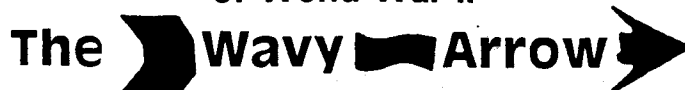


20th Combat Engineer Association of World War II



June 1, 2002

Message From Our President

It's hard to believe that sixty years ago we were brought together by our government and sent overseas in an effort to prevent Japan and Germany from taking over the world.

It took a little while, but with the help of millions of other young men, we were successful. As a reward we were *fired* [the military called it *discharged*], or as they call it today we were *downsized*. It was the only time I was fired, and one of the best days of my life. Most of the other "best days" were those attending the 20th Combat Engineer Reunions, so I urge that the regulars and any others send your reservations soon. See details below.

Joseph K. Noon
President

Deadline for 55th Reunion Approaching

September 1st is the deadline to register for the 55th Reunion of the 20th Combat Engineer Association of World War II that will be held from Thursday, October 3, to Sunday, October 6, 2002, at the Howard Johnson Hotel in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Make your reservations now using the enclosed Reservation Form..

The deadline for making sleeping room reservations at the Howard Johnson Hotel is September 13th. Sleeping rooms are available on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights at \$56.99 per night plus 12-1/2 percent tax and \$1.00 city charge (bringing the rate to \$65.11 per room per night for single or double occupancy.) For those who want to arrive on Wednesday or stay Sunday night or later, the sleeping room rate will be \$44.88 per room for these nights including taxes. Since both non-smoking and smoking rooms are available, be sure to specify which type you prefer.

Hotel sleeping room reservations can be made in two ways. By telephone, call 1-800-258-1878 using any major credit card for your room deposit. By mail to Howard Johnson Hotel, 1801 Atlantic Avenue, Virginia Beach, VA 23451, enclosing a check for one room night (\$65 made payable to "Howard Johnson Hotel"). In either case, all sleeping room reservations must be received by the Howard Johnson Hotel no later than September 13, 2002.

Reunion Registrations Received

Thus far we have received reservations for the following:

**George and Joan Griffenhagen, 2501 Drexel Street, Vienna, VA 22180.
Guests: Edna Griffenhagen and Mark Waller.**

Joseph and Edith Noon, P.O. Box 443. Hobgood, NC 27843.

Henry Linton Smith, 73 Jose Gaspar Drive, North Fort Myers, FL 33917.

Walter and Doris Wolczanski, 8 Lawrence Avenue, New Hartford, NY 13413.

Hostesses Needed

Since we will not have the traditional hosts for this Reunion who usually take care of hospitality, we encourage members, spouses, and family members to consider donating door prizes and to offer assistance in staffing the registration desk starting Thursday morning, October 3rd. Please send your generous offers of contributions plus the days and times of your availability for staffing the Registration Desk to: Secretary-treasurer George Griffenhagen, 2501 Drexel Street, Vienna, VA 22180, or by telephone at 703-560-2413, or by e-mail at <ggriffenhagen@aphanet.org>

Thus far we have the following volunteers: **Jessie Britt** (wife of deceased Raymond Britt C/20), 5131 Cypress Circle, Virginia Beach, VA 23455 (757-490-0681) will be available to assist on Friday and will also contribute a Door Prize. **Doris Wolczanski**, 8 Lawrence Avenue, New Hartford, NY 13413 also will be available anytime need.

Recap of Reunion Activities

The traditional "Get Re-Acquainted Reception" will commence at 8:00 p.m., Friday, October 4, with an assortment of both hot and cold hors d'oeuvres and soft drinks, compliments of the Association. There will also be a cash bar for beer, wine, and other alcoholic beverages that will remain open until 11:00 p.m.

The annual sit-down dinner will commence in the private dining room of the Howard Johnson Hotel at 7:00 p.m., Saturday, October 5, preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a cash bar. You will have one of three choices for your entree: **Virginia Ham Steak** (with fruit sauce); or **Sliced Top Round of Beef** (with wine and mushroom sauce); or **Seafood Rockefeller** (shrimp, scallops, mushrooms & broccoli over cheese tortellini, topped with cheese sauce). Regardless of the entree selected, the dinner will also include a tossed green salad with assortment of dressings; honey glazed carrots; red jacket potatoes, rolls and butter, dessert, coffee or ice tea. All of this for \$25.00 per person. Make your reservations now using the enclosed Reservation Form, but remember that the deadline is September 1, 2002.

