



June

2019

CHIN STRAP

Published by the Maryland Region for all members of the 29th Division Association, Inc.

- ★ Alsace - 25 July 1918 - WWI
- ★ Meuse Argonne - 8 Oct - 29 Oct 1918 - WWI
- ‡ Normandy - 6 Jun 1944 - WWII
- ★ Normandy - 6 Jun - 24 Jul 1944 - WWII
- ★ Northern France - 25 Jul - 14 Sep 1944 - WWII
- ★ Rhineland - 15 Sep 1944 - 21 Mar 1945 - WWII
- ★ Central Europe - 22 Mar - 8 May 1945 - WWII

- Global War on Terrorism
- Iraqi Governance - 2004 - 2005 - Iraqi War
- National Resolution - 2005 - 2007 - Iraqi War
- Iraqi Surge - 2007 - 2008 - Iraqi War
- Consolidation I - 2001 - 2006 - Afghanistan War
- Consolidation II - 2006 - Present - Afghanistan War

Silver serving plate being returned to Germany



PNC Joe Zang accompanied by Historian Joe Balkoski presents a silver serving plate to representatives of Crozier Fine Arts for packing and shipping back to Germany. This plate was the last remaining piece of a 3,000 – 4,000 piece silver banquet set with service for 500 that the 175th Regiment “liberated” on May 2, 1945 in the waning days of World War II. The rest of the priceless set that included decorative items such as ornate candelabra and statues of camels, horses and elk had already been returned to Germany in January 1949. The banquet set traced its roots back to the German Imperial family, specifically the Kaiser Wilhelm’s son, Crown Prince Wilhelm and his wife Cecily. At the end of World War I when the Kaiser abdicated to Holland the German government confiscated the banquet set.

Text by Frank Armiger, Post 110 and photo by William Mund, Post 94.

PLEASE NOTE: Post meeting dates are now listed in bold type near the end of the respective Post Report.

Post Reports

Limestone Post 1-72

Baltimore, MD

Commander: Lee Hofmann

Finance Officer: Bill DeHaven

Comrades,

Greetings from Limestone Post 1-72. More than likely, by the time this report reaches you by mail, our May meeting will have taken place.

Please keep in mind our next meetings to be held in the Veterans Corps Headquarters room at the Fifth Regiment Armory in Baltimore is 17 June and 15 July, at 1100 hrs. sharp. Make plans now to be in attendance, we would like to see ya!!

As you are probably now aware, our PNC Bob Wisch is recovering from a little trouble with his "ticker"! The PNC, trooper that he is, conducted ceremonies honoring the 131st Anniversary of the Veterans Corps Fifth Regiment, during his recuperation! Not to make light of Bob's situation, his doctors have him under control, and he is doing better at the time of this writing. Please keep our "true blue" comrade in your prayers.

Please take note that the wreath laying ceremony in Arlington is fast approaching. The date for this event is 29 June. The cost to attend and partake of lunch is \$30, or \$40 if you decide to ride on the bus the MD Region will have going to the event. Please respond to Executive Director Will Mund, no later than 22 June, 2019.

Another date to keep in mind is our annual Post 1-72 and Veterans Corps combined picnic, to be held at Downs Memorial Park on 19 August 2019. Our Post 1-72 meeting in August will be cancelled in lieu of the picnic event. You will receive written correspondence on the picnic. Come out and join in the camaraderie.

Next Post 1-72 meetings, 17 June and 15 July 2019.

Respectfully,
Lee Hofmann, Commander

Florida West Post 2

Sarasota, FL

Commander & Finance Officer: Sean Malloy

"From this day to the ending of the world, but we in it, shall be remembered, we few....We Band of Brothers"

Henry V

William Shakespeare

75 years ago, on the morning of 6 June 1944, over 156,000 infantrymen made the churning journey across The English Channel to hit the landings off the cold sands of Normandy, France. Two of those brave soldiers were our fathers; Lieutenant Patrick W. Malloy, 121st Combat Engineers, Co. B and Lieutenant Sidney W. Smith, 121st Combat Engineers, Co. B.

Their path off that beach was a very difficult one, as was certainly the case for everyone that morning.

My father led his platoon past posi-



L to R: LT Sidney Smith and LT Patrick Malloy of B Company, 121st Combat Engineers.

tions on Omaha, with the protection of the seawall in sight. He ended up getting hit by an MG round to the shoulder while trying to pull Pvt. Jose San Miguel out of the cold, bloody surf. My father made it to the seawall, but waited until midnight to be medically evacuated.

