



Message from the Pups

It is a pleasure to report on our recent exploratory site visit of Colorado Springs and the Crowne Plaza Hotel to prepare for our upcoming reunion this Labor Day week (August 28–September 3). The location is well suited for our event, and we learned about a wide range of exciting and interesting attractions that are conveniently located near our hotel. The location is well suited for our event, and we learned about a wide range of exciting and interesting attractions that are conveniently located near our hotel (Fort Carson tops the list, followed by the United States Air Force Academy). Many picturesque mountain towns are within an easy drive, and the entertainment we auditioned is sure to please all.

For those interested in military history, it is recommended that you visit Mel “Dragon Man” Bernstein’s military museum, approximately ten miles from Colorado Springs (<http://www.roadsideamerica.com/story/23576>). This museum includes a collection of World War II uniforms, weapons, and working vehicles that is among the largest and most complete in existence.

We are still fine-tuning the event details and we welcome all suggestions. See you all at the reunion.

—Andrew Lane, NTPA President
andrewben.lane@gmail.com

OFFICERS

Andrew Lane, President
andrewben.lane@gmail.com
973-896-3521

Joy Luque, Vice President
joy.luque@gmail.com
714-328-3116

Annie Karst Borchardt, Secretary
saborchardt@msn.com
847-494-6565

JeNeal Granieri, Treasurer
jagranieri@sbcglobal.net
415-412-3279

Paul Murphy, Webmaster
paul.f.murphy@sbumed.org
631-877-7227

BOARD MEMBERS

Kathy Clark, Legacy Coordinator
kpclark@vom.com
707-938-9757

Mary Jamieson, Tour Coordinator
mejameson@aol.com
503-780-5176

Art Luque, Photographer
full.count@verizon.net
714-642-6425

Betsy Murphy, *HOWL* Crew
emurph12@optonline.net
631-342-9423

Rosemary Murphy, Facilitator
samthebichon1@comcast.net
610-792-9858

Joanne Rajek, Sales Coordinator
jrajek@mac.com
715-360-7808

Marilyn Giglio Shinavar,
Ritual Coordinator
cubzfan2@gmail.com
847-800-8394

Jen Weaver-Neist, *HOWL* Editor
jen@damerocketpress.com
503-313-7899

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What It Means to Be a (Karst) Pup

Tick, tick went the clock—another ordinary day. Ordinary, that is, until the news about the National Timberwolf Pups Association was proclaimed.

My dad’s bright blue eyes sparkled with joy and excitement.

“So you’re really going to keep the organization alive?” he asked. “I felt so bad when I heard the reunions were over. I always looked forward to them so, so much. It’s a wonderful thing you all are doing.”

He continued to talk about how much it meant to him—how he could enjoy the company of his Timberwolf buddies again and share the memories of those who have gone before him.

Sitting in the kitchen where many a talk has been shared, I reveled in my dad’s enthusiasm, and his excitement was contagious. He could once again have the exquisite pleasure of anticipating events which have been a part of his Labor Day weekend for many, many years. Teary-eyed, I realized I was a part of the process that had made this happen; I felt I had given him a priceless gift. St. Louis, here we come!

The 2011 reunion was a totally awesome experience. And here we are now, eagerly anticipating the trip to Colorado Springs in 2012! It’s hard to believe time has passed so quickly, and another reunion is just around the corner.

I am so happy and proud to be a part of it; I feel very honored to call myself a Timberwolf Pup. At the reunion, the soldiers who helped keep us safe—the men who made this country great—are a mere handshake or hug away. Their presence is awe-inspiring. Unfortunately, some Timberwolves are a memory away, but it’s a memory that we can keep alive with the time-honored traditions that the NTA maintained for many years. The fallen are gone but never forgotten.

First and foremost, I became a Pup because I wanted to keep the history and the memories alive. What these World War II heroes did is far too important to ever be ignored or forgotten. I am also a Pup for my dad and his friends like Russ, Steve, and Bill, who deserve to be honored and pampered at the 2012 reunion. And sadly, I am a Pup for Jack, John, and Charlie, whom I’ve promised to never ever forget.

—Annie Karst Borchardt, Secretary
saborchardt@msn.com



Dick Karst, sergeant in 413th Service Co.; joined the TWs in Aachen, Germany

CALLING ALL WWII VETERANS OF THE 104TH!

The Fort Carson Museum needs your help with collecting memorabilia from the time you served at Camp Carson. If you feel comfortable bringing Camp Carson materials with you to the reunion (photos, newspapers, etc.), the museum has the ability to make high-quality scans of these items and have them back to you before you leave town. *Rest assured that we will treat your treasured memorabilia with the utmost respect and care.* If, however, you wish to scan and send your own reproductions, we request digital “JPG” files that are at least 300 dpi and to scale (100+ percent). We can receive emailed files up to 12 MB.

For more information, please contact:
Steve Ruhnke, Curator
4 ID and Fort Carson Museum
6101 Wetzel Avenue, Building 1430
Fort Carson, CO 80913
steven.ruhnke@us.army.mil

(Note: Our mailing address is different than our physical address.)



The site committee has been busy preparing for what will be another exciting and memorable reunion. Our location is beautiful Colorado Springs, known for its amazing scenery and open spaces—all of which can be enjoyed from the hotel as well as by car. We think you will enjoy it!

Here are some notes we've compiled to assist with your travel plans:

- The Travel Buddies Program is a special offering from the Pups for those Veterans who may require extra assistance to attend the reunion, from booking plane tickets to helping with luggage and mobility. If you are a Veteran who could benefit from this program, please make sure to note it on your activity registration form (bottom of page 4 in the *HOWL*).
- The Crowne Plaza's staff is prepared to accommodate your individual needs, including large rooms, nice amenities, and plenty of public areas for you to relax and spend time catching up with old and new friends.
- For those who are arriving via the Denver airport, the drive to Colorado Springs is a very pleasant and scenic hour and a half, with opportunities to rest along the way.
- If you do rent a car, there is a lot to do and see within a short drive from the hotel. You might consider a drive to the top of Pikes Peak or a visit to the US Air Force Academy (<http://www.usafa.af.mil/>) or the Olympic Training Center (<http://www.teamusa.org/About-the-USOC/Training-Centers-and-Sites/Colorado-Springs.aspx>). You could also take a short drive to some charming western towns for great food and shopping.
- For those of you without a car, the hotel provides shuttle service to and from the airport and to the downtown area, which boasts a variety of fine restaurants, shopping opportunities, and even a bowling alley (<http://www.visitcos.com/>)!
- The altitude is not an issue if you take it easy the first day or so. Running up and down stairs or hiking up the mountain trails should wait for a couple of days, but walking is no problem.

