



# Company I Poopsheet

Company I, 502 PIR, 101st Airborne

March 2006



**Mrs. Paul (Edna) Cooney**, 2010 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. N. Texas City, TX 77590 Ph 409 948 3767. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Thanks for sending me notice of the Brothers in Arms. I watched the show and really enjoyed it. Edna

**Walter J. White**, 600 Aubrey Ave., Chattanooga, TN 37411 Ph 423-624-4806. January 9, 2006, Please change my address to 600 Aubrey Ave. (Editor: We appreciate notices of any changes in addresses and phone nos.)

**Michael Aschieris**, 4311 Gleneagles Court, Stockton, CA 95219 January 4, 2006 Thank you so much for the great letter and CD. Both items are priceless to me. I watched the history program on T.V, It was very well done. Thanks for the addresses of Harry Nivens and Ed Mobley. Hope you and your family had a great Christmas and Happy New Year. Maybe one year my brother and I can go to one of the reunions. My brother and I just got back from a USC baseball prospect camp. It went very well. Hope all is going well with you. Sincerely, Michael (Editor: Michael is a teen who is very interested in WWII history, especially the 101<sup>st</sup>. Any tidbit you can share with him would be greatly appreciated. Michael, all of us from Co I wish you the best and thank you for your interest and support.)

**Mrs. Anson (Sildry) Manual**, 609 McArthur St., Bossier City, LA 71111. Along with a cash donation, Sildry sent pictures from Anson's collection of practice drops in North Carolina, Ft. Benning, and Panama 1941 - 1943. Unfortunately these prints will not copy well enough to appear in the Poopsheet.

**Earl R. Kelly**, 3 Morgan Lane, Aberdeen, MD 21001 Earl sent a cash donation to the Poopsheet. He also shared with editor the DVD of his speech about his D-Day and 101<sup>st</sup> experiences he made at the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day at Aberdeen Proving Grounds and at the Veterans Day ceremony in Aberdeen, MD. For his service and participation Earl was honored

with a plaque. He participated in planting a memorial tree honoring all D-Day participants at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, MD

## IN LOVING MEMORY



Photo of Robert C Tripp from 2002 Snowbird Reunion.



**Robert C. Tripp HEATH** — Robert C. "Jake" Tripp, 84, of 64 Taylor Brook Road, Heath, MA, died Friday, January 20, at home. He was born in Winsted, CT, March 24, 1921, the son of Robert H. and Mabel (Hansen) Tripp. He attended schools in the

Granville, MA public school system. Tripp was a WWII Army veteran serving with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division. As a paratrooper, he fought battles in France, Holland Belgium. He received the Good Conduct Medal, Purple Heart, Oak Leaf Cluster, Silver Star Medal and Bronze Star Medal for service to his country. Prior to retirement, Tripp owned and operated Tripp's Blueberry Farm in Heath for 45 years. In the spring and fall he operated a wholesale shrubbery business and sold to local area nurseries. In 1994, he started building a 21 foot long, 58 inch wide wooden canoe. It was built of ash and cherry which he harvested from his own land. It took three years to complete. He also made furniture for his family. Tripp enjoyed hunting, fishing and traveling. Survivors besides his wife of 41 years, the former Alicia Armata, include two daughters, Roberta Baker and her husband, William of Rowe; Melanie Leighton and husband, Robert of Northfield; two sisters, Dorothy Baker of Deland, FL., Rita Sandman of Granville, MA; a nephew, Henry Godek and his wife, Jo-Marlene of Heath; three grandchildren, Madison and Nicholas Baker and Cole Leighton, and nieces and nephews. A celebration of life service will be held in the spring with a date and time to be announced. It

is suggested donations be made to BVNA and Hospice, Munson Street, Greenfield, MA 01301. Smith-Kelleher Funeral Home in Shelburne Falls/Greenfield is in charge of arrangements.

