



# Company I Poopsheet

Company I, 502 PIR, 101st Airborne

November 2007

## ***SNOWBIRD REUNION***

**KISSIMMEE, FLORIDA**

**Jan. 31, Feb. 1, 2, 3, 2008**

All official reunion activities are on Feb. 1 and 2  
THIS IS I COMPANY'S ANNUAL REUNION SITE

Already, the Item Company attendee list is growing. We will see old friends and new faces too... We heard from **Lori Novotni**, niece of **Ed Sowder**, **Aggie and Warren Welling**, daughter and son-in-law of **Bob Hartzell**, and **Kathy Moe Hagen**, daughter of **Glenn Moe** of their plans to attend.

### ***Please let us know if you can be there.***

Reunion Registration forms are available in the Screaming Eagles Magazine and will be on the Screaming Eagles website [www.screamingeagle.org](http://www.screamingeagle.org) The reunion is at the same hotel again this year. The hotel has new owners so the name may show up in some places as the Westgate Ramada. We know it as the Ramada Plaza Hotel & Inn Gateway, at 7470 Hwy 192 West also known as Urlo Bronson Memorial Hwy.

Mears Transportation, (airport/hotel shuttle service) [www.mearstransportation.com](http://www.mearstransportation.com) Phone: (407) 423-5566 shows the hotel name on their website as Westgate Ramada, this is the reunion hotel.

### **See you there...**

August 30, 2007, from **Charlotte Lindstrom**, Fresno, CA, I am the sister of **John Painschab**, who is part of the 101st Airborne and was killed in the battle at Carentan June 10, 1944. Several of the men knew my brother John and wrote to me and let me know exactly how and when he was killed. I really appreciated that. I do enjoy the newsletter very much. The names have become so familiar I feel a part of them all.

I am asking a favor. The July-August copy of the Company I Poopsheet was all messed up when I received it. The pos toffice was kind enough to put it into another envelope and re-mailed it to me and apologized. If you happen to have a copy of that issue I would appreciate it very much if you could send it to me.

I am sending a check in a separate envelope to help

for the expenses you have in putting out the paper monthly. Thank you very much. Charlotte

*Editor: Happy to send a replacement any time one is damaged in the mail.*

August 30, 2007, email from **Kathy Hagen**, daughter of **Glenn Moe**, I/502 I hope we can come to the Snow Bird Reunion. That was so much fun last year. I loved it.

Currently I am using a backhoe to dig up plumbing on the 1 acre cherry farm of my Dad's.. All my energies have been going there. Hopefully this will all end when and if I can sell it. I keep telling myself, "All I need is I buyer". There was so much work to be done on the place after my dad died. He always kept things up so well. But I am not so mechanical, patient, or methodical about my work efforts.

Because it was a connection to my Dad, it also made it difficult to let go of the place. I think I can do that now, though. It is just very sentimental, but I could feel his presence there—in the wind.

My parents have received copies of the Poopsheet over the course of 9 presidential terms of office. **Bob Hartzell's** and your help in keeping the history of the part of the airborne history alive serves as one thread in the American fabric of our lives. Without history our culture unravels. Kathy

September 12, 2007, **John Lachkovic's** daughter, **Mary Kay**, phoned to tell us that her mother, **Elmeda Lachkovic-Hill**, has moved and is living at the home of her son, John, at 49681 Bay Forest Rd, Lexington Park, MD 20653, Phone: 301-862-1160

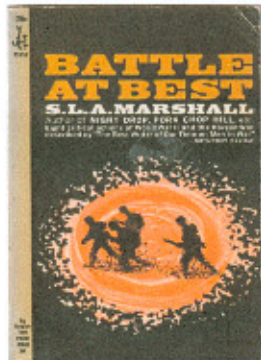
### **IN MEMORIAM**

#### **Col, (Ret) Robert Ellis Jones**



Bob Jones, 90, died Thursday September 13, 2007, at his home. A memorial service was held at 1 P.M. Wednesday, September 26, at the Memorial Chapel (in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> BCT Area), Fort Campbell. A second service was held on Friday, Sep 28

at Hilldale Church of Christ at 11 A.M. Church of Christ. A Masonic ceremony was held at 7 P.M. Thursday Sep 27 at the funeral home. Col "Bob" was a veteran of WW II, Korea and Vietnam. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in May, 1939, later graduated from Parachute School and was assigned to the 502<sup>nd</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment. He served in Normandy and Rhineland and was wounded during Operation Market Garden in



Holland while commanding H Co. 502<sup>nd</sup> PIR, chronicled in the book by SLA Marshall, *Battle at Best*

During the Korean War, Col Bob participated in the Inchon landing and was a survivor of the Chosin Reservoir campaign. For his actions in Korea, he received the Distinguished Service Cross. Col Bob

served in Vietnam as the Deputy Director, Phoenix Directorate, COORDS, Hq, MACV from Sep 1968 to Jun 1970. Bob retired in 1973 and resided in Clarksville, Tennessee where he remained active in the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division Association and with the Fort Campbell Historical Foundation. He was also active in many local civic activities.

**Mark Bando**, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne author/historian wrote: "Bob was one of the original officers in the WWII 502 PIR and he served in several compnies, including Fox Co., Service Co., and How Co.

During Normandy he remained in the UK as regimental Base Camp Officer In Holland, he commanded H/502 during the crucial fighting at Best, where LTC Cole, his battalion commander was KIA and Joe Mann, a member of Jones' company performed heroically and Mann would be awarded a posthumous Congressional Medal of Honor.

Bob Jones was seriously wounded while riding a vehicle near Elst on the Island, later in the Market-Garden campaign. In recent years, Bob authored a book about the 101st Airborne.

