50131-1824

National Treasurer is LTC (Ret) Mike Musel
 National Secretary is COL (Ret) Russ Bierl
 E-mail goldstarmuseum@iowa.gov
 Phone 515.252.4531

Association Website www.34indiv.org

34th Division Historian is Pat Skelly
webmaster@34indiv.org

Officers for the 34th Infantry Division Assn.

34th ID Association Officers

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| President | Richard Holmes, A 113 th AAA |
| 1 st Vice President | John Ray |
| 2 nd Vice President | Pat Skelly |
| SGT at Arms | Mildred Fencil |
| Chaplain | Clinton Wolf 133 rd Inf |
| Historian/Web | Pat Skelly 133 Inf |
| Trustees 1 year | Lloyd Jerome 168 th Inf John Churchman Donald Prock 34 th Sig Co |
| Trustees 2 year | Roque Riojas 135 Inf John Sunins Mike Beaman 168 Inf |
| Trustees 3 Year | Don Singlestad F/135 Inf Larry Lewer 168 Inf Gene Alexander |
| Treasurer | Mike Musel 194 th FA |
| Secretary | Russ Bierl 194 th FA |

The Email address of the Association President,
 Richard Holmes is:
DICKH@aol.com



Gold Star Museum Expansion at Cp Dodge

The Gold Star Museum at Cp Dodge has broke ground on the new \$4 Million construction project. Funding was provided by the State of Iowa. Design plans were approved in Jan 08 for an 18,000 Sq Ft addition to the current building. This will quadruple the exhibit area and double the library as well as add a 130 person theater. We hope to have the building completed by Dec 2009.



CSM (Ret) Don Prock is thanked by incoming 34th Infantry Division Assn. Secretary, Russ Bierl, for his service as Secretary / Treasurer over the past two years. Don continues to serve in the Des Moines Chapter.

So, what did you think about the rations?

This article is reprinted from "Lessons Learned in Combat, Nov 1942 - Sept 1944", HQ 34th Infantry Division, 5th U.S. Army.

The 'C' or 'K' type ration was an emergency ration and is not meant to feed troops over long periods of time. During January and February 1944 the 3rd Battalion, 135th Infantry established an improvised field bakery in the kitchen bivouac area and made doughnuts, fruit turnovers, cakes and cookies, and in addition made sandwiches of jellies and jams and fresh meat when it was obtainable, and made spreads for sandwiches from canned meat. These were packed into ration boxes, ammunition boxes and sent up to the troops by pack mule. It greatly reduced the monotony of the ration, adding the necessary calories in the diet which was deficient in the 'C' or 'K' ration. Being more palatable the troops ate more of it and their morale and physical condition were much better than that of troops which were fed a steady diet of emergency rations.

S/Sgt. JOHN DIAVASTES, 133rd Infantry:

"While troops are on the line, kitchens ought to be able to draw materials to make pastry such as doughnuts, fruit turnovers, cakes and cookies, etc., to be things enclosed you won't eat so why carry them. The wax box will heat a cup of coffee nicely. A 'D' bar is always a good thing to carry in case of an emergency. Carry your rations in the most convenient place. They can cause a lot of grief during a long march."

FIFTH ARMY AT THE WINTER LINE

15 November 1943 - 15 January 1944

Center of Military History, Pub CMH 100-9, pp. 87-89
"Mud, Mules, and Mountains"

Winter (1943-1944) in the mountains greatly aided the enemy's determined efforts to delay the Allied advance. The miserable weather increased the discomfort of the men and more than doubled the disease total. At night the temperature frequently dropped below freezing; the rain changed to sleet or snow; and often the only shelters were those which the men dug in on the rocky hillsides when tactical operations permitted. To counteract these hardships our command took measures to protect health and maintain morale. Wool underwear had been issued early in November, and extra blankets and shelter-halves were available in the early part of December. Even more useful were the two-piece combat suits with

go with the men's 'K' or 'C' rations, whatever it might be. It builds up their morale and tells them that their kitchen crew is thinking of them and not sitting on their beds."

T-4 ALEX G. BLACK, 133rd Infantry:

"A better ration should be given the fighting men when they are able to get a hot meal instead of the usual hash or stew menus. Pork and gravy or beef and gravy takes no more time to prepare and is much better."

S/Sgt. DELBERT F. LEET, 133rd Infantry:

"When bringing rations up to the company always be sure not to bring fire down on the area, or in the vicinity of the company, by pulling in too fast with the vehicles. Always pick a secluded spot where the enemy cannot observe your movement."

