

77<sup>th</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION Reserve Officers Association

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# **THE LAMPETTE**

Editor: BG Robert J. Winzinger, Sr., USA (Ret)

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2017 Issue

## 1. <u>THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER</u>:

On behalf of all of the directors of the Association, I welcome our members, friends and other readers to this issue of *The Lampette*. This issue inaugurates the publishing of an annual *Lampette* instead of separate spring and winter issues. While this is a departure from a 59-year tradition, the Board of Directors felt that it was appropriate to make the change. As years have gone by, we have been receiving increasingly fewer news items from our members, and social media and the internet are competing with the printed word. It is our intention to present a year's summary of Association activity with a December or January publication date. For those of you who desire more timely information, we invite you to visit our web site, which recently has been updated.

In preparation for 2017, and in recognition of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, an attractive challenge/commemorative coin was developed for permanent remembrance of this special occasion, or for ongoing use. The coins have been made available for sale on our web site and during Association activities. We still have a number of them available for sale.

The Anniversary year was kicked-off by the 77<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade at Fort Dix on 7 April when most of the Brigade's Soldiers were present. COL Pamela L. McGaha, Commander, and LTC(P) Thomas P. Sullivan, Deputy Commander, hosted the event. A number of directors and members were in attendance. MG William Terpeluk and I spoke about the history of the Division and the activities of the Association.

The Spring Luncheon was held on 10 May at the Swan Club, when the Anniversary was celebrated with a special cake arranged for by SGM Tony Filosa, chairman of the luncheon. COL Gerard A. McEnerney and CSM Daniel J. Mari were welcomed into membership, and COL Seymour Kaplan and CW4 Bernie Kaplan conducted the customary raffle of donated gifts, the proceeds of which go to the Memorial Fund.

On 25 May, I attended the annual Awards Ceremony at the United States Military Academy at West Point, and was pleased to present our Association's award of a pewter tray to then Cadet Patrick W. Dancer. The award is presented to the graduating cadet who achieves the highest standing in courses relating to National Security and Public Affairs.

The annual Commemoration Ceremony in the 307<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment Memorial Grove in Central Park was held on 10 June. The ceremony was supported by the 77<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade and the 319<sup>th</sup> U.S. Army Band. The 389<sup>th</sup> Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, a unit of the Brigade under the command of LTC Kevin S. McGuire and CSM Carol A. Cox, provided the Color Guard and the required logistical support, including seating and a public-address system. A provisional battalion of soldiers from the Brigade also were in attendance. The event had PAO coverage by the Office of the Chief, Army Reserve, represented by LTC Eric M. Nager, USAR, and by the 77<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade, represented by SSG David H. Clemenko.

The speakers during the ceremony were Ms. Caroline Greenleaf, Director of Community Relations, Central Park Conservancy; Mr. Oswaldo M. Pereira, Community Outreach Manager, NYC Department of Veteran's Services; MG William Terpeluk, MG Evo Riguzzi, Jr.; COL Edwin G. Logan and LTC(P) Thomas P. Sullivan. The 319<sup>th</sup> Band under the direction of SFC Patricia Flowers provided outstanding musical support. In recognition of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, they performed a medley of songs from the WWI and WWII eras and a vocal rendition of *God Bless the USA* by SSG Joseph M. Young.

The Armed Forces Reserve Family Assistance Fund held its 17<sup>th</sup> Annual MG Frank Donohue Golf Outing at the West Point Golf Course on 14 August. A number of our members attended this event, which raises funds to support emergency needs of families of USAR soldiers who are on active duty.

The 77<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade held its Annual Dining Out at Fort Dix, NJ. It was hosted by COL McGaha and LTC(P) Sullivan, both of whom did an outstanding job in recognizing the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. Mr. Robert Laplander, author and historian of the "Lost Battalion," was the principal speaker. COL Ed Logan, Mr. Malcolm R. Schade and I represented the Association.

The Association's Fall Luncheon and Annual Meeting was held on 18 October at the Swan Club. During the business portion of the meeting, the slate of directors that had been previously presented to the membership was elected. The Treasurer's Report was presented on behalf of COL Logan in his absence by Mr. Schade, as assistant treasurer, and I reported on the activities that had taken place since the first of the year.

On 5 November, the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Memorial Service was held at the Fort Totten Chapel, where fifteen members of the 77<sup>th</sup> family were honored, including a director emeritus, COL Martin Dawson, who passed in January, and director CW4 Edward C. Grant, who passed in April. COL Dawson was a past president of the Association, served on the original memorial committee with his wife Renée, and was the long-time chair of the meetings committee until he could no longer participate due to health reasons. COL Dawson was a veteran of WWII, a former commander of the 77<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion, 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, and was Deputy Chief of Staff Intelligence, 77<sup>th</sup> USARCOM, at the time of his retirement.

