

MANCHU DRAGON TALES



NINTH INFANTRY REGIMENT (Manchu) Association U.S. Army

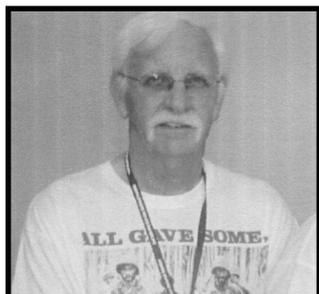


ISSUE NO. 50 November, 2016

www.manchuassociation.org

E-MAIL: 69larryritter70@gmail.com

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT



This has been a busy year for me. Speaking and music engagements at different functions have kept me busy. I was invited today to appear and speak at a private

party this November. This gives me a chance to visit with veterans, their spouses and families. It is always a treat for me when their grandchildren are asking questions about the Manchus. Some schools don't teach history back past Viet Nam. They are usually inquisitive. Share your experiences with them if you are given the chance.

The reunion is history now. Not a great number in attendance. Which brings me to the question of how do we get the attendance up. We are getting new members but we need active members. We need to get our younger Manchus involved. If you have any ideas on how to do this let Larry or I know.

Larry and I have discussed the electronic newsletter instead of hard copy. The mailing cost keeps rising. Keeping up with current mailing list has been a real pain. I don't know how many members we have tried to locate and how many are deceased but NO one keeps us informed. We know that some members don't have computers but you do have cell phones. In most cases cell phones can receive the PDF

Continued, page 3

COMMENTS AND UPDATES FROM THE SECRETARY

Well it's that time again to connect with you all. Another reunion has come and gone as of this newsletter.

Some topics taken up at the meeting that needs to reiterated is the electronic posting of this newsletter we will be going this way sooner than later so be prepared at the last posting only 30 people responded with email addresses out of over 600 that's pretty sad that we cant get even 5 percent of the membership to respond. Also we have over 100 LIFE MEMBERS that won't give me their new addresses another sad reflection that means no news to these individuals until I get an address.

We arranged to have Mr. Gary Sinise come aboard as a member (see write-up) Mr. Sinise has helped many veterans in need and visits hospitals to see them and has a foundation for this cause.

We have also aligned ourselves with the 4/9th Manchus at Ft. Carson Colorado they are the only Manchus still around and have an open invitation to anyone in the area who would like to visit.

The first vice-president Wally Baxendale has decided to step down in that position after

Continued, page 3

ORGANIZATION REVISED & OFFICIAL

President	Roger Dyson
1 st Vice President	Charles Groff
2 nd Vice President	Ronald K. Price
Sec/Treas	Larry Ritter
Chaplain	Rev. James L. O'Brien
Sergeant At Arms	Mike Ardoin
Parliamentarian	Frank Kraft
Historians	Raymond A. Tarabusi, Rolfe L. Hillman, III, Al Castilio and Larry Ritter
4/9 Manchu Liaison	Ronald K. Price
Public Information Office	Larry Ritter

MANCHU DEVOTIONAL

I was recently invited to attend a Special Forces (SOG 52 annual meeting) in Las Vegas last week. They were talking about when they took a knee, it was to thank God, for their comrades, and their Country. They had kept up the fight to protect our rights under our Constitution. While I was there, I took in the Terry Fator show at the Mirage. He is a singer and ventriloquist, and a great supporter of our Service men and women, active and retired. Any puppets, DVD, CD's souvenir's, 100% of the profit goes toward 3 military support groups. He thanked God for giving us the brave men and women willing to give so much for our Country. With Gods blessing; Keep up the faith and Keep up the fire.

