



Pro Patria Press



#78

April 2015

Newsletter of the 31st Infantry Regiment Association
Grady Smith, Editor

Upcoming 99th Anniversary Reunion

Our 99th Anniversary Reunion will be held 10-13 September 2015 in Sacramento California (see Registration Form on p. 4). Headquarters for the reunion will be at the Holiday Inn Capitol Plaza. Make your reservations before Friday August 7.

There's a lot to see and do in Sacramento. Just a few of the attractions:



- The State Capitol is only a few blocks away.
- Underground Sacramento tours show how the city literally raised itself up out of flood waters in the 1800s.
- The California State Railroad Museum is chock full of historic equipment and fascinating exhibits.
- Old Sacramento, a historic eight-block section of Downtown with over a hundred restaurants, shops and businesses is a fun place to browse through.
- Many other attractions will be listed in your Welcome Packets.

The registration desk will be staffed Thursday and Friday, while the hospitality room will be available every day.

Thursday evening, the arrival dinner buffet will kick off at 6 PM. Friday lunch and dinner will be on your own, with plenty of restaurants to pick from. This will provide much more flexibility with the Railroad Museum and Underground Sacramento tours coming on that day.

On Saturday we'll have:

- The General Membership Meeting
- Yearly Memorial Service
- The annual Banquet starting with a cocktail hour
- Posting of the Colors, dinner and guest speaker
- The traditional Shanghai Bowl Ceremony, followed by retiring of the Colors

For further details contact Jim Jagers, your reunion coordinator: reach him by phone at 916-455-7879, or by email at jagers.j@comcast.net.



MOH for LTC Jasper Brady?

On December 7, 2013, the state of Connecticut dedicated a highway bridge as a memorial to Bataan and Corregidor to honor the GIs who fought there, endured the Bataan Death March and then spent almost four years in POW camps. Polar Bear Darrell Stark (*photo below left*) was one of the two vets who cut the ribbon. As he was making his way to the ceremony, a man came up to him and said, “I’m Mark Brady. My grandfather was LTC Jasper Brady.” M Company was part of Brady’s 3rd Battalion, and Darrell was a member of M Company. LTC Brady had been Darrell’s battalion commander on Bataan.

After the ceremony, Mark and his family invited Darrell to lunch at a pizza restaurant. Mark had one of his grandfather’s last letters home before American forces surrendered. They were early for the lunch hour and almost alone in the restaurant. As Mark began to read the letter aloud, the restaurant staff drifted over to listen. More than once everyone listening choked up. Later that day, Darrell realized how important LTC Brady had been not just to his own battalion, but to the entire Regiment. That was when Darrell decided that if at all possible, LTC Brady should be recognized with the Medal of Honor.

But what did LTC Brady do “at the risk of his own life, above and beyond the call of duty”?

Brady’s importance to the Regiment stems both from his concerned leadership for his soldiers and from his actions in the Cabanatuan POW camp. Most important, working with the Regimental Adjutant, Major Marshal Hurt, Brady compiled a roster of the entire Regiment. It consists of an alpha list of all hands insofar as possible, followed by details on each man in the Regiment, company by company, with all of it entered by hand in a typical ledger book. The complete list runs to 185 pages. It is one of the most important documents in the regiment’s history, recording every death with cause and location, every wound, every award and pending award, every disciplinary action pending at the time of surrender, and the grave locations of those who died as POWs.



This was all done by LTC Brady very clearly at the risk of his own life—Darrell Stark says that if the Ledger had been found by the Japanese, the one compiling it would have been summarily executed. And LTC Brady had signed off on the first page, adding the ominous note, “825 known dead as POWs by late 1944.” There would have been no

doubt about who to execute.

Brady took precautions. The Ledger was hidden in a hollow bamboo support pole in the “Zero Ward” at Cabanatuan POW camp. Dying POWs and those infected with highly contagious diseases were sent to this ward. The Japanese avoided it, which made it about the best place in camp to hide the Roster. It was from this location that it was rescued by the 6th Ranger Battalion and the Alamo Scouts in “the great raid” in 1945.

John Corson, Senior Director of the Association, is taking the lead on getting LTC Brady this award. It’s a daunting task—almost every restriction on awarding the MOH, put in place to insure the medal’s integrity, will become an obstacle because of the unique circumstances of this case. It will take time. The Newsletter will report when major milestones are crossed.

