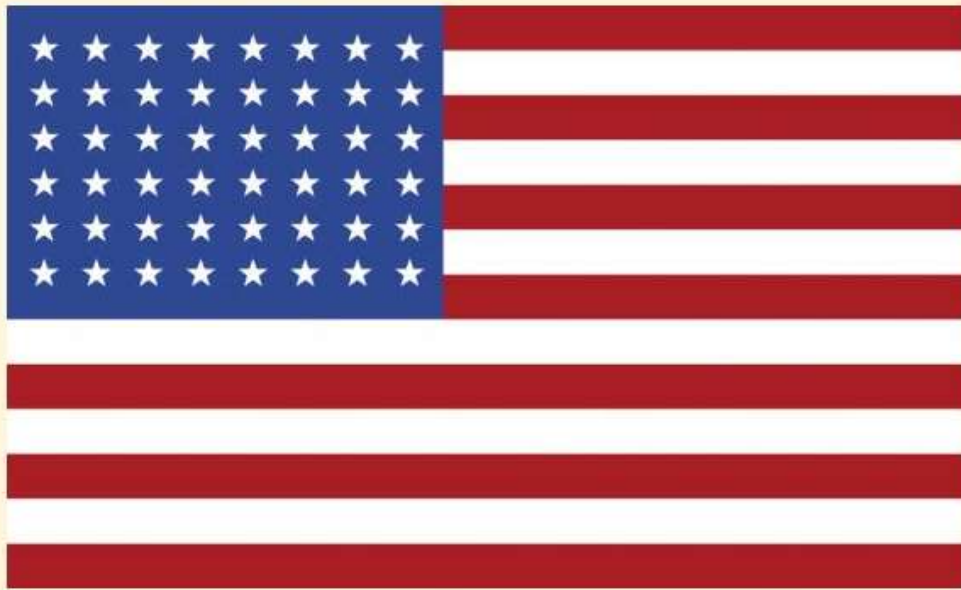


Letters Home



FROM OUR
**WORLD WAR II
COLLECTION**

LA CRESCENT AREA
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The World War II Effort

During World War II, with many young men and women serving in the military, the La Crescent Community Club, a group of volunteers, created a newsletter to local men and women in military service. In return, the service men and women wrote back to the volunteers, sharing information that would be published in subsequent newsletters.

The newsletters, mailed monthly to 80 or more individuals, were written by a variety of people including Ed Hurley and Mrs. Georgia Fay, mother of Gordon and Hugh. Each newsletter recapped “hometown” events news from the service men and women. Not everyone on the mailing list sent a letter back, but the Community Club wanted all of them to feel closer to home.

At first, Community Club volunteers typed the newsletters on manual typewriters with layers of carbon paper to make copies. An “e” often looked like an “o” because the ink gummed up on the striking key. Eventually, local organizations stepped forward to offer their gestetner and ditto machines. Because of the war effort, volunteers did not use high quality paper, which eventually led to many pages yellowing or the ink fading over the years.

1995 Exhibit

On the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II, Julie Zuehlke and a crew of volunteers assembled the newsletters and letters for an exhibit at Gittens-Leidel Post 595 American Legion. Because the letters were fragile, the volunteers re-typed each one in a uniform format. After the exhibit, Zuehlke donated her research and the work of the volunteers to the La Crescent Area Historical Society, where all of the letters and newsletters are archived.

2020

During the week of Veterans Day 2020, to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the war’s end, the exhibit was displayed for the public in the Legion Room of the La Crescent Event Center.

Letters Home

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WORLD WAR II NOTES

World War II began in Europe in late 1939 after Germany invaded Poland.
 Japan attacked Pearl Harbor in December 1941 and the U.S. entered the war.
 U.S. troops fought in Europe, the Pacific, and also the North Atlantic and North Africa.

The newsletters are dated between November 1944 and December 1945.

D-Day was June 6, 1944. The U.S. defeated Japanese forces in the Philippine Sea.
 The Battle of the Bulge began on December 16, 1944 in Belgium.
 Berlin fell in May 1945. U.S. dropped atomic bombs on Japan in August 1945.
 Japan surrenders in September 1945.

For additional context, search the U.S. Library of Congress: loc.gov

La Crescent, Minnesota
November 9, 1944

At the first fall meeting of the La Crescent Community Club it was decided that a news letter would be sent to all our boys and girls in the service. (Incidentally, 60 fellows and gals represent our town in the armed forces). By using the method of passing out slips of paper at the meeting, various and sundry types of news items were turned in, and we've tried to assemble them in an interesting manner for you. We may jump from one news flash to another, but bear with us for its all "the truth, the whole truth, and nothin' but the truth."

SPORTS NEWS: Just in case your sweltering in tropical heat of the S. W. Pacific, or clinging to your woolies in the Aleutians, or sleeping on crusty frozen ground in the European theatre, don't give up the ship because you can look forward to our typical beautiful fall seasons around La Crescent in the very near future. This year has been outstanding for lovely weather and the usual colorful artistry that Mother Nature always manages to display. On the first day of November we were all wearing light summer coats, no hats, mittens, goulashes, etc., and no need for roaring furnace fires to date. To you hunters who are longing to be around here these days, reports state that game is very scarce this year - so cheer up, maybe the ducks are waiting for your return home to give you more of a chase during the season. Further sports news are that Walleyed pike are biting these days, and hunters are counting their shells for the deer season soon to open. Out where you fellows are hunting its open season year 'round, we understand, and we're hoping you "bag" plenty of those German and Jap birds that happen across your path. Along with our sports report comes news that the Rod and Gun Club has been reorganized with Nathan Randall as the new president. They sponsored a Halloween Dance at Carroll's October 30th.

For you former football enthusiasts and players - Central High School is the championship team to date with an undefeated record. They took Aquinas with a score of 26-20, and the City Championship game with Logan by a score of 13-0.

The bowling leagues are going "full blast", and the GOOD bowlers who are in the service are certainly missed. Art Gittens finally joined up and is learning to throw a mean ball. Says Art: "Must not be mean enough by the looks of my average." Time will tell.

GENERAL VILLAGE GOSSIP: From the romantic side, we make mention of Vic Leidel's marriage to Gladys Savnton at the Cargil Home. They are living in the Leidel home, while Mr. and Mrs. Henry Leidel have purchased and moved into the John Welch home.

Clarence Votsch is doing a good job of operating the Tooterville Trolley, (The Riverside Bus Line) between La Crescent and La Crosse. Clarence has decided to name the streets of our town so that he can call his stops just like they do in the "big towns." Thus far he is calling the street running past the post office - Wilshire Boulevard, because of the similarity it bears to the boulevard of the same name in Los Angeles studded with palm trees. (Strictly corny humor). Any suggestions for avenue titles from you boys to Clarence will be appreciated.

Our town has been flooded with rock dust for the past weeks because of the 77,000 yards of crushed rock that is being hauled from the Lautz hill to the French Island Airport. The nightly blasting of the rock roars throughout town giving the semblance of a bombing attack in our own back yard. We imagine, however, that the bombing you fellows are staging "over there" is a little more rugged and destructive than this mild stuff at home - eh?

La Crescent contributed \$285 to the annual War Fund drive. The civilian defense women conducted the drive, and while collecting money in their respective sections about town (there are six sections with three or more workers to a section) they brought the addresses of the people in service up to date. Just in case any of you want current addresses of some of your La Crescent friends, drop a line to the Community Club and we'll be glad to furnish you with this information. The surgical dressing hall allotment has been completed. La Crescent women have earned a reputation in Houston County for their excellent work along these lines. Bill Lockwood is well again and walking without the aid of a crutch or cane. He sends his "hello" to all of you out there. LeRoy Luther deals in second-hand cards and operates the vegetable and fruit stand "under the hill." Regarding the La Crescent night life, Carroll's and the Commodore are doing their usual thriving business accommodating people from La Crosse and surrounding area. The Commodore has added a new wing which will result in a larger dining room and kitchen.

REAL ESTATE CHANGES: A number of homes have been sold and people have been doing their fall moving getting settled for the on-set of winter. Ed Gittens sold his home to Leo Loechler's brother-in-law, and Ed bought the Leo Bowman house. Adrian Umberger sold his place to Miss Emma Schlabach and moved to Minneapolis. Mr. and Mrs. Bob Panke occupy the house and Mrs. Panke assists at the telephone office in place of Mrs. Umberger, who keeps house for Adrian. The Ames' sold their home to a Dr. Ashworth of La Crosse, and they have built a new house across from Harris' store. The Van Leen's bought a cottage at Eagle Bluff and have constructed it for year-round living. John Walters bought the George Farrell home in Pine Creek. He moved it on a lot across from the Justin place (the old Smith Wildwood) and sold it to Aloysius Corcoran. Bill Carroll bought the Yohe house, has modernized it and his mother will occupy one apartment. Henry Abnet, Jr. has made fine and extensive repairs on his house and has installed water and made sewer connections.

FURLOUGH NEWS: Walter M. Volk and Johnnie Volk have completed a furlough home; Hugh Fay finished his "boot training" at Great Lakes and spent a 9 day furlough in La Crescent. "Boober" Gavin came home from the State of Washington to see brother Jack, who had completed his 60 European missions as a Gunner and came home to see his new daughter. Jack has since reported to Florida for re-assignment. George Davis had a 10 day leave and returned to Farragut to attend radio school for 20 weeks. The first lad to enlist from La Crescent, Albert Reider, who has been in every big engagement in the conquest of the South Pacific, was here on his first furlough in three years. Albert said that all the "kids" had grown up while he was away. He also stated that he wished his people lived here so that he wouldn't have to divide his time away from "the old home town." Albert was in 1st class condition and expected to go over season shortly. Lorraine and Roland Stellick both left for the Navy the 1st of October. Lorraine will be our first Wave representative from home. Donnie Loechler expects to enlist before he is 18 in March. Mrs. Paul Vidani, the former Lucille Hurley, is another war widow

home waiting for her husband, Lt. Vidani, help clean up the streets of Toyko and hurry home.

FLASH: Here is a bit of news of a more tragic nature. On Wednesday, November 2nd, LeRoy Luther, while flying a plane from the La Crosse Airport, crashed on the vacant lot adjoining Orvie Wetzel's home. The accident occurred about 5:45 P. M. The cause has not been determined as yet, and LeRoy is presently at Grandview Hospital suffering from internal injuries.

