34th Infantry Division Association

Association WEB Page: www.34ida.org

7105 NW 70th Ave Johnston, IA 50131



Spring 2019 Issue -The 34th ID Assn. newsletter is published three times a year.

72nd-Reunion - 34th Infantry Division Association, 4-5 Oct

The 2019 Reunion of the 34^{th} Infantry Division Association will be Friday and Saturday, October 4^{th} and 5^{th} , 2019, at Camp Ripley, MN. This will be the 72^{nd} annual Reunion of the Association since WWII. Camp Ripley is located 10 miles North of Little Falls MN on HWY 371, and is operated by the Minnesota National Guard.

The Minnesota, Commanders Own Chapter will host the Reunion. Friday Night will include a Registration Check-In starting at 1500 hrs at the Valhalla Hall, Bldg 13-71, and the Reunion Social that kicks off at 1700hrs (5 PM), which will include a Dinner Sandwich meal. Maj Gen Jon Jensen, TAG Minnesota, will greet the Reunion attendees at the Valhalla Social hall, located in the SW area of the cantonment area. A Welcome Brief will be provided to all guests who are unfamiliar with Cp Ripley.

Saturday activities will start at 0900 hrs (9 AM) with a Camp Ripley Briefing by BG Lowell Kruse, which will be followed by a bus tour of the cantonment area and Down Range training areas of the post.

After the tour, all attendees will assemble at the Hanger Conference Center, Bldg 8-195, for lunch and the Association Annual Business Meeting and 34th ID TF Spartan Deployment Brief. In the later afternoon all are invited to a tour of the Minnesota Military Museum.

Conference attendees will reassemble at 1630 hrs (4:30 PM) at the Hanger Conference Center for a Social, Memorial Service and the Banquet program.

Lodging is available on both Friday and Sat evening at Cp Ripley or at any civilian Motel in Little Falls, MN.

Camp Ripley offers BOQ Rooms with Full size beds at \$27 to \$32 per night. The Camp Ripley billeting number is 320-616-3140. Please mention you are attending the 34th Inf Div Reunion, and wish to stay in Area 8, when making the call.

The Little Falls Country Inn and Suites has a block of 10 rooms reserved at \$139/night for the 34th Inf Div Assn Reunion. Country Inn and Suites 320-632-1000.

Reservation Form

This is the only information mailing for the reunion. Please refer to the Reunion Program Information Sheet on page 6 as well as the Registration Form on Page 7, of this newsletter. This newsletter, as well as the information sheet & registration form, can be downloaded from the 34th Inf Div Assn. Web Site, www.34ida.org

City of Brainerd, MN Remembers their Units WWII Service, Bataan

Article by: Staff Sgt. Anthony Housey, Cp Ripley Public Affairs

An annual service is held at the headquarters armory of 1st Combined Arms Battalion – 194th Armor in Brainerd. The event was to commemorate the service and sacrifice of the soldiers of A Co, 194th Tank Battalion in WWII.

The current Minnesota National Guard battalion of 1st CAB — 194th Armor still carries the legacy which was originally based out of the Brainerd Armory. On Feb. 10, 1941, Brainerd's 34th Tank Company, which was commanded by Ernest B. Miller, was federalized and ordered to train at Fort Lewis, Washington, where the company was combined with units from St. Joseph, Mo., and Salinas, Calif., and re-designated as the 194th Tank Battalion.

"The 194th was the first tank unit activated in the Far East prior to the start of World War II," said Capt. Joe Howe. "After the invasion of the Philippines by the Japanese ... the 194th held vital positions throughout the island defense until the fall of Bataan on April 9, 1942, when ordered to surrender."

According to the Office of the Provost Marshal General, about 1,500 American and 22,000 Filipino prisoners of war died at Camp O'Donnell in Capas, in the Philippine province of Tarlac, "from starvation, disease and the brutal treatment received at the hands of the captors."

"The prisoners, without food or water, experienced extreme cruelty and atrocities dealt by the Japanese. They marched a total of 60 miles and nearly 10,000 troops died—both American and Filipino," Howe said. Knudsen was a member of the California National Guard but asked to be transferred to Company A at Fort Lewis, so he could serve with his friends in Bataan.

