

34th Infantry Division Association

7105 NW 70th Ave
Johnston, IA 50131

Fall 2012 Issue -
The 34th ID Assn. newsletter is
published three times a year.

Association WEB Page:
www.34infdiv.org



34th Infantry Division Reunion Held in Johnston, IA

The 2012 Reunion of the 34th Infantry Division Association Was hosted by the Des Moines Chapter of the association on October 5-6, 2012 in Johnston, Iowa at the Stoney Creek Inn.

The new president elected by the 34th Infantry Division Association is COL Ben Corell, who recently left command of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team to assumed the duties of Assistant Division Commander of the 34th Infantry Division. The 1st Vice President is COL Steve Osborn and the 2nd VP is COL Steve Bosen. The new three year trustees are BG (Ret) Mark Zirklebach, COL (Ret) Curly Ron Albrecht, MAJ Jason Burley and CSM Joel Arnold.

We had a total of 55 members and guests attend the 34th Infantry Division Reunion Banquet. The main speaker at the reunion was the current Command Sergeant Major of the 34th Infantry Division, CSM Joel Arnold. CSM Arnold previously had served as CSM of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team and prior to that, CSM of the 1-133rd Infantry (Iron Man) Battalion. CSM Arnold last deployed with the 2nd BCT to Afghanistan. Seven WWII combat veterans of the 34th Infantry Division were given special recognition at the banquet.

CSM Joel Arnold spoke to the reunion attendees about service to our nation, about the responsibilities of being a soldier and the importance of the support of the families. He talked about what led him to be a soldier and discussed some of the experiences he has had during his years of service.

During the 34th Infantry Division Association business meeting it was announced that we now have a new Chapter of the association organized in Rosemount, Minnesota at the 34th Infantry Division Headquarters. The new chapter will be known as the "Commanders Own Chapter." MAJ Jason Burley gave a report on the activities of the chapter. Plans are in the works for the chapter to host the 2014 reunion in the Minneapolis area.

The dates for the 2013 Reunion are now set for 11-12 Oct 2013 at the Johnston Stoney Creek Inn. During the eleven years of the "War on Terror" the 34th ID elements have had four major deployments of our units to Iraq and Afghanistan as well as numerous mobilizations for Nobel Eagle support for homeland security and defense. We plan a special welcome back for these soldiers and their families at the next reunion. Watch for news on this in the Winter issue of the newsletter.

COL Curly Albrecht gave a special thanks to our fellow association member, Charles E. Sens, Company L, 3rd Battalion, 168th Infantry Regiment, from Marion, Ohio, who could not attend the reunion, but gave a special financial support gift \$\$ to make the reunion a success. Thank You Charles.

See newsletter pages 3, 4, 6, and 7 for more on reunion.



CSM Joel Arnold - CSM. 34th Infantry Division

Command Sergeant Major Joel M. Arnold is assigned as Command Sergeant Major of the 34th "Red Bull" Infantry Division, headquartered in Rosemount, Minnesota. He entered military service as a member of the Indiana National Guard in September of 1980.

Command Sergeant Major Arnold has served on active duty in the 8th Infantry Division and the 82nd Airborne Division, as an Army Reservist with the 3rd Infantry Regiment, and as a National Guardsman in Illinois, Minnesota, and Iowa. He was a member of the Iowa National Guard for 16 years.

In April of 2003, CSM Arnold mobilized and deployed to Sinai, Egypt as part of the Multinational Force and Observer (MFO) mission. In 2005 to 2007, he deployed to Iraq as Command Sergeant Major of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry on a historically long deployment to Iraq with the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 34th Infantry Division. In 2010 he mobilized and deployed to Afghanistan as Command Sergeant Major of the 2nd BCT, 34th Infantry Division. His military education includes Basic Airborne, Air Assault, U.S. Army Ranger Course and all levels of NCO education. He completed the non-resident Sergeant Major's course in 2008.

CSM Arnold received a Bachelor of Science degree Northern Illinois University in 1989. He holds professional certificates in public accounting, management accounting, and production and inventory control. He works for the 3M Company in Saint Paul, Minnesota.