Lieutenant Sidney Smith commanded his men inland to eventually secure the Montebarry Fortress after rugged pitch gun battle. Sidney Smith would receive the Silver Star for his bravery.

Our fathers were just two of the many who fought bravely for our Freedom in this country. Florida West Post 2 remembers them on this Special Anniversary. We remember the lost, and we salute those who remain with us today....75 years today...May we NEVER forget their sacrifice.

God Bless all those in the Fighting 29th! 29 Let's Go!

Next Post 2 meeting: 21 September 2019 at 12pm.

Sean P. Malloy, Commander
Eric G. Smith, Vice Commander

Rudolph M. Price, Jr., Post 5

Norfolk, VA

Commander: John Lane

Adjutant: Randy Hess

By this time, we will have completed our Memorial Day service at Forest Lawn cemetery in Norfolk. Thanks to all who were able to attend this event.

Update on Armory Renovations: The Norfolk armory is undergoing a major renovation. This includes the area of our meeting room which was not finished in time to support our first meeting of the year. We have now been told it may not be until November when all is ready for us to move back in. We have packed up and removed all our items for safe keeping. When completed, it will take a little time to put our "new room" back together as we plan to reorganize the items in a more chronological arrangement. We will keep you informed of the status.

As stated before our Post 5 meeting schedule for 2019 has changed to twice yearly on the Saturdays before our Memorial and Veterans Day events. So for 2019, unless our meeting room at the Armory is still not ready, our next meeting will be on 9 November from 10 am to 12 pm. Then on that Veterans Day, Monday 11 November at 11:00 am, we will have a service at Forest Lawn cemetery.

2019 Member Status: So far, we have 44 paid members for 2019 with 4 from 2018 that have not (yet?) renewed. We extend a warm welcome to Fred Bolton and Robert Rosser as new members to Norfolk Post 5. If you haven't yet submitted your membership dues for 2019, please do so now. Norfolk Post 5 annual dues are still set at \$15.00, or pay \$24.00 and renew for 2 years. Mail your payment by check, payable to "Norfolk Post 5", to our Post Commander:

Mr. John Lane, 340 Aragona Blvd., Virginia Beach, VA 23462.

Thanks for all your support for the 29th Division Association, Norfolk Post 5, and all associated events.

Next Post 5 meeting: 9 November 2019.

Respectfully,
Randy Hess, Adjutant

Jerome L. Day Post 48*Westminster, MD*

Commander: Frank Rauschenberg

Finance Officer: Richard Stem

Greetings Comrades,

The Installation of the 2019/2020 Elected Officers was held on Friday, May 17, 2019 at 6:30 pm in the social hall of the American Legion, in Westminster. The Installation was well attended by Post 48 members and their families. In addition, Past Region Commander Bill Bullock, performed the Installation according to the 29th Division rituals.

We were pleased to have Will Mund, National Executive Director and Edward Tolzman, Past Region Commander attend the program. A buffet style dinner was enjoyed by all.

On **June 6, 2019**, members of Post 48 will attend the Proclamation ceremony of **75th Anniversary of D-Day landing, Normandy, France by the 29th Division** at the Carroll County Office building, Room 300 at 10 am. All members and their guests are welcome to attend. State Delegate Haven Shoemaker, a comrade of the 29th Division Association will also present a Proclamation from the Maryland House of Delegates at the same time and place. Both Proclamations will designate June 6, 2019 as the 75th Anniversary of the D-Day landing.

I want to express my gratitude to those who continue to support the post through your contributions.

I'm proud to announce that the American Legion Post 31, in Westminster and the Jerome L. Day Post 48, 29th Division Association have partnered in hosting a Crab and Chicken feed as a fundraising event on Saturday, October 19, 2019, from 1pm to 5pm at the Legion Post, in Westminster.

A donation of \$40.00, a person to attend and enjoy plenty of good steamed crabs and fried chicken. Please mark your calendar for this special event, supporting the American Legion and Post 48.

Contact Richard Stem, Post Finance Officer at 410-804-7699, Frank M. Rauschenberg at 240-367-6110 or the American Legion for your tickets.

I will keep you informed of upcoming events at the monthly meetings and by means of the *Chin Strap*.

Please take a moment on Memorial Day, Monday, May 27th in remembrance of our fallen comrades, and attend the parades and Memorial Day Observances in your area.