CW4 Grant transferred from the National Guard to the Army Reserve in 1970, where he enjoyed dual status as a Sergeant and Military Technician in the Adjutant General Section of the 77<sup>th</sup> USARCOM. He subsequently was commissioned Warrant Officer and served in the Public Affairs office until his retirement. CW4 Grant had several nick-names. While serving on our Board of Directors, he was referred to as "Flagman," as he was the custodian of the Association's flags, including those of the General officers. Ed and his wife, Kathy, ensured that the appropriate flags and banner were positioned during our memorial services, meetings and other events, including out-of-town ceremonies.

The principal speakers during the service were: MG Troy D. Kok, Commanding General, 99<sup>th</sup> Regional Support Command, where he is responsible for all logistics and facilities support for more than 40,000 Army Reserve installations across a region spanning thirteen northeastern states; MG Anthony R. Kropp (Ret), Former Commander of the 411<sup>th</sup> Engineer Brigade and a member of the Association; and COL Pamela L. McGaha, Commander, 77<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade. LTC(P) Thomas P. Sullivan was the principal speaker during the Wreath Laying Ceremony in the 77<sup>th</sup> Memorial Grove, where the six Soldiers who were lost on 9/11 were remembered and honored.

During the reception that took place after the memorial services, we rededicated Kaine Hall during a brief ceremony. As you know, MG John W. Kaine, who passed away in 1995, was the last Commanding General of the 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (1958-1965) and the first Commander of the 77<sup>th</sup> US Army Reserve Command (1967-1972). General Kok delivered eloquent remarks about the history of the 77<sup>th</sup> and focused on the 77<sup>th</sup> Medal of Honor recipients in WWI and WWII, whose plaques are on display. Colonel McGaha spoke about the relevance of displaying the 77<sup>th</sup> unit crests and memorabilia in the hall that soldiers assigned to units of the 77<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade use during battle drills, meals and other activities. Before the Prayer of Dedication, CH (LTC) Murray Stadtmauer shared some personal recollections about General Kaine.

As most of you know, the replacement of General Kaine's portrait which had gone missing, and the reinstallation of his memorabilia which had been removed due to building renovations, were on the Association's drawing board for many years. While the chair rails with display cases have been in place, their fronts were undecorated and we were in need of unit crest images which for the most part do not exist in official archives. Early in the year, we had the good fortune to locate, within our own resources, original paintings of the unit crests of the major units which were organically assigned to the 77<sup>th</sup> Division when it was deactivated in 1965. Mr. Schade was able to have the crests reproduced to size and mounted in wooden and plexi-glass frames, and to replace the lost portrait of General Kaine based upon a photographic negative. LTC Joseph Schroder installed the unit crests and picture of General Kaine, and relocated the Medal of Honor plaques from a corridor outside the hall.

We still have some specific unmet needs in the Kaine Hall display for shoulder epaulet unit pins, branch insignia and other small (maximum height of 5/8 inch) items for addition to the locked, glass-covered shelves over the new framed unit crests, for the following 77<sup>th</sup> units: 308<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 302<sup>nd</sup> Engineers Battalion, 302<sup>nd</sup> Medical Battalion, 77<sup>th</sup> Transportation Battalion, 77<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion, 304<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Battalion, 305<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Battalion, 306<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Battalion and 902<sup>nd</sup> Field Artillery Battalion. (We also could use a pair of branch insignia for the 306<sup>th</sup> Infantry.) If any of our readers would be willing to donate any of these items, please send them by U.S. Mail to our post office box address above in the masthead of this newsletter. (FedEx and UPS will not deliver to post office boxes.) Items that can't be used in the Kaine Hall exhibit will be offered to the 77<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade for display in their headquarters at Fort Dix, New Jersey.

Additional details and photos regarding Kaine Memorial Hall can be viewed on our web site at: http://www.77thinfdivroa.org/memorials/KaineMemorial/index.html .

In closing, I would like to thank all our members who continue to support the Association's activities by attending the ceremonies and meetings, and those who are unable to attend but support us through their generous contributions. We thank you in advance for your continuing financial support.