Note from the 34th Infantry Division Assn. President

Greetings to our entire Red Bull family.

Nov 2012

I begin my first correspondence as your new Association President by saying thank you to our Past Association President Ron "Curly" Albrecht and his wife Janice for their service to our country and our association. For the past two years Curly's passion for this association as our president has moved us forward and has us postured for continued future success as an organization. Well done Curly and Janice.

For those of you who do not yet know me, I have been a proud member of the 34th Infantry Division since it was re-activated. I grew up in the 1-133rd Ironman Battalion, have served with both the 1st and 2nd Brigade Combat Teams of the 34th ID, and I am now assigned to the 34th Division Headquarters. I work fulltime for the Iowa National Guard managing Camp Dodge. My wife and I have three sons, all who have served our nation as Red Bulls. I am honored to serve as the Association President for the next 12 months and will work to keep our organization healthy and strong.

We do have challenges that face us as an organization, as many of you know our Tri-State Chapter recently cased its colors and retired the long standing chapter. The ageing of the population of the membership with limited ability to grow new members has led the Tri-State Chapter to this point. We will absorb the remaining members of this Chapter into our ranks with open arms and move forward.

I also know that we have a great opportunity as an association but only if we are able to harness the potential that exists for our organization. We have thousands of potential new members that have served as Red Bulls and are part of the next "Greatest Generation". We welcomed a new 34th ID Association Chapter at the reunion this year. MG Elicerio the 34th Division Commander recently initiated the "Commander's Own" Chapter of the 34th Division Association out of the Rosemount Armory. Thank you Major Burley for your efforts to get the administrative work completed and the new chapter officially recognized. We are happy to have you on board and look forward to the possibility of the "Commanders Own" hosting a National Reunion in the future.

I know that our future as a viable and healthy association depends on our ability to define our organization and what we are all about to these younger Red Bulls. We need to clearly define why it is beneficial to them to join the ranks of our organization, and then we need to get out and tell them why. We must respect the traditions and honor those who have gone before us that have made our organization what it is today. My goals are to work to achieve this balance of who we always have been, what we stand for today, and where we see ourselves going over the next 5 years. I know that I will need your help to be successful.

I truly look forward to serving the Red Bulls as your association president this coming year. Don't forget to keep up with all our activities on Facebook.

ATTACK!

COL Ben Corell
34th ID Association President,
benjamin.corell@us.army.mil cell: 515-657-3821

34th Inf Div Final Roll Call

Katsumi Hanada, 100th Inf, 34th ID
Ken Miya, 100th Inf, 34th ID
Vincent Vanderah, 34th ID
James L. Metcalf, B 100th Inf, 34th ID
Sadamu Daida, B 100th Inf, 34th ID
Kenneth T. Yoshiura, A 100th Inf, 34th ID
Roy H. Kitaoka, D 100th Inf, 34th ID
Steve P. Brinza, 34th ID
George F. Leininger, H 168th Inf, 34th ID
Paul F. Tweedy, 34th ID
Dr. Harold F. Muschamp, 34th ID
Mack Cunningham, HQ 168th Inf, 34th ID
Gordon W. Cunningham, 151 FA, 34th ID
Thomas A. Teale, Jr, HQ 34th ID
John W. MacDonald, 34th MP Co, 34th ID
Benjamin S. Yamada, B 100th Inf, 34th ID
Dean Roepke, 133rd Inf, 34th ID
Howard R. Sas, 34th ID
Harold D. Evans, 34th ID
Jasper M. Pratt, Co E, 168th Inf, 34th ID
Ronald L. Meyer, 34th ID
Gene C. Mallette, K, 168th Inf, 34th ID
Masao Sato, C 100th Inf, 34th ID
Eugene Rittman, 34th ID
James Griffiths, Co E, 133rd Inf, 34th ID
Rodney Hayden, 34th Cav Rcn, 34th ID
Andrew Nishino, A 100th Inf, 34th ID
Shigeru Monguchi, C 100th Inf, 34th ID
Hiroo Furuya, D 100th Inf, 34th ID
SSG Jeff J. Larson, 1/125 FA, 34th ID
CW2 Richard L. Webb, HQ, 34th ID
Charles F. Sweeney, 133rd Inf, 34th ID
Robert F. Manke, 133rd Inf, 34th ID
Frank Hoff, 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

