Father Connors Honored at Worcester St. Patrick's Day Parade

Father Edward Connors in whom the Worcester St. Patrick's Parade was dedicated city Manager Francis McGrath watch the parade from the reviewing stand.

On Sunday March 12, 1983 the city of Worcester, Massachusetts held its first St. Patrick's Day parade meeting on July 2111 years and honored Rev. Father Edward Connors to whom the parade was dedicated. Father Connors, who has been dubbed "Worcester's No. 1 Irishman," was riding in a Ninth Infantry Division jeep, the division with which he served as a chaplain in World War 2. Father Connors said of the parade organizers (of which Frank Maher was one) "They popped up the whole city. I'm honored and embarrassed."

Frank Maher writes that Father Connors will conduct his Annual Memorial Mass and Services on November 6, 1983 in Worcester, Massachusetts. More details will appear in the next issue of the Tribune.

In Praise of Reunions

This story appeared in the March issue of the VFW magazine. The Author, Tom Lavin, had contacted the secretaries office a few times regarding a reunion and asked for support from the VFW. Here's what Tom wrote:

By Tom Lavin

"...describing a reunion like trying to tell someone who hasn't been there what combat is like — it's impossible. The days that fly by ... the parties, banquets, memorial service. What we all do is what it is like to take part in all this with men like yourself — the wonder of seeing a flock of birds fly do after all those years..."

—Doc Waters, editor of Blue Devil, VFW Division newsletter

During the years since World War II, my attendance at reunions of the 1941 Airborne has been spotty at best. Then three years ago at a reunion in Nashville, I vowed never to miss another. In 1981 in San Diego came the big payoff — a meeting with two men of my own World War II squad.

The way Nashville hooked me up requires partly explaining why many units are attracting bigger crowds than ever, though the World War II fountainhead keeps receding into the distant past. For in the beginning it seemed more practical than in later years, and I discovered that others found themselves in the same position. I was semi-retired; there was more time to travel; my kids were grown, and, most pleasant of surprises, the lure of meeting with World War II buddies proved stronger than ever.

Our Nashville attendance of 1,200 included families of the vets — was the biggest ever for the 1941, though the magic figure of 1,866 had been attained in earlier years. What makes it possible is the fundamental reason for this continued interest and the strength of other World War II units?

So begins, with successful reunions wouldn't happen if some person or group of persons didn't care enough to keep contacts along — this, plus pride in one's outfit, the same spirit that prevailed in wartime.

Anyone who attends a reunion for the first time, at least the first in a long while, will surely have the same experience I had. You're in a dubious frame of mind right up to the moment when you sign your unit book, collect your I.D. badge, tickets to events and other paraphernalia.

You'll be also worried about your spouse or family members if they have accompanied you. This latter concern should be the least of your worries. Pray that it be you and the trip makes you see a welcome vacation for the entire family.

But even before you meet anyone you know, all around you is enough activity, pretty greetings, charged emotions like "why old?... to get you into the right frame of mind.

SOUTHERN ARMY TO BE GUEST SPEAKER

We will be privileged to have as our Guest Speaker, Secretary of the Army, John O. Mathis. Mr. Mathis was born in Secretary of the Army in 1941. His responsibilities include training, operations, administration, logistical support and maintenance, welfare, research and development, military and industrial preparedness, and overall effectiveness of the army.

He was born in Winchester, Virginia, on 7 August 1942. After attending public schools in Harrisonburg, Virginia, he entered the United States Army and was commissioned as a 2nd Lt in the US Army in 1963. He saw duty with the United States occupation forces in Germany. He is also a graduate of parachute school and jumpmaster school at Fort Benning and holds senior parachutist wings.

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In 1963, after World War II, Mr. Mathis received his LL.B. degree from Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia. He was then admitted to the Virginia bar and began law practice in Strasburg, Virginia.

A four-term Congressman from Virginia's 5th District, he served in the United States House of Representatives from 1963 to 1973. He was a member of the House Appropriations Committee. Choosing not to seek a 5th term, he returned to federal service in March 1973 as the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs. In January 1974, he became Vice President Ford's assistant for National Security, serving as Counselor, with Cabinet Rank, to President Ford. He held that position from August 1973 to January 1977.

He served in the 141th Infantry Regiment, the 29th Infantry Division and the State Head quarters Detachment of the Virginia National Guard from 1931 to 1936, retiring with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Prior to his National Guard service, he was a member of the Army Reserve for four years. He also served for five years on the Board of Visitors to Virginia Military Institute.

