

THE SCREAMING EAGLE



A quarterly magazine for past, present and future members of the 101st Airborne Division



The Official Magazine of the 101st Airborne Division Association

Spring 2013



A close-up, low-angle shot of the American flag waving against a clear blue sky. The flag's stars and stripes are prominent, with the blue field of stars in the upper left corner.

HBO

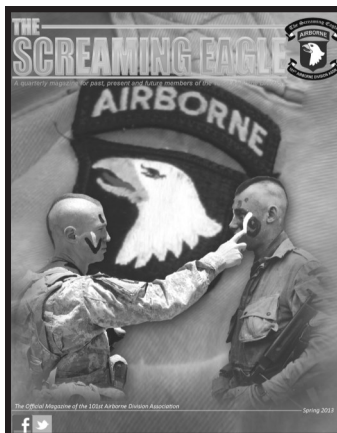
SALUTES

THE VETERANS
AND ACTIVE
MILITARY PERSONNEL
OF THE
101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION

TABLE OF CONTENTS

101st Association President's Message	2
Executive Secretary/Treasurer's National HQ Update	3
MG McConville's Message	4
Screaming Eagle Foundation President's Message	5
City with a Heart	5
Vietnam Eagles by Tony Mabb	6-7
Double Eagles	8-9
Candidates for Office of the 101st Airborne Division Association	10-11
2013 Reunion Information	12-17
Regimental Dinners	18-19
Supply Sergeant Bill Lang at the Battle of Best by Hansford C. Vest	20
Eagles Who have Soared	21-32
Chapter News	33-41
The Bulletin Board	43
2013 Snowbird Pictures	44-45
K's Korner by George Koskimaki—Special guest writer Dan Cutting	46-47
Association Store New Items	48
New Recruits	50
Operation Homelink: 100 Laptops for the 101st by Joe Padula	51
Membership Forms	52-53
2013 Memorial Day Information	54-55
2013 Scholarship Information	56-57
From Over There by Jan Coolen	58-59
Helping a Hero	59
The Man Behind this Year's Reunion Coin by Wayne P. St. Louis	60
Man's best friend plays pivotal role in IED defeat by Brian Smith-Dutton	61
101 Club Members	63
Corporate Sponsors	64-67
Committee Listings	68
Association Governors	69
Patch of Hope	70-71
Association Chapter Listings	72-73
Association Funds	74-76
Combat to command: Army nurse leads by example by Michele Vowell	77
Monument Pavers	78-79
Association Officers & Screaming Eagle Foundation Officers and Trustees	80

ON THE COVER



This issue's cover commemorates the Generations of Eagles connecting through our Association. The creator used his inspiration from his first Reunion in Lexington to envision this idea. This cover represents the Brotherhood that this Division forges and does not know one single generation. Once you have worn "The Patch" on your shoulder there is no longer a generational gap; only Brotherhood. He would like to dedicate this cover to the Paratrooper who showed him just that: Eugene "Dino" Dean.

Chad Roberts

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THE SCREAMING EAGLE MAGAZINE

**1ST QUARTER
SPRING 2013**

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



FOR ACTIVE DUTY SCREAMING EAGLES. Troopers we need your help. Daily the Association is losing our great World War II and Vietnam Veterans. These heroes are the ones who make it possible to support today's heroes and their families. We need you to take on the mantle of Leadership and carry our Association into that unknown future which you make possible. Our Active duty membership is not where we need it to be and the Association is soliciting your help to continue our "Rendezvous with Destiny" by spreading the word about your Association and the great things we can and have accomplished.

SNOWBIRD 2013. Thanks to the Gulf Coast Chapter another very successful outing in sunny Florida was accomplished. Bill Ball and all his loyal supporters did an outstanding job in putting together a great event. The great jumpmaster, Rick Lencioni, had a total of 13 veterans with their knees in the breeze on Saturday morning in Zephyrhills with the Phantom Airborne Brigade. No injuries, which prove the "Ole Guys", still got it.

The Banquet Room was full on Saturday night, as the CENTCOM Color Guard Presented the Colors. COL Jimmie F. Blackmon, Commander 159th Aviation Brigade, did an Outstanding job of bringing all the old Vets up to speed on the 101st Airborne Division, as to where all the units were and who was leaving next. He also presented several stories describing the heroism of our current Screaming Eagles – Great Stuff – but what else would you get from a COL from Ranger, GA.

We also were treated to the war story of all war stories by Vinnie Speranza, a WWII 101st Airborne Paratrooper, machine-gunner from H Company 3rd BN 501st PIR – GERONIMO. He fought at Bastogne' from 17 December 1944 until 19 January 1945, and was wounded in action near Houffalize. Vinnie brought a friend, Marco Killian an officer in the Dutch paratroopers that fought in Bosnia, Kosovo, and Iraq. He was wounded 3 times and put together the 101st Airborne Division Museum in Bastogne'. Vinnie returned to Bastogne' 67 years after WWII to retrace his footsteps, upon visiting the 101st Airborne Division Museum, he met Marco who took him to his fox hole in Bastogne'. After further conversation Vinnie found out he was very famous for a beer known as the AIRBORNE BEER. The story can be read at the following link: <http://www.sj-r.com/bakke/x1599386169/Dave-Bakke-Auburn-soldiers-WWII-experience-became-Bastogne-legend>



Vinnie & Airborne Beer

Below is Pat Macri and Vinnie meeting again at SNOWBIRD 2013 after having served at Bastogne' in '44 & '45.



REUNIONS. The 68th will be in Portland, Oregon 14 -17 August 2013, the 69th in Grand Rapids, Michigan in 2014. Currently we are working on plans to return to Nashville in 2015 to Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War. MARK YOUR CALENDARS !

AIRBORNE – AIR ASSAULT!

Dick Pack
President, 101st Airborne Division Association



"Standing on the shoulders of those who came before us" are words used to describe how important it is to remember all the Screaming Eagles who paved the way during their "Rendezvous with Destiny." Words cannot say enough thank you for building a solid foundation to make the 101st Airborne Division world renowned. During my many discussions with those who did not have the honor or privilege of wearing "Old Abe" they refer to the 101st as one of the elite units in the United States Army. As you know, I don't hesitate to sound off with my enthusiastic agreement. During my 26 years of service to this Country, my years as a Screaming Eagle are when I felt like I was truly part of something special. Whatever the situation the Screaming Eagles are dropped into, they make a positive impact. One of my favorite parts of serving the members of the 101st Airborne Division Association is receiving a call from a Screaming Eagle whose shoulders I stood on and listening to their stories of the impact they made.

This theme has carried over to the 101st Airborne Division Association and our members who are proud as ever of being Screaming Eagles. We also stand on the shoulders of those who founded the 101st Airborne Division Association and through hard work and dedication have shaped it into what it is today. Last year we celebrated the 70th Anniversary of the 101st Airborne Division and I recently read the book, "General William C. Lee, Father of the American Airborne." In the book it had several quotes from General Lee, but this one in particular I would like to pass on because it is fitting even today. *"Americans need to understand the sacrifices of our soldiers but also the fact that we are winning the conflict. But, it is not over. Regardless of our present victories, regardless of when Germany or Japan surrender, let us not a single one let up for a second in our duties on the home front until the very last of our enemies has been vanquished. The greatest sacrifice that we are called on to make is small indeed to those that our fighting*

men are making every minute of the day and night."

When you receive this Screaming Eagle and are reading this article, the 101st Airborne Division has been called on to do their duty again. As the news focuses more on other things that are going on in the world and less on what our Soldiers are sacrificing each and every day, I ask that you don't forget. I want to thank you all for the many contributions to the recent Screaming Eagle Support Program fundraiser, that is just one of the ways we are able to show our support. I'm sure GEN William C. Lee would be proud of the impact the 101st Airborne Division Association and the Screaming Eagle Foundation is making to perpetuate the Screaming Eagle heritage. Daily we touch the lives of those who have volunteered today and proudly stand on your shoulders to make a difference in today's fight.

There are Screaming Eagles across this Country who are influencing this great Country, both Veteran and Active Duty. The Heroes need to be brought back into the fold, to be a being part of all the great things the Association and Foundation represent. I'm asking that during the upcoming year that everyone reach out to your friends and neighbors who know the value of making a difference. Bring them home by making them members of our great Association.

Wayne P. St. Louis
Executive Secretary & Treasurer



MAJOR GENERAL JAMES C. McCONVILLE

Commanding General, 101st Airborne Division (AASLT)

When you serve in the 101st Airborne Division (AASLT) you expect to get tasked to do the hardest jobs, to accomplish the toughest missions and to live up to the motto: If You Want It Done, Ask the One-Oh-One! Because this is who we are, this is what we do.

The Screaming Eagle Soldiers of the Division headquarters have cased their colors and are currently in the process of deploying to Afghanistan and transitioning with the 1st Infantry Division. During this transition, we will build upon the tremendous gains made by the Big Red One, continuing to support the Afghans as they take responsibility for the security of their country and the prosperity of their people. We will accomplish this mission to the highest standard expected of all those who wear the Screaming Eagle Patch. You can be assured we will get the job done.

Afghan Security Forces move more to the front each day and are assuming the lead in increasingly higher levels of capability. This January, the 2nd BCT “STRIKE” returned home after successfully completing a nine month deployment as one of the first Security Force Advisory Brigades (SFAB). We also recently welcomed home a company of “RAKASSANS” from 1-187 INF. Although this is not the norm, these Screaming Eagles redeployed early as a result of the ever improving quality of their Afghan partners and serve as a testament of the progress that the Afghan Security Forces are making.

The 4th BCT “CURRAHEE” recently completed its rotation at the Joint Readiness Training Center and will join the division in Afghanistan in a few months. Their performance during this rotation was exemplary. They are fully prepared and ready for the challenges ahead.

I am confident our Screaming Eagles remaining at Fort Campbell are well taken care of and will continue to maintain the high standards of the 101st. We are fortunate to have Brigadier General Mark Stammer assuming responsibility as the Acting Senior Commander. We also have an outstanding garrison team to support our Families and Soldiers. Your support to our Soldiers, Families, and the entire Fort Campbell Community during this deployment and the transition of our Army for the future are sincerely appreciated.