The next scheduled meeting will be May 30th at the American Legion, Westminster, MD. Dinner at 6 pm, meeting at 7 pm and out by 8 pm. All comrades and their guests are invited to attend the meeting and enjoy some good veteran's comradeship. There will be no meeting in July. **The other scheduled meetings are 29 August and 26 September 2019.**

As always, I can be contacted by calling 240-367-6110 or E-mail, fm32@erols.com.

*Frank Rauschenberg, Commander***Harry M. Richardson Post 64***Roanoke, VA*

Commander: Morris Bennett

Finance Officer: Jeff Banik

Post 64 is alive and well. Our April 3rd meeting was well attended with 36 present. The recent May 1st meetings was attended with 41 present. Post 64 is involved with many happenings in the Roanoke Valley area.

Post 64 voted to change our June meeting from the first Wednesday to one week earlier, May 29th. This is due to the many events taking place at our WW-II Memorial in Bedford, VA during that week, and the 75th anniversary of D-Day June 6. Also, Bernard Marie will have his dinner

honoring WW-II Veterans on June 5th. Many of Post 64 will be at that dinner and given the age of our WW-II Comrades it is too much for one day.

Post 64, featuring the Military Vehicle club and K-9 Unit, will lead a parade at the Veteran's Hospital and also the Virginia Veteran's Care Center both in Salem, VA on Armed Force's Day, June 18.

Members of Post 64 will attend a wreath laying at the Roanoke Valley War Memorial in Roanoke on Memorial Day. Col. Preston Scott, Chief of Staff of the 29th Division, and Morris Bennett, Post 64 Commander, will lay a wreath at the D-Day Memorial on June 6th.

The Post continues to support the Military Family Support Center in Roanoke. Our own David Leighton, National Commander, updated us on our upcoming National Convention at Virginia Beach.

Two of our Post Comrades, Butch Shockey and Bill King, were honored to carry the American and Virginia flags at a Local Parliamentarian group breakfast.

There will be a parade in Bedford, Virginia, on 27 May for the Greatest Generation. Several Post 64 members will be involved, and the 29th Division Band will lead the parade. Our Vice Commander, SFC Richard Carr, is the leader of the band.

Many other events are planned for the D-Day Memorial in which Post 64 is very involved.

Jeff Banik was privileged to be on the Honor Flight out of the D-Day Memorial on April 26-28. During that time, he gave out 25 hats from the Post 64 Hats for Vets program to the other participants.

We voted to contribute \$1200 a year for 5 years to the Virginia Veterans Care Center in Salem to be used for their Operation Holiday Spirit, which provides each and every resident with presents on Christmas day.

Our upcoming meetings will be on 29 May, 3 July, 7 August and 4 September 2019.

*Jeff Banik, Finance Officer***Cresap's Rifles Post 78***Frederick, MD*

Commander: James Hutts

Adjutant: PNC John E. Wilcox, Jr.

As many of you now know, Past National Commander Charles W. "Buck" Lockard, Sr. marched his final march on Sunday, May 5, 2019. Buck had been suffering for a couple years with liver cancer and other associated complications. He had recently been a patient at the Frederick Hospital and at Citizens Nursing Home in Frederick. His family had just brought him home to Midletown on Saturday, May 4th.

In addition to his tenure as a National Commander of the 29th Division Association, Buck had served in various positions in Cresap's Rifles Post 78 including that of Post Commander. Buck was retired from the Maryland Military Department having served in the military for 41 years. He retired as a Chief Warrant Officer 4.

On a more personal note, Post 78 Adjutant John Wilcox and his wife Christina celebrated 65 years of marriage on May 1, 2019. A party was held in the clubhouse of the retirement village where they reside.

**John & Christina Wilcox**

Post 78 meetings for June 12th, July 10th and August 14th will be held at the William Talley Recreation Center (old armory) in Frederick, MD at 7:00 P.M.

PNC John E. Wilcox, Adjutant

Eder-George Post 85

North East, MD

Commander: Howard Bond

Adjutant & Finance Officer: Valerie Simmers

Greetings to all from the members of Eder-George Post 85. With the new year, please don't forget to pay your 2019 dues.

Our Post 85 Honor Guard continues to perform Military Honors. We performed for a Veteran's event May 18 at the Chesapeake Golf Club. We also performed honors for Memorial Day. May 27 had Honors for Charlestown Methodist Church, St. Mary Ann Church, Harts Methodist Church, and the service at the North East VFW. We also performed for the Elkton Cemetery on May 30th. Thanks to all who came out to support.