You may be wondering how we can top last year's reunion, but trust that we are trying our best! One thing we've lined up for Saturday is a show by WYNOT Radio Theatre, a performance group whose specialty is re-creating 1940s radio—sound effects, gags, and all (<http://www.rickluger.com/>). There are also rumors of a special appearance by “Frank Sinatra” at our Sunday banquet, so just plan on having lots of fun again this year!

Please note that Saturday's program will still include all the traditions and events of past reunions with a *slight* revision. In order for ALL to enjoy the WYNOT Radio Theatre show, the ladies will first enjoy a brunch (versus a luncheon) at 10:30 AM while the Pups sponsor a Gentlemen's Breakfast Canteen. The canteen will be hosted at a nearby location that makes it easy for the men to join the ladies for the entertainment. Following the performance, at 2:00 PM, the General Meeting will come to order. The program will include speakers, a presentation from our Netherlands friends, and an opportunity to honor our Veterans.

And finally, we're pleased to tell you that members of the Oregon State Archives Graduate Program will be joining us at Foxholes to record oral histories from you, our prized Veterans, if you feel inspired to share some of your stories. The interviews will be conducted in a private, quiet space nearby, so your usual Foxhole revelry shouldn't be interrupted in the slightest!

We hope that you'll make your plans early and that you'll contact us or Armed Forces Reunions (757-625-6401) if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you in Colorado Springs!

—JeNeal Granieri, Treasurer & Committee Member
jagranieri@sbcglobal.net

Photo CDs by TW Pup Photographer Art Luque

Available for Purchase—\$25 Each

- 2011 St. Louis Reunion
- 2011 European Battlefield Tour

Please make check payable to:
NATIONAL TIMBERWOLF PUPS
ASSOCIATION

Mail to: NTPA
1749 9th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122
Attn: JeNeal Granieri



NATIONAL TIMBERWOLF PUPS ASSOCIATION ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

Listed below are all registration, tour, and meal costs for the reunion. Please note how many people will be participating in each event, and total the amount. Send that amount payable to ARMED FORCES REUNIONS in the form of a check or money order. Your canceled check will serve as your confirmation. Returned checks will be charged a \$20 fee. You may also register online and pay by credit card at www.afr-reg.com/timberwolf2012. All registration forms and payments must be received by mail or online on or before **July 30, 2012**. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space-available basis. **We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing.**

ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC.
322 MADISON MEWS
NORFOLK, VA 23510
ATTN: TIMBERWOLF

OFFICE USE ONLY	
Check # _____	Date Received _____
Inputted _____	Nametags Completed _____

CUTOFF DATE IS JULY 30, 2012			
	Price Per	# of Tickets	Total
Thurs. (8/30): GARDEN of the GODS / OLD COLORADO CITY 10:00 AM to 2:30 PM	\$35	X	=
Thurs. (8/30): FLYING W RANCH DINNER TOUR 5:30 PM to 9:30 PM	\$55	X	=
Friday Tours—PLEASE CHOOSE ONLY ONE			
Friday (8/31): FORT CARSON TOUR (limited to 70 people) 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM	\$40	X	=
Friday (8/31): GARDEN of the GODS / OLD COLORADO CITY 10:00 AM to 2:30 PM	\$35	X	=
Saturday (9/1): Ladies Brunch 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM	\$20	X	=
Monday (9/3): Farewell Breakfast 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM	\$18	X	=
Reunion Picture CD (prepared by Art Luque)	\$25	X	=
Registration Fee: Includes access to Foxhole, General Meetings, Beer Bust, Memorial Service, and Banquet			
REGISTRATION FEE(S) IF RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE 7/30/12			
Cornbread Pecan Stuffed Chicken	\$75	X	=
Sirloin Steak	\$75	X	=
REGISTRATION FEE(S) IF RECEIVED AFTER 7/30/12			
Cornbread Pecan Stuffed Chicken	\$80	X	=
Sirloin Steak	\$80	X	=
Total Amount Payable to Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.			\$

PLEASE PRINT NAME (for nametags) _____

TW UNIT _____ FIRST REUNION? _____ PUP? YES _____ NO _____

SPOUSE/GUEST NAMES _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____ PH. NUMBER (_____) _____ - _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

DISABILITY/DIETARY RESTRICTIONS _____

MUST YOU BE LIFTED HYDRAULICALLY ONTO THE BUS WHILE SEATED IN YOUR WHEELCHAIR IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN BUS TRIPS? YES NO (PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CANNOT GUARANTEE AVAILABILITY.)

TRAVEL BUDDIES (See the Reunion Site Committee's notes on page 3 for more information about this service.)

Would you like to have a Travel Buddy? Yes No Would you like to be a Travel Buddy? Yes No

For refunds and cancellations, please refer to our policies outlined on the reunion schedule page. **CANCELLATIONS WILL ONLY BE TAKEN MONDAY-FRIDAY, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM EASTERN TIME (excluding holidays).** Call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4 to 6 weeks after the reunion.

**NATIONAL TIMBERWOLF PUPS ASSOCIATION
2nd REUNION, CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO
AUGUST 28–SEPTEMBER 3, 2012**

Tuesday, August 28

Early Bird Arrivals

Wednesday, August 29

Reunion Registration open 2:00 PM–7:00 PM
Foxhole / Souvenir Sales / Oral Histories 1:00 PM–5:00 PM
7:30 PM–10:30 PM

Thursday, August 30

Reunion Registration open 8:30 AM–9:00 AM
Timberwolf Pups Meeting 8:45 AM–10:00 AM
*GARDEN of the GODS /
OLD COLORADO CITY TOUR* 10:00 AM–2:30 PM
Reunion Registration open 2:00 PM–7:00 PM
Foxhole / Souvenir Sales / Oral Histories 1:00 PM–5:00 PM
7:30 PM–10:30 PM
FLYING W RANCH DINNER 5:30 PM–9:30 PM