A truly warm-hearted guy, Bob Jones was a friend to us all and he will be missed by many people. He was one of the last surviving original officers of the Deuce and was a priceless resource of information on the pioneering days of the WW2 Airborne."

**Matthew van Luyt**, Eindhoven, Netherlands, Bob

was dear friends to numerous people. An extremely good leader of the association. He came to us many times with the groups with whom we celebrated our liberation. Best, Holland was a special place to him.

**Henk Duinhoven**, Netherlands, We will think of Bob Jones and remember him in our daily prayers. The very fact that he 'was seriously wounded while riding a vehicle near Elst on the Island...He may have been riding in our street. May God have his soul and grant him his last Happy Landing.

**Patrick Burns**, grandson of Robert Burns, I/502, I wish I had the chance to meet Bob Jones or speak to him about my grandfather. Do you know the name of his book and if it is available still?

*Editor's Note: Bob Jones' book, "101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division", is available at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)*

## OVERSIGHT

Somehow I knew that life would be A game of win and lose ...

That there'd be days of deepest joy And nights to sing the blues.

I knew I'd see some dreams come true And watch while some dreams died ...

That at times I'd want to be "on stage," And at other times, I'd hide.

I knew that youth was fleeting And illness sparred with health,

That fortunes come and fortunes go, And no one's sure of wealth.

I knew that struggle was the norm For us travelers onearth,

And I accepted that as just The legacy of birth. Somehow I knew these lessons Without ever heing told,

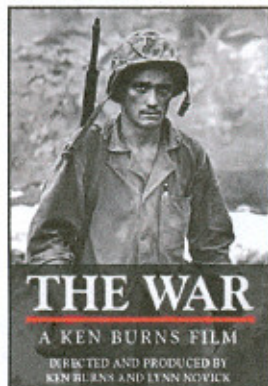
But I missed the most important truth ... The fact that I'd grow old!!!

*Author, Elaine Smith*

The above poem was chosen in 2007 by THE INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY OF POETRY for purification in their hard-bound volume of "Immortal Verses."

**Elaine Smith**, Floral City, FL is part of the Airborne "family". Her fiance, Cpl. Carman Ladner, 501, was KIA near Eerde, Holland September 24, 1944.

## The War



Most everyone watched the series on PBS television in late September and early October

By contacting PBS or the **Veteran's History Project**, more veteran's stories can get filed away for history and we hope that many will contribute to the history project.

<http://www.loc.gov/vets/kit.html>

A participant may be a veteran, an interviewer, or person donating a veteran's collection. Every veteran of WWII has a story to tell, lets hope that their stories get documented.

[www.pbs.org](http://www.pbs.org)

**PBS StoryShare is currently collecting stories in response to Ken Burns' THE WAR until May 31, 2008**

PBS StoryShare is an online story collection tool created by PBS and the National Center for Outreach to allow public television viewers to share personal experiences in response to PBS programming. Viewers are invited to respond to Ken Burns' THE WAR by sharing stories about WWII through their local PBS affiliate station's web site.

**To use PBS StoryShare to share your story or see stories from your community and across the nation: Find your local station:** Look for a public television station near your home from the list of participating stations below. Click on the station name to go to the PBS StoryShare feature on that station's web site. **If you can't find your local station:** If your local station is not listed, either choose a station near by or submit your story through [WETA](http://www.weta.org).

**WHAT A GREAT PROJECT FOR THE GRANDCHILDREN TO PUT TOGETHER THE STORIES OF THEIR VETERAN GRANDFATHERS.**

## VA BENEFITS INFORMATION

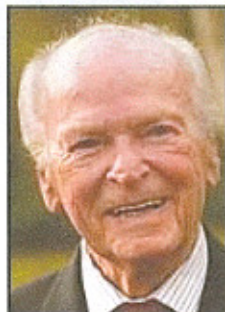
Agnes Hartzell Welling who works in a retirement home recently emailed a reminder of the Dept. of Veterans Affairs compensation program for veterans,

spouses, or their children regarding assisted living or home care. The nationwide VA phone number is **1-800-827-1000**. Call your Regional VA Office for Information and an application which is also available online from the VA's website. This program will pay a substantial part of expenses involved in care at home or a facility for those eligible...

Gerard van der Heijden, Brussels, Belgium, wrote to us October 1, 2007, Last week one of the bravest Dutch man died, 90 years old, his name was Erik Hazelhoff Roelfzema, better known as **Soldier of Orange**. Like so many young guys during WWII he risked his life almost every day during the war. He never encountered the soldiers from the 101, but in his famous book 'Soldier of Orange' he writes that around Christmas 1944, he flew over The Ardennes on his way to bomb Berlin. He said he could see the rockets en arms fire upon each other and was glad he wasn't on the ground, and thought 'like the guys out there wouldn't like to be in my plane'. He had a wonderful and thrilling life, but even so it is very sad he's leaving us. Like Cláudia said 'One by one they go and it seems there are no replacements for them'. They all leave a big gap.

## Erik Hazelhoff Roelfzema

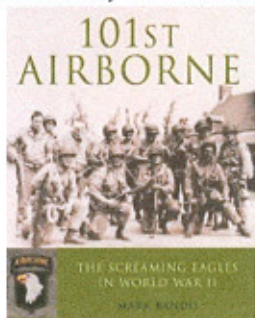
**Dutch Second World War hero whose exploits earned him the Netherlands' highest military honour and widespread fame.** *The Times, October 1, 2007 (excerpts)* The 1977 Dutch film *Soldier of Orange* made the names of its director Paul Verhoeven and its star Rutger Hauer, but it also brought to wider attention the exploits of perhaps the Netherlands'



most revered wartime combatant, Erik Hazelhoff Roelfzema, on whose autobiography the film was based. "I became a war hero because I stuck out", he said, "because I wrote about my experiences. But behind every soldier decorated with military honours, there are a hundred anonymous heroes, some of

them greater. I had the fortune to be recognised, and to grow old." He was born in Subaraya, Java, then part of the Dutch East Indies, in 1917. In 1973 he would settle in Hawaii.