# 2. 2016 9-11 REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY AT FT. TOTTEN:

On 11 September 2016, a Remembrance Ceremony hosted by COL Michael G. Floru, Commander, 3<sup>rd</sup> BDE, 100<sup>th</sup> Training Division, and Fort Totten Installation Commander, to honor the six Soldiers of the 77<sup>th</sup> Regional Readiness Command who perished at the World Trade Center on 9-11-01, was held in the 77<sup>th</sup> Memorial Grove next to the Ernie Pyle USAR Center, Fort Totten, NY.

The 2016 ceremony, which was held in front of formations of NYC Firefighters and Soldiers from various units, was led as Master of Ceremony by SFC Fabian J. Savino, USAR. It featured remarks by COL Adam Roth, Regional Engineer, 99<sup>th</sup> Regional Support Command, and USARC CSM James Wills. Detailed biographies of COL Roth and CSM Wills, and of the six Soldiers of the 77<sup>th</sup> RRC being honored, appeared in the program for the ceremony. Also participating in the ceremony were a Color Guard of the College of the City University of New York, and the 319<sup>th</sup> U.S. Army Band, led by SFC Patricia Flowers.

Attending the ceremony on behalf of our Association as guests were the following directors: COL Louis H. Sudholz, Jr., President; LTC(P) Thomas P. Sullivan, Deputy Commander, 77<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade; COL and Mrs. Seymour Kaplan; COL Edwin G. Logan; LTC and Mrs. John W. Peterkin; and Mr. Malcolm R. Schade. Also attending from our Association were the following additional members: COL Pamela L. McGaha, Commander, 77<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade; LTC Anthony J. Bilello; and CW5 Robert Neglia. CSM Brian R. Ladlee, 77<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade, also attended.

A copy of the Program and photos of this event can be viewed on our web site at: http://www.77thinfdivroa.org/news/911ceremony.html .

# 3. 2016 FALL LUNCHEON AND ANNUAL MEETING AT THE SWAN CLUB:

An article about this event held on 19 October 2016 appeared in our Winter 2016 issue, and another article with photos is now available for viewing on our web site at: http://www.77thinfdivroa.org/news/AnnualMeetingandFallLuncheon.html (scroll to the second article).

## 4. 2016 ANNUAL ECUMENICAL MEMORIAL SERVICE AT FT. TOTTEN:

An article about this event held on 6 November 2016 appeared in our Winter 2016 issue, and another article with a copy of the Program and photos is now available for viewing on our web site at: http://www.77thinfdivroa.org/news/Ecumenical\_Memorial.html (scroll to the second article).

## 5. 2017 SPRING LUNCHEON AT THE SWAN CLUB:

On 10 May 2017, our Association held its Spring Luncheon Meeting at The Swan Club in Roslyn, New York. The weather was mostly sunny, and the event was enjoyed by 24 members and 12 spouses and guests. As usual, the schedule began with a cocktail reception with passed hors d'oeuvres, which was followed by a served luncheon.

During the luncheon, President Louis H. Sudholz, Jr. conducted a brief business meeting, and reported regarding recent Association activities and plans for the rest of the year, including our plans for observances of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the organization of the 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division at Camp Upton in 1917. As is customary, he began by recognizing the General Officer who was present, MG George E. Barker, and he recognized the following former 77<sup>th</sup> Command Sergeant Major and Sergeants Major who were present: CSM Daniel J. Mari, SGM Anthony A. Filosa and SGM Leonard Finkelstein. COL Sudholz also welcomed two new members, COL Gerard A. McEnerney and CSM Mari, and presented each of them with the customary etched 77<sup>th</sup> glass and Statue of Liberty lapel pin.

COL Edwin G. Logan briefly reported regarding the upcoming Commemoration Ceremony and observance of the Division's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in the 307<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment Memorial Grove in Central Park on 10 June.

The regular dessert course was supplemented by a special cake decorated in honor of the 100 years since the organization of the 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. The luncheon concluded with a popular raffle of six donated prizes conducted by COL Seymour Kaplan, the proceeds of which will go toward funding our memorial services.