Chaplin James "Obie" O'Brien

MANCHU ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN: Association President; **Members,** Association 1st Vice President, Association 2nd Vice President; Past **Presidents,** Gil Blue, Ken Toeppe, 1SG (Ret), William Ditzhazy; **Past Secretaries/Treasurers,** Dante Degni, CSM Riley Miller, Oscar Fettig, Raymond Tarabusi, Wayne E. Stephens; and the following **COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN: Constitution and By Laws,** Jack Woodall; **Membership:** Roger Dyson; **Reunion,** Charles Groff; **Sunshine,** Rev. James "OBie" O'Brien; **Budget,** Larry Ritter / Roger Dyson

MANCHU MISSION STATEMENT

We members of the 9th Inf. Regt. (Manchu) Assoc. United States Army, pledge to preserve the history and name of "The Regiment", and to support the Constitution of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic; to support our Active Ninth Infantry Regiment (Manchu) soldiers and the United States Army Regimental system. We shall promote comradeship and esprit de corps among our members; set examples of unselfish patriotism, and memorialize the patriotic deeds of the members of the 9th Inf. Regt. (Manchu).

Comments From The President *(Continued)*

files. We need to get your cell numbers so we can get this taken care of. The Indianhead is setup this way, too. Get your numbers to Larry Ritter. Our goal is to possibly make this our last mailing newsletter. If you don't have a computer or cell phone let us know and we can work with you.

The 4/9 stationed at Ft. Carson, Colorado is our only active battalion. Larry and I have been in contact with the Bn. Commander and the Sgt. Major. Hopefully I can get to visit with them and the troops next year. I do know they are planning some events next summer and have invited us to those. I don't have all of the details as of yet. I don't know if Carson is a closed Fort but I will find out. I know security is tight on just about every establishment.

I am proud to be your President and I love being a MANCHU. I hope you all feel the same. I would not have wanted to serve in any other unit. Remember: A Manchu is proud of his crest and a Manchu stands out among the rest.

KEEP UP THE FIRE

Roger Dyson, President

October 18, 2016

Comments and Updates From the Secretary *(Continued)*

serving for many years in that capacity and Roger has put Ron Price back on the board. Ron served the association in the 1990's on the board and will be taking over Chuck Groff's position of 2nd vice president and Chuck will be going up to 1st vice president. We want to thank Wally for his service to our board of officers and we applaud you Keep Up The Fire Wally. I hope you all have a good Vet's day Larry R.

LIBERATION CELEBRATION**PILSEN, CZECH REPUBLIC**

With WWII in Europe almost over May 1, 1945, V Corps, including 2nd ID, was transferred to 3rd Army and entered the western part of CZ. Most of the Division stopped at Pilsen – 9th Infantry went about 10 miles further, to the town, Rokycany. The Czechs welcomed us as liberators after years of Nazi occupation. Scheduled for Pacific, we left in about a month and all US troops left in November. Russia occupied the country as had been previously decided. 44 years of communist government followed. Russia attempted to erase all evidence that Americans had been there, including confiscation of any such photos.

June 1989, I was with a group 2nd ID vets (seven were MANCHUS) on a three week tour (retracing our 1944-45 footsteps) and spent two nights in Pilsen. The city was drab, unprogressive, and people seemed subdued.

Six months later, December 1989, the Berlin Wall (Iron Curtain) fell. May 1990, the 45th year anniversary of their liberation by us from the Nazis, Pilsen held their first annual celebration of their freedom. They have done so, every year since. This year, my daughter, her husband and I went. Veterans treated like celebrities, we had a great time the entire four day Celebration. Next day, I visited Rokycany, met the Mayor, saw some landmarks remembered from 1945 – very enjoyable.

Glynn Raby, Sgt, Co H, 9th Inf. 1944-45

June 2016

Gary Sinise

For nearly forty years, Gary Sinise has stood as an advocate of America's service members. It began in the early 80's with his support of Vietnam Veterans groups and the creation of Vets Night, a program offering free dinners and performances to veterans at the Steppenwolf Theatre in Chicago. His commitment continued into the 90's working on behalf of the Disabled American Veterans organization which he continues to actively support. Since the attacks of September 11th, 2001, his dedication to our nation's active duty defenders, veterans and first responders has become a tireless crusade of support, service and gratitude to all those who protect our freedom and serve our country.

