

34th Infantry Division Association

7105 NW 70th Ave
Johnston, IA 50131

Association WEB Page:
www.34IDA.org

Fall 2014 Issue -
The 34th ID Assn. newsletter is
published three times a year.



Great Success- 67th Annual Reunion

The 2014 Reunion of the 34th Infantry Division Assn. was hosted by the Des Moines Chapter on Oct 3-4, 2014, in Johnston, IA at the Stoney Creek Inn.

The new president elected by the 34th Infantry Division Association is CSM Willie Adams, who is assigned as the CSM of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team of the Iowa National Guard and former CSM of the 168th Infantry Bn. The 1st Vice President is LTC Tim Sulzner, who is the current commander of the 168th Infantry Battalion. The new three year trustees are SFC James Sherril, Dr. Chris White, MSG Daniel Ewer and Ken Andresen.

We had a total of 51 members and guests attend the 34th Infantry Division Reunion Banquet. The main speaker at the reunion was Lt Col Dave Nixon, commander of the 1-133rd Infantry, who spoke of the mobilization, training and deployment of the 1-133rd Infantry Battalion for duty in Iraq and Afghanistan. His message talked about the success of the organization, the Army Training Plan, as well as Operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, and training again at home station upon return to CONUS.

We were blessed to have two WWII combat veterans of the 34th Infantry Division attend the Reunion. They included, Gerald Robertson HQ Special Troops, 168th, and Stanley Vomacka H/135th although Stanley could not attend the banquet. Also, the spouse of Charlie Smith (Darline) and of Wallace Winkie, (Beverly) attend with her daughters.

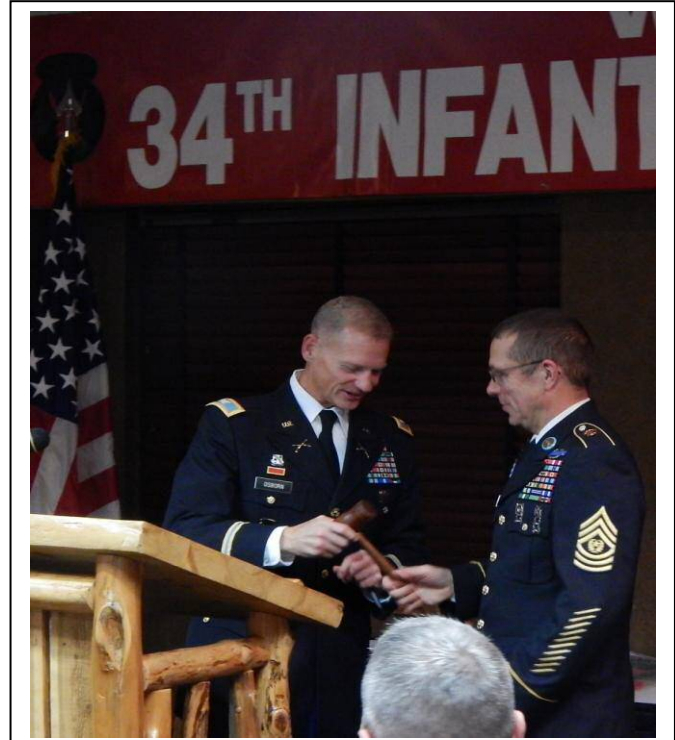
The new association Chaplain, 1LT Nate Perry was introduced to the association and gave the memorial service.

During the 34th Infantry Division Association business meeting the time and place committee recommended the 2015 reunion be hosted by the Commanders Own Chapter in the Minneapolis / St. Paul area in 2015. The recommendation was approved by the trustees and members by voice vote.