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

Email: michael.musel@iowa.gov

Secretary: COL (Ret) Russ Bierl

E-mail: bierlhome@msn.com

Association Website www.34infdiv.org

Historian: Pat Skelly 508-524-3948

E-mail: webmaster@34infdiv.org

Facebook Webmasters

Ashlee Lolkus, Herman Poggensee

66th Planned Reunion 11-12 October 2013 Johnston, IA

Facebook 34th Inf Div Assn: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/34th-Infantry-Division-Association/168699226545671>

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

Also Follow the 2-34th Red Bulls at! <http://www.dvidshub.net/units/2-34IBCT> <http://www.twitter.com/IowaRedBulls>
<http://www.flickr.com/IowaRedBulls> <http://www.iowaredbulls.org>

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

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



L to R: Melissa Baker and her father William Baker (185th FA) gather together for a drink with Larry Lewer and Mike Beaman (1-168th Inf Bn). They attended the Friday social at the Stoney Creek Inn in Johnston, Iowa for the 65th Reunion of the 34th Division Association.

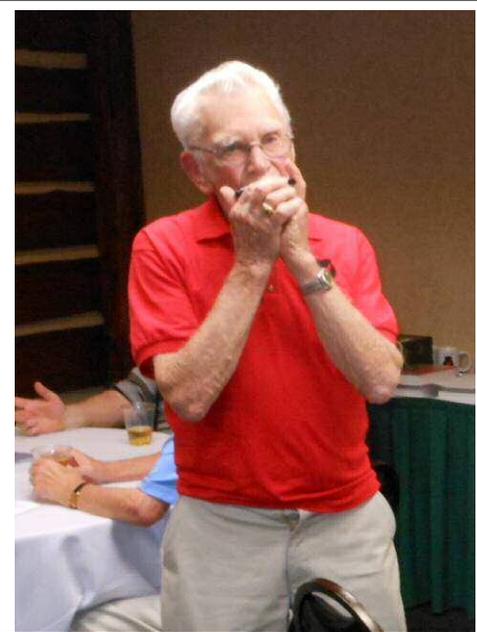


Mildred FencI, Darlene Smith and Audrey Green gather together for a group photo at the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum at Camp Dodge. They have been to many reunions together. Bless You!

Photos of the 65th Annual Reunion of the 34th Infantry Division Association



Congressman Tom Latham stopped by prior to the start of the 34th Infantry Division Association's business meeting to make a presentation to current and former command teams of the 2nd BCT 34th Infantry Division. Congressman Latham read the letter of accomplishment highlighting the BCT's recent selection for the Citizen Patriot Award. Congressman Latham had recently entered the document into the Congressional Record, and now has presented it to the 2nd BCT. Pictured from left to right: CSM Joel Arnold, CSM Wille Adams, Col Ben Corell, Col Mike Amundson, and Congressman Tom Latham.



Ben Krall, World War II soldier from the 2nd Battalion, 133rd Infantry, from Charles City, Iowa plays the harmonica at the reunion. Ben has treated us every year with his many tunes that he plays. Ben has told us he did not learn to play the harmonica until he was over 60 years of age.



The seven WWII Veterans who attended the 2012 reunion are shown in this photo. L to R. Stanley Vomacka - 135rd Inf, Jerry Barnett - 168th Inf, William Baker - 185 FA Bn, Ben Krall 133rd Inf, Charley Wise - 133rd Inf, Joe Boitnott - 168th Inf, and Warren Milner - 133rd Inf. Five of the seven World War II soldiers had been awarded the Purple Heart. Four had been mobilized with the National Guard in 1941.

65th Annual 34th Infantry Division Association Reunion



1LT Tod Lucas and MAJ Aaron Bougher briefed the 65th Annual Reunion participants on the operations of the 133rd Infantry and 168th Infantry Battalions during their Afghanistan deployment.



