



“THE GUARDIAN”
709th Military Police Battalion Association
Post Reunion Newsletter
2016



A MESSAGE FROM ASSN PRESIDENT JIM ROSENTHAL:

Greetings 709th Members!

Well, it sure was great seeing everyone at the recent 709th MP BN Assn reunion in Coralville, IA. The reunion held October 6-9th was a good turnout of with 44 attendees. This year we were all kept busy with scheduled activities; Thursday started out with meet and greet in the hospitality room, Friday we spent the day at the Amana Colonies, and on Saturday we visited a winery and the Herbert Hoover Library National Historic Site. The Amana Colonies had so much to offer with visiting some of the colonies and seeing how the settlers who came from Germany started and how they live today. We ended our stay at the Amana Colonies by eating a communal style German dinner at the Ox Yoke Inn. Excellent dinner with many German entrees served; brings back nice memories from years ago. Then it was back to the hotel for a cocktail reception with many conversations and laughs into the night.

Saturday morning after breakfast we held our annual board meeting. Discussions included a possible website, the association becoming an LLC Company and the raising of dues to \$20.00 per year. Approval to increase annual dues was passed by those present. Members re-elected Jim Rosenthal II as President and elected Louise Stack as Secretary for 2 years. Louise replaces Dave Lowery, past secretary. In addition, we all voiced the need to get more new members to join the 709th Association. Please everyone, we need your help in recruiting new members. After the meeting, we were off to a winery for lunch and then to the Herbert Hoover Library and National Park. This was very educational and worth the stop if you are ever in the area. Saturday evening was the dinner with guest speaker Major General Sentman. The evening was wrapped up in the hospitality room with door prizes and last minute farewells.

As the reunion came to an end on Sunday morning, many voiced to have the next reunion in one year with preference in the month of September. We, the officers and I, will be working on the next site and date for the 2017 709th MP BN Assn Reunion – more to follow in the next newsletter. I hope that everyone is doing well and looking forward to the next reunion.

Jim Rosenthal
C Co. (1975-78)



YOUR 2016/2017 EXECUTIVE BOARD:

President

James A. Rosenthal II
(920) 517-5913

Vice President

Anthony Latarski
(734) 425-7828

Treasurer

Samuel E. Hargadine
(319) 248-9694

Secretary

Louise Stack
(414) 764-0365

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Mark Evers, Historian

Gerry Greene, Hospitality

Axel Wicks, Chaplain

Tom Donnelly

Curt Cree, Immediate Past President

THE REUNION:

Kudos to Jim Rosenthal, Tony Latarski, Sam Hargadine and Gerry Greene for stepping up and making the 2016 reunion the success it was. They picked up where Curt left off and kept the tradition alive.

Notes from the secretary:

LTC Jeffrey A. Searl, who attended our 2015 reunion, did officially take command of the 709th MP BN on June 29, 2016. Of course, that meant he could not attend this year, but did send a short video for us to enjoy. Always good to hear from the active side of the 709th. The Association is still interested in setting up and maintaining a website, so if you can do that or are willing to help, please give someone on the board a call.

A big thank you again to John Burke for taking great photos at the reunion and to his wife Pat who keeps all the names straight. The group picture above is missing Tim Skeen who was not camera shy, but had gone to the lobby on an errand of mercy. Sorry Tim!

Have you wanted to come to a 709th reunion but thought it was too far? Ron Mullen *drove* all the way from northern Maine (1,457.9 miles) by *himself* to partake in the fun. However, if we had given an award for who travelled the farthest it would have gone to Tim Skeen who flew in from Fresno, CA (1,920 miles). Tim seemed to be the man of the hour the entire reunion weekend so I have to thank him for solving a 40-year-old mystery. Bill Smith, Tim and I were all reminiscing about one of the sedans we drove back in the old days in Hanau. Bill and I remembered that the passenger door wouldn't close properly and several passengers came close to being tossed out. Let's just say that Tim can't get an Article 15 all these years later, but he did confess to being the one responsible for the faulty door. Good story too! There were several new faces at this reunion. If you couldn't make it this year, we missed you. Hope you will be able to join us in 2017.