Mr. Mathis is married to Glenn Ann Patterson. They have three children.

SECRETARY OF THE ARMY TO BE GUEST SPEAKER

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PLANS FOR VACATION IN MICHIGAN

Michigan, with its many lakes and streams, bordered by four of the five great lakes, has always been known as a great vacation state. Its many natural and man-made attractions make tourism a great summertime industry, especially the northern part of the state.

Since you are coming to Detroit for the reunion, why not spend additional days enjoying some of Michigan's well known attractions. The northwestern section of the lower peninsula around Traverse City, Charlevoix, Petoskey and Harbor Springs area is beautiful at any season of the year. Cross over the scenic Mackinac Bridge connecting the upper and lower peninsulas at the Straits of Mackinac. Take the ferry boat to picturesque Mackinac Island for a visit to world renowned beauty spot. Visit the San Sool at Sault Ste. Marie. Move on to the beautiful Tahquamenon Falls west of the Soo, and still farther west along Lake Superior, visit the pictured Rocks National Lakeshore.

1963 REUNION

July 21, 22, 23

continued on page 2
In Praise of Reunions

continued from page 1

And even if you don't meet anyone you know personally, the individual meetings of units — regiments, battalions, batteries, companies or troops — generate a lot of reminiscing about the old days.

Something about a hotel reunion can't be beat. There's a certain familiarity to being gathered in a hotel. Veterans have explained many business conventions to me over the years, and I think that a hotel setting has a better ring to it than anything else.

Anyway, I was in the lobby looking for someone who was probably at least on someone from your region of the country or company, you begin to enter into the spirit of the meeting. If you had been with a unit that is still active, try to ignore the generals who are young enough to be your sons.

In the literature of military action, there is not much about the feeling of brotherhood that develops in combat. And "brotherhood" is not a strong word. Perhaps not strong enough to describe the camaraderie of a rifle platoon, or a rifle company, or a rifle company...but you get the picture. It is true. And even if you don't meet someone you know...
Detroit's Trolleys — Climb aboard one of the antique red and brass trolley cars and take a nostalgic trip through the heart of downtown Detroit. The trolley line runs from the Old Mariners' Church (on Jefferson Avenue, near the Renaissance Center), past Cobo Hall and continues north blocks down Washington Boulevard to Grand Circus Park. The trolleys offer a unique form of transportation to many of the hotels, restaurants and stores in downtown for only 60c.

Detroit Area Map

REUNION PARKING
Our designated parking areas during the reunion are the outdoor parking Lot "B": just east of the Renaissance Center. After unloading your car at the hotel entrance, proceed to Jefferson Avenue and turn right one block to Beaubien Street. Turn right again and proceed to Lot "B", which will be on your left where you will receive a ticket for parking.

At the reunion registration area, you will receive parking validations. With these validations, your parking fee will be one dollar ($1.00) per day, walk in and out privileges. Each time you leave Lot "B" during the reunion, request an IN and OUT PASS. When you leave on your final day, give the parking cashier one validation for each day of unpaid parking. PLUS the IN and OUT PASS if applicable. Without the parking validations, your parking fee will be considerably greater than the special one dollar ($1.00) per day.

1983 Reunion Detroit July 21, 22, 23

ADVANCE REGISTRATION BY MAIL
In 1981, National, in planning the 38th Annual Reunion, conceived the plan of PRE-REGISTRATION of members going to Fayetteville, N.C. The plan proved to be very successful. This year, in planning the 39th Annual Reunion, the plan of PRE-REGISTRATION will again be held in Detroit, Mi. on July 21-22-23, the Michigan Chapter is going to use the Pre-Registration concept to make your registration less of a last minute hassle on your arrival at the Westin Hotel.

We ask that you send your request for registration early. In so doing you will find your Name Tags, Strip Tickets and all other materials waiting for you at the Pre-Registration Desk upon your arrival. You may order your strip tickets now by sending a check or money order to: Rodger E. Alsgaard, 3044 Wynes St, Saginaw, MI 48602. Refunds will be given to those who through some unforeseen circumstance are unable to attend the reunion. Deadline for cut off date will be July 13, 1983.

You will handle your room reservations direct to the hotel.