In attendance were: CW4 Alfred J. Acunto; MAJ Carnig Ajamian with Ms. Bernadette Rynne and Mr. James Ryose; MG George E. Barker; COL Lawrence E. Connors; COL Ivan Cornielle; SGM Anthony A. Filosa; SGM Leonard Finkelstein; Mr. Stanley Green; COL Kevin F. Harrington; COL David E. B. Husing; CW4 Bernard M. Kaplan; COL Seymour Kaplan with Mrs. Harriet L. Kaplan; COL Frank J. Koegl; COL Edwin G. Logan with Mrs. Mary C. Logan; CSM Daniel J. Mari; COL Gerard A. McEnerney; LTC Glennie L. Millard; CW5 Robert Neglia; LTC John W. Peterkin with Mr. Thomas Sullivan and LTC James S. Taylor; SFC Ronald I. Peters; Mrs. Ivy A. Richardson with Mrs. Eileen McKenzie; Mr. Malcolm R. Schade with Mrs. Cherie Schade; LTC Joseph Schroder; CW5 Paul M. Silverman; COL Louis H. Sudholz, Jr. with Mrs. Joan L. Sudholz; LTC(P) Thomas P. Sullivan; and CPT Douglas A. Wilke.

Photos of this event can be viewed on our web site at: http://www.77thinfdivroa.org/news/Luncheon.html .

# 6. 2017 WEST POINT AWARD:

On 25 May 2017, COL Louis H. Sudholz, Jr. presented our Association's Award for Excellence in National Security and Public Affairs to then graduating Cadet Patrick W. Dancer. Cadet Dancer majored in International Relations with a Cyber Engineering sequence, and his senior research focused on international relations in the cyber domain and the effect of uncertainty of state behavior. During two summers, he further encountered global issues through an internship with the Joint Staff at the Pentagon and a study abroad program in the Czech Republic. He was also a three-time letter winner for the Army Sprint Football team, and a chairman within the academy's Thayer Honors Program. Upon graduating, he planned to attend the Yenching Academy at Peking University on a graduate scholarship before continuing his career as an Armor officer. A photo of this event can be viewed at: http://www.77thinfdivroa.org/news/WestPointAward.html .

## 7. 2017 CENTRAL PARK CEREMONY:

On 10 June 2017, the 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Reserve Officers Association, in conjunction with the 307<sup>th</sup> Infantry Veterans Society, held their annual Commemoration Ceremony in the 307<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment Memorial Grove, in Central Park. The ceremony honored all service members who have lost their lives defending our country, with particular emphasis on Soldiers of the 307<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, who died during World War I and World War II. An additional theme this year was the special observance of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the organization of the 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division at Camp Upton, New York in 1917.

The Commemoration Ceremony and 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Observance on 10 June was introduced and led by COL Louis H. Sudholz, Jr., President of the 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division ROA. The Invocation, Prayer and Benediction were offered by CH (MAJ) Edward V. Paul, USAR, Chaplain, 77<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade.

The first guest speaker was Ms. Caroline Greenleaf, Director of Community Relations, Central Park Conservancy. Her remarks focused on the significance of the 307<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment Memorial Grove for Central Park. The second guest speaker was Mr. Oswaldo Pereira, Community Outreach Manager, New York City Department of Veterans' Services. His remarks emphasized the importance of supporting veterans and remembering those who sacrificed their lives in the service of their country.

The first of two keynote speakers was MG William Terpeluk, Former Commanding General, 77<sup>th</sup> Regional Readiness Command. His remarks recalled the history of the 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, covering both its organization in New York in 1917 and heroism during WWI, including the story of the so-called "Lost Battalion" in the Argonne Forest of France, and also the Division's distinguished service in the Pacific Theater during WWI.

The second keynote speaker was MG Evo Riguzzi, Jr., Former Deputy Commanding General, United States Army Reserve Training and Doctrine Command. His remarks focused on the reorganization of the 77<sup>th</sup> after WWII as a US Army Reserve Command and the participation of successor units in Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield.

The next speaker was LTC(P) Thomas P. Sullivan, USAR, Deputy Commander, 77<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade, who spoke about the Brigade's ongoing mission to carry on the proud legacy of the 77<sup>th</sup> Statue of Liberty Patch.

Remarks about the history of the 307<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment in both World Wars and its role in the establishment and support of the Memorial Grove in Central Park beginning in 1920 to the present were delivered by COL Edwin G. Logan. COL Logan also introduced the placing of the memorial wreath by COL Lawrence M. Bellman; CSM Carol A. Cox, USAR, 389<sup>th</sup> Combat Sustainment Support Battalion; and SGM Anthony A. Filosa, Former Command Sergeant Major, 306<sup>th</sup> Military Police Brigade.

Supporting the ceremony throughout were members of the 389<sup>th</sup> Combat Sustainment Support Battalion Color Guard, and the 319<sup>th</sup> U.S. Army Band, led by SFC Patricia Flowers, USAR. In addition, the ceremony was attended by numerous Soldiers of the 77<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade, who assisted with the equipment and preparations, and who represented the USAR to the community by their presence.

