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Greetings, good friends,

Easter rode out on the wind here in St. Louis. It was really breezy, and threatening, but no harm came of all the bluster. Our family met at Nancy's (daughter) house, next door to mine, and we all enjoyed a brunch late in the morning. The kids did their egg hunting indoors, and I wonder why they found all the "hidden" eggs.

My son John loves those puffy baby chicks. He always steals the kids, when he can, but by now gets several helpings of the things from his siblings. To me, they are tasteless, but he sure likes the things. (Peeps)

Clair Schneider called earlier this week, and was very gracious in his praise of the last issue. We talked about everything in general, but got few specifics on the table. His son is considering buying into the Kennebunkport property which he rents on occasion, as the owner is contemplating selling the unit. He does enjoy the scenery, the climate, and the area in general.

He is feeling well at present, and has no new vices to report.

Clair tells me that his mail from the Leggett Helpmate has been returned. Does not know what to make of it, and nothing sinister is put on the return, so he just doesn't know what to make of it. If anyone out there is in touch with Leggett, please send his current locate, so that we may reconnect with him.

Last visit he assured me that he would give me the scoop on the Stensbergs. He was going to call them, but had not to this point, and would do so immediately after we hung up. Will again promise you to relay his findings on those nice people.

Now this is for the west coast brigade. I saw some articles up for auction on the internet, and thought I would bid on them. They were the Mhing Game card sets, and they were very

costly the last time I bought them. That was years ago, and I have seen nary a set for sale since then. I put in some moderate bids, and I was able to corner about 6 or so sets for our use in Holiday. I know the Crismonds will be glad, because I do not think they would try to be so foolish as I was, and get into a bidding session. Anyhow, we are set for our lifetimes, and with care we can Mhing our way out of the world.

I received a returned newsletter from Fred Beltz. I could not find any problems on the address, except that I made Mount Wolf, Mt. Wolf and I changed that and sent another to Fred. I hope that all is well there. In the past, this usually meant that they were in the hospital, had a retired or assisted living change, and the like. Will report later.

Lorene Althoff, one of our Southern Illinois widows typed a note, and sent a donation for the kitty. Lorene is nearly 96, and going strong. She claims some arthritis, but which of us doesn't, and we're not 96.

Lorene tells me that she got a call from the granddaughter of Howard Dearborn recently, and told her that Howard had died last summer. Howard's wife apparently has received some aging problems, as the g'daughter didn't believe that Florence realized that Howard was gone. I have no idea as to Howard's medical problems, but certainly hate to have missed the news of his passing.

Lorene has learned to say NO to lots of things lately, but still gets around with walking aids, medication, and will power. She puts out a small garden, grows flowers, She did not get to go fishing this year, and surely misses that diversion. She hears occasionally from Virgil Pugh, and hopes that he puts out his

usual garden, because she occasionally got some delicious tomatoes and cucumbers from him.

The weather has been atrocious. We have had few significant problems in St. Louis, but all the surrounding areas have been plagued by tornadoes, hail, flooding, and the like. The world seems to be a different place since we humans have decided to rule Mother Nature.

I just got a note from Margaret Nightingale with news that she has a new address. It is:

3 Vista View Dr.

Fairport, NY 14450-4009

She has a new house, and is in the never ending task of making it habitable.

Margaret now is teaching full time, and has a part-time service oriented job. She has hopes of being able to attend some of our functions when she retires in a couple of years.

They have been having bad wintry weather in NY, and an ice storm really disabled them a week or so ago. She enjoys getting the newsletter, and still enjoys hearing about some of the members she got to know.

Thank you for the new address, Margaret.