His portrayal of Lt. Dan Taylor in the landmark film *Forrest Gump* formed an enduring connection with servicemen and women throughout the military community. After several USO handshake tours in 2003, Sinise formed the "Lt. Dan Band" in early 2004 and began entertaining troops serving at home and abroad. The band now performs close to 30 shows a year for military bases, charities and fundraisers supporting wounded heroes, Gold Star families, veterans and troops around the world.

“ His portrayal of **Lt. Dan. Taylor** in the landmark film
Forrest Gump formed an **enduring connection** with
servicemen and women throughout the military community.”

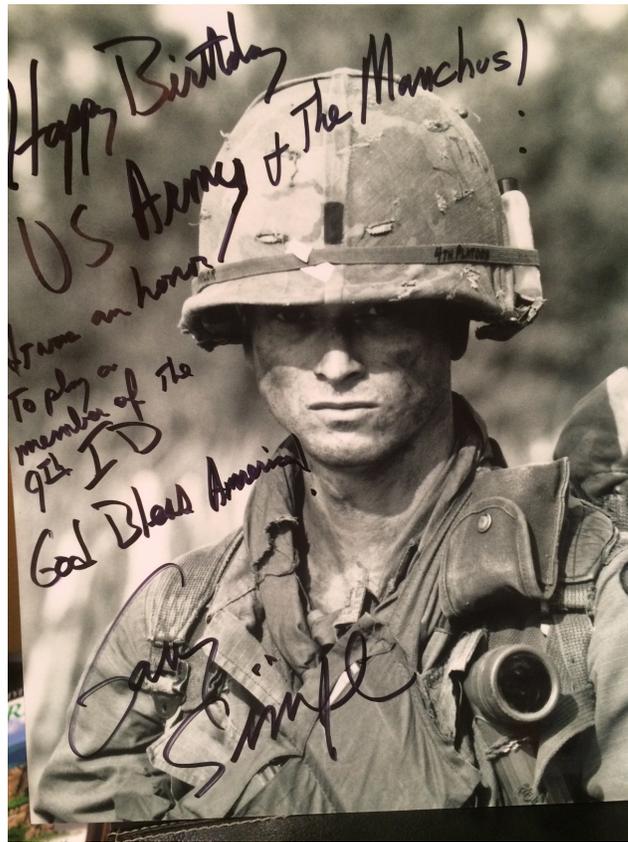
In recognition of his humanitarian work on behalf of our nation's defenders, Sinise has earned many distinguished awards including the Bob Hope Award for Excellence in Entertainment from the Medal of Honor Society, the Spirit of the USO Award, the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, the Doughboy Award, the Sylvanus Thayer Award, and the Dwight D. Eisenhower Award from the National Defense Industrial Association. In 2008, he received the Presidential Citizens Medal, the second-highest civilian honor awarded to citizens for exemplary deeds performed in service of the nation. In 2012, Sinise was presented with the Spirit of Hope Award by the Department of Defense, was named an honorary Chief Petty Officer by the United States Navy and in 2013 was pinned as an honorary Marine by General James Amos, commandant of the United States Marine Corp.

In 2011, to expand upon his individual efforts, Sinise established the Gary Sinise Foundation. Its mission is to serve and honor our nation's defenders, veterans, first responders, their families and those in need by creating and supporting unique programs that entertain, educate, inspire, strengthen and build communities. Of its many outreach efforts, the Gary Sinise Foundation is building custom Smart Homes for severely wounded veterans, serving hearty meals to deploying troops and hosting spirit-boosting festivals for patients, families and medical staff at military hospitals.

“While we can **never do enough** to show our gratitude to
our nation's defenders, we can always do a **little more.**”

- Gary Sinise

Giving back to those who sacrifice for our nation and encouraging others to do the same has become Gary Sinise's personal quest and what he hopes will endure as a legacy of service to others. “Freedom and security are precious gifts that we, as Americans, should never take for granted,” says Sinise. “We must do all we can to extend our hand in times of need to those who willingly sacrifice each day to provide that freedom and security. While we can never do enough to show our gratitude to our nation's defenders, we can always do a little more.”