Also attending the ceremony were the following additional directors of the 77<sup>th</sup> IDROA: COL Ivan Cornielle; CW4 Bernard M. Kaplan; LTC John W. Peterkin; CPT Douglas A. Wilke; and Mr. Malcolm R. Schade. Also attending were the following additional members of the 77<sup>th</sup> IDROA: MG Michael A. Boyd and LTC Glennie L. Millard. Also attending as guests were: LTC Kevin S. McGuire, USAR, Commander, 389<sup>th</sup> Combat Sustainment Support Battalion; LTC James S. Taylor; and CPT James Van Thach.

A copy of the Program and photos of this event can be viewed on our web site at:

http://www.77thinfdivroa.org/news/centralparkceremony.html .

# 8. 2017 77th SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE DINING OUT:

On 9 September 2017, four members of our Board of Directors attended the Eighth Annual Dining

Out of the 77<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade at Tommy B's Community Activity Center, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey, hosted by COL Pamela L. McGaha, Commander, 77<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade. This event also commemorated the 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division's activation in 1917. Numerous members, spouses and guests of the Brigade were in attendance.

The Guest Speaker was the noted author and historian of WWI, Mr. Robert J. Laplander. In addition to writing, among other works, the acclaimed book, *Finding the Lost Battalion: Beyond the Rumors, Myths and Legend of America's Famous WWI Epic*, he manages numerous web sites, was featured in the PBS television documentary "The Great War", and provides professional development lectures for the U.S. Army. During his participation in this Dining Out and 77<sup>th</sup> Activation Commemoration, Mr. Laplander wore an authentic "Doughboy" uniform from WWI.

Besides COL McGaha, who is a member of our Association, the leadership of the 77<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade in attendance included our director, LTC(P) Thomas P. Sullivan, Deputy Commander, and Battalion CSM Brian R. Ladlee, among others. Attending as guests of the Brigade were the following additional directors of our Association: COL Louis H. Sudholz, Jr., President; COL Edwin G. Logan; and Mr. Malcolm R. Schade.

A copy of the Program and photos of this event can be viewed on our web site at: http://www.77thinfdivroa.org/aboutus/77thSustainmentBrigade.html .

#### 9. 2017 FALL LUNCHEON AND ANNUAL MEETING:

On 18 October 2017, our Association held its Fall Luncheon and Annual Meeting at The Swan Club in Roslyn, New York. Enjoying favorable weather, the event was attended by 20 members and nine spouses and guests. As usual, the schedule began with a cocktail reception with passed hors d'oeuvres, which were followed by a served luncheon.

During the luncheon, President Lou Sudholz conducted a brief business meeting, and reported regarding recent Association activities, plans for the rest of the year, and events planned for 2018. As is customary, he began by recognizing the General Officers who were present: MG George E. Barker and MG Anthony R. Kropp, and he also recognized the following former 77<sup>th</sup> Command Sergeant Major and Sergeants Major who were present: CSM Daniel J. Mari, SGM Anthony A. Filosa and SGM Leonard Finkelstein. He also noted the passing away of a former president and long-time director of our Association, COL Martin Dawson, in January, and of our director, CW4 Edward C. Grant, in March.

Mr. Malcolm R. Schade, as assistant treasurer, summarized the Treasurer's Report prepared by COL Edwin G. Logan, who was unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Schade reported in some detail regarding the largest single expenditure of the year, which consisted of the production of 14 framed unit crests and insignia of organic units of the 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, and a framed photographic portrait of MG John W. Kaine. In early October 2017, these unit crests were installed by LTC Joseph Schroder on the fronts of the chair rails in Kaine Hall in the Ernie Pyle USAR Center, Fort Totten, and the portrait was mounted on the wall above them. In addition, some personal memorabilia of General Kaine and other items have been installed in the chair rail display cases, and the Association plans to supplement those items in the future, to complete the long-planned decoration of the south wall of Kaine Hall.

Mr. Schade, as secretary, and CW4 Bernard M. Kaplan then conducted the election of directors. Based upon the presence in person of 20 voting (Regular or Honorary) members, augmented by numerous proxies given prior to the meeting, the meeting more than achieved the required quorum of at least 20 voting members (10% of the total number of members eligible to vote). All of the candidates proposed by the Nominating Committee were elected for the respective terms described in the proxies and ballots, and until their successors shall be duly elected and qualified.

The luncheon concluded with a popular raffle of several donated prizes conducted by COL Seymour Kaplan, the proceeds of which will go toward funding our memorial services.