Here is a little note found among those written at the Community Club: "Dear Soldiers: We hope and pray that you will be successful in winning this war, and that you will be back with us real soon." Guess - that just about expresses the sentiment from all of us home towners.

This letter has just been an initial experiment boys and girls, but if you enjoyed our amateur attempt at "snoop reporting", how about dropping a line to the Community Club and maybe we can make it a regular feature. And by the way, we'd like to have you tell us some bits of information concerning yourself so that we can pass it on to others. This edition has just contained the local small town "stuff" but maybe it passes along the thought to you that we're behind you and thinking of you all every minute - and waiting for that day when you can come back to liven up the old home town.

Best and sincerest wishes to you,

The Pleasant Community Club



"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Pfc. Claudia A. Albrecht A-603960
Sqdn. D. 2123 B.U. (Army Gunnery School)
H.A.A.F. Harlingen, Texas**

2 - 24 - 45

H.A.A.F.

Community Club:
Hello Folks,

Received the community news yesterday sent to me by Mrs. R.S. Boma, I do enjoy getting it.

So you have had a cold winter up north with lots of snow. It has been warmer here than it was last year during these months you have winter up north. Right now the citrus fruit trees are in bloom, my the air is so sweet smelling. Most flowers are nicer this time of the year as we get rain once in awhile. The homes are beautiful. After spending two years here, am wondering how I will stand the winter in Minnesota again.

Am still working in supply issuing equipment to the students. We have B-24 planes here for training. A change will be made around the 1st of April to B-29. What they are planning on doing is put the B-24 equipment in B-24's.

I sure have checked out equipment to thousands and thousands of gunner students as most classes were around 500 men and I have been on the job 21 months. We fit the boys with helmets and oxygen masks. How would you like to help fit 500 boys every week? They keep this equipment for two weeks. We also check out daily to each student sheep wool lined leather jackets, pants, boots and gloves beside head sets and throat mikes. Oh, I mustn't forget the life saver parachutes. We check them out, too. Many a life has been saved on this field by parachutes. I work on a shift one week mornings, the short days be at work at 6 a.m., the long days at 5:30, work until 1:30. When I work the afternoon shift I go to work at 11:30 and work until all planes are down, sometimes 9 o'clock. Last evening was finished at seven. Half of these boys fly in the morning and the rest in the p.m. So at noon, crews are both checking in and out, that's why both shifts are on at noon. No Sundays off as that's the busiest day as all mask fitting is done then. I used to work seven days a week, have more help, so get a day off now.

I can truthfully say I did replace a man so did the rest of the WACs with me. It's a job we can do and was done by men until the WACs took over.

Hope I will continue getting the Community News.

A La Crescent WAC,
Claudia Albrecht

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: P.F.C. Dallas Ames 37597242
Btry B 564 A.P.O. - N.Y.**

Sat Night
Feb 24, 1945
France

Dear La Crescent & All -

I just received your newspaper today and I just got done reading it. I think it is a very cute little paper and I enjoy it very much.

I am somewhere in France and we are having nice weather at this time. It is really surprising what bombs will do to a town. The people here speak very little English and we speak very little Franch. We have French speaking books to help us out.

The money we use here is called "francs." I am sending some francs so you can look and see what we use. This piece of paper is worth about 4 cents in U.S. oney. They have very few coins here.

The other day we went to a town and writing paper was 60 francs for about 50 sheets. That is \$1.20 in our money. This paper I am writing on is French.

This country is nothing like the good old states. I miss La Crescent a lot and am looking forward to be back soon.

We have movies every once in awhile. I must close now and get to work. I will be seeing you all.

As ever,
Dallas Ames

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: P.F.C. Dallas Ames 37597242
Btry B 564 A.P.O. - N.Y.**

May 23, 1945
Wels, Austria

Hi Community,

Received your paper tonight and it was very interesting to read about the other boys, work and their addresses. We have been in Austria for a little while and the weather has been fairly good but it rains a little too often for my part.

We are getting a lot of S-S men now and tonight some of the Russians got in a fight with the S-S men and boy the S-S really looks bad now.

We have been in a lot of tours since we have been here. We crossed the Rhine at Rineagen. I was told that I have 20 points so I guess I am in here for awhile yet. Our food here is getting pretty good now but still not like the U.S.

I was reading about the three girls getting their eye brows scorched. Well I get mine darn near scorched everyday from the stove that blows up when you light it. I am now getting a new crop of eye brows, about the first I have had since I have been here. I don't even have to worry about shaving because of the stoves.

Well, I will be seeing you soon. I am in the 3rd Army.

Cheerio,
Dallas

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: P.F.C. Dallas Ames 37597242
Btry B 564 A.P.O. - N.Y.**

Aug. 20, 1945
Newburg, Germany

Hello Community Club,

I received the news items yesterday and enjoyed them very much. I have just come back from a Rest Camp in France. I was there for 8 days and had a lot of fun.

The Rest Camp is in the City of Thionville and 20 miles from Luxembourg. We could get passes to go anywhere we wanted. We also toured the cities in which we had fired into. They were really a mess.

We are now going to tour Germany till we leave. The points in our division is on the whole very low -- 35 is the average man points. But we are not going to stay here so we expected to leave around November.

I would like very much if you would send me Bob Stoehr's address because we might happen to go through his city or him through our town. It is raining today and we don't even need any rain. We have a club where we can go and eat and drink Cokes or beer.

Our greatest recreation is baseball and softball. I have been playing both. We have a pretty fair team and really play some close ball games. Swimming, well it is too cold for that. But our division team that is in baseball is playing for the E.T.O championship next week. We have already won the 3rd Army title. One of our pitchers pitched a no-hit, no-run game. His name is Blackwell. I think Joe Gittens might have heard of him. He used to pitch for the Reds.

Well until next time, here's thanking you for the news.

As Ever,
Dallas

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: T/Sgt Eddie M. Ames
V.M.F. 155
F.P.O. San Francisco**

Feb 18 ,1945

Dear Members,

I'm a very lucky guy at the present time. The reason: in the last week our outfit had its biggest mail call since Christmas. Believe it or not I received EIGHTEEN letters and every one was appreciated. The letters were postmarked from December 5 to Feb. 6. Some was very much delayed but that doesn't matter.

If you will notice in my return address there is a slight change in the designation V.M.F. 155. There is only a difference of one letter, however the result of not using it may mean an additional two or three thousand miles. Back in high school days I used to think a thousand miles was a long ways, which it is actually. However, in my island jumping, I say two or three thousand miles and think nothing of it. I wouldn't have missed the experiences for the world. Not bragging, but my health is above par which is the most important thing out here. You can verify that by the many other local boys in the Pacific. Next in line comes your ability to keep busy doing something even if its playing cards or reading. Last but far from least is receiving mail -- that's one way to find out just how things are getting along on the old home town campus.

Must close for now hoping this letter gives you a little news. I've tried to make it interesting -- honest.

Your Friend,
Eddie

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: La Vane Boehm 3727076
APO San Francisco**

24 June 1945

Dear friends,

Here is something I've been wanting to do for some time but for some unknown reason kept putting it off. Your papers have been coming in regular and it's really something to look forward to. You really get the lowdown on what's going on back there and where the rest of the G.I.s are.

Here some time ago I thought you had a good idea when you mentioned about putting in a public park. I think the city is big enough now where it can well afford to.

As far as the Philippines go I don't think much of them or its people. I haven't seen Manila but those who have say it must have been a wonderful city before the war. *Where rain at now* is a duck hunters paradise, if you happen to have a shot gun and shells. There are no laws regarding how many you can shoot or what - - - (*illegible*). So if any one of the duck hunters want to try your luck come on over and maybe in that way I'll get a replacement.

As Ever,
LaVane P. Boehm

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Pvt. Robert Boehm 37578065
Co. C Recon Section
AAF Convalescent Hospital
Camp Carson, Colo**

March 21, 1945

Dear Friends,

I guess it's just about time I write a few lines and express my feeling towards the good work you have been doing, in sending the boys the town gossip as we call it, and news in civilian life.

All kidding on the side, it's alright, it sure seems good to hear about what's going on down home. One good thing, it lets you know where your buddies are and what they are doing, etc.

I don't know if you have noticed or not but I've moved again and to Colorado, which isn't too bad. I'm supposed to be here for reconditioning. Our program as of today or should I say mine, is in the morning I have a class from 8 to 10 learning how to type. Then in the afternoon we have most anything in the line of exercises, such as swimming, bowling, skiing, horseback riding, etc. Which is alright. If you get tired of swimming you can go for a little skiing.

Well, I guess I've run out of both news and paper so in closing I again want to thank every one for the swell work.

A Friend,
Bob Boehm

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: William Carroll Y2/c
FPO San Francisco**

CONSTRUCTION BATTALION MAINTENANCE UNIT 524

Midway Islands
May 25, (1945)

Hello Ed:

I've been putting this off long enough, every time I get one of those bulletins from La Crescent I make up my mind that I'm going to answer with a "Thank you" letter but every time I say that I don't do it, so this time I'm going to make sure. I've been getting the bulletins every time they are published and enjoy them a lot. I don't know too many of the folks back there but every now and then I recognize a few of the fellows and am glad to find out where and how they are.

La Crescent may not be a very big place but it sure has got its fellows all over the world. A lot of them have seen plenty of action and it looks like those that haven't will before this is all over.

I've been doing nothing but putting in time so far, first I spend a year on Oahu, a nice air base, and then I got sent out here. Midway is nothing but a rock, rather a sand pile out in the middle of nowhere but still it could be a lot worse. I sure wish that I could have been in a Battalion (Seabee) instead of just a maintenance unit. these units are about a quarter the size of a regular battalion and their main job is to maintain instead of build. So being in a battalion would be a lot more interesting.

The battalions move around a lot more than a unit like ours and also have a better set-up. They are more or less independent and don't have to depend on outside activities like a unit does. We get some dirty deals once in a while that we wouldn't get otherwise. All in all it isn't bad though, I'm just like the rest of the fellows - I hope that the war ends soon and we can get back home. That is all that really counts.

Speaking of after the war, I got myself a pretty good chance. Back on Oahu I met Raleigh Williams, basketball coach at Iowa City. He said that after the war is over he can fix me up there. So who knows, I might even end up in Iowa. Of course I'd rather go to Wisconsin and if things were too bad I'd even settle for Minnesota, but then I'll have to decide that later. I wish that I was with Raleigh Williams now, he is head basketball coach at Great Lakes. That would be tough to take, wouldn't it?

