

HELPMATE BULLETIN

Official Newsletter
of the

284th F. A. Bn. WWII

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Issue 08-1

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Dear Helpmates, HAPPY NEW YEAR,

Starting a third trial at the newsletter. I am very upset that my fine motor use of my fingers is so poorly returning. Don't get old, and don't have a MILD stroke.

As usual, the first greeting came from Mary Ciccione. She always seems to e first, but not much news this year. Just a wish that I get my facilities back after the CVA. Didn't get that for Xmas, Mary, but thanks for the wish.

All the cards are in random order this year. As I requested, donations were not needed, and only a few were sent. The kitty is well, and I don't know how long I will be able to keep sending the newsletter.

The Wasilewski family sent wishes to all, John has been a great help to me in helping relatives of our former members try to search out a few facts about their dad's war service. Thanks so much, John. I know the inquiring folks appreciate the help, and you do it so much better than I would be able to get it done.

Leonard and Gertrude Leviton send regards but no news. I know he still remembers his leadership of our German band meals in Europe.

Herb and Betty Smith say HI to all, and sent a note about things in their domain. They will put up their house for sale, as they seldom get to use it. They miss Harvey terribly since his death, but life goes on—but at a slower pace. Family affairs go on well, and many good

things continue to favor them. They are quite content.

Charlie Zimmer called just to say hello a while back, and sent greetings to all. Ruth continues with her medical problems, but life is good in general.

Irv Merrill sent a note with news that all goes well in California. He and Virginia have just passed their 65th wedding anniversary, and Virginia says she is looking forward to "getting old". Hear hearing is not the best, and she tells Irv to stop shuffling across the floor.

The family is doing OK, and they honored the old folks with a reception on their anniversary, and followed that with a banquet at home.

Florence Podolsky sends greetings, but not much news. She lost our medic, Harry. last year

Betty Donaldson recently lost Mel, and is doing as well as could be expected. She does not believe she will go to Florida this year, even though she would like to see her friends there. She keeps in touch with hr former neighbors, the Ralcewiches.

Jeep and Jerry Rafeld send wishes, and hope things go well with everyone . No real news from the Rafelds. Things go well.

Bee Beck and Florida get along fine. All goes well there. She had tried to call me sometime in the past, but suspected I was on one of my trips. Surely so, because I am

one of my trips. Surely so, because I am nearly always home—or at the Casino.

Pat sends greetings to all from she and Steve. All goes well n Peoria. The Entiles wish a happy holiday, and "God's Peace" to all.

Millie Nelson sends greetings to all. Things go well at her abode and her daughter, Lee had new great-grandson, Luke this year. The family had several social affairs during the year, including a potluck dinner for the cousins, enjoyed by all. And the family as a whole gathered for Thanksgiving enjoyed by all. In another note she wondered about the whereabouts of Eunice Tibbott. I have news for all about her.

Eunice Tibbott tells me that her eyesight is failing, and she was unable to end messages last year. Her mail now goes to her son's address:

% Ron Tibbott
180 Sand Mountain Road
Spring Mills, PA 16785
Her home address has not changed.

Tony and Dee Lembo wish all the 284th, but especially "A" battery members a joyous holiday, and the best for 2008. Things go well there and may they also enjoy the best.

Richard and Rae Marie are in the middle of some eye problems which Rae has developed. A glaucoma condition has seriously caused some walking problems, and for which some type of surgery has been suggested. After doing the surgery thing earlier in life, with less than perfect results, she is thinking twice about this route. Good luck, Rae, for whichever route you choose. Medical results are not always perfect. The best of the season to you, and keep me posted as to your results.

Bob Rosen writes that Sumiko and two of the grandchildren are in JAPAN for a 3 week trip. Bob stays home because the trip is over 15 hours, and the Caribbean is only 2. Bob is 95% retirees=d now, and loving it.

Marion Hartley sends greetings to all. All goes well with her, except she is having some fights with Arthur-It is, and is probably losing. She tells me that Norma Dawes is having a bit of Alzheimer's trouble at this time.

The last note comes from George and Dorothy Ralcewich. They have heard from the Bob Mielke's, and they are ready for a meeting of the Southwest Regiment of the 284th. Jim Carney and Mildred have arrived for the winter, and I am sure that they will attend. Since the kids have sold the condo, I have less freedom to join the group, but who knows?

Received a card from Pat Maier, but had no news included. Hope that means that all is well in Salem Oregon.

My best thanks to all the good folks who took the time to drop a greeting and a note. To those who added a contribution, my sincerest thanks.

Since last letter I have heard several times from Clair Schneider and we talk about mostly nothing, but enjoy the contact greatly. I also had calls from George and Dorothy Ralcewich, and from Charlie Zimmer. All seemed well with those Helpmates, and I was so glad to get the calls.

I received the newsletter back from Martha Ellis, and also from Howard Wigger. If anyone can help me relocate them, I will keep them on our roster.

And a late return of the newsletter from Clarence McCashin. An address on the return slip is different from my record, so I will send future issues to 5117 Shadyway Lane, Chattanooga, TN 37415. More on this later after this mailing.

Received news from Thomas Benedict that his father, Thomas Benedict passed away on 17 November, 2007, and his mother passed away 4 days later. We are dwindling, big time.

Got an E-mail from John Wasilewski with re-

gards to some changes needed for the Tony Lembo family. These changes have been made on the website, and will correct some goofs I made in the past. The E-mail was one which Len Lembo sent John, and included news that the family does well, Tony should be using some hearing enhancers, but doesn't. I thank Len for the changes, and send regards to the family from us.

Also received a note from Ann Smith with news that her E-mail address has been changed to ann.beck2@gmail.com. I hope I have complied with her request, but I am sure that she will help me if I goofed.

Received an E-mail from Michelle Mason(?) seeking information about his service with us. He was in "A" btry, and I referred her to our great info source for "A", Dave Hawkins. In answers from both Michelle, and David, they have gotten together, and Dave found a few pictures of her dad, and she was very thankful. Tehanks David. You done good.

Got a call from George R. this morning, and he had talked with Ray Crismond, and Ray seemed to be in better shape than I reported earlier. The West Side Group is planning a luncheon for sometime next month, and George hoped that I could jaunt down, and be with the group. Not likely, but possible.

Well, after 3 or 4 tries, and lots more errors, I think I had better close this issue up, and get it on the way. I am sorry if I have omitted some of your contacts, but I jot things down, then promptly mislay or toss the notes. You all are in the same position, and I know that you know what I mean. Apologies are hereby tendered, and hopefully accepted.

Do stay healthy, and keep in touch. I appreciate any news you send me, so try to let ua all know of the good things which occur.

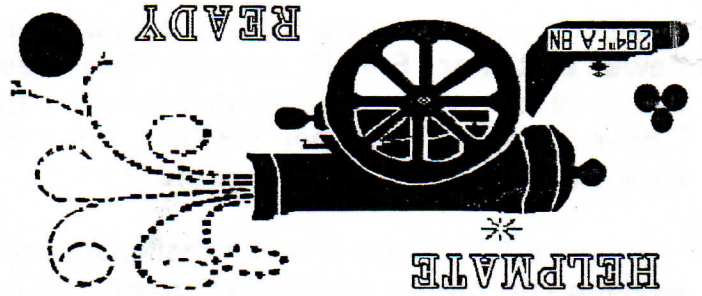
Fondly, as ever,



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HAVE A GOOD YEAR

STAY HEALTHY

DON'T GET OLD