Friday, August 31

Reunion Registration open 8:00 AM–8:30 AM
*FORT CARSON TOUR
GARDEN of the GODS /
OLD COLORADO CITY TOUR* 8:30 AM–2:30 PM
10:00 AM–2:30 PM
Reunion Registration open 2:00 PM–6:00 PM
Foxhole / Souvenir Sales / Oral Histories 1:00 PM–5:00 PM
7:30 PM–10:30 PM
Ladies Brunch Reserv. Forms Collected 5:00 PM–5:30 PM

Saturday, September 1

Ladies Brunch 10:30 AM–12:30 PM
Gentlemen's Breakfast Canteen 10:30 AM–11:30 AM
WYNOT Radio Theatre Show 11:45 AM–12:30 PM
General Meeting 2:00 PM–4:00 PM
Foxhole / Souvenir Sales / Oral Histories 1:00 PM–5:00 PM
Reunion Registration open 4:00 PM–5:00 PM
Banquet Table Reserv. Forms Collected 4:00 PM–4:30 PM
Beer Bust 7:30 PM–11:00 PM

Sunday, September 2

Memorial Service 9:30 AM–11:30 AM
Foxhole / Souvenir Sales / Oral Histories 1:30 PM–4:00 PM
Cash Bar 5:30 PM–11:30 PM
Banquet Dinner and Dance 6:30 PM–11:30 PM

Monday, September 3

Farewell Breakfast 7:00 AM–9:00 AM

TOUR DESCRIPTIONS

GARDEN of the GODS / OLD COLORADO CITY

Thursday, August 30 & Friday, August 31: Board the bus for the Garden of the Gods, a 1,350-acre park with magnificent red stone formations that date back 300 million years. Stop for lunch (on your own) and a photo opportunity at the Trading Post, where the finest in authentic Indian arts, crafts, and jewelry are featured. Continue on to Old Colorado City. Ten years before General Palmer named the region known today as Colorado Springs, another town was already operating in the Pikes Peak region. The town was Colorado City, and it remained proudly independent until being annexed to Colorado Springs during WWI. In recent years, the Colorado City downtown (now called Old Colorado City)

has been refurbished into a historic district and specialty shopping center. Enjoy time to browse in the many boutiques. We will also stop by the Veterans Memorial at City Park, where there is a special Timberwolf Memorial.

- 10:00 AM—Board bus
- 2:30 PM—Back at hotel
- **\$35/Person** (Incl. bus and guide. Lunch on your own.)

FLYING W RANCH

Thursday, August 30: Board the bus for the Flying W Ranch, then browse around this authentic Old West town, with twenty-four different museums and gift shops. Next, round 'em up for a real Chuckwagon Dinner at the ranch. The wranglers dish up a delicious supper of BBQ beef and chicken, baked potatoes, famous Flying W beans, apple-sauce, Dutch-oven biscuits, spice cake, lemonade, and coffee. (Alcoholic beverages are not available.) After supper, sit back and enjoy a rootin'-tootin' stage show, with cowboys singing old songs of the West.

- 5:30 PM—Board bus
- 9:30 PM—Back at hotel
- **\$55/Person** (Includes bus, escort, and dinner show)

FORT CARSON (This tour is limited to 70 people.)

Friday, August 31: Enjoy a tour of Fort Carson, the base the 104th called home in 1944, beginning with a driving tour. The base has grown tremendously and is now home to the 4th Infantry Division. We will have a command overview briefing and training overview (including a possible demonstration), and lunch in the dining hall with active duty soldiers. At the conclusion of the tour, the public affairs office will take a group picture at Kit Carson Park, just outside the gates. (Note: Participants must have a valid photo ID and should wear comfortable shoes. Lunch will be buffet style, requiring walking and the ability to carry a lunch tray.)

- 9:30 AM—Board bus
- 2:30 PM—Back at hotel
- **\$40/Person** (Includes bus, escort, and lunch)

IMPORTANT NOTES

1. Driver and guide gratuities are not included in the tour prices.
2. Please plan to be at the bus boarding area at least five minutes prior to the scheduled time.
3. All trips require a minimum of thirty people, unless otherwise stated.

**CANCELATION AND REFUND POLICY
for ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC.**

For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cutoff date, Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. (AFR) shall process a full refund less the nonrefundable AFR registration fee (\$7 per person). Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cutoff date will be refunded to the fullest extent that AFR's vendor commitments and guarantees will allow, less the nonrefundable AFR registration fee. **Cancellations will only be taken Monday through Friday, from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time (excluding holidays).** Please call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds are processed 4 to 6 weeks after the reunion. **Canceling your hotel reservation does not cancel your reunion activities.**

CROWNE PLAZA COLORADO SPRINGS HOTEL REGISTRATION FORM

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO (800) 981-4012 • (719) 576-5900

*****Please reference the National Timberwolf Pups Association to obtain the special reunion room rate.*****

The Crowne Plaza Colorado Springs Hotel is located at 2886 South Circle Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80906—approximately 8 miles from the Colorado Springs Municipal Airport and just 4 miles from downtown. (Please contact the hotel directly for accurate driving directions.) Check-in time is 3:00 PM and check-out is at 11:00 AM. The Crowne Plaza is a nonsmoking hotel.

There are 500 guest rooms, which were completely remodeled in 2008. All rooms have a coffee maker, hair-dryer, iron and ironing board, and high-speed internet access (for an additional charge). There is an indoor and an outdoor pool, a 24-hour fitness center, a convenience store/newsstand, and a gift shop available to guests staying at the hotel. Dry cleaning services, safety deposit boxes, and a complimentary newspaper in the lobby are just a few of the services offered for hotel guests' convenience. Hotel parking is free.

The hotel offers handicapped-accessible rooms based on availability. Please request this special accommodation when making your reservation, if needed.

Thibodeaux's, one of three hotel restaurants, serves a wide variety of American favorites for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. **The Marketplace** offers fresh salads, sand-

wiches, refreshing beverages, and a variety of snacks for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Or you can enjoy a drink and bar food before dinner at **Rick's Bar**. (Room service is available from 6:00 AM–11:00 PM.)

The hotel provides complimentary shuttle service to and from the Colorado Springs Airport. After retrieving your luggage, you will find phones in the baggage claim. Use the phone labeled "Crowne Plaza," dial 0, and let the operator know that you will need a shuttle to the hotel; he/she will give an approximate time for your pick up. Then proceed outside to meet the shuttle.

RV parking is allowed for guests of the hotel, though there are no hookups on the premises. Colorado Springs KOA Campground is approximately 7 miles from the Crowne Plaza. It is located at 8100 Bandley Drive, Fountain, CO 80817. For information, please call (719) 382-7575. For reservations, please call (800) 562-8609.