-continued-

Lorraine Stoehr has been telling me about Bob. He seems to be right in the middle of things or I should say that he was. Those boys in Europe sure did a good job and I hope that they can help us out here do the same thing. It sounds as though Windy Reider is down about the equator or so. It is hot most any place in the Pacific but if it is that hot, he must be right around the equator. Sometimes I wish that I could be aboard a ship but every time I get on one, I find that I'm just a little too tall. I hit my head on everything that most people can stand under and not even worry.

Well, this is about all for now, I want to thank all of you folks back there for keeping us fellows posted on the rest of the gang. You've done a fine job and I believe that every one of us appreciate it very much. Thanks.

So long,,
Bill Carroll

**“Card & Note
to the Community News”**

**From: La Vern W. Cass MoMM3/c
Yard Craft YR 42 Navy 128
c/o F.P.O. San Francisco, Calif.**

(Note on the back of a greeting card)
10 Jan 1945
Oahu, Hawaii

P.S.

The news letters are swell. Hope you can send more. I might suggest you print a few of the fellows' addresses in each paper. Three boys from La Crescent that I know of have been here but I didn't know it till too late. I might see others here if I knew their address. I can't tell you what I have been doing because censorship is too strict. Maybe when I get to the states I can write something of interest.

As Always,
La Vern

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: La Vern W. Cass MoMM3/c
Yard Craft YR 42 Navy 128
c/o F.P.O. San Francisco, Calif.**

17 Jan 1945
Pearl Harbor

Dear Ed,

According to the last letter the Community Club sent many of the fellows from La Crescent are returning, as civilians. I too wish I were returning but unless the demobilization is speeded up, I won't leave here until the last of March at the earliest. At least, the weather should be warmed up by then (*back home*). The coldest it's been here is 68 which doesn't come close to the cold weather La Crescent usually has. This Christmas is the second one I have spent here in yard craft and both of them were without cold weather, snow, Christmas decorations and holiday spirits.

From now till the time I leave here, I will be driving truck. We have two 3-ton new International trucks that are used to haul all the supplies and equipment for Base Harbor Craft. Hauling food, engine parts, etc., keep us busy because 500 men, 30 tugs and various small craft use a lot of supplies. We have to keep our trucks in good operating condition ourselves. The test we have to take to get our license is quite stiff. That seems strange because the longest road around the island is only 102 miles long. The traffic at Pearl Harbor is as heavy or heavier than the west coast cities. One nice thing about this job is that I never have to walk any place even if I go on my own accord.

I spend about nine months in Ship Repair Unit. While I was there I did some tool designing for the machine shop. Later I worked in the diesel shop. We overhauled the same type of engines that are in the Greyhound busses that come through La Crescent. They are General Motors 6-71 engines.

I really can't think of much to write about. If this is read in Community Club and someone has some questions they would like to ask me, I'd be glad to answer them, especially questions about Pearl Harbor or the Hawaiian Islands. Hoping to hear from some one soon, I remain . . .

Sincerely,
La Vern

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: La Vern W. Cass MoMM3/c
Yard Craft YR 42 Navy 128
c/o F.P.O. San Francisco, Calif.**

Feb. 16, 1945
Oahu, Hawaii

Dear Friends,

I have received all four of the letters sent by the Community Club and also one from Ed Hurley himself. The letters are swell but I am wondering if the draft will leave enough people in La Crescent to make the news and gossip. The town should be quite peaceful with most of the so-called "outlaws" gone.

I have finally mastered the art of using chop sticks although I am not very fond of them. A person works up an appetite just using them. I'll be glad to show anyone how to use them sometime if they have the patience.

One of the letters mentioned you were interested in the kind of food we have. For breakfast we have pineapple rolls. At noon we have pineapple salad, pineapple juice to drink and pineapple pie. At nite we have more pineapple juice, pineapple upside-down cake and some more pineapple salad. And once or twice during the day we have fresh sliced pineapple. The pineapple we can eat all right but the native fruit, no. That doesn't come quite as often though. Rice and egg foo yon as well as pit put in an appearance quite often but those are the days I dig way back in my locker for some canned goods I have saved.

As far as the weather goes, a person can get a good example of it by walking from under a waterfall into an oven. I'll bet right now a few people from La Crescent would like to be getting a sun tan at Waikiki Beach. As usual the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence.

Marion (Ewa) Papenfuss was in here but I didn't get to see him. I'll have to wait till his ship puts in again. I have noticed Geo. Von Arx and a Schroeder boy's name in the YMCA register. So far that is all from La Crescent and the name of Melvin Tompson from Houston also appears so Houston County is quite well represented in Hawaii. Danny Webster is in the Yard here but I haven't seen him as yet. A recent letter from Ralph Kathan who is at Saipan says he hopes to see Arnie Ender before long.

And if it's all the same with Mrs. Boedecker, who addresses envelopes, there is no "E" on the end of La Vern. I would probably be in the W.A.C.'s if there was!

Hoping to receive more letters in the future, I remain . . .

As Always,
La Vern

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Cpl. Arnold Ender 37580292
24 Sqd 6 Bomb Group
A.P.O 247 c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, Calif.**

The Marianas
Jan. 27 - 45

Dear Folks.

Due to military censorship, I can't tell you exactly where I am. It is somewhere in the Pacific and that covers a lot of territory. I have received two letters from the Community Club since I have been over here.

You are doing a great job and that little newspaper has a lot of stuff in it. It's about the best way I know of to keep in contact with all the men and women in the armed forces. So keep it up and hope I can speak for all the rest of them.

Things over here are as well as can be expected. We have a few Japs running around loose here but they are taking care of that matter very nicely, if you know how the marines work. So far we have been thru some small air raids, that's about all I can say because here is where the censor comes in. He is a great guy if you don't stick your neck out too far.

Well that's about all I can think of for the present. We are kept very busy so we don't find much time to write. The Army operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and no overtime for Sundays.

So thanks again for your efforts and hope someday that we can have a big community meeting when everybody is back home and say "a job well done."

Your friend
Arnie

“Letter to the Community News”

**From: Donald Frappier S1/c
U.S.S. Yorktown**

Somewhere on the Pacific
April 24, 1945

Dear Friends,

Will write a few lines this evening, or you will begin to think I have forgotten you, but that isn't the reason. I haven't written before because we have been real busy and not much time for writing letters.

I have been reading your news letters every month and got my last one today. I sure do appreciate getting them and reading about things that are taking place back home. Also glad to hear that several of the boys have been getting home on furloughs, but sorry to hear that some of them have been wounded. But guess that is something we have to expect and one never knows who is going to be next.

I'm afraid I won't know how to act when ever I do get a furlough as I haven't seen anything but water and fighting since last October and don't expect I will see anything else for quite some time yet. From the time I came out here until March first, I have been in the naval battles of the Philippine Islands, Formosa, and we were the first carrier fleet in the China Sea, and struck along the coast of Indochina, also hit Hong Kong, China, and Iwo Jima. Also covered the invasion in Iwo and several other small islands that have been invaded, and was also the first to strike Tokyo.

The weather was real warm all the time until we went to Tokyo and when we struck there, the temperature was only about 40 degrees, and that was quite a change. And did we ever do some shivering while manning our guns for 12 or 14 hours a day. I made up my mind that I could stand the heat better than the cold after that.

We have struck several other places since then, but those I can not mention yet. When I first came out here I used to think it was fun to see an enemy plane shot down, but have also changed my mind on that because I've seen a lot of them go down, and helped down a few myself.

We have shot down as many as four planes in one day, by the guns on our ship alone, and that is a fair average for most any ship. It is just like hunting ducks back home only it takes a lot more lead to bring them down. And a trifle more dangerous.

Well friends, guess I will have to close for now and go on watch, so will say bood bye for now and if there is anyone back there that craves some excitement, tell them to come on out and board the fighting lady. I promise them plenty of excitement.

As Ever Your Friend,
Donald Frappier

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Sgt. Robert J. Gavin U.S.M.C.
Bremerton, Wash.**

March 14, 1945
Wednesday

To The Community Club:
Dear Friends,

Have just received your very nice letter for service personnel and was sure glad to get all the news from good old La Crescent. Also to get the picture of the Honor Roll. I've taken down all my pin-up pictures and put it in the center of my locker door.

As for news out here, there just isn't any. The weather hasn't been too bad. A little rain, and mud. But it isn't cold out. So that's one consolation.

I'm still in the best of health, and cooking for the fellows. And it's got to the point where they don't even get sick anymore, so I guess I'm improving after all.

Well I'll close now, but thanks again for the news and keep them coming.

Your Old Friend,
Bob Gavin

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Sgt. Robert J. Gavin U.S.M.C.
Navy Yard, Bremerton, Wash.**

May 21, 1945

Dear Friends,

Received your very nice letter, and was very glad to get all the news about La Crescent and all the folks in the service. As you notice on the envelope, I've moved again. I'm over here at the Navy Yard in Bremerton waiting to do aboard whip. I'm going aboard the Battleship New Jersey. And as you all probably know, that is one of the largest ships that we have (45,000 tons), but it's still awful small when it gets in the middle of the Pacific Ocean.

The weather hasn't been too bad out here. I've been here a little over a week and I've seen the sun once. But the natives say that it was an accident and that it wasn't supposed to shine for another 4 days. But that's Washington.

I'll close now but keep the letters coming and maybe the next time I receive it, I'll be off the coast of Japan.

Your Friend,
Bob Gavin

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Sgt. Robert J. Gavin U.S.M.C.
U.S.S. New Jersey B.B.12**

Oct. 27, 1945
Yokosuko, Japan

Dear Friends,

Have just received your very nice community letter of September and was certainly glad to get all the news from the good old home town. And also the news of the guys and gals in the service.

We're still up here in Japan and are still the flagship of the 5th Fleet. But they have told us that we would start back to the good old U.S.A. sometime in December. So I'm keeping my fingers crossed for Christmas in the states.

I, like Jim Richardson, have a four-year enlistment to finish. But when it's over and I'm out, why I'll be back for good. And I hope to never get any farther than one day's travel away from the old city. As you all know, Jim and I joined together and since we left boot camp, we haven't seen each other. But I'm hoping for an early reunion.

I was promoted to Sgt. the first of October so I guess the Navy likes my cooking. You see I'm the only Marine cook aboard ship. But I get along with the Navy cooks OK.

Well, that's about it for now but I'll be waiting for that Oct. news letter. Hoping to see you all soon.