"From Camp O'Donnell, many prisoners were sent to other camps in the Philippines. The POWs included men from the 194th, who were eventually packed into the hulls of unmarked transports known as 'hell ships' and moved to labor camps in Japan," Howe said.

Of the 82 officers and men of the 34th Tank Company who left Brainerd in Feb 1941, 64 men accompanied the 194th Armor to the Philippines. One was wounded and evacuated, two were transferred to Officers' Christian Fellowship, three were killed in action, 29 died as POWs and 29 survived captivity. May we always remember our fallen comrades.

Association Members,

This past winter saw 34ID units from Minnesota called to State Active Duty in response to winter storms, and the resulting spring flooding saw elements of multiple Iowa units being called to State Active Duty along both the Missouri and Mississippi River. With summer approaching, both Brigades will be extremely busy with load out and movement to Exportable Combat Training Capability (xCTC) exercises, while the Division Headquarters remains active in Kuwait. So as the motto states "Attack! Attack!"

At the request of the family, the spring also saw the association recognize the 100th Birthday of SSG Edward Hess; a 34th Infantry Division WWII Soldier and survivor of the Naples-Foggia, Rome-Arno, and Northern Appennines-Po Valley battles and campaigns. Through archives at the Gold Star museum, the association also assisted the family of PFC Earl Goering, and was able to confirm he was a POW in Stalag IIIB at Furstenberg, in Bravaria, Germany. Based on the dates of capture, he was with the 168 Infantry during the historic battle at Kasserine Pass. And lastly, the association made the Ironman Battalion Group out of Castel Madama, Italy an honorary Associate Chapter in their annual celebration of liberation by the 1-133 Infantry.

With all these events and recognitions, a heartfelt thanks to the Soldiers, past and present and I look forward to seeing you all at the reunion this fall.

James F. Avrams
President, 34th ID Association
james.f.avrams.mil@mail.mil

34th Infantry Division Final Roll Call Winter 2019

Marvin E. Kness, 2-168 Inf, 34th Inf Div Richard Brummel, 194th Cav Sqd, 34th ID James P. Moloney, HQ 3dBn 168 Inf 34 ID Reginald M. Ballantyne, C133rd Inf, 34th ID Lawrence Hanno 2-133rd Inf, 34th Inf Div James Ruden 2-133rd Inf, 34th Inf Div Sonsei Nakamura, B 100th Inf Div 34th ID Paul Takashi Kusunoki, A 100th Inf, 34th ID Ryoji Yamakuchi, A 100th Inf, 34th Inf Div Edward Crozier, 34th Brigade Cdr

Spring 2019

Louis Carrosino, I 168th Inf, 34th ID George I. Hey, 34th Inf Div Clifford Hullinger, 34th Inf Div John C. Jackson, 34th Inf Div Band Takamori Miyagi, C 100th Inf, 34th ID Tsugio "Bob" Sakai, C 100th, 34th ID Shiro Aoki, D 100th Inf, 34th Inf Div Toshio Funai, B 100th Inf, 34th Inf Div Larry Tsukasa Sekiguchi, B 100^{th,} 34thID Gary Lorenzen, 34th Inf Div John Tymeson, 47th Avn, 34 Inf Div Gerald Panaccione, 34th ID Ray Ramirez, 2-133, 34th ID Fred Kiyoto Shimizu, B 100th, 34th ID Henry Akira Tanage, B 100th, 34th ID Sam Saburo Terasake, A 100th, 34th ID James W. Vanderhoff, M 168th34th ID Terry Hobt, Army Reserve Maurice H. Phillips, 34th Inf Div John A Goodwin, 34th Inf Div Merlin Davis, A 185 FA, 34th Inf Div Richard "Dick" Hamasaki B 100th 34thID Tadayoshi Sato, A 100th Inf, 34th ID George Catalano, A 133rd Inf, 34th ID

National Office-34th Infantry Division Association

Iowa Gold Star Museum, Camp Dodge - Bldg 3692, 7105 NW 70TH Ave, Johnston, IA 50131 Secretary: Russell Bierl (Appointed Secretary)

