



HELPMATE BULLETIN

Sept

28

2006

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Greetings, good folks,

I received the news of the death of one of our medics just after the last newsletter was wrapped up, and ready for mailing. Florence sent me the bad news of Harry's death. He had had some heart problems even while in service and seemed to do well. I was sorry to hear the bad news.

I sent Florence a note with our condolence, and invited her to remain on the roster as Harry's representative. I am certain that she knows that she has our sympathy, and our best wishes for her future.

Got an E-mail from Dick Bozzo on June 29. He had been in touch with Jeep Rafeld in the recent past, and was delighted to contact him after a long absence. Jeep still has a serious eye problem, and it will be with him as long as he lives. He and Gerry are taking it easy down in Florida. He reminded Dick that our last day in the US was on that same day, way back in 1944. He told Dick that he was fearing some glaucoma problems might catch up with him. I am glad to know that Dick reached Jeep. I had no luck on the last 2 visits, but I found out that the problem might have been my brother's phone connection. I will try again.

Received a note from a long standing friend of Fred Beltz , James Cauler, who tells me that Fred is now residing in an assisted living facility. He has been a sufferer from diabetes, and had the misfortune of getting some leg problems, and had to have his left leg removed just below the knee. He did well with physical therapy, and is getting along fine with his medical problems. He remains cheerful, and enjoys reminiscing about the time he had with Helpmate.

Fred's house will be sold soon, and he was

fortunate to be able to relocate in a fine facility.

He can be reached at the facility at:
Manor Care, Kingston Court
2400 Kingston Court
York, PA 17402 Room 211

Fred was 90 in May, and had been a regular until he developed his medical problems. All our prayers and good wishes go out to him.

The newsletter sent to Vernon Loafman was returned, as it was unable to be forwarded. If anyone knows of his new locate, let me know.

Got a letter from Bob Rosen on 6/20 with news that he was just returning from a trip to his Caribbean haunts. Sumico was in Italy with a daughter who was going there to visit with a granddaughter who is attending school in Italy. Bob loves tennis, but is having some difficulty keeping up with the ball, so he does some kayaking in the ocean. On this trip, tho, the sea was a little rough, so he did less of the arm labor than he usually does. He sent some fodder for the kitty, and many thanks for the thoughtful donation.

On July 1 I got a call from Bob Rosen, in answer to my request for information about Robert Fresele, one of our members. He tells me that Fresele was the supply sergeant in "B", and he knew him well. Robert was one of the members of the cadre which came from Hawaii for our training. John Wasilewski sure finds out a lot on the internet.

On 6/2 I received a welcome call from Clair Schneider. He is a delight to communicate with, and you never know what will come up in the conversation. He generally gives me some interesting topic to ponder over, and it usually is somehow connected with something which is happening in his family. Very

pleasant talks. Very.

I received an E-mail from Harvey Smith in June. He has had some medical problems, and on a visit to the VA facility, a small problem was found which the doctor believed required a course of treatment. He was advised to take two courses of the cure, and was placed on Oxygen to improve his breathing. He didn't care for the treatment, but is following orders, and will keep me posted as things settle down.

He and Ann hope to go East in September, to visit Herb and Betty, and the other relatives in the East. In the meantime, Ann's sister and some of their family will visit them as they take on the West.

Thanks for the news, Herb. Give me the good news in the next E-mail. Good luck with the doctors.

Got a letter in early August from Lester Lenker. He enjoys the newsletter, but does not care to read it in the high heat they have been having to endure in PA.

Les had a case of shingles, which fortunately was limited to his forehead. He is lucky that it wasn't all over, because it is very hard to handle in us old folks.

Lester and several other veterans of WWII were honored with an official medal given out to veterans. They had a short TV ceremony and were asked to give a short talk on their wartime duty. Les said that he got about 4 minutes of talk time, but they had some good food, and he appreciated the honor that was laid on them for their service.

He has been riding up a storm on his stationary bike. Has 6140 miles on it since it was new.

And he had his favorite cat die recently. He and Babe used to talk about their crop of cats.

Thanks for the letter, Lester. Stay healthy.

Got another call from Clair S. on August 14. He lectured me on the "Dog Whisperer" show on TV, and I had never watched it. But I shall, if it hits St. Louis. We talked about everything, as usual, and he is a pleasure to correspond with. We always end up winning the war again, and we are usually a little braver each visit. Thanks again for the calls, Clair. And I will pass on your wish to be remembered to all the Help-mates you know.

Received several E-mails from Dick Bozzo, and really like to hear from any of the group who are computer literate. I often see Ray Crismond on the internet, but I hate cutting in on Ray, as he usually does much of his genealogy work on the computer. Anyhow, thanks, Dick, keep sending.