Although deployed, we will not lose focus on maintaining our edge as an elite and unique fighting force. Soldiers of the 101st Airborne Division are expected to be a cut above the rest, professionals who honor your legacy and build upon it each day. As our Army transitions and adapts to the challenges of the future we will continue to emphasize the topics of: standards and discipline; customs, courtesies, and traditions; military expertise; and trust. We will continue to train hard and maintain ourselves as Screaming Eagles – Highly Trained, Disciplined, and Fit.

Air Assault!



SCREAMING EAGLE FOUNDATION PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Thanks to everyone that attended the Snowbird Reunion, February 13 to 17, 2013. Thanks also to Bill Ball and the Florida Gulf Coast Chapter members for hosting this great event. This Reunion marked the 1st Anniversary of the Screaming Eagle Foundation which was approved by the Board of Governors on February 18, 2012. Your Foundation has made tremendous headway but we are still waiting to get final IRS approval of our 501(c) (3) Foundation, we expect that approval soon possibly prior to our 68th Annual Reunion in Portland, Oregon in August.

Over the next six (6) months the Screaming Eagle Foundation will focus on the following:

- Continue to support Active Duty Soldiers and their families thru the Foundation's Screaming Eagle Support Program;
- Continue the expanded scholarship program receiving applications this spring for award at our Annual Reunion in Portland, Oregon;
- Expand fund raising to support the Foundation's Philanthropic Programs by applying to participate in the 2013 Fort Campbell Area Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). This will allow local CFC donations to go to our Scholarship Fund and Screaming Eagle Support Program;
- Initiate corporate solicitation with refined written material to increase donations to the Scholarship Fund and Screaming Eagle Support Program;
- Finalize term limits for Foundation Trustees bound to be 2-year term limits with replacements recommended by the Association Board of Governors.

Should you have any questions on the Foundation, contact your Screaming Eagle Trustees or other members listed below:

Tom Sewell, President
Wayne St Louis, Exec. Dir.
Layne Jeffery, Legal Advisor
Fred Ranck, Advisor/Sec.

Ester Colwell, Trustee
Doug Bonnot, Trustee
Marv Vosburg, Trustee
Rick Lencioni, Trustee

Thank you for your continued support of our soldiers, wounded warriors, veterans and families. Without your support and donations we would not be able to assist our Screaming Eagles and their families.

Airborne/Air Assault,

Thomas K. Sewell

President, Trustees Screaming Eagle Foundation

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SCREAMING EAGLE

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CITY WITH A HEART

FORWARD OPERATING BASE FENTY, Afghanistan - In the age of the internet there is nothing special about video teleconferencing, but some are more meaningful than others.

The City of San Mateo, Calif., hosted the premier of the documentary "City with a Heart" and their special guests were more than 45 soldiers who participated in live via video teleconference from Afghanistan and Fort Campbell.

"City with a Heart" was a video celebration of the relationship between the City of San Mateo and Abu Company, 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment. This relationship dates back to 1968 and the back story is very poignant.

And all those gathered were there due the sacrifice and dedication of a brother and sister, "It's amazing how Jean and his film crew put together 44 years in one hour to tell our story with the 101st," said Linda

Patterson, the president of America Supports Americans.

Based on the hard work of Patterson, whose brother was deployed to Vietnam, the City of San Mateo formally adopted Abu Company. Soon after the adoption, her brother, Sgt. Joe Artavia was killed in battle in Vietnam.

Since that time, Patterson has dedicated her efforts to ensuring that no soldier ever goes unnoticed or unloved. She founded America Supports Americans, a nonprofit with the goal of getting cities to formally adopt military units like her brother's Abu Company.

"ASA has the ability and experience of seeing the benefits on both sides, thus, building solid lasting relationships with their assigned units," said Patterson.

Ever since then, the City of San Mateo has been an example of the support that Americans show for their service members both deployed and at home. In the years following the adop-

tion of Abu Company, other neighboring cities have adopted units.

Hillsborough, Burlingame and most recently Foster City, Calif., have all adopted companies from 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division.

"San Mateo's led this "Call to Action" defining ASA's mission which underlines the importance of homeland support by civilian leaders to encourage their respective communities to engage with their adopted units," said Patterson.

Some of the soldiers who were part of the video teleconference were part of a delegation from 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division who visited the cities of San Mateo, Hillsborough, Burlingame and Foster City on Memorial Day weekend, 2012. This visit was documented and featured very prominently in the documentary.

"This public premiere of a 'City with a Heart' and those

who see it should bring an innovative approach to the American people on what they can do for our troops beyond care packages," said Patterson.

"It was a very meaningful and rewarding experience. I had never taken part in something like our visit to San Mateo and the people treated us really well," said Capt. Charles Loverude, a member of the contingent that visited the cities.

The Brigade took part in three days of activities that were highlighted by the Bastogne soldiers marching in a Memorial Day parade that marked the 45th anniversary of the original adoption of Abu Company.

Loverude has also gotten to know several of the city liaisons who coordinated "The liaisons that I worked with are truly inspiring to me. They went that extra mile to make sure that we were very well received."

Vietnam Eagles

BY Tony Mabb



"Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the little voice at the end of the day that says I'll try again tomorrow."

— Mary Anne Radmacher

As I do reluctantly, not wanting to see someone I know, I scan *Eagles Who Have Soared* in *The Screaming Eagle*. I was shocked to see the name of George Schorr. I had an emotional attachment to him even though I had not seen him in over 55 years. He and my father had served together. We had many conversations over the years by telephone. By fate he ended up in the 101st Airborne in Vietnam as did I. It became our second connection. He as a 1st Sgt and I as a scout observer PFC type. Our first was Baghdad, Iraq in 1956 - 1958. He as a young buck sergeant and I as a military dependent. My father was a senior NCO with the US Army element MAAG (Military Assistance Advisory Group) Iraq.

At the time American interests were very much as they are today. A defense doctrine based upon agreement with governments providing stability in a particular country and access to strategic natural resources.

I little background on the military tour in Baghdad. There was no such thing as a Commissary or PX. You ordered your staples by the case from the U.S. As an example the unit price for a 14 ounce bottle of Heinz catsup was 25 cents with 24 to a case. You lived on the economy in a house one may consider out of colonial times. The U.S. embassy was the hub of all comings and goings for Americans. Mr. Waldemar J. Gallman was Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.

Maxwell D. Taylor was Army Chief of Staff from 1955-1959 and later Ambassador to Vietnam.

The Alwiyah Club (British/American) was the place to be in the summer as it had swimming pools and other forms of entertainment including snacks; especially the potato chips and ketchup. A combination I favor today.

The American School operated by the American Community Parent's Association was home to 187 students in grades 1-8. Who was my second grade teacher you may ask? Darn if I know. Only kidding! It was Mrs. Dutton. She and Mrs. Wintrode the principal are the reason I have big ears today.

When we read *Eagles Who Have Soared* in *The Screaming Eagle* you may not know the person mentioned. You share the eagle though. Though I hardly knew you; I knew you. I mourned your passing.

George Schorr was a member of the 501st Infantry. It as well as the 501 PIR produced some remarkable men. Some I have met and one I met through the memory of Jim Patton. Jim was in the weapons platoon 501 PIR. He could not tell of the death of Colonel Howard R. (Jumpy) Johnson's death by mortar fire in Holland in early October 1944 without tears. Jumpy Johnson's last words were "Take care of my boys."

As referenced in Leo Flory's book *Transition to Duty A Combats Medic's Tour in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne Screaming Eagles* George Schorr was a tough as nails 1st Sergeant with B Co 2/501 in 1969. A Cajun from Louisiana. A Hurricane Katrina survivor. One of his son's served with the 10th Mountain Division in Iraq almost fifty years after he served there. He was human. When a respected platoon leader and Irishman was killed in action he showed his concern for his care and then snapped back to the duty at hand.

A brief history of B Co 2/501 1/501st began with their arrival in Vietnam 19 Nov 1967 with their sister battalion 1/501st (2nd Brigade). 2/501 Infantry departed Vietnam 10 Mar 72 symbolically with the 101st Airborne Division. Its assets however passed on to U.S. Army Forces Region 2 in November 1971 and then U.S. Army Support Command Cam Rahn Bay until July 1972. B Company suffered over 60 men killed in action. The

regiment was inactivated on 31 July 1972. 2/501 Infantry was part of the third brigade while in Vietnam. Two men from Delta Company 2/501 became Medal of Honor recipients on the same day in February 1968; Sgt Joe Hooper and SSG Clifford Sims.



Members of Companies B and D, 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry, Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, take a break from jungle fighting east of Tam Ky., 06/02/1969
Photo courtesy of NARA

REFLECTIONS AND REMEMBRANCE

For every soldier that was wounded and had to leave the field; his buddies, the pure terror of war, those are the images that will always go through their heads, no matter how long the passage of time! When you are with them, the time seems to fly by. You know their full name, their girlfriends, hometown, phone number, likes and dislikes and their faces. It is all a blur, yet you were much closer to them, than those who went all through school with you. You were with them 24 hours a day and depended on them with your life.

At the time you are hit, everything goes into slow motion and the faces seem to be in a fog all around you. It is your friends that have come by to see how you are doing, all telling you that all will be fine and that they will soon see you again. You know that this is not true! They shake your hand, tousle your hair or pat you on the shoulder to let you know that they are there, knowing full well that you are on your own. They leave your side as you lay stretched out waiting for an "evac" and go about their business as usual, without you. Your thoughts are centered upon living, while theirs is on the enemy that they must face to complete their job. Your fight is now over.

For the next few days you lost all aspect of time and lose precious days that fog in and out while you are safe and being treated. Your buddies are not so lucky. They are carrying on the fight that you are unable to do. They talk of you to one another from time to time and when every new man comes into your company, they are told of you and how to avoid what happened to you. You wonder where they are, who's on point, who's on ambush and who is on LP.