Association Website http://www.34ida.org

72nd Reunion...... 4-5 Oct 2019 Camp Ripley, MN

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

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

Facebook Webmasters: Herman Poggensee & Wayne Merick

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

& Historian daniel.r.ewer.mil@mail.mil

Trustee: COL (Ret) Russ Bierl E-mail: bierlhome@msn.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.twitter.com/lowaRedBulls http://www.flickr.com/lowaRedBulls

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

2nd BCT: http://www.facebook.com/lowaRedBulls Page 2 – Spring 2019

Final Roll Call Prayer

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

168th Infantry Battalion Update by 1SG (Ret) Nick Jedlicka

The 168th Infantry Battalion in, Council Bluffs, IA has busy beginning of this year. They have conducted a Battalion level Change of Command, relocated Delta Company from Denison to Council Bluffs, IA, and responded with Soldiers on State Active Duty in support of historic flooding along the Missouri River, and completed Battalion level individual and crew server weapons qualification at Fort Riley, KS.

The Battalion Change of Command involved LTC Aaron Baugher completing his command tour and LTC Jason Merchant assuming the responsibility of command. Congratulations to LTC Baugher on his successful command and welcome to LTC Merchant.

The 168th Infantry Battalion was highly committed with State Active Duty missions during the Spring Storms and was pressed for snow emergencies, tornado damage, and flooding during the Month of March. They still have soldiers on duty providing potable water to the Grape Community Hospital in Hamburg, and the Glenwood Community School District in Glenwood.

Individual and Crew serve weapons qualification was conducted at Fort Riley, Kansas during March. The Battalion fired over 123,000 rounds of ammunition, and completed the training with high qualification rates. This also included firing 60mm mortars resulting in 100% qualification. They also fired and qualified on Sniper Rifles, Hand Grenades, 50. Cal MG, Shot gun, and the M320 Grenade launcher.



Pictured is SPC Josh Ried, Co C, 168th Infantry Bn, firing the .50 Cal MG during weapons Qualification at Ft Riley Kansas during the March 2019 training period.

168th Infantry Battalion Chapter 34th Infantry Division Assn.

On 06 April 2019, a Social was conducted at Barley's in Council Bluffs, which was open to all current and former Red Bulls in SW Iowa. Twenty current and former soldiers attended the event and fifteen are shown in the photo. The idea was to bring some new members into the Council Bluffs Chapter of the 34th Infantry Division Association. Great guys & good job.



Back Row: MAJ James Avrams, SSG(RET) Stogdill, SSG McCoy, SFC (RET) Chickering, LTC (RET) Backhaus, CPT Dickey, SFC (RET) Auffert. Front Row: PFC Plemel, SFC (RET) Jones, 1SG (RET) Rickers, SSG Bolton, SFC Leuschen, SSG Wendt, SSG (RET) Wahl, SSG(RET) Wilwerding. Others present but absent from photo: SFC (RET) Esser, SFC (RET) Wilson, CSM(RET) Rock, SSG (RET) Anderson.

34th Infantry Division Association Officers

President 2018 MAJ Jim Avrams
1st Vice Pres 2018 1SG (Ret) Nick Jedlicka
Past President MAJ Jacob Helgestad
1 Year Trustees Hermann Poggensee

Larry Woodworth LTC Tim Sulzner

Paul Wieck

2 Year Trustees Dr. Chris White

MSG Daniel Ewer Bob Worthington MAJ Randall Stanford

3 Year Trustees Mark Zirkelbach

Willie Adams Ron Curly Albrecht

Russ Bierl

Secretary Russell Bierl (Appointed Secretary)

Treasurer Michael Musel
Information Off Wayne Merick
SGT at Arms Eugene Liefeld
WebSite & Historian MSG Daniel Ewer
Chaplain CPT Nathan Perry

34th Infantry Division Soldiers currently serving in Kuwait as part of Task Force Spartan Shield. These "Red Bull" soldier notes were taken from the U.S. Military "DVIDS" Defense Media Activity system.