Your Friend,
Bob Gavin

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Jim Griffin
Foster General Hospital
Jackson, Miss.**

Dec. 30, 1944

Dear Ed,

Today I received a lot of mail sent to my overseas address and in it was the Community Club News letter. I think you really have something there. It contains news we like to read and could get in no other way. I for one would like to see it become a regular feature.

Gee, Ed it's good to be back in the States. Good food, good beds, and nice nurses. (ha ha)

We had a swell trip over on the hospital ship "Seminole." I would have been a little sea sick though, but they gave us some pills that seemed to keep us on a level keel.

I am in a ward of 32 beds and we are all rheumatic fever patients. We are all bed patients and can't go out of the ward. Sometimes I feel pretty good and then again not so good. I have had pain over my heart all day. Had three X-rays taken today of my chest. My heart was in pretty bad shape for a while in Italy I guess.

We had a swell Christmas dinner here. Had turkey and all the trimmings. Just before dinner we had egg nogs and boy were they powerful. The Capt. in charge of this ward donated the liquor. The ward was all decorated up, and we got the prize for the best ward in the hospital. Everyone got a stocking hung on their bed with an apple, an orange, and candy and nuts. All of us also had a present underneath the tree.

I sure am anxious to get home, but it will be a while yet I guess. Lots of rest is about all they can do for this stuff I guess.

How is everything going with the Milw? I suppose the man with the long cigarette holder is keeping it in shape. ha ha. Sam is no doubt shivering and cursing the cold weather.

How is Anna standing the cold days? Tell her I said hello. Also Lucille - - I see by the news letter she is home.

Yours,
Jim

"V...- MAIL"

**From: Pfc. Joe Hodge 37433988
7th Sta. Hosp.
Southern France**

Dec. 30, 1944

Dear Friends,

I received your last letter so I will drop you a line. I was sick in the hospital the last time that I got your letter but I feel fine now and I am very glad to hear from your. I'm working in the hospital now taking care of patients. I saw Lester McClymont in Italy the first time in 4 years. I'm sorry we are not there to (illegible) Thanks for sending your letters.

As Ever,
Joe

"V...- MAIL"

**From: Pfc. Joseph J. Hodge 374-33-988
60D - 160 1st Plt.
A.P.O. 269 c/o P.M. N.Y. N.Y.**

April 29, 1945

Dear Friends,

I am not with the Hospital any more. I'm now taking infantry training so here is the new address. I don't have Lester McClyman* (illegible) address any more. The last time I saw or heard of him I was in Italy. I'm still in France, can't tell you just where. I got your letter last month. I will write later on.

Your Friend,
Joe

** No name close to this appears in the original file cards kept by the Community Club during this time.*

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: S/Sgt Dwight O. Horton 37270829
Hq 66th Inf Div., APO 454
Judge Advocate Section - France**

St. Martin de Crau, France
24 September 1945

Dear Community Club,

Your monthly letters have been received and read by me with much pleasure. I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for remembering and to apologize for never writing before now.

Since approximately one week before V-E Day, I have been working in the Judge Advocate Office at Division Headquarters, but the monthly letters were forwarded to me by my former outfit.

What does a man in the Army write to those "back home?" What can be said? He could write about all his vast experiences since being a member of the Armed Forces, of how it feels to be under enemy artillery fire; he could write about the Army and all of its ramifications. But people back home have already had their fill of Army talk and of war.

While a war is in progress, the soldier is 'the man of the hour' and flags are waved and people are all keyed up. But as soon as the last shot is fired, the great sacrifices are forgotten, except by those immediate families of the boys so sacrificed. In a very few years no one will recall what a Service Ribbon means or what it meant to obtain a Battle Star.

To be sure, this war has been won, but are we equally positive that the basic cause of wars has been eliminated? Great steps have been taken toward this goal by men with eyes to the future. In the meantime, the same small, petty bickering goes on throughout the world. People everywhere fail miserably to grasp the essential factors of getting along with each other. "The tumult and the shouting dies, the captains and the kings depart. Lord God of Hosts be with us yet, lest we forget, lest we forget."

I am sorry if this type of letter sort of shocks, but you would not have me write anything other than what I felt or what was considered by me the truth, would you? There are certain things I feel very strongly, therefore those are the items written about. We soldiers are not "kids," we do some thinking ourselves and from the very nature of our jobs, have gained a good insight into the workings of the world and how "the other fellow" feels.

I continue to look forward to the monthly letter. Good luck, and hope it is not too long before I will be "home" again for good.

Sincerely
Dwight O. Horton

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Arthur Jansen S1/c
U.S.S. Sumter
F.P.O. San Francisco**

Feb 25, 1945
Sunday

Hello Community,

At the present time I have three copies of your paper or the home town news as I call it. I want to thank each and every one of you for the news which you send in the paper. May I make a suggestion? "Thanks." In your following copies, put in a few addresses of the boys and girls, who knows, maybe some of us can get together for a few minutes and talk over old times. If not we can write to one another.

About two weeks ago as we were scraping the bottom, I was struck, not by lightning but by a gallon water jug which was by no means empty. The doctor had to put in ten stitches to close up the hole. Thank goodness it only layed me up for a day and a half. For too much sack duty at once is no good.

We are busier than ever doing a lot of painting and overhauling equipment, besides our most important job we have to do to help bring this war to an end.

My opinion of the islands in the Pacific is if you see one, you have seen them all, except some are larger than others.

I will close for now, I looking forward for more of the community papers.

Home town lad,
Arthur Jansen

Just stand by
and you may hear
the rest of my
story sometime
this year.

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Ralph Kathan HA1/c
G-4 No. 4 Navy 3245
FPO San Francisco**

April 1, 1945

Dear Friends,

It has been quite some time since I have been home. But through the Community Club newspaper and others, I'm up to date on what's happening on my particular home front.

When we were sent overseas we had a particular job to do. It is true that we had to build our hospital and now we have it in running order. Some of the field hospitals set up for the Marines, etc. We have a complete unit, with the exception of Navy nurses which have not materialized as yet. Undoubtedly the other service boys from home could tell you what a GI hospital is like. Anyway, we do the best we can and see plenty of work helping the war effort. We can be called on at any time and when an invasion is made we have to work on the double. I wish I could give more essentials about our hospital but the censor has his job, too.

Conditions on the island are improving with time. Our duty keeps us close to the base but we manage to see the island and its natives. All of will have stories and ideas to tell when we get back. Since the war has taken a definite trend in our favor, we may soon get closer to Japan. It's what a lot of us boys have waited for and we won't let things show us up or stop us either.

Heinie Cass writes often from where is. From reliable sources comes word that Arnie Ender is on the island with me. As yet I have not found him but will if he is. It sure means a lot to see a buddy from home.

Today is Easter Sunday and things are quiet for a change. I went to sunrise services this morning and they were very impressive. Things like these are bout the only thing that reminds us of home. Nothing is more important to us than the mail from home besides our duty. Your paper is really appreciated and has my sincere thanks.

Sincerely,
Ralph

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Donald D. Loechler S1/c
96th N.C.B. Co C-2
FPO San Francisco**

Nov. 19, 1945
Mon. 8 p.m.

Dear Mr. Hurley,

Well I got your letter yesterday afternoon and was more than glad to hear from you, believe me. It seems that you know just how the boys feel over here, anyway me. That letter of yours really made me feel good.

Well, you might know by the time you get this letter that I am now in China, in Tsingtao. There are about 60,000 people living here and believe me, Ed, the people here live like dogs. No clothes, nothing to eat, or nothing. You see the Japs had this place, and there are still 30,000 Jap people living here.

We are living in school houses all over the city. There are five companies to a battalion and each company lives in a different place. We take trucks to go to chow. The weather here is kind of cold -- about 40 degrees every morning.

I was down town last Sat. and there isn't much to do. They have a very nice catholic church here and I went in and had a very nice talk with a sister from Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She had been in a Jap camp for four years and she has been through hell. There are about 100 of them here. They are making clothes for the people.

Ed, I am sending you some Chinese money I got last Sat. It is a \$100 bill, worth that day about 2-1/4 cents in our money -- 40 of them to our dollar. The money here changes two and three times a day. To do it is worth 35.00 to our \$1, so you can see when we get a dollar's worth, we really have a roll.

Well, Ed, I can't think of much more so I better close for today hoping this finds you feeling good and happy.

Sincerely Yours,
Don Loechler

P.S. I am doing mechanic work.

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Pvt. Elmer G. Lottes 37586948
Co. A 744th Ry. Opr. Bn.
Com. 8: J.E.T.O. - APO New York**

Thursday, Oct. 22, 1945
Somewhere in Belgium

To All My Friends,

Have received several of your copies of the news sent by the La Crescent Community Club. and they are very welcome to find out what's going on, where everyone is and who received the last furlough to be lucky enough to be in La Crescent.

Been in Belgium now quite a while. It is a nice country compared to France where we came from. The people are so much nicer in Belgium. Every one is glad to see you and every one you see shakes hands no matter if you see him once a day or ten times, he shakes hands every time.

Belgium isn't nearly as torn up as France but after all we are a long way now from the Utah Beach where they really got a bombing. Been taking pictures from time to time to show after we are all home. Some of them are very good and will open somebody's eyes to see just what destruction bombing will do and especially to a R.R. yard as that's what we are repairing just from the bombing.

We have lots of work and maybe will get some more. Who knows. Guess I've said about all I can so better stop.

Our eats are good when we don't eat C or K rations and can't kick on our place to sleep, so I'm O.K. Been lucky and have had very little sickness.

Hope we can all be home very soon and be all together again. Sure will be nice. Thanks for the picture of the Honor Roll Hope. Received the letter for Jan. you sent to me on Feb. 20.

As Ever,
Elmer G. Lottes

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: 1st Lt. Kenneth McClave 0-746261
433 T.C.G. 68" T.C.S.
A.P.O. San Francisco**

Feb. 20, 1945

Dear ED,

I've been meaning to drop you a line for some time now to acknowledge receipt of your 'Community News.' Dad has also mentioned you liked to hear from all and sundry, so here goes. Incidentally, I think your news sheet is a swell idea and I get a lot out of it, altho I don't know many of the people except by hearsay. You know I went on search missions for that Leidel boy (I believe it was) at Grenada, Mississippi, when he was lost and didn't know it, the time that he was from La Crescent.