**MARK BANDO'S 7<sup>TH</sup> BOOK NOW IN PRINT...101<sup>ST</sup> Airborne, The Screaming Eagles in World War II**



This new book retails at \$40-per copy, contains 250 vintage 101st WWII photos (150 previously unpublished) accompanying a 50,000 word text of all 'new' war stories. This is a brief history of the entire screaming eagle division in WWII. Now that the book is released Mark will NOT be filling mail

orders on-line. The book is available at Barnes & Noble, Borders, Books A Million and Amazon.com..

=====

*Harry Nivens, Earl Kelly and Bob Hartzell have provided some information to the Carentan Historical Center Museum about **Joseph Zamblauskis, I/502**. Oct. 20, Harry, Bob and Earl are doing okay and send their love to all item Company. More information and photos would be great to go along with Zamblauskis' jacket in the museum at Carentan Earl remembers hearing about someone finding the jacket in a used clothing store in Maryland several years ago and purchased it for \$10, now it's owned by the Carentan Historical Center Museum where it will be permanently displayed. Bob thinks that Zamblauskis moved to California and that's where he and his wife died, having no children. Please let Betty know if you have a memory of Joseph to relate or a photo of him you can share. (Phone: 281-277-3787..... Betty T Hill)*

## Collecting history

**Joseph (Mad Russian) Zamblauskis**  
1912 - 1978

### WHO REMEMBERS HIM?

Pvt. Joseph (Mad Russian) Zamblauskis had been a member of a military unit of the Russian Cossacks. He had come from Russia, through Canada to the United States and to Pennsylvania where he entered the United States Army and became a part of the 101st Airborne Division. Zamblauskis was in the 1st Squad, 1st Platoon of Item Company, 502 PIR. He was 32 year old when he jumped in Normandy. The Cossack got his nickname: «Mad Russian» at Carentan. He was a terrific and fierce soldier, one who took no prisoners alive, especially Russian Wehrmacht volunteers, whom he hated. After the war, he became a U.S. citizen because of

his service in the US Army

Please let us know what you remember about him? Do you have a picture of him?

All information is welcomed and will be collected for posterity with Joseph D-Day jacket at the Carentan Historical Center.

Send any information you have to Betty T. Hill or send to

Michel De Trez, Carentan Historical Center  
2, Village de l'Amont

50500 Saint-Côme-du-Mont, France

Phone: 011 32 2 731.32.24

EMAIL: [d-day@skynet.be](mailto:d-day@skynet.be)

Airborne Museum <http://www.paratrooper-museum.org>

Book Store <http://www.d-day-publishing.be>

## TREASURED LETTERS FROM THE PAST

Excerpts from a letter dated August 7, 2006, Mrs. Ivan Ray (Ann) Hershner, now deceased, wrote to Susan Lillyman Hyland: Dear Susan, I am going through Ray's papers. I am sending you a copy of a letter Ray wrote to his parents which has a lot of references to Capt. Lillyman. Ray certainly left me with lots of surprises! I am so glad he and I were able to attend your mother's funeral and we were able to meet your whole family. Hope all is well with you and Frank. Sincerely, Ann

**Letter from Ivan Ray Hershner to his parents 1944.** Thank you Susan Lillyman Hyland, daughter of Capt. Frank Lillyman, for sharing these letters.

August 27, 1944, Dear Folks, We have emotionally had a family reunion this weekend or so it seems. Of course, I have written before about Lt. Baker. He and I were both assigned to Company I the first part of June 1942, and we were very close to each other until he broke his leg in July of 1943. He is the man who now has Company I and took over from me. And then there is Captain Lillyman who had Company I from August of 1942 until I took over last July. It was really the three of us just working together and later seeing who made the company what it is. And I might say it is considered one of the best companies in the regiment.

Captain Lillyman has been away lately on special work and just came back last Monday night. Naturally we had a lot of talking to do. You read in the paper about his being the first allied soldier to land in France. We all knew this two or three months before

D-Day. He had some clippings sent to him by his wife that she had cut from New York papers. Among other things, Lucky Strike Cigaretts Company gave away three hundred thousand cigarettes in his honor. He was hailed as the Soldier of the Week. Incidentally, did I ever tell you he was the first man I saw in France, even then we stopped and chatted a minute. When the three of us got together again it seemed like old times. Baker is a tall man, 6 feet 5 inches. Lillyman is small, about 5 feet 7 inches. As you see we differ in size but always worked similarly and toward the same end. Today, Baker was giving a company party and asked us to attend, which we did gladly. It seemed as though the past, present, and future were in attendance.

Lillyman knew a few of the men but there have been an awful lot of changes since his time. I, of course, knew a lot of the men, but there has been a 45% turn over since I had the company. It was a grand party held out-of-doors on a swell day. They had the area all decorated with draped parachutes, plenty of grass and chairs and a lot of good music. There were a hundred or so girls and even an outdoor dancing platform.

Captain Lillyman's special work is finished and he is training the regiment. At last he is taking over as company commander of Headquarters Company of the third Battalion. That's the Battalion I'm in. I have been given a new job for the time being. Yes, I am now the Regimental Special Services Soldier. This is all right by me for the time being since I am sort of in a non-combatant situation. However my old battalion commander wants me back and it is very likely that I will get a company in third battalion again. I told you before that I definitely don't want "I" Company again as long as Baker is here. It would be sort of odd if Lillyman, Baker and I myself would command three of the four companies in the same Battalion.

