



MESSAGE FROM THE PUPS

Our Past

The National Timberwolf Association (NTA), the National Timberwolf Pups Association (NTPA), the Friends of the Timberwolves, and our many other supporters around the world share a deep respect for the history of the 104th Infantry Division of WWII. Our past is remembered and honored, both here and abroad, for the deeds of our young soldiers, who liberated the world from Nazism and the evils of fascism. Initially, the NTA,

formed at the end of 1945, was composed of these young returning soldiers, seeking to maintain the bonds forged in combat and to honor their fallen. The annual reunions always included the Memorial Service and its solemn rituals. Over time, our Veterans were joined by their wives, children, and eventually, grandchildren. Each year, though the location of the reunion would change, the fellowship and the traditions of the NTA remained the same.

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MISC. NEWS & INFO

A TW Vet Goes Back to School

In February of this year, the sixth-grade class was studying World War II, and our local school asked me to come and present. The teacher, Mrs. LaDonna Hall, had done much research about the war and concentration camps. The children were so thrilled to see someone who had been there.

I enjoyed the young students—they were so kind and respectful. [They] would always say “Dr. Harper” when they asked a question and really did want to know about everything I could tell them. A video of the presentation was shown to the whole grade school.



I am not good at this but did the best I know how. Anyway, I had lots of parents and school people thank me.

(Note: On Veterans Day, they ran the video I had made with my great-grandson Jagger for the entire twelve grades—several hundred students.)

[Editor's note to Bill: Mrs. Hall emailed that you did a fantastic job!]



Fort Douglas Military Museum Update

We are pleased to report that Pups Jack and Pat Valley have agreed to organize some of our historical materials and send them to the museum. The museum will then catalog and archive our donations in its database, so that these items will be available for research online (including a convenient link on our NTPA website). Museum visitors will also have ready access to all materials and artifacts.

In speaking with Beau Burgess, the director and curator, we have been reassured that they will take care to archive our treasures and catalog them in the correct and proper way. The museum plans to create both permanent and rotating exhibits, and is already working with the 96th Infantry Division in the same way. (Rest assured that its staff has considerable expertise in this.)

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CORRECTION (with apologies): In the last issue of the *HOWL*, one of our contributor's names was misspelled. On the front page, in "Misc. News & Info," the contributor's last name should've been (Judy) Bezak (with a *k*, not a *c*). As much as we strive to have a keen eye, errors still get through sometimes; and we're very sorry for this oversight.

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"Message from the Pups" continued from pg. 1

The Present

The NTA entrusted their legacy to their children. We formed the NTPA, incorporating the nickname given to us. The traditions of the NTA have been continued as much as possible, and we have sought to preserve the history of the 104th. In our Information Age, there is a danger of important history being diluted with too much noise from an endless number of sources. We have maintained an oasis of tradition in the bedlam of modern times. History has shown, again and again, that each new era seeks to vanquish the past by defaming it as "old fashion" or otherwise "wrong." We have witnessed many details of our national history being removed or rewritten. In sharp contrast to our age, the NTPA is here to maintain tradition and history.

The Future of the USA

We do not know the future of our country. What we do know is that, regardless of the political party or any of the many other ways we can be divided as a nation, the role model of the 104th has remained. In the seventy-four years that have followed the end of WWII, the nobleness of our

nation's role in ending tyranny has remained a beacon in the fog of our times. Many guiding lessons are shown in the courage, resourcefulness, and brotherhood of our military. In the manner that our young soldiers in the 104th bonded, so has the NTPA. We celebrate what we share in common and, together, have forged a plan for the future. We shall maintain the NTA history and traditions through supporting accurate history and donations of artifacts to museums. We shall continue the warm annual reunions that are looked forward to by all. We will continue to seek to consolidate our annual reunions with other legacy organizations. Our goal is to preserve, through education, the history shown by the lives of our greatest generation. We do this so that future generations can draw upon the strength of our Timberwolf Veterans to guide them through any challenge of their time.

We thank you for your continued support.