**Alicia Tripp**, Heath, MA, Enclosed is the obit you requested. Roberta and I will be thinking of you all at the Snowbird. It was such a good time last year. I think Bob knew that it was his last reunion. Please continue to send the Poopsheet. Enclosed, find a check for expenses. Our love to all I company, 502. Alicia Tripp

*Editor Note: We called him "Bob" or "Tripp". His family's mailing address is Box 27, Heath, MA, 01346. Alicia's phone no. is 413 337 4964. Bob served in I Company, 502 PIR, 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon, during WWI. He is one of the few men I've met that served in my brother's (Lester A. Taylor) platoon I had the pleasure of visiting with him at the Snowbird Reunion in 2005. At that time, he said he was having surgery on his esophagus, the doctors had found cancer.*

**Edward Madsen**, Farmingdale, NY December 5, 2005, MAIL RETURNED, no forwarding address, no phone.

**Jerry Kamenow**, Los Angeles, CA, January 6, 2006, MAIL RETURNED. *Editor has learned from a son of Jerry,, actually, Jerry died in 1999. The Poopsheet continued to go to his address because a family member lived there until recently.*

**Donald O'Neill**, 2312 Elfin Way, Sarasota, FL34231, Phone 941-923-0145 Email: [djoneill@iopener.net](mailto:djoneill@iopener.net)  
Feb. 8, 2006, Dear Friends and Family, It is with heavy heart, I announce the passing of our Step-mother, Mae O'Neill on the 6th of February. Her son, Rev. Edward Gilbert is currently Arch-Bishop of Trinidad-Tobago and will preside at the Funeral Mass in Illinois on Friday, Feb 10th at 10 am. Mrs. O'Neill was 95 and passed away in her sleep. Our family would appreciate your prayers for the repose of her soul. By now, I hope that she and my beloved Patricia are out of their pain and suffering and are with the Angels and at peace. Fondly, Don

**Donald O'Neill**, Feb. 8, 2006 Thanks so much for the Snowbird Reunion pictures. It's hard to believe that after 62 years the guys still look good. Sorry I missed the fun but I'm still getting those epidural injections for my "Toccoa" back and legs. Don

## 101ST AIRBORNE ASSOCIATION GIVES WOUNDED EAGLES PRIORITY ATTENTION

*2/10/06 Public Affairs Committee Special Report*

Fort Campbell, KY -- Veterans of the 101st Airborne Division's storied battles of the past gathered at Kissimmee, FL, February 3-4 with the needs of today's Screaming Eagle warriors in Iraq at the top of their agenda.

Meeting for its annual winter session, the 101st Airborne Division Association announced expanded support services for its active-duty soldiers and their families. It also elected a new Executive Secretary-Treasurer to head the 7,500 member organization of veterans and active-duty soldiers, and made plans for its 2006 reunion in Minneapolis, MN.

President Larry Redmond, in his first year of a two-year term, announced that the current campaign of an updated Screaming Eagle Support Fund among members and others is off to a good start.

"It appears this year will set a new record for donations, with \$50,000 dollars already on hand," said Redmond. He pointed out that over the past four years, the Association has contributed nearly \$195,000 to support single soldiers, the Junior Enlisted Family Center, phone cards for troops in Iraq, and emergency assistance to individual soldiers and their families.

Approximately 19,000 Screaming Eagle soldiers are now in Iraq, many of them for their second tour of duty. A sizeable number also served in Afghanistan and Bosnia. The current commanding officer of the 101st Airborne Division is Maj. Gen. Thomas R. Turner II.

To head up operations from its headquarters at Fort Campbell, KY, the Association named Sam Bass, 63, a retired military officer from Clarksville, TN. He had been appointed to an interim position in October, succeeding SGM(R) Jordan Jeffcoat. Prior to his retirement from the U. S. Army in 1986, Bass served as the commander of the Helmstedt Support Detachment in Germany.

His career experience other than the military includes planning, development and administration at the junior college level, serving as the Executive Coordinator at George Washington University Medical Center, and managing chamber of commerce operations in Rockville, MD, and Highlands, NC. He also owned and operated a private business in Highlands. Bass said he looks forward to carrying on the traditions of the Association and its mission to maintain camaraderie

and preserve the memory of those who have served, to perpetuate the Screaming Eagle heritage and traditions for future generations, and to support the veterans and current Eagles and their families. "I am humbled by this challenge. It will give me an opportunity to give back to our vets and active duty Eagles for their sacrifices and for their commitment to the defense of our freedoms. They are heroes to all," said Bass.

Concerning programs to assist active-duty soldiers, Redmond took note of expanding operations for 101st soldiers wounded in action (WIA). An original effort through the Association's National Capitol Chapter in the Washington, D.C. included services and visitations with wounded soldiers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. That program has now grown to include similar ones at Fort Campbell and Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, TX. According to Redmond, these programs began with hospital visits by local Screaming Eagles and now include "home barbecues and parties for troopers in out-patient status." At the request of the Division, the Association is also in the process of providing hospital packages that include sweat suits marked by distinctive 101st insignia to identify the wounded soldiers as Screaming Eagles.

