

Co. E 383rd Infantry Newsletter

June 2004



Pictured left to right: Back row: Bolton, Harms, Bennett. Front row: Araujo, Correll, Shelton, Faulkner.



Pictured left to right: Back Row Bolton, Bennett, Harms, Correll, Faulkner. Front row: Pepper, Fenton, Thomas, Tucker.

The 20th Annual Reunion of Co. E 383rd Infantry was held on June 10th, 11th, and 12th at the Collonade Hotel, 245 Jesse Jo Parkway, Branson, Missouri with Bennett, Shelton, Correll, Bolton, Faulkner, Araujo, and Harms. Also present were the widows of Fenton, Tucker, and Pepper and many families and friends.

The Meeting was brought to Order by Larry Correll. Danny Correll led the group in opening prayer. Hannah Correll led the Pledge of Allegiance and Brian Correll sang the National Anthem.

Thanks you's were given to Mae Etta for organization of the meeting and the Correll children for help. Thanks to all who attended from coast to coast to be here at the meeting. Thanks to Bill Faulkner, Sec/Treas for years of service. Thanks to all who brought the lovely gifts and Frank Bolton for serving as the Chaplain and the great readings he has given for the memory of the lost ones. We have lots to be thankful for to all those who fought for freedom for our country.

Frank Bolton gave the Memorial Service. WWII Memorial Dedication was the topic as was Memorial Day and the sacrifices of those who served. 70 Company E members have been lost since the first reunion in 1985. Three this year have passed: Ronald Bracken, Donald Blair, and John Huddleston. A candle was lit, a moment of silence was given, and taps were played in their honor.

Faulkner gave financial report. Minutes of last year's meeting were read and approved. Income \$100 last year. Dispersements \$596.72. Paid for banquet meal last year at the reunion. Started with \$663.66 left in treasury today. Paid out some tonight for some of meal. Each newsletter goes out to about 80 people. Report concluded.

Correll talked to Ray Williams, both are in wheelchairs in assisted living. Ray is unable to leave and would appreciate a call from anyone or cards. They were instrumental in starting the reunions. Alfred Isackson sends his greetings as well. Beck is in nursing home as Mrs. Beck has surgery and she is unable to care for him at home but he may return home the last of June. Mary Evans is physically and mentally not able to

make it this year. The Van Coolie's sent a card as well. Baum disappointed couldn't attend, had surgery on shoulder and will try to make it next year. Rubo is in a wheelchair and unable to walk but mind is good.

Danny Correll read letters from Mack and JoAnn Ashby, Bob and Jan Beutler, Al and Phyllis Weisenburger, Don Baum, and Bill and Mary Lou Beck. Mrs Beck send photos of the knealer that she made for memorial cathedral in Washington DC that was dedicated to Bill Beck and the 383rd. A moment was taken by grandchildren and children of the veterans present to express their thanks and love for their brave service in WWII.

Steven Thomas gave awards from the 96th Division to the officers (Faulkner and Bolton), their wives and the hosts (Corrells) in recognition for service and sacrifice. Plaques were given to the men and jade acrylics to the women. Ray and Millie Williams were also given these awards. Steven read a speech written by his dad Cpt. Thomas that he delivered at the 1990 reunion in Bismarck, ND. A note written by Alice Bennett was also ready by Steven.

Tim Fenton read from the WWII Round Table he had prepared from a taped interview with the veterans in June 2001. The book he made was won to Verlan Shelton. Jay Burcham (Ashby son-in-law) also spoke a few words on how important the reunions have been to Mack and his family.

Discussion on whether another reunion was to be held. Mae Etta and Larry offered to host for anyone who wanted to attend even if informal get together and all who can come. Discussion was held on having an informal get together. It was decided that an informal reunion would be held next year with a memorial service. Steven Thomas has agreed to serve as Chaplain if Frank Bolton is unable to attend. Faulkner will continue on as Sec/Treas.

The 21st Annual Reunion of Co. E 383rd Infantry will be held June 9th, 10th, and 11th, 2005 at the Collonade Hotel, 245 Jesse Jo Parkway, Branson, Missouri.

Meeting was adjourned and door prizes were given.

Wm. Faulkner, Sec/Treas.

We hope to see everyone next year again in Branson!