In the 15 months, that I have been overseas, I've seen this theater expand from Port Moresby, New Guinea, to Iwo Jima, 750 miles from Tokyo. I haven't seen Iwo Jima as yet as it was only invaded yesterday, but it doesn't take too long before we ice everything. We are new in the Philippines so you can change my APO to APO 72. Our flying takes us all over the islands and when we were stationed in the Netherlands East Indies, we were flying into the Philippines all the time. Those missions were "sweat jobs" as we took off at 2 a.m. and skirted Jap territory. The weather is the biggest enemy over here and those night flights were rough.

I was to go on leave to Sydney, Australia yesterday but they were canceled until the 18th. We all hoping they will start up again. This will be my fifth leave if I get it. I suppose you think that flying from the Philippines to Australia is quite aways for a 10-day rest leave, but that's the deal. There isn't any place to go here for rest and a little fattening up. Manila won't ever be the place Sydney is and can't handle the personnel. I'm really ready for a leave again this time.

Combat flying personnel get a 10-day rest leave every three or four months. Of course, a leave to the U.S.A. is THE thing we all are dreaming of. Our rotation plan has its gears all gummed up now. We grounded 12 pilots Nov. 22, 1944 and they left for home Jan. 2, 1945. Since then we haven't grounded a man and have only received 3 replacements. We've lost five men since that time so we are under strength and no men can be grounded until we are over strength again. I'm about 14 on the list, so you can see I'm sweating it out. The plan was for about 6 pilots to be grounded and sent home every month.

(continued)

The way the plan started out, I thought there was a chance of being home in March, so I turned down a chance for a captaincy. Now I'm kicking myself all over the place because I'll be here just as long and no chance for a promotion. Coming home means more to me than rank, tho.

The Filipinos are a friendly people and are very ill-clothed. During the Jap regime, they didn't have much chance to augment their wardrobes so our best trading stock is old clothing, bed sheets, etc., Our laundry is no longer a problem. Scarcely an hour goes past that a Filipino woman doesn't poke her head in our tent and ask if we have any laundry to do.

This thing of women around camp is hard to get used to after New Guinea, etc. We have formed the habit of sitting around in our shorts or birthday suits and these women get an eyeful often. They are all very modest tho, and turn their heads. Our showers are open, outdoor jobs, too, so they get used to the idea.

The towns are ramshackle and in very dilapidated conditions. The Japs don't believe in making improvements in occupied territories. They have floated their invasion currency and all the kids have pockets full of it. We pick it up for souvenirs, trading "c" rations for it.

By your paper I learn that my did sis, Janet, is now a pharmacist's mate 3/c. I don't hear from her often. She's not a very ardent correspondent. I was amused at the reference to "Molly" McClave. You know, Dad started calling her "Molly McGuire" when she was first a baby and the "Molly" has always stuck. Her name is Marilyn Jean.

My wife writes that she has met Lucille and looks forward to seeing her on her next visit to La Crescent. I have never met Lucille but I take it we are supposed to be old friends of some 27 or 28 years (according to Mom.)

I'd like to hear from you at any time, Ed. You might give Dad the gist of this letter because, altho I write them often, I'm seldom so loquacious.

Greet your wife and keep that paper coming this way.

Sincerely,
1st Lt. Kenneth McClave

“Letter to the Community News”

**From: Pfc Bob McLaughlin 37025127
Bat B 494 AAH
A.P.O 654 c/o Postmaster New York N.Y.**

Mr. Ed Hurly
La Crescent, Minn.

Belguim
Dec. 30 - 44

Dear Mr. Hurly

I received your news letter and was very glad to hear all the news and hope you decide to have more of them maybe once a month. Christmas is over and I can say that I'm very happy that here in Belgium we had clear weather so our bombers could get out and stop the breakthrough of the Germans. Christmas Eve I filled sandbags and dug trenches -- a lot different from going to church as I would if I were home. Please excuse the writing but I'm writing it by a kerosene lantern and there isn't much light. I do hope to receive more of your "news letter" and have you thank the Community Club for the letter.

Your friend
R.O.M.
C.I.S.E.F.B.

NOTICE:

**Letter postmarked by Army Postal Service Jan. 2, 1945
but not received in La Crescent until Feb. 27, 1945.**

“Letter to the Community News”

**From: Pvt. Rudolph F. Newhouse 37589657
Ward D-2 Borden General Hospital
Chickasha, Oklahoma**

Jan. 13 - 45

Dear Ed.

Received the news letter that you sent. I sure enjoyed reading it, thanks very much. I am feeling pretty good. My arm is in a light cast now and will have to keep it on for two weeks yet. It seems to be coming along alright. I hope to be home soon after they take off the cast. I sorta made a quick trip over there but it was long enough for me. Anyhow when the rough stuff started in. I sure can consider myself very lucky that I didn't get hit worse. I am getting pretty good care here and plenty of good eats. Will be seeing you when I get home. Say hello to your wife.

Your friend
Rudy

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Winston B. Reider FC3/c
U.S.S. Karnes
FPO San Francisco**

29 March 1945
2200

Hi Folks,

I just received the latest edition of the La Crescent news and decided it was Hi-time that I write a few lines thanking you for them, and telling you how much I appreciate them. They are really swell and just can't be beat for keeping a person up to date on what's happening around good ole La Crescent and where all the fellows are.

Reading that you received a letter from La Vern Cass made me think of what happened while at a USO out this way. I was looking around for something to do and saw a bunch of address books so decided to write my name in the Minnesota one. Upon looking through it, whose name should I run on to but La Vern's which goes to prove that part of La Crescent is spread all over the world.

Say, I sure would like some of that cold weather you are having. Never appreciated some good cold snappy Minnesota winter like I do now. For about a month I slept topside 'cause it was unbearable below. Take and swing my hammock every night but had a little trouble staying in the darn thing the first night. I sleep like a baby though now and there is nothing more refreshing than to sleep under the stars with a nice tropical sea breeze blowing. You wake up in the morning feeling like a million -- if it doesn't rain!

Glad to hear John Scanlon is going to raise some more turkeys 'cause they taste pretty good out here and would you believe it, we have had turkey twice in the last month. The cook says we are the best fed ship in the Navy and I really believe it with all the steaks and ice cream we get. Course there has been a few times when I kinda doubt that, especially when we are out to sea quite awhile.

I'm sorry to say I can't tell you where I am or where I have been but can say that I crossed the International Date Line about a month ago. Doing this makes you a member of the "Golden Dragons" society -- sounds very Asiatic, doesn't it.

Just heard that the Henry Vollenweiders had another girl. I guess my neighbor "Hank" is just another "Earl Gittens."

Well I guess that's about all for now and I want to say I'll be glad when this is all over with and we can come back to the things and persons that one misses so much.

As Ever,
Windy

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Sgt. James R. Richardson
USM B. 245231**

April 18, 1945
(No. Carolina - ?)

Dear Mrs. Fay,

I meant to write long ago but the old man has kept us too busy to do much of anything. I've been receiving the paper you have all been sending out to the fellows. It is very much appreciated by myself and all the boys I'm sure. There are so many things we learn from it, especially the other guys are.

As you know, Jim is in college now and this is a refresher course in math, English, physics and history before we enter pre-flight. The course here is six months and the whole flight training is around 18 months long. It was very hard to settle down and study at first but it is coming easier all the time. I know the folks are happy to have me so near home.

The weather here is quite a change from our South Pacific climate or even that of the west coast. well it should warm up soon. I hope I'll be home to see you all in a few weeks. We may have a 3-day pass starting the 11th of next month.

Well it's time for chow so Jim had better close. I want to thank you again for the paper. You're doing a swell job.

As Always,
Jim Richardson

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Lillian Vetsch Richmond 603813
1580 S.C.R.Sta. Compl. WAC Sec.
Camp Campbell, Ky.**

16 Jan 1945

Mr. Hurley and Club Members,

Received the newsletter, and enjoyed it very much. You people are doing a very good job of getting all the interesting news. Frank is in England and gives a rather good description of his present home. He is near London. They live in two-story brick buildings with bunks similar to ours, but with straw mattresses. It was hard for them to get used to the foreign money and driving on the left side of the road.

Seems as tho the South is claiming the community members. Maybe we will have a reunion somewhere. I have Rudy's address but would like Jim's if I could get it.

Good luck to all of you.

Sincerely,
Pfc. Lillian V. Richmond

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Lillian Vetsch Richmond 603813
1580 S.C.R.Sta. Compl. WAC Sec.
Camp Campbell, Ky.**

13 March 1945

Mr. Hurley and Club Members,

While brother Irwin, in the South Pacific, is wondering about the girls back home, we are here in Campbell wondering where all the men have gone. The girls stay in the barracks at night singing such songs as "Saturday Night is the Loneliest Night" and "No Love, No Nothing." Oh, we are not completely out of the men's reach, there are a few, very few, limited service men around. But, believe it or not, they are sending them overseas also.

It's hard to compete with the interesting letters of the boys overseas. All we have here is a vast acreage of emptiness. Less than 1,000 service men, women and officers, and about the same amount of German prisoners. There seems to be a question as to who the camp belongs to -- us or the Germans. They have more privileges than we do.

The WAC Detachment is getting smaller by the week. Most of the medical workers have been transferred to General Hospitals, doing a very good job taking care of our wounded soldiers who have just returned from overseas duty. You can see how important the medics are, right now, therefore this truck driver has a lot of idle moments.

What do you mean "leading through the village are ice roads." When we come to La Crescent village, we stop there. Less than 100 miles north of here is one of the flooded areas. We have sent two semi-truckloads of blankets and comforters for the unfortunate people. The truck drivers and medics are on call constantly for any help needed. Things seem to be in better shape now. I've located a nice high mountain in case the floods come this way (must be the Swiss in me).

The people in the states are still quite lucky as far as buying clothes is concerned. Most everywhere overseas, every article or item of wearing apparel takes coupons. Even handkerchiefs and ties. But we still have Kleenex or have we? Well, once in a while we do. We are able to get one 10-cent box of tissues at the Post Exchange every 3 months. (I'm glad my husband's sister works at Woolworth's.)

(Rest of letter is missing.)

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Pfc Lillian V. Richmond A-603813
1580 S.C.U. Sta. Compl. WAC Sec.
Camp Campbell, Kentucky**

16 June 1945

Dear Club Members,

First of all I should apologize for not being at the meeting when I was home. It seems that was a rainy night and I didn't go anywhere. So I am glad to get the 'Newsletter' to find out what went on.

It seems that our home town boys are getting around to most of the theaters of war. They will have some very interesting stories to tell when they return for good. And I hope that will be very soon. I've spent so much time in Kentucky that I hardly know there is any other place. (Of course I do get a pass-port and go back to the United States, and Minn.)