We will also perform honors July 3 at Cecil Woods Retirement Community and for Salute to Veterans July 4th at the North East Community Park.

We have arranged to have a viewing of the 29 Division DVD at the North East Library on D-Day, June 6 at 6pm. We will have a display of some materials and possibly a speaker. Please come out to support if you are in the area.

Our next regular meetings will be June 5, July 3, and August 7, 2019 at the North East VFW. There will be coffee and donuts at 9:45 with the meeting starting at 10:00am.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,

Valerie Simmers, Adjutant

Eastern Shore Post 88

Cambridge, MD

Commander: Jon Black

Finance Officer: Ken Wheatley

Greetings from the Members and Ladies of Post 88 from the beautiful Eastern Shore of Maryland. Technology has hindered my ability to make previous submissions to the *Chin Strap*. Since the last submission Post 88 has held Annual elections.

I have been very impressed by the contributions of our members over the past year and honored to be elected as Post Commander for a second term. In a few weeks the Post will be having the June meeting.

The project in the near future for the Post will be taking part in numerous Memorial Day events followed by the displays to be placed in the new Easton Readiness Center depicting the history of the 29th Division. The Post will then prepare for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in August.

As the many members of the 29th Division Association read this newsletter and move on in each of their lives, think about this quote from the Great Roman Leader Marcus Aurelius.

"The happiness of your life depends upon the quality of your thoughts."

— Marcus Aurelius

Next meeting 5 June 2019 at Kay's Diner.

Jon D. Black, Commander

New England Post 93

New England

Commander: Fran Sherr-Davino

Adjutant & Finance Officer: Neil Ungerleider

I apologize to our members for missing last month. I am preparing for my 29th visit to Normandy for the 75th Anniversary of DDAY and its been a labor of love of the history. With me will be five other Post members; Neil Ungerleider, Heather McPherson Kathleen Newman and Ian McCarthy. We will meet up with Michael Fortunato on the 6th and will be honoring our Father's and Great Uncles and Grandfathers as we travel from small town to town where they fought.

We will have much more to say next month about the trip. But please know we will be on Omaha Beach at 0630 and we will be honoring the memory of those who did not make it off the beach. Please think of everyone you know who served in WWII and be sure to thank them.

It is with great sadness that I let you know that we lost Colonel Butch Welch on April 14 after a courageous 15-year fight with Parkinson's disease. He was an amazing and inspirational person who served many years as our Historian and was always supportive of Post 93 with his wife Linda Welch. Butch served over 33 years in the 26th Yankee Division, 25th and 29th Division. I will miss him greatly.

We welcome Robert Nathan of Levittown, PA as the newest member of Post 93. He is the son of D-Day veteran Norvin Nathan, who as a 2nd Lt., landed with the 116th on Omaha Beach. Welcome Robert and thank you for keeping the memory alive.

Our next Post Meeting is scheduled to be in August during the week of 5 August on the 7th. There is a new WWII Museum open in Rhode Island and I've spoken to them about a visit. Please let me know if that will work for you. Hope to see you all there!

Next meeting in August 2019.

Fran Sherr-Davino, Commander

Silver Spring Post 94

Silver Spring, MD

Commander: Jay Garrison

Adjutant & Finance Officer: William S. Mund, Jr.

Post 94 has members that are located all over the United States, therefore we do not hold meetings.

We are currently striving to get all our members to pay their dues for 2019. We still have 28 members who have not paid their dues for 2019. Annual dues remain at \$10.00.

No meetings scheduled.

Will Mund, Finance Officer

Larkspur Post 110

Pikesville, MD

Commander: PNC David Ginsburg

Finance Officer: Ed Rodier

The highlight of the Larkspur Post 110 May meeting was PNC Joe Zang's ceremonial return of the silver serving plate to Germany 74 years after it was "captured" by the 175th Infantry (See cover).

The last piece remained in the US after the rest of the banquet service was returned from the Fifth Regiment Armory. COL William Purnell, regimental commander desired to use this plate for his breakfast service. MAJ Ernie Richter, 3rd Battalion XO, retained the plate and brought it back to Maryland. Subsequently, he gave the plate to PNC Zang so that he could see that it was returned to Germany. This was no easy feat as PNC Zang spent much time and effort dealing with all of the red tape necessary to

authenticate and return the single serving plate of the massive silver banquet service that had over 3,000 individual pieces.

