



20th Combat Engineer Association

of World War II

The  Wavy Arrow 

May 2004

Register Now For August 12-15 Final Reunion

It is now time to register for the 57th (and Final) Reunion of the 20th Combat Engineer Association of World War II to be held at the Holiday Inn Rosslyn (Virginia) located by the Potomac River and adjacent to the Key Bridge that accesses our Nation's capitol. It is also time to reserve sleeping rooms for arrival by Thursday, August 12, and for departure on Sunday, August 15. The highlights of this Final Reunion include:

Friday, August 12, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. National World War II Memorial Tour. While the WWII Memorial is the only stop at which participants will get off the bus, it will also pass other tourist attractions such as the Iwo Jima Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial, and the Washington Monument. The chartered bus will depart from the hotel at 10:00 a.m. and includes wheel-chair access; to reserve a slot for a wheel-chair, please so indicate on the Reservation Form. Since the tour will take place over the lunch hour, we are also offering an optional box lunch (sandwich, dessert, and bottled water) that can be consumed either while riding on the bus or during the stop to visit the WWII Memorial.

Friday, August 12, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. "Show 'n Tell" Reception in the Club Room of the Holiday Inn Rosslyn. For this Final Reception, veterans with their families will be grouped at tables by Units in which they served, along with family members of deceased veterans who want to meet 20th/1340th veterans with whom their relatives served and learn more about the 20th and 1340th during World War II. Attending veterans are urged to bring maps, photographs, medals, and other WWII memorabilia to share with others.

Saturday, August 13, 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Final Reunion Closing Session in the Club Room of the Holiday Inn Rosslyn. Since the Banquet will be served in the hotel's spectacular dining room, this session will replace the traditional Banquet head table. Door prizes will also be awarded at this session, and everyone attending the Reunion are encouraged to participate whether or not they choose to attend the Final Banquet.

Saturday, August 13, 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Final Banquet in the splendid "Vantage Point Restaurant" on the 17th floor of the hotel in which you will dine overlooking the Washington D.C. skyline. For this dinner, you must select one of the following three entrees: **Peanut Roast Pork Tenderloin** with mustard sauce served with a baked potato; **Prime Rib of Beef** slow roasted to tender perfection served with a baked potato; or **Grilled Breast of Chicken Veronique** with white wine and grape sauce served with rice pilaf. All entries are accompanied by a fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, vegetable *du jour*, dinner rolls with butter, assorted desserts, coffee, decalf, hot or iced tea.

Lost But Not Forgotten

Charles S. Keeseey (B/20) died March 14, 2004, in his home town of Lebanon, Pennsylvania. Alicia Keeseey writes that Charles always enjoyed getting the *Wavy Arrow*, although he did not attend any of the more recent Reunions.

Wavy Arrow Contributions

Many thanks to the following for having made a contribution since the last issue of the *Wavy Arrow*.

Cheryl Ellefson (daughter of John Horton (B/20th)	\$10.00
Charles C. Libby (H&S/20th Band)	\$50.00
Chris A. Phillips (son of Tommie Ray Phillips, H&S/20th)	\$25.00
Frances C. Williams (widow of Roger H. Williams, B/20th)	\$25.00
James E. Williams (son of Jack L. Williams, B/1340th)	\$25.00

News About Our Veterans

Joseph Alter (Officer) writes: "Received the March *Wavy Arrow*, and resolved that come what may, I will make the August 12-15 Reunion. I look forward to receiving the Reservation Forms." Joe even telephoned last week to make sure that he gets this issue.

Sam Bonino (nephew of Charles P. Bonino, C/1340th) telephoned asking for more information about his uncle. Hopefully he will be able to attend the Final Reunion.

Chris A. Phillips (son of Tommie Ray Phillips, H&S/20th) writes: "My father passed away on April 10, 1993, and all of my life I have been fascinated with the great trial that Dad went through during the war. Over the years I had gotten bits and pieces from him concerning his experiences. He drove a wrecker and was wounded on November 4, 1944, in the Huertgen Forest. However, I have many questions concerning the 20th that I wish I had asked him. I would like to attend the Final Reunion to seek answers to my many questions about the 20th Engineers during World War II."

James E. Williams (son of Jack L. Williams, B/1340th) writes: "We have heard many stories from Dad (who died January 21, 2004) about the experiences he had with the 20th Engineers. It is great that you have published some of these in the *Wavy Arrow*. Dad was in the fourth vehicle that entered Paris to check the bridges and the roads into Paris as described in the last issue of the *Wavy Arrow*. I regret that we did not tape a lot of what he told us. We are planning on attending the 57th (and Final) Reunion if possible. It would be so nice to meet the veterans and their families who will be in attendance."

New Mailing Address

Frances C. Williams (widow of Roger H. Williams, B/20th), P.O. Box 3126, Brookhaven, Massachusetts 39603.