Business is getting better in camp. There are nine new girls and quite a few new boys. There will soon be a division on the camp. So, our vacation days are over for a while.

There has been a lot of rain the past few weeks. The tobacco growers are just getting the tobacco planted. It seems things are slow in all parts of the country. Some of the eastern farmers have had to re-seed for the third time. It will be a rather costly season this year. (Just a farmer at heart.)

I'm always glad to hear from you, so don't forget about the gal in Kentucky.

Sincerely,
Lillian Vetsch Richmond

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Cpl. Lillian V. Richmond A-603813
1580 S.C.U. Sta. Compl. WAC Sec.
Camp Campbell, Kentucky**

18 Sept. 1945

Community Club:

Begging your pardon, but it took me nearly 2 years to become corporal, so how's about addressing me as such. No, it hasn't gone to my head, but it looks better. Thanks, pal!

I must say Don Fay must have had much better connections in Evansville, Ind., than I ever did. Every time I come through there I go to the Canteen with the intentions of giving my stomach a promise that I didn't forget it. Well, that's about all it amounts to: a promise. I just get settled to enjoy a forkful of food and they bawl out that the train is ready to leave. We get on the train and it doesn't leave for half an hour. Guess maybe I don't live right.

My better half is still in England. He says he's going to re-enlist so he will have a chance to get home to see me. He may be stuck in the army of occupation. Neither his age nor points will help him get out. Ah, but someone has to be patriotic. (Even if it does take the government to make him so.)

It's good to read in the news letter that so many of the boys are on their way back. We only hope it's for keeps. Gen. MacArthur says he doesn't need as many men as he thought. Those lucky boys.

A bit of that hurricane ruffled our hair Sunday. There was quite a strong wind here most of the day. One southern air field sent nearly 300 planes here so they wouldn't be damaged.

I used to be a driver, but lately I've sort of taken the role of dispatcher. When you people are so nicely sleeping, I am on my way to work the midnight shift. Rather rugged when it gets to be cold weather. But, you know us rugged Minnesotans!

I really enjoy the news letter very much and hope it continues until we are all able to be back and find out the news for ourselves.

Sincerely,
Lillian Richmond

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: C.J. (?) Schwarz
Emory and Henry College
Emory Virginia**

May 3rd, 1945

Dear Friends,

This is Emory reporting: Visibility poor, ceiling zero. All ships grounded.

Yes we are having a bit of duck weather.

Mid-term exams are over, now we can breathe again. Standards are necessarily high and to encourage even higher ones, the policy of the staff has been to warrant extra liberties to those who make a straight "A." Yes, it has proven most enjoyable to make the goal again.

We are only three strong from Minnesota but our records have help up nicely. By the way, watch out for "The Three Musketeers." That's our title.

Emory as a whole is rather quiet but every now and then we rock some of the larger units by carrying off a meet title. We were state champs in boxing, second in swimming, and first in basketball. We took quite a trashing in football however.

(Letter stops here -- could be pages missing.)

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: T/5 Robert Stoehr 37559444
1473 Engr. Maints. Co.
A.P.O. 230 c/o P.M. N.Y. N.Y.**

Camp Gruber, Okla.
15 Nov 44

Hello Hometowners,

I want to extend my hearty thanks to the officers and members of the Community Club for sending the home town news to the friends in the service. Getting the news from the home town is something quite different from reading public newspapers that are edited away from home.

I enjoyed reading the copy which was sent to me and I hope that it is possible for the club to continue to publish the news. I found it both very interesting and humorous. Morale builders like that are appreciated always.

You asked for suggestions in naming the streets in La Crescent. I suggest the street running past the lumber yard should be called either "Slab Alley" or "Lumberjacks Drive." Don't tell E. Waldow the source of the suggestion.

For good laughs I wish you would have a column on league bowling telling how George Stellick, Joe Gittens, and the rest blew the tenth frame or how they missed the 10-pin for a spare. Whenever E. Waldow bowls a 300 game, leave us know.

I think that by continuing to publish the home town news the Community Club will accomplish many things. It keeps us up on the news at home and keeps "home" up on the news from the boys abroad. I'm headed for the gang plank in a matter of days and being able to read about the home town when I'm on foreign soil will mean a lot to me.

Again I want to send my thanks and I hope there are enough people in the service who appreciate your fine efforts so as to make the folks at home feel like your efforts are worth while. I make a mention that it should continue. Let's hope someone records it.

I'll be looking for the "news" again.

Sincerely,
T/5 Robert "Bob" Stoehr

“V...— MAIL”

**From: T/5 Robert Stoehr 37559444
1473 Engr. Maints. Co.
A.P.O. 230 c/o P.M. N.Y. N.Y.**

England
Feb. 18, 1945

Hi Everybody,

I want to thank the people responsible for sending the home town news. The paper is very interesting from beginning to end. It's nice to know about the changes that are occurring while we are gone. Now we'll have an idea what to expect upon our return. As for myself, I'm getting to see a lot of England. A while ago I was in London, saw the Abbey, Big Ben, Wax Museum. Bucking ham (palace) and St. James Palace, both Houses of Commons and Parliament and St. Paul's Cathedral. Everything was very interesting. Have been attending a few of the local dances. The orchestras here differ in both size and quality of music. Haven't seen Harry James or Ben Miller over here. Have been getting a good summary of the local weather back home. Plenty of snow and ice to keep everyone slipping around. Again I want to thank you all for sending the home town news. I think every one of us enjoy your efforts in keeping us in touch with our home towns.

Bob Stoehr

"V...- MAIL"

**From: Robert Stoehr 37559444
1473 Engr. Maints. Co.
A.P.O. 230 c/o P.M. N.Y. N.Y.**

Germany
March 20 1945

Hello to all home towners,

I haven't too much time but will try to answer your home town news. The news was very interesting and is always appreciated. I am now somewhere in Germany. If there happens to be anyone from La Crescent in Germany, let me know and I will try to contact them. So far I haven't met anyone from home. The bowling league has increased in size. I bet Ernie Waldera's team is first. How many times has Ernie cleaned the 7-10 split? I hear Geo. Stellick has a patent on making those kind. There isn't anything I can say about this place. Our reception here was much different compared to England and France. There is work to be done so will sign off for this time.

A hometowneer,
Bob Stoehr

"V...- MAIL"

**From: Robert Stoehr 37559444
1473 Engr. Maints. Co.
A.P.O. 230 c/o P.M. N.Y. N.Y.**

Germany
April 7, 1945

Dear Ed,

I received a great surprise in the mail a few days ago. It was a letter from you. Thanks Ed, for the wonderful letter. It was great to hear from you. I'm somewhere in Germany. It makes me feel good to be here with the rest of the boys. To be on enemy soil gives one a different feeling. Maybe I should say "an accomplished feeling." I have visited Aachen, Cologne, Durand and Remagen. The scenery here is beautiful and I'm going to try to get lots of pictures if I can. Right now I've been very busy but I'm going on a photography hunt soon. Out of all my experiences I'm going to enjoy the trip back the best. I came over here a "Minnesotan" and I'm coming back an American. Anywhere in the states beats all of this. No more room so will close.

Your friend,
Bob

“V...—MAIL”

**From: Robert Stoehr 37559444
1473 Engr. Maints. Co.
A.P.O. 230 c/o P.M. N.Y. N.Y.**

Germany
May 6, 1945

Dear Ed,

I want to thank you for taking time out from your many duties to write those fine letters I have been receiving. Getting the news from home and from friends at home means a lot in this place. Many times I wish I were home but as long as there are 10 million more wanting the same, I am willing to stay and do my part. Looks like the “Krauts” have seen their share. The yellow thugs will get their surprise when the full weight of the allies hit that part of the world. It will be like an endless stream after it once gets atarted. Some of our boys have been deer hunting and returning with results. Have enjoyed the scenery and such over here but that is all. Well looks as if I’m at the bottom again so will sign off hoping to hear from you again. Your letters are always appreciated.

As ever,
Bob

"V...-MAIL"

From: Robert Stoehr 37559444
1473 Engr. Maints. Co.
A.P.O. 230 c/o P.M. N.Y. N.Y.

Note: Italics indicate difficult to read words or passages.

France
June 21, 1945

Dear Ed,

Sorry not to have answered your last letter sooner. Been busy cleaning up our work in Germany and moving to our present location in France. We came here a few days ago and now I'm trying to catch up on my correspondence. I appreciate your letter very much as I know you are very busy yourself. Taking time to write is swell of you. I had lots of experiences in Germany but there just isn't room on this V-Mail to relate them to you. Maybe some time soon (when the Japs are licked) I'll be able to tell you about them. I believe my most exciting moment was when I captured my first Germans. Two of them and spies at that. Dressed in civilian clothes, they were trying to blow up the *Hadg Co* bridge on the Rhine River we went there. At least that is what they told us. Have to leave you again, Ed, so will close hoping to hear from you again.

Sincerely,
Bob

"V...-MAIL"

**From: Robert Stoehr 37559444
1473 Engr. Maints. Co.
A.P.O. 230 c/o P.M. N.Y. N.Y.**

Note: Italics indicate difficult to read words or passages.

France
June 24, 1945

Dear Friends,

Rec'd the community news this morning and I want to thank all who is responsible for editing the paper. I'll try to retaliate with news of myself here in Europe. Have been returned to France after spending 3-1/2 months in Germany. I found Germany to be a very beautiful country with the people *h----ing* the best in Europe. -- *bad*, the Germans are war mongers and aggressive. My career in Germany started *Aschen*. Then to Bonn, *Hannef* on the Rhine (beautiful place), Marburg, *Kasch*, *Huchfeld*, and the last we were in a mining village of Iba. Was able to visit two of Germany's concentration camps. Also saw many other places where atrocities were committed. Would like to tour Europe after the war after everything has been settled. Have been visiting Paris, *Rheinses* and many other places in France. Swimming has been our greatest recreation here plus baseball also. Will write more next time. Thanking you again for the news.

Sincerely,
Bob

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Lorraine Stellick Tofte S2/c
Rm. 622, 609 Sutter St.
San Francisco, 2, Calif.**

9/18/45

Dear Mr. Hurley,

I am writing an apology for not writing sooner and thanking you and the community club for the paper which you have sent to me every month since I've been service.

It has been very, very interesting and I certainly look forward each month for the paper as I'm anxious to know where all the fellows from home are stationed and what they are doing.