I received a letter from Keith Dearborn, who is reporting that his dad, Howard, died from natural causes last August 2. Howard is survived by his wife, Florence, a daughter, Denise, and by Keith, a son, four grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. Keith tells me that he was a veteran, having served in Germany and in Vietnam in the 3rd Armored, and the 25th Inf. Division. Grandson, Kyle is currently a member of the National Guard. As I mentioned earlier, Lorene Althoff had clued me in on the fact of Howard's death, but knew none of the particulars. Another one of our members has gone. Thank you for the report, Keith. We all knew Howard well, and enjoyed his contacts earlier in his life.

Mother's Day came through with lovely, but cool, weather. The sun was out all day, and the trip to Jefferson Barracks Military Cemetery was uneventful. There were more people than I expected. Many of the burials there are wives of veterans, and many families would be visiting on this special day. On Memorial Day,

the Boy Scouts will put flags on all the graves, and my grandson likes this duty as he always catches his grandma's grave first. All the kids in my group had their own families to take care of, so I fixed up my TV dinner, and was glad to be feeling fine, and getting around as well as I do.

On the 17th, I went with son John to the graduation of his son, Michael from college. He majored in business administration, and had a second major in computer science, so he is going to be able to pursue several directions in the future. The trip to Cape Girardeau was uneventful, and the graduation was lengthy, but a necessary evil in the scheme of things. Michael has to take one more course on the advice of his upcoming employer, and that will be done before he returns to St. Louis in June. Mike's fiancée has already secured employment in St. Louis in the health delivery field, and the kids will be married in August, I think. I hope.

I got a call from George and Dorothy Ralcewich early on Monday AM. Dorothy has had some surgery in the neck region to remove a defective thyroid gland, and seems to be doing very well at this time. She will have to be watched closely for a while to see how much of the thyroid extract she will need, but the outlook is super good for her. George is keeping up with his golfing buddies, and is feeling good at this moment in time.

He has developed a family wedding problem just before reunion time, and I assured him that he could handle both these occurrences, and be present with us in New Orleans. He has seen the Hartleys lately, and thinks Bill is doing well with the care he is getting, and altho he is not in the drivers seat, he does get around. He never fails to tell anyone who will listen that he and his buddies were in WWII, and gets lots of good wishes from his audience.

Dorothy has a bit of a voice problem, what with the surgery, and I believe that will clear up in a bit of time. The scar from a thyroidectomy is nearly always perfect.

Thanks for the call, folks. It was good to hear from you. I will be down sometime in June, it looks like.

I received a call on the 29th from Steve Entile with news that his dad had died earlier in the

day. He had been poorly for some time, and had been suspected of having a degree of the Alzheimer Syndrome, but I had no idea that he was near death. Steve did not know of the arrangements as of this time, and was going to try to find Lloyd Lage and see if he could serve as pall bearer for his dad. He is going to send me the obit notice, and I will put it in this issue on one of the last pages. I am sending Patricia a letter of condolence from our group, and will add a check as a memorial from us. Another good Helpmate has gone.

I called Bob Rosen the next day to let him know of Pat's death. He knew that Pat was not in good condition, but did not suspect that his death was imminent. His family is going to make a trip to Japan in the near future, and Bob is not looking forward to tending his big house, but that is life. He is in good health, and enjoys himself much more than a 77 year old should. Bob sends regards to all the guys, and hopes to see them in New Orleans.

One of the couples I keep contact with just got back from New Orleans. They have oodles of family there, and an earlier relative built, and farmed one of the ante-bellum plantations in that area. They visited the War Museum, and enjoyed it very much. There are many exhibits connected with WWII, even though the emphasis was supposed to center on the Higgins Boats, which played a great part in the Normandy landings. I believe we will have a good reunion in October.

The group of veterans with whom I meet, "The Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge" had a ceremony at one of the local assisted living facilities, and presented them with an American Flag for their newly erected flagpole. The unit was activated 10 years ago, and it has about 600 members, many not active, and meets once a month for a get-together, and a general social contact. Many of the members are from the 26th Division, and this unit got some of the 284th who were transferred out in Dec., 1944. They did not know any of our men, but do remember the assimilation which took place. Several of our men were killed within days of their transfer. It takes time to become a combat infantryman, and the bullet with your name on it doesn't wait.