Hotel Accommodations For the Reunion

As you know, hotel accommodations in the Washington, D.C. area are expensive, but we have obtained sleeping rooms (single or double occupancy) at \$69.00 per night plus 9.75% tax (or a total of \$75.73 per room night). The Holiday Inn Rosslyn is a magnificent 17-floor hotel with an indoor swimming pool and fitness center; and it is only one block from the Rosslyn Metro Station with direct line to the Reagan National Airport and two lines to all points of interest in Washington, D.C. as well as in Maryland and Virginia.

Hotel sleeping rooms can be reserved in two ways. **By telephone**, call 1-703-807-2000 or toll free at 1-800-368-3408 using any major credit card for your sleeping room deposit. **By mail**, write to the Holiday Inn Rosslyn Reservations, 1900 North Fort Myer Drive, Arlington, VA 22209, enclosing a check for one room night (\$75.00 made payable to "Holiday Inn Rosslyn"). The deadline for making hotel reservations at this special rate is July 29, 2004, after which sleeping room reservations can only be honored on an available basis.

Travelling To the Reunion

The Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA) is only three miles from the Holiday Inn Rosslyn. Travel to and from the airport is available by Taxi (approximately \$10); by the SuperShuttle (reservations can be made by telephone at 703-416-6661); or by Metro (six stops on the Blue Line from the Airport to Rosslyn and the Rosslyn Metro Station in only one block for the Holiday Inn Rosslyn).

The Dulles International Airport (IAD) is 23 miles from Rosslyn. The least expensive transportation is Metrobus 5A that runs hourly between the airport and Rosslyn. The Taxi fare is very expensive (approximately \$40) so Reagan Washington National Airport is your best bet for arrival for the Reunion by air.

For those driving: Eastbound (from the West), approach Washington, DC, on Route 66, and take the last right exit before reaching the Potomac on to Fort Myer Drive, and you will be directly in front of the Holiday Inn Rosslyn. **Northbound** (from the South) approach Washington, DC, on Route 395, and take the last exit left before crossing the Twin Bridges on to the George Washington Parkway, which will take you directly into Rosslyn. **Southbound** (from the North): If you don't want to drive through Washington, DC, you can take the beltway into Virginia and take Route 66 to Fort Myer Drive (see Eastbound above).

Parking is free in the hotel's indoor garage (with a six-foot automobile clearance) for both hotel guests and those who come only for the Reception and/or Banquet.

Update on President Noon

As reported in the last issue of the *Wavy Arrow*, President J. Kenneth Noon and Edith have moved to Kansas. However, the mail address previously provided is incorrect. We can now reach J. Kenneth Noon at 6307 West 117th Terrace, Leawood, KS 66209. His telephone number is 1-913-825-5238. His E-mail address is <wavyarrow@everestkc.net>

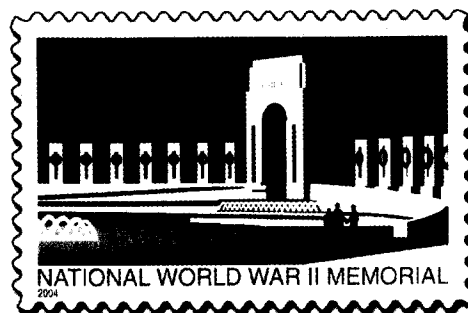
Contributions for Door Prizes

We are already receiving contributions for door prizes at our Final Reunion. The first to be received are from **Raymond R. Davis** (Company A, 20th) of Frackville, Pennsylvania. The door prizes he sent include a Battery Operated Flex Massager, a Braun Electric Razor, HL-812L Hand Computer, and a Zenith TV Remote. Anyone else who would like to offer one or more door prizes at the Reunion are asked to contact *Wavy Arrow* editor George Griffenhagen, 2501 Drexel Street, Vienna, VA 22180; Telephone: 703-560-2413.

National World War II Memorial

This spectacular memorial located on the heart of our Nation's Mall opened to the public on Thursday, April 29th -- one month before the official dedication that will be held May 29th. Your editor, representing the 20th and 1340th, was one of the first to arrive at the Memorial with camera in hand. But instead of taking photographs, he spent one-and-a-half hours being interviewed by a dozen reporters including news correspondents from France, Germany, Great Britain, and Spain. Perhaps you may have seen him on national television news programs. What is your editor's reaction to the Memorial? It is awesome with an imposing Rainbow Pool surrounded by two majestic Memorial Arches for the "Atlantic" and the "Pacific;" 56-stone pillars for each state and territory; and the solemn Freedom Wall with 4,000 gold stars representing the more than 400,000 who were killed in combat during World War II.

The U.S. Postal Service will commemorate the Memorial with a postage stamp to be released on May 29th (shown on the right). We will obtain a first day of issue cover with this stamp for those who attend our Final Reunion. Those who are unable to attend can also receive this memento by making a contribution so that we can continue to publish the *Wavy Arrow* after our Final Reunion.



Register Now For Our Final Reunion

Remember that this will be your very last chance to get together as a group with your veteran colleagues of the 20th and 1340th, and at the same time you and your family will have an opportunity to visit the National World War II Memorial. As soon as your Registration Form is received, we will promptly send you a packet of material providing additional tourist information that will enhance your visit to your Nation's capitol area.

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