The story of the "capture" of the service set is fascinating. While COL Edward McDaniel, commander of the 175th Infantry Regiment, was negotiating the surrender of a German V-2 Rocket Division near the Elbe River, an unidentified German civilian approached one of his staff officers. He told the staff officer that he had some magnificent silver that he wanted to turn over to the US Army. He feared that the Soviets, who were rapidly approaching from the east, would either lose or destroy silver. COL McDaniel accepted the offer and dispatched two trucks to transfer the silver set that was packed in 44 beautiful teakwood crates.

In December of 1945, COL William Purnell, who now commanded the 175th after treatment of his wounds, wrote a letter to the Adjutant General of the War Department indicating that the silver banquet set "should remain in the hands of the Regiment as a suitable memorial of its participation in the late war, and as a valuable asset to the morale and spirit of the Regiment when it resumes its National Guard status." Essentially, he was declaring the silver banquet set a War Trophy that would reside in the Fifth Regiment Armory museum that he was starting after WWII.

Unfortunately for the 175th, as COL Purnell awaited the Judge Advocate's decision, the Baltimore Sun broke the story of the invaluable silver service in possession of the Regiment and the Army consequently ordered COL Purnell to send the silver to the US Customs Office in Baltimore. After further investigation the Army decided that the silver did not constitute a legitimate trophy of war according to The Hague Convention of 1907 since it was personal property and not the state property of the enemy. The silver was then shipped to the National Gallery of Art in Washington for safekeeping.

In January of 1949, the silver was packed into the original teakwood boxes and loaded on steamer in New York City for transport back to Germany. Thus

ended COL Purnell's dream to have the silver banquet featured as a centerpiece in his newly established Fifth Regiment Armory Museum. And with PNC Zang's return of the serving plate that stayed behind, the set is now complete and residing in Germany.

In other Post 110 news, the Old Timers Reunion was officially renamed the Maryland Artillery Reunion. The event will be held in July or August and will feature guest speaker, MG Charles Whittington. Details on the date and time of the event will be announced shortly. Stay tuned.

Upcoming Post meetings: 11 September and 13 November 2019.

Frank Armiger, Post 110 Executive Director

Stonewall Post 116

Staunton, VA

Commander & Finance Officer: Jimmy Kilbourne

The post meeting held on May 14th was well attended and reviewed several items of interest. The Army Birthday and Flag Day will be observed with a cake ceremony and guest speaker on 14 June 2019. LTG Roger Schultz is the speaker and the event will be held at The Stonewall Brigade Museum starting at 1900 (7:00 p.m.). The Stonewall Jackson Chapter of AUSA is co-sponsor with the 116th Foundation. All are invited to attend.

The 52nd Annual 116th Infantry Regiment Muster is set for Saturday, 9 November 2019 in Staunton, VA. Rooms are blocked for the 116th at the Stonewall Jackson Hotel for \$129 a night. You can call the hotel direct to reserve rooms now @ 540-885-4848.

The "C Company" 116th veterans meet for lunch in Harrisonburg, VA the third Thursday of EVEN numbered months. The next meeting is 20 June 2019. The lunch is provided by and served at the Elks Lodge, and is an all-you-can-eat buffet with drink costing only \$15 per guest.

The Winchester 116th veteran's group meets every month on the third Monday at the Golden Coral in Winchester. Be there by 0900 to get an all-you-can-eat breakfast. The next breakfast 17 JUN 2019.

ANY Post 116 Member, former Stonewaller or 29er is invited, welcome, and encouraged to attend!

Correspondence with the Post, dues, etc., should be addressed to: Post 116, 29th Division Association, 566 Lee Highway, Verona, VA 24482.

The 116th Foundation reports its History Experience Tours for 2019 have a few seats left on each trip. Last call for deposits! The dates and prices are:

15 - 22 SEP 2019 - "Over There: The Doughboy in France Tour" - \$3300, Includes a review of the major AEF battle sites, the Allied Western Front from Ypres to Verdun and the Meuse-Argonne highlighting the 29th Division battlefields. Several guest seats open.

21 - 27 SEP 2019 - "D-Day to St. Lo 75 Tour" - \$3000, The Foundation's standard D-Day focused trip reviewing the major D-Day events from Pegasus Bridge to Utah Beach before focusing in detail on Omaha Beach and the 29th Division route to St. Lo. Space for only four more guests.