—Andrew Lane, NTPA President
andrewben.lane@gmail.com

We will be donating money to the museum to assist since they will most likely need to have a special hire to process our donations, depending on the volume of work involved. Since saving our Timberwolf history has always been a goal of the Pups, we are sure this will be money well spent. (More details will follow later.)

We encourage you to think of donating items to the Fort Douglas Museum instead of just disposing of them as many people sadly do. This is a place that will appreciate

and honor what it receives, and will work—as we do—to remember the Timberwolves.

Here is the museum’s contact information: Fort Douglas Military Museum, 32 Potter Street, Salt Lake City, UT 84113; 801.581.1251 (phone); admin@fortdouglas.org.

—JeNeal Ann Granieri, Treasurer
jagranieri@sbcglobal.net

75TH ANNIVERSARY BATTLEFIELD TOUR ANNOUNCEMENT

The 75th Anniversary Battlefield Tour will be from Oct. 21st–Nov. 1st, 2019! Following in the footsteps of our storied 104th soldiers during their 1944–45 tour, we will be starting in Belgium, then traveling through Holland and across Germany, to the Elbe River. Once again, Patrick Hinchy will be our amazing tour guide, providing detailed history and fascinating information as we embark on our remarkable journey. Follow along in your *Timberwolf Tracks* book as we travel (citations to be provided). Please join us to honor and remember our Timberwolves on this remarkable anniversary! See the itinerary on the

NTPA website (<http://bit.ly/TWTourBrochure>) or contact Mary Jamieson, NTPA Battlefield Tour Coordinator (mejameson@aol.com).

- Tour price: \$3139 (double occupancy, with airfare on your own)
- Register at: <http://bit.ly/gate1group>
- Deadline to register: June 21, 2019

(If you receive this *after* the deadline, please contact Mary anyway, as there may still be availability.)

2019 REUNION: HOTEL INFO

CROWNE PLAZA PROVIDENCE-WARWICK (AIRPORT)—WARWICK, RI
(401) 732-6000
CrowneHotelWarwick.com

LOCATION

801 Greenwich Avenue, Warwick, RI 02886
Ideally located 10 minutes from downtown Providence and 2 miles from T. F. Green Airport on a spacious, landscaped, 17-acre site featuring abundant free parking

RESERVATION INFORMATION

Please call the number above or go to <https://tinyurl.com/NTPAand106thInfantry2019Hotel> to make your reservation.

Group Name: National Timberwolf Pups Association & 106th Infantry Division Association

Reunion Dates: September 4–8, 2019

Rate: \$119 + tax (*currently 13%*). Rate includes daily hot breakfast and will extend 3 days prior to and following the reunion dates, based solely on hotel availability.

Cut-off Date: 08/01/19 (*Reservations made after this date will be processed based on availability and at a higher rate.*)

Cancellation Policy: Reservations must be canceled 48 hours prior to your arrival date to avoid a charge of one night’s stay plus tax.

PARKING & SHUTTLE INFORMATION

The Crowne Plaza offers complimentary parking for reunion attendees and their guests. The hotel also offers a complimentary shuttle service to and from T. F. Green Airport, which is located 2.32 miles away. Parking is available for up to 25 RVs, with a nightly charge of \$50 plus 13% tax if the RV is occupied overnight. Hook-ups are not provided.

WHEELCHAIR RENTAL

ScootAround rents both manual and power wheelchairs by the day and by the week. Please call (888) 441-7575 or visit www.scootaround.com for more details and to make reservations.

2019 REUNION: ACTIVITY FORM

NATIONAL TIMBERWOLF PUPS ASSOCIATION 2019 REUNION—ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

Listed below are all registration, tour, and meal costs for the reunion. Please note how many people will be participating in each event, and total the amount. Send that amount payable to ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC. in the form of a check or money order. Your canceled check will serve as your confirmation. Returned checks will be charged a \$20 fee. You may also register online and pay by credit card at www.afr-reg.com/timberwolf2019 (a 3.5% charge will be added to the total). All registration forms and payments must be received on or before **August 1, 2019**. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space-available basis. **We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing it.** Please do not staple or tape your payment to this form.

ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC.
322 MADISON MEWS
NORFOLK, VA 23510
ATTN: NTPA

OFFICE USE ONLY	
Check # _____	Date Received _____
Inputted _____	Nametag Completed _____

CUT-OFF DATE IS AUGUST 1, 2019			
	Price Per	# of People	Total
TOURS			
Thurs. (9/5): BOSTON CITY TOUR / FREEDOM TRAIL	8:30 AM to 4:30 PM	\$60	X =
Friday (9/6): MYSTIC SEAPORT	10:00 AM to 4:00 PM	\$70	X =
BANQUET			
Saturday (9/7): Banquet Dinner (Please select an entrée below.)	7:00 PM to 11:00 PM		
Grilled New York Sirloin Steak		\$45	X =
Chicken Piccata		\$45	X =
Baked New England Scrod		\$45	X =
Pasta Primavera (vegetarian)		\$45	X =
PER-PERSON REGISTRATION FEE (Covers various reunion expenses)			
REGISTRATION FEE(S) IF RECEIVED <u>ON OR BEFORE</u> 08/01/19		\$40	X =
REGISTRATION FEE(S) IF RECEIVED <u>AFTER</u> 08/01/19		\$50	X =
Reunion Photo CD (prepared by NTPA Photographer Art Luque)		\$25	X =
Total Amount Payable to Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.			\$

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME AS YOU WANT YOUR NAMETAG TO READ.

FIRST _____ LAST _____

TW UNIT _____ FIRST REUNION? _____ PUP? YES _____ NO _____

SPOUSE NAME (IF ATTENDING) _____

GUEST(S) _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PH. NUMBER (_____) _____ - _____ EMAIL _____

DISABILITY/DIETARY RESTRICTIONS _____

NOTE: SPECIAL SLEEPING/ROOM REQUIREMENTS MUST BE CONVEYED BY THE ATTENDEE DIRECTLY TO THE HOTEL.

MUST YOU BE LIFTED HYDRAULICALLY ONTO THE BUS WHILE SEATED IN YOUR WHEELCHAIR IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN BUS TRIPS? YES NO (**PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CANNOT GUARANTEE AVAILABILITY.**)

ARRIVAL & DEP. DATES _____ TO _____ • VIA PLANE CAR RV • STAYING AT HOTEL? YES NO

For refunds and cancellations, please refer to our policies outlined on the reunion schedule page. **CANCELATIONS WILL ONLY BE TAKEN MONDAY–FRIDAY, 9:00 AM–4:00 PM EASTERN TIME (excluding holidays).** Call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4 to 6 weeks after the reunion.

**NATIONAL TIMBERWOLF PUPS ASSOCIATION
9th ANNUAL / JOINT REUNION with the
106TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION**

**CROWNE PLAZA PROVIDENCE-WARWICK
WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND
SEPTEMBER 4–8, 2019**

SCHEDULE of EVENTS

Wednesday, September 4

Reunion Registration open	2:00 PM–6:00 PM
NTPA Board Meeting (tentative)	4:00 PM–5:00 PM
106th IDA Outgoing Board Meeting	5:00 PM–6:00 PM
Meet & Greet with 106th	6:00 PM–7:30 PM
Foxhole (Hospitality Room) open	7:30 PM–9:30 PM

NOTE: Souvenir sales hours will be posted in the Foxhole.