Some friendships made in war last a lifetime! Yet, there are others that have slipped away. Neither can remember who was with whom. You can't remember the face that saved your life, their names are erased from your memory. Only sometimes when you meet with one of your buddies, can you both recall certain people that you depended upon. More than likely, you lose all contact with those and have no way to re-establish that contact. Until now. Some, sadly, do not wish to be encountered. THAT IS SAD!

To all of us, it sure would be nice if we tried to re-establish those bonds of years gone by. Not to glorify time, but to say THANKS to those that served with us and became BROTHERS-IN-ARMS.

Bob (Scotty) Scott A-1/501 1968

I knew Scotty as a man who was short in stature and carried a certain sadness but was tall in the bonds of comradeship.

I never met but I knew about Gordon H. Mansfield, Captain C Company 1/501st Infantry who soared on January 29, 2013. He served five years as former Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs during the Bush administration and was a champion for disabled American veterans. He received the Distinguished Service Cross for his actions February 4, 1968 when he was severely wounded in the spine.

These men are just a small sampling of who we are and who we were. Far too many good men have soared on.

One last ketchup footnote: a regular bottle of Heinz Ketchup went for 22 cents in the mid-1960's. Bon appétit! Mr. Buffett!



DOUBLE EAGLES

During the past several years the Association has presented Double Eagle Coins to active-duty war veteran members of the Association in ceremonies at company, battalion, and brigade level formations. Many assisted in these ceremonies: Jack Braden, Harvey Appleman, Robert Nichols, Harold "AJ" Murdock, Joe Bossi, CSM Mike Wagoner,

Mike Tilden, Dan Gilligan, Jordan Jeffcoat, and others.

For Veteran members, a "Double Eagle" Pin will be awarded for those who sign-up at least one new member or re-sign a former member who has not been active for over two years. Many pins have been awarded to Association members who have recruited friends and former members of the Division into the Association.

The continuing goal is to double the veteran membership, which will enhance the overall capabilities of our Association and result in improved services for all our members. To meet this challenge, we are counting on you to do your part; twist the arm of a reluctant buddy, spread the word about all the good things the Association is accomplishing, do it any way you can; but get at least one new member by the **68th Annual Reunion**.

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Ray H. Leggett	Mathias Oschwald	Robert E. Sechrist	Richard T. Wallace
Richard M. Lencioni	Lewis J. Oswald	Raynard Sellers	Lynn Walton
Miles D. Lester	Milo Overstreet	Thomas K. Sewell	David P. Walz
Troy S. Lindstrand	Eugene Overton	James F. Shamblen	Rebecca Warner
Walter J. Loheide	Ken Pace	James Yankee Jim Simchera	Reginald Warner
George P. Lomonaco	Richard A. Pack	Raymond H. Simmons	Dane A. Weber
David J. Lopez	Jeffrey Palmer	Dave Simpkins	James Wheeler
Charles Lostaunau	Henry S. Paredes	James R. Singler	Arno Whitbread
Randall L. Lusk	Chuck Paris	Charles J. Slezak	Randy Whitehead
Richard Luttrell	James Parks	Teddy E. Smallen	Tommie L. Willard
Alton E. Mabb Jr.	Jeffery J. Pawlak	William J. Smith	Edward Williams
Rory L. Malloy	Charles E. Payne	Willie Snow	Michael F. Wilson
Claus "Dutch" Mann	Michael J. Peacock	Richard Sonnenberg	William Wingett
Heriberto Martinez	Morris M. Pearson	Timothy Sorth	Richard "Dick" Winters
John Mastro	Terry L. Perrigo	John Sosa	Robert Anthony Wolff Sr.
Donald L. Mather	Michael P. Perry	Barry Speare	Ivan G. Worrell
Willie Mayfield	Louis Peterka	Jonathan B. Squire	Michael Wortman
Herbert G. Mayfield	Eddie Pissott	Wayne P. St. Louis	Terry L. Wren
Ray Mayfield Jr.	Robert E. Ponzo	Eugene W. Standish	James M. Yancey
Brandon McConnell	Calvin S. Posner	W.J. Stanley	Ralph R. Younce
Kevin B McCreery	Jerry R. Pounds	Michael Station	Terry R. Zahn
Timothy D. McElrath	Ben Priddy	George N. Stenehjem	
Thomas W. McGall	Joe Pullen	Joseph E. Stifler Sr.	
Ronald McHenry	Gary G. Purcell	Dick E. Stoops	
Thomas M. McIntyre	Edward Y Pye	Donald B. Straith	
Jake McNiece	Joseph A. Quedensley	Dennis L. Stuart	
Kenneth J. Medeiros	W.R. Raduenz	Kelly Stumpus	
Leon Meidam	Lloyd J. Rahlf	Earl A. Suggs Jr.	

Candidates for Office of the

Jim A. Keeton for President



Jim Keeton enlisted for the Medical Corps in August of 1969 and entered military service at Fort Campbell, Kentucky

on September 3, 1969 for basic training.

Following basic training Keeton was transferred to Fort Sam Houston Medical Center for Medical Corpsman training, where he graduated with honors. Jim applied and was accepted into the Clinical Specialist Program where he graduated in 1971 at the top of the class. He was assigned to William Beaumont General Hospital emergency room for trauma training prior to Vietnam.

Jim served with the 101st Airborne Division 1/321 Arty in charge of the Battalion aide station in Phu Bai, Vietnam. Jim and the Battalion Surgeon Dr. Alan Pilloff conducted Civilian Med Cap operations on the Perfume River as well as medical operations on Fire Base Bastogne and other firebases in I corps. As the 101st Airborne was leaving Vietnam Jim was transferred to the HHC 2ND BM 8 CAV 3 BDE (SEP) First Cavalry Division, where he was in charge of the Battalion Aide Station on Fire Base Melanie.

Jim received the Bronze Star Medal, Combat Medical Badge Arcom, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal w/60 Device, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with palm, Army Valorous Unit Award and the Presidential Unit Citation.

Jim returned to Graduate school at Colorado State University in 1973 and started Keeton Industries, Inc. that same year. Keeton Industries developed into a worldwide company providing aquaculture expertise and environmental consulting services for lake and pond environments. The company now holds 7 patents and manufactures aeration equipment and microbes for lake, pond and aquaculture (fish and shrimp farming) industries and specializes in beneficial microbes for bioremediation. Keeton Industries, Inc. operates a subsidiary company Solar Air, LLC operating in South Vietnam. Jim serves as CEO, Chief Scientist and Aquaculture Engineer for the companies.

Jim has served as President of the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the 101st Airborne Division Association since 2008 and is currently serving as Vice-President of the 101st Airborne Division Association. Keeton was married to his wife Linda in 1969 and have two children Luke and Jennifer along with 3 grandchildren.

Mike Krawczyk for President



Michael Krawczyk enlisted in the Army on March 7, 1966 and after Basic Training, Infantry Training

and Airborne training was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division. Upon arrival at Fort Campbell he was assigned to the 501st Signal Battalion. When the call went out for volunteers for a new Battalion being formed to go to Vietnam Mike immediately requested assignment to the 3/506th Airborne Infantry Battalion. He was subsequently assigned to Company C as a RTO for the Company Commander and deployed with the Unit to Vietnam in October of 1967.

When his tour with the 101st was completed he volunteered for another tour in Vietnam and was assigned to the 5th Special Forces Group. Upon arrival in Nha Trang Mike was asked if he wanted to volunteer for a Top Secret operation. When asked what the assignment involved he was told that the assignment was highly classified and he would have to volunteer before he could be told what it entailed. Assigned to FOB 1 at Phu Bai he ran Hatchet Force & Recon missions "across the fence". After being wounded on a Recon mission he left Vietnam and the Army in May of 1969.

Mike's military awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Army Commendation medal with V, 1st OLC, Good Conduct medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Parachute wings, Vietnamese Parachute wings, Presidential Unit Citation and the Valorous Unit award.

Mike's civilian life includes 11 years as a supervisor for Bethlehem Steel and 30 years as a law enforcement officer. The highlights of his law enforcement career include working as an undercover narcotics officer and a member of the US Marshalls Great Lakes Fugitive Task Force. Mike received numerous citations and was awarded his departments Life Saving Award.

Mike is a Life Member of the 101st Airborne Division Association, Governor for the Currahee Regiment and a Distinguished Member of the 506th Regiment. He is also a founding member of the Task Force 3/506th Airborne Infantry Association and the current president of the John P. Geraci Chapter.

In 1972 Mike married the love of his life Donna McGuirl and they raised 2 children, Kimberly and James. Kim is a Federal Probation Officer and J.L. is a veteran Washington D.C. police officer. Mike and Donna have 4 grandchildren, Reagan & Camden in Sterling, Virginia and Ben & Emma in Valparaiso, IN.

101st Airborne Division Association

Jim Shamblen for Vice-President



Retired Facilities Planner, HQ TRADOC, G1/G4, Office of the Engineer, Planning Division, Fort Monroe VA. He also retired from the US Army in 1994 as a LT Colonel.

Jim graduated from West Virginia State College in 1966 with BS in Education with teaching fields in Math and Social Studies. He received an MA in Education Administration from Marshall University in 1977. He is a 1980 graduate of the Army Command and General Staff College, and a 1993 graduate of the Army Management Staff College. He has Teaching Certificates from West Virginia and Virginia and a Principals Certificate from West Virginia.

Jim served the Army as an Engineer Officer with the 326th ENG BN, 101st Airborne Division at Ft Campbell; the 39th Combat ENG BN in the Republic of Viet Nam; Commander Student Officer Detachment at Fort Belvoir; and the 1st Special Forces Group in Okinawa, The Philippines, and Indonesia. He also served with the 12th ENG BN, 8th INF DIV in Germany; Assistant PMS at Marshall, and in the HQTRADOC DCSENGR, at Fort Monroe, VA. His USAR assignments were with the 80th Training Division MTC, Huntington Engineer District, HQUSACE, and the Assistant Chief of Engineers and ACSIM at HQDA. He retired from the Army Reserve in 1994 with 29 years' service. Military awards included the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal w/2 OLC, Army Commendation Medal w/2 OLC, Master Parachutist Badge, and Philippine and Indonesian Parachutist Badges.