Greetings to Sgt. 1st Class Brad Dunsbergen from Colfax, Iowa. Back home he works full-time for the Iowa National Guard. Dunsbergen is the maintenance platoon sergeant and you can find him in the motor pool with his mechanics while deployed to the Middle East. He is among more than 600 Soldiers deployed to U.S. Central Command's area of responsibility in support of Task Force Spartan and is more than halfway through a nine-month deployment.



Greetings to Sgt. Mark Tomshack, an all-source intelligence analyst deployed to the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility in support of Task Force Spartan. As an all-source analyst, Tomshack is tasked to assess the significance and reliability of incoming information with current intelligence. Back home in Duluth Minnesota, he recently graduated from The College of St. Scholastica is a Master of Business Administration.



Meet Sgt. Bradyn Ommodt who comes to us from Spicer, MN. He is going to school at St. Cloud State University and majoring in Nursing while living in Sartell, MN. He is currently deployed with the 34th Red Bull Infantry Division along with more than 600 Red Bull Soldiers serving in the U.S. Central Command's area of responsibility in support of *Task Force Spartan*. Ommodt is a signal systems support specialist for C Company Signal 34th ID and is pulled for manpower out to the Department of Logistics for the remainder of the deployment.



Say hello to Sgt. Katie Faye Henson, an automated logistical non-commissioned officer for the Red Bull Battalion. As the only slotted person with this job, Henson has taken it upon herself to cross-train 2 Soldiers to help lighten the work load. Her tasks include creating and maintaining the maintenance work orders and services needed for the Battalion equipment. Henson is a project manager for U.S. Bank and is the photographer for the Proud to Serve Business Resource Group at U.S. Bank.

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Major General Corell 34th ID Spring Newsletter Article 1 March 2019

Greetings 34th Infantry Division Association,

On behalf of the Division, I send our best wishes to you all from the Middle East. We hit the ground running as the Task Force Spartan Division Headquarters in October and things haven't slowed down since.

Our Red Bull Soldiers and leaders have already distinguished themselves and are receiving accolades from far and wide. **Leading Task Force Spartan's efforts involving theater**-wide partnerships through multinational operations and exercises has been a challenging, new and rewarding experience for the Division headquarters. The unique capabilities of the National Guard citizen Soldier are once again proudly on display.

One of the challenges I presented to our Soldiers as we prepared for this mission was to work on self-improvement in some form. This has been embraced at both the collective and individual level.

A number of our initiatives have focused on organizational improvement. We've held several Basic Leadership Course's while here in theater. This insures professional development and promotion opportunities for our enlisted Soldiers while deployed. By offering this course here, it helps us continue to build the health of our organization by developing our junior enlisted Soldiers during a time that they are already away from their family and their civilian jobs.

We recently completed a challenging Air Assault training course at Camp Buehring, Kuwait. 200 Soldiers completed the strenuous training, adding more Air Assault qualified warriors to our ranks.

In order to identify strong young leaders and grow our officer ranks, we encouraged interested enlisted personnel to attend "Green to Gold" commissioning information sessions. The response was overwhelming. 58 Red Bull Soldiers expressed interest in pursuing a commission and continuing their service to the Army National Guard as an officer.

This Task Force Spartan mission has also presented opportunities to grow as an organization. One of the ways we've evolved our operations to be more effective in this environment is in the development of our country team working groups. Relationships in the Middle East are the key facets to mission accomplishment, we saw an opportunity to adapt these teams to more effectively work with our host nation partners. We've brought together cross-functional teams from multiple staff sections to form a group of subject matter experts for each of the 9 countries we work with. This has allowed us to synthesize the strengths of our: training, operations, intel and plans personnel and others in order to take a holistic approach when working with each unique partner nation in this complex region.

Our Soldiers have been taking advantage of opportunities to better themselves while here individually and in small groups. A number of our Red Bulls will be working extra hours in the evenings and on weekends to achieve their German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge. This is a prestigious, physically demanding challenge administered by German military personnel here at Camp Arifjan.

Physical fitness is an important component of life in the Army and large numbers of our Soldiers are developing themselves physically while here. We have Soldiers training in martial arts such as jiu jitsu and Soldiers training at the base CrossFit gym in the early morning and late evening hours. Our runners have been participating in numerous distance races including a half-marathon and the recently completed the Taji 100 challenge in which they ran 100 miles in the month of February.

