



12-1978

## 164th Infantry News: December 1978

164th Infantry Association

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# The 164<sup>th</sup> INFANTRY News

Vol. 8, Number 4

1978 in our 36 Assn. yrs.



Dec., 1978

## 164th Gets New President For 1979



One of the actions of our President Victor Anundson was that of passing the gavel over to our new president, as is depicted in the accompanying picture. The passing of the gavel over to Mr. Jerry Weilder of Williston, North Dakota was one of the last official actions taken during the 164th reunion in Valley City. Our new president stated to this editor that a complete effort will be made in and by the community of Williston to insure a festive time will be had by all of you 164th Infantry Assn. members who attend the 1979 reunion in Williston. It is hoped that we have from our new president a letter outlining their intents for the year of 1979.

Your Editor

### Speaking at VC

From The Valley City Times Record

#### Link Commends 'Servants'

Gov. Arthur Link of North Dakota commended Orville Bloch and Floyd E. Henderson as "military servants who have brought distinction to North Dakota" as he presented awards from the state to the two veterans here Saturday evening. The Governor was a guest of honor at the 36th reunion of the 164th Infantry Association.

Bernard Wagner, Sanborn, general chairman for the reunion in Valley City Oct. 13, 14, 15, welcomed the executive and read inscriptions on plaques presented by Gov. Link. Bloch is the only surviving North Dakota Congressional Medal of Honor winner. Henderson, now commander of WWI Veterans of the United States, is a former legislator, commissioner of veterans affairs and commandant of the ND Soldiers Home.

The Valley City State College Alumni Association presented a Distinguished Alumnus Award to Henderson, a 1916 graduate of VCSC. Making the presentation was Dr. Dan McKenna, Moorhead, Minn., vice president of the alumni group.

Henderson and Bloch spoke after receiving the awards. "Every veteran is a distinguished person," said

Henderson. Work on behalf of war veterans has been possible because of confidence of the public, he said.

Bloch described himself as "one of the lucky servicemen who returned to the country that has nearly everything." He asked that America always take care of those maimed in combat.

Before the banquet and program, the Rev. George Lommel, a National Guard unit chaplain, and Howard Kunze, Valley City, veteran of Co. G, 164th Infantry, Korean war, conducted a memorial service.

The Valley Troubadours, directed by Gloria Peterson of VCSC, sang during the service. Taps were sounded by Robert Bowen, VCHS band director.

Owen Wallace, Fessenden, was master of ceremonies at the program. Victor Anundson, Valley City, president of the 164th Association, welcomed the visitors. Anundson served in Co. G in WWII and the Korean war. At conclusion of the program, Anundson gave the gavel to Jerry Weilder, president for 1979.

Fred Abrahamson, Valley City, led in the pledge of allegiance. Dinner music was by Orley Peterson.

### Couple Sells All for Cruise

From The Bismarck Tribune

The former owner of Wm. O. Shirley Inc., a Bismarck construction equipment business, and his wife have sold their home in Arizona and plan to cruise their 42-foot yacht around the country.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Shirley have sold nearly all their possessions to cruise the major waterways of the United States and eventually reach the Virgin Islands, according to an article in a Sedona, Ariz., newspaper.

They will start in Long Beach, Calif., then head for the inland St. Lawrence Seaway to the Great Lakes. They are keeping their bicycles so they can see the sights of every port. They also plan to attend a Coast Guard school in Long Beach before setting out, because they "don't know one end of the boat from another," according to Shirley.

Abrahamson was in the 164th during WWI and Peterson served in the Korean conflict.

Vernon Martin, Valley City, sergeant major of Co. G in the Korean war, called the roll of units.

Clarence Lemley, Barnes County commission chairman, and Robert Griffin of Valley City's commission, represented the governmental bodies at the program.