Thursday, September 5

Complimentary Breakfast Buffet	6:30 AM–10:30 AM
<i>BOSTON CITY TOUR / FREEDOM TRAIL</i>	<i>8:30 AM–4:30 PM</i>
Foxhole (Hospitality Room) open	5:00 PM–9:30 PM

Friday, September 6

Complimentary Breakfast Buffet	6:30 AM–10:30 AM
<i>MYSTIC SEAPORT</i>	<i>10:00 AM–4:00 PM</i>
NTPA Business & General Meeting	4:30 PM–6:00 PM
Foxhole (Hospitality Room) open	4:00 PM–9:30 PM
Beer Bust (w/ 106th)	7:00 PM–12:00 AM

Saturday, September 7

Complimentary Breakfast Buffet	6:30 AM–10:30 AM
106th IDA Memorial Service	9:00 AM–10:00 AM
NTPA Memorial Service	9:30 AM–11:00 AM
106th IDA New Board Meeting	3:30 PM–5:00 PM
Cash-Bar Reception	6:00 PM–7:00 PM
Banquet Dinner & Dance (w/ 106th)	7:00 PM–11:00 PM

Sunday, September 8

Complimentary Breakfast Buffet	6:30 AM–10:30 AM
Farewells and Departures	

TOUR DESCRIPTIONS

BOSTON CITY TOUR / FREEDOM TRAIL

Thursday, September 5:

Explore the history of America's oldest ship—the *USS Constitution*—through participatory exhibits, computer simulations, and art and preservation galleries. As time permits, tour “Old Ironsides” herself, and visit the museum store for mementos. Enjoy free time and lunch on your own at Quincy Market, also called Faneuil Hall Marketplace. There are more than 100 stores, pushcarts, and restaurants, and plenty of entertainment. Continue on a guided driving tour of Boston, seeing some of the most famous sites along the Freedom Trail, including Boston

Common (the forty-eight-acre park where the British mustered for Lexington and Concord); the site of the Boston Massacre; the Old North Church, where Paul Revere's two lanterns were hung (“One if by land, two if by sea”); and other points of interest.

- **8:30 AM—Board bus at hotel**
- **4:30 PM—Back to hotel**
- **\$60/Person (Includes bus, guide & admission)**
- **Lunch is on your own.**

MYSTIC SEAPORT

Friday, September 6:

Discover the fascinating world of nineteenth-century seafaring America. This re-created village is complete with educators and role players to teach you about the coastal community. Stroll through gardens, wander in buildings, and climb aboard tall ships. Just make sure you save time for shopping and lunch on your own, as there are numerous restaurants and shops in the village.

- **10:00 AM—Board bus at hotel**
- **4:00 PM—Back to hotel**
- **\$70/Person (Includes bus, guide & admission)**
- **Lunch is on your own.**

IMPORTANT NOTES

1. *Please plan to be at the bus boarding area at least five minutes prior to the scheduled time.*
2. *Driver and guide gratuities are not included in the tour prices.*

**CANCELATION AND REFUND POLICY
for ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC.**

For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cut-off date, Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. (AFR) shall process a full refund less the nonrefundable AFR registration fee (\$15 per person). Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cut-off date will be refunded to the fullest extent that AFR's vendor commitments and guarantees will allow, less the nonrefundable AFR registration fee. **Cancellations will only be taken Monday through Friday, from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM Eastern Standard Time (excluding holidays).** Please call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds are processed 4 to 6 weeks after the reunion. **Canceling your hotel reservation does not cancel your reunion activities.**

Schophoven and Merken

At 0745 the morning of 10 December, 414th Infantry jumped off for Schophoven and Pier. While 1st Battalion was fighting for its life in Pier, 3rd Battalion struck out for Schophoven. Mid-afternoon, heavy fire halted the advance. The battalion reorganized on high ground 600 yards west of Schophoven and waited. The next day, after American planes had bombed and strafed the town, the battalion gained another 100 yards. Again, it was pinned down by machine-gun fire. No further advances were made until the 13th.

Richard Bennett, 414 L, remembers being told beforehand that “another battalion was to attack and take Pier, and then we would be able to ‘walk into Schophoven.’ It didn’t work out that way,” he writes, “as the Germans were able to inflict heavy casualties [on us], and we were only able to get halfway to Schophoven. A day later, we attacked before daylight, with my squad leading the way. To be in the front of the attack was our good fortune. Those that followed were subject to heavy mortar fire, which caused many casualties.... When darkness arrived, the wounded were brought in [from the field where they were lying] and the medics took over.”