Capt. Lillyman has a good camera and I expect to get some pictures made in the near future, which will be sent home to you. I told you about the swell big picture that Dorothy sent me. I like it better every time I look at it. I haven't heard from you all for about the last three weeks. This moving about doesn't about help the mail situation. I only Saturday got a letter from Dorothy mailed after she received a note similar to the one sent you. She said that Mr. Manning had died last June, no particulars. Their two families were always so close together. I am so sorry to hear about Mr. Manning and wish you would express my sympathies to Mrs. Manning.

Your son, Ray



Cpt. Frank Lillyman, I Co. 502 PIR - Pathfinders D-Day



Company commanders, L) Champ Baker I Co. and R) Bob Jones, H Co., 502 3<sup>rd</sup> PIR, 3<sup>rd</sup> battalion

---

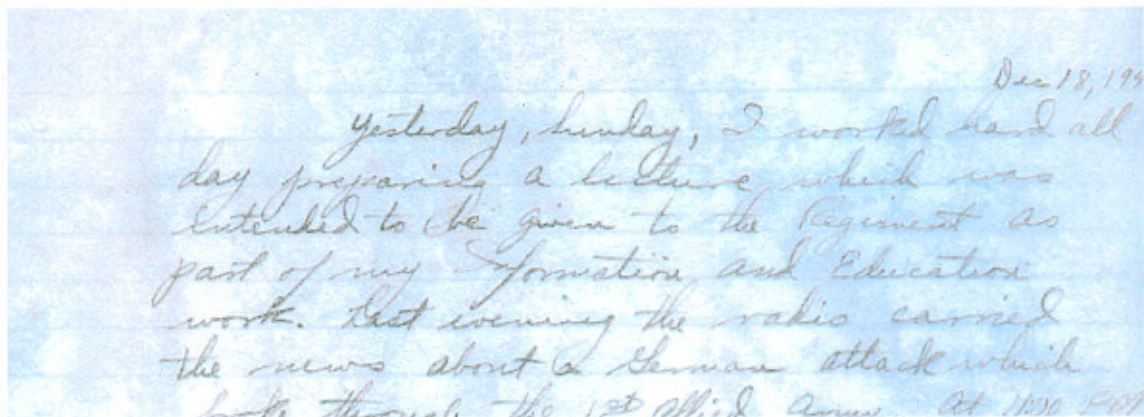
### AN HISTORIC DIARY...

In this issue, we are honored to share in the next few pages, the diary of Capt. Ivan Ray Hershner from Bastogne, December 1944. Thank you to Gary Hershner, the son of Ray and Ann Hershner for sharing this family document.

*Betty T. Hill has transcribed the handwritten copies of both the above Hershner letters and diary.*

---

## The Bastogne Diary of Ivan R. Hershner, Jr., December 1944



Dec 18, 1944  
Yesterday, Sunday, I worked hard all day preparing a lecture which was intended to be given to the Regiment as part of my Information and Education work. Last evening the radio carried the news about a German attack which broke through the 1st Allied Army. At 11:00 P.M.

Dec 18, 1944

Yesterday, Sunday, I worked all day preparing a lecture which was intended to be given to the Regiment as part of my Information and Education work. Last evening the radio carried the news about a German attack which broke through the 1<sup>st</sup> Allied Army. At 11:00 P.M. the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division was alerted and told to be ready to move by 2:00 P.M. Monday.

Today we have been working hard so as to be prepared on time. Everyone has his things all packed and stored in assigned buildings. We have our complete combat load of ammunitions and equipment and are at present waiting for transportation. Our movement orders say we are to entruck at 4:00 P.M. According to our information the Germans have broken through the American First Army on a thirty mile front using eleven Divisions composed of Panzers, SS, Artillery, Infantry and Paratroopers. There are two good routes available to them in their sector; one through Malmady to Liege, and the other through Bastogne. The Germans are at present about twenty miles East of Bastogne and heading West meeting scant resistance. The mission of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division is to move into Bastogne tonight and deny its use to the enemy.

Dec. 19, 1944

We moved into Bastogne area during the night and now hold a defensive ring about the city with almost a three mile radius. The 502<sup>nd</sup> Parachute Infantry holds the northern sector. German advance units were contacted this afternoon and a few scrimishes took place. The Germans can by-pass us both to the North and South as both of our flanks are open. But although they do this, they will never be able to advance very far without the use of Bastogne. A modern army advance is wholly dependent on its routes of communication and transportation and cannot advance far without them. Therefore, we plan to just sit here and hold Bastogne and watch the big German attack fissile out. As we moved into our sector today, I was sent ahead to choose a place for the Regimental C.P. This is part of my work as the Assistant Regimental S-3. I found a castle that was ideal and chose that. It should prove very satisfactory.

The weather has been cloudy and misty all day. This, combined with the temperature of about 40 deg. Fahrenheit, makes it very nasty to be out.

Dec 20, 1944

The weather continues to be the same. The castle has proved ideal for our use. Parts of it were built in the tenth century and the rest in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. It is just like one would expect a castle to look. It is situated on high ground surrounded on three sides by a thirty foot cliff and a lake. The view from here is good. The surrounding countryside is very hilly, but beautiful.

The Germans tried all day to punch through our Eastern defenses. Failing in this they have started to pass us on both the North and South by using secondary roads. By morning we expect to be completely surrounded. A few prisoners captured today revealed that the Germans expect to go all the way to Paris. They are plenty cocky.