Should you need to rent a wheelchair for the reunion, ScootAround rents both manual and power wheel chairs by the day and week. Please call their toll-free number at (888) 441-7575 for details. All prices quoted include delivery fees.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Vendors, schedules, and prices are subject to change.

----- CUT HERE AND MAIL TO THE HOTEL -----

NATIONAL TIMBERWOLF PUPS ASSOCIATION HOTEL RESERVATION FORM REUNION DATES: AUGUST 29–SEPTEMBER 3, 2012

NAME _____ SHARING ROOM W/ _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

TEL. NUMBER (_____) _____ EMAIL _____

ARRIVAL DATE _____ APPROX. TIME _____ DEPARTURE DATE _____

_____ # OF ROOMS _____ # OF PEOPLE IN ROOM _____ HANDICAP ACCESS

If room type requested is not available, the nearest room type will be assigned.

RATES: Single/Double—\$99 + tax (currently 9.4%); Triple—\$109 + tax; Quad—\$119 + tax

(Breakfast is included in the guest room rate for registered guests.)

CUT-OFF DATE: July 30, 2012. After this date, reservations will be processed on space and rate availability.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Guests must advise the hotel at or before check-in of any change in scheduled length of stay to avoid an early departure fee of \$75. The fee is waived if early departure is due to a medical or family emergency.

All reservations must be guaranteed by credit card or first night's deposit enclosed.

_____ AMEX _____ DINERS _____ VISA _____ MASTER CARD _____ DISCOVER

CREDIT CARD NUMBER _____ EXP. DATE _____

SIGNATURE (regardless of payment method) _____

MAIL TO: Crowne Plaza Colorado Springs, 2886 South Circle Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80906, **Attn: Reservations**



Chaplain's Corner

Season's Greetings to all of you! It's the Easter season as I write these notes—and the season of Passover. As you know, Passover celebrates the liberation of the Hebrews from slavery in Egypt and the beginning of their desert journey to the Promised Land. And for Christians, Easter celebrates both the liberation of Jesus the Christ from the bonds of death and the beginning of a Risen Life leading to Eternal Joy. And the ultimate source of these liberations and these journeys to happiness is the One God, who has made us for Himself. So I hope that this springtime of the year will be a season of new hope and new confidence in God for you and for all those you love.

With regard to us Timberwolves and Timberwolf Pups, you could say that the most meaningful part of our annual reunions is our Memorial Service, honoring and praying for those TWs and Pups who have gone to God before us. And in a more personal way, we honor those TWs who were and are our fathers, and other family relatives. It's good to remember that when we honor them, we are also honoring God, whose Fourth Commandment says, "Honor your father and mother." In honoring them, we also call down God's blessing on ourselves and on those we love.

Speaking again as a chaplain, I would say that we really need God's blessing and the help of His grace and His wisdom in the times we are living in now. It is a time of noisy and distracting political campaigns, worldwide economic and financial problems, unrest and violence in many parts of the world, concerns about North Korean rocket development, complaints about manufacturing in China, changing weather patterns, sports scandals, college tuition costs, and the price of gas for our cars. And we probably also have some concerns about getting old.

I don't think that remembering God, honoring God, praying to God will take these problems away, but I do think that praying to God will obtain for us the grace, strength, and wisdom to live with them—and even to solve some of them.

The TWs and the Pups are a sort of fellowship—a community. We know each other and get to know each other better as time goes by; we care about each other; we even pray for each other. My prayer is that Our Loving God will continue to be with us and hold us together, to guide us, to refresh us, and to give us new hope and new confidence in His love and in ourselves.

And thanks to all the Pups who are holding us together now.

Prayers,
Father McCarty



Sharing Our Legacy



Ever since "the War," we have discussed the need to tell people—especially young students—about our experiences. The big question has always been "How?"

I live in a retirement community of more than 600 older people, and most of them know about the war and are interested in history. A couple years ago, our history club had a display day, and I got a table for a few war mementos. I displayed the items on top of a Nazi flag (signed by about fifty guys in my outfit), and I wore my Ike jacket (not quite buttoned) and my OD [olive drab] cap. I got a lot of interest from residents, but more importantly, one of them had a daughter who is a teacher at a local school. I wound up talking with a half dozen history classes of seventh graders.

From there, the interest continued. A bridge-playing buddy had a grandson in high school, so I spoke with a class of juniors. Another bridge-playing friend used to teach at a school, and she got me in to do an all-day session where I talked to four groups. (Plus, I got my picture in one of the Washington papers and a brief shot on a local TV station!) Then I attended another all-day school session, arranged by a fellow church member, and again spoke with seventh graders.

I have been invited back to all four schools in 2012, and the "How?" has answered itself.

—Dick Graff
415 HQ, 2nd Btln.

Note from the Pups: We know many Timberwolves like Dick are spreading the legacy of the 104th through speaking engagements and other activities, and the NTPA wants to collect their names and details for the next *HOWL*. In addition, we encourage our members to offer assistance as needed to these fine men, all of whom are in their eighties or nineties. Examples of help would include providing transportation or assistance at speaking arrangements.

We invite any Timberwolves who would be willing to speak to school classes and/or other groups about their wartime experiences, or anyone who knows of a group that would like a WWII veteran to speak, to please contact Kathy Clark, NTPA Legacy Coordinator, at kpclark@vom.com or PO Box 52, El Verano, CA 95433.

The Black Timberwolves

When I was commanding the 2nd Battalion of the 415th Infantry in the spring of 1945, Colonel Cochran told me a platoon of black soldiers would be integrated into each regiment. The platoon coming to our regiment would be assigned to my battalion, and I was to select one of my lieutenants to be the platoon leader who would then report to the Division Combat Training School forthwith.

The Division ran a training program where newly assigned soldiers got about two weeks of training before they joined their units. The school imparted to the incoming soldiers the spirit of the division—the Timberwolf spirit. Our shoulder patch had a Timberwolf howling at the moon, and Major General Terry Allen, our colorful division commander and one of the greatest leaders I have known, called himself the Chief Timberwolf. He never signed letters, orders, or other documents with “Terry Allen, Commanding General”; he always signed them, “Terry Allen, Chief Timberwolf.”