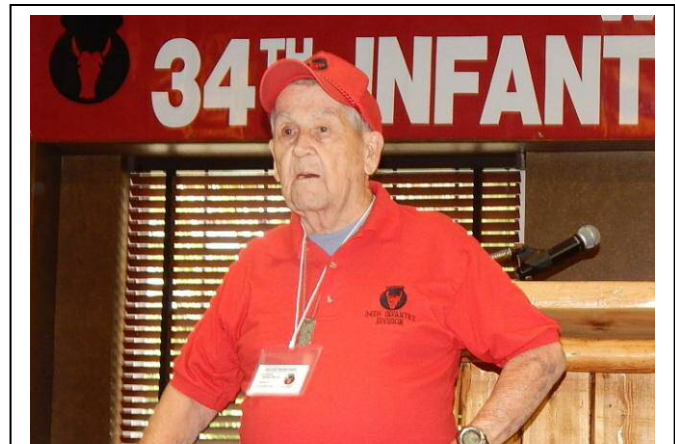
The dates for the 2015 Reunion are now set for 3-4 Oct 2015 in Minneapolis, MN. During the eleven years of the "War on Terror" we have had over 20 thousand soldiers serve in the 34th Division in Iraq and Afghanistan as well as deployments for Nobel Eagle support for homeland defense in the U.S. Watch for news on this in the Winter 2015 issue of the newsletter. The Minnesota Chapter has big plans for the 2015 reunion including a trip to Camp Ripley, MN.

COL Steve Osborn gave a special thanks to our Des Moines Chapter members for hosting the reunion, their 5th year in a row. "Thank You." It was really a fun reunion and everyone enjoyed the Afghanistan Operations briefing by LTC Tim Sulzner of the 113th Cav and CSM Bob Warrington, from the 2nd BCT, about his trip to Italy to view the WWII battle fields and visit the National Battle Monuments and Cemeteries where some of our fallen comrades are buried.

See more photos of the 67th Reunion in this newsletter.



COL Steve Osborn, the outgoing President of the 34th Infantry Division Association passes the gavel off to CSM Willie Adams at the concluding Banquet of the 34th Inf Div Reunion. COL Osborn had commanded the 1-168th Infantry prior to a deployment to Iraq in 2009 as the Deputy G3 for the 34th Infantry Division. CSM Adams is the CSM of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 34th Inf Div and has served in Iraq and Afghanistan.



Gerald Robertson, Special Troops Co, 34th Infantry Div talked about his WWII experiences in Camp Claiborne, North Ireland, North Africa and Italy during the opening session of the 34th Infantry Division Reunion.

Greetings and Happy Thanksgiving to the RED BULL TEAM!

I am honored to be given the chance to serve as your Association President. I would be remiss if I did not take a moment to thank COL Steve Osborn for his leadership, friendship, and insight over the past year as he served as President of the 34th Infantry Division Association.

We had a wonderful time at this year's reunion! It was a great meeting and I would like to thank everyone who attended. We look forward to next year's reunion in Minneapolis, Minnesota and we hope to see everyone there. For those who will attend next year's reunion, I would like to challenge you to invite someone who is a current or former member of the 34th Division to join us. There will more details to follow on the 2015 reunion in the next newsletter.

During this year's reunion we discussed several ideas on how we can reach out to the younger generation. As we look to the future, we must adapt to new ways of communicating our vision as an Association. We will be putting together some working groups to discuss these ideas. These new ideas will allow us to reach younger veterans, learn from their experiences, and allow them to learn the history of those who served before them.

As an Association, we will continue to work to ensure our purpose, our history, and our future is maintained. I want to thank every member of the Association and every Soldier within the 34th Infantry Division, past and present, for your service, commitment, and support. Continue to tell our story and ensure our fellow citizens, our communities, and our political leaders understand the deep heritage and relevant capabilities of the Red Bull Division.

I wish you all a safe and happy holiday season.



ATTACK!

CSM Willie Adams

34th Infantry Division Association President

william.l.adams80.ctr@mail.mil

34th Inf Div Final Roll Call

Robert Kopsa, D 168th Inf, 34th ID
Giyozo Uychara, A 100th Inf, 34th
Richard Tsutomu Ishimoto, A 100th
Inf, 34th ID
Stanley Izumigawa, A 100th Inf, 34th
Ivar H. Awes, 151 FA, 34th ID
John Votek, B 168th Inf, 34th ID
Lolace Cordray, 34th ID
Yoshiyuki Sumida, A 100th Inf, 34th
Raymond Nosaka, B 100th Inf, 34th
Edward J. Ipsen, 34th ID
Harold C. Scott, AT, 168th Inf, 34th
Robert Whittet, 34th ID
Norman W. Palus, 34th ID
William W. Bennett, B 133rd 34th
Bernard A. Suchomski, 34th ID
Tatsuo Kawachi, 100th Inf, 34th
Nagatoshi R. Fujita, C 100th Inf, 34th
Colby Anderson, 1-194 FA, 34th
James DeBellis, B 135th Inf, 34th ID