A number of Soldiers are developing their public speaking skills through the Camp Arifjan Toastmasters International Club. Others are volunteering their time through the Every Soldier an Ambassador program in which our troops get out into the community and work with civilians thru partnerships at the Kuwait Disabled Sports Club and children's hospitals.

We left the Midwest last fall with a seasoned Division headquarters staffed by competent, hardworking and capable professionals. We will return next summer with a more flexible, accomplished and experienced organization. Not to be overlooked or underappreciated, we will celebrate returning our Soldiers to their families, communities and employers with entirely new skill sets, experiences, capabilities and perspectives that could only be achieved during a challenging mission like Operation Spartan Shield.

Attack!

MG Ben Corell, CG, 34th ID/Task Force Spartan This year's 72nd Reunion of our Association is being hosted by Commanders Own Chapter Pres, Lowell Kruse on October 4-5 Oct 2019 at Camp Ripley, MN.

Camp Ripley is located 10 miles North of Little Falls MN on HWY 371, and is operated by the Minnesota National Guard. The Minnesota Military Museum and the USP&FO or the Minnesota National Guard are located at Cp Ripley. The 34th Infantry Division has units stationed at Camp Ripley.

THE ARRANGEMENTS

Lodging: Lodging is available on both Friday and Saturday evening at Camp Ripley or at any civilian Motel in Little Falls, MN.

Camp Ripley offers BOQ Rooms with Full size beds at \$27 to \$32 per night. The Camp Ripley billeting number is 320-616-3140. Please mention the 34th Inf Div Reunion and BOQ's House Rooms in Area 8, when making the call.

The Little Falls Country Inn and Suites has a block of 10 rooms reserved at \$139/night for the 34^{th} Inf Div Assn Reunion. Country Inn and Suites 320-632-1000.

Transportation:

All reunion visitors will have to drive by auto to Camp Ripley. There is no airport van transportation to and from the Minneapolis Airport.

Please keep in mind that you need to do two things in order to join us in Johnston:

- **Send in your** Reunion Registration the form is included in this newsletter at page 7. NLT 15 Sep 2019
- Make the Hotel reservation NLT: 15 Sep 2019

Final details and any updated information will be posted to our 34th Association website (http://www.34ida.org)

THE PROGRAM

Registration:

The registration fee for the two day conference will cover the Friday Evening dinner, the Saturday Banquet and soft drinks & snacks. The Registration Fee, for the two day event, Fri & Sat is \$65, to be paid with the pre registration, or upon arrival at the Reception. Single day reservation is \$20 for Friday only & \$45 for Saturday only.

Friday Afternoon and Evening-October 4th

All are invited for the Kick Off event of the Reunion. Join us for the "Gathering of the Red Bulls" at the Valhalla Hall building. Enter Camp Ripley at the Front Main Gate and ask the Security Guard for directions to Valhalla.

We will start with refreshments at 4 PM and a sit down Pork Sandwich Dinner after refreshments. The Registration Table will be open from 4 to 6 P.M. in the Valhalla Hall. All the Friday activities will be covered by the registration fee. A No Host Bar is available.

This time will be spent with meeting old friends and making new friends into the evening.

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Saturday, October 5th,

Saturday activities will start at 0900 hrs (9 AM) with a Camp Ripley Briefing by BG Lowell Kruse, which will be followed by a bus tour of the cantonment area and Down Range training areas of the post.

After the tour, all attendees will assemble at the Hanger Conference Center, Bldg 8-195, for lunch which will be provided as part of the Registration Fee.

The Saturday afternoon events will start with the Association Annual Business Meeting of our organization which includes: the presentation and approval of reports, elections, and old & new business.

The second event of the afternoon will be a presentation by MSG Daniel Ewer on the recent "Task Force Spartan," 34th Inf Div HQ's and Support Battalion deployment to Kuwait.

The final afternoon activity will start at 2 PM with a tour of the Minnesota Military Museum with special 34th Infantry Division exhibits.

