



9-1989

## 164th Infantry News: September 1989

164th Infantry Association

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

Vol. 28 No. 3

1989 is our 43rd ass'n y



September 1989

## 164th Infantry Reunion

**DATES:** October 6-7-8th, 1989

**PLACE:** Bismarck Kirkwood Motor Inn • 800 S. 3rd St. • Bismarck, ND • 701-258-7700

The time is drawing near so fast and we are all getting very excited about seeing our old Fox Hole Buddies and those lovely gals that they were so lucky to latch on to. We have been working hard and constantly wondering if we have forgotten to do anything. Since our ads in the Legion and V.F.W. Magazines, several of the old gang have come to light that never even knew we had an organization. They have missed out on a lot; but can catch up fast.

We are including 3 tickets for the \$164.00 prizes. If you can't make this year's reunion, we would appreciate the \$5.00 to help defray expenses, and you just might win. We give out 3 winners of \$164.00 each.

Enclosed is an advanced registration form. It sure would help if you would send that very soon. If an emergency arises and you can't make it; we will refund your

money. It helps so very much for our planning.

Most of our dues are due about then, so why not include your dues (the \$5.00 dues includes a \$4.00 subscription to the 164th Infantry News). Maybe you would want to consider a life membership for \$50.00. We know that you all are going to live for more than 10 years; so it's a bargain and saves our hard working secretary a lot of work.

Speaking of hard working secretaries, Frank has arranged for the Chaplain, the singer, the Honor Guard, etc. for the Memorial Ceremony. The National Guard has promised us a bus, which you can catch at the motel and it will take you to the Veterans Memorial and the Heritage Center, Saturday afternoon. It will be a constant shuttle, so you can catch it back, when you wish. We have the "Photo Express" who

will take lots of pictures and have them on display at Sunday's brunch, so you can look them over and order what you want.

**Again — please come.**

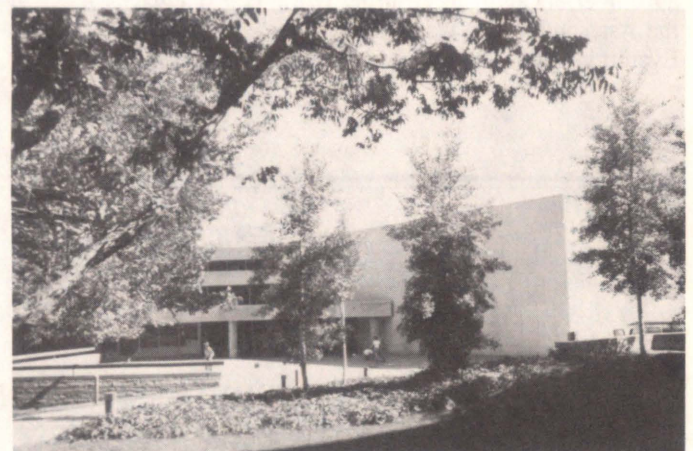
Our final selling point. For \$12.50 per person you get — hors d'oeuvres Friday night, Continental Breakfast Saturday morning, lunch Saturday noon (the ladies will leave us and have theirs at poolside), a banquet Saturday night and a brunch Sunday morning. Along with this you will be associating (lying and BSing actually) with the finest people on earth.

There will be lots of V.I.P.'s at this reunion. All of them members of the 164th. Come and hear them tell it like it really was as only they can tell it. A couple of beers and 45 years makes the stories even better.

*Editor's note: This is a reprint of a letter mailed by Ray Patton, President.*



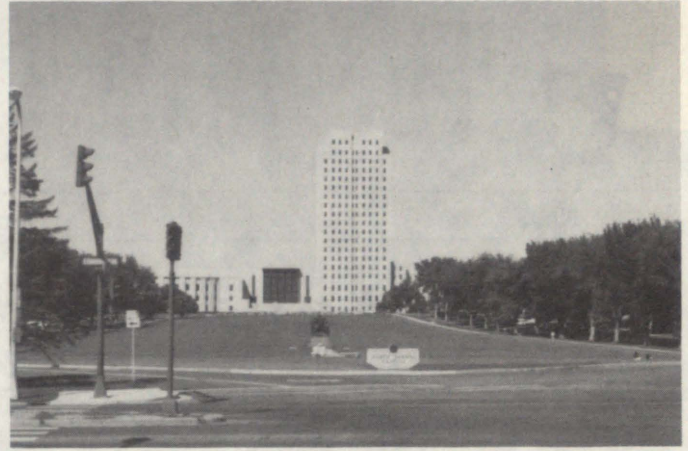
Members of the reunion committee left to right: Don Robinson, Frank Weisgerber, Gil Shirley, Harold Krause, Marge Shirley, Ray Patton, Evelyn Patton, Bill Tillotson, Ione Towne.