SUPPORT THE MEDAL OF HONOR FOR LTC BRADY

This is a call to action

Darrell Stark, a Bataan Death March Survivor, has championed this cause since 2013. He has been enlisting the support of the state of Connecticut, his Senator and Congressional delegation, the VFW, Brady family members—anyone interested in having the Army convene a special board to consider LTC Jasper Brady for the Medal of Honor. Darrell didn’t witness LTC Brady’s gallant and selfless actions while a prisoner, but he can directly attest to

A Call to Action, Continued

the life-threatening risks that LTC Brady took by keeping his secret file. When US Forces surrendered in 1942, LTC Brady was commanding the 31st Infantry. He remained a prisoner until he was killed in a hell ship going to Japan, sunk by an Allied submarine. LTC Brady, risking his life, started and maintained his secret roster on all the Soldiers he could track, ensuring that families and the military would know exactly what happened. After the war, his secret records were crucial in documenting what the POWs endured in the camps. LTC Brady received posthumous awards for his combat actions defending the Philippines, but his personal gallantry and risk of life, while a prisoner, were never considered due to his unfortunate death in 1944.

Darrell Stark, himself a survivor of Japanese incarceration, has a great passion to correct this oversight. The Army needs to convene a special Board to consider awarding LTC Brady the MOH. As a veteran and Association member, you can back Darrell in this project by writing a letter of support. **Contact Ron Corson** at (757) 253-1311 or jrcorson@aol.com. He will provide letter guides and details of the “Who” and the “How” so you can lend your support. Pro Patria!

Association Roster Verification: The Regional Directors are in the process of reaching out to all the members in their areas, and also correcting our membership roster information. If you have not received a call, letter or e-mail, please try to contact your rep. See p. 5 for the name of your Regional Coordinator and his contact information.

CALL! CALL! CALL!



Philadelphia VA Hospital to be renamed for Nam Medal of Honor Winner

In a public ceremony on May 2, 2015 at 10 a.m., the Philadelphia VA Hospital will be renamed the Corporal Michael J. Crescenz Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Crescenz is the only Philadelphia Medal of Honor winner from the Vietnam War. Over forty-five years ago, on November 20, 1968, Crescenz was a member of A Company, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry when lead elements were ambushed and two point men killed. He immediately grabbed an M60 and charged up a slope, silencing two enemy bunkers. He moved on to a third, putting it out of action, and then a fourth camouflaged bunker opened up at a range of five meters and killed him. The Association’s Regimental Colonel, LTG Sam Wetzel, will be the Guest Speaker. LTG Wetzel was Commander of the 4th Battalion 31st Infantry when CPL

Crescenz won his Medal of Honor.

6/31 Infantry Reunion

The 6th Battalion 31st Infantry is having a stand-alone reunion on June 4-6 in Branson MO, the Branson Towers Hotel. A memorial service is planned. There’s plenty to do in the area. Contact Robert Stewart at niner@6thofthe31st.com or 251-344-6254 between 10 AM and 4 PM.

Another Korea MIA Identified

CPL Floyd J.R. Jackson, 20, of Warrensburg, Mo., was buried March 7 in Littleton, Colo. He served in HQ Co, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry in December 1950 at the Chosin reservoir. On 12 December he was reported MIA, but in late 1953 after a POW exchange, a GI reported that Jackson had been captured, and died in a camp in 1951. Between 1991 and 1994, North Korea turned over 208 boxes with the remains of more than 400 GIs. In addition, In July 2000, a US team excavated a burial site near Unsan, North Korea, recovering commingled human remains. Using DNA samples from Jackson’s niece, nephew and grand-nephew, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency said, laboratory analysis revealed that Jackson’s remains “were among those turned over by North Korea and those excavated near Unsan.” 7,855 Americans remain missing from the Korean War. The work goes on.



REGISTRATION FORM
31st INFANTRY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION REUNION SEPT. 10-13, 2015
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA



Name: _____

Guest(s): _____

Address: _____ City _____

State _____ zip code _____

Phone # _____ Cell Phone# _____

Email: _____ Will you have a car in Sacramento? ____ yes ____ no

Company/Battalion of the 31st Inf _____ When _____ Where _____

Registration Fee: (\$30 per member and each guest) \$30 x ____ # of people = \$ ____

Banquet: Saturday evening, September 12th \$55 x ____ # of people = \$ ____

Dress--dinner attire

Tours and Special Events (participation is optional –advance registration is required)