Dec 21, 1944

The weather continues cloudy making it impossible for air support. The temperature is still just above freezing, the ground muddy. This is conducive to colds and bad feet. We are completely surrounded now and are being hit on all sides. We have identified seven divisions in our immediate vicinity. In our opinion they need more than seven. We have our Division with a battalion of tank destroyers attached. Being encircled doesn't bother us in the least. We always jump in enemy territory and expect to be completely surrounded. For this reason we have based our tactics and trained for exactly the situation at hand. We are confident that we can hold out as long as we wish regardless of what the Germans throw at us. The Germans know that they must control our positions if they expect to accomplish anything by their attack. Germans captured today are still cocky, but revealed information which shows that things are not going according to plan. One told us that his battalion commander had been relieved yesterday for not having taken his objective. Another referred to our men as tigers because of the way our men have been knocking out their vacated Tiger tanks.

Dec 22, 1944

Another cloudy day with corresponding poor visibility. It snowed a greater part of the day with the temperature hovering about the freezing point. The fighting has remained hard all day with constant pressure from all sides. However, they have never penetrated at any point. The German commander delivered our commanding general the following ultimatum today:

"To the U.S.A. commander of the encircled town of Bastogne" The fortune of war is changing. This time the U.S.A. forces in and near Bastogne have been encircled by strong German armored units. More German armored units have crossed the river Ourthe near Ortheville, have taken Manche and reached St. Hubert by passing through Houpris-Sibnet-Tillet. Libramont is in German hands.

There is only one possibility to save the encircled U.S.A. troops from total annihilation, that is the honorable surrender of the encircled town. In order to think it over a time of two hours will be granted beginning with the presentation of this note.

If the proposal should be rejected, one German Artillery Corps and six heavy A.A. Battalions are ready to annihilate the U.S.A. troops in and near Bastogne. The order for firing will be given immediately after the hours time.

All the serious civilian losses caused by this artillery fire would not correspond with the well known American humanity.

The German Commander"

The reply: "To the German Commander:

N U T S

The American Commander"

This reply was exactly the feeling of us all. We did get shelled plenty, but they are a long way from blasting us out. Our shortage of a few items is by far the more critical threat. Our food gave out yesterday, the ammunition supply is running low, and the medical supplies are close to exhaustion.

One of the worst phases about being encircled is the inability to evacuate our wounded. Our medics have converted a hay barn into a hospital. The injured lie among the straw for warmth. It is getting colder tonight and the air is becoming more clear. A clear day means air support and air resupply.

Dec 23, 1944

Today has been a beautifully clear day. The temperature is about 20 deg. has frozen the ground and has thus eliminated the sloppiness. A friend and myself took some pictures which I hope to send home in the future. We have had plenty of air support all day. The Germans apparently planned a large scale attack at one point, as our scouts spotted a large armored column only a mile North-East of here. We called for air support and in a few minutes the fighter bombers were having a field day. Best of all, several hundred C-47's flew over on a supply mission. We should have sufficient food, ammunition and medical supplies now for some time. It is still clear tonight and the situation looks brighter.

Dec 24, 1944

Another clear day and more air resupply. The shelling has been heavy and tonight we are being bombed. We expect another big attack tonight or tomorrow. however, this is Christmas Eve, and I think I shall hang up a sock for Santa Claus. Anything for a good laugh.

Dec 25, 1944

About two o'clock we had a terrific bombing. This was followed by an attack beginning at three A.M. One attack was directed at the juncture between our Regiment and a Glider Regiment on our left flank. As we now know, it was a combined attack using tanks and a regiment of infantry. The German battalion hitting our left flank company was driven back and most of them killed. However, another battalion penetrated the Glider unit. Naturally we got into action.

As I was putting on my socks, I had the following thought - "Thank God I still have two feet to put in these." About daybreak one of our Regimental Command Post sentries reported a German Battalion and six tanks only 400 yards from the C.P. They were well behind our defensive circle. About 75 of us, members of the Regimental C.P., built up a defensive line about 300 yards across an open field from the Germans. Two companies from the first battalion were sent around to flush them out of the woods. These two companies made it so hot for them that they had to pull out and try to get away. They chose a path leading right through our position. So here came a Nazi battalion and six



tanks at us. We stood our ground and fought back. One of the tanks blasted away and blew the leg off of a man a few feet from me. I jumped over a fence and went to him. I immediately cut the clothes off his leg stump as I knew I had to stop the bleeding. I clamped his leg tight with both my hands just above the knee. The bleeding stopped. However, with both my hands busy I couldn't do anything else. The boy looked up and saw his leg. When he saw it he begged me to shoot him. I ordered him to lay down and be quiet. A medic crawled over a few minutes later and applied a tourniquet. He also gave him a shot of morphine. With the man in the care of the medics I went back to fighting the on-coming infantry and tanks. I know I killed one myself and hit several others with my carbine. A couple of boys with bazookas did a marvelous job. One tank got through us and got away. But we killed, wounded or captured all the rest, including five German tanks demolished. The one tank that got through us ran into another group of our men a little later and was destroyed by a bazooka. The final result for today was one German Infantry Regiment and supporting tanks annihilated. Our casualties were 6 officers and 40 men, with only 4 of that group being killed.

Among other things, we obtained the complete Regimental Field Order of the Nazi unit. It revealed that their attack started 3 A.M. after a heavy barrage of artillery. They planned to set up their C.P. in the very location that we have our C.P. The prisoners revealed that the reason their Battalion and tanks were waiting in the woods was that they were waiting for the other assaulting Battalion to join them. They didn't know that their other Battalion had already been eliminated by our company earlier in the morning. The battle had littered the snow covered field with dead men.