North Dakota State Heritage Center located on State Capitol grounds.



Reunion Headquarters, 800 South 3rd St., Bismarck



North Dakota State Capitol Building, looking north from the corner of 6th St. & Blvd.

### *Last Roll Call*

Donald Johnston, Dickinson, ND .....	Mar. 26, 1989
Marvin H. Schuler, Arlington Heights, IL .....	July 19, 1989
W. H. Hendrickson, Jamestown, ND .....	April 20, 1989
Patrick V. McGurran, St. Paul, MN .....	June 22, 1989
J. Earl Rulla, Beatrice, NE .....	May 19, 1989
Joseph R. Walters, Devils Lake, ND .....	July 27, 1989
Charles Rogers, Bakersfield, CA .....	June 14, 1989
Havery Nicholson, Carrington, ND .....	June 6, 1989
Sidney Flexhaug, Williston, ND .....	
Lyle P. Aljets, Everett, WA .....	Sept. 11, 1989
F.W. (Bill) Grenagel, Grafton, ND .....	Sept. 22, 1989

### Lyle Aljets

Lyle Aljets, Everett, WA, died September 11, 1989. Lyle was a member of Company F during World War II and was active in the Association. He was born in Sykeston, ND. He moved to Everett in 1965. He had many friends in the association.

### Bill Grenagel

F.W. (Bill) Grenagel died September 22 in a Minneapolis Hospital. He was a member of the 164th at Camp Rucker. Bill was a long time Grafton, ND attorney and member of the National Guard. He retired as a Brigadier General from the Guard. Bill will be missed by his many Guard friends.

1883



1955

**164th INFANTRY ASSOCIATION**  
**OF THE UNITED STATES**  
**ANNUAL REUNION**  
**OCT. 6-7-8-**  
**BISMARCK, ND**

### The 164th Infantry News

USPS 699-800 is published quarterly  
 by the 164th Infantry Association  
 OFFICE: 618 West Thayer  
 Bismarck, N.D. 58501

**BILL TILLOTSON**

Editor

**POSTMASTER:**

Send address changes to the  
 164th Inf. News, Box 1111,  
 Bismarck, N.D. 58502.

Aug. 2, 1989

Dear Bill,

I was saddened by the most recent issue of the 164th News in which I read about the death of two of my 164th Inf. friends, Harry Yuill and Jim Gilboe. I thought of Jim Gilboe as a special friend of mine because he may have saved my life and the lives of others in the 1st machine gun platoon of Co. "D" when he stopped Japs who had infiltrated our position one night in Leyte, north of Ormoc. Jim was standing guard at the time.

We plan to attend the reunion in Bismarck and hope nothing prevents our doing so.

Thanks for a good newspaper.

Sincerely,  
Max D. Conyers  
524 Wanstead Way  
Lexington, KY 40505

July 27, 1989

Dear Sirs,

Just a note to inform you of Col. Patrick V. McGurran's death on June 22, 1989. He served with the 164th Infantry from Cavalier, North Dakota taking Hdq. Company into service in Feb. 1941 to Camp Claiborne, La. Served in the Pacific and Africa. He has lived in St. Paul, Minn. for the last thirty years.

I read about Col. Sam Baglien, he was a very good friend of our family. He and Pat continued to exchange letters at Christmas.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Patrick V. McGurran  
St. Paul, MN

8-14-89

Dear Sir:

I am sending a picture of the radio section take in Bougainville (1944).