Jim has served as a planner in the TRADOC Engineer form 1983 to his retirement 2 May 2008 and as a retired annuitant in his previous position until December 2011. Duties have involved mobilization, contingency operations, facilities management, master planning, special studies, BRAC, Interservice Training Review Organization (ITRO), Automated Management and Facility Management (AM/FM), Computer Aided Drafting and Design (CADD), and Geographical Information Systems (GIS). He also assisted in the development of the Army facilities systems ASIP, RPLANS, EIS, and ISR. He supervised Reserve Engineer IMAs, and supported the 416th Reserve ENCOM Mobilization Planning Support Cell (MPSC). His duties focused on providing adequate barracks and training facilities for the TRADOC training base and as the Facility Chairman for the ITRO. Civilian awards include two Meritorious Civilian Service Awards, the Superior Civilian Service Award, the Commanders Award for Civilian Service, the Achievement Medal for Civilian Service. He was selected as the AUSA TRADOC Civilian of the Year Award. He also received the Army Engineer Associations De Fleury Medal upon retirement.

Jim served as the TRADOC representative on the Real Property Planning and Management Steering Committee (RPPMSC), the ASIP Review Committee (ARC), The RPLANS Configuration Control Board (CCB), The AMFM/CADD Technical Advisory Group (TAG), The HQDA Reserve Components Support on Active Component Installations Working Group, and provided facilities management instruction to the Army Mobilization Deployment Planning Course (MDPC). He was the Facilities Representative for AAC's Initial Entry Training visits. He has also served as an instructor in the Army

Facility Master Planning Course.

He is a member of the American Planning Association (APA), the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME), a life member of the Reserve Officer Association (ROA), Disabled American Veterans (DAV), and the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). He is also a life member and Secretary of the 39th Combat Engineer Association. He is a member of the St. Andrew Episcopal Church, The Church Treasure, leads the Church Fishermen, and has participated in the Cancer Relay for Life and PORT – feeding and housing the Homeless. He also drives a van for the DAV providing transportation for veterans to the VA hospital for appointments.

As a Life Member for the 101st Airborne Division Association, he has served as a Combat Support Governor for many years and is on the Reunion Committee. He is also a Life member and Secretary/Treasurer of the General William C. Lee Chapter. He served as the Reunion Chairman, Registration Chairman, and Treasurer for the 101st National Reunions in 1999, 2004 and 2009 and the 1st BDE Reunion in 2008. He and his wife Becki have served as Registration leaders for many National Reunions.

Jim and his wife Becki were married 12 July 1997 and live in Michaels Woods in Hampton. They have 5 children and 6 grandchildren.



2013 REUNION SCHEDULE



**Red Lion Hotel on the River
Portland, Oregon
August 14-17, 2013**

TUESDAY, AUG 13, 2013	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME
	Sales Store & Vendor Setup	Crown Zellerbach / Weyerhaeuser	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
	Hospitality Room Setup		1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
WEDNESDAY, AUG 14, 2013			
	Registration	Hayden Room	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
	Sales Store and Vendors Open	Crown Zellerbach / Weyerhaeuser	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
	Golf Scramble		9:00 AM – Shotgun Start
	Hospitality Room	Clackamas / Multnomah	1:00 PM – 11:30 PM
	Red Lion Welcome Reception	Washington / Clark	6:00 PM
THURSDAY, AUG 15, 2013			
	Registration	Hayden Room	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
	Tours		8:30 AM – 4:30 PM
	Committee Meetings		8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
	Ladies Meet and Greet	Clark	9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
	Hospitality Room	Clackamas / Multnomah	12:00 PM – 11:30PM
	Sales Store and Vendors Open	Crown Zellerbach / Weyerhaeuser	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
	Chapter Presidents' Meeting		2:00 PM – 3:30 PM
	Airborne Demonstration		TBD
FRIDAY, AUG 16, 2013			
	Registration	Hayden Room	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
	Tours		8:45 AM – 3:00 PM
	Board of Governors Meeting	Washington	8:30 AM – 11:30 AM
	Sales Store and Vendors Open	Crown Zellerbach / Weyerhaeuser	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
	Ladies Hospitality	Clark	9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
	Ladies Luncheon	River Terrace	11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
	Hospitality Room	Clackamas / Multnomah	12:00 PM – 5:00 PM 9:00PM – 12:00 AM
	Airborne Demonstration		TBD
	Reception, Unit Dinners		6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
	Unit Dinners	Salon 1 & 4, Clark & Washington	7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
SATURDAY, AUG 17, 2013			
	Association Breakfast	Grand Ballroom East Salon	8:00 AM – 9:00AM
	General Membership Meeting	Grand Ballroom East Salon	9:00 AM – 10:00 AM
	Unit Meetings		10:15 AM – 11:15 AM
	Registration	Hayden Room	9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
	Ladies Hospitality	Clark	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
	Tours		1:00 PM – 3:45 PM
	Board of Governors Meeting	Washington	11:00 AM – 12:30 PM
	Hospitality Room	Clackamas / Multnomah	12:00 PM – 5:00 PM 9:00 PM – 12:00 AM
	Sales Store and Vendors Open	Crown Zellerbach / Weyerhaeuser	10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
	Reception, cash bar		6:00 PM
	Memorial Dinner – Dress Code: Coat & Tie, Military Uniform (Greens or Dress Blues) --- NO Headgear or inappropriate dress (please) this is only proper to Honor our Fallen Eagles!	Grand Ballroom	7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

TENATIVE SCHEDULE, SUBJECT TO CHANGE



**101st AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION
68th ANNUAL REUNION
Portland, Oregon
August 14-17, 2013**



REGISTRATION FORM

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Spouse/Guest _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Company _____
Battery _____ Battalion _____ Unit _____ From _____ to _____

E-mail _____ Emergency Contact Number _____

Today's Date _____ Are you a first time attendee? Yes _____ No _____

Transportation to/from hotel and airport: Do you need transportation? Circle yes or no

Date/Time Arrival/Flight # _____ Date/Time Departure/Flight # _____

REGULAR <i>On or before 14 July 2013</i>	LATE <i>After 15 July 2013</i>	EVENTS	# of People	Sub Total
\$101 per person	\$116 per person	REG + SAT DINNER + SAT BREAKFAST + HR		
\$85 per person	\$100 per person	REG + SAT DINNER + HR		
\$50 per person	\$65 per person	REG + HR		
\$50 per person	\$50 per person	Golf Scramble (includes cart fees)		
\$25 per person	\$25 per person	Ladies Luncheon		
DONATION TO THE 101 st AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION				

Total \$ _____

REG = Registration HR = Hospitality Room SAT BREAKFAST = Saturday Breakfast SAT DINNER= Memorial Dinner

Unit Dinners require direct payment to the unit.

Unit Dinners will be held on Friday Night. For questions, contact your unit Rep.

Make checks payable to:

101st Airborne Division Association (931) 431- 0199

Mail Registration Form and Payment to:

101st Airborne Division Association PO BOX 929 Fort Campbell, KY 42223

NO REFUNDS GIVEN AFTER July 30, 2013

For Hotel Room Reservations use the HOTEL REGISTRATION FORM IN THIS MAGAZINE.

Questions should be directed to the Red Lion Hotel on the River 1-800-RED-LION



101st AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION 68TH ANNUAL REUNION

August 14-17, 2013

68th REUNION PROGRAM BOOK ADVERTISEMENT ORDER FORM



PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Business Name/ Chapter Title/ Name (If Personal Ad): _____

Contact Person's Name (if different from above): _____

Street Address or PO Box: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Phone: _____

Fax Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Information if payment by credit card:

Credit Card Type: _____ Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

We (I) authorize the insertion of our advertisement, as per attached copy, into the 101st Airborne Division Association's 68th Annual Reunion Program Book. I agree to pay the stipulated cost as indicated in the rates below. (This is a tax-deductible donation to a tax-exempt military organization. 501(c) (19)).

AD SIZE	AD PRICE	AD DIMENSIONS
Outside Back Cover (Full Color)	\$400.00	7 ¼ x 9 ½ inches
Inside Back Cover (B&W)	\$300.00	7 ¼ x 9 ½ inches
Inside Front Cover (B&W)	\$300.00	7 ¼ x 9 ½ inches
Full Page (B&W)	\$150.00	7 ¼ x 9 ½ inches
Half Page (B&W)	\$100.00	4 ¾ x 7 ¼ inches
Quarter Page (B&W)	\$75.00	4 ¾ x 3 ½ inches
Business Card (B&W)	\$25.00	2 1/8 x 3 ½ inches

All art must be clean and ready for print. The Reunion Program Book will be part of the goody bag presented to each registered member and guest. The cut-off date for the submission of an advertisement to be included in the Reunion Program Book will be May 31, 2013. If late entries are received, your money will be refunded following the Reunion. Upon request, a Black and White proof will be sent to your fax number.



MAKE CHECKS TO: 101st Airborne Division Association
MAIL PAYMENT & ALL ARTWORK TO: 101st Airborne Division Association

Attn: Graphic Designer
P. O. Box 929
Fort Campbell, KY 42223
Fax: (931) 431-0195
Phone: (931) 431-0199

E-Mail: assocmemberinfo@comcast.net

Ad sold by: _____



**101st AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION
68th ANNUAL REUNION
Portland, Oregon
August 14-17, 2013**



**Red Lion Hotel on the River
REGISTRATION FORM**

Hotel Reservations for the 101st Airborne Division Association's 2013 Reunion must be made directly to the Red Lion Hotel on the River. Please make reservations prior to 29 July 2013, as the hotel may not extend the room block or discount rate. Room cancellations must be made directly to the hotel 48 hours prior to your arrival date.