And I received a call from George and Dorothy Ralcewich in August. They wish to invite me to invade the south, and spend some time in Riverside. We would probably hit the Casino in Tampa, and the boat which takes off from New Port Richey. I will do this, soon.

Things go well with George and Dorothy. The medical problem which plagues George seems to be under control, but he makes his regular visits to the VA facility there.

Clare called me on the 12th, and was unable to find the material which he got while in New Orleans 2 years ago. I had found the copies I made, and sent him a CD to improve his material on the 284th. He had recommended reading some on Major General John Woods, and I found precious little on his life, and even less on the 4th Armored Division, which he commanded. We had a short chat, nothing of which was critical, and he asked me, as he always does, to give his regards to all the fellows he knows.

Dick Bozzo sends items which he receives, and is a good correspondent on the internet. Some of the items I receive from other sources, but all are interesting. He was so glad to get in touch with Jeep Rafeld, and I am sure that he will continue the relationship.

Got an E-mail in July from Tony Kubasek. He tells me that his former home was about 50 feet from the Susquehanna River, and he was anxious to get away from the flood plain, and he made it in time to avoid the recent water problem which affected that area.

He had a quadruple bypass in the recent past, and has begun some cardiac rehab, and is beginning to feel like his old self. Thanks for the note, Tony.

I got another phone call from George Ralcewich in early September. He has been under care for a slight kind of blood loss, and it has become much less a problem. The doctors think that he might need a small transfusion at

times, but will watch his problem closely.

I have been reading some of the older newsletters, and in one of the earlier ones there was a mention of some maps made which showed the locations of all of our locations in Europe. I was never given, nor have I seen, any of these maps, and I wonder if any are in the dusty files of a Helpmate's possessions. If anyone who has such a map would copy it and send it to me I would be very appreciative. I have several lists of our locations, but so many of them were in tiny towns, they do not show up on the usual map. I had a great map of France and Germany at some time in the past, but I cannot locate it in any of the spots I have looked. The map may be much like the material I already have, but it warrants a look.

I got a call from Clair S. on the 16th. He had gotten my CD, and had already sampled some of the data located thereon. He is tickled pink on this, and he thinks that anyone out there who wants this, they should contact Clair, and he will be glad to tell them how to get same. It is strictly a computer oriented medium, and holds many of the photos made by John Wasilewski, Norb Obecny, and others. It also has a copy of our Helpmate Ready history, readable with Adobe Acrobat Reader. So if anyone wants this goodie, get in touch with Clair or me, and we will see that you get it.

Did I get that right, Clair?

I have another great grandson in September. Shelley, daughter Nancy's daughter had a big boy after having a few wrinkles during her pregnancy. She weighs about 90 pounds soaking wet, and had a 7# 7 Oz. boy. and had a rather easy labor. That makes 3 greats in the past year. Guess that is what old age is for. Counting blessings, and reaping relatives.

We have had a warmish summer, and an extremely dry one, here in St. Louis. A tornado or so breezed in, and gave us one spell when we had no electricity for nearly a week. My lights went back on in 2 days, but believe me, it was no fun. All of St. Louis lost power, and we had to rough it out, with a lot of grumbling.

I have been away from the travel lanes all summer. I have a few more little chores to get done, then I think I will pop down to Florida for a couple of weeks. I miss the dubious thrill of go-

ing lickety-split down the highway, and miss seeing my good friends down there. I have given up on the lawyers down there getting me my mobile home back from my non-paying renter. But I still like to make an appearance to aggravate my contacts down there.

I have been going to our local casino here in St. Louis for a month or so. They have oodles of "el-cheapo" machines, and they are just as much entertainment as the expensive ones. I suspect that they loosen up the nickel machines, and let you win, hoping you will think that the quarter machines will do the same. I always hit the heavier ones anyway, and lose in a few minutes all the small winnings I built up on the cheapies. But it is fun, for me, and I like to tell the kids that I am spending their inheritance, even though I really don't. I still hop out with a friend or two, and spend a few hours just listening to the bells ring.

I just got word from George Ralcewich that Don Haaning (Henning) passed away last Sunday. He had been fighting cancer for some time, and had done well recently. He spent some time in Florida this past year, and had some quality time with the group there. I shall certainly send our sympathy to Diane. He will be missed.

I think that covers about everything which went on since last newsletter, so I think I will close for now, and leisurely send this issue on its way. Keep in touch with the message center, and with one another. Do send some news so that I don't have to make up the copy. My imagination is beginning to wear thin as my body gets older.

Regards to all.

As Ever,

JBS

HELPMATE READY