Thursday, September 10th

Arrival Dinner Buffet 6 PM \$40 x ____ # of people = \$ ____

Friday, September 11th

California State Railroad Museum Tour \$11 x ____ # of people = \$ ____

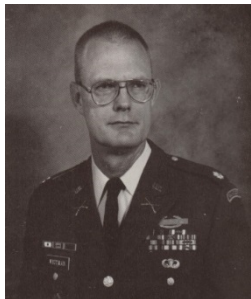
Old Sacramento Underground Tour \$15 x ____ # of people = \$ ____

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY AUGUST 7, 2015. Make checks payable to 31st Inf Regt Assn and send this form with check to: Joe DeAngelis (Treasurer), 3035 El Rio Dr, Meridian, ID 83642

Hotel Reservation Info: Host hotel is Holiday Inn Capitol Plaza, Sacramento, CA. 31st Infantry reunion group rate is \$99 (single or up to 4 occupancy) per night plus tax. Parking is \$6 per night. For hotel reservations call 916-446-0100 or email www.holidayinnsacramento.com Advise hotel of any special needs when registering.

Karl H. Lowe's interment at Arlington National Cemetery will be held on 29 April 2015. Services will begin at Fort Myer's Post Chapel at 1 PM. Karl passed away on 7 November of last year. His son, Kris Lowe, has set up a website to provide information about the service, and later to post any photos and videos for those who are unable to personally attend. The site is at: <http://krislowe75.wix.com/karllowe>.

John W. Whitman



Plt Ldr Korea, resident of Alexandria VA, deceased on 29 July 2014

John was a Polar Bear in Korea, having served three tours there. In addition he served a tour in Vietnam and another in Panama. While he was at Command and General Staff College, John obtained a Master of Military Science degree, writing his thesis on the Bataan campaign. Over the next several years, he expanded that work into a book-length study, *Bataan Our Last Ditch*, published in 1990. His obituary in the Washington Post stated that his book is considered "the preeminent work on the Bataan campaign." John was interred at Arlington National Cemetery with full honors last November.

Randy Smith

C Co, 6-31 Vietnam, resident of Gresham OR, deceased on 12 Feb 2015

Randy served in the 1st platoon of C Co. until Dec 1968 when he became George Mauldin's RTO. "He did a masterful job of radioman," Mauldin wrote, "and was an exemplary soldier. Soldiers in our situation ultimately build strong personal and professional bonds. I liked, admired and respected him and join his family in mourning his loss. He exhibited all the traits of a true patriot in my eyes."

New Life Members

Julius Harley	(Recon, E Co, 6-31, April 69-Apr 70, Vietnam)	Tallahassee, FL
Norman L. Hasenpflug	(A Co, 2-31, 1978-1979, Ft Ord, CA)	Vacaville, CA
Josef Luptowitz	(Tm Ldr, D Co, 4-31, 1996-98, Vietnam)	Palm Springs, CA
Frank Smiley	(Cpl, Sec Ldr 60mm Mort, C/1-31, Korea)	Linden, NJ