In attendance were: CW4 Alfred J. Acunto; MG George E. Barker; COL Ivan Cornielle; SGM Anthony A. Filosa; SGM Leonard Finkelstein; COL Kevin F. Harrington; COL David E. B. Husing; CW4 Bernard M.

Kaplan; COL Seymour Kaplan; MG Anthony R. Kropp with Mrs. Joanne Kropp; CSM Daniel J. Mari; LTC Bernard F. McGovern; LTC Glennie L. Millard; CW5 Robert Neglia; LTC Pamela M. Niosi; LTC John W. Peterkin with Mrs. Ann Peterkin, CPT James Van Thach and Ms. Ivy Pui Sze Chung; Mrs. Ivy F. Richardson with Mrs. Eileen McKenzie; Mr. Malcolm R. Schade with Mrs. Cherie Schade; COL Louis H. Sudholz, Jr. with Mrs. Joan Sudholz; LTC(P) Thomas P. Sullivan; LTC Victor E. Tuohy; and CPT Douglas A. Wilke.

Photos of this event can be viewed on our web site at: http://www.77thinfdivroa.org/news/AnnualMeetingandFallLuncheon.html .

## 10. 2017 ANNUAL ECUMENICAL MEMORIAL SERVICE AT FT. TOTTEN:

On Sunday, 5 November 2017, the 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Reserve Officers Association held its 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Ecumenical Memorial Service in the Post Chapel at Fort Totten. This Memorial Service specifically remembers Soldiers of the 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division and its successor units, as well as other veterans who have been long-time friends of our Association, whose passing has come to the attention of the Association during the preceding year. Since 2005, these Soldiers have specifically included members of the 307<sup>th</sup> Infantry Veterans Society. In addition, the Memorial Service honors all other members of the 77<sup>th</sup> family who have served and currently are serving their country. We were pleased that the Memorial Service in the Chapel this year was attended by an especially large number of family members and friends, many of whom traveled considerable distances, of the Soldiers being remembered, as well as by many members and other guests of our Association. Immediately following the Memorial Service in the Post Chapel, our Association held its 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony at the 77<sup>th</sup> Memorial Grove next to the Ernie Pyle USAR Center, Fort Totten.

This year, the customary Reception for participants and other attendees held immediately afterwards in the MG John W. Kaine Memorial Hall, on the first floor of the Ernie Pyle USAR Center adjacent to the Memorial Grove, was expanded to include two additional events. The first of these was an observance of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the organization of the 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division at Camp Upton, New York in 1917. The second additional event was a rededication of Kaine Hall following the installation by our Association in October of 14 new, framed unit crests and insignia of organic units of the 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division and a framed replacement portrait of General Kaine, and the re-installation of a display of some of his personal memorabilia. Also re-installed were 15 individual bronze plaques honoring the 77<sup>th</sup> Soldiers who were awarded the Medal of Honor during WWI and WWII.

The Service began with the posting of the colors by a Color Guard of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 100<sup>th</sup> Training Division. This was followed by a welcome by our President, COL Louis H. Sudholz, Jr., who also introduced the other participants and read the Last Roll Call. His introductory remarks were immediately followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by LTC John W. Peterkin, and the singing of the National Anthem by the Congregation.

The Invocation and Scripture Reading were offered by CH (LTC) Murray E. Stadtmauer (Ret), who is a long-time member and supporter of our Association. The Prayer and Benediction were offered by CH (1LT) Nafatara Sugrim, USAR, Chaplain, 389<sup>th</sup> Combat Sustainment Support Battalion. Dr. Pam Phillips accompanied herself on the piano and sang *Ave Maria* and *The Lord's Prayer*, in addition to playing a Piano Prelude and Postlude.

Remarks regarding the proud history of the 77<sup>th</sup> from the beginning in 1917 and its significant role in both World Wars, including several important battles and the 15 Medals of Honor awarded to its Soldiers during that period, were delivered by MG Troy D. Kok, USAR, Commanding General, 99<sup>th</sup> Regional Support Command.

The Keynote Speaker was MG Anthony R. Kropp (Ret), Former Deputy Chief of Engineers, who is a long-time member and supporter of our Association. His Remarks focused on the dedication of Soldiers when they take their oaths upon enlistment, and then related several of his personal experiences during his distinguished 35-year military career, first as an enlisted Soldier in 1967 and later as an officer.

Remarks regarding the importance of honoring the members of the 77<sup>th</sup> who have passed on, the history of the Division and its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and the role of the present 77<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade in carrying on the traditions of the Division, were delivered by COL Pamela M. McGaha, USAR, Commander, 77<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade.