Saturday Evening, will be our last formal gathering of this reunion. At 4:30 P.M. we will gather for refreshments with a No Host Bar. At 6:00 P.M. we will join together for the posting of the colors and the 34th Infantry Division Memorial Service to honor our deceased comrades & members.

Dinner at 6:30, (paid thru the Sat reservation fee.)
After recognition of our guests, we will feast on a Banquet dinner and then enjoy an address by the keynote speaker, Andy Biggio who will come to us from Boston.

Reunion Pocket Program

Friday, 4 October

3:00 PM Early Registration Check- at the Valhalla Hall

4:00 to 8:00 PM Reception at Valhalla Bldg 13-71, Soda, Coffee . & No Host Bar, (Sit Down Sandwich Dinner will be . served) All cost covered by Registration fee.

Saturday, 5 October

7:30 AM President / Association Officer Meeting – Snack Bar

9:00 AM Camp Ripley In Brief. Environmental Rm, Bldg 11-1

10:00 AM Camp Ripley Tour of Cantonment and Training Ranges

11:30 AM Lunch at Bldg 8-195 Hanger Conference Center

12:00 PM 34th Inf Div Assn. Business Meeting, Hanger Center
 1:00 PM Briefing: 34th Inf Div Task Force Spartan, Kuwait
 Speaker – MSG Daniel Ewer

2:00 PM Minnesota Military Museum & 34th Infantry Exhibit

3:30 PM Personal Time, Quarters / PX

4:30 PM Pre Banquet Social (No Host Bar) Hanger Center 6:00 PM Posting of the Colors, 34th Inf Div Color Guard

6:00 P.M. 34th Inf Div Assn Memorial Service Hanger Center 6:30 P.M. 34th Infantry Division Assn. Reunion Dinner Banquet, Guest Speaker, Mr. Andy Biggio

<u>Sunday, 6 October</u> No Activities—Thanks- Travel Safe.

34TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

2019 REUNION REGISTRATION FORM - CELEBRATING 72 YEARS

Friday P.M., October 4 th thru Saturday	<u>October :</u>	<u>5''', 2019</u>	
NAME			
SPOUSE/GUEST(S)			
ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
HOME PHONE ()			
E-MAIL	 UN	IT OF ASSIGNMENT	
PLEASE LIST ANY SPECIAL NEEDS UPO			
REGISTRATION FEE (FRIDAY & SATUR Sandwich Dinner. And, Saturday Noon Lunch, Associa (Alcoholic beverages will be available at a No Host Bar) NUMBER OF PERSONS X \$65.00 = FRIDAY ATTENDANCE ONLY For Friday Hos (Alcoholic beverages will be available at a No Host Bar)	ation Meeting.) = TOTAL pitality Table	Banquet Dinner, Hospitality Tal	ble Snacks & Beverages.
NUMBER OF PERSONS X \$20.00 =			
SATURDAY ATTENDANCE ONLY For Noon Center, Hospitality Table snacks & Beverages. (Alcohol	Lunch, Asso	ciation Meeting, Banquet Dinner	
NUMBER OF PERSONS X \$45.00	= TOTAL		
PLEASE RETURN REUNION REGISTRATION AND CHECK \$\$ BY U.S. MAIL TO:	FORM	34 TH INFANTRY DIVISION AS 7105 N.W. 70 TH AVE, BLDG JOHNSTON, IOWA 50131-3	3692
HOTEL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE Camp Ripley Post BOQ Reservations must be Request Area 8 -BOQ Rooms w/ Double Full	e made with	n Camp Ripley Billeting #	
The Little Falls Country Inn and Suites, room	s reserved	at \$139/night. # 320-632	2-1000
Treasurer: LTC (Ret) Mike Musel E-mail: mic	hael.musel@	<u>iowa.gov</u> Gold Star Museur	n 515-252-4531
The National Acting Secretary is COL (Ret) Russ Bierl. His E National Association WEB Site is http://www.34ida.or A newsletter is sent to current members three times a year! The Iowa Gold Star Military Museum maintains an office for	rg Phon by U.S. mail. A	e No 515-252-4531 or email gold Il newsletters are shown on the Ass	sociation WEB site.