In other business at the Kissimmee meeting, the Association's Board of Governors heard reports about the planned 61st annual reunion at the Sheraton Hotel in Minneapolis, MN, August 2-6, 2006. Featured guest speaker will be Lt. Gen. David Petraeus. Petraeus was the Commanding General of the 101st Airborne Division from July 2002 to May 2004 and led the Division during its first tour of duty in Iraq. He also served a second assignment in Iraq as Commander, Multi-National Security Transition Command and NATO Training Mission. His current assignment is as commander of the Combined Arms Center, Fort Leavenworth, Kan. Further information about Association programs is available from the 101st Airborne Division Association by telephone (270-439-0445) or email ([sambass101@comcast.net](mailto:sambass101@comcast.net)).

*Editor: This article is from [www.screamingeagle.org](http://www.screamingeagle.org)*

**Marvin Cartwright**, (I/502) Elk Mound, WI has recently shared these lighter moments of his WWII experiences with a young friend, Michael Aschieris of California:

In writing to Michael, Marvin says, "I won't get into any gory details, but here are some of our experiences in Holland. After parachuting down and

after I got out of my harness, along came an old Dutch farmer with a German Shepherd dog hitched to a little wagon. He asked if I wanted some milk. (It came out more like "millek", but I knew what he was saying. I don't and can't drink milk, so I politely told him no.

When Floyd Myers' chute opened, his helmet came off. He reached out and caught it, thus breaking two middle fingers. He wasn't able to help dig, so it was up to me to dig a foxhole. Myers and I laid in that foxhole, no bigger than about 3 inches deep, and maybe 4 feet long. So you know we weren't too well hid. There were 20 MM guns biting the brush off just over our heads. Myers made the comment, "What a place for a Hotdog stand"

They took me out of the Mortar squad to be platoon runner after John Clark was killed. I remained so all the time we were in Holland. It kept me running back & forth more than I care to tell. I did get to sleep in a house more than the other guys. It was wet and rainy a lot of the time, so I was thankful when I could be indoors.

We were eating British rations and it wasn't the best of food. Actually, I would say they weren't fit to eat! A good thing it was the fall of the year, when apples & pears were getting ripe. If it weren't for that fruit, we would have starved!

We occasionally fell out for Company Formation, and each time the company got smaller & smaller. Many casualties & injuries.

On one occasion, there was a dead horse not far from our foxholes. Someone kicked at the horse and a bunch of small pigs were running in and out from it, having a feast.

All the farm animals were running wild. One day I caught a goat and milked it, as her bag was so full that she was blatting and hurting. I used one of the officers canteens for a milk pail. Whoever it was really enjoyed the milk.

The Mortar Sgt. called one night from another house to say he would cook potatoes & gravy if I would scrounge some milk. So, I milked a nanny goat and went over for potatoes & milk gravy. Sure tasted good!"

"One late afternoon in Austria when a bunch of the guys got into some liquor of some kind. Floyd (Myers) was sitting on a fence. He turned and smiled at John Sanders and me, then he passed out and fell off the fence. John & I dragged him into a house that we were staying in at the time, and put him to bed-clothes & all. We didn't dare to undress too much, anyway. Always on alert."

Tuesday, February 14, 2006 You had asked how I

knew when the war was over. We were with the Occupation Troops by then, in southern Germany and from there we went into Austria. We were checking passes on a roadblock when someone said that Franklin Roosevelt had died. Then while still in Austria, we were told that the war was over. I don't recall just who told us, and then we also read it in the "Stars and Stripes", a GI newspaper.

While on a roadblock one day, a young girl of about 14 or 15 and her mother came walking along the road, up to where we were stationed. The girl could speak pretty good English and said they were just going to pick berries, so my buddy and I told them to go ahead. Later, the mother and daughter came back through. The young girl asked if she could fire our rifle. So, I handed her my M-1 rifle (30 caliber). As she took it, the rifle fell to the ground, too heavy for her to hold. She still wanted to fire a rifle, so we told her to lay on her stomach and shoot from that position on the ground. She shot and the force of it slid her back about 4 inches. We asked if she would like to shoot the rifle again, but she wanted no part of it! She must have been surprised at the power of the rifle.

Sometimes for something to do when all was quiet, by buddy, Clifford Malaterre and I would shoot at mice running along between the logs on a small, log hay barn, which was across the road from us. We still had to be very cautious, not knowing if there would be Germans in the area who may not know that the war was over.