I would suggest to any of the Helpmates who might have a similar organization in the area that they look into joining. They have no political agenda, and do a lot of things to keep the memory of that battle alive. The meetings we have in this area is very close to the Jefferson Barracks Military Cemetery, and I visit Babe's gravesite, and my own when I go to the meetings.

I just received an E-mail from the General's grandson that Mrs. Sanders, Beat, had very recently died. He was not aware of any details, but will let me know when he gets to Oklahoma on Wednesday, for the funeral on Thursday. I have sent E-mails to many of the known members, and I will add more as I know more.

An answer to the above notice was received from Tony Brownlee, the grandson of Chester, our member from B Btry. He has moved to Salt Lake City to help care for his grandmother who has developed Alzheimers. He has many fond memories of chats he had with Chet about the war experiences, and he and his son may try to attend our upcoming reunion. His grandpa had many stories to tell, many of which involved our good buddy Bob Rosen. So we may have a surprise visitor in New Orleans. Would be a pleasure, to be sure.

His new address is: Tony Brownlee
2846 E. 4510 S.
Halliday, Utah, 84117

His phone # there is (801)424-1114

I received a nice note from Patricia Entile in today's mail. She thanked us for the memorial to Pat, and tells me not to be surprised if she and Steve show up at our reunions. We would welcome that, Pat, believe me. The Obit notice she sent will be placed on the last part of this issue. Lloyd Lage acted as one of the pall bearers at the service. Thanks, Lloyd.

Pat wishes to remain on the mailing list, and I will certainly keep her high on our list.

Thank you for the letter. Our deepest sympathy is with you on your great loss.

Have not heard from Peter Sanders as yet, and I am going to try to get this issue on the way in the next few days. I am going to an air show in mid-Missouri this week to see the big ones, and I will get it going after that.

I did not get Fred Beltz's bulletin returned,

so I guess you have to spell out the Mount as that in his address. The postal service is getting picky, I guess. They sure do require exact usage in the addresses. As I told you early in one of the bulletins, I addressed a parcel to my brother in Florida as 308 Clayton, and it was sent back as incorrect address. He lives at 309 Clayton. That is surely a "DUH" if I ever saw one. But Florida mail always used to take 3 or 4 days longer when I sent it as "bulk mail". I think it is better now.

I received a note from Alice Edwards with news that she has taken over the record for the number of pneumonia episodes. She has been hospitalized several times since last October, and finally has decided to get some better. She has given up writing, and many of the other diversions she enjoyed, but if she could not drive, or read, she would have to give it all up. She has been feeling better since April, and enjoys reading the bulletin. I have Bob down as HQ btry, Alice. Is that not true. You say he recognized many in "C" btry, and those are the names you remember best. I want to remedy it if he was not in HQ.

Thank you for the kind words, Alice, and a very special thanks for your kitty donation.