# Selective Service Resolution Passed At Reunion

By Gunder Berg  
From The Valley City Times Record

A resolution calling upon the United States to revive selective service as a defense safeguard was adopted by 164th Infantry Association members at their reunion in Valley City. Victor Anundson, Valley City, 1978 president, presided at reunion sessions Oct. 13, 14, 15. Registration was 313 persons for the three-day event.

Role of the National Guard in the armed forces was commended by the group composed of veterans with service in World Wars I and II and in the Korean conflict.

Jerry Weilder, Williston, was elected president to succeed Anundson. Vice president will be John Remillong, Jamestown; secretary-treasurer, Wallace Johnson, assistant secretary, Stan Pfau, both of Bismarck; chaplain, Elliott Aandahl, Underwood, Minn. The 1979 reunion will be in Williston, with the 1980 event set for Jamestown.

Members shouted down a motion asking reunion dates be moved to a summer or earlier fall month. October 13 is the anniversary of 164th troops coming under fire for the first time on Guadalcanal in WWII.

Herman Meyer, president of the VC Area Chamber of Commerce, welcomed the veterans. Meyer said he was humble in the presence of men who fought with dignity and stood up for what they believed was right.

Carl Tait of Valley City's Disabled American Veterans and Harold Utecht, Valley City, first vice commander of ND Veterans of Foreign Wars, greeted the ex-servicemen. Am Vets, it was announced, were responsible for flag-bedecked streets in the city. Edwin Heinze, Dazey, American Legion

district commander, represented the ND Legion department at the reunion.

Floyd E. Henderson, Alexandria, Va., commander of the World War One Veterans of the U.S., said his organization will continue to battle for across-the-board pensions for WWI veterans, now estimated to total 650,000 from an original four million. Such benefits were voted Spanish-American War veterans, said Henderson. War I veterans, he pointed out, instituted the GI Bill which has given benefits to millions of WW II, Korean and Vietnam veterans.

Henderson described himself as an ambassador for North Dakota as he visits all states during his year as WWI group commander. A VCSC graduate, Henderson served in the 1929 session of the ND legislature. His home in North Dakota is in Fargo.

Gordon LaMont, Dickinson, asked the group to co-operate in Veterans day, Nov. 11, observance in the state. A member of the state veterans coordinating council, LaMont said he will seek reports from all vets organizations on Nov. 11 commemorations.

Regulations governing material to be included in a history of the 164th occupied considerable time at the meeting Saturday. William Tillotson, chairman of the history committee, told association members to forward information and opinions to his group. The history is to be written by John Rhodes, Fargo, who is studying material in another publication, "Under the Southern Cross" and seeking data from national archives.

A room in the North Dakota Heritage Center will be utilized for National Guard history, said Rhodes. He told the ex-infantrymen that the history will be a "good book."

Keith Parsons, Bismarck, editor of the 164th's quarterly publication, urged recruitment of additional veterans. There are scores of veterans, especially

of Korea service, who are not enrolled, he said.

Veterans heard a report on the 1977 trip to the Fiji Islands. Recording of the commemorative trip were available for veterans to hear.

Bernard Lyons, Sanborn, served as chairman for the reunion committee. He was assisted by 164th veterans residing in Barnes County.

## Letters . . .

August 14, 1978

Dear fellows,

Enclosed find check for tickets and one for my dues for 1979, how are they coming on that history of the 164th? Never mention anything about it in the 164th News. We will have been to North Dakota twice this summer. My wife's mother is in the home in Napoleon and isn't well. Don't think we can afford to make another trip as much as we'd like to.

Wishing you have a successful reunion.

Everth A. Forde  
"L" Company

Victor "Vic" Anundson, President  
164th Infantry Association  
P.O. Box 44  
Valley City, ND 58072

Dear Vic:

Sorry I will not be able to attend the annual reunion of the 164th Infantry Association. I will be on my way to the National Commander's Homecoming at Detroit, Michigan and then to Indianapolis for 3 days. I have asked Edwin J. Heinze, 1st District Commander of Dazey to take my place.