PFC WILLIAM E. WOODROW, 135th Infantry:

"The infantry soldier when going on an attack, usually carries either 'C' rations or 'K' rations, and sometimes a combination of the two. As for the 'C' ration all I can say is experiment on different ways of carrying them. I've found that three units fit nicely in a combat pack. As for the 'K' ration, I suggest you open the boxes and break the contents down. There ma

which many front-line units were equipped. By December the men also had overshoes, and the battalion surgeons ordered the aid stations to keep a supply of dry socks. A double coffee allowance was issued, and wherever possible hot meals took place of the "K" or "10-in-1" ration.

Despite these efforts, the cold and wet weather and loss of sleep during weeks of continual fighting contributed to the great amount of sickness among the troops. Disease removed far more men from combat units than did enemy action. During December, a month when unusually heavy fighting took place, 5,020 Fifth Army men were wounded, but the total of admissions to hospitals and quarters was 22,816. Jaundice, fevers, and trench foot were prevalent.

The institution of Fifth Army Rest Camps at Naples was perhaps the most successful step toward maintaining high morale. Men received new uniforms; hot showers were always available, and hot food was served at any hour. There were movies and band concerts daily, and soldiers were completely on their own so long as they maintained good behavior. From the end of Nov 44 on, divisions sent about three thousand men to the rear every five days so that in little more than a month the entire personnel would have a five-day rest.

1946 - 2008

34TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

The 34th Infantry Division Association was originated in 1946 by the senior officers and commanders of the of 34th Infantry Division to commemorate, associate, and continue the recognition of the soldiers and units of the National Guard that sacrificed their lives, gave the time to serve and dedicate their bravery for the protection of peoples around the world. The Association, at the time of establishment had veterans from every corner of the United States and still does. We continue to have these veterans as members. This includes Hawaii.

We have annual reunions every year at different locations.

The Reunions are held the First weekend after Labor Day in September.

1947 -2008

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AND LOCAL CHAPTERS

The Association established a National Association and installed in the Constitution that there could be local chapters throughout the United States so that a collection of members, locally, could hold meetings so that they could keep the memories alive, exchange stories, establish lasting friendships, Record the history of the 34th Infantry Division to be on file for any and everyone who is interested in reviewing the records of the Division.

(NOTE: These records are on file at the Gold Star Museum at Camp Dodge, for review AND ALSO ON THE 34TH INF DIV WEB SITE)

**THE DES MOINES CHAPTER
WAS CHARTERED IN FEBRUARY
1947 AS THE FIRST CHARTERED
CHAPTER.**

1946-2008

MEMBERSHIP

Any Member of the Army, Army National Guard, or other military unit assigned, attached to, or any civilian that was attached to the 34th Infantry Division during World II, may become a member of the 34th Infantry Division Association.

Any member with Six years of Good service, who served with the Division after the War is eligible for membership.

As Amended by the By-Laws:

“ Permit any member of successor organizations to join the Association after Six years of service .”

(This means all units since reorganizations)

Current members of the National Guard that are part of the Division who have served on active duty during the on going conflicts around the world are eligible to be members in the association.

1947

61 YEARS

2008

34th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

DUES FOR THE ASSOCIATION AND LOCAL CHAPTERS

The Dues for the National Association are \$10.00 annually beginning the 1st Day of September each year. You may also apply for a Lifetime Membership by contacting the National Association Secretary/Treasurer at the Gold Star Museum at Camp Dodge, Iowa.(See Points of Contact)

*The Local Chapters may set their own annual dues. The Des Moines Chapter Annual Dues are \$5.00 Annually, starting 1 September each year.

*NOTE: This office is also located at the Gold Star Museum.

POINTS OF CONTACT:

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION:
DONALD R. PROCK ,CSM (RET)

Secretary/Treasurer
34th Inf Div Association
Gold Star Museum
7105 N.W. 70th Ave
Johnston, Iowa 50131-2416

DES MOINES CHAPTER
CSM Donald R. Prock (Ret)
President, Des Moines Chapter
3108 E 38th St
Des Moines, Iowa 50317-3920
515-265-3546

COL Kenneth Andresen(Ret)
Secretary/Treasurer
Des Moines Chapter
Records Center, Camp Dodge
515-252-4329 (office)

COL Russell V. Bierl(Ret)
Vice President
Des Moines Chapter
Gold Star Museum, Camp Dodge

THE FAMOUS 34TH INFANTRY DIVISION!

*This Division, in World War II has the distinction of being the **FIRST** to land in the **European Theater**, and also had more days in Combat (over 600) than any other, and was accredited with capturing more than 40,000 enemy soldiers. **Twenty men** assigned to the 34th ID were awarded the **Medal of Honor**. The 34th ID ranked second to none and stands high on the scroll of honor among the greatest fighting organizations that ever carried the **STARS AND STRIPES** into battle.*

WE continue to support today's National Guard soldiers serving in the 34th Infantry Division who are protecting our American Way of Life.