



THE BUGLE CALL

314th Infantry 79th Division - WW1 May 2008

2008 MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

Sunday, May 25, 2008 at 2:00 P.M.
WASHINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL, Valley Forge, PA.

In spite of the cool days the calendar tells us that the traditional 314th Memorial Day program is about to take place. The Program will be Sunday, May 25th at 2:00 PM in the Washington Memorial Chapel on Route 23 about two miles west of the Valley Forge exit of the Pennsylvania Turnpike. Once again it will time to renew friendships with other descendants and friends of the 314th Infantry of World War I. It also will be a time to learn more about the experiences of the men of the 314th and the plans for continuation and perpetuation of the cabin and memorabilia gathered by the men of the 314th.

We are pleased to announce that the speaker for the Service will be Jim Gerlach, representative of the 6th Congressional District. Representative Gerlach grew up in a small town in western Pennsylvania with his mother and two sisters, and currently lives in Chester Springs, Chester County, PA. with his wife, Karen, three children and three step-children. He has spent the last 15 years in public service representing the citizens of Southeastern Pennsylvania. His distinguished career began in 1990 with the first two terms in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, which was followed by two terms in the State Senate. Jim is currently serving his third term in the U. S. House of Representatives, first winning the open 6th Congressional District seat in 2002.

Jim has effectively represented his district as an advocate for healthcare and the environment. During his first term, Jim introduced legislation to create a new, much-needed veterans cemetery in Southeastern Pennsylvania. This bill passed Congress and was signed into law by the President on Veterans Day 2003.

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As has been the tradition in the past at our Memorial Programs, refreshments will be served in the Patriot Room next to the nave of the Chapel. In order to have an idea of the attendance we would appreciate your mailing in the last page of this newsletter. In any event please come to the program. Everyone is invited and welcome.

NEWS FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors of the Descendants and Friends of the 314th has had a number of meetings since last Memorial Day, but has certainly made use of the communication technology of the 21st century, namely electronic mail or email. Hardly a day passes that has not included at least one communication between members of the 314th Board of Directors.

Much has been happening since last years Memorial Day Service regarding the move of the cabin and its contents to the United States Army Heritage Center at Carlisle, PA. Three organizations are involved; The Board of Directors of the Descendants and Friends of the 314th, The Vesrty of the Washington Memorial Chapel and of course the folks at the United States Heritage Museum. It becomes necessary that all three are on the same page when agreements are made. Since all three have different objectives and involvements in the process and all three include extremely busy individuals, it has taken most of the year coming to an understanding between the involved groups. However progress has been made and the move of the Cabin and its contents to Carlisle is getting closer. If you are not familiar with the United States Army Heritage Center please read the material in the issue of The Newsletter on a "Visit to The Army Heritage Center" included in this issue.

As is the case with most organizations, money is an issue and much time has gone into the solicitation of funds for the move. The BOD is in the process of investigating the securing of grants from various governmental and private foundations for this purpose. Any experience the reader may have with organizations of this kind will be welcome. Please contact President Al Douglas at the Memorial Service or by phone at 610-489-4036. The amount needed is approximately \$150,000.

Preserving Your Veteran's Story - An Archive for the 314th

Once again this year after the Memorial Service, we would like to offer a chance for folks to individually remember their veteran in a short video which will become part of the 314th story .

You may have an artifact or a story that you would like to share and at the same time remember a member of the regiment. We are asking for short stories about the soldiers, up to two or three minutes in length. Short segments are easier to store and view on the Internet.

If weather cooperates , this will be done outside the cabin. There will be multiple cameras for the taping and some of our professional staff to run the production. So don't be shy! Bring a story! ***Telling the 314th Story - One soldier at a time.***

A Visit to the U. S. Army Heritage Center

Robert Rentz, Editor of the Bugle Call. Son of Irwin J. Rentz, 314th Infantry

A few weeks ago along with members of my family, we visited the Heritage Center, located along Interstate 81 just south of Carlisle, PA., very near the Army War College. It being Saturday in early Spring, the imposing main building was not open but the outdoor exhibits were excellently displayed and available for view. One is able to walk through a beautifully organized walk-way which winds through reconstructions of early forts, more recent buildings and the trenches of World War I. Smaller buildings depicted machine shops, barracks, and encampments of army units throughout our illustrious history. As one wanders through the WWI trenches, so often mentioned in my father's diary, one can get a feel of what the 314th Infantry men endured. The sound of machine guns and the stench of poison gas could almost be experienced. Rounding a bend in the trench we came upon a locked door with the inscription "Headquarters - 314th Infantry". Since the grounds were technically not open we could only guess what might be behind that door, but could envision displays of the artifacts from the cabin at Valley Forge. It is our hope that our reconstructed Valley Forge Cabin will occupy part of these grounds, honoring our WWI ancestors as they fought to maintain our freedom and our democracy.

On May 17th the Army Heritage Center will be open beginning at 9 am for special programs and re-enactments. If you are able, please plan to attend, it will be well worth the time spent and the cost of the gasoline.

PASSING THE HERITAGE

Preserving, improving and interpreting the 314th Infantry is an important means of passing on the heritage we received from our fathers who served in the 314th Infantry. John Shetler has stated that heritage includes a love of country, a strong moral life of service to God, country and community. When we preserve the memory of what the men of the 314th did we do much more. We impart to present and future generations what our fathers did to preserve the democracy in which we are now privileged to live.

There are a number of ways in which we pass on the heritage and all of them are important. In how many ways can you participate to pass on the heritage?

1. The first way is to become a member and each year renew your membership. Enlist other descendants and friends to become members or give a membership as a gift.
2. Attend the annual Memorial Day program at Valley Forge Chapel .
3. Help with the securing of funds to make the move to The United States Heritage Center possible.
4. Share your ideas with Al Douglas, the president of our organization by mail or phone.

Al Douglas
615 Bonny Brook Ave
Trappe, PA 19426-1913
610-489-4036

DESCENDANTS AND FRIENDS OF THE 314TH AEF

ATTENDANCE AT MAY 25TH MEETING

We (I) will (will not) attend the Memorial Service on May 25th, 2008. Number of persons? _____

Please sign your name: _____

MEMBERSHIP FORM

We invite you to become or continue membership.

CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

We invite you to continue your membership until June 1, 2009.

Widows of WWI Veterans (Free)	_____	Students under 18 years (\$2.00)	_____
Contributing Member (\$5.00)	_____	Family or Supporting (\$10.00)	_____
Patron (\$25.00)	_____	Benefactor (\$50.00)	_____
Endowment Gifts: \$100.00 or larger	_____		

Please mail this form with your check to:

Descendants and Friends 314th
c/o Ray Jude Paski
602 Arch Street
Spring City, PA 19475

Please make check payable to: Descendants and Friends of 314th

Contributions are tax deductible

Name _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City, State and Zip _____

Email _____

Name and relationship of veteran _____