9th Infantry Division Association
July 21, 22, 23, 1983

Please Reserve Westin Hotel Accommodations
Name ____________________________
Address ___________________________
City State Zip ___________________
Phone ____________________________

Make check or money order payable to the Westin Hotel, and send to Reservations Department, The Westin Hotel, Renaissance Center, Detroit, Michigan 48243.

Single (one person) $59.00
Two (two persons) $59.00
Double (two persons) $59.00

Reservations must be received by July 6, 1983 to guarantee convention rates.

Please submit with your request for strip tickets to: Rodger E. Alsgaard, 3044 Wynes St, Saginaw, Mich. 48602

Parking during the reunion is the out-of-town parking at the Renaissance Center. You will handle your room reservations direct to the hotel.

ARE YOU FLYING TO DETROIT
Airline service is provided to Detroit Metropolitan Airport by all major and many regional airlines. Both bus and limousine service is available to the downtown Civic Center area and the Westin Hotel.

PRE-REGISTRATION
This year for the second time, we will have advance registration by mail. If you have not already done so, please send in your pre-registration, as shown elsewhere in this issue of THE OCTOFOIL. Register early and avoid waiting in line at the Reunion. Same tags and strip tickets will be picked up at the Reunion Pre-Registration desk.

AIRLINES

GOLF OUTING IN CANADA

For the golfers coming to the reunion, a Thursday afternoon golf tournament is planned at a course in the Windsor area across the river from Detroit. Fred Josey is Chairman of this event. Those members, wives and guests who wish to participate in this golf outing should send their names to him by July 8, 1983. Fred will then send those individuals details regarding rental of golf clubs and carts, starting time, etc.

Name ____________________________
Address ___________________________
City State Zip ___________________
Phone ____________________________
Expiration Date ___________________

American Express or Diners Club credit card to guarantee your reservation.

Card No. ____________________________
Card Type ____________________________

Please Reserve Westin Hotel Accommodations
Name ____________________________
Address ___________________________
City State Zip ___________________
Phone ____________________________

Include first night deposit to confirm reservation or use American Express or Diners Club credit card to guarantee your reservation.

Card No. ____________________________
Card Type ____________________________
Expiration Date ___________________

REUNION JOURNAL
The Michigan Chapter is making a limited program booklet for the 1983 Reunion of 20 pages plus the front and back, due to the high printing costs. We would like to make up to full page chapter ads. and then on the last pages we would place the Chapter Boosters, name and unit. The full page ads will be $50.00 and the Booster ads will be $2.00 each, so we will need all the booster help we can get.

The donations should be sent to Rodger Alsgaard, Secretary, Michigan Chapter 9th Infantry Division Association, 3044 Wynes St, Saginaw, Michigan 48603.

Check payable to: 9th Infantry Division Association Reunion.

OLD MARINER'S CHURCH
Pay a visit to the "Maritime Sailor's Cathedral," a mission for the sailors of the Great Lakes since 1848. It is Detroit's earliest Gothic church, and warms the heart with carillon music throughout the day. The church, with its historical display is located on the West Side of the Renaissance Center.

HISTORIC FORT WAYNE
Inspect the dry mart, barns, poultry yard and barns of this unusual military fort. Built in its 1818, Fort Wayne, by treaty, was never armed. Exhibits outline Detroit's military history and Michigan's Indian heritage in the Great Lakes Indian interpretive Museum.

Saginaw, Mich. 48602

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Historic Fort Wayne
Inspect the dry mart, barns, poultry yard and barns of this unusual military fort. Built in its 1818, Fort Wayne, by treaty, was never armed. Exhibits outline Detroit's military history and Michigan's Indian heritage in the Great Lakes Indian interpretive Museum.
The General Gets Reinforcements

After two strikes in the same Federal Court, the veterans had exhausted all legal arguments. Gen. William C. Westmoreland, who tendered an official statement last week in a CBS documentary, "The Unanswerable Conquest," was asked for his reactions by Judge Pierre N. Leval. That was before the judge refused to hold at the home of Leonard S. Wadd, except for a sudden surrender for a reopening of the directive by Federal Judge Pierre N. Leval. That was before the judge refused the network permission to file a declaration of enemy: A Vietnam Deception, which included TV Guide said the program's American soldiers were facing.

The Belmonts are looking forward to the graduation of their oldest daughter, Lauren, from college on May 7th. She will receive a degree in Business Administration and is fortunate to have received employment with Osco Drugs after graduation. Our sincere thanks to the Scholarship Committee for their financial assistance the past four years in making it possible.