There are four Fargo men in the picture. Front row left to right: Gordon Bostrum and Donald Hoff. Back row with cap Robert Hoff and in white tee-shirt Jim Henderson. Not shown, Alex McGibbon, Fargo and John Alme, Barlow, ND.

I'm the man in the fatigue hat. I thought you might like to have this picture. You may already have it anyway.

Ed Brennan  
Kansas City, MO 64129

Hi Ray:

I was at last year's 164th reunion with my wife, and we really enjoyed ourselves. So I've got two questions and favors I'm asking you. First, tell me the hotel where it will be held at so I can send for my reservations and second, it's been quite some time since I received the 164th newsletter, good thing I get the D.A.V. magazine to keep me informed. I was with A Co. 164 and I told my wife that we'll never miss another reunion.

I've been writing to some of my old buddies who have never attended a reunion, telling them to come see first hand.

Maybe you could coax them into coming to N.D. for a visit. Here are their names and addresses:

Mr. Ray Robertson, our platoon runner  
P.O. Box 224  
Blue Steel ME 04614

Mr. Robert Radune, my second gunner  
308 Oak Street  
McArthur, Ohio 45651

Mr. William B. Yohe  
118 Old Oak Road  
McMurry, PA 15317

Mr. Marwin E. Bokelmann, Bush Sgt 2d  
squad  
3917 Ft. Campo Bello Dr.  
Glendale, Az. 85308

Here's hoping you can help me to see these guys one more time.

Thank you and see you in Oct.

Walter A. Hickey

9-2-89

Gentlemen -

Enclosing check for tickets and dues check #3609 — \$10.00

Please note new address: LeRoy Wahowske, 711 N. 24 St., Grand Forks, ND 58203

Want to wish all a good time out. Wishing Co. "B" all the best. Sorry I just can't make it this year unless things turn for the better.

LeRoy Wahowske

Sept. 12, 1989

Dear Mr. Weisgerber.

I am enclosing a check for 89/90 dues as well as for 164th raffle tickets.

I would love to attend this year's reunion and once again spend a few hours with the wives and widows of Company "B" members. However, this may not be possible.

Please note change of address from P.O. Box 922, Devils Lake, ND 58301 to P.O. Box 163, Rogue River, OR 97537.

Thank you!! Best wishes for the best reunion ever!!

Marjorie E. Spagrud, widow of  
Ibseu Spagrud, Co. "B"

Aug. 2, 1989

164 Infantry:

Earl & I had planned to make Bismarck this year. We even made motel reservations.

Earl passed away May 19, 1989 from cancer of the bone and a brain tumor that took him.

We did enjoy the two reunions that we did attend.

Wish you a good reunion this year.

Sincerely,  
Evelyn Rulla  
Beatrice, Neb. 68310



## Notes From The Editor

In the July issue of the "News" we published a letter of tribute from Thurston Nelson and a brief statement telling of the death of Col. Sam Baglein. This past week Ray Patton received a letter from Herman Wildermuth telling of his association with Col. Baglein. This letter is published in this issue. Also received is a booklet written by Col. Baglein titled "An Account of the 164th Infantry Regiment on Guadalcanal." This is a fairly detailed resume' of the Regiments action on Guadalcanal. It even includes the names and dates of individuals killed in action on the "Canal." If enough interest is shown, the pamphlet could be reproduced and made available to members of the Association. We will have a copy to look at at Reunion Headquarters.

The 1989 Reunion promises to be the best attended reunion with 310 individuals registered to date.

When you receive this copy of the "News," only a few days will remain until that great event. It is not too late for that last minute decision. If you can't get a room at Kirkwood Motor Inn try Holiday Inn, Ramada Inn, Super 8 or Motel 6. A fairly new budget motel located near Kirkwood Motor Inn is Expressway Inn, phone #1-701-222-2900. The association has many new members, so you are apt to meet some old friends that you haven't seen since WW II.



A bunch of bathing beauties and/or Fishermen from Company A. Ray Patton, 2nd from the left. Ernie Tolliver, far right. Chris Kolden, front right. It is evident that much beer was consumed and little fishing was attempted.

We are in receipt of a fine letter from Dr. JR Roche. I hope he will forgive us for saving his letter until the next issue of the news. He is a veteran of World War I and has a good, if somewhat lengthy, story to tell.