ROLL OF REMEMBRANCE:

Charles Beale	C Co	1959-1961	John M. McDonald	A/C Co	1943-1946
George R. Britt	A/B Co	1964-1966	Richard A. Mosco	HQ Co	1972-1973
Jack Dante	A Co	1955-1956	James E. Reichel	A Co	1959-1960
Peter E. Flaminio Jr.	B Co	1974-1977	Kenneth M. Smith	HQ Co	1967-1968
Herbert Littlefield	A Co	1949-1952			



FROM THE TREASURER:

At the 2016 Association business meeting the membership voted to raise annual dues to \$20. Some may ask why and what are we going to do with the extra revenue? Both are fair questions. First, the dues have been \$10 per year since the Association was first formed. Many of the founders and board members paid for items out of their own pockets without any expectation of reimbursement. The \$10.00 per year, per member didn't cover the expenses back then nor does it now.

As of this writing we have 247 active 709th Association members. The bad news is we have an additional 319 that are inactive and they are inactive for multiple reasons, some have passed, some we've lost track of because they've moved, changed email or stopped paying dues. We are asking for all to help the Association grow by reaching out to the people that you served with, let them know that we exist and send them a registration form. For the Association to survive representation from all the 709th companies.

This year's reunion was a lot of fun and I met many new souls that shared the same experience in Cold War Germany as a 709th MP. I also saw several that I worked and patrolled with. Though 40 years have passed, the stories have survived, (some have even improved with time) and I wouldn't trade those experiences for anything. Noah Love (B Co 1956-58) spoke about how much it means to him to reunite with everyone that also served. Noah is blind though it doesn't slow him down any. Noah said what many of the board members feel, the Association needs to carry on.

Sam Hargadine

127th MP Co. (1978-79)

POST EXCHANGE (items for sale):

As Jim mentioned, the following items were purchased for the reunion this year to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the 709th MP BN. There are limited quantities of the steins so make your order soon.

The reunion price for the mugs was \$90.00. Shipping is \$30.00.

Total \$120.00*

The Challenge coin price is \$10.00. Estimated USPS postage is \$5.20.

Total \$16.00

If you have not already paid your dues and wish to place an order, you can just write one check to the 709th MP BN Assn. Please make sure to complete your dues renewal form as well. Contact Sam if you have any questions at (319) 248-9694 or email: shargadine@gmail.com

Mail to:

709th MP BN Association
c/o Sam Hargadine, Treasurer
P.O. Box 1592
Iowa City, IA 52244-1592



* The mugs come boxed and bubble wrapped but due to their fragility they are rewrapped in a larger box with air filled wrapping. As of this writing there are 7 left for sale.

Application/Renewal

Annual Dues: \$20

MAIL TO: 709th MP BN Association
c/o Sam Hargadine, Treasurer
P.O. Box 1592
Iowa City, IA 52244-1592
(319) 248-9694

New Member Renewing Member

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ MI: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

709th Unit: _____ Location: _____ Time Period: _____

Comments/Suggestions: _____

Authorization for release of information: Do you want your telephone number or email address to be given out to other 709ers? YES _____ NO _____

Personal Information: The association will not release or disclose your personal information to 3rd parties such as advertisers or telemarketers. Membership information will not be posted on a web site. Association members frequently will ask for information regarding other members that they served with. The association will only disclose this personal information if the member marks YES on the above line.

Donation Disclosure: Donations above the dues are not expected but gladly accepted. Donations are used to pay forward memberships for those that are not able to due to financial hardship or their declining health prevents renewing. Donations are also used by the board of directors as they see fit to offset costs at the annual reunion. Presently the association is not incorporated nor is it a recognized IRS charity and as such contributions are not tax deductible. **To save money the association no longer sends out dues cards/receipts.**