After the fighting I walked into the Medical aid station. The doctor had just finished working on the boy I had helped in the field. The boy himself was well doped by then and thus without pain. He thanked me for helping him. The doctor said I had saved his life. And again tonight we hold the same positions.

Dec 26, 1944

Today has been another clear cold day. This meant resupply by plane of the items we need. There has been some pressure on our perimeter, but generally speaking it has been quiet. We received good news by radio this evening. A large Allied force is reported to be driving up from the South. If we have a corridor out, our most critical problem will be solved. That is the evacuation of our wounded. Otherwise, we are not hurting too badly for anything. The radio news broadcast again carried the news that the beleaguered Allied Force in Bastogne was still holding out. Actually surrender is the farthestest thing from our minds. A news sheet made its appearance for the first time today. Its name is "The Encircled Gazette". It is strictly a news sheet taken from the morning radio broadcast.

Dec 27, 1944

Another clear day. The advance units of the Allied Force driving up from the South contacted our lines today. Naturally the morale of the men is high tonight. Everyone is talking tonight about the possibilities of us leading an attack soon. Our men have done an excellent job fighting defensively for the last eight days, however, we much prefer to attack and the men have found it hard to just defend. German prisoners taken today revealed that they thought that four or five Divisions were in Bastogne. Sort of a pat on the back for our small unit.

Dec 28, 1944

It was clear and cold today and we had plenty of air support. The units from the South linked up with us in force today. General Patton is in charge. This made it possible for us to evacuate our wounded. They will now get the medical care they so rightly deserve. I was surprised today to find that I have been recommended for the Bronze Star medal. It is with regards to my giving first aid to the wounded man on Christmas Day. The citation is true to fact and if this warrants a Bronze Star it is all right by me. However, the whole incident seems trivial and hardly worth a citation. It was simply a case of my being present at the time it happened.

Dec 29, 1944

Our division commander, General Taylor, came back from Washington, D.C. today. He had been there on business prior to our being alerted and, hence, was not with us last week. He said that when President Roosevelt looked worried about the situation, Secretary of War, Stinson said there is no need for worry as the best Division in the U.S. Army holds the key to the situation.

There has been very little fighting today. We know now that the Christmas Day attack was supposed to finish us off. The 502<sup>nd</sup> Parachute Infantry certainly stopped that one cold.

Dec 30, 1944

It was cloudy today, and we had very little air support. General Patton came out to our Regimental C.P. today and awarded my Regimental Commander. The Distinguished Service Cross.

It was awarded for the way our Regiment stopped the all-out assault on Christmas Day. This makes us all very proud and we are all as happy as though we had received the award. General Patton has a striking appearance.

-----  
Our appreciation to Gary Hershner, son of Ivan R. Hershner, Jr. for sharing this historical document which is transcribed here from Capt. Hershner's handwritten diary. .



These photos of Capt. Hershner (Ray) were taken from Mark Bando's website and also appeared in our June 2004 Company I Poopsheet.

Hershner was twice the Company Commander of Item Company, 502. He injured his ankle on D-Day, was the only surviving D-Day company commander of 3/502. He served in RHQ during Bastogne and replaced Champ Baker when Baker was WIA. He returned to Harvard after WWII got a PhD in Math. He was married to Ann Dillon Hershner. He died January 26, 2005 in Arlington, Virginia.

# 2008 SNOWBIRD REUNION

February 1st & 2nd Kissimmee, Florida

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit: \_\_\_\_\_  
LAST FIRST MI MUST INCLUDE

Spouse/Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE YOUR DINNER RESERVATIONS TODAY! SPACE IS LIMITED TO 400 PEOPLE - NO EXCEPTIONS!  
THERE WILL BE NO PAY AT THE DOOR FOR THE BANQUET DINNER!**

Registration Fee is \$50 per person. Payment due no later than January 10, 2008.  
Registration includes hospitality room, daily buffet, and banquet dinner.

Please indicate the number of people in your group: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate your meat choice and how many of each. If no selection is made, you will receive chicken.

Filet \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Fish \_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Contact Jim Patton at (256) 837-7544 or E-mail him at [WWII501@aol.com](mailto:WWII501@aol.com)

**Make payments payable to The Sunshine State Chapter**

Mail payment to: **Karin Lindsay**  
**P.O. Box 4368**  
**Apopka, FL 32704**

Hotel Reservation may be made by calling toll free (800) 327-9170, daily 8:00 am to 6:00 pm (EST)

Please mention the 101st Airborne Division for special room rates.



**Friday, February 1****Tour #1: Outlet Shopping at the Lake Buena Vista Factory Outlet Stores 9:45am - 1:15pm**

Select from over 300 designer and name brands such as Gap, Liz Claiborne, Nine West, Old Navy, Reebok, Jockey and many more! Stores offer factory direct, quality merchandise at savings up to 75%. Each participant will receive an Outlet Coupon Book and the ability to win special prizes through a mail Treasure Hunt! Lunch is not included however food can be purchased at the Outlet Center.

Price: \$12.00 per person includes roundtrip transportation, outlet coupon book, treasure hunt, and tour escort.

**Tour #2: Sterling Casino 9:15am - 5:15pm**

Located just 45-minutes from Orlando, Sterling Casino Lines features 75,000 square feet of casino action across its five decks. Visit four casino lounges featuring a wide array of gaming choices including 50 table games such as Black Jack, Roulette, Craps, Mini-Baccarat & Caribbean Stud Poker as well as over 1,000 of the loosest slots! Participants will enjoy a Private Hospitality Suite exclusive for the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division that will feature champagne, soft drinks, and food items. Additionally, each participant will receive \$5 Match Play for the table games and a 2 for 1 (Buy one get one free) drink card.