A few weeks ago your editor received a

phone call from Dave Olson, staff writer for the Fargo Forum. He was given a list of names of 164 Veterans in the Fargo area. Sunday, August 27, the Forum had an article with a fine interview with Lewis Borscheim, a member of B Company during the Guadalcanal Campaign.

## 164th Infantry Reunion 43rd Reunion October 6, 7, 8, 1989 Kirkwood Motor Inn • Bismarck, ND

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1989

1:00 p.m.	--	Registration begins
7:00 p.m.	--	Social hour
9:00 to 12:00 p.m.	--	Dancing

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1989

7:30 to 9:00 a.m.	--	Continental Breakfast
9:30 a.m.	--	Memorial Service
10:00 a.m.	--	Business Meeting
12:00 noon	--	Ladies Luncheon - Poolside
12:00 noon	--	Mens Luncheon - Dresden Room
2:20 to 4:30 p.m.	--	Tour All Veterans Memorial and Heritage Center
6:30 p.m.	--	Social Hour
7:30 p.m.	--	Banquet
9:00 p.m.	--	Dance

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1989

8:30 to 11:30 a.m. -- Brunch  
Attend the church of your choice

#### 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 1989 — \$5.00 which includes \$4.00 subscription to 164th News.  
Send to: Secretary 164th Infantry, Box 1111, Bismarck, North Dakota 58502**

## Letters . . .

August 11, 1989

164th

I am sending you a booklet copy of the account of the 164th Infantry Regiment Guadalcanal Campaign (1942-1943) written by LTC Samuel Baglien, Executive Officer of the unit during the campaign. My friendship with Col. Baglien began with my retirement to Yucca Valley in 1969 where it was my good fortune to meet him as an earlier retiree there. He and I became friends as members of both the American Legion and The Retired Officers Association. A copy of his obituary is also enclosed.

I had this booklet made up as a memorial to "Colonel Sam" as well as to the memory of those North Dakotans who served in the Guadalcanal Campaign and especially the many who made the supreme sacrifice with their lives. All this will be without cost to the recipients: NDNG Headquarters, the 164th Infantry Association, North Dakota State University, members of Colonel Baglien's family and a few individuals who are interested. My complimentary copy to NDSU will be in memory of Major Stafford Ordahl and Captain George Newgard whom I knew in R.O.T.C. at NDSU.

In a letter from NDNG Headquarters it was suggested that your association might be interested in also receiving a copy of the booklet. I then had sufficient copies made up for the library of each city who had a unit in the campaign, hoping that the 164th Infantry Association will be able and willing to forward the booklets to the pertinent libraries if I send them to you in bulk.

My own interest in the NDNG goes back to my Headquarters Company, Fargo, membership (1927-1930). Upon graduation from North Dakota State University in 1930, I received my commission in the U.S. Army Reserve and served on active duty from June 27, 1941 to January 12, 1946 receiving my commission as Major AUS Reserve, retired in 1968 at age 60.

I hope that I will hear from you shortly regarding your ability to forward the booklets to the pertinent libraries, then I will send them to you.

Sincerely yours,  
Herman D. Wildermuth  
Major AUS Retired  
7487 Bannock Trail  
Yucca Valley, CA 92284



SAMUEL BAGLIEN

Sept. 2, 1989

Dear Ray:

Here it is almost time for our Reunion again, and I find that my wife and I will be away during that time. We have six weeks in Cancun, Mexico and seem always to go each year when the reunion comes around. I am enclosing my check for \$10.00 for the raffle and next year's dues and am really sorry that I won't be able to renew old acquaintances with a lot of people I knew so well so long ago.

I had the sad experience of attending Colonel Sam Baglien's funeral a few weeks ago and thought then that I should make a lot more effort in coming to the reunion, but not this year, unfortunately. I have attended one Band Reunion out here in Huntington Beach and have talked to Jim Parmeter about a plan that I have in mind for a return to the South Pacific in 1992. The idea I have is to escort those members of the 164th who are still with us and who are interested in returning and have our Reunion on Guadalcanal. My intention is to fly to Sydney, spend two or three days there, then cruise to the Great Barrier Reef, Port Moresby, Bouganville, Guadalcanal, Fiji, New Caledonia and back to Sydney. Then fly home with a possible stop in Honolulu.