Change of Addresses

Bernard J. Hall (B/20) has a new mailing address: P.O. Box 245, Ashford, VA 23005. His telephone number remains the same: 804-798-8147.

Santino (Smokey) Marciano (E/20; B/1340) has a new mailing address: 99 Little Clove Road, Staten Island, NY 10301. He writes: "I am not in the best of health but it could be worse."

James T. Ruddick, Jr. (C/20) has a new mailing address: 649 NC 561 West, Aulander, NC 27805. He did not advise us if his telephone number has changed.

Deceased Veterans

Raymond L. Britt, Sr. (C/20) died on April 16, 2002. His widow (Jessie) writes that "Ray had a severe stroke in March and has been in bad shape since. He could not speak and had many other problems. He is in a better place now. We will miss him."

Leo Geraci (E/20; B/1340) died about two years ago according to Smokey Marciano.

James G. Rhyne (C/20) mail has been returned marked as "Deceased." No additional details.

Missing Honorary Members

Mail has been returned from the following two Honorary Members. Does anyone have a new address for: **Victoria J. Casella** of Ft. Myers, Florida (widow of Joseph Casella C/20 who died in 1993); and **Estelle Murphy** of Overbrook Terrace, Illinois.

Communications Received

Edwin M. Lutz reports in a telephone call that both he and Martha have "their ups and downs," but they are presently feeling fairly good trying to regain their energy. He tells me that **Sally Brown** of Livermore, California, has just made a financial contribution in memory of the Association, and he wants me to remind everyone that he "will never forget his "boys."

Santino (Smokey) Marciano writes: "Sorry to hear of Carl Markey's health. Thanks for the information. We will call or write him. We had such a good time with him. May God watch over him and all the rest who are sick."

Joan Paull (widow of Robert G. Paull, F-20; C/1340) writes: "Thank you for the reunion news. I think it only fair to tell you that, while I appreciate getting the *Wavy Arrow*, I think its time you stopped spending postage on me. I have saved all the correspondence I've received so I have enough information to satisfy the curiosity of my children and grandchildren. I wish you all well in your future endeavors, and thank you for including me all these years."

[Editor's Comment: If and when any other widows or family members of deceased veterans no longer desire to receive the *Wavy Arrow*, please advice your editor.]

Preserving Wartime Memories

Florida State University Institute on World War II is now seeking veterans to share their WWII memories. The Institute is the largest non-federally funded repository of WWII materials in the U.S.A., and is the repository for the World War II materials collected by NBC *Nightly News* anchor Tom Brokaw during the writing of his book on the *Greatest Generation*. Letters, diaries, photographs, and unique artifacts from servicemen and women are welcome additions to the Institute's collections. For additional information, contact The Institute on WWII and the Human Experiences, Department of History, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306-2200. Telephone: 850-644-9033; FAX: 850-644-6402; E-mail: <ww2@ww2.fsu.edu >

In the last issue of the *Wavy Arrow*, we described how the Veterans History Project at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. is also looking for World War II veterans to share their wartime memories. They are seeking letters, diaries, photographs, maps, drawings, audio and video recordings, and anything that helps tell your story. The goal is to establish a comprehensive collection at the Library of Congress and on its website <www.loc.gov/folklife/vets> For a project kit, applications and more detailed information on ways to participate, write to the Veterans History Project, Library of Congress/American Folklife Center, 101 Independence Avenue, S.E., Washington, DC 20540-4615. Or call toll free at (888) 371-4615.

Reunion Travel Information

For arrival by automobile, take Route 64 East off I-95 to the Virginia Beach Expressway (I-264) to the end; turn right on Atlantic Avenue, and the Howard Johnson Hotel will be several blocks on the left. Enter the hotel parking garage entrance on Atlantic Avenue where you can park while you are checking into your room before continuing to the on-site complimentary covered parking garage that is reserved for all guests.

Transportation from the Norfolk International Airport directly to the Howard Johnson Hotel is available by using the Brown Shuttle Bus at \$22.00 per person or \$28.00 per couple each way. Reservations need to be made 24 hours in advance of arrival at 866-333-4644 (toll free) or 757-857-3991. The average Yellow Cab taxi fare from the airport to the hotel is \$32.00 each way. Telephone 757-622-3232.

More News On Our Website

Check out the 20th Combat Engineer Association of World War II web page operated by Walt and Doris Wolczanski at:
<<http://community.webtv.net/dodimae/20thCOMBATENGINEER>>

Send items for inclusion in future issues of the *Wavy Arrow* to editor George Griffenhagen, 2501 Drexel Street, Vienna, VA 22180.