More info on and registration on the web at <https://116thfoundation.org/historytours/>

****NEXT POST MEETING** Post 116 meeting will be held Tuesday, JULY 9th 2019 at Mrs. Rowe's Family Restaurant, Exit #222 on I81, Staunton, VA starting at 1145 hrs. The Post has changed its meeting schedule to every other month/bi-monthly and will be on ODD numbered months (July, September, November, etc.)**

Jimmy Kilbourne, Commander

(Continued on page 6)

To all members of Post 58

As you know, Post 58 has disbanded. We are in the process of trying to transfer those of you who wish to continue as members of the 29th Division Association Inc., into other posts.

All members of Post 58 are encouraged and welcome to join any post they so choose.

The following posts are active posts in Maryland and meet regularly. Please contact the individuals listed below for more information:

Post 1-72, Baltimore, MD, Lee Hoffman
jazzzer6@comcast.net, 443-618-2669

Post 48, Westminster, MD, Frank Rauschenberg
fm32@erols.com, 240-367-6110

Post 78, Frederick, MD, John Wilcox
wilcoxj154@gmail.com, 301-695-9558

Post 85, North East, MD, Valerie Simmers
vhawk0926@gmail.com, 410-459-3760

Post 88, Cambridge, MD, Ken Wheatley
oakleafcrafters@verizon.net, 410-228-4502

Post 110, Pikesville, MD, Ed Rodier
erodier@comcast.net, 410-352-5222

To avoid any interruption in your membership status going forward into 2020, please kindly make a selection and join one of these posts soon.

WILLIAM S. MUND, JR.
National Executive Director

HQs Post 29, commences operations in Richmond, VA



HQs Post 29 — initial gathering on 9 May 2019 in Richmond, VA

Provisional Commander: MG Tim Williams
 Provisional Adjutant: BG Jim Ring
 Provisional Treasurer: COL Todd Hubbard

RICHMOND, VA – The newly relocated post of the 29th Division Association, HQS Post 29, was recognized May 6, 2019, at the kickoff event for the Virginia National Guard Alumni Network at the Sergeant Bob Slaughter Headquarters at Defense Supply Center Richmond, Virginia, and held its first meeting May 9.

"We are so happy about the tremendous turnout we had for the first gathering of 29th ID veterans in the Richmond area, and we look forward to more opportunities for fellowship in the future," said Maj. Gen. Timothy P. Williams, the Adjutant General of Virginia and life member of the 29th Division Association.

The newly relocated post will meet quarterly to fellowship and commemorate the historic service of the 29th Infantry Division and its subordinate units.

Alumni engagement is a key element of the Virginia National Guard's Joint Strategic Plan, explained Brig. Gen. James W. Ring, the VNG Director of the Joint Staff and life member of the association.

In order to meet the goal outlined in Line of Effort 4 of the strategic plan that calls for "purposeful strategic messaging that informs DMA members,

their families, employers, and alumni and that promotes awareness of the Virginia National Guard among government officials and the general public," we have placed a renewed emphasis on activities and organizations that "facilitate professional development, camaraderie and esprit de corps" throughout the organization, Ring said.

The relocation of Post 29 to Richmond will provide more opportunities for alumni to learn about the current missions and activities of the VNG and currently serving personnel to learn from alumni about the history, traditions and accomplishment of the organization in the past, Ring said.

The 29th Division Association was formed around 100 years ago following the creation of the 29th Division and its historic mobilization in support of World War I. Ring said. With a history spanning over 100 years, service in both world wars and continued service pre and post 911, the 29th Infantry Division remains among the most historic divisions in the United States Army.

The 29th Division Association is an organization dedicated to keeping the history of the 29th Infantry Division alive. The association is open to anyone devoted to that purpose including veterans, their descendants, currently serving 29ers and all those inspired by the Blue and Gray Division.

Next HQs Post 29 meeting to be determined at a later date.

Post Reports: *(Continued from page 5)*

Lantern Post 729

Waynesboro, PA

Commander: Randall Beamer

Finance Officer: Richard Happel

The only things we have going on is the Wreath Laying ceremony to be held at the Smithburg memorial field at 6pm on the 30th of May. Also our Picnic to be held at the Parlor House restaurant in the South Potomac St Mall, beside the Save-a-Lot Grocery Store to be held on July 15th. Picnic starts at 5pm with dinner at 6pm. Cost is \$20.00 a person, \$40.00 a couple.