Thanks again for the invitation. I was looking forward to this as I used to know lots of fellows in the 164th. Wishing you the best for a good reunion.

Sincerely yours,  
"Pete"

Otto "Pete" Helm  
Department Commander

## The Last Roll Call

It has been reported that the following named members of the 164th Infantry have answered the LAST ROLL CALL since our last issue:

Joseph Mancini.....	30 Sept. 1978.....	Bronx, N. Y.
Theodore Goth.....	2 Dec. 1978.....	Watford City, ND
Bert J. Johnson.....	5 Dec. 1978.....	Marion, ND
Roy Kelly.....	21 July 1978.....	Oberlin, LA.
Arthur K. Serumgard.....	4 July 1978.....	Denver, Colo.
Meator Foss.....	21 Jan. 1978.....	Hillsboro, ND
Fred Herman.....	10 August 1978.....	Ryder, ND
A.C. Anderson.....	19 August 1978.....	Minot, ND

## The 164th Infantry News

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KEITH P. PARSONS

Editor

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## Varied Program Marked Reunion

Approximately 125 ladies attended the luncheon at the Elks on Oct. 14 during the 164th reunion held in Valley City.



Pat Conlon from Fargo provided music during luncheon as well as for the entertainment which was a wedding gown style show. Jean Sivanson, narrator, gave us a "picture album" view of gowns dating from 1894 thru 1978 which were modeled by teenage daughters and friends of committee members. Mrs. Mike (Peggy) Conlon was behind the scenes throughout the show and a special thanks to her for a wonderful job.



Charlotte Anundson emceed the program, giving a welcome and called the winners of door prizes which were donated by committee members.



Grace Erickson, Hatton ND and Lila Tait registered the guests in a guest book which has been used for the last three reunions held in Valley City. This book has been faithfully guarded by Mary Wagner of Sanborn.

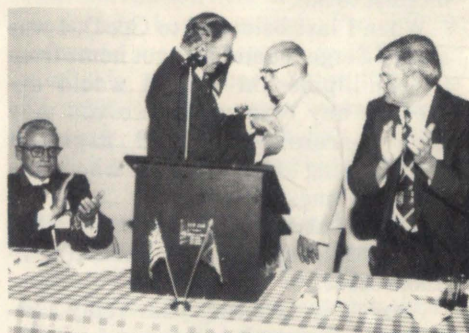
Mrs. Clarence (Betty) Risser crocheted teacup centerpieces which were sold after the luncheon.

Other committee members not previously mentioned, serving before and during the reunion are; Bernice Martin, Roy Lene Kane, Lois Bries, Bev Kunze, Jo Winkler, Pat Thilmony, Helen Metcalf, Joyce Oster, and Millie Thorson.

Photographers were Lynn and Karen Anderson, of Photo Fun Studios in Valley City.



More letters on '78  
Reunion in next issue . . .





5 September 1978

Mr. Vic Anundson  
President, 164th Infantry  
Association  
P.O. Box 44  
Valley City, ND 58072

Dear Mr. Anundson:

Thank you very much for your invitation to attend the banquet on October 14th in the course of the annual meeting of the 164th Infantry Association. Unfortunately, I will be in Germany on a NATO Commanders tour at that time, and consequently, will not be able to be present.

I definitely appreciate the invitation, and in the past have certainly enjoyed the opportunity to be present in the course of the 164th Infantry activities. I hope you will remember me again next year.

Sincerely,  
C. EMERSON MURRY  
Major General, NDNG  
The Adjutant General

August 14, 1978

Reunion Committee  
164th Infantry Association  
Valley City, North Dakota

Enclosed is my check for \$10.00 for tickets you sent me and for five extra which you can keep. If these should win please give the prize money to the 164th Infantry Association.

Please extend my best wishes for a successful Reunion and best regards to my old cromies. Some day I hope I can be with you.