*May they have no
more hills to climb,
nor cold, nor rain, nor mud,
nor enemy fire,
and may they now rest in Peace.*

National Office-34th Infantry Division Association

Iowa Gold Star Museum, Camp Dodge - Bldg 3692,
7105 NW 70TH Ave, Johnston, IA 50131

Secretary: COL (Ret) Russ Bierl E-mail: bierlhome@msn.com

Association Website <http://www.34IDA.org>

Archives & Original Website www.34infdiv.org

68th Planned Reunion 3-4 October 2015, Minneapolis, MN

Treasurer: LTC (Ret) Mike Musel 515-252-4531

Email: michael.musel@iowa.gov Gold Star Museum

Senior Historian & Archivist: Pat Skelly 508-524-3948

E-mail: skelly@milhist.net

Facebook Webmasters: Ashlee Lolkus, Herman Poggensee

WEB Site Manager: MSG Daniel Ewer sgtddaniel@aol.com

Facebook 34th Inf Div Assn: <https://www.facebook.com/34InfDivAssoc>

Internet 34th Inf Div Assn: <http://www.34IDA.org>

Also, follow the 2-34th Red Bulls at! <http://www.dvidshub.net/units/2-34IBCT>

<http://www.flickr.com/iowaRedBulls>

<http://www.twitter.com/iowaRedBulls>

1st BCT: <http://www.facebook.com/MinnesotaRedBulls>

2nd BCT: <http://www.facebook.com/iowaRedBulls>



Major General (Ret) Gerald Miller (left) won a lottery drawing for a "Red Bull Flag." COL Steve Osborn, President of the association stated, "This was appropriate as MG Miller had served as commander of the 2nd Brigade and the 34th Inf Div Division. Russ Bierl, Secretary of the association is shown on right.



Lt Col Dave Nixon and his wife Cathy are shown seated at the head table. Lt Col Nixon, commander of the 1-133rd Infantry Battalion, was the main speaker at the Reunion banquet. He had served with the 133rd Infantry in both Iraq and Afghanistan and talked with much pride about his experiences training and deploying with the battalion in combat.

Photos of the 67th Annual Reunion of the 34th Infantry Division Association



The newly elected officers shown being sworn in after the business meeting of the 67th Reunion of the 34th Infantry Division Association. Shown L to R are Daniel Ewer, Tanner Johnson, Willie Adams, Ashlee Lolkus, Russ Bierl, Mike Musel and Pat Skelly. The reunion was held on Friday and Saturday, 3-4 October at the Stoney Creek Inn at Johnston, Iowa. Next year the 68th Annual Reunion will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota under the sponsorship of the Commanders Own Chapter, on Saturday & Sunday, 3-4 Oct 2015



Darline Smith, spouse of former "Red Bull" soldier Charlie Smith, is shown holding a U.S Army M-4 Rifle at the Skills Engagement Trainer, ES 2000 Lazar Range on Camp Dodge. The guests at the reunion were able to view the latest methods for training soldiers in the Army. No ammunition is fired at the ES 2000 Range. Other weapons that are available at the range are M9 9MM Beretta Pistol and the M249 Squad Automatic Weapon. The guests also had an opportunity to visit the Medical Simulation Training Center at Camp Dodge. All were amazed at how real the medical simulation mannequins were and the quality of training for our soldiers.



1LT Nate Perry, the newly appointed Chaplain of the 34th ID Assn. and his spouse Elaine at banquet.



Dr. Chris White (right), a newly elected Trustee, is shown at the banquet with his mother Gloria Gottke



SSG Tanner Johnson, G/ 334th BSB and SFC James Sherrill, 1-194th Field Artillery Bn, and are shown with their large 105 Howitzer canister Beer Mugs. SSG Johnson served with HHB 1-194 FA during the 02-03 Homeland Security call up, with 1-133 IN during the OIF deployment 05-07, and was attached to the 1-134 CAV of Neb for OEF 10-11. SFC James Sherill, formally 1-194FA, currently HHC 1-133rd Infantry as their Effects NCO. I served with 42nd ID in OIF 05-06 and in the Ironman Bn 1-133rd IN for OEF 10-11.