Please send a check payable to Lantern Post 729 to Ward Simmons at 10837 Durham Circle, Waynesboro, PA, 17268, No later than June 20, 2019. Menu: Buffet Style w/Ham, Fried Chicken, Vegetables, Salad, Dessert, & Drinks.

Our next three meeting dates are June 20th, July 18th, & Aug 15th 2019.

Randall Beamer, Commander

Maryland Region

At the bi-monthly Maryland Region meeting which was held on 6 May 2019, the following officers for 2019-2020 were duly elected and then installed by PNC Ivan Dooley:

Commander, Howard Bond

Vice Commander, Bernie Liswell

Finance Officer, Ed Tolzman

Chaplain, William DeHaven

Judge Advocate, Houston Matney

Welfare Officer, Gilbert Crosby

Sergeant-at-Arms, Franklin Shilow

Commander Bond appointed William S. Mund, Jr., as Adjutant and Editor/Publisher of the *Chin Strap*.

Immediate Past Commander Bill Bullock was presented with a plaque for his service as Commander of the Maryland Region, 2018-2019.

The Region approved 1/2 the cost of the bus to be used for the National Convention in October.

Next Maryland Region meeting—8 July 2019—Fifth Regiment Armory at 1100 hours, in the Veteran Corps quarters.

New members

We welcome the following new members to the 29th Division Association, Inc.

Antosiak, Joseph, Post 29, Maryville, TN
 Barnes, Alexander, Post 29, Colonial Hgts, VA
 Bolton, Fred, Post 5, Glen Allen, VA
 Comacho, Nicole, Post 29, Richmond, VA
 Eakin, John C., Post 64, Roanoke, VA
 Ferguson, Douglas, Woodbridge, VA
 Holcomb, Carl, Post 29, Mechanicsville, VA
 Hopkins, Carlos, Post 29, Henrico, VA
 Jarrett, David, Post 29, Concord, VA
 Jennings, James, Post 29, Fredericksburg, VA
 Johnson, Chris, Post 29, Kinsale, VA
 Johnson, John, Post 2, Canton, GA
 Karnell, Aaron, Post 116, Dulles, VA
 Kingery, Frank G., Post 64, Vinton, VA
 Mahoney, William, Post 29, Chesterfield, VA
 Marquis, Edgar O. Jr., Post 116, Hudson, FL
 Martin, Charlie, Post 29, Mechanicsville, VA
 Mayhew, Christopher, Post 29, Powhatan, VA
 McConnell, Ubert Lee, Post 58, Church Hill, TN
 McGonegal, Steele, Post 116, Fairfax Station
 McLees, John, Post 29, Midlothian, VA
 Miller, Charles A., Post 29, Midlothian, VA
 Nathan, Robert, Post 93, Levittown, PA
 Puckett, Joseph, Post 29, Montpelier, VA
 Rauhala, Roman, Post 116, Strasburg, VA
 Ronkartz, John, Post 29, Colonial Hgts, VA
 Rosser, Robert, Post 5, Newport News, VA
 Shaver, James, Post 29, Chesterfield, VA
 Shifflett, Kevin, Post 116, Harrisonburg, VA
 Smith, Joanne, Post 29, Sandston, VA
 Smith, Paul, Post 29, Sandston, VA
 Sorenson, Wendy, Post 94, Racine, WI
 Talmadge, Shawn, Post 29, Midlothian, VA
 Werner, Mark, Post 94, Colorado Springs, CO
 Whitt, Eddie, Post 29, Powhatan, VA

Book Review:

D-Day's 75th anniversary commemorated in new book

DENVER—To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the June 6, 1944, Normandy landings, 29th Division Association member Kevin Dennehy has written a guidebook that helps tourists find monuments and other sites near the epic battle.

The D-Day Visitor's Handbook: Your Guide to the Normandy Battlefields and WWII Paris not only provides history about the battle, but describes the best places to visit as many people use Paris as a starting point, said Dennehy, a retired Maryland Army National Guard colonel and Special Forces combat veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan.

"Organizers expect more than 2 million visitors during June's 75th Anniversary. They will want to know what sites to see, where to stay and even shop," he said. "To take breaks from the many cemeteries and monuments, there is local cheese to eat and Calvados and cider to drink."