Sincerely,  
Col. Arthur C. Timboe  
354 Cresta Vista Dr.  
San Francisco, California 94127

August 25, 1978

Mr. Victor Anundson, President  
164th Infantry Association  
P.O. box 44  
Valley City, North Dakota 58072

Dear Mr. Anundson:

This is in further reference to your invitation earlier this year for me to attend the annual reunion of the 164th Infantry Association in Valley City on October 13, 14, and 15.

Congress had planned to adjourn by October 7 this year and I had hoped that I could attend at least a part of your reunion this year. However, it is certain now that we will be doing well to finish by October 14th which would make it impossible for me to be with you. We will be considering a great deal of important legislation during the last weeks of the session and I feel that I should remain here until we finish. I am sure you will understand my problem.

Best wishes for a most successful reunion.

Sincerely,  
MILTON R. YOUNG

10/12/78

Victor Anundson, Pres.  
164th Infantry Assoc.  
P.O. Box 44  
Valley City, ND 58072

I deeply appreciated the invitation to attend the annual reunion of the 164th Infantry Association. I have always treasured the honorary membership you folks gave me a number of years ago. It is a real honor for me to be associated with the 164th which has fought so valiantly and sacrificed so much for the defense of our country. I know I would have greatly enjoyed visiting with you folks again, but it just isn't possible for me to attend. Please extend my greetings and best wishes to all your members. Regards,

Milt Young,  
United States Senator

October 25, 1978

Tally ho!

The 164 is shipping out to the South Pacific again! But there are no mean Japs or malaria infested jungles to contend with this time—just warm hearted Fijians, sunny beaches, and a lot of good ole time fun.

Following the success of last January's Fiji Reunion, we received many requests for a "Fiji Encore," so we drew up a similar itinerary for January '79, adding a few improvements. Unfortunately, Fiji is so popular that we have been unable to clear enough of its limited air, hotel, and cruise space on the dates that we requested. The enclosed "Official Travel Order" was prepared for the annual convention held in Valley City two weeks ago, but since then, Pan Am has informed us air space is no longer available on January 30 or February 10, 1979. A few seats remain open, however, on the same flights departing a week later, and our ground operator in Fiji can move our ground arrangements back a week with minor revisions, so we have decided to operate "Fiji Encore" from February 6 to 17, 1979. I need not stress that time is of the essence if we are to secure these reservations, so please send us your completed application form and deposit this week if you would like to attend the second annual 164th Infantry Reunion in the Fijis.

Charles Walker of Pembina will lead the tour and official delegation to the Fijian government. His work last year in arranging reunion activities with Ratu Sir George Cathabau, Governor-General of Fiji, contributed immensely to the success of the First Fiji Reunion. Under Chuck's enthusiastic leadership, the Second Fiji Reunion promises to be even better.

I hope that you will be able to attend this exciting reunion, and that we shall hear from you soon.

Happy traveling!  
Kris Brekke  
Manager

Greet Art Frotney and Frank Richards for me. Perhaps the only ones of my vintage present.

Sammy Baglien and Co. O. Ferguson live in this area but I seldom see them, no drivers license. Do have a valid Medical License but am retired.

C.J. Glaspel  
Medical Corp.  
1 Torrey Pines Lane  
Newport Beach,  
California 92660

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP and/or ANNUAL RENEWAL  
164th INFANTRY ASSOCIATION of the UNITED STATES**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Served With and Dates \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code No. \_\_\_\_\_

**DUES FOR 1979** — \$5.00, includes subscription to 164th News

**Send to: Waldemar Johnson, Box 1111, Bismarck, North Dakota 58501**



164th Inf. Association  
Valley City, North Dakota

ATTENTION: Victor Anundson:

Dear Mr. Anundson:

While looking through the VFW magazine, I noticed the Association is having a reunion in Valley City the week-end of October 13th. I am an old member of Company D of Rugby and was wondering if any of the unit would be there. Also about reservations, program etc.