Stanley Vomacka is shown holding the 34th Infantry Division Colors with Battle Streamers. The streamer for Anzio is the battle where Stanley was wounded in action with the 135th Infantry.

**34th Infantry Division Association
Newly Elected Officers and Trustees 2012-13**

President	COL Ben Corell
1 st VP	COL Stephen Osborn
2 nd Vice Pres	LTC Stephen Boesen
1 Year Trustees:	Pat Skelly Maj Ed Graybill Hal Turner David McChesney
2 Year Trustees:	LTC Stephen Boesen, COL David Visser, BG Craig Bargfrede, SFC Ashlee Lolkus
3 Year Trustees:	BG (Ret) Mark Zirkelbach COL Ron Curly Albrecht MAJ Jason Burley CSM Joel Arnold
Secretary	Russell Bierl
Treasurer	Michael Musel
SGT at Arms	Mildred Fencel
Historian/Web Site	Pat Skelly
Chaplain	Steve Cunningham



Pat Skelly at the Red Bull Bar

Pat Skelly visited the Red Bull Bar at Little Falls, MN on Oct 3rd. The reason for the stop was to visit the Minnesota Military Museum at Camp Ripley for research on the World War II combat records of the 135th Infantry Regiment. Pat serves as the Senior Historian and Web Master for the 34th Infantry Division Association. Pat's father, Lt Col Walter J. Skelly, commanded the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry in Italy during the later part of WWII. Pat was able to scan the Combat Operations Reports of the 135th Infantry which will soon be available on the associations WEB Site. The Minnesota Military Museum has an excellent series of exhibits on the 34th Infantry Division from WWI thru WWII as well as an exhibit for the deployments for the War on Terror. Please check the Web Site for the Summer and Winter hours of the museum at Cp Ripley. <http://www.34infdiv.org> The museum curator, Maj (Ret) Doug Bekke can be reached at 320-632-7374.

**34th Infantry Division Association
Facebook Pages**

The 34th Infantry Division Assn. has an active Facebook site. We hope the Facebook page will assist soldiers in maintaining contact and recruiting new members for the association.

The URL for the 34th ID Assn. National page is here: <https://www.facebook.com#!/pages/34th-Infantry-Division-Association/168699226545671>

The URL for the Des Moines Chapter 34th page is here: <https://www.facebook.com#!/pages/34th-Infantry-Division-Association-Des-Moines-Chapter/246653428705992>

We encourage all Red Bull Soldiers who have a Facebook account to log on and share their stories with friends who share their common interests. This can be a site where you may be able to track down a buddy or report updates to your military career.



Red Bulls Receive Soldiers Medal

Three Soldiers from the 1/94th Cavalry Squadron were presented the Army Soldiers Medal Award on September 22nd at Camp Ripley, MN. SSG Nicholas Purkat, SPC Christopher Edwards and SGT Shawn Schmidt (shown L to R) were recognized for their service in Iraq on Nov 11th 2011, when they pulled Iraqi civilians from the burning wreckage of two civilian vehicles after they had collided. The 34th Infantry Division soldiers were in Iraq as part of Operation New Dawn. The awards were presented by Under Secretary of the Army Dr. Joseph Westphal and COL Eric Kerska, former commander of the 1st Brigade Combat Team, (BCT), 34th Inf Div. Also in attendance at the ceremony was General John "Jack" Vessey, former Chief of Staff of the Army, who served with the 151 Field Artillery, 34th "Red Bull" Infantry Division in Italy during WWII.