Old soldiers visit the Iowa Gold Star Museum at the 66th Annual Reunion of the 34th Infantry Division Association Annual reunion in Oct 2013. The soldiers relived their past after first coming together as trained soldiers over 70 years ago. The WWII equipment is being shown by Russell Flattery, the son of a WWII veteran. (2013 Photo)

67th Annual Reunion of the 34th Infantry Division Association



LTC Tim Sulzner, current commander of the 1-168th Infantry Battalion and Administrative Officer of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 34th Infantry Division, was the featured speaker on Friday morning of the reunion. LTC Sulzner spoke about his combat experience with the 113th Cavalry Squadron in Afghanistan. The team work of the Cavalry Squadron with the Army and Air Force Air Liaison Team made the organization very successful. No one else caught as many "Bad Guys" High Profile Targets as the 113th Cavalry Squadron, while they were in the AO.



President	CSM Willie Adams
1 st Vice President	LTC Tim Sulzner
2 nd Vice President	Randall Stanford
1 Year Trustees	Mark Zirkelbach Ron Albrecht, Past Pres MAJ Jason Burley CSM Joel Arnold
2 Year Trustees	Hermann Poggensee LTC Scott Keeley BG Ben Corell SSG Tanner Johnson
3 Year Trustees	SFC James Sherril Dr. Chris White MSG Daniel Ewer Ken Andresen
Past President	COL Steve Osborn
Secretary	Russell Bierl
Treasurer	Michael Musel
Information Officer	SFC Ashlee Lolkus
Sr. Historian/Archive Mgr	Pat Skelly
Website Manager	MSG Daniel Ewer
Sergeant-at-Arms	Jim Berg
Chaplain	1LT Nathan Perry

Purpose of the 34th Infantry Division Association (Short Version)

- Maintain association with our comrades with whom we served in the 34th Infantry Division.
- Maintain and honor the memory of those who died in action and remember all of us who pass later.
- Gather and maintain the History of the Organizations, Units and Soldiers of the 34th Infantry Division.
- Support our “Wounded Warriors” who have faithfully served our nation.

34th Infantry Division Association Internet and Facebook Sites

We ask that all members and friends of the 34th Infantry Division view our website and FaceBook pages for information updates.

The 34th Infantry Division Association gives a “Big Thank You” to Ashlee Lolkus, 34th Div HQ’s and CW5 (Ret) Herman Poggensee for updates to the FaceBook pages.

The URL for the 34th Inf Div Assn. national page is:
www.facebook.com/34InfDivAssoc

The URL for the Des Moines Chapter 34th ID page is:
www.facebook.com/34IDAssocDesMoinesChapter

The URL for the Minnesota Cmdr’s Own Chapter is
www.facebook.com/commandersownredbullassociation

We encourage all Red Bull Soldiers who have a Face - book account to log on and share their stories with friends who share their common interests.

Pat Skelly, the Association Senior Historian and Archivist continues to make archival posts at the site:
<http://www.34infdiv.org>

Pat is well respected for his detailed work and has done much to bring together WWII and War on Terror archive documents for veterans, their families and historians of the 88th and 34th Infantry Divisions as well as other allied units.

MSG Daniel Ewer manages the new Association Web Site, [34IDA.org](http://www.34IDA.org) The site was launched at the 2014 Reunion. Please continue to watch the new Web page as it develops.

The Web Site for the actual MTOE 34th Inf Div is:
www.MinnesotaNationalGuard.org/34id/



Hamilton County Iowa Veterans Memorial

The above photo shows a 20 foot tall monument at the Hamilton County Hospital which is located along "Red Bull Division Drive" in Webster City, Iowa.

The monument reads:

To All Who Have Helped Carry The Torch Of Freedom ... We Honor And Thank You, And Pledge To Remember Your Sacrifice And Service.

We as "Red Bulls" thank the citizens of Hamilton County, and the Hamilton Board of Supervisors who made the decision to support the erection of this monument which honors all who served from the county, from territorial times to the present day.

