



***The 167<sup>th</sup> Combat Engineering Battalion Summer Newsletter 2009***

**Happy 4th of July to the members of the 167<sup>th</sup> and their families and friends!**

First, and foremost, have you made your **reservations for the 2009 Reunion** in Springfield, Illinois? Our hosts, Bill and Mary Stefanu and their daughter Elaine Mulcahy, are busy making arrangements. The sooner they get a head count, the easier their job becomes.

Here is the information that *you need to act on by Sept.15, 2009*:

<b>Date of 2009 reunion:</b>	<b>Thurs: 10-01-09 thru Sun. 10-4-09</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>Drury Inn &amp; Suites</b> <b>3180 South Dirksen Parkway</b> <b>Springfield, IL 62703</b>
<b>Phone #:</b>	<b>217-529-3900 toll free #: 1-800-DRURYINN</b>
<b>On-Line Res:</b>	<a href="http://www.druryhotels.com/Reservations.aspx?groupno=2062031">http://www.druryhotels.com/Reservations.aspx?groupno=2062031</a>
<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$94 per night + 12% tax (free hot breakfast/free mtg room Fri – Sun)</b>

*Who has already said that they plan on being there?* Jesse Hicks, Sam Brown, Robert Tykol, Curly Allen, O.T. Ziegler, Bill Heim. Keep those reservations coming in!

Guess where Betsy MacCord traveled in June? Scotland! In honor of her trip, a short lesson in conversational Scottish can be found below! ☺

Good evening !	Guid eenin !
I missed you so much !	A misst ye sae muckle !
Go straight! Then turn left/ right !	Gae straecht! Than turn left / reit !

**This fall we want to make a special effort to get kids, grandkids, great grandkids, friends, aunts, uncles, and old beer buddies of members of the 167<sup>th</sup> to attend the reunion in Springfield. Young whipper snappers (those of you who weren't even born yet in 1945) are welcome! There are lots of fun sights to see in Springfield, Illinois. You can brush up on your historical knowledge about Abe Lincoln.**



***We hope you all will make an effort to turn out for the 167<sup>th</sup> Combat Engineering Battalion 2009 reunion!*** (Can you believe that Jesse Hicks started tracking down members of the 167<sup>th</sup> for their first reunion more than 16 years ago?)

***Awards will be given to the men who have never missed a reunion in 16 years!***

***An award will be given to the man who has traveled the farthest to get to the reunion!***

***An award will be given to the youngest visitor at the reunion!***

***A delicious “chocolate” award will go to the wife that has attended the most reunions!***

We have welcomed several “newcomers” in the past few years. We want to send out a special invitation to attend the next reunion to:

1. Charles Schrock and his daughter Kathy and family
2. Frank P. Wuenschell and son Gerald Wuenschell and family
3. Richard Cornell and family (father Ira Cornell killed in action)
4. Philip Nickens and family (father Stanton Nickens passed away in Dec 2008)
5. Theodore Baneshi’s grandson - Shawn Bagneshi and family
6. David Ostrow’s grandson - Glenn Ostrow and family
7. Samantha Bol and family - granddaughter of silver star medal recipient, Leo Kalat
8. Bill DuMong and family - son of John Joseph DuMong
9. Bud Bennett and family - son of silver start recipient, Dewey W. Bennet Sr.
10. Alfred Pappalardo (Company B) and family
11. John Wernick and family – nephew of Corporal Ron Baker

***Where are those “then” and “now” photos for the website? Sam Brown and O.T. Ziegler are the only ones who have turned their photos in for the website. Watch out – Deborah Ziegler is not above arm twisting .... Please send in a photo of yourself in uniform during WWII and a relatively recent photo of yourself! You can email it directly to Sam Brown or you can snail mail it to Deborah Ziegler. (she will return photos- if you are not able to get a copy made)***

