

# CO. E 383<sup>RD</sup> INFANTRY NEWSLETTER

January 2004



*The 19th Annual Reunion of Co.E 383rd Infantry was held on June 5th, 6th, and 7th at the Collonade Hotel, 245 Jesse Jo Parkway, Branson, Missouri with six members present-namely, Bennett, Shelton, Correll, Bolton, Faulkner, Weisenburger, and some families were also present. Larry opened the meeting, Brian Correll sang a prayer and Hannah Correll led the pledge. Frank gave a memorial for Thomas and Enfield. Minutes from last year were read and approved. Introductions of veterans and guests were made. Frank Bolton was elected to be the Chaplain and Bill Faulkner elected to Secretary/Treasurer. Special entertainment by the Bolton family; David Bolton sang "Proud to be an American," Michael Bolton sang "America the Beautiful," and Lindsey Bolton sang "God Bless America."*

*Discussion on meeting place for 2004 or if we should have another reunion was held. After much discussion it was decided that we would have a reunion in 2004 and it would be on June 10th-12th at the Collonade Hotel in Branson, Missouri and the Correll family would host it this year and then we will decide if there is to be another reunion.*

*We would like for everyone to make the 20th Annual Reunion as it may be the last one. If you want more information you can call Larry Correll at 417-881-7281 or Bill Faulkner at 701-444-2582. Indications from the Christmas cards we received this year there should be a good number attending.*

*There are some letters I have attached and maybe some of you can help them. Your originals might be able to help Captain Jeremy P. Reynolds.*

*Have a Happy and Merry New Year!!*

*W.H. Faulkner*

*Greetings from Kansas City! I am looking forward to seeing all of you once again this year in Branson. I enjoy so much spending time with all of you at the reunions and getting to know the people my Grandpa spent so much time with during World War II.*

*I will see you all in June! Hopefully my husband, David, will also be able to attend this year!*

*Erica Perryn  
Faulkner Granddaughter*

Reba A. Bracken  
2974 S. Bloomington Dr. E  
St. George, Utah 84790

July 6, 2003

Company E. 383<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Assn.  
Attn: W.H. Faulkner, Secretary/Treasurer  
P.O. Box 509  
Watford City, ND 58854

Re: Ronald W. Bracken  
D.O.B. 11/14/21  
Died: 8/29/91

To whom it may concern:

It has taken me almost 12 years to write this letter. Ronald died August 29, 1991 with a heart attack that took him instantly. He always said that he was going to live to the limit and then die, and he did.

At the age of 69 years, he was still doing endurance riding in races of 60 miles, 50 miles, and a few years he rode 100 miles on his horse, Topper. He didn't know he was getting older. You who knew him in the Army may have called him Sergeant Bracken. After basic training, he went from P.F.C. to Tech Sergeant in the battle of Okinawa. After forty days on the front lines, he shaved his beard off and his buddies didn't recognize him. Some thought he was an old veteran. When he was on the ship heading overseas, he had a dream of his baby girl being born. When he got my next letter, his buddies reminded him that our daughter had been born the same day he had the dream. He said the dream felt as though he had been with us the day she was born.

Christmas 1945, he was home again at the age of 24. Two years later, we had our second son. We had a happy family and prosperous life. We were given wonderful children and they are doing well in the St. George area. We have twelve grandchildren and eighteen great-grandchildren and many more to come.

Sincerely,

*Reba A. Bracken*

Reba A. Bracken

P.S. The check is for postage.

20<sup>00</sup>