Herman Poggensee, the Des Moines Chapter President of the 34th Infantry Division Association, speaks to other association members at the 65th Annual Reunion at the Stoney Creek Inn Oct. 5. Red Bull veterans from across the nation came to Johnston, Iowa, to attend the annual event. "Poggy," as his friends call him, served in the 2- 133rd Inf Bn. (Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Ashlee Lolkus, 34th Infantry Division Public Affairs)

34th Infantry Division Association Reunion

Camp Ripley Minnesota Memorialization Board

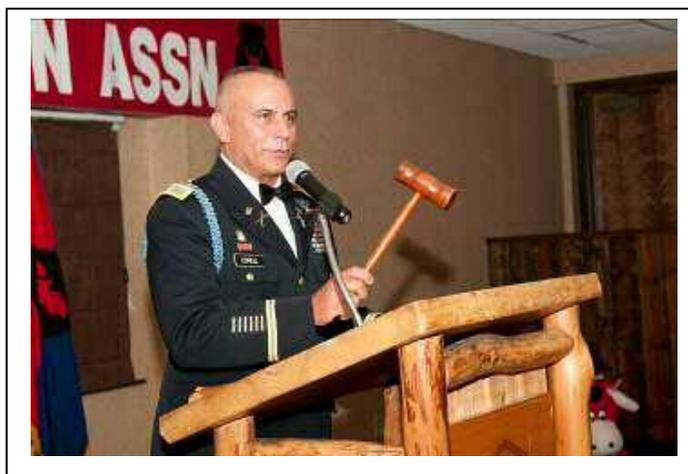
Maj Gen (Ret) Rodney Hannula, Chairman of the National Guard's Camp Ripley Memorialization Board, announced the board is taking applications for possible candidates to be inducted into the Court of Honor Induction Program at Camp Ripley, MN. Nominations must be received by 1 April 2013. (Nominations received after this date will be retained for future consideration.) All Nominations will be forwarded to the MN Adjutant General with recommendations from the Memorialization Board for review and/or approval NLT April 15th. Approvals will be returned to Memorialization Board NLT May 15th. A Court of Honor Induction Ceremony will take place on Sunday, 6 October 2013 at Camp Ripley, MN.

Please contact Ms. Kathy M. Radzej for the proper format of the application for submission.

Nominations can be E-mailed to Ms. Kathy M Radzej at kathy.radziej@us.army.mil or they can be sent by U.S. mail to: Department of Military Affairs, ATTN: Chief of Staff Office, 20 12th Street West, St. Paul, MN 55155-2004



Minnesota National Guard Maj. Jason Burley, the Public Affairs Officer for the 34th Infantry Division, announces the establishment of a new chapter for the 34th Infantry Division Association at the 65th Annual Reunion at the Stoney Creek Inn Oct. 5. What is to be known as "The Commander's Own Chapter" will be the first association chapter located in Minnesota in over 20 years. Red Bull veterans from across the nation came to Johnston, Iowa, to attend the 65th annual event. (Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Ashlee Lolkus, 34th Infantry Division Public Affairs)



Minnesota National Guard Col. Ben Corell, Assistant Division Commander of the 34th Infantry Division, pounds to gavel to adjourn the 34th Infantry Division Association's 65th Annual Reunion Oct. 6 at the Stoney Creek Inn of Johnston, Iowa. Red Bull veterans from across the nation came to Johnston, Iowa, to attend the annual event. Col Corell reminded all current and past Red Bull 34th Infantry Division soldiers they are invited to attend the 66th annual Reunion of the Association next year at the same site during the dates of 11-12 October, 2013. Information about upcoming event for the 34th Inf Div Assn. can be found at the associations Face Book Page and WEB Site:

<http://www.34infdiv.org>

34th Div Red Bull Association Celebrates 65 years

By SFC Ashlee Lolkus, 34th Inf Div Public Affairs

Red Bull Soldiers and supporters gathered during the 34th Infantry Division Association's 65th Annual Reunion hosted by the Des Moines, IA, Chapter at the Stoney Creek Inn in Johnston, Iowa, Oct. 5-6.

The association, originally established in 1946 shortly after World War II, was a grass-roots organization started by young men who fought together in North Africa, Tunisia, Anzio and other battlefields during the war. Through the years, Red Bulls across the country have gathered annually to reminisce of old times with comrades sharing stories of their service to get a chuckle, or haunting stories of the battlefields on which they once fought.

"I joined in '93. I didn't even know there was an association," said Iowa National Guard Col. Ron Albrecht, outgoing president of the association. "The first reunion I attended was in Waterloo, Iowa, with the Ironman chapter where over 3,000 participants attended at the Sullivan Center. The speaker was Gen. John Vessley, who was the Army Chief of Staff of the Army. I learned more about the history of the 34th Infantry during that reunion than I ever knew existed."