Southernmost of the three towns situated between the Timberwolves and the west bank of the Roer River was Merken, a village of about 220 buildings. Following a half-hour artillery barrage by the 929th Field Artillery, 1st

Battalion 415th Infantry jumped off in the predawn darkness of 11 December and headed for Merken.

“Nat” Jay Jaffee, 415 A, remembers: “We moved along the flat, open fields northwest of Merken. It was cold, with a light rain falling. The fields were muddy. The enemy were scattered in the fields, hiding in dugouts, which were covered with burlap or canvas. We would lift the covers up, and there they were, looking at us sheepishly and ready to be taken prisoner.” Jaffee was glad to oblige them.

“The company had taken a town called Vilbenich and set up a command post in one of the attached houses along the road. Our men had captured a number of prisoners who were now packed into a small room at the CP. They seemed quite happy. I overheard one of them say, ‘Wir gehen zu Florida’ [‘We’re going to Florida’]. They looked dreadful and in need of a hot meal.”*

Against light resistance, 1st Battalion seized and secured the northern part of Merken. The next day, supported by tanks from Company C, 750th Tank Battalion, it captured the remainder of the town, with minimal casualties. According to *Timberwolf Tracks*, at least 160 German soldiers were captured and 100 others killed or wounded.

From *Timberwolf Tracks* (p. 177): “At 0630, 13 December, Companies L and K of the 414th attacked Schophoven frontally, in conjunction with a right hook by Company F from Pier. That right hook turned out to be one of the most expensive endeavors of the entire campaign. An unusually high price in American blood and human misery was paid

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NOTES FROM THE REUNION SITE COMMITTEE

Hope everyone is making plans for our upcoming Reunion in Providence, Rhode Island. It will be a wonderful visit to a very American historical area. Although our Veterans are fast leaving us, we, their children and grandchildren, strive to carry on their tradition of getting together and celebrating their contributions toward keeping this nation whole. Renewing old friendships and starting new ones is a wonderful way to keep the flame burning, so we *do* hope many of you will join us in September. Please make your hotel reservations early, as space is limited. (See page 6 for more info...)

Jack and Pat Vallely, our local Pups in the reunion area, have suggested ways to make this trip more meaningful. Consider exploring the following sites and other historical places on your own, before and/or after our reunion activities:*

- Battleship Cove (Fall River, MA): A maritime museum and war memorial featuring the largest collection of WWII naval vessels, including the *USS Massachusetts* (BB59). Visit BattleshipCove.org to learn more.

- Newport, RI—the “City by the Sea”: Historic mansions, scenic Ocean Drive, and a 3.5-mile Cliff Walk are among the top attractions. See Newport-Discovery-Guide.com and DiscoverNewport.org for additional details.

Thanks for your continuing support. Timberwolf up!

—JeNeal Ann Granieri,
Treasurer & Site Committee Chair
jagranieri@sbcglobal.net

*Note: at 9:00 AM on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Sunday, let’s get together and share rides. Further info will be available at the hotel, or you can email jackvallely@yahoo.com.

for ancient, moated Mullenark Castle, which was Company F's objective."

From *104th G-3 Periodic Report for 13 Dec 44***¹: "*414th Inf*: At 0630 Companies F, L, and K attacked toward the town of Schophoven. Communications with Company F [were] lost, and its actions during the day are still obscure; but it is known that it was pinned down for practically the entire day in [the] vicinity of the moat southeast of Schophoven.

"Cos. L and K had both entered Schophoven proper by 0900. At 1000, I Co. endeavored to reach the town but was driven back by machine-gun and mortar fire. By 1510, all three companies were in the town and, supported by three tanks, were progressing slowly in house-to-house fighting. At 1730, Schophoven was secure."

Only Castle Mullenark was still in enemy hands.

"We had expected to capture Mullenark in the dark, early morning hours, but the muddy terrain greatly hampered our ability to move forward; and we were caught in open fields as dawn broke," wrote John Schwanhausser. As F Company communication chief, Schwanhausser carried the SCR 300 radio that could communicate with battalion headquarters. He was with company commander Captain Frank Bowman during the attack on the castle.