As of this Oct. 5th, I will have been the service a year. I came out here and reported to the Fleet Records office, a division of the Fleet Post Office, for duty last Nov. 19th, 1944.

There has been a great change within the last few months as the New York Fleet Records and Post Office has joined with our office out here.

As I recall when leaving home I said to the folks, "I will be home in a year's time, and have made at least a 3rd class petty officer." As of Aug. 1st, I had the honor of receiving my 3rd class petty officer rate on my left arm, and we all are looking forward for our discharge within a few months.

My work here is typing up the reports and records and keeping them up to date of all our boys in the Navy. I find it very interesting and very proud to wear the Navy uniform.

When reading the paper it makes me rather home sick and I'm looking forward in having all my friends meet my husband. I'm also looking forward to his returning to the states in a few months as he is still stationed in Okinawa.

I will now bring this letter to a close as I still have to write that daily letter to him.

Thanking you again for the paper, and hope my apologies are accepted.

Your Friend Always,
Lorraine

“Letter to the Community News”

From: (Mrs. Earl Scott) about:
Robert A. Umberger WT3/c
F.P.O. San Francisco

Minneapolis Minnesota
September 9, 1945

Community Club,

Robert has just spend an enjoyable furlough of 33 days at his father's home here in Minneapolis, he arrived August 1st. He reported to Great Lakes September 3. He has not received his official orders as yet.

He has asked me to send this letter thanking the community club for sending him the home town news.

He spend 27 months overseas and has been in two major battles at Saipan and Guam. He crossed the equator 5 times. He also brought back a Japanese rifle and would like to go squirrel hunting with it.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Earl Scott
A.W. Umberger Family

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Irwin H. Vetsch GM3/c
U.S.S. Boise Div. 2**

c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco
15 Nov 44

Dear Ed,

Received the club news and sure glad to get it so am writing tonight to let you know about it. I know the rest of the girls and boys enjoyed it as much as I have. So keep up the good work.

I guess Albert Reider let you know what the weather is like out here so I don't have to mention it. I sure would like to be getting home about now for some good winter sports.

By the way, are there any girls left in town or do I have to go to another town to get a girl?

The latest of my experiences was the battle of the Sunigas Straits where about ten Japanese ships went to the bottom. We are dividing the ocean with them, if you know what I mean.

It will be nearly a year since I left the states. I met Gerald Griffin and it sure was a pleasure to see him. We did nothing for two days but talk and talk some more. I sure hope some of those boys can get home for the holidays.

Here is hoping that all have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,
Irwin H. Vetsch GM3/c

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Irwin H. Vetsch GM3/c
U.S.S. Boise Div. 2**

Philippines area
29 April 45

Dear Club Members,

The club newsletter has been arriving on time and sure enjoy it very much. Been wanting to write sooner but work interferes with pleasure a lot of the time out this way. Nothing much doing in the line of excitement. Haven't seen a woman for eight months so might stutter a bit if I had to talk to one now.

Understand Gerald Griffin finally got home and was glad he did. I met him over a year ago in Australia and sure enjoyed those two days visit with him. Have a line on where Pete Boehm is located and hope to get a chance to see him very soon. Talking to a fellow home townner is just like a visit back there. The newsletter gives me that same feeling, too

Guess it will take about a year to bet acquainted in town when I do get back home. There are a lot of names mentioned in letters that I have never heard of before. hope I can get back to be with all of you at the one of the club meetings. Please don't ask for a speech as I am of the bashful type. Even my old age hasn't helped me overcome it

They sure make some very good cigars in the Philippines. I had the pleasure of trying a few of them. Hope I don't get a loaded one as right now one of them might have an extra heavy load in it.

Lights out so guess it is time to retire. Hope this finds all well. Wishing all the very best of good luck.

Best Regards,
Irwin H. "Pappy" Vetsch GM3/c

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Pfc. John P. Volk 36810518
Co. C. 7th Dn. 3rd Regt.
A.G.F.R.D. #2
Fort Ord, California**

15 Nov 44

Dear Gang,

Thanks to you, - I am once more up on to date on my home town news. It was really swell reading all the latest events. By the way, how often do you intend to send us that news letter" I'd like to receive it every week or so; but I understand that it would be almost impossible to send it that often!

Golly, I've been in California one month and one day today, and La Crescent is still "tops" as far as I'm concerned. A person almost has to be a duck to live around here as it is now "rainy season" in California. The Pacific Ocean is just a matter of yards from our barracks, and the fog is really thick! (Could almost cut it with a knife.)

The entertainment is "wonderful" here, - already I've seen about nine movie stars. By the way, I hear from Lorraine Stellick very often. ("Gee how I love the Navy.")

I was sure sorry to hear about LeRoy Luther. Hoping his recovery is real soon.

I guess my parents have moved to Hokah! But La Crescent is still my home town! That's where "life's wishes come true!" There is one thing I'll never forget the people of La Crescent for! And that is the way everyone helped last summer when my dear brother Bobby drowned. Those of us who knew him loved him! May I say "Thanks" to everyone in La Crescent.

Well it's time for chow, - but more in the near future. Thanks millions for the "news letters," and keep 'em comin'.

Yours,
Johnnie

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Pfc. John P. Volk 36810518
Btry "A" 129 F.A. Bn.
A.P.O. San Francisco**

The Philippines
May 4, 1945

Dear Gang,

I've been receiving the home-town news often lately, and believe me "It's grand!" Sure seems good to read about all the people you know, and hope to know better some day! Sure was surprised to hear of Lorraine Stellick's recent marriage. Gee, things move rapidly. I extend to her my sincerest congratulations. I was also glad to hear that many of the boys are returning home to good old La Crescent.

The Philippines aren't bad, - but you know what I mean. The days are long and very hot, and the mornings are as cool as a bathing beauty in Alaska! That's coo, isn't it?

I'm not sure, but I believe I saw Artie Oldenburg the other day. He was driving a truck, and before I could say anything he was gone. What a break that was! But if he's near here, I'm bound to see him again. I sure hope so. I just got out of the hospital recently and I feel fit as a fiddle again. I wasn't very sick, and as my mother would say, quote "It's just the meanness coming out" unquote. The trouble of it is, she's usually right regardless.

Must close now as time is limited. Keep the home fires burning and we'll keep the Japs hot! Hoping to see you soon.

Yours,
Johnny

P.S. Not the change of address. I was very fortunate in meeting Lt. Jake Von Arx from Hokah recently. We had a long long chat. We forgot the rank incidentally. Ha Ha!

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Mickey Volk
Baltimore, Maryland**

Dec, 18, 1944

Dear Members,

I received your paper again, and I am very glad to get it each month. Although I was very busy last time I received your paper. So not being I am taking my turn at KP, I found a little time to write.

My address will be changing this month also so I am sending that too. I just heard the other day that my younger brother, Johnny, is in the South Pacific now.

Well I must close now, just wishing I could spend my Christmas in La Crescent instead of Baltimore, Md. and keep up the good work. I will be waiting for the next one each time.

As Ever,
Mickey Volk

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Pfc. Walter M. (Mickey) Volk Jr. 36251428
550th Sig. Base Depot Co.
APO 958 San Francisco**

March 19 (1945)
Hawaiian Islands

Dear Friends,

I was very glad to get the club paper again today, it's just like a letter from home.

Well maybe I should tell a little about the island, it probably will be a little, too, 'cause you all know how much we can write.

I have been to Honolulu a number of times on pass and saw the old place. It is just the same now as it was years ago. They have some very beautiful paintings inside, everything is real interesting.

I was out to see the Dole pineapple fields but we didn't dare stop or we may have picked some. There is a very heavy fine for picking them. It takes 18 months for a pineapple to grow and ripen.

There are some very nice USO's in Honolulu, and a very nice YMCA which has a large swimming pool, and they have a lot of entertainment all the time.

There are many beautiful flowers on the island. You probably have seen the pictures of the large trees that have red flowers on them. Well, they are just as nice as they look in the pictures.

The people here are mostly Chinese and Japanese. There are very few Hawaiian people.

Oh yes, before I forget, the next time you put my name in the paper write it as Walter M. Volk Jr., 'cause if you don't, every one will think that my father is in the army, too. I bet he would get a kick out of that, if the people did think that. Most of my friends know me and always have called me Mickey, if anyone called me Walter, I wouldn't know who they were talking to.

Well it looks like I must close for this time. So I will be waiting for another club paper, and keep the good work up.

As Ever,
Mickey Volk

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Sgt. J.C. Waldow 16046245
Sec. A - R A A F
Roswell, N. Mexico**

Roswell, N.M.
16 Nov 44

Dear Club Members.

Received your very interesting letter last week & enjoyed it very much - - -

I think it is a very good and thoughtful idea for you to send us copies of the "old home chatter," & am sure it is appreciated by all, especially the boys overseas.

I would like to see you continue to send these letters from time to time -- also as a suggestion, I think everyone would like to receive as an enclosure to one of your letters a list of all the service men and their present address.

We are having typical Minn. weather here today -- cold & wet & expected to turn to snow at any time. Is quite unusual for this country though.

Hope to hear from you again soon. My best regards to all.

Sincerely,
Sgt. John C. Waldow

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Sgt. J.C. Waldow 16046245
3057th AAFBU
Sioux Falls, S. Dak.**

1 - 31 - 45

Dear Friends,

Just a line to give you my change of address -- also to thank you for the community news. I do enjoy them very much and hope I will continue to receive them.

Had quite a surprise the other night. I was in my barracks writing a letter and who walked in but Eddie Gittens. Was sure glad to see him as I hadn't seen him since I enlisted almost 3-1/2 years ago. But old Ed looks and acts the same. We are both here to attend radio school. From here to gunnery school and then to a bomber crew.

We would both give quite a bit to be back in La Crescent for keeps. Ed also has been receiving the "news" and enjoys it very much, so lets keep them coming OK?

(Bottom part of letter torn off - probably to give to the person making changes of addresses for the newsletter mailing list.)

“Letter to the Community News”

**From: Daniel E. Webster AM2/c
Navy 128, Shop 478
San Diego**

Dec. 23, 1944

Dear Friends,

I have received two of your community letters and am very grateful for them. Many of my friends receive similar letters from organizations in their home towns. News from home means a lot to us fellows overseas, for to most of us being in the service is just a vacuum that we are eager to break out of and renew the business of living normal lives. Your letters will help us by keeping us in touch with things as they are at home.

Again I wish to thank you and extend my wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone in La Crescent.