Price: \$35.00 per person includes roundtrip transportation, hospitality suite, food & non-alcoholic beverages, \$5 Match Play for the Table Games, 2 for 1 drink card, taxes & gratuities and tour escort. Minimum 30 participants required.

**Saturday, February 2****"Ladies Breakfast & Beauty Seminar" 9am-11am**

Enjoy a mouth-watering brunch served right at the Ramada Plaza Hotel followed by a Mary Kay beauty seminar focusing on make-up trends and styles as well as featuring a display of products tailored to women over 40.

Price: \$20.00 per person includes brunch, beauty seminar, taxes and gratuity.

**Registration Policy**

- Tour Registration Deadline: Friday, January 25, 2008.
- Payment must be made by check, credit card (Visa or MasterCard) or money order payable to CorPlan Services, LLC in U.S. dollars drawn on a U.S. Bank. Returned checks with Insufficient Funds will incur a \$35 returned check fee.
- Pre-purchased tickets will be picked up at the Snowbird Registration Desk. On-site registration will be subject to availability.
- Individual Refunds will not be given after January 25, 2008. Refunds for tours which may be cancelled due to insufficient registration will be available for pickup at the Snowbird Registration Desk.
- Cancellation requests prior to January 25th must be received in writing.
- Please notify CorPlan Services for any special needs necessary for the tour (i.e. wheelchairs ect.) by January 25th, 2008.
- All Tours will leave from the Ramada Plaza Hotel Front Lobby. All Tours will operate rain or shine.

**Registration Form**

Date	Tour	Time	Price	# of Tickets	Total
2/1/08	Outlet Shopping	9:45am-1:15pm	\$12.00		\$
2/1/08	Sterling Casino	9:15am - 5:15pm	\$35.00		\$
2/2/08	Ladies Breakfast & Beauty Seminar	9:00am-11am	\$20.00		\$
<b>TOTAL DUE</b>					<b>\$</b>

Please complete the following information and either fax or mail to:

CorPlan Services, LLC - Snowbird Reunion      Questions: 407.889.8902  
P.O. Box 4368 Apopka, FL 32704      Fax: 407.889.8909

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (Work) \_\_\_\_\_

(Home) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Method:  Check       Money Order       Visa       MasterCard

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_

I authorize CorPlan Services to charge my credit card for the above ordered tickets (Signature) \_\_\_\_\_

# 2008 SNOWBIRD REUNION

February 1st & 2nd Kissimmee, Florida

ALL HOTEL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY JANUARY 10, 2008!

Hotel reservations received after the cut-off date will be accepted on a space available basis at regular room rates. Room rates are \$65 for an Inn Room, \$75 for a Tower Room, and \$99 for a Plaza Suite, plus tax per night; single or double occupancy. No charge for children under 18 years of age when sharing a room with a parent.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Room: (Inn/Tower/Suite) \_\_\_\_\_

**CHECK IN TIME IS 4:00 PM / CHECK OUT TIME IS 10:00 AM**

Please hold my reservations: (check one)

\_\_\_\_\_ Guaranteed by first night's deposit

\_\_\_\_\_ Guaranteed by my credit card:

( ) Visa ( ) MasterCard

( ) Diner's Club ( ) American Express

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL ROOMS ARE REQUIRED TO BE GUARANTEED IN ADVANCE**

I understand that I am liable for one night room charges plus tax which will be deducted from my deposit or billed through my credit card in the event I do not arrive or cancel less than 24 hours prior to arrival.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Further hotel information and reservations (800) 327-9170.  
7470 Ramada Gateway Plaza  
Highway West 192  
Kissimmee, FL 34747





## AIRBORNE MEMORIAL PATH - CARENTAN HISTORICAL CENTER MUSEUM

And the **BOB COLE MONUMENT**

[www.paratrooper-museum.org](http://www.paratrooper-museum.org)

Give a WWII airborne veteran to whom you wish to pay tribute - perhaps a fallen comrade, or a husband, a father, a brother, someone you loved or simply someone you want to see remembered - a lasting memorial on this significant historical soil. As you walk on the museum grounds, you will notice a path made of engraved stones. Each stone is beautifully engraved with a WWII airborne veteran's name and unit. Created to pay tribute to those airborne veterans who fought in the ETO during WWII, these stones make the Carentan Historical Center a unique place of remembrance. The Airborne Path lies on the historical field where **Robert Cole** started his famous bayonet charge, where the blood of so many was spilled. The names of these brave men will remain on this significant battlefield site for generations to come, for all to see and recall. Years from now, when WWII is but a dim memory relegated to history books, most visitors will wonder who these men were. They were Airborne, and who they were, and what they did, is what these future generations will learn inside the museum.

### BECOME A PART OF THE AIRBORNE MEMORIAL PATH

If you fought in Europe during WWII with an airborne unit (or were attached to an airborne unit), if you flew paratroopers into combat as part of the Troop Carrier Command or if you participated in the liberation of Carentan, then you are eligible to take your place here, among these heroes. Leave a mark by having your name and unit engraved on one of these stones and placing it on the Airborne Path.