Eulogies of the following departed members of the 77<sup>th</sup> family were delivered by COL Lawrence M. Bellman: COL Harold G. Beal, Jr.; SGT James Cox, COL Martin Dawson, COL Joseph P. Dunne, LTC Timothy G. Dyas, LTC Harry S. Figman, SGT Gordon W. Gibson, CW4 Edward C. Grant, COL John Michael Murphy, LTC Howard E. Nankervis, Jr.; CW3 Donald A. Patane, COL Carmine J. Perrotta, MAJ Frank M. Pinto, LTC James H. Vander Velde and COL Peter Frank Zullo. Personal remarks by other participants, and by seven family members and friends who were among the Congregation, supplemented six of the eulogies. In addition, a prayer for all the departed Soldiers was offered by Sister Hannah Cox, Presentation Sisters. She is the surviving daughter of SGT James Cox, a WWI veteran who was among the 77<sup>th</sup> Soldiers who were remembered. A Trumpeter of the 319<sup>th</sup> U.S. Army Band, SGT Joseph P. Naples, USAR, rang a chime and played TAPS during the Last Roll Call.

Despite intermittent rain, numerous members of the Congregation from the Memorial Service then attended the Wreath Laying Ceremony in the 77<sup>th</sup> Memorial Grove. Another posting of the colors by the Color Guard was followed by brief Introductory Remarks by COL Sudholz.

LTC(P) Thomas P. Sullivan, USAR, Deputy Commander, 77<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade, then delivered Remarks regarding the significance of the Grove and the sacrifice of those six Soldiers on 9-11-2001.

Chaplain Stadtmauer offered a Prayer for Soldiers and Chaplain Sugrim offered a Prayer of Remembrance. COL Bellman and CW4 Bernard M. Kaplan presented the Memorial Wreath. Dr. Phillips led the attendees in singing *God Bless America*, and SGT Naples played TAPS.

Immediately after the Wreath Laying Ceremony in the 77<sup>th</sup> Memorial Grove, all participants and attendees were invited to Kaine Hall for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Observance, the Rededication Ceremony and an informal Reception, with refreshments. Brief additional Remarks regarding the Anniversary and the Rededication were delivered by COL Sudholz, MG Kok, COL McGaha and Chaplain Stadtmauer. COL Sudholz and Chaplain Stadtmauer included some personal reminiscences of MG Kaine.

A copy of the Program and photos of this event can be viewed on our web site at: http://www.77thinfdivroa.org/news/Ecumenical\_Memorial.html .

## 11. VETERANS DAY AT BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY:

MG William Terpeluk (Ret) attended a Veterans Day Ceremony at Brookhaven National Laboratory on 9 November 2017 at the invitation of the Brookhaven Veterans Association. This ceremony also marked the centennial of the establishment of Camp Upton as the World War I mobilization and training center for the 77<sup>th</sup> Division. The BVA has traditionally been very supportive of numerous related efforts of the 77<sup>th</sup>, most notably the Casing of the Colors ceremony of the 77<sup>th</sup> Regional Readiness Command in September 2008. Mr. Donald Farnam of BNL, a good friend of the 77<sup>th</sup>, coordinated the activities for this extremely notable Veterans Day commemoration.

The event was attended by Dr. Doon Gibbs, Director, Brookhaven National Laboratory; Dr. Robert Tribble, Deputy Director for Science and Technology; and Mr. Jack Anderson, Deputy Director for Operations. The ceremony included a Presentation of a Memorial Wreath, Commemoration of the Camp Upton Memorial Plaque, and Presentation of the American Flag. Several World War II veterans were in attendance, and were honored as part of the ceremony. The participation by the BNL community-at-large was very much in evidence.

BNL also provided a tour of the installation and surrounding area. Although Camp Upton was largely torn down just after World War I (only to be rebuilt during World War II), many features of the original post have been preserved or remain fairly intact. The history of Camp Upton still serves as a vital part of our tremendous legacy.

#### 12. TREASURER'S REPORT:

During fiscal 2017, total expenses exceeded total revenues by \$2,530.38, compared with an excess of total revenues over total expenses of \$1,201.58 during fiscal 2016, despite our mostly successful efforts to control recurring expenses. This negative operating result in fiscal 2017 was primarily because we experienced significantly increased expenditures in two non-recurring categories. The first of these categories was an expanded Memorial Service in Central Park on 10 June, which included an observance of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the organization of the 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in 1917.

