

# Brooks E. Kleber Memorial Lecture in Military History

## 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Lecture Series

### The Psycho Boys of Camp Sharpe

**Dr. Beverley Eddy**

Professor Emerita of German at Dickinson College

As World War II expanded into the largest conflagration the earth had ever seen, the U.S. Army realized the need for specialized psychological warfare tactics. The job description was extensive: “prisoner and civilian interrogation, broadcasting, loudspeaker appeals, leaflet and newspapers production, broadcasting, and technical support.” The mission was intense: weaken the morale of the Third Reich and then help Germany transition to an era free from Nazi oppression. The American Soldiers selected to man the Army’s “Mobile Broadcasting Companies,” during the Second World War, however, were uniquely qualified to fight on a different battlefield from their rifle-bearing brethren – a war of hearts, minds, and intelligence. From their training at Camp Sharpe in Pennsylvania, the “Psycho Boys” worked in secret to undermine Nazi propaganda and provide American Forces in combat with another weapon to destroy the fascist juggernaut. On Thursday, November 3, 2016, Dr. Beverly Eddy of Dickinson College will present a lecture based on her book, *Camp Sharpe’s “Psycho Boys”: From Gettysburg to Germany*, at the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center. She will follow five of the German refugees-turned-American Soldiers from the time they joined the Mobile Radio Broadcasting Companies at Camp Sharpe, to D-Day and the fight for Europe, through the liberation of the concentration camps. She will explore how the Psycho Boys’ nerve and inventiveness led to the desertion of thousands of German troops, and how the Psycho Boys played a vital role as mediators between the American and German forces as the war ground to an end.

Dr. Beverley Eddy is Professor Emerita of German at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. She has authored numerous books, as well as other works, including *Camp Sharpe’s “Psycho Boys”: From Gettysburg to Germany*, and *Abbeys, Ghosts, and Castles: A Guide to the Folk History of the Middle Rhine*. Dr. Eddy holds a Bachelors of Arts in Speech and Theatre from the College of Wooster, Ohio, and graduated from Indiana University with both a Masters of Arts in German Literature and a Ph.D. in German Literature, Linguistics, and Scandinavian Literature. She also has courses in Norwegian at the Johann Wolfgang von Goethe-Universität in Germany and the Universitetet i Oslo in Norway.

**DATE: Thursday, November 3, 2016**

**TIME: Doors open at 6:30 PM and the talk begins at 7:15 PM. The question period concludes around 8:30 PM.**

**PLACE: USAHEC, Visitor and Education Center, Multipurpose Rooms**

**For updates and any last minute changes in meeting times and places, please check the USAHEC homepage: [www.USAHEC.org](http://www.USAHEC.org) or call the Information Desk at 717-245-3972.**