For example:

**FROM THE RAINS FAMILY  
IN HONOR OF**



**EDWARD MOBLEY**

**I Co., 502nd PIR**

**101st AIRBORNE DIVISION**

Each stone is \$195 US Dollars. Personal checks are accepted, made out to Carentan Historical Center, mail to the following address along with the donations form:: :

**Carentan Historical Center  
2, Village de l'Amont  
50500 Saint-Côme-du-Mont, France**

**Making a material donation** Vehicles, weapons, uniforms and equipment are just a portion of the items the CHC needs in its collections. We also exhibit smaller, personal memorabilia, such as dog tags, medals, maps, personal photographs and scrapbooks. We welcome the donation of any of these items. Please talk to us about any item that you wish to donate, and we will assess it to ensure that it meets the museum's policies regarding our collections. Where appropriate, the CHC will assist you in placing a monetary value on your gift. You will be appropriately acknowledged when making a donation to the CHC, and again, in most cases, your gift is fully tax deductible.

If you have any questions regarding an item that you are considering as a donation, or if you would like to discuss the possibility of our purchasing an item with one of our specialist curators, **Please e-mail us at**

[d-day@skynet.be](mailto:d-day@skynet.be) or phone us at (011) 32.2 731 3224 or write **Michel De Trez** at the above address.

The CHC is actively looking for WWII vehicles, weapons, uniforms, helmets, equipment, insignia, photographs, books and other ephemera.

## FORM: DONATIONS TO CARENTAN HISTORICAL CENTER MUSEUM

This form in online: <http://www.paratrooper-museum.org/airborne.html> (Donations)

Donor Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ St/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Country USA

Donation Amount or Value: : \_\_\_\_\_

### Levels of Donation :

Museum Friend \$100-\$499

Museum Contributor \$500-\$999

Museum Donor \$1,000-\$2499

Museum Sponsor \$2,500-\$4999

Museum Benefactor \$5,000-\$9,999

Museum Lifetime Benefactor \$10,000-\$24,999

I wish my name to be listed on the Donor Recognition Wall :  Yes  No

I wish to make my donation in honor or in memory of :

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit / Organization: : \_\_\_\_\_

**Document your donation for your personal and tax records.**

**Personal checks to "Carentan Historical Center" are accepted from USA in US Dollars.**

**Please send to:**

**Carentan Historical Center  
2, Village de l'Amont  
50500 Saint-Côme-du-Mont  
France**

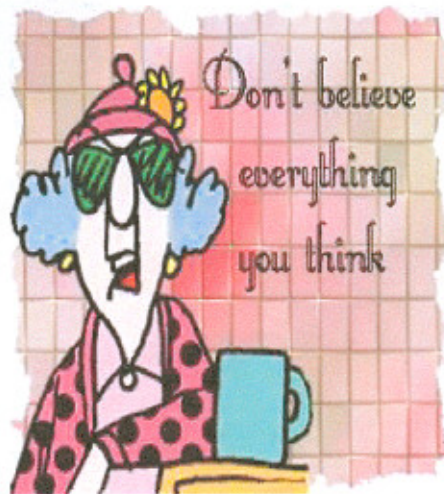
Henk Duinhoven, Netherlands, shares this beautiful poem he penned in honor of his sister's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday in September 2007:

*Today, dear Lord, I'm 80, and there's so much I haven't done.  
I hope, dear Lord, you'll let me live until I'm 81.  
But then, if I haven't finished all I want to do.  
Would You please let me stay awhile, till I'm 82?  
So many places I want to go, so very much to see,  
Do You think You could manage to make it 83?  
The world is changing very fast, there is so much in store,  
I'd like it very much to live until I'm 84.  
And if by then I'm still alive, I'd like to stay till 85!  
More planes will be in the air, so I'd really like to stick  
And see what happens to the world when I turn 86.  
I know, dear Lord, it's much to ask,  
(and it must be nice in heaven)  
But I'd really like to stay, until I'm 87.  
I know by then I won't be fast, and sometimes will be late,  
But it would be so pleasant to be around at 88.  
I will have seen so many things, and had a wonderful time.  
So, I'm sure I'll be willing to leave at the age of 89... ..Maybe.  
Just one more thing I'd like to say, dear Lord, I thank you kindly  
But if it's okay with You, I'd love to live past 90!!!!*

Author, Henk Duinhoven

---

### DEEP THOUGHTS FROM MAXINE.....





CO. I, 502 PARACHUTE



ROBERT HARTZELL

Care of:  
Betty T. Hill  
2222 Settlers Way Blvd. # 914  
Sugar Land, TX 77478

First Class Mail

**VETERANS DAY Nov. 11, 2007**  
**For your sacrifice, we are truly grateful.**

Happy Thanksgiving



*We wish for you and yours  
Joy, Peace and Love in  
the Christmas Season*

**MEMORIAL WALK WILL FOCUS ON THE 502 PIR AT BASTOGNE, DECEMBER 15, 2007.**

The 30<sup>th</sup> annual memorial walk of the Battle of the Bulge brings us to Hemroulle, Champs and Longchamps, north-west of Bastogne. In the early morning of 25 December 1944, Christmas Day, a strong German tank formation coming from the direction of Flamizoulle, tried to break through the American defensive lines. Obviously, they would try to take the town of Bastogne before the arrival of the 4th Armored Division of the 3rd US Army which was pushing from the south. After a bitter fight, 17 of the 18 attacking tanks were destroyed, the 18th fell intact in American hands. Choice of 3 routes/distances: route 1 (7km), route 2 (13km) or route 3 (20km). . As part of the 30th march celebration, 22 paratroopers of the "Liberty Jump Team" will be dropped by a big Dakota on the march sector. Re-enactors with their old vehicles will also be around. In the afternoon, there will be a parade and wreath laying honoring all the victims of the Battle of the Bulge. and the organizing committee invite you to take part in this historic walk.

Some of the participants in the Memorial Walk will be carrying with them a list of all men who served in Item Company, 502 and will be walking in honor and memory of all of Item Company, 502 PIR.

**Learn more from website: <http://bwalkengl.jemesouviens.fr/index.html>**