Looking forward to the baseball season and the warm weather, we were looking for a good time. However, the cold wind, and the forecast that turned to below-freezing temperatures for good weather for the celebration of their oldest granddaughter's First Communion on April 17th. The Greys are in the process of selling their home in Oak Park and moving to a warmer climate.

Michigan Does

Yes the 38th Annual Reunion Committee is hard at work at the dates and the location. We can't supply, is you are in attention.

The Michigan Do's and Don'ts have to be followed. For instance, the next letter that you will receive will be a request to return a card that will be enclosed with your next letter. This letter, incidentally, is the last one that you will receive in the October before the reunion. I know that Dr. and Denis Heiler of Highland Park, Ill. won't mind but the following was included in their request for strip tickets to the reunion.

"Please return a card only if you will be able to attend the reunion." They live two blocks from the Schacors and will be able to come.

The ladies also had a meeting at the Royal Inn and though I don't personally what was discussed, they broke up later and went on tours to shopping in Regency Square and one to a museum. Transportation was provided by the committee to these events as well as back to the hotel for those desiring to leave.

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The OCTOFOIL

Our column received letters a short time ago from Ed and Helen Sarnosacchi and from Sam Monettechi who lives in Chisholm, Minn. Ed and Helen have already made reservations for the Detroit Reunion. Sam says that he will try to make the Detroit Reunion. Like most of us, Sam has medical problems too; so “hang in” there Sam! Art is getting in touch with our ‘BECO’ buddy John Morgan in Pittsburgh, Pa. Yes, John “Mail Call” is a good way to make contact with friends in addition to ‘BECO’ buddies. Now that you are retired perhaps you can plan on going to the Detroit Reunion. We can assure you that it will be an experience you will long remember after seeing your buddies and friends from our famous 6th Div. Letters to our “Mail Call” column reveal stories about the men in our Division that no author could put down in print because he would find them difficult to believe or comprehend.

I have made our reservations for the Reunion this year. We will be well represented. Time is getting short for many of you so why not make the Detroit reunion this year. Puting the res­
on off year after year for some of us will only make it that much harder, as we grow older. So the time is now. Let’s go ‘BECO’ buddies! God Bless all of you and keep well!

The American Ex-Prisoner-of-War Association is seeking all former POW’s for membership in our National Association. We have been instrumental in getting the POW Bill made into law, and this legislation has re-opened the door for many veterans who have previously had their claims for Service-connected Disability and/or compensation disallowed. For the location of the Chapter nearest to you, please contact: Bill Menninger, 5009 N. La Madera Avenue, EL Monte, Ca. 91732.

The Chief of Military History who lives in Florida. Florida weather in the month of February on the Gulf Coast is usually sunny with mild temperatures, however we experienced lots of rain, high winds and very, very few “sunny” days! We are not complaining though because we managed to leave Chambers­
berg, Pa. a day before the big snowstorm hit most of the East Coast.

managed to enjoy ourselves and talk to about our ‘BECO’ buddies on this subject.

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**THE OCTOFOIL**

mail call continued

Co A 4th Inf

SOUTHAMPTON, N.Y.

1106 Chestnut Ave.

Woodbury Hts., N.J. 08097

Enclosed are my dues for the next year and also a check for the reunion of my friends in E Co. 47th. Betty and I are planning a trip to Puerto Rico where we will stay for a month. The last time we met was 20 years ago and we spent the day sightseeing. We will be there for two weeks then go to New York City. Bill sends his best to all E Co. 47th and invited all 4th division troops from the 9th Infantry. It's a beautiful island. Get home after the reunion and if you're still thinking about it, the Patricks dance with Bob Dunn and his wife. Marie, Bob was the chairman and the band he hired was theblind! Here we both a dand 47th. He looks great and healthy. Bill had some trouble with his eyes and the doctor said I would live...with a bit of light...in my hands, I was surprised to receive a phone call from John Ryan. The 4th and 40th Inf. have been going to one of the largest skiing holidays in nearby Park City. We plan to be there in early July and have sent our deposit for the trip to North America. It looks like this reunion will fall through, we will probably tour through some of the border countries. With all regards.