During Albrecht's time as President, he worked to get today's Red Bull generation interested in the association. Nearing the end of his own military service, Albrecht hopes the association can continue to serve our past and present Red Bull Soldiers.

"This new generation needs to carry on the tradition," he said. The purpose of the association is to take care of Red Bull soldiers: where they are, where they are going, how their families are... Many Soldiers get out and miss the camaraderie. That is where the association comes in, the Iraq war veteran explained. He said, "This is way for them to be a part of the military. It's not about rank. It's about us... as soldiers."

World War II Red Bull veteran, Ben Krall, of Charles City, Iowa, shares the Red Bull pride with many reunion attendees.

"So many divisions never had reunions, but not the 34th," Krall said with a slight smirk as he reminisced of past reunions. Krall, who served as an ammunition truck driver in Company F, 2-133rd Infantry Regiment, said he was honored to wear the unit patch. Krall served with many units throughout the war and even participated in the invasion of Italy, but his loyalty was always with the Red Bulls. "I still want to do something, to do my part," he said. "I joined because I wanted to. I love the division for all they have done: Twenty-one won The Medal of Honor, for all those that passed before me, for what these warriors went through, for their bravery. Oh, they were tops!"

Regrettably, World War II Red Bulls are becoming more sparse at reunions. This year there were seven World War II veterans in attendance. The generation is becoming so sparse that the Tri-State Chapter of the association announced their deactivation during the reunion. The Tri-State Chapter, based out of Amsterdam, N.Y., served the Red Bull veterans located throughout the East Coast.

Where one falls, another will pick up. During the association's official business meeting, Minnesota National Guard Maj. Jason Burley, the 34th Inf. Div. public affairs officer, announced the establishment of the Commander's Chapter, which is the first active chapter in Minnesota for nearly 20 years. In addition to the establishment of the new chapter, Burley motioned the Commander's Chapter to host the reunion scheduled for 2014.

"The Minnesota Chapter of the 34th Inf. Div. Assoc. is very excited to be the host of the 2014 reunion," Burley announced. "We are very much looking forward to providing a world class event and following the precedent set by the Des Moines chapter."

"Soldiers of the 34th Inf Div, and the issues that affect them will be the driving force behind the activities and priorities of the Minnesota Chapter. We're excited about the future of the chapter."

Red Bulls and Red Bull supporters nation-wide are encouraged to participate in association activities in order to build camaraderie and support past and present members and their families. Individuals interested in becoming members can visit the association website at 34infdiv.org to obtain registration materials.

The 34th Infantry Division Association can also be found on Facebook at www.facebook.com/34InfDivAssoc.



Ashlee Lolkus, a 34th Infantry Division Red Bull Combat Veteran, who had served with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team in Afghanistan, is awarded the 34th Infantry Division Association Bronze Medallion and Certificate by COL Ron "Curly" Albrecht.

34th Infantry Division National Membership Application Form

NOTE: If your address Label shows (L), (W), or (3) 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
- () 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.

The National Secretary is COL (Ret) Russ Bierl. His E Mail address is bierlhome@msn.com The National Association WEB Site is <http://www.34infdiv.org/index.html> 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 newsletter 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 2011

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 (red)	\$12.00		
34 th Red Bull Window Decal	\$2.00	34 th Div Red Bull Neck Tie	\$8.00
34 th Red Bull Jacket Size _____	\$30.00	34 th Div Red Bull Flag (3X5')	\$65.00
34 th Red Bull Coffee Mug	\$6.00	Red Bull Memo Pads, 50 Sheet	\$2.00
34 th Infantry Division Medallion (3" dia. x 1/4"- Scene from Winter Line Fighting-front & Inscription-back)			\$25.00



*Add \$5.00 for shipping any ITEM

Sub Total \$ _____
 Shipping \$ _____
 Total \$ _____
 Name: _____

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

Street Address _____ City _____ ZIP _____

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