You may use this form or call the Hotel directly to make reservations at: **1-800-RED-LION**
Request group rate for: **101st Airborne Division Association**

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Last Name _____ First Name _____ MI _____

Spouse/Guest _____

Street Address or PO Box _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

E-mail address _____

Deposit information if payment by credit card:

Credit Card Type _____ Number _____ Exp Date _____

Arrival Date/Time _____ Departure Date/Time _____

Transportation to/from hotel and airport with prior reservation: Do you need transportation? Circle yes or no

Special Needs _____ King Bed _____ Double Bed _____ Wheelchair _____

Price per Night: \$99.00

Return this form to:

**Red Lion Hotel on the River
909 N Hayden Island Drive
Portland, Oregon 97217
1-800-RED-LION
Fax: 503.735.4847**

Online Reservations can be made by going to:
<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/101Airborne>

2013 Reunion Tours

Portland, Oregon

Thursday, August 15, 2013

Sternwheeler Cruise on the Columbia River and Visit the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area



Cost: \$62.00 per person includes sack lunch on the Sternwheeler
40 person minimum
8:30 am—4:30 pm

Reservations must be made by July 1, 2013 to ensure seating for the cruise

www.portlandspirit.com

*ALL PASSENGERS 18 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER MUST PRESENT PHOTO IDENTIFICATION UPON BOARDING. ALL CARRY-ON BAGS ARE SUBJECT TO INSPECTION, AND PASSENGERS MAY BE PHOTOGRAPHED AT BOARDING. Inside seating is not guaranteed.



8:45 am sharp bus will depart from the front of the hotel.

9:45 Board the Sternwheeler for a 2 hour cruise.
 Sack Lunch will be provided on the Sternwheeler
 (Additional snacks and beverages are also available.)

12:00 Dock at Cascade Locks

12:15 Board Bus to tour Bonneville Fish Hatchery, see Herman the Sturgeon Multnomah Falls and Vista House at Crown Point

4:00 Arrive at Hotel

Friday, August 16, 2013



Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum

Cost: \$40.00 per person includes Theater Pass

40 person minimum

8:45 am—3 pm

Reservations must be made by July 1, 2013



See the Spruce Goose, military and civilian aircraft, SR-71 Blackbird, Titan II SLV Missile and Grumman F6F-3 "Hellcat". Over 150 historic aircraft, spacecraft and exhibits on display, along with artwork, traveling displays, Spruce Goose Café, Cosmo Café, gift shop.
www.evergreenmuseum.org

9:00 am sharp bus will depart from the front of the hotel

10:00 a.m. – Arrive at Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum

Lunch on your own in various cafes or dining room at Evergreen

2:00 p.m. Depart Evergreen

3:00 Arrive at Hotel

Saturday, August 17, 2013

FREE EVENT

Memorial Ceremony—Portland Vietnam Veterans Memorial Washington Park

Planned by the Oregon Cascade Chapter Members

Reservations must be made by July 1, 2013 to ensure transportation

Depart from hotel in National Guard Vans 1:00 Sharp
 (Providing Nat'l Guard approves our request for 3 vans)

People can drive their own vehicles if there isn't enough room in the vans.

Arrive at Memorial at 1:30 p.m.

Visit Memorial – Walk around the Memorial Circle

Ceremony at Vietnam Memorial. Wreath

Ceremony Finished and load buses at 2:30 p.m.

Stop at Portland Rose Garden, Washington Park for 20 minutes.

Board buses at 3:00 to return to Hotel

Arrive at Hotel at 3:30-3:45



2013 Tour Registration



**Portland, Oregon
August 14-17, 2013**

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Spouse/Guest _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

<i>COST PER PERSON</i>	<i>EVENTS</i>	<i># of People</i>	<i>Sub Total</i>
<i>\$62 per person</i>	<i>Thursday, August 15, 2013 Sternwheeler Cruise on the Columbia River and Visit the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area Sack Lunch included</i>		
<i>\$40 per person</i>	<i>Friday, August 16, 2013 Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum Theater Ticket included</i>		
<i>FREE</i>	<i>Saturday, August 17, 2013 Memorial Ceremony—Portland Vietnam Veterans Memorial Washington Park</i>		

To ensure that we can reserve these quality tours, please make your reservations before July 1, 2013.

Make checks payable to: 101st Airborne Division Association
PO Box 929
Fort Campbell, KY 42223

For more information call: 931-431-0199

- Participants who do not show for their tour will not receive a refund.
- Last minute participants will be accommodated on a space available basis only.
- Boarding times for buses will start 15 minutes prior to departure at the front entrance of the hotel.



CURRAHEE



506th REGIMENTAL DINNER

Join your fellow Currahees for dinner on Friday, August 16, 2013, at the Red Lion Hotel on the River, Portland, Oregon. Reception and Cocktails will be served from 6 – 7 p.m. (cash bar), with the Regimental dinner at 7:00 p.m.

The evening will afford a great opportunity for generations of Currahee men & women to join together in fellowship and shared tradition. The meal will be a choice of one of these entrée's, Smoked Roasted Pork Chop, Grilled Steelhead or Grilled Chicken Breast. Dinner will be \$40 per person. The price includes tax and gratuity.

Dinner reservations must be made by August 2, 2013 to insure you have a place at the dinner. Please complete the reservation form below.

Please make checks payable to 3/506th Abn Inf Assn. and mail to:

Vonna Goddard at Northern Capital Insurance, 2448 S 102nd St Suite 250, West Allis WI 53227-2147

Any questions, call Mike Krawczyk at 219-477-9208 or E-Mail abncibrvn@frontier.com

Name: _____

Entrée choices: please indicate your choice and the number of dinners to be reserved

Address: _____

_____ Grilled Chicken Breast @ \$40

City, ST, Zip: _____

_____ Smoked Roasted Pork Chop @ \$40 or

Phone: _____

_____ Grilled Steelhead @ \$40.

Email: _____

_____ Donated dinner(s) for an active duty soldier

Total Amount Enclosed _____

Check here if you will be bringing a raffle gift _____

327TH/401ST, 501ST, and 187TH/503RD REGIMENTAL DINNER



You are cordially invited to join your fellow brothers in arms at the combined regimental dinner for the 327th/401st, the 501st, and the 187th/503rd for an evening of camaraderie and good times during the 68th annual reunion in Portland, Or. These evenings always reflect the fellowship, traditions and heritage shared by those who proudly wore the crest of the 327th/401st, the 501st, and the 187th/503rd regiments. The dinner will be held on Friday, August 16, 2013, at the Red Lion Hotel on the River, Portland, Oregon. Reception and Cocktails will be served from 6 – 7 p.m. (cash bar), with the Regimental dinner at 7:00 p.m. Please remember to bring an appropriate prize for the after-dinner raffle. Dinner reservations must be made in advance to insure you have a place at the dinner. Please complete the reservation form below for you, your spouse/guests and, if you can sponsor a meal for an active duty soldier, and return with your payment. The price of the Regimental dinner is \$40/person; you have a menu choice of Grilled Chicken Breast, Smoked Roasted Pork Chop, or Grilled Steelhead. Dinner reservations must be made in advance to insure you have a place at the dinner. Please complete the reservation form below. Allen De Graw/Fred Ranck/Tom Guglielmo/Ivan Worrell 327th/401st Governors

Please make checks payable to Fred Ranck and mail no later than July 15, 2013 to:

Fred Ranck, 1214 East Wakeman Av, Wheaton, IL 60187

Any questions, call Fred Ranck at (630) 452-2250 or E-Mail fredranck-htss@comcast.net

Name: _____

Entrée choices: please indicate your choice and the number of dinners to be reserved

Address: _____

_____ Grilled Chicken Breast @ \$40

City, ST, Zip: _____

_____ Smoked Roasted Pork Chop @ \$40 or

Phone: _____

_____ Grilled Steelhead @ \$40.

Email: _____

_____ Donated dinner(s) for an active duty soldier

Total Amount Enclosed _____

Check here if you will be bringing a raffle gift _____



ALL AVIATION DINNER



You are cordially invited to join your brothers in arms at the combined all Aviation dinner on Friday, August 16, 2013, at the Red Lion Hotel on the River, Portland, Oregon. Reception and Cocktails will be served from 6 – 7 p.m. (cash bar), with the Regimental dinner at 7:00 p.m.

The evening will afford a great opportunity for generations of men & women to join together in fellowship and shared tradition. The meal will be a choice of one of these entrée's, Smoked Roasted Pork Chop, Grilled Steelhead or Grilled Chicken Breast. Dinner will be \$40 per person. The price includes tax and gratuity.

Dinner reservations must be made by August 2, 2013 to insure you have a place at the dinner. Please complete the reservation form below

Please make checks payable to Lloyd Kapp and mail to:

Lloyd Kapp, 1895 Water St, Lebanon, PA 17046

Any questions, call Lloyd Kapp at 717-304-4161 or E-Mail kapployd@yahoo.com

Name: _____

Entrée choices: please indicate your choice and the number of dinners to be reserved

Address: _____

_____ Grilled Chicken Breast @ \$40

City, ST, Zip: _____

_____ Smoked Roasted Pork Chop @ \$40 or

_____ Grilled Steelhead @ \$40.

Phone: _____

_____ Donated dinner(s) for an active duty soldier

Email: _____

Total Amount Enclosed _____

Check here if you will be bringing a raffle gift _____



502nd REGIMENTAL DINNER



You are cordially invited to join your Strike brothers in arms at the 502nd Regimental dinner on Friday, August 16, 2013, at the Red Lion Hotel on the River, Portland, Oregon.

Reception and Cocktails will be served from 6 – 7 p.m. (cash bar), with the Regimental dinner at 7:00 p.m.

The evening will afford a great opportunity for generations of men & women to join together in fellowship and shared tradition. The meal will be a choice of one of these entrée's, Smoked Roasted Pork Chop, Grilled Steelhead or Grilled Chicken Breast. Dinner will be \$40 per person. The price includes tax and gratuity.