Sincerely Yours,
Dan Webster

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: Lt Donald Yolton 0-766137
64th T.C. Sqd
A.P.O. San Francisco**

Somewhere in New Guinea
Nov. 30, 1944

Dear Home Town Friends

I was pleasantly surprised and very much pleased when I received your community letter at mail call this morning. I think it a great idea and hope you keep it up until we all get home again. The letter gave me a great deal of enjoyment and made me feel a little closer to home. I hope the other service men and service women from La Crescent enjoyed it as much as I did and I'm sure that they did.

You have told me many interesting bits of home town news, and you suggested that you would like a little information from those of use in the service. So, I'll try to give you a little idea of conditions in this area.

We all live in tents and sleep under a mosquito net. We do our own dishes, washing, foxhole digging, candle making, and any other little thing that we want done. There is a jungle behind the camp and the ocean in front of it. Coconut trees are plentiful and so are natives who climb them. It is very hot here and makes me long a bit for some Minnesota climate. It is cool at night but it generally rains and makes a lot of mud for the morning.

We fly about eight hours a day and that helps to get away from the heat. So all in all things aren't half bad.

I haven't met any La Crescent boys over here and as far as I know there are none in this area.

Thanks again for the nice letter and if its possible lets have some more.

Sincerely Yours,
Donald Yolton

“Letter to the Community News”

**From: Lt Donald Yolton 0-766137
64th T.C. Sqd
A.P.O. San Francisco**

Netherlands East Indies
Jan. 3, 1945

Dear Friends

I just received the Dec. issue of the Community Club Service Letter, and I am very much pleased with it. I hope you continue this noteworthy and morale-building service until all of us are back home again.

I have moved to a new area since I last wrote to you, and I am now in the Netherlands East Indies. The climate here is much the same as that in New Guinea, except that it is warmer here being nearer to the equator.

Thanks again for the letters.
Donald Yolton

"Letter to the Community News"

**From: 1st Lt. Donald D. Yolton 0-766137
25th Liaison Sqd.
A.P.O. San Francisco**

Philippine Islands
August 17, 1945

Dear Friends:

I just received your last issue of the Community News and I enjoyed it very much. I hope you continue to send the news even though the war is not officially over. A large number of the boys may be overseas quite some time and I'm sure they all like to hear from the home town.

On the 16th of July I was promoted to the rank of "First Lieutenant" and since that time I have been operating with an outfit of my own. We are located in the back woods on one of the Philippine Islands and we live very close to nature - too close.

We didn't do much celebrating when the final news of peace came because each one of us had anticipated it for a few days. Just now the foremost thought in everyone's mind is how long will it be before we are all at home again. I sincerely hope that it is very soon. If we wait until winter I'm afraid the cold and snow will be quite a shock after living in this climate.

Good luck to all of you and I hope to see you before so very long.

Sincerely Yours,
Donald D. Yolton

The Community Club Mailing List

1945

-A-

Pfc. Claudia A. Albrecht
Sqdn. D - 2123 Bomber Unit
HAAF
Harlingen, Texas

Pvt. Dallas Ames
Battery A 34 FA Bn
APO 9 New York

T/Sgt Edmond M. Ames, USMCR
MASG 46 Marine Base
Santa Ana, California

Pvt. Helmar Anderson
ASRP Co. 1st Plt. Co. A
MTA University of Wyoming
Laramie, Wyo.

-B-

Robert Bacon, BM2/c
USS L.C.T.
FPO New York

Cpl. La Vane Boehm
Hdq. Co. SH Bn 532 Reg
APO San Francisco

Pvt. Robert Boehm
Co. C. Recon Sec.
Convalescent Hosp.
Camp Carson, Colo.

Ralph Broring, S1/c
USS Doneff
FPO San Francisco

Cpl. Harold C. Broring
Hd Co 23rd Amm'd Inf. Bn.
APO 257 New York

-C-

William R. Carroll, Y2/c
CBMU 524
FPO San Francisco

La Vern W. Cass, F1/c
USSYR 42 - Navy 128
FPO San Francisco

Larry Caven
Drft 5065
FPO San Francisco

-D-

George Davies, F1/c
NSD Navy 3149 Div. 36
FPO San Francisco

Chaplain Joseph E. Davy
Post Chaplain's Ofc.
APO 869 Miami

-E-

Cpl Arnold D. Ender
24th Bomb Sqd
6th Bomb Grp. AAF
APO 5742 San Francisco

-F-

Sgt. Donald J. Fay
4525th AAFBU
Robins Field, 2, Ga.

Gordon M Fay, SAD 3/c
NAAS Whiting Field
Milton, Fla.

Hugh Fay, S1/c
USS Gen. John Pope (APHO)
FPO San Francisco

Capt. J. L. Flentie
2915 Engr. Maint. Co.
APO 758 New York

Pvt. Francis Fogel
Sqd X - 1504 Flt 2 AAFBU
Fairfield, Calif.

Donald A. Frappier S2/c
USS Yorktown - 3rd Div. C-V10
FPO San Francisco

-G-

Charles Gavin, F1/c
USS Fayette APA 43
FPO San Francisco

S/Sgt Jack Gavin
3539 AAFBU
Langley Field, Va.

FC Robert J. Gavin, USMC
USS New Jersey
FPO San Francisco

Pvt. Edward Gittens
3507th AAFBU
Sioux Falls, So. Dak.

T/3 Gerald K. Griffen
369 DCO Billy Mitchell Field
Milwaukee, Wis.

Pvt. James B. Griffen
(91st Signal Corps)
Foster General Hospital
Jackson, Mississippi

-H-

Pfc. Joseph J. Hodge
60 D 160 - 1st Plt
APO New York

Cpl. James B. Hofer
127th QMB Co. A
4th Repl. Depot
FPO San Francisco

Pvt. Leroy I. Harlos
Base Disp. Ward 1
Sea School Plt 2
San Diego, California

S/Sgt. Dwight O. Horton
Hq 66th Inf. Div., J.A. Sec.
APO 454 New York

Cpl. Earl Wayne Horton
Btry B 589 FABN
APO 443 New York

-J-

Arthur Jansen, S2/c
USS Sumter APA 52
FPO San Francisco

Robert Justin A/S
Co 63, 49 Batt, 27 Reg. USNTC
Great Lakes, Ill.

-K-

Ralph Kathan, HA1/c
USN Hospital 322 Navy 3245
FPO San Francisco

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Pfc. Otto F. Larson
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Hollis J. Orr, MOMM2/c
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Btry B- 494 AAA (SM)
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Pvt. Arthur J. Munkel
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Pvt. Rudolph Newhouse
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Conv. Facilities PJHC
Fort Custer, Michigan

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Roger Olson
(No address recorded)

Cpl Arthur V. Oldenburg
Co. A 170th Engr Combat Dn.
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-P-

Maj. James Peed
45th Ordnance Co.
APO 758 New York

Sgt. Paul Peterson
187th Med. Disp.
APO 20 New York

-R-

Sgt. W. A. Reider, USMC
Co. B Repl. Bn. FMF P.A.C.
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Winston B. Reider, FC3/c
USS Karnes (APA 175)- 1st Div.
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Sgt. James R. Richardson
MWDD - MCAS
Cherry Point, N.C.

William C. Richardson, EM1/c
SS Mission Bay - 16th Fleet
Norfolk, Va.

Robert Roesler, SK2/c
USS Massachusetts - Div. 3
FPO San Francisco

M/Sgt. E. J. Roraff
AAF School of Aviation Medicine
Station Hosp.
Randolph Field, Texas

-S-

C.J. Schwarz
Emory & Henry College
Emory, Va.

Pfc. John Spangler
Co. A. Cos. Bn.
Camp Pendleton
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Pvt. Stanley Spangler
41 Co. Vtg. Plt 3
Camp Lee, Va.

T/5 Robert A. Stoehr
1473 Engr. Maint Co.
APO 230 New York

Roland Stellick, F2/c
USS Micka - DE 176, USNS
Green Cove Springs, Florida

-T-

Lorraine Stellick Tofte, S2/c
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San Francisco 2, Calif.

-U-

Robert Umberger, WT3/c
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Pfc. Lillian L. Vetsch Richmond
1580 SCU Sta. Compl, WAC Sec.
Camp Campbell, Ky.

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USS Boise - Div. 2
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Pfc. John P. Volk
280th Repl. Co.
APO 3209 San Francisco

Pfc. Walter M Volk
550th Signal Base Depot Co. C
APO 958 San Francisco

-W-

Sgt. John C. Waldow
Sqd. M AAFORD
Kearns, Utah

Lt. (j.g.) Myron Waldow
DM USNR
USS Pocomoke
FPO San Francisco

Pvt. R.E. Wallace, ASN
Co. D- 67 Bn. - 14 Reg.
APO New York

Daniel E. Webster AM2/c
Metal 7th Div. Shop 478n
San Diego, Calif.

Orvie R. Wetzel, S2/c
Bks. 115 USNTC
Camp Downen
Great Lakes, Ill

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This mailing list was created in 1995 based on a set of index cards that the Community Club used to keep up with address changes. The original index cards are in the archives of the La Crescent Area Historical Society.

P.F.C. Dallas Ames 32597242
Btry B 564 8A.Bn
H.P.O. 360
910 P.M. N. Y. N.Y.

4 PM
FEB 27
1945



Air Mail

VIA AIR MAIL

PASSED BY
U 51974 S
ARMY EXAMINER

1st Lt. R. C. Cline

Community Club
La Crescent,
Minn

CPL. ARNOLD ENDER 37570292
24 SEP. 6 BOMB GROUP
H.P.O. 247. 70 POSTMASTER
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.



Mr. E. D. Hurley
La Crescent
Minn

PASSED BY
R. Stahl S
ARMY EXAMINER

70. Community Club.

ABOUT THE LACRESCENT AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

We provide community outreach through the History Center, Apple Museum, and activities that celebrate the area's history and heritage.



The History Center and Apple Museum
328 South 3rd Street in La Crescent

CONTACT INFORMATION

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La Crescent MN 55947

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On Facebook

OUR PURPOSE

To preserve and celebrate the area's history

- ❖ an active accession process, accepting, storing, and displaying documents, photographs, books, clothing, equipment, and other artifacts, which already account for over 12,000 items
- ❖ accessible two-building museum space for our collection
- ❖ assistance to individuals with La Crescent or family research
- ❖ community outreach that includes speaking to community groups, collaborating with other organizations and businesses, assisting with Applefest and other special events, and historical walking tours
- ❖ a 501(c)(3) organization