VA plans to expand benefits eligibility for camp Lejeune veterans

We are including this article is some of the Agent Orange veterans have served a Camp Lejeune. People living in this United States Marine Corps base in North Carolina from the 1950s through the 1980s have been exposed to drinking water contaminated with industrial solvents, benzene, and other chemicals. This chemical exposure may have led to various health conditions.

Following discussions between health experts in the veterans health administration the Department of Health and human services agency for toxic substances and disease Registry VA secretary McDonald propose a rule that will create a presumption of service connection for certain health conditions associated with exposure to contaminated water at Camp Lejeune these presumptions will make it easier for effective veterans to receive VA disability compensation and health care.

"The water at Camp Lejeune was a hidden hazard, and it is only years later that we now know how dangerous it was," said Sec. McDonald. "We thank him and ATSDR for a thorough review to provided much of the evidence we needed to fully compensate veterans who develop one of the conditions known to be related to exposure to the compounds in the drinking water.

Once finalized, the proposed rule will expand benefits eligibility for veterans, members of the reserves, and members of the National Guard who were assigned to Camp Lejeune from August 1, 1953 through December 31, 1987.

Veteran who served as at Lejeune for 30 days or more between these dates are already eligible to receive VA health care for up to 15 health conditions. More information is available at the <http://go.usa.gov/cuxEA>.

New Life Member

FILLMORE GOLDSCHMIDT A WWII VETERAN OF THE NINTH WHO WENT IN ON D=DAY+1 TO OMAHA BEACH WOUNDED TWICE IS OUR OLDEST MEMBER AT 101 KEEP UP THE FIRE

**NINTH INFANTRY REGIMENT
(MANCHU) ASSOCIATION**

5230 Blue Roan Way
Wesley Chapel, FL 33544

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BALLSTON SPA, NY
PERMIT NO. 75

Return Service Requested

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
NINTH INFANTRY REGIMENT (MANCHU) ASSOCIATION**

Current Rank: Specify if Active Duty or Retired _____ Full Name (First, Middle & Last) _____ Military Status: Specify if Active Duty or Retired _____

_____ Mailing Address, Including your 5 + 4 digit ZIP Code

_____ Telephone Number(s) _____ e-mail Address _____

_____ Unit(s) Assigned as a Manchu _____ Dates of Assignment as a Manchu _____ Highest Rank as a Manchu _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPES AND CALENDAR YEAR DUES:	PAYMENT ENCLOSED FOR:	
REGULAR-PER YEAR	\$15.00	ENROLLMENT FOR YEARS= \$ _____
ASSOCIATE-PER YEAR	\$15.00	RE-ENROLLMENT FOR YEARS= \$ _____
ACTIVE DUTY-PER YEAR	\$10.00	ANNUAL RENEWAL FOR YEARS= \$ _____
LIFE	\$100.00*	PROCESSING FEE \$ _____
NEW MEMBER PROCESSING FEE	\$4.00**	SUB-TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

*Life Membership may be paid for in a single payment, or up to four annual payments of \$25.00 each.
** This fee will cover the costs associated with purchasing, preparing and mailing enrollment documents, as well as the printing and mailing of a Manchu Association Membership Roster.

Credit _____ for this New Enrollment

In addition to enrolling me in the national Manchu Association, also sign me up for the Second Indianhead Division Association, as follows:

REGULAR MEMBER	\$25.00 _____	ASSOCIATE MEMBER	\$25.00 _____
CURRENT ACTIVE DUTY	\$10.00 _____	LIFE MEMBER	\$200.00 _____
		SUB-TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED	_____
		TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED	_____

Make check payable to "9th Inf Regt (MANCHU) Association," and mail together with this completed application to:
5230 Blue Roan Way, Wesley Chapel, FL 33544, and Keep Up The Fire!