Dinner reservations must be made by August 2, 2013 to insure you have a place at the dinner. Please complete the reservation form below

Please make checks payable to Darrell Austin and mail to:

Darrell Austin, 737 T.E. Glisson Rd, Ellabell, GA 31308

Any questions, call Darrell Austin at 912-601-6665 or E-Mail 502ndgov@gmail.com

Name: _____

Entrée choices: please indicate your choice and the number of dinners to be reserved

Address: _____

_____ Grilled Chicken Breast @ \$40

City, ST, Zip: _____

_____ Smoked Roasted Pork Chop @ \$40 or

_____ Grilled Steelhead @ \$40.

Phone: _____

_____ Donated dinner(s) for an active duty soldier

Email: _____

Total Amount Enclosed _____

Check here if you will be bringing a raffle gift _____

Supply Sergeant Bill Lang at the Battle of Best: A Singular Act of Heroism Under Fire in September 1944

By

Hansford C. Vest — Edited and Introduced by Jay Hansford C. Vest

Prologue

Before his death in May 1998, my father – Hansford C. Vest – a veteran paratrooper who served with the 101st Airborne from its inception through the end of the war in Europe – began writing out some of his combat memories. On rare occasions during my childhood, I recall hearing him recount events to others whom he trusted such as his brother and father; in this way and in keeping with our Native American heritage, his war narratives became something of a rare oral tradition for my siblings and me. However, in the story that follows, he wrote out in his best longhand print an account of heroism that he witnessed during the heat of battle on September 19, D + 2, 1944 during Operation Market Garden at the Battle of Best, Holland. In this brief memoir, father recalled the action of supply sergeant William – Bill – Lang, D Company 502nd “Deuce” Parachute Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division.

At the time, father was a corporal but due to heavy losses of both officers and non-coms, he had assumed a leadership roll taking charge of the second squad D Company, 502nd PIR. As father recounts the story in this brief written narrative that follows, I recall oral accounts of earlier events following his parachute jump on September 17th and D+1. He told of landing under a barrage of fire – “a big shell exploded almost instantly upon my landing. It knocked me down and blood rushed from my nose so that it flushed onto my rifle. About that time, Hernandez, also of D Company, came to my aid and with his handkerchief he managed to stop the bleeding; after that I didn’t see him anymore. My rifle was so soaked in blood it would no longer operate, so I looked around and took another from a fallen comrade.” – as Dad told it.

The next day, D+1, as I understood it, the company attacked across a field where the Dutch had been making hay. “We had no cover except for the small grass piles. Many of our officers and non-coms were killed in this maneuver. As I ran through the field, I was hit in the calf of my right leg. When the bullet hit me, I went to the ground but I managed to take my bandana and tie it around the wound. The wound was not bleeding too badly, it turned out to be a wooden bullet and I was still able to run on my leg.” He continued across the field and took a position in defilade so as to combat the enemy. Despite these two wounds he was never evacuated to an aid station and simply let the healing continue during the combat campaign that continued for many weeks. When I was a boy, I remember seeing him take tweezers to the wound pulling wooden splinters out of it; such was the way he survived the war.

HCV’s Combat Account

During the Battle of Best, September 19, D+2, I witnessed an heroic act that turned the tide of the conflict. At the time, just after 12:00 hours – noon – we were extremely low and nearly out of ammo when supply sergeant – Bill Lang – took charge to meet our needs. Bill knew we were almost out of ammo that day. The B-24’s had dropped our supplies into the enemy fields instead of ours and he wind did the unthinkable; it carried our food, water and thousands of rounds of ammo, including mortar rounds, to the enemy. Far as I can account the stories of the war never mention such a thing happening in battle the way this turned out. I shall never forget the situation we were in; my platoon was in a big field and just yards from the Zonche Forest where there were firebreaks ever so many feet. I lay in a prone position in a big ditch with a large

barrow pit, which gave me very good cover from the enemy. Facing the enemy I could observe his every movement while being concealed myself and I was able to guess about where his foxholes were located in the hedge-row.

The day before, my platoon had lost about half of our officers and men attacking across an open field with only hay piles to offer cover. With our resupply falling into enemy hands and the ammo being dangerously low, things looking real bad but there was no panic. We were used to bad things before so we made the best of the Best situation. I had a captured enemy machine gun and lots of ammo so I would use it against the enemy. When things looked so gloomy, it was out of nowhere that supply sergeant Bill Lang came to our support in his jeep loaded down with ammo. The jeep was exposed broad side to the enemy fire. His approach to this hail of bullets was down firebreak one and turn one hundred and eighty degrees unload in a defilade position and rush up firebreak two.

It was at this defilade position I noticed a unique phenomenon happening right before my eyes. The jeep stirred up a huge cloud of dust, which in turn protected us from detection by the enemy. Two very important things happened in our favor all because of our heroic jeep driver and supply sergeant. Using a mental map of the enemy sites that I created in my head from earlier observation, I fired when the jeep approached and again when it was leaving our position. My M-1 became so hot that oil dripped from the stock. All the time we were firing into the positions where we felt the enemy might be. Blue smoke from all this gunpower drifted up into the air and mixed with the dust from the jeep driver so the enemy did not figure out where we were locat-

ed. As a result, the enemy fired over our heads.

The jeep was full of .31 cal. bullet holes but SSgt. Lang laid down low and held onto the steering wheel with one hand and controlled the jeep from the floor board; thus protecting himself. The second important thing that helped us during the fire-fight was the fact the enemy had to come up out of their holes to see what was going on. We must have destroyed at least half of them. I felt we had paid them back for the day before when we lost so many men in the grass fields that were shocks of hay and the only cover we had. Raising white flags, the enemy called two truces and we obeyed the first; we let them remove the dead and wounded but as they too were low on ammo, they also brought up resupply. After a few hours the enemy wanted another truce; so we waited obeying our officers. Again the enemy was bringing up reinforcements and supplies. That was it! The next time and it came shortly - as we had two tanks from our British allies supporting us – the enemy soldiers wanted to surrender but their officers would shoot the surrendering soldiers in the back as they came out of their holes; it was witnessed by our officers and men of that day. There were no more truces; we overran their positions and crossed the highway at Best and dug in at the demolished bridge on the Wilhelmina canal. Thousands of prisoners gave up and the dead were everywhere. I found two lugers and one Walther pistol.

Best Holland cost the 502nd a huge price in dead, missing and wounded.

What I learned in the battle? Someone can make a difference and that someone was S/Sgt William Lang who in his bravery changed the course of the battle at Best for us.

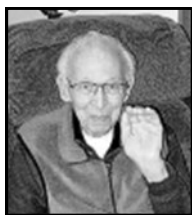
Eagles who have Soared



George "Chester" Baxley, WWII Vet. He was assigned to HHC, 502nd Inf. with LT./COL. Robert George Cole, (M.O.H. Recip.) as the C.O. He was one of the men in the 502nd when the C.O. ordered "Fixed Bayonet". This was the only (on Military Record) of a "Bayonet Charge" in Europe in WWII.

The Enemy had the 502nd "Pinned-Downed" in a field under a Crossed-Fired. Against all odds the Enemy outnumbered the 502nd. The Mission was completed with the last Bridge outside of Carentan, France destroyed. After the War, George Baxley returned to Hewitt, Tx. and later on

became Mayor of this Town. He was a Businessman most of his life and a life-long member of the Talon Chapter (101st). He also loves "Life". The Talon and R.G.Cole Chapters are going to miss you.



Raymond E. Bechtoldt, 90 Feb. 19, 1922 Nov. 19, 2012 Raymond E. Bechtoldt, age 90, passed away peacefully on Monday morning, Nov. 19, 2012, of natural causes. Raymond was born on Feb. 19, 1922 to Henry and Hilda (Cordie) Bechtoldt in the farming community of Belleville, Ill., as one of nine children. Raymond served in World War II

as a paratrooper in the 101st Airborne and participated in the Allied invasion of Normandy, the Battle of the Bulge and other European operations. He returned home safely and married his sweetheart and wife of 66 years, Lucille (Gansmann). Ray loved farming, and he and Lucille purchased a farm in Gresham in 1950, where they raised two sons and farmed continuously until 1995. Their roadside fruit stand on Powell, "Bechtoldt's Berry Farm," was a

local landmark. In recent years, Raymond enjoyed reading, visiting with friends and family members, socializing with the elks and the occasional trips to casinos. He is survived by his wife, Lucille; his brother, Robert; his sisters, Rita, Catherine and Rosemary; his sons, Gary and Mark; five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Services will be held at Gresham Memorial Chapel at 257 SE Roberts in Gresham, on Saturday, Nov. 24, 2012 at 11 a.m.



Gerald "Jerry" Richard Behm, 78, of Middletown, beloved husband of Elizabeth (Dyer) Behm for fifty nine years, passed away on Tuesday, December 18th at Hartford Hospital.

Born in Middletown, he was the son of the late Gustave and Mildred (Rau) Behm. Jerry lived all of his life in Middletown wintering the last thirteen years in Florida. He was a veteran of the Korean Conflict serving in U. S. Army with the 101st Paratroopers, employed by Southern New England Telephone as a Project Coordinator and supervisor of Repair Bureau for thirty five years, and was a supernumerary of the Middletown Police Department. He was an associate member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Venice, FL and a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church now Faith Lutheran Church in Middletown. He was very active in both church choirs, was church treasurer and served on the church council. Jerry played high school football, basketball and baseball and was inducted into the Middletown Sports Hall of Fame. He officiated high school football for fifty six years, was a Past President of State Board of Football Officials, and former Commissioner of Football Officials Association. Jerry donated time to Big Brothers, was a Little League Coach and a member of the American Legion and the Elks Club, both in Middletown. Living a life filled with sports, art, music and travel, he also loved following UCONN, the Yankees and the Giants. Besides his wife, he is survived by two sons, Gerald Behm, Jr. and his wife, Jane and Gary Behm and his wife, Susan, all of Middletown; a daughter, Kimberly Behm Kelly of Guilford; two sisters, Suzanne Castelli and her husband, George of East Hampton and Donna Negralle and her husband, Tony

of Higganum; his sister-in-law, Nancy Helfant of Old Saybrook; five grandchildren, Jaron and his fiancée, T'Aja, Jessica, Brendan, Eric and Shannon and a great grandchild, Jaden. Along with his parents, Gerald was predeceased by a sister, Marilyn Cooney and a great grandchild, Kahlia. Funeral services will be held on Saturday, December 22nd at 10:00am at Faith Lutheran Church with the Rev. John J. Marschhausen and Rev. Perry Beaver officiating. Burial will be at the convenience of the family. Friends may call on Friday evening from 4:00 to 7:00pm at Doolittle Funeral Home, 14 Old Church Street, Middletown. In lieu of flowers, friends may make donations in Gerald's memory to Faith Lutheran Church, 300 Washington Street, Middletown, CT 06457 and may send messages of condolence to the family at www.doolittlefuneralservice.com.