The second of these categories was the completion of our long-desired permanent display, consisting of fourteen framed images of 77<sup>th</sup> organic unit crests, for installation on the fronts of the chair rails, and the replacement of a framed portrait of MG John W. Kaine, in Kaine Memorial Hall. Although these and other, already-existing items were installed in Kaine Hall in October, which was during fiscal 2018, the framed unit crests and portrait were purchased during fiscal 2017. The final costs of materials for this project exceeded what we have received over the years in donations honoring General Kaine, and necessitated using some operating funds.

As you might note, we experienced a reduction in our expenses for postage and printing, due in part to an increased use of email. We continue to utilize e-mail, wherever possible, in an effort to reduce or at least restrain this category, and urge any members who have not yet provided or updated their e-mail address to please do so.

During fiscal 2018, we anticipate returning to a more normal level of expenditures, although we did incur increased expenses in connection with an expanded Memorial Service at Fort Totten on 5 November, which also included an observance of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and a Rededication Ceremony in Kaine Hall.

Although we will manage expenses carefully, we continue to foresee the need to count upon the generosity of our loyal membership to maintain our financial stability. Since we do not assess annual dues, donations play a significant role in our ability to maintain our organization and we would greatly appreciate all financial assistance, regardless of the amount provided. Please note that the reported donations for fiscal 2017 do not include any of the amounts which we have received in response to my letter dated 15 November 2017, for which we are very grateful.

# 77<sup>th</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION ROA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEARS ENDED 8/31/2017 AND 8/31/2016

	Y/E 8/31/17	Y/E 8/31/16
ASSETS		
JP Morgan Chase Bank		
Checking	2,000.91	4,534.70
Savings	11,433.85	11,430.44
TOTALS	13,434.76	15,965.14
FUND BALANCES		
General Operating Fund	13,434.76	12,324.88
Memorial Funds	0.00	3,640.26
TOTALS	13,434.76	15,965.14
RECEIPTS		
Interest	3.41	3.49
Donations	500.00	2,045.00
Raffles	476.00	413.00
Socials – Excess Receipts Over Exp.	307.00	225.00
Initiation Fees from New Members	150.00	250.00

Memorabilia Sales – Net	680.76	206.18
TOTALS	2,117.17	3,142.67
DISBURSEMENTS		
Rental of P.O. Box	134.00	132.00
Postage/Printing	257.87	524.58
Web Site	580.10	350.00
Memorial Service	1,312.77	891.25
Kaine Hall Improvements	2,328.28	0.00
Misc. Supplies	34.53	43.26
TOTALS	4,647.55	1,941.09
NET RECEIPTS / EXPENSES	-2,530.38	1,201.58

## 13. FUND RAISING:

The Association's new 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemorative/challenge coins are available for sale at \$10 per coin, plus \$3.00 for shipping and handling 1-3 coins. Please add \$1.33 for each additional coin in the same package.

We are also continuing to offer for sale 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division wine glasses and whiskey tumblers etched with the 77<sup>th</sup> "Liberty" patch. The glasses and tumblers are \$8 for one (plus \$4 for shipping and handling), \$15 for two (plus \$6 for shipping and handling), \$29 for four (plus \$8 for shipping and handling, and \$85 for a dozen (with shipping and handling included). Wine glasses and whiskey tumblers can be mixed in any of these orders.

77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division golf shirts, T-shirts and baseball-type hats are also available in various colors. Prices are \$25 each for golf shirts, and \$15 each for T-shirts and hats (plus \$5 for shipping and handling). To order any of these items, please contact SGM Tony Filosa at 917-279-0744 or by email at: the77infasso@aol.com . (This is a special email address for merchandise orders only.)

Also available are Memorial Bricks, at \$125 each, installed in the 77<sup>th</sup> Memorial Grove at Fort Totten. Each brick can be inscribed with up to three lines, and each line can contain up to a total of 20 characters and spaces. Order forms are available at our web site at: http://www.77thinfdivroa.org/forsale/index.html.

# 14. DATES TO REMEMBER:

Spring Luncheon at the Swan Club16Ceremony in 307th Inf. Regt. Mem. Grove, Central Park9Fall Luncheon and Annual Meeting at the Swan Club17Annual Ecumenical Memorial Service at Fort Totten4

16 May 2018 9 June 2018 17 October 2018 4 November 2018

# 15. <u>TELEPHONE CONTACT</u>:

Should you wish to contact us by telephone, you may call COL Richard Cochrane at 631-244-0160. He will pass along your message.

# HAVE WONDERFUL AND SAFE WINTER!

COL LOUIS H. SUDHOLZ, JR. (RET), President