1SG (Ret) John Jackson Celebrates 100th Birthday



Members of the 34th Army Band assemble around John Jackson at his 100th Birthday party. He stated he is proud of the fact that he served 40 years in the 133rd Infantry Regt Band & 34th Infantry Division Band and has now lived forty years on National Guard Retirement. John Jackson and William Littlejohn (not in photo) are the only two WWII bandsmen still living out of the thirty-eight men who were mobilized from Fairfield for World War II. The highlight of the birthday party was when former band member went into a Jam Session and played for the enjoyment of the group. The key members of the Jam Session were Charlie Danialson and John Turner. Happy Birthday John! We are proud of you!



Major General Warren Lawson (left) is shown with John Jackson at his 100th Birthday Party. MG Lawson remembers standing on the street in Fairfield watching the 133rd Regt Service Company and Band depart after mobilization for training in Camp Claiborne, Louisiana in February, 1941.

John C. Jackson, of Fairfield Iowa, and long time 34th Army Band member, celebrated his 100th Birthday on September 19, 2014.

John's father was in the National Guard and mentioned to his son, "He should join the 133rd Regt Band as they were going to the Worlds Fair in Chicago." John joined Service Company, 133rd Infantry on 27 Jun 1933, as a saxophone player, and accompanied the Band to the World's Fair. He has photos in an album to substantiate the claim.

By the time the 34th Infantry Division was mobilized on Feb 10, 1941, John was a SGT. When the Band shipped out to North Ireland, John Jackson was the 1st Sergeant of the unit. He told the group one of his most proud moments was when he led the Regimental Band, in front of the entire 133rd Infantry Regiment down the main street in Belfast, Northern Ireland. The streets were lined with cheering and flag waiving British citizens and they looked upon the U.S. soldiers as their saviors from the threat of the Germans.

John Jackson talks about the band's war duty in North Africa. The band members did guard duty, and served as stretcher bearers and burial detail. He mentioned that in Feb 43, the 133rd Band grew by three French horn players, which was all that was left of the 168th Inf Regt Band after the Faid Pass tragedy where approximately 1,200 U.S. soldiers were killed or captured. The band had not played their instruments for nine months prior to the Allied Victory Parade in Tunis in May 1943. The 133rd and 135th Bands played as a combined unit while the 135th Inf Regt marched in the parade with other Allied British and French military units.

After the 133rd Inf Regt joined the Allied landing in Salerno, Italy, the war was more of the same. The regimental bands combined in a MTOE Change on 1 Jan 1944 to form a 34th Division Band. During the Battle of Cassino they lost seven bandsmen to WIA and one KIA while on stretcher bearer duty.

John remained the 1SG through the end of WWII and was discharged, along with the other soldiers in the 34th Infantry Division, on 13 Jul 45.

He helped start the reactivated 34th Infantry Division Band on 21 Nov 1946 and served again as 1SG until his 60th birthday in 1974, in the same unit he joined in 1933. What a wonderful career John! Thank You for your service!!



This article is an extract of The Red Bulletin • Vol. 1, No. 9 • May 19, 1945 • pp. 1,3. of the original Red Bulletin. The "combat newspaper" of the 34th Infantry Division was published weekly in Italy from March 17, 1945, thru Sep 28, 1945. The 34th Division returned home after 44 months in Europe and North Africa.

Artillery Fires More than 1,000,000 Shells Sets Record For World War II

Artillerymen of the veteran 34th "Red Bull" Division fired more than 1,125,639 shells at the Germans in World War II, it was revealed today. This figure is the greatest record of artillery-support-of-infantry of the war.

Each of the four battalions in the 34th Division Artillery has had its "Black Days", which may account for some of the enthusiasm with which the Artillerymen tossed shells at the Krauts.

Avenged Altavilla

The 151st Field Artillery Battalion avenged Altavilla, Italy, where four days after they landed at Salerno on D-Day, Sept. 9, 1943, the Germans heaped shells in on the 151st gun pits from mountain peak positions. The 151st held their beach head and stopped a counter attack by German Tanks with direct fire from their howitzers. (The 151st Field Artillery Battalion was stationed in Minneapolis before the war.)