Would it be possible to send me any available information the Association may have on any of the old units from World War II; I had a lot of friends in those units. Would also appreciate an application blank to join your Association; in fact, anything that would be of interest to me.

When I last belonged to Co. D, I was a Staff Sergeant and just got home from the Phillipines in 1945. I would appreciate any correspondence you may have concerning the Old Regiment and hearing from anyone who may remember me.

At present I am commander of VFW Post 4082, located here in Nashville, Illinois 62263.

Anxiously awaiting your reply I remain your comrade in arms.

Sincerely,  
C. Pat Bednarz  
212 W. Walnut St.  
Nashville, Illinois, 62263

Dear Mr. Anundson,

I read with interest in the American Legion Magazine of the reunion of the 164th Infantry. I never served with the 164th Infantry, I did serve with the 2nd Marines on Guadalcanal in 42-43 and during that time made several friends with a few people from the 164th Infantry press headquarters-American Div.

I would be interested in attending a reunion of the 164th Infantry if it is open to outsiders. Since I do have several friends who served with the 164th Infantry, I would also appreciate the following information.

Are any histories available for purchase anywhere of the 164th Infantry or American Div., particularly the Guadalcanal era and its relationships with the 2nd Marines?

I am enclosing a self addressed stamped envelope, knowing you are probably delayed with inquiries.

Sincerely,  
James Harder  
124 Monte Vista Dr.  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

November 27, 1978

Waldemar Johnson  
164th Infantry Association  
Box 1111  
Bismarck, North Dakota 58501

Dear Mr. Johnson,

During the recent Thanksgiving holidays I had the opportunity to renew friendships with three 164th Infantry buddies of Co. "G", who served in the South Pacific: Mel Pursley of Benkelman, Nebraska, Tony Griffin and Dick Stowell, both of Denver, Colorado.

I am forwarding the application and 164th dues (1979) for Tony and Dick. We hope to see all three at the next Company "G" reunion in Valley City, July 1979.

Best wishes to all for the upcoming holiday season.

Sincerely,  
Peter H. Grant  
5809 73rd Ave. N., No. 108  
Brooklyn Park, Mn. 55429

October 6, 1978

Mr. Keith Parsons  
164 News Box 1111  
Bismarck, ND 58505

Keith,

I wrote recently to Vic Anundson in regard to reunion etc. (which I can't attend) but I am interested in contacting anyone from "C" co. who might be interested in contacting me.

Enclosed find check for five dollars (\$5.00) for a subscription to the newspaper you put out.

You could also note in the paper my name and address if perchance anyone wanted to contact me.

Many thanks and my best wishes to you.

Robert K. Sheuhaw  
71 Handing Circle,  
Suffield, Conn. 06078  
Phone Area 230-668-2818

Mpls. Mn.  
Oct. 1, 1978

Dear 164th Members,

I am sorry to say that I will not be able to attend the Reunion this year again because of my health. Sure will miss seeing all of you. And I do hope that each and every one of you have the best Reunion ever. Be thinking of all the fun that you all enjoy.

Enclosed is a check for my dues and the book of tickets for \$10.00. Will be hoping to hear from you that I am a winner of anything.

Sincerely,  
Albert L. Rode

Vista, California  
August 9, 1978

Reunion Committee 164th Infantry

Enclosed is check to pay for raffle tickets.

Virginia and I will be unable to attend reunion in Valley City due to other commitments.

I hope that reunions in the future will be held in August or September. October in North Dakota is no place to hold conventions due to adverse weather conditions.

Thank You.

Norman and Virginia Samson  
Vista, California  
HOS Co. 1st Br.  
164th Infantry

Waseca, Minnesota  
August 30, 1978

Dear friends of the 164th Infantry Association. Sorry I won't be able to attend the reunion at Valley City. However, I am sending my 5 ticket stubs for the drawing. Also, if it is not too late, I would like to put my name on the list for the book "Under the Southern Cross". Also I just mailed my dues for 1978 to the Secretary of the 164th Infantry Association.