At that time, there was no integration of black soldiers in the army. Instead, the army had two divisions in which all the enlisted personnel were black. One fought in Italy, where my good friend, John Horton, was one of their officers, and the other fought in the Pacific. The officers were, for the most part, white. Integrating these platoons into white regiments was said to be the brainchild of First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt.

I was there when the black soldiers arrived at the Timberwolf training school and Terry Allen greeted them. He said, “You are my Black Timberwolves,” and they were known as the Black Timberwolves thenceforth.

At the end of their two weeks of training, the platoon joined the battalion. I had been back to the Training Center to welcome these soldiers, and I made it a point to talk to each of them individually. I found that all of them had been at least sergeants in their former units; some were master sergeants and one was a first sergeant. These men had taken a reduction in ranks—some to the grade of Private First Class—to have the chance to represent their race in a white man’s world. They were inspired to advance the cause of the black race, and they wanted to erase the myth that black soldiers could not perform in combat as well as their white counterparts.

Shortly after they arrived, I had the opportunity to give the Black Timberwolves their first taste of battle. I was on the right flank of the entire division. We had finished a night attack and were on our objectives, far ahead of the 1st Division on our right flank. The 1st had not attacked until dawn and were having difficulty reaching their objectives. One of their problems was that the Germans were placing effective fires on them from a small village out in front of my positions. I was ordered to capture it, and the mission looked like a platoon-sized job to me.

I took the company commander, Captain Carroll, and the platoon to a point in a forest from which we could see the village. En route, I explained to Captain Carroll and the platoon leader, Lieutenant Trog, that all I wanted them to



Cologne, Germany (March 18, 1945): 104th Reinforcements receive instructions for the BAR (Browning Automatic Rifle) from Lt. Grewing / [left–right] Pvt. Jackie Reed (Philadelphia, PA), Lt. Herbert L. Grewing (Watertown, SD), Pvt. Curtis Newton (Hattiesburg, MS), Pvt. Pete Dodson (Roslyn Heights, NY), and Pvt. Hilton Polk (Baton Rouge, LA) [Source: National Archives and Records Administration]

do was observe the platoon sergeant and the platoon’s performance; they were not to participate. I wanted to give the platoon sergeant the chance to win his spurs and gain the respect and confidence of the men.

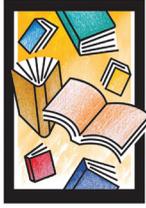
When we got to the edge of the woods, I called the platoon sergeant over and told him what I wanted him to do. Then we accompanied him to where the platoon was hunkered down. I was pleasantly surprised. He issued a flawless five-paragraph field order—one that you might expect to hear at infantry school and obviously taught to him by his platoon leader. He ended with the command, “Fix bayonets!” I had never heard this command before in the war nor did I ever hear it again.

The men fixed bayonets, and the sergeant yelled, “Follow me,” charging out of the woods and singing a song at the top of his lungs. And the men joined him in the popular wartime song “Der Fuehrer’s Face”; I had never seen anything like it. They went at full speed across the two hundred yards between the woods and the village, screaming their song.

A combination of this unusual spectacle and their first sight of black soldiers completely unnerved the Germans. They were the victims of their own propaganda that black soldiers were monsters who killed ruthlessly, plundering and raping without regard to the rules of land warfare and the Geneva Conventions. They began to pour out of the village with their hands above their heads in surrender. The platoon numbered less than fifty men while the prisoners they captured were nearly twice their number.

Things could not have worked out better. The platoon was so proud of its success that it developed an *esprit de corps* and a determination that made it one of the best platoons in the battalion, perhaps in the entire regiment.

—John R. Deane, Jr.
General, US Army (Ret.)



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A Forgotten Group

Many of those who served in the 104th at one time or another were replacements who never saw Camp Adair, Fort Carson, or anything in between but came into the Division early in its combat history.

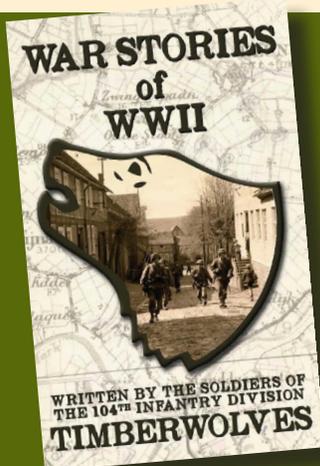
I was one of these soldiers, shipped directly from an IRTC [Infantry Replacement Training Center] through two POEs [Ports of Embarkation] and then aboard the British-crewed SS *Mauretania* bound for Liverpool. From there, we were moved to Southampton and across the Channel, climbing down the side of the ship with field packs, rifles, and ammo onto LCIs [Landing Craft Infantry; large craft/boats designed to unload infantry onto beaches]. We waded up onto Omaha Beach the same as the troops on D-Day—except that, unlike D-Day, we weren't being shot at. It was a rainy night, and we could only see the man in front on the long trek up the bluff. Finally, we were dropped off at the main square in Antwerp, where another 6 x 6 picked us up and delivered us to Division HQ somewhere in Holland.

We had no background or “schooling” in the 104th and had never heard of it—such was the lot of some of us replacements. But we fought like Timberwolves all the same.

—Marshall L. Main
Unit Rep, 414th HQ

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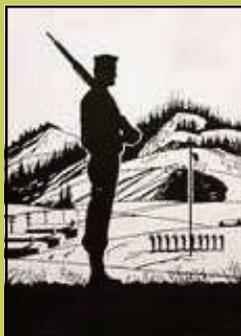
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Compiled by Sandra Eberhard (webpup@bellsouth.net)