Carl P Bard

Huntingdon PA
H CO 3RD BN 502ND PIR 2ND BDE
Deceased 11/18/2012

Bobby H Burke

Pensacola FL
C CO 1ST BN 327TH INF 1ST BDE
Deceased 11/23/2012

Bill Coleman

Florida
WWII Vet
Deceased 12/13/2012



John Norman Boitano, died in the loving arms of his wife, Mary Lucille (Boyce), at their family home Dec. 17, 2012. He put up a good fight but succumbed at the age of 91. John was born in Sacramento, on Nov. 18, 1921, to Angelo John Boitano and Mary Elizabeth Norman. During his youth, he attended Christian Brother's High School leaving his sophomore year and doggedly returning in 50 years later to receive his diploma. He enlisted into the Army in 1942. He attended boot camp at Fort Campbell, Ky., and Fort Bragg, N. C. Later, he left to travel to England to specialize as a paratrooper in Company B, 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment of the 101st Airborne. During the Normandy Invasion (D-Day), he jumped at 1:08 a.m. into a dark sky filled with enemy flak (antiaircraft fire from the Germans) and landed onto the town of **SainteMere-Eglise**. During Market Garden, John jumped into Holland. During this battle in Ophesden, he rescued an injured soldier whose leg was torn off by fire from a Tiger tank's mounted machine. John carried this soldier on his back to the first aid station in a nearby windmill. With quick medical attention, this soldier was saved. Don Patton, the injured soldier, remained a close and loyal friend to John until his death in 1985. While liberating Eindhoven, Holland, John rescued another soldier who was shot in the chest. John remained good friends with this soldier, Charlie Weise, until his death in 1998. After Holland, John was

trucked into Bastogne. During the Battle of the Bulge, the 101st surrounded by the Germans were knee deep in snow during Christmas with very little to eat. Each soldier fought steadily without any rations or ammunition. Patton's army later rescued his outfit from the horrible and stormy conditions. John earned a silver star, two bronze stars, and a purple heart for his service in World War II. John Norman met and married the love of his life Mary Lucille on Jan. 28, 1956. The two had been previously married to other people and had children. John had two children, Susan and William and Mary Lucille had four children, Charles, David, Arthur and Melinda. Together, they had three more children, Kenneth, Michael and Mary Etta. After John's military service, he opened a machine shop with his partner, Rudy Stadleberger, in the tenderloin of San Francisco. They co-owned Atlas Screw Machine Products. He worked as a machinist doing first operation machine work from 1955 to 1983 and then retired to Sonoma with his wife, Mary Lucille. He was a resident of Sonoma for 29 years. John, during the late 1960s, took up running in San Francisco. He and the family were instrumental in starting two of the largest running clubs in San Francisco: the Dolphin South End Runners and the Pamakids. Running became a daily occurrence for John and his family. They logged many hours running Noe Valley where they lived, Twin Peaks, Ocean Beach, Lake Merced and Golden Gate Park. He competed in more than 40 marathons with his best time three hours and 26 minutes. He also placed a 35th in the difficult Dipsea Race. He later served his community coaching cross country at Mercy High School and track at Altimira

Middle School. John served his community driving veterans from Sonoma to their appointments at the Fort Miley Facility in San Francisco. He proudly displayed a plaque on the wall of his home for 8,750 hours of dedicated volunteer service to the Veterans Department of Veteran's Affairs. John leaves behind many friends and family. He was a loving husband to Mary Lucille for 56 years. He was the adored father of Susan Miller, William Boitano (Roberta), Charles White, David White, Arthur White, Melinda White (Darrell Jeong), Kenneth, Michael (Jovita Ibarra) and Mary Etta (Richard Blanchard). He leaves behind many grandchildren who loved him, Rochelle White, Melissa Pett, Janey Stevens, Karen Bagley, John Miller, John Norman Blanchard, Richard Blanchard III and Angela Boitano. He also leaves behind 12 great-grandchildren. He was the dear brother to the late Frances Roberts (John) of SLC and the late Donald Boitano (Maxine) of Dillion Beach. He was also an uncle to Kathleen Leonard, John Roberts and Thomas Kevin Boitano. John also leaves behind sisters-in-law, Rita Bressum, (Robert) Marianne Campos and Maxine Boitano. He also loved his sister-in-law, Marguerette (Boyce) Weil, who recently died on Nov. 20, 2012, and her husband Raymond Weil. Ray died Nov. 26, 2007. Raymond and John were big fans of cribbage and would play hours on end at the Weil Cabin at Echo Summit. We are inviting all who knew John to come to Duggan's Mission Chapel on Thursday, Dec. 20, at 6 p.m. for a rosary vigil. The address is 525 W. Napa St. Memorial Mass will be said at St. Leo's at 11 a.m., on Friday, Dec. 21. The address of the church is 601 W. Agua Caliente Road, Sonoma.



John Brazuk of Red Hill, died peacefully at the age of 91 on Sunday morning, October 28th, in his daughter's home in Sellersville. He was born in 1921 to Anastasia (Mickoweski) and Alexander Brazuk in Uniontown, PA. John and his wife, Helen (Siatkowski) Brazuk of Red Hill, were married for 65 years. Beloved father of Beverly Slifer of Sellersville, Deborah Longwell of East Greenville, and Johnny Brazuk who preceded him in death. Loving Grandfather to Kerry Slifer of Sellersville, Jeffrey Slifer of Raleigh NC, Matthew Slifer of Red Hill, Sarah Longwell of Palm, Jennifer Gilmer of Ephrata, Melissa Longwell of Cherry Hill, NJ, and Ben Longwell of Philadelphia. Great Grandfather to Abraham and Josephine Slifer of Raleigh, NC, and Hannah Grace Slifer of Red Hill and the late baby Catherine Margaret Slifer. Brother to Phyllis Wilwert of Hilltown,

Frances Miller of Harleysville, and the late Joseph, Frank, Stella, Mary, and Steven Brazuk. John served four years in the 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne, during World War II. He was in the battles of Normandy, Rhineland, Ardennes Forest, and Bastogne, and was awarded with numerous medals and awards. He was wounded twice in Bastogne, Belgium. Although he was in Service Company, John was attached with Easy Company (Band of Brothers), and he worked closely with Colonel Robert Strayer and Major Richard Winters. John was co-founder of Ridge Crest, a home for disabled children and young adults located beside Grand View Hospital in Sellersville, and was a retired member of the Board of Directors of LifePath. Always an entrepreneur and mechanically inclined, John invented a new and revolutionary fluid drive system for vehicles which designs were patented. He spoke five languages and assisted at local District Justices as an interpreter.

He previously owned and operated two State Inspection auto repair businesses, as well as two hotels and restaurants. John previously held the position of Mayor of Red Hill for two terms (8 years), and was active as a member of the Red Hill Fire Police for over 30 years. He taught mechanics at Upper Bucks Technical School, and was President of the Red Hill VFW for numerous years as well as President of the Cerebral Palsy Association, President of the State Inspection Association, President of the Trumbauersville Lions Club, and a member of the Upper Perkiomen Lions Club. A viewing will be held on Saturday 8:30-10:30 AM at Falk Funeral Home, 163 Main Street, Pennsburg, PA 18073, to celebrate John's life. A funeral mass will be held at 11 AM at Saint Philip Neri Catholic Church, Pennsburg. Full military honors to follow at Holy Cross Cemetery. To offer on-line condolences, please visit www.falkfuneralhomes.com.

John Joseph Cauley, Jr., 86, died Wednesday September 5, 2012 at his home. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday September 10 at 10:00AM at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church with Monsignor Patrick McCabe as Celebrant. Burial at Arlington National Cemetery is scheduled for December 19th at 1pm. Born January 1, 1926 in Cambridge, MA, he was a son of the late John and Honora Haggerty Cauley. A veteran of the US Army, he served with the **101st Paratroopers in World War II**, as well as in the Korean and the Vietnam Wars. During his 26

years in the military, he earned three Bronze Stars and numerous other medals. After retirement from the army at the rank of Lt. Colonel, Mr. Cauley served as Vice President for First Security in Boston, MA. for 20 years. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Phyllis Howard Cauley of Southern Pines, six daughters, Kathy Currier and husband Bill of Ft. Myers, FL, Mary Bryant and husband Bob of Lynchburg, VA, Judi Ritz of Southern Pines, Theresa Brower and husband David of Atlanta, GA, Liz Landreth and husband Rick of Southern Pines, and Debbie Stein and hus-

band Bob of Wilmington, MA, four sons, Greg Cauley and wife Mary of West Yarmouth, MA, Pat Cauley of Winthrop, MA, Danny Cauley and wife Patti of North Haven, CT, and Tim Cauley and Melissa of Sandwich, MA, 21 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. The family will receive friends Sunday from 6 to 8 pm at Powell Funeral Home in Southern Pines. Memorials may be made to Wounded Warriors. www.WoundedWarriorProject.org Online Condolences: www.PinesFunerals.com

Jon F. Evans, CPT, died 11 Sep 2012. He will be buried in Arlington National Cemetery on Tues, 12 Feb. His funeral will begin at the admin building at 3 PM. Then 1LT

Evans was wingman for MAJ Barker and CPT Dugan, **B-101 AVN**, in Mar 1971 when Barker, Dugan and 2 other crewmen were shot down in Laos. Their remains were

recovered years later and they were buried in Arlington in Apr 2006, in Section 60.