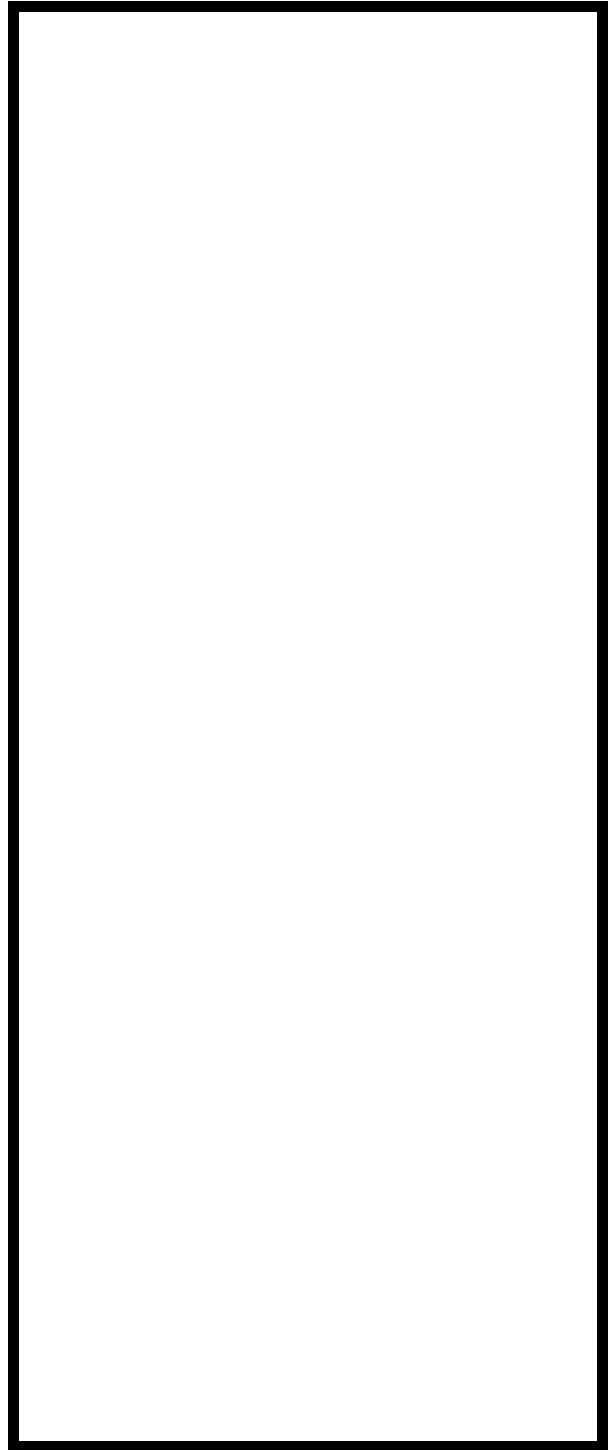
Just got back from Knob Noster, MO and an Air Force show. They continue to amaze me with their close maneuvers. Several passes of the "Stealth" were surprisingly sneaky, and the displays of numerous Air Force planes, and historic ones, were wonderful. They even had an old "Ozark Air Lines" plane on the display area, and that brought out many memories. It was well worth the sunburn I got, and the overeating I indulged in while on the trip.

I am planning going to Florida this weekend, so I want to add some more enticements concerning the reunion on the next pages. I will also put Pat Entile's Obit on this page, as promised.

So take care of yourselves, and try to work out a way that you can get down to New Orleans, and make this year's reunion a special one. We need YOU to be there.

Hang in there, and take care of yourselves.

As Ever
JBS



I am sorry, but pictures do not reproduce correctly in the copying process, but I needed to get this notice in this issue, I felt. JBS

REGISTRATION FORM
BRENT HOUSE
1512 JEFFERSON HIGHWAY
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70121

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: () - _____

ARRIVING: _____ DEPARTING: _____

Accommodations Desired: 2 Dbl Single 1 Queen

Special needs: _____ Smoking/Nonsmoking

Payment by: Cash Credit Card: MC VISA AMER. XP OTHER:

Credit Card # _____ Exp. _____

Reservation Deposit: AMT _____ Check _____ Money Order _____

Please reserve early. It does help the planners finalize their plans quicker.

There are very few reunions which remain. Future visits will probably be on the local level, with those in the area attending. Dave and Virginia Hawkins have made a personal trip to this facility, and feel that our group will be happy with the accommodations, and the available attractions.

Especial thanks to those who have sent in notes, or have called me personally. It does make the newsletter an easier chore to develop.

I will try to put out one more newsletter before reunion time, possibly 2. Depends on how much I galavant around the place.

Kitty still livable. Hope to gather a little moss at reunion time. That is, if I don't get behind a rolling stone. Try your best to find a way to get to New Orleans. I hope some of the widows and the families of our members will be there.

JBS

