



Tom Fitzsimmons

COMMANDER'S REPORT:



VETERAN CORPS MEMORIAL DAY: SUNDAY - MAY 20th, 2018

I wish to thank the members of the Veteran Corps, and also the friends of the Veteran Corps, who showed up to honor those who served in our regiment, especially for those who made the **Ultimate Sacrifice** at our annual Memorial Day. For those who attended and displayed the traditions we base our heritage on in never forgetting those who served in the Sixty-Ninth, I wish again to thank you.

I must also commend the members of St. Anthony's High School Pipe Band and COL(r) Frank Riggio, their moderator who faithfully attends every year. Their participation certainly does enhance the ceremony with the playing of Garryowen and Amazing Grace. They are a credit to the youth of America.

Through the efforts of Ed Dunn and the Calvary Cemetery Staff we now have the names of six members of the Spanish-American War and one member who we believe is from the Mexican Border Campaign that are buried at that site. We placed seven flags in memory of those members.

Flags were also placed in memory of those members who passed within the last year:

Former Members of the 69th who were Flagged are:		
Raymond Gallagher Lawrence Flynn (Hon) John Walker Eugene Goldner	Anthony Hayden Richard Low Michael Mahoney James F. Bond	Albert Vernile Edward P. Shalvey James Breheny Harry Snyder

Pictures from the ceremony:





➤ **SOLDIER / NCO OF THE YEAR:**

This is the Title we always have used but in today's world it is a much more involved competition. It really has a title more in line with the soldier of today. It is now known as the "Best Warrior Competition". The NCO and Soldier of the Year of the Sixty-Ninth have already captured the Brigade, State and Regional titles are headed to the Nationals in July. Our congratulations go out to SGT Quinton Davis of HHC and SPC Ilya Titov of A Co who have both placed first in their individual categories.

➤ **TAG MATCHES:**

The battalion Rifle & Pistol Team recently competed in "The Adjutant General" matches at Camp Smith, NY. The team was very successful by placing 3rd in the overall standings. SSG Melendez won the individual combat pistol match and SFC Torres came in first as a new shooter in both the Rifle & Pistol Matches.

➤ **LOGAN- DUFFY RIFLE MATCH:**

The Logan-Duffy Rifle Match between the 182nd Inf and the 69th Inf, a competition that date back to the 1930's will take place on September 15th, 2018. The units alternate hosting the match. The host for this year's match will be the 182nd infantry, MAARNG and will be conducted at Ft. Devens. MA. The winning teams in addition of boasting



about winning also takes home the Logan-Duffy Bowl, appraised at thousands of dollars. Those of you who attend the Makin Day Dinner may recognize the Bowl because that is the bowl we mix our Regimental Cocktail in.



**Geoffrey Slack
Colonel(Ret)**

THE LIAISON OFFICER’S REPORT (EDITION 18 – JUNE 2018)

Dear fellow 69th veterans, families, and supporters of the 69th Infantry,

Hello everyone and as we enter the summer I hope you are all well and enjoying life! As I know you are all well aware, the active battalion is now deeply engaged in the core training that LTC Makay designed for 2018. Unlike in years past where many months of the colder part of each year had very limited training I think you would be shocked at the operational tempo of today’s active battalion regardless of the time of the year. However, annual training at Fort Drum is fast approaching and it will be a complex, high payoff event.

I had a chance to spend a quality hour with the battalion XO, Major Brandon Gendron in his office a few weeks back and he provided me the details I will highlight here. Before I do I will say how impressive Major Gendron is and I will feature more of his career in an upcoming bulletin. As the XO he has the responsibility to run what LTC Makay leads. Without a great XO a unit is in big trouble. Brandon is a great XO.

In the big picture of Army and National Guard training models, based on readying units for war, the past Army Forces Generation (ARFORGEN) model has been replaced by the Sustainable Readiness model (SRM). Leave it to our Army to change names and uniforms every other day! Regardless, it is still a model based on escalating training over 4 years culminating in deployment readiness or a major exercise such as a rotation to the National or Joint Readiness Training Centers. The 69th is now in “Year 1” following its JRTC rotation and its inclusion in the major training event in Australia last year, both of which were enormous successes. 2018 is now “Year 1” and takes the 69th back to individual and squad focused training. Ah, but don’t be deceived! This is the level in which the most amount of live fire maneuver takes place. Live fire squad maneuver is tremendously complex and potentially lethal and getting it right takes lots of preparation and intense focus by the battalion.

The battalion has been training intensively towards these upcoming maneuvers. So, what constitutes a live fire maneuver you might ask? Picture this: a squad is tasked, with all of its machine guns, grenade launchers, hand grenades, shot guns, pistols, and everything

REGIMENTAL HISTORICAL EVENTS:

SUBMITTED BY BERT CUNNINGHAM – REGIMENTAL HISTORIAN

CPL Eugene J. Brady Remembered

Eugene J. Brady, served in Company D, 1st Battalion, 165th Infantry Regiment – the Old 69th – during World War I, and is a true American hero.