Marvin Cartwright

## THE 101<sup>ST</sup> AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION

The Association was created by Screaming Eagle veterans for Screaming Eagle veterans almost sixty years ago. It now is approaching 10,000 members. All those who have worn the most recognized division insignia in the world are welcome and encouraged to join the Association, regardless of where or when you served.

The Association mission: To maintain the camaraderie and preserve the memory of those who served; perpetuating the SCREAMING EAGLE heritage and traditions for future generations; while supporting our veterans and the current Eagles as the 101st Airborne Division continues its Rendezvous with Destiny.

The Association has annual reunions rotated throughout different parts of the country as well as annual Week of the Eagle participation at Ft

Campbell. These activities provide great opportunities to meet with old friends and to make new ones. They also provide opportunities for unit reunions, which the Association wholeheartedly supports. If you are planning a unit reunion, consider having it in conjunction with an Association event, as many units are doing now.

If you are not a member or were formerly a member, you are cordially invited to any of our activities, to participate on a trial basis. We are confident you will react as most of our members do when they rejoin the company of our vets and the outstanding young troopers. Try it, you'll like it!

To demonstrate our support of the current Eagles, the Association sponsors the Screaming Eagle Support Fund, which has contributed over \$130,000 to support our active troops and their families in the post 9/11 environment. Additionally, The Association presents annual scholarships to deserving Screaming Eagle family members.

To perpetuate the heritage of our division and to maintain the memory of our fallen, the Association has funded and erected The Division Memorial at Arlington Cemetery and the new Division Monument at Ft Campbell. These inspiring monuments serve as the focus of commemorative activities for both veterans and the active troops.

The Association is alive and well as we begin the 21st century. Our goal is to provide an environment in which every Screaming Eagle will want to experience and participate. We want your ideas and your feedback to insure we are meeting the goals and expectations of our members, now and in the future. Most of all we want to see you get involved and renew your ties to our world-renowned division. Once you've worn the patch, you really never take it off!

For more information contact the Association Headquarters at:

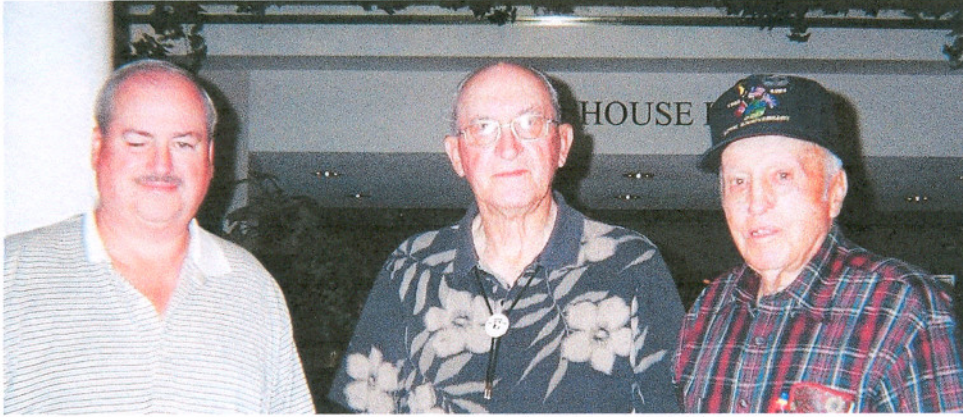
[101stairbornedivisionassociation@comcast.net](mailto:101stairbornedivisionassociation@comcast.net)  
or Phone: (270) 439-0445.. (copied from website:  
[www.screamingeagle.org](http://www.screamingeagle.org) )

*Editor: An application to become a member of the Association is included in this issue. Mail to address shown on the form.*

### FINANCIAL REPORT:

Balance before last issue:	\$514
Last issue expenses	167
Donations	155
Balance before this issue:	\$502

THANK YOU for the cash conations to the Poopsheet. Send your notes and news to publish.



**SNOWBIRD REUNION FEB.  
2006 KISSIMMEE, FL**  
Photos from Betty Taylor Hill

L-R: Dale Shook, son of Warren Shook, Lenoir, NC, Joe Hennessey, Southbury, CT, and Warren Shook, Lenoir, NC



Above: Joe and June Hennessey



Above: John Primerano, 501; Warren Shook, 502, and 101<sup>st</sup> historian Mark Bando



Above: Joe Hennessey and Edward Mobley, I Company, 502.