***Sam Brown at [brownscl@comcast.net](mailto:brownscl@comcast.net)***

***Deborah Ziegler  
6380 Huntington Drive  
Carlsbad, California 92009***

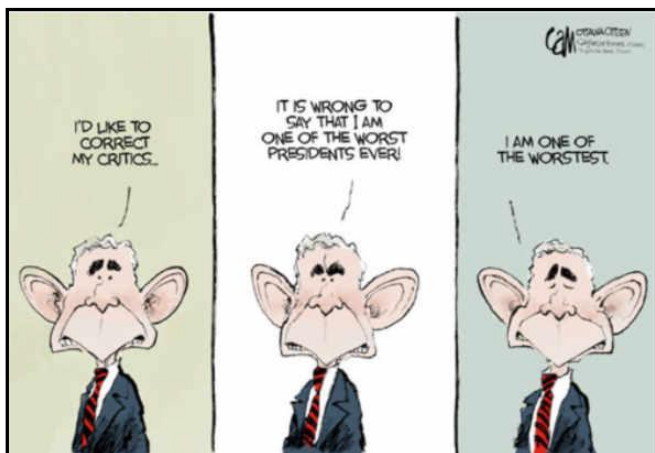


### Ten Things to Do in Springfield, Illinois

1. Honor the men of the 167<sup>th</sup>, who made huge sacrifices for our country.
2. See old friends.
3. Make new friends.
4. Laugh – a lot!
5. Share stories of the “good” and “not-so-good” old days.
6. Make a toast with some vile tasting liquor that Bill “The Greek” Stefanu always brings. (called ouzo - or white lightning) No offense Bill. ☺
7. Listen to some WWII tunes.
8. Eat at some Illinois “tried and true” places – like **Steak and Shake**.
9. Go see the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum
10. Go see the Old State Capital Building, where Lincoln made his famous "House Divided" Speech.

### *News Updates from the folks at the 167<sup>th</sup>:*

1. *Bill Heim and Jesse Hicks were selected by their respective communities to go on an all expense paid “Honor Air” trip to Washington D.C. Jesse and Bill were flown to our nation’s capital and toured the WWII Memorial, the Vietnam Memorial and other sites. Upon their return, imagine both men’s surprise when they were greeted by a live band and a crowd with banners and balloons! What a fantastic honor. Congrats to Bill and Jesse.*
2. *Bob Tykol, who we missed at our last reunion, plans to be at the reunion this year with his daughter, Laura. Bob is still actively pursuing woodworking projects. See you soon, Bob.*
3. *OT Ziegler has been exchanging political cartoons with Curly and Artis Allen. OT is a “died-in-the-wool Republican” and Curly and Artis are “yellow-dog” Democrats. Both political parties provide these letter-writing friends with fodder for humor.*



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*News Updates continued:*

4. *Sam and Rose Brown wrote to let us know that they recently had to give up their 5 mile run before breakfast? ? ! ! ?? They have a granddaughter graduating from Cal Poly Tech. in San Luis Obispo, CA in June and a second granddaughter finishing next June. Chuck Brown's oldest son is in his sophomore year in Mechanical Engineering with a 3.44 grade point average. Another Brown grandchild is considering the Army and a third is starting high school. Proud grandparents, and rightly so!*
  
5. *Frank P. Wuenschell, a PFC in B Company, has contacted the website through his son, Gerald.*

From: Gerald Wuenschell  
Phone: 626 301 7984  
E-mail: [cwgewuen@altrionet.com](mailto:cwgewuen@altrionet.com)  
Message:

My father, Frank P. Wuenschell (still living and 85 years old this October), was a PFC in B Company of the 167th Engineer Combat Battalion. We've been talking more than usual about his service, and I thought I'd look up what I could about his old comrades-in arms. How many are still around, any from B Company, etc. If any remember a trouble-making boogie-woogie piano player named Frank (or sometimes Pat), that's him. He was injured in a mine field explosion that took the life of his buddy, but the injury was not diagnosed until after the war. His skull had apparently been cracked and, shortly after the war, had to have surgery which took his ability to hear on the left side. Is the newsletter mailed out, or only electronic? If the former, I wonder if it could be mailed to him. He currently lives in Long Beach, CA and has since shortly after the war. Let me know and I'll pay any fees and/or postage.

Sincerely,  
Gerald E. Wuenschell

6. *Samantha Bol contacted the website regarding her grandfather, Leo Kalat. Samantha has shared some old photographs that belonged to her grandfather. We are so grateful to Samantha! Chuck Brown has posted them at: <http://167thengineercombatbattalion.com/picturepage.aspx>*

From: Samantha Bol  
E-mail: [sammibaby369@yahoo.com](mailto:sammibaby369@yahoo.com)

Message:

Hello,

I would like to start by saying how thankful I am for this website. I am always asking my mother for information about my grandfather Leo Kalat. This was a great way to get more information about him. I am contacting to let you know that I have a lot of photos of my grandfathers and I was wondering if you would like me to send them to you. There are pictures of my grandpa, the places the 167th traveled and other men.

Thanks for your time,  
Samantha Bol