"We were forced to dig shallow trenches as deep and [as] quick as possible.... The Germans peppered the captain and me with mortar fire.... We marveled that we had not been hit. When it got dark enough, we ran to the nearby town of Schophoven, which had been taken by elements of Companies K and L. My radio had been damaged by German shellfire and would not work, nor were K or L Company radios working. We had no radio contact with battalion headquarters." (Schwanhausser remembers running about a mile back to battalion HQ and returning to the battlefield with two radios.***)

Late afternoon on the 14th, the castle finally fell to an F Company platoon and five tanks. The Timberwolves had reached the Roer River.

—Kathy Clark, Historian
kpclark@vom.com

* Read the rest of Jaffee's story in *War Stories of World War II*, p. 255-258.

** A written summary was prepared daily by the operations officer (Leo Hoegh) and his team.

*** Read more details of the battle for Mullenark in *Nothing in Hell Can Stop the Timberwolves*, p. 122-124.



*At the going down
of the sun
and in the morning...

We will remember them.*

Compiled by Sandra Eberhard (webpup@bellsouth.net)

Walter Beardsley 415 I	Robert W. Gilfillan 104 Recon	Art Leu 104 MP	Charles O. Slay 415 Cannon	WIFE OR WIDOW
Frank S. Calfa, Sr. 413 D	William H. Hebets 415 B	Paul E. Marshall 413 Med Detach	Ross Turkle 387 FA HQ	Helen Thornton 415 AT (Bryce)
Lawrence Lum Chew 414 C	Robert L. Heins 415 H	Charles Meeker 104 MP	Norton Edward Wood 413 B	Betty Turkle 387 FA HQ (Ross)
Luke James Clements 104 QM	Edgar Van Houten 750 Tk Bn	James Michlena 329 Engr A		
William "Bill" Cronin 413 F	Robert Huber 415 G	Norman H. Rola 104 MP		

NATIONAL TIMBERWOLF PUPS ASSOCIATION

Vets, Family & Friends of the 104th Infantry Division WWII
1749 9th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122
www.timberwolf104inf.org

OUR FRIENDS OVERSEAS

May 4th & 5th in The Netherlands: Special Days...

On May 4th, the Dutch hold a Remembrance of the Dead day for the people who fought and died during World War II and in wars in general. There are remembrance gatherings in cities all over the country, with one of the better known being at the National Monument on Dam Square in Amsterdam. Throughout the country, two minutes of silence are observed at 8:00 PM.

In the Netherlands, Liberation Day is celebrated each year on May the 5th to mark the end of the WWII occupation by

Nazi Germany. On this day in 1945, Canadian General Charles Foulkes and German Commander-in-Chief Johannes Blaskowitz reached an agreement on the capitulation of German forces in the Netherlands in Hotel de Wereld in Wageningen. One day later, the capitulation document was signed in the auditorium of Wageningen University, located next door.

This year, on the weekend of May 4th–5th, several members of the Dutch Friends of the Timberwolves were in Wageningen for the annual liberation festival. We built a US Army camp, portrayed an engineer unit, and brought along our GMC compressor truck (still in working order). Also, we had a lot of US Army weapons exhibited, a small field kitchen, and a workshop. A lot of people came to visit our exhibition.

For my family and me, it was a special occasion to visit the Remembrance of the Dead ceremonies at the Grebbeberg War Cemetery (only five miles from Wageningen). The Grebbeberg War Cemetery is a WWII military cemetery located 1.2 miles east of Rhenen, in the Netherlands. The cemetery contains 799 military personnel and one civilian who died during the invasion of the Netherlands by the Germans in May 1940.

We were invited as a family because the twin brother of my wife's grandfather is buried in the cemetery. He was killed in action on May 11th, 1940, the second day of the war. With members of our royal family also present, it was a great honor for us to represent our family in the ceremony.

—Ronald van Beek, Dutch Friends of the Timberwolves