Above: Harry and Joanie Nivens, St. Cloud, FL, I Co. 502



Above: Harry Nivens, Edward Mobley, Warren Shook, Joe Hennessey, I Co., 502 PIR, 101<sup>st</sup> AB, Kissimmee, FL, Feb. 1-5, 2006



Above: L-R: Peter van de Wal, Eindhoven, Holland; Ed Hallo, A/501, George Koskimaki, Airborne Sig. Co., Author and Historian, and Joe Chesnut of Birmingham, AL, who is researching for an upcoming book.



Right: Warren Shook with his framed mementos including 4 Battle Stars from WWII...part of his original parachute, other medals and the booklet of the speech from Gen. Eisenhower prior to D-Day, June 6, 1944.



Warren Shook, I/502 and Harry Nivens, I/502



Trudy and Hank van Zelderren, friends of the 101<sup>st</sup>, originally from Holland now living in Florida. They were teenagers in WWII and share many Nazi occupation, as well as, war and liberation memories with us. Trudy lived in The Hague, suffering thru the horribly cold winter of 1944 with little food, and Hank lived near the town of Best. He saw much of the battle action around Best.



Left: Teddi Scholl, Minnesota. Her father, of the 501, was killed near Bastogne in January 1945. She visited his grave for the first time September 2004 on the Holland tour.

Center: Petra Wenstedt-Pulles, Eindhoven, Holland. Petra is the Secretary of the Screaming Eagle Foundation in Holland. She will be leading the upcoming Holland tour in September 2006.

Right: Piet van de Tillert, a member of the Dutch Airborne Friends Association from Holland.



Left to right: Gen. Lindsay Freeman (Ret), Standing: Peter van de Wal, Timothy Davis, Robert Lott, WWII glider unit, and Carmen Gisi, 101<sup>st</sup>.

Gen. Freeman and Timothy Davis are from The Greatest Generation Foundation, [www.thegreatestgenerations.org](http://www.thegreatestgenerations.org) it's mission is to honor the veterans of all operations around the world.

The next Poopsheet issue will have more diverse pictures from the Snowbird Reunion which are not yet processed.



Above Clockwise: Joan Nivens, Harry Nivens, Joe Hennessey, June Hennessey, Betty T. Hill, Joe Bossi, Petra Wenstedt-Pulles, (other unknown) Table 7 at the Saturday night dinner, 2006 Snowbird. Photo by Peter van de Wal.



L-R: Joan Nivens, Harry Nivens, Jacob Brousse (Holland), Ed Mobley, George Koskimaki (Author/Historian), June Hennessey, Joe Hennessey, Betty Taylor Hill, Peter van de Wal, Trudy van Zelderen, Hank van Zelderen, Dieuke Brusse (Holland), and Richard Turner (506). 2006 Florida Snowbird Reunion



Joan Nivens, Harry Nivens, Ed Mobley, Clara Mobley, Warren Shook, June Hennessey, Joe Hennessey, Betty Taylor Hill. Feb. 2006 Photos by Peter van de Wal. Florida Snowbird Reunion 2006.





## God and the Spider

During World War II, a US marine was separated from his unit on a Pacific island. The fighting had been intense, and in the smoke and the crossfire he had lost touch with his comrades.

Alone in the jungle, he could hear enemy soldiers coming in his direction. Scrambling for cover, he found his way up a high ridge to several small caves in the rock. Quickly he crawled inside one of the caves. Although safe for the moment, he realized that once the enemy soldiers looking for him swept up the ridge, they would quickly search all the caves and he would be killed. As he waited, he prayed, "Lord, if it be your will, please protect me. Whatever your will though, I love you and trust you. Amen."

After praying, he lay quietly listening to the enemy begin to draw close. He thought, "Well, I guess the Lord isn't going to help me out of this one." Then he saw a spider begin to build a web over the front of his cave.

As he watched, listening to the enemy searching for him all the while, the spider layered strand after strand of web across the opening of the cave. "Hah, he thought. "What I need is a brick wall and what the Lord has sent me is a spider web. God does have a sense of humor."

As the enemy drew closer he watched from the darkness of his hideout and could see them searching one cave after another. As they came to his, he got ready to make his last stand. To his amazement, however, after glancing in the direction of his cave, they moved on. Suddenly, he realized that with the spider web over the entrance, his cave looked as if no one had entered for quite a while.

"Lord, forgive me," prayed the young man. "I had forgotten that in you a spider's web is stronger than a brick wall."

We all face times of great trouble. When we do, it is so easy to forget what God can work in our lives, sometimes in the most surprising ways. And remember with God, a mere spider's web becomes a brick wall of protection.

Lord, I thank you for all our Military, and their families.  
I Pray for your Brick wall of protection, to protect them everyday!!! Amen