Frank H. Abner 413 F	William Blake Down 415 E	William J. "Bill" Mahn 804 Ord	Thomas J. Reitmeyer 414 HQ 1st Btl	Bennie Wittman 555 AAA Btry D
Chuck Allwander 415 HQ	Thomas R. Edgmond 555 AAA Btry A	Robert O. "Bob" Martin 413 I	Jack Reynolds 104 HQ	William R. "Bill" Yeast 415 G
Henry C. Altschul 555 AAA HQ	Joseph Estefan 414 F	Forrest H. McCannon 414 L	Joe Rigg 413 E	WIFE or WIDOW
Dario Baciocco 414 Cannon	Robert J. Fash Unit known	Larry McDowell 413 D	John H. Riutzel 415 C	Irene Bronstein 104 HQ
Marrío Bibbiano 415 E	Jack Goodwin 414 C	Ernest Miller 555 AAA Btry C	Forrest J. Robinson 104 MP	Alice Dixon 415 HQ Co 2nd Btl
Clarence R. Bice 555 AAA Btry C	John Grau 414 B	Charles G. Montondo 413 L	Albert Rondeau 104 HQ	Catherine Geist 555 AAA Btry A
Mervin T. Black 929 FA Serv	James Gregory 329 Eng HQ	Francis Paul Murphy 387 FA B	Milton D. Schatz 386 FA Btl	Grace Quattrochi 415 C
Arnold Blum Unit unknown	Gustav Gurska, Jr. Unit unknown	Herman Nelson 415 B	John Schober 413 Med Detach	Verna Lou Smith 413 I
Hubert Broussard Unit unknown	Paul Hansel 104 QM	Richard Packer 413 C	C. Robert Sleighter Unit unknown	Maebelle Walkenhorst 414 Service
James Cassidy 387 FA	Delbert Hardy 415 HQ 2nd Btl	Bartolo Papania 929 FA C	Arthur Paul Spittler 415 A	The NTPA wishes to thank Sandra Eberhard for the many years she has worked to compile this list so that we can continue to honor those who have served and gone before us.
Leslie F. Christensen 414 F	Lowell Heckman 415 Med Detach	Clarence Pierce 415 E	Dick Swanson 104 HQ Arty	
Robert Clegg 555 AAA Btry B	Sam Henderson 414 Cannon	David Pinsky 414 E	John C. "Jack" Thomas 413 I	
Robert K. Clerc 555 AAA Btry C	James B. Kendrick 385 FA B	William Howell Piper 415 F	Berthel "Clink" Voorhees 415 I	
Samuel Coats 555 AAA Btry D	James Kent, Jr. 413 E	Gunther Plaut Chaplain	Reubin H. Weitzmann 329 Med Btl D	
Sydney M. Cohen 415 K	Irvin Henry Kessler 413 L	John H. "Albert" Podsaid 555 AAA Btry C	Roy Wetzel Unit unknown	
Adam Conti 555 AAA Btry D	Ira L. Kirkpatrick 414 A	Jack Potter 415 Med Detach	Herb Whatley 414 HQ 2nd Btl	
William Corpening 413 Med Detach	Oscar Klipfel 415 I	Eler Ravnholt 414 D	Franklin Whitley 329 Eng HQ	
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Please fill out the dues form below, and kindly indicate if there is an address change since our general mailings will not be first class and thus will not be forwarded. You can keep us updated by sending information either to Paul Murphy at the website or to JeNeal Granieri at jagranieri@sbcglobal.net or at the mailing address below.

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Timberwolf Tracks in History

The Allies are stalled at the German border for want of supplies. Gaining the use of the great port of Antwerp, Belgium, would get them moving again. Finally, in mid-October of 1944, a frustrated General Eisenhower orders reluctant Field Marshall Montgomery to clear the Germans from the estuary connecting the port, already in Allied hands, to the North Sea. Montgomery insists he needs more troops, so Eisenhower promises to lend him another division. Thus, by late October, the Timberwolves are poised with the 1st British Corps of the First Canadian Army on the Belgium-Holland border, awaiting their “baptism of fire.”

Charles MacDonald writes in *The Siegfried Line Campaign*, “Men of the Timberwolf Division assumed responsibility for a sector near the Dutch-Belgian frontier astride a main highway leading northeast from Antwerp to Breda, some twenty miles south of the Maas River and six miles southwest of a German strongpoint in the village of Zundert.... The initial division objective was Zundert.”

The British commander, General Crocker, admits he

has lost track of the Germans. “Go on until you get contact and know where the Boche is,” he orders General Terry Allen.

To a veteran combat infantryman, “gaining contact” is a euphemism for “the enemy shoots at you,” but most of the Timberwolves don’t know this yet. As the division jumps off on October 25th for its first attack, each man is wondering what war will be like and how he will react.

The Division advances with all three regiments abreast: the 414th in the center, astride the Breda road; the 413th to the right; and the 415th to the left. Resistance is light at first, and some of the young men begin to think that maybe this war won’t be so bad after all. But as the day wears on, enemy opposition increases. As casualties mount, each soldier must deal in his own way with the dawning realization that the enemy wants to kill him.

After dark, the tired troops are just settling in for some sleep when the announcement comes that there will be a night attack. Reluctantly, all three regiments pick up the *continued on page 13*

Ardennes (Belgium) Weekend: February 24–26, 2012

Every year at the end of February, a historical walk named “In the Footsteps of the 82nd Airborne Division” is organized, featuring different routes and starting points each time. This year, the march was dedicated to the 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment and started in the town of Goronne, in the Ardennes Forest in Belgium.

The event is dedicated to the 82nd Airborne Division because of the division’s heroic fighting during the Battle of the Bulge in December 1944 and January 1945. Like the 101st Airborne Division, the 82nd was sent to the Ardennes to fight the Germans, who launched a heavy counterattack.

This year’s walk was twenty-four kilometers (fifteen miles) over hills and sandy roads, through woods and little towns. Several Friends of the Timberwolves have participated in this memorial walk in the past, and in 2012, we had ten people from the Netherlands: Henk and José Koyen, Esther Eenhuizen, Peet van Oers, Ronald van Beek, Adrie Rens, Michel Feijen, Sjaan Valentijn, Marcel van der Lugt, and Marcel’s brother. (The Belgium re-enactors of the Timberwolves Remembrance Group also participated.) Henk, José, and Esther supported the other seven who did the walk, and all of us made it to the end. It is a heavy trek with all the hills in the route, so we were very tired but satisfied that we finished.

Of course, as Timberwolf friends, we also honored the 104th that weekend, departing on Friday to visit the Henri-Chapelle Cemetery. We placed flowers at our adopted graves as well as those adopted by the Foundation Friends of the Timberwolves, by Michel Feijen, and by Adrie Rens: Arnold E. Skuza (413 I), Ellard M. Weesner (414 I), Robert A. Olmsted (329 Engineers), and Roy C. Hill (415 Medical). We visited several other Timberwolf graves too. Then on Sunday, after a good night’s rest and breakfast, we visited

the Ardennes Cemetery to place flowers at the grave of James R. Schneider (415 AT). The Ardennes Cemetery is the second Belgium ABMC [American Battle Monuments Commission] cemetery, where seven Timberwolves soldiers are buried.