Thank you for privilege of belonging to such a fine organization.

As ever,  
Carlos Klinger  
511-4th Ave. NE  
Waseca, Minnesota 56093

August 9, 1978

Mr. Bernard A. Wagner  
Reunion Committee  
164th Infantry Assn.  
P.O. Box 44  
Valley City, North Dakota 58072

Dear Bernard,

Please excuse my home address shown above, it is only a temporary expedience as I am today changing my home address.

I'll show "c/o Wally Johnson" as my home address on these five enclosed ticket stubs just in case.

I'll be sure to let Wally know about my new home address.

Good luck and good health to you all.

Sincerely,  
Myron D. Reamy  
General Delivery  
Manhattan G.P.O.  
8th Ave. at 33rd St.  
New York, NY 10001

P.S. Last but not least, enclosed is a \$5 bill to pay for my 5 tickets.





Picture is of the 2nd Platoon of H Co. 164th Infantry on Guadalcanal 1943.

Supplied by Harrol Collins, 616 5th, Madison, Minnesota.

Dear Sir,

Came across this address and would very much enjoy joining the 164th Infantry Association. I was a member of the 164th S.T. Co. from September 1943 till June 1946. I believe most of my comrades were from Bismarck, North Dakota. Would appreciate you sending me application forms and dues payment. Thank you.

Very respectfully yours,

Joseph Dest  
768 Pine Rock Ave.  
Hamden, Conn. 06514

P.S. please send me your last monthly news report.

Mr. Keith Parsons:

Would like to have you insert a little item for us in the 164th News. I did talk to you about this in Valley City.

The Guadalcanal Campaign Veterans will be holding their third National Reunion in Minneapolis, Minn. August 7, 8, 9 and 10th, 1979. We want to urge all of the 164th members to join us along with other members of the 132nd, 182nd Marines, Navy, Air Force, etc.

Plans are being made for a full week of entertainment and we want to welcome each and everyone of you here in Minneapolis.

Membership is not a requirement. We just want the 164th to be well represented.

Sincerely,  
Ray Sawyer, Sec.  
Don Van Slyke, Treasurer  
John Erickson, Director  
Marv Mauch, Director

Rochester, Minnesota  
September 13, 1978  
164th Infantry Reunion

Dear Sir,

Enclosed are stubs and my check for the drawing plus \$5.00 for my dues for 1979.

Sorry I am unable to attend as we are still recovering from the July flood which we were in and another flood warning yesterday and today so we must stay home to be prepared.

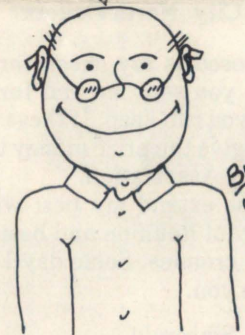
Sincerely,  
Vincent J. Schmitt  
1003 6th Ave. NW  
Rochester, Minnesota

August 6, 1978  
Reunion Committee  
164th Infantry Assoc.

Enclosed find check for \$5.00 for the drawing to be held at the reunion, sorry I can't make it this year. When are we going to have one in California? Who is around from good old Company "M"? If any one comes up our way give us a call. Phone (213) 892-2940.

Sincerely,  
Joe Michalski  
Co. "M"  
The Old Motor Platoon

INVEST IN THE  
STOCK MARKET,  
YOU SAY ????  
..... NO WAY - I'M  
SENDING THE 164<sup>TH</sup>  
INFANTRY ASS'N. MY  
1979 DUES  
SO I'LL GET SOME  
RETURN FROM IT!!



By ABBOTT  
OBERLIN, I.A.  
10/23/78

## The 164th Infantry News

Box 1111  
BISMARCK, N. D. 58501