This is all in the thinking stage, but I would hope to obtain some interest on the parts of Senators from North Dakota and California, the State Department and the President, since this would be the fiftieth anniversary of the Battle for Guadalcanal

which, as we all know, was the turning point in the War in the South Pacific and we were the first Army troops involved in offensive combat in WWII.

I would appreciate it very much if you can see if any interest can be generated for this idea and perhaps insert this letter in the next issue of the 164th Infantry News and thereby getting the idea to some of our members who cannot attend the Reunion this year. Please extend my regards to all of my old friends that you may see and if you see or hear from Bill Considine, Gordy LaMont, Dr. Christensen, General Frank Richards and others I served so closely with, regards to them as well. If you see Doug Burtell, say "Hello" to him for me as I read his January letter wherein he mentioned my name in his remarks about the I & R Platoon. For the information of all concerned, I have overcome lung surgery, open heart surgery, pacemaker and foot surgery, all in the past 3 or 4 years and still keep busy playing golf, bowling as well as participating in our Homeowners Association community affairs, so I am really looking forward to 1992.

My very best regards to you, Ray, keep up the good work.

Fred Flo  
BGen, Retired  
23722 Villena  
Mission Viejo, California  
92692  
(714) 830-8110

9-18-89

Dear Bill,

The excitement is mounting regarding the upcoming 164th reunion. All it takes is a phone call or two from an old army buddy to get the juices flowing. Here's hoping that everybody who has ever thought about coming will show up for the grand party in Bismarck this year. I know they will not be disappointed.

Three army buddies Byron Burdette, Donald Fulp and Paul Dickerson of Co. A got together for a gab-fest in Winston-Salem, NC last Feb. 12, 1989. What a time they had!

Picture enclosed

Best regards,  
Mary and Paul Dickerson  
1630 Easton St. NW  
North Canton, OH 44720  
Ph. 216-499-3212



Three Company A buddies, Barney Burdette of Bull Gap, TN; Donald Fulp, Winston-Salem, NC; and Paul Dickerson, North Canton, Ohio.

In the July issue of the News, we published a letter from a reader who expressed his dissatisfaction with the way we handled the "Notes from the Editor" section. He felt that we were not being fair to the readers who had written to us. We were sorry to hear that and we have taken steps to make sure that we are fair to all our readers. We will continue to publish letters from our readers and we will continue to be open to their suggestions. We will also continue to be open to their criticisms. We will continue to be open to their suggestions and criticisms. We will continue to be open to their suggestions and criticisms.

**164th Infantry Regiment**  
**43rd Regiment**  
**October 6-7-8, 1989**  
**Kirkwood Motor Inn - Bismarck, ND**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1989**  
 1:00 p.m. - Registration begins  
 5:00 p.m. - Registration closes  
 7:00 p.m. - Dinner  
 9:00 p.m. - Entertainment

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1989**  
 7:00 a.m. - Breakfast  
 8:00 a.m. - Registration begins  
 1:00 p.m. - Registration closes  
 5:00 p.m. - Dinner  
 7:00 p.m. - Entertainment

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1989**  
 8:30 a.m. - Breakfast  
 9:00 a.m. - Registration begins  
 1:00 p.m. - Registration closes  
 5:00 p.m. - Dinner  
 7:00 p.m. - Entertainment

**The 164th Infantry News**  
 Box 1111  
 BISMARCK, N.D. 58502

USPS - 699 - 800  
 2ND CLASS BISMARCK, ND 58502

IN THIS DAY AND AGE OF RETURNS, REFUNDS AND REBATES WE OFTEN WONDER HOW MUCH TIME, EFFORT AND MONEY COULD BE SAVED IF WE PRICED IT (WHATEVER) RIGHT IN THE BEGINNING??

..OR DO WE THINK THAT TO RETRIEVE SOMETHING TAKEN AWAY PREVIOUSLY IS A GREAT GAIN? HM-M-M-M?



By PEBBIT  
 OBERLIN, IA.  
 8/19/89