Timberwolf Up!

The Belgian and Dutch Friends of the Timberwolves

Note: Soldiers Radio & Television of the US Army did a story on a WWII veteran who returned to Belgium to do the walk this year. Here’s the video on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6MAIzZUib6k>.



continued from page 12

advance. The Germans, unfortunately, are wide awake. Strong enemy counterattacks hit 2nd Battalion 414th and 1st Battalion 415th, which are fighting side by side. In 2nd Battalion 414th, the commanding officers of Companies G and H (1st Lt. Sommerville and Capt. Reilly) and the forward observer from the artillery are all killed in action. The 1st Battalion 415th, loses its commander (Lt. Col. Elliott), who is seriously wounded, and the captain of Company A (Capt. McKerney), who is killed. Casualties among junior officers and enlisted men are heavy in both battalions.

The attack continues the following day. The 3rd Battalion, 415th, is covering ground so soggy that vehicles

cannot get through. The men must carry their casualties to the rear, over dikes and through water-filled canals, against rifle, mortar, and machine-gun fire. All three regiments plod ahead, taking casualties.

On October 27th, the 413th slips over from the right to attack Zundert, and that evening, the town falls to the Seagull regiment. The first objective has been taken.

To be continued...

—Kathy Clark, Legacy Coordinator
kpclark@vom.com

“Following in Their Footsteps, Part II: Germany”

We are gearing up and planning our next European tour, “Following in Their Footsteps, Part II: Germany.” Tentative plans have us flying into Amsterdam on May 1st, 2013, to spend Dutch Memorial Day / Liberation Day weekend with our Dutch friends in Holland on May 4th and 5th. Once again, we will be connecting with the British Polar Bears in Wuustwezel, Belgium, and are hoping to take part in the dedication of their new Polar Bear Memorial, where a plaque for the Timberwolves will be included. Next, after visiting both the Margraten and Henri Chapelle cemeteries, we will head for Aachen to take up where we left off in the fall of 2011, when we followed the footsteps of the Timberwolves across France, Belgium, and Holland. From there, we cross the Siegfried Line, passing Stolberg, crossing the Roer River, and passing through Düren on our way to Cologne.

As is planned now, we will sequentially follow the original WWII route as closely as time allows, with the exception of the loop north to Paderborn. This includes the Timberwolves’ southern pincer advance from the Rhine, going to Duderstadt,

Nordhausen (the Mittelbau Dora V-1/V-2 underground factory and accompanying concentration camp) and points eastward onto Halle. In the Halle area, we plan on visiting Bitterfeld, the Castle Püchau (which was the battalion headquarters for the 415th), and hopefully some of the smaller burgs that may sound familiar, like Gutenberg, Würzen, and Eilenberg. Finally, we will end up in Torgau sixty-eight years and a few days past the day celebrated as Victory in Europe Day.

Our tour wraps up in Berlin, allowing us time to visit one of the symbols of the fall of the former Soviet Union—the Brandenburg gate—as well as the top of the restored Reichstag (German Parliament) nearby for a fabulous view over Berlin. Upon tour completion, we will be able to say, “From the sands of Utah Beach and the harbor in Cherbourg to the banks of the Elbe in Torgau, we followed in their footsteps!”

Please join the National Timberwolf Pups Association and Milspec Tours in saving the dates: May 1–May 14, 2013. We’ll see you in Amsterdam!

—Mary Jamieson, Tour Coordinator
mejameson@aol.com



[clockwise, bottom left] Düren, Germany; Castle Püchau, Germany; [top right, from left to right] unidentified Russian soldier, TW Lt. William Chappell, a Russian MP, and TW William (Bill) “Jamie” Jamieson at Torgau after meeting up with the Russians at the Elbe River; [bottom right] TW Pup Mary Jamieson displaying some of her father’s WWII memorabilia [Images compliments of the William Jamieson family]

What It Means to Be a (Jamieson) Pup

Their Christmas cards started arriving in the mailbox in mid-December—from Al Levondowski in Minnesota, Wallis Gray in Kentucky, Bill Cooke in Ohio, Mack Chavez in Arizona, Willard Shay in Pennsylvania, Lowell Heckman in Texas, Joe Schwemmer in Kentucky. (Oh yes, who could forget “Schwemmy?”) And so it continued till Christmas, a steady stream of cards from Dad’s 415D Timberwolf buddies.

As a kid, it fascinated me—all the places that the cards were postmarked from around the United States. From the time my father was discharged in 1945, he and his army buddies faithfully wrote back and forth to each other at Christmas, catching up on their lives, kids, and jobs, never losing touch; there was that special bond they shared. I never understood it, but I loved the cards that came from distant states, and I knew the names of all the senders.

Until I was older, I never really made the connection between Dad’s army buddies and the awful war I kept hearing about. There was the occasional snippet of a war story overheard, a worried whisper from our mother not to bring up the war to Dad, hushed conversations of nightmares and an intolerance to loud, explosive sounds—that is what I remember intimately of my father and how his time in WWII factored into our family life.

Like most other GIs, he came home and married. Then he made a career with the US Postal Service as a rural letter carrier and bought a small farm so he could raise his brood of five in the country. He wanted it to be an innocent time for his kids, a peaceful childhood like his own. After all, at heart he was still a country boy from Beaverton, Oregon. In a letter home to his mother from Germany dated April 23, 1945, he wrote, “I sure hope the president’s death will not affect the peace that follows the end of this mess. I sincerely hope the future generation will not have this to do over again.” (President Roosevelt died on April 12th.) For his children, he wanted peace, not to dwell on the war. So he built a life for us that was happy, safe, and secure, and the war seemed far in the past. And he continued to look out for us until his death in May of 1988.

Fast forward nearly fifty years since those Christmas cards to the time in every household when children sell the family home (farm in our case) and distribute the family belongings. I was the sibling tasked with inventorying and sorting the legacy items—among them, my dad’s “Army Box.” To say I was mesmerized when I opened the box is a huge understatement. Faded news clippings, hand-drawn newsletters, worn patches, battlefield maps, medals earned and proudly worn, and a few trophies taken. And then there were the photos... hundreds and hundreds of photos... little teeny-tiny, black and white, faded and tattered photos.

My father drove a jeep in the 2nd platoon of the heavy weapons company D in the 415th Regiment. Having a place in the jeep to put his camera was a luxury the infantrymen did not have.