Association Officers

Commander: 360 Glendobbin Rd, Winchester VA 22603	Bill Owen (CPT, C/6th Bn, VN, 1968-69) 540-535-0666 bjowen11@comcast.net
Vice Commander: 10728 Lady Slipper Terr, Rockville, MD 20852	Mike Strand (LT, C/6 th Bn, VN, 1968-69) 301-468-1535 hrdyna@aol.com
Adjutant: 1099 Coral Way, Singer Island, FL 33404	Vin Zike (SGT, D/6 th Bn, VN, 1968-69) 561-429-2222 vinzike@gmail.com
Treasurer: 3035 El Rio Dr, Meridian, ID 83642	Joe DeAngelis (SGT, C/6th Bn, Ft Lewis & VN, 1967-69) 208-362-9468 jangels10@gmail.com
Membership: 3620 Bridgewater Dr, Williamsburg, VA 23188	Ron Corson (CPT, A/6th Bn, VN, 1969-70) 757-253-1311 jrcorson@aol.com
Quartermaster: 6331 Dobson Rd, Macon, GA 31220	Dale Mills (SGT, C/6th Bn, VN, 1968-69) 478-787-2679 sdalem@bellsouth.net
Sergeant at Arms: 5638 Camellia Ave, Sacramento, CA 95819	Jim Jagers (SGT, D/6 th Bn, VN 1969) 916-455-7879 jagers.j@att.net
Historian: 2321 S. Queen St, Alexandria, VA 22202	Grady Smith (CPT, D/6 th Bn, Ft Lewis & VN, 1967-68) 703-769-2778 smithga@verizon.net
Senior Director: 3620 Bridgewater Dr, Williamsburg, VA 23188	Ron Corson (CPT, A/6 th Bn, VN, 1969-70) 757-253-1311 jrcorson@aol.com
Northeast Region (ME, NH, VT, MA, RI, CT, NY) 3728 Highland Ave, Skaneateles, NY 13152	Ed Bettis (CPL, G Co, Korea, 1950-51) 315-685-3944 edbettis@netzero.net
Mid-Atlantic Region (NJ, PA, DE, MD, DC, VA, WV) 104 Cumberland Dr, Carlisle, PA 17013	Jim Simms (LT, HHC & C/4th Bn, VN, 1969-70) 717-243-5570 jnpsim@comcast.net
Southeast Region (NC, SC, GA, FL, AL, MS, TN, AR, LA, PR, VI) 2740 Oxford Hall Ave, Murfreesboro TN 37128	Noah Halfacre (LT, E/6th Bn, VN, 1968) 615-893-9715 echo66@comcast.net
Great Lakes Region (KY, OH, MI, IN, IL, WI) 788 Eagledale Dr, Kettering, OH 45429	John Howdeshelt (SGT, D/6 th Bn, VN, 1969) 937-435-0669 mamahowdy@yahoo.com
Midwest Region (MN, ND, SD, NE, IA, MO, KS, OK, TX, NM, CO) 13081 N 99 th Dr, Sun City, AZ 85351	Phil Harris (SP4, C/6th Bn, VN, 1968-69) 360-607-2032 c631grunt@yahoo.com
Western Region (HI, AK, WA, OR, CA, NV, AZ, UT, ID, MT, WY) 18005 87th Ave E, Puyallup WA 98357	Dave Wilson (LT, C/6th Bn, VN, 1968-69) 253-875-1901 mrdpwilson@comcast.net

Membership Application – 31st Infantry Regiment Association



First name nickname middle initial last name

Street address city state zip code phone number

Email address alternate email address

Please fill out as much information about your connection with the 31st Infantry as possible below:

Platoon _____ Company _____ Battalion _____

Highest Award earned _____

Rank and Duty Position when serving with the 31st _____

Rank when retired _____

Where did you serve with the 31st?

When?

Philippines _____	_____
Korea _____	_____
Japan _____	_____
Vietnam _____	_____
Iraq _____	_____
Afghanistan _____	_____
Other overseas _____	_____
USA _____	_____

Membership desired

Life Member

Annual Membership/Year

Active Duty _\$25	Current Active Duty Member _____\$5
Age 49 & under _\$60	Prior member of 31 st Unit _____\$10
Age 50-59 _\$45	Associate member (family) _____\$5
Age 60 & over _\$35	
Associate life member (family) _\$25	

Make your check out to **31st Inf Regt Assn** and mail it to our Membership Chairman: **John R. Corson, 3620 Bridgewater Drive, Williamsburg, VA 23188**

The Quartermaster Now Takes Plastic

The Order Form on p. 7, the next page, now has space for your credit/debit card information at the bottom. The charge will appear as "SQ*QUARTERMASTER 31ST" on your bill. If you provide an email address, a receipt will be sent. The credit cards accepted are American Express, Discover, Master Card, and Visa. The debit cards have to have the Master Card or Visa logo.

31ST INFANTRY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION QUARTERMASTER STORE ORDER FORM
 Visit 31stinfantry.org and click on **31st Infantry Store** to see a full color catalogue of these and many more items
 Please print clearly to avoid errors in your order