Dennehy first became interested in the Normandy invasion in 2001 when 29th Division D-Day veterans, along with historian Stephen Ambrose, visited his unit in Bosnia to tell incredible battle stories. "They were among the first waves of the landing force. Very brave men who were elderly then—and most are gone now," he said. "This year is the 75th anniversary, so it may be the last one where Normandy veterans attend at all. If we don't tell their tales, and commemorate where they fell, who will?"

After several trips to Normandy, and not finding detailed information on where to go and what to see, Dennehy decided to write a guidebook with retired history professor Steve Powers, who is a U.S. Naval Academy graduate.

"I've been fascinated by the stories of valor for many years. However, my trips to Normandy were marred by driving around, getting lost and not knowing what were the most important sites to see," Powers said.

The book chronicles the off-the-beaten-path sites, not just the American Cemetery at Omaha Beach, which was made famous in the opening scenes of the 1990s movie, "Saving Private Ryan."

In addition, *The D-Day Visitor's Handbook* provides detailed battlefield maps, outlines tours and identifies memorials, hotels, restaurants and museums in Normandy and Paris.

The "*Day-Day Visitor's Handbook*" is an essential guide for those planning a visit to Normandy, veterans, students of military history and all others who wish to learn the history of this legendary battle.

The D-Day Visitor's Handbook: Your Guide to the Normandy Battlefields and WWII Paris, published by Skyhorse and distributed by Simon and Schuster, is available on Amazon.com and the Barnes and Noble website.

Contact: **Kevin Dennehy**

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The *Chin Strap* is published by the Maryland Region for all members of the 29th Division Association, Inc. Comments may be forwarded to William S. Mund, Jr., 441 Chalfonte Drive, Baltimore, MD 21228-4017. Email: duster197329@gmail.com. Deadline for copy is the 17th of each month for the following month's issue.

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Spiritual Corner

"Forget Us Not"

June 6, 1944, the eyes of the world were focused on the landing beaches of Normandy. The troops had "a rendezvous with destiny." We have seen the movie, "The Longest Day." The men of the 29th Division were part of the original cast of D-day. As Frank Oberle said, "It was their finest hour." General Bradley echoed the words, "Every man who landed in Normandy was a hero".

At sunset on June 5, 1994, a large group gathered on Omaha Beach. French school children sang "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean." Then General Gordon Sullivan spoke. As the waves hit the beach he said, "Listen, listen the voices of those who landed here are crying out. 'Remember us, Remember us.' They were saying, "Forget us not." They are gone now but we will not forget their exploits, their courage and commitment. Blessings on those who have answered "the last roll call" and honor to the living veterans of 1944. We will remember you, not only on June 6 but always.

John Schildt

Upcoming Events

13 June 2019—NEC III—Winchester, Virginia-0930am—cost **\$15**

29 June 2019—Annual Wreath laying at Arlington National Cemetery, 1215pm. Luncheon at Spates Community Center. Cost is **\$30**. A bus leaving from Park & Ride at Beltway Exit 8 will be provided by the MD Region for **\$10** per person. Total cost for bus and luncheon is **\$40**. Checks must be made payable to the 29th Division Association, Inc. and mailed to: William Mund, 441 Chalfonte Drive, Baltimore, MD 21228-4017 no later than **22 June 2019**.

Chin Strap Supporters

We have received financial support for the *Chin Strap* from the individuals listed below in the last month. Thanks to those of you who have helped by providing your monetary support as well as the kind words. Both are deeply appreciated. Please continue to contribute so we may continue to provide you a quality newsletter.

All donations are greatly appreciated. Checks for contributions to the *Chin Strap* should be made payable to the: Maryland Region—29th Division Association, Inc. and mailed to: **Edward Tolzman, 6A S Belle Grove Road, Baltimore, MD 21228-2204.**

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The Association is open to anyone who wants to keep the history and spirit of the 29th alive - soldiers who served in the 29th, currently serving soldiers, families of those who served, and anyone who wants to keep the 29th alive.

Did you Serve? Please indicate what unit you served in: _____

Post (optional) – please indicate if you have a preference on what Post you are assigned to: _____

I want to join the 29th Division Association and help keep the history of the 29th Division alive. The \$12 dues includes the National Membership, the monthly *Chin Strap* and the *Twenty-Niner* newsletter three times a year.

Applicant's Signature: _____

To join in minutes and pay by credit or debit card go to <http://29thdivisionassociation.com/membership.html>

Mail this application to: **29th Division Association, Inc. P.O. Box 47634 Windsor Mill, MD 21244-0634**