4th Inf. Co A

JOHN J. EMCH

22 Golfview Dr. DL

Newark, Del. 19712

I am enclosing my dues for 3 years. I read the Octofoil avidly and enjoy very much. Not being able to attend any of the events, I am arranging to make readings of the events even while in Florida. Before me a copy of the 47th reunion service of the 47th. There were many memorable names. The only thing which I would do is that I would have been more special to me for various reasons. I am very proud of the fact that I was in the line. James McCraken, Jr., Paul B. Built on. If anyone recognizes these names I would appreciate my writing me and listing the names of any of the names of the group from the service. England, Normandy era and more fortunate, as you and I, to still be able to communicate with other. Keep up the good work.

15 Engrs. Co. A

GEORGE Q. DAGAN

7777 Morris Rd. Apt 1

North Olmsted, Ohio 44070

I retired last July, said my home in New England and join...my sons and daughters in California and visited in my old home. I have been busy, built a new horse barn in the old house. Hope it’s done in time for a visit from a friend of mine who is coming when they come to California this year. I’ve even got a couple of weeks time to myself.

Before I left Massachusetts, I called on the children of the late Harry Holley of Co. A, Lt. Engrs. died from cancer of bone. The wife of the one who got the back was the former Sue, who was...for...number of years. Jeannine informs me that the address is written in the old handwriting (blind?). Here’s my dues.

4th Inf. Co. A

MARTIN BERGMAN

960 B Huber Rd.

Philadelphia, Pa. 19135

Thank so much for the nice words you wrote about me. Joe McKenzie’s letter is going to me to write to. It sure was nice of him to write and he sure has good eyes to see the small emblem on my PMO hat. I’ve missed our few 4th reunions.

Ft. Bragg and Detroit coming up, because it is the same time as the POW convention is in the same place. I would like to see so many familiar names at the reunion. There are one that I recognize was on the Octofoil and I look for at the reunions in the old Memorial Hall at Worcester. Mass., and I haven’t located him yet. His name is THOMAS LEANZA of the 60th Inf.

He was from my old neighborhood in New York City and lived there. He was also in Sicily in one of our skir...I would like to see so many familiar names at the reunion. There are one that I recognize was on the Octofoil and I look for at the reunions in the old Memorial Hall at Worcester. Mass., and I haven’t located him yet. His name is THOMAS LEANZA of the 60th Inf.

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How do I get this Inf.?

P & R Phil.

ROBERT J. PICHETTE

1014 Williamsburg Rd.

Bucks, N.J. 19020

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How do I get this Inf.?
39th Inf. Co.

FRED GOLUB
21 Lenore Ave.
Monsey, N.Y. 10862

I'm happy to report I'm back working 4 days a week, 5 days a week. Beats the hell out of being laid up with the bone tube. We've tried Florida and New England vacation, but we don't plan to settle there so far. Tom Billing's report was even better than mine. I January on his way to Boston and we spent a wonderful evening together. I visited with Max Monsarron several weeks ago and enjoyed having relaxing old times. He informed me that Buck Bauck came through bypass surgery very successfully. Tom Billing's report is to be in Detroit for the reunion, if the man upstairs approves. I would appreciate any information or papers from Peter or even 60th Co. whom I would like to contact.

DR. HOWMAN COPELAND
111 Livonia Ave.
New Brunswick, N.J. 08903

I can’t tell you how many times I've read your letter and always make a mental note about going to New Brunswick. I know, somehow, something always turns up.

This time, however, I have decided to let you in on all my friends in the 39th Infantry. I know that this old fellow has a few friends here. It's now 3 years since I underwent surgery. I have given up smoking major surgery and do only of the few that I can still tell you my story. I would love to have a copy.

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This time, however, I have decided to let you in on all my friends in the 39th Infantry. I know that this old fellow has a few friends here. It's now 3 years since I underwent surgery. I have given up smoking major surgery and do only of the few that I can still tell you my story. I would love to have a copy.
When was last time you wrote a letter to our Mail Call Column?

In the last issue of The Octofoil, it was mentioned that the previous year's address had been posted on the cover of the magazine. As a result, many readers wrote letters to the editor as if they were responding to a question that was not asked. It is important to note that letters to the editor should be written in a respectful and professional manner, avoiding personal attacks and making sure that the information presented is accurate and relevant to the topic at hand. It is also important to remember that letters to the editor are a platform for public discussion and should be open to all viewpoints. Therefore, letters to the editor should be written in a way that is meant to contribute to the conversation and provide a valuable perspective to the reader.