Father France Patrick Duffy – the famous Chaplain of the 69th – reports in his book about the Rgt in World War I, that Eugene Brady’s Company D held fast its position near Luneville, France in late March, 1918 when it came under a withering German gas attack that caused hundreds of casualties and numerous deaths.

In July of 1918, the Old 69th went up against a combat-hardened Prussian Guard at the Battle of the Ourcq River.

At one point in the four-day battle, Brady’s Battalion, under command of William “Wild Bill” Donovan, risked losing contact with its French allies.

Fr Duffy recorded that Donovan detached Company D “to find and maintain liaison with the French.”

Cpl Brady and a Lt from Company D moved over open fields and through wooded areas for four hours – exposing themselves repeatedly to enemy fire – to maintain liaison with the French.

For his “Gallantry in Action at Villers-sur-Fere, France, July 28, 1918,” Brady was awarded the Silver Star. Ironically, July 28th was the day after his 23rd birthday.

That Silver Star medal, along with the Purple Heart earned for being wounded in combat, and his New York State Conspicuous Service Cross are contained in artifacts Brady cherished and kept at his Douglaston home. His family recently donated those and other artifacts, which includes letters from Father Duffy and Donovan that were sent to him after the war, to the 69th’s archive.

After the war, Eugene Brady went on to live a very productive life, but he never forgot the 69th. He passed in 1971 at age 75 and is interred at the National Cemetery in Farmingdale.

Through his artifacts, Cpl Eugene J. Brady has been reunited with the Regiment he so loved.





Letters, Emails, and Conversations:

- **Robert Kocher:** Last month I mentioned and thanked Bob who contributed his winnings back to the Veteran Corps, what I forgot to mention is that he made that contribution in memory of John Bergen. Sorry for the mishap.
- **Scooter Barclay:** Received a telephone call from Scooter recently and he indicated to me that he intends to attend the Makin Day Dinner this year. We talked about various subjects such as his cruise last November and what a wonderful time he had on it. He also told me that he and a friend drove from Texas to Ft Bragg, NC to visit his old Post. Over the past couple of years he has traveled to Okinawa, Iwo Jima, Vietnam, Pearl Harbor and probably other destinations we didn't even talk about. Scooter who is 94 years young is planning other trips this year. As he said to me, this will be his '*Banner Year*'! Next year he may start to slow down. Scooter as always sends his regards to COL Geoff Slack.
- **John Walsh:** Received an email from John hoping that I had a good Father's Day. John who now lives in an assisted living development was visited by his daughter and son-in law for Father's Day and he states he had a very nice quiet day. John who lives in Connecticut joined with a group for a trip across L.I. Sound to Port Jefferson. When John left the army after WWII he joined the Navy. The trip across the Sound brought back memories of when the destroyer he was on was assigned to duty to provide target practice for the subs out of their base in New London.



IN MEMORIAM:

NOTE: The Veteran Corps will list the name of any active or former member of the 69th Infantry in the Memorial Segment. It is not necessary that they were a member of the Veteran Corps. They will also be remembered during the ceremony on our Memorial day each year.

Harold Kelly

A Co

June 14, 2018

**Address: 500 Denton Avenue, Apt 3A
New Hyde Park, NY, 11040**

ROUGE BOUQUET:

*Go to Sleep; Go to Sleep
Slumber well where the shells screamed and fell,
Lay your rifles on the muddy floor
You will not need them anymore
Now at Last, Peace at Last,
Go to Sleep!*

Sgt Joyce Kilmer KIA 30 Jul 1918 165th Old 69th



SERVICE OFFICER'S SICK REPORT:

**John Marino
Gerald Steakin
William Higgins
Francis Murphy**

**1078 N. Broadway, N. Massapequa, NY 11758
8 Ivy Place, Howell, NJ 07731-2678
5301 Tiffen Drive, Ft. Worth, TX 76180-5952
8 Boat Lane, Port Washington, NY 11050**

May we join in prayer that our sick have a complete and speedy recovery!

In case of illness or death of a member, please call our Service Officer, Frank Sherry at (516) 536-6756 or leave a message on our recording machine at (212) 686-6556 in a timely manner. If known, please list the Company and dates of service in the Regiment.

Please direct all correspondence to:

Veteran Corps, 69th Regiment, Inc., P.O. Box 48, Massapequa Park, NY 11762

Other contact information: Email address for the commander is: tomandlilfitz2@verizon.net



I wish to thank all who assisted in the preparation and distribution of the Bulletin.

**TOM FITZSIMMONS – COMMANDER
tomandlilfitz2@verizon.net**