Name: _____ Telephone # _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

Cat #	Description	Price	Qty	Total
C RB 02	Cap, Royal Blue , 31 st INFANTRY REGIMENT, POLAR BEARS, and crest embroidered directly _____ = _____ directly on cap and US ARMY embroidered on back.			\$15.00 X _____ = _____
C RB	Cap same as C RB 02 above with the addition of a waving U.S.flag on the left side and a combat patch (Philippines Division; 7 th Infantry Division; 196 Light Infantry Brigade; 9 th Infantry Division; 10 th Mountain Div) on the right side. Circle the patch you want.			\$17.00 X _____ = _____
C K	NEW CAP! same as C RB above but in Khaki with a waving U.S.flag on the left side and a combat patch (Philippines Division; 7 th Infantry Division; 196 Light Infantry Brigade; 9 th Infantry Division; 10 th Mountain Div) on the right side. Circle the patch you want). All embroidery is subdued.			\$17.00 X _____ = _____
SP	Shirt, Polo/golf w/31 st INFANTRY REGIMENT and polar bear crest on left chest, no pocket Please circle color and size. Size S, M, L, XL White, Light Blue, Navy Blue Size 2XL White, Light Blue, Navy Blue			\$ 28.00 X _____ = _____ \$ 31.00 X _____ = _____
ST	Shirt, Tee, w/31 st INFANTRY REGIMENT and polar bear crest on left chest, no pocket Please circle color and size. Size S, M, L, XL Light Blue, Navy Blue Size 2XL Light Blue, Navy Blue Size 3XL Light Blue, Navy Blue			\$ 15.00 X _____ = _____ \$ 17.00 X _____ = _____ \$ _____ X _____ = _____

20.00 X _____ = _____ \$

S LSD	Shirt, Long Sleeve, Denim w/31 st INFANTRY REGIMENT and polar bear crest on left chest above pocket. Please circle size Size S, M, L, XL Size 2XL			\$ 28.00 X _____ = _____ \$ 31.00 X _____ = _____
S L SVC	Shirt, Long Sleeve, Dress in various colors w/31 st INFANTRY REGIMENT and polar bear crest on left chest above pocket. Please circle color and size. Size S, M, L, XL Colors: Black, Navy Blue, Light Blue, Red, White Size 2XL Size 3XL			\$ 29.00 X _____ = _____ \$ 31.00 X _____ = _____ \$ 36.00 X _____ = _____
MS 01	Shanghai Bowl Cup, silver, 2007 reproduction of original. Includes shipping			\$165.00 X _____ = _____
DCL 01	Bumper Sticker, 31 st Infantry Crest (Polar Bear) 4-3/8" tall, 4-1/4" wide			\$ 3.00 X _____ = _____
PN 01	Pin, 31 st Infantry Regimental crest (Polar Bear) , regulation size, facing set.			\$ 8.00 X _____ = _____
PN 02	Pin, 31 st Infantry Regimental crest (Polar Bear) , lapel/hat pin. 7/8" tall, 3/4" wide			\$ 4.00 X _____ = _____
PN 73	Pin, Combat Infantry Badge, lapel/hat pin. 3/8" tall, 1-1/4" wide			\$ 3.00 X _____ = _____
PN 74	Pin, Combat Infantry Badge, regulation size. 1-1/4" tall, 3" wide			\$ 4.00 X _____ = _____
PN 82	Pin, Purple Heart, lapel/hat pin. 1-1/8" tall, 5/8" wide			\$ 3.00 X _____ = _____
PN 85	Pin, Silver Star, lapel/hat pin. 1-1/8" tall, 5/8" wide			\$ 3.00 X _____ = _____
PN 71	Pin, Bronze Star, lapel/hat pin. 1-1/8" tall, 5/8" wide			\$ 3.00 X _____ = _____
PTH 01	Patch, 31 st Regimental crest (Polar Bear). 3-1/4" tall, 2-1/2" wide			\$ 4.00 X _____ = _____
DCL 08	Combat Infantry Badge sticker for inside glass. 2-1/8" tall, 4" wide.			\$ 2.50 X _____ = _____
MS 01	Zippo Lighter, with 31 st Regimental Crest (Polar Bear) on one side			\$ 14.00 X _____ = _____

Shipping Charges – add to your order: Orders under \$10.00 add \$2.50; For orders \$10.01 - \$25.00 add \$6.00; For orders \$25.01 - \$50.00, add \$7.00; For orders over \$50.00, add \$8.00
SUBTOTAL \$ _____
SHIPPING (prices at left) \$ _____
MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO: 31ST INFANTRY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION **TOTAL \$** _____

For Credit Cards (American Express, Discover, Master Card, or Visa) or Debit card (with Master Card or Visa logo) please include

NAME (on card): _____ **CARD #:** _____ **EXP DATE:** ____/____/____

SECURITY CODE(on back of card): _____ **ZIP CODE** (where credit card bill is mailed to) _____
 Mail the order form and payment to: **Dale Mills 6331 Dobson Rd. Macon, GA 31220**

**31st Infantry Regiment Association
COL (Ret) Vincent Zike
1099 Coral Way
Singer Island, FL 33404**

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