Scanning, enlarging, and printing each photo helped me understand that these many photos are our family’s treasure chest! With them, Dad preserved his war story in the only way he could. And after all those years and holidays past, there they were—the senders of the Christmas cards—smiling back at me in the photos. Posed before backgrounds of unimaginable destruction, where buildings once stood and piles of rubble remained, a dirty, smiling, grubby bunch of GIs held dogs, local kids, beer bottles, weapons. On jeeps, in front of castles, next to village churches, holding machine guns and candy bars and cameras and flags, always smiling through the grime of war.

It came to me that I wanted to know which face belonged to which Christmas card and which smile belonged to Schwemmy. Where was Levondowski the cook, and who was Mack Chavez, the one from Arizona? And what about Wallis Gray, the Baptist preacher who Dad thought the world of and who, in a condolence card to my mother, wrote, “We were always going to get together again... We never did, but I believe we will see each other again!” They all sent condolence cards, and many continued to send their Christmas cards to Mom until she, too, passed on twenty years later.

From somewhere deep within me, I felt the urge to connect the dots and bring this group of buddies back together. I made a promise to myself and my father that I would, and soon after, began my search. I attended the last Timberwolf Reunion in Chicago in 2010 and have since found one family after another of my father’s group of buddies from 415D. The search has taken on a life of its own and has become an important new facet of my life: I am discovering my quiet, steadfast father and a part of who he was. It is like he is helping me, viewing the journey from over my shoulder and encouraging me, pushing me on.

It was a natural step for me to become a member of the board for the National Timberwolves Pups Association, and organizing and coordinating the European battlefield tours has allowed me to actually walk in my father’s footsteps through Europe. I have collected sand from his landing spot on Utah Beach; dirt from the battlefields of Holland; and next year, when we complete the Germany tour, I will pick up soil from the banks of the Roer River, Cologne, and most certainly from the banks of the Elbe.

You see, my father was driving one of the six jeeps that left from Castle Püchau (near Würzen, Germany) the morning of April 26th, 1945, for an early morning patrol and wound up meeting the Russians at the Elbe River. (See the 1946 edition of *Timberwolf Tracks*, page 360.) And I will be there next May, almost sixty-eight years to the date.

I will reach down and pick up soil to memorialize the moment—an opportunity I wouldn’t miss for the world. See you there, Dad!

—Mary Jamieson, Tour Coordinator
mejameson@aol.com

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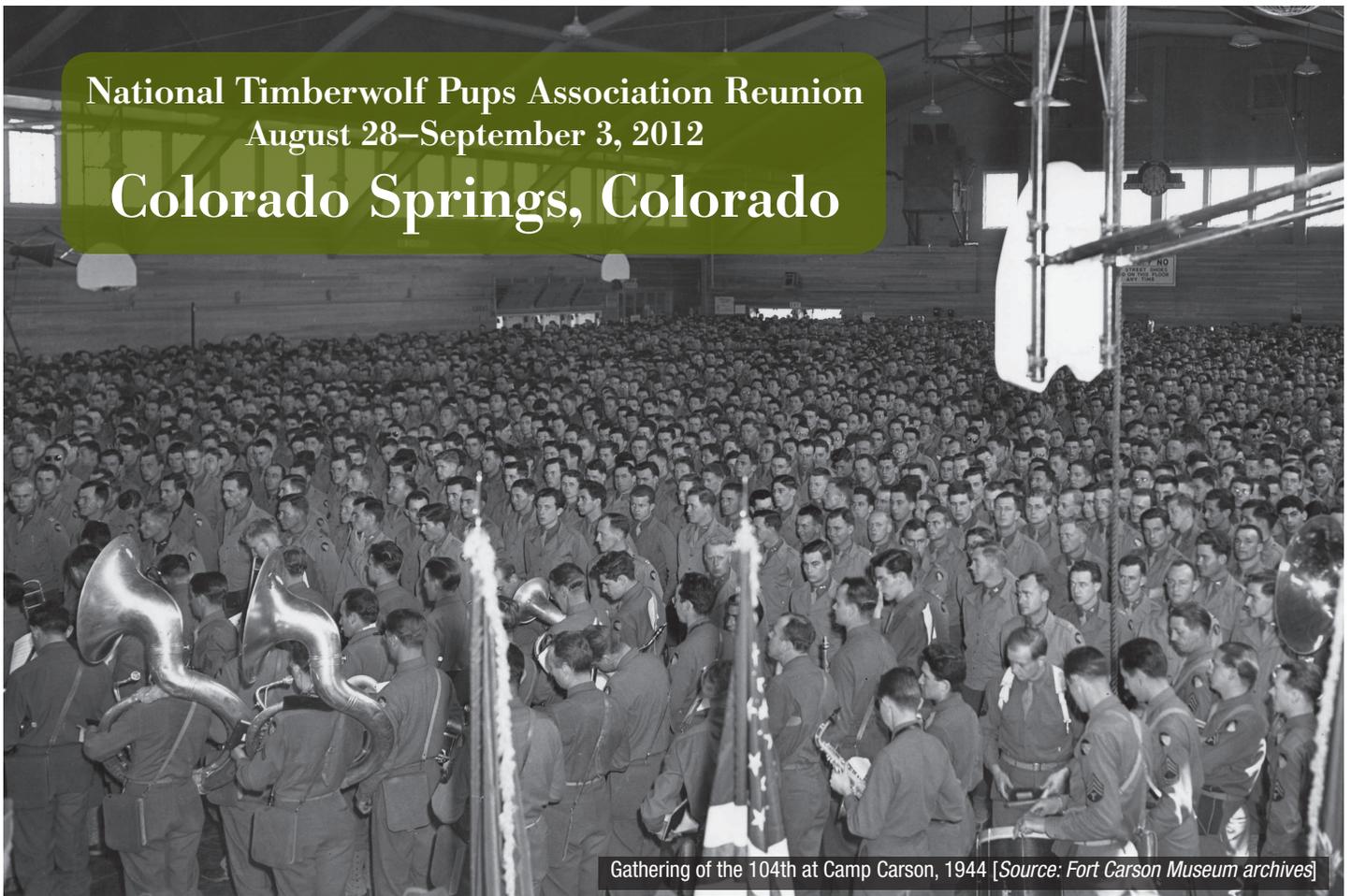
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Gathering of the 104th at Camp Carson, 1944 [Source: Fort Carson Museum archives]