The 125th Field Artillery Battalion remembered with a vengeance Nov. 29, 1943, when more than a score of Artillerymen fell at Scapoli, Italy. (The 125th FA Bn was stationed in Duluth, Minneapolis, Princeton, Milaca, Pine City, Anoka, MN prior to the war)

In January, 1944, The 175th Field Artillery Battalion took a beating from big shells at San Pietro, Italy, and the 175th didn't forget. (The 175th Field Artillery was created from a composite of units from the 125th, the 151st and the 185th FA when the Artillery Regiments were reduced to Battalions during reorganization.)

The 185th Field Artillery Battalion recalled the 40 casualties suffered by the battalion from the bombs of six Nazi planes at Venafro, Italy, in January, 1944. (The 185th FA was from Davenport, Boone Cedar Rapids and Grand Junction, IA.)

Work Together

During more than two years of combat, more than a thousand casualties have been sustained by the four artillery battalions of the 34th ID.

The artillery outfits have been working together so long that battery officers don't have to snap out a half dozen orders when telephone lines are to be laid, when the battery is to move, when gun positions must be prepared. The men know what has to be done and they do it. One battery commander makes a habit of announcing the exact time the battery will move when he has received a march order. When that hour arrives, he gets in his peep and starts - it's taken for granted that the battery is ready, packed, and set to roll. He doesn't look back to check - it isn't necessary. And the men have never let him down.



34th Infantry Division National Membership Application Form

NOTE: If your address Label shows (L), (W), (T) or (5) you do not owe dues for the Current Year

- () 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, Other Services)
- () 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 60 & older	\$50.00
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- () Enclosed is \$ _____ for a donation to the operation of the 34th Inf Div Assn.
- () Enclosed is \$ _____ for my donation to the 34th Infantry Division Memorial Fund.
(Maintain all monuments and annual flowers for the Cemeteries in North Africa, Italy & U.S.)

Name _____ Street _____
 City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
 E-Mail: _____ Phone Number _____
 AGE _____ Military Unit/ Organization _____ Signature: _____

Note: The purpose of the 34th Infantry Division Association is to preserve the history of the 34th Divisional units & attached organizations of soldiers that have served their nation since 1917. The National Association schedules an annual meeting each September/October.

The National Secretary is COL (Ret) Russ Bierl. His E Mail address is bierlhome@msn.com The National Association WEB Site is <http://www.34IDA.org> Phone No 515-252-4531 or email goldstarmuseum@iowa.gov A newsletter is sent to current members three times a year by U.S. mail. All newsletters are shown on the Association WEB site. The Iowa Gold Star Military Museum maintains an office for the association. WEB site www.iowanationalguard.com

Museum Store - 34th Inf Div Assn Price List – Dec 2013

34 th Red Bull Polo Shirts Size _____	\$ 22.00	34 th Red Bull Div Insignia Pins (Lapel Pin)	\$5.00
34 th Red Bull T-Shirt Size _____	\$15.00	Red Bull Patch (Black & Red)	\$5.00
34 th Div Red Bull Ball Cap	\$12.00	34 th Div Red Bull Neck Tie	\$15.00
34 th Red Bull Window Decal	\$2.00	34 th Div Red Bull Flag (3X5')	\$65.00
34 th Red Bull Jacket Size _____	\$30.00	Red Bull Memo Pads, 50 Sheet	\$ 2.00
34 th Red Bull Coffee Mug	\$ 6.00		

Books Available:

Dogfaces Who Smiled Through Tears (The 34 th Red Bull Infantry Division in WWII)	\$30.00
Citizen Soldier in WWII (Story of the 168 th Inf by LT /CPT/ MAJ / LTC Ed Bird)	\$10.00

*Add \$5.00 for shipping the first ITEM and \$2.00 per each added ITEM in the same shipment.

Sub Total \$ _____
 Shipping \$ _____
 Total \$ _____

34th Infantry Division Association
7105 NW 70th Ave, Camp Dodge, Bldg 3692
Johnston, IA 50131

Name: _____
 Street Address _____ City _____ ZIP _____

Email: lowagoldstarmuseum@iowa.gov or Call 515-252-4531 if you have a question.