Normand V. Ferdinando, 79, from Boca Raton, FL and summer resident of Rye, NH died in Hilton Head, SC, Sunday, September 2, 2012 surrounded by family. He was a retired US Army officer, and decorated combat veteran. Born to Germaine & Vincent Ferdinando and raised in Manchester, New Hampshire, he was a graduate of Manchester Central High School, the New Hampton School, and graduated with a B.S. degree in business from the University of New Hampshire Durham and an MBA from Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne, FL. His military education included being a graduate of the Army Command and General Staff College; The Army Logistics College and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Washington, DC. A 1958 graduate of the UNH Army ROTC program, and a member of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity during his college years, Colonel Ferdinando's military career included tours of duty in the

Territory of Hawaii, Laos, **company commander in Vietnam with the 1st Brigade 101st Airborne Division** and Senior Army Logistics Advisor to the Saudi Arabian Armed Forces in the early 1970's. During his military career he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with the 2 Oak Leaf Clusters; Meritorious Service Medal with a 2 Oak Leaf Cluster; Army Commendation Medal; Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; National Defense Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster; Presidential Unit Citation; Meritorious Unit Citation; Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm, 2 awards; Vietnam Service Medal with 7 Battle Stars; Vietnam Campaign Medal; The Armed Forces Reserve Medal and the US Army Parachutists Badge. Services and Burial will be held at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA at a later date. Family members include his daughter, Suzanne Dixon and her husband James Dixon of Hilton Head, SC, granddaugh-

ter Lindsay McNabb and her husband Ian McNabb of Fort Mill, SC and granddaughter Kimberly Dixon of Manhattan, NY, brothers State Senator Richard Ferdinando and wife Barbara of Manchester, NH, Lee Ferdinando of Florida, sister Carita Eugene of Manchester, NH, his favorite nephews Keith Ferdinando of Andover, MA and Mark & Greg Ferdinando of Manchester, NH, and his companion Pat Langley of Rye, NH, and numerous other cousins nieces and nephews located throughout the US. He was preceded in death by his daughter Kimberly Lynn Ferdinando and his brother Paul Ferdinando. Memorial contributions can be made to the Army Emergency Relief at 200 Stovall Street, Alexandria, VA 22332, www.aerhg.org or at 866-878-6378. The Island Funeral Home and Crematory is in charge of arrangements. Online at www.theislandfuneralhome.com.

Carl William Griffin, CSM, USA (Ret), passed away, December 25, 2012 in Enterprise. He was 88. Funeral services will be held at 11:00 A.M., December 31st at Searcy Funeral Home and Crematory Chapel with Rev. Rob West officiating. Burial will follow in Meadowlawn Cemetery with Searcy Funeral Home directing. The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 2 to 4 P.M., December 30th. He was born in Columbus, GA; son of Marie and Marvin G. Griffin. He enlisted in the military in 1941, serving in what was then the Army Air Corp. After attending jump school, his next assignment was with the 101st Airborne Division PIR. He served in the European Theater during WWII at Ardennes and the Battle of the Bulge. In 1945 with hostilities in Korea, he was a platoon sergeant with the Airborne RCT. He participated in operations in Lebanon and while there, he was selected to be one of the Army's first NCO's to earn the rank of MSG. He served in

the Pentagon as the senior NCO for the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff. In that capacity, he was also the enlisted representative to the Department of the Army staff on worldwide matters. He was one of the first selected to receive the new rank of CSM and was assigned to Ft. Rucker as post CSM. Following a tour in Korea where he served as the Eighth Army and U.S. Forces Korea command sergeant major, he returned to Ft. Rucker where he retired with 28 years of service. He was active in the Association of the US Army since inception, serving on the board of directors and continued to serve even after retirement. His next move was to ROTC instructor at Enterprise High School for two years; and then to manager of the Chamber of Commerce for a brief period. From there he assumed the duties of City Clerk and Administrator and served the City of Enterprise for 18 years. After all that he had time to enjoy his love of painting, finishing oil portraits for family and

friends. He was always interested in fishing, family, friends, people he worked with, baseball and especially young folks he taught and those he coached in Little League. He had a light manner, always ready with a laugh. He truly cared for others. He was a good man. He was a good soldier. Survivors include his wife of 66 years, Faye McClenny Griffin; Sons, Carl W. Griffin, Jr. wife Lorelle, Monmouth Beach, NJ; Timothy M. Griffin, wife Angela, Dothan, AL; Marvin L. Griffin, wife Alison, Ft. Hood, TX; Daughter, Cecilia Allan, husband Brian, Houston, TX; Grandsons, Carl E. Griffin; wife Carrie, Monmouth Beach, NJ; Timothy P. Griffin; wife Kym, Monmouth Beach, NJ; Zachary Johnson, Houston, TX; Hunter Bridges, Dothan, AL; Benjamin J. Griffin, Ft. Hood, TX; William M. Griffin, Ft. Hood, TX; Granddaughter, Sarah Johnson, Houston, TX; Great Grandson, Carl E. Griffin, Jr., Monmouth, NJ; Great Granddaughter, Samantha Griffin, Monmouth Beach, NJ.



Ole Henry Hanson joined the rest of the cowboys at the roundup in the sky on January 31, 2013. Ole was born on March 14, 1935 to Henry Cornelius and Bertha Andera' Nilson Hanson in Hecla, SD. During the dust bowl of the late 1930's when Ole was a toddler, his parents and his older brother Harvey headed to Idaho where Bertha's family lived. There, two more brothers were born, Larry and Byron. He spent most of his childhood at the Hanson place east of Troy where he learned a strong work ethic milking cows for their dairy and working on the farm. Ole attended school in Troy graduating in 1953. At age 18 he joined the US Army as a member of the 101-st Airborne Division, also known as the Screaming Eagles where he was a paratrooper, making 16 successful jumps. He was proud to be a Veteran, but always said he was glad to be back in Troy, where he called home for the next 57 years. After the Army, Ole worked as a welder and a carpenter and learned skills that he would use for the rest of his years. Ole worked on the construction of Ice Harbor Dam, and several commercial buildings around the community. He also was a talented musician and played for many years in the Four Swedes Band, despite being 101% Norwegian. Ole is known for his ability to witch water wells with a brass rod and a quarter; as a talented accordion and piano player who could play instruments by ear, and as the Burnt Ridge Bull. He was a true inventor, loved knot tying and brain teasers; was able to fix anything with duct tape and baling twine. In the 1960's Ole opened the Troy Fiberlam,

where he built custom fiberglass products. In 1969 the business burnt down. After that, Ole partnered with his younger brother Larry and started farming in the Troy area. Ole was a proud member of the Troy Volunteer Fire Department for 26 years then served as Fire Commissioner. Ole married Sheryl Lynn Wallner on February 6, 1965. The couple moved to Burnt Ridge where they raised three daughters, Alaina Dawn, Alyssa Lee and Arika Mae Andera'. Ole and Sheryl continued to farm and raise cattle, which was truly Ole's passion. He enjoyed taking the cows to open range in the summer, as a member of the Kendrick Cattleman's Association, so he could spend time riding his horse in the mountains. He said he had to keep at least one cow so he would have an excuse to ride with friends and check on the cattle in the summer. Ole also loved pack trips, riding horseback and spending time fishing and hunting with friends. Although cutting back over the years, he leaves behind close to 40 head which kept him going every morning. This past summer, Ole, family and friends have been enjoying the cabin in the canyon. The cabin is constructed of logs from the 1890's barn on the farm that finally collapsed. Ole's spirit is surely watching over the cabin at "Ole's Paradise" which will be a special place for his family and friends for years to come. In 1989 Ole and the girls lost Sheryl to cancer. Ole described her as the best wife and mother any one could ever have. Ole later married Sara Lee Smith Gulliksen and the marriage ended in divorce. Ole is survived by his daughters and his grandchildren, the "Magnificent Seven" who were his pride and joy: Morgan Lee, Levi Connor, and Haley Mae and parents Alaina and

Mark McCully of Troy; Camryn Mae and Olivia Lynn and parents Alyssa and Rick Hood of Pullman; and Bryce Ole and Delaney Sherylynn and parents Arika and Mark Jensen of Kenai, Alaska. Over the past couple of years, Ole was fortunate to have the companionship of Edna Weatherford. His family (and his cattle) are grateful for her help, support and hard work, that she and Ole shared some good laughs and great times together. He is also survived by sisters in law Lenore Hanson, and Dawn Nichols, many nieces, nephews and cousins. Ole was preceded in death by his wife Sheryl, brothers Harvey, Larry and Byron, his parents and many extended family members. Ole had countless friends near and far. He will be missed for his ingenuity, storytelling, incredible memory, jokes, sparkling blue eyes and contagious smile. Known for bad luck and close calls, he always came out grinning. He shared his positive outlook on life with everyone he met and was always willing to try something new. He was a genuine friend and one of the last true cowboys. A humble man, proud of all he had, strong, caring, and kind. He never wasted a day. He lived the life he loved. Happy Trails. Donations can be made in memory of Ole to the Troy EMT/Fire Department. Grave-side only service will be held on Wednesday at Burnt Ridge Cemetery at 11:00 am. On Friday, please join Ole's family and friends at the Latah County Fairgrounds from 4-8 pm, with program beginning at 5 pm. Bring a favorite story and a dish to share. Arrangements have been entrusted to Short's Funeral Chapel, Moscow, and online condolences may be sent to www.shortsfuneralchapel.net.



Francis Hill passed 2/23/2013. Francis was from Logan, NM. He served with HQ Company, 502d PIR in WW II from 1943 to 1945.

Andrew J Gonda
South Bound Brook NJ
Deceased 12/8/2009

Eugene E Lednický
Palmyra TN
B CO 2ND BN 501ST INF
Deceased 8/2/2010

William H Williams
Fenton MO
HHC 2ND BN 101ST AVN
Deceased 2/25/2012

James W Hinton
Burlington NC
Deceased

Roger D Tucker
Port Collins OH
C CO 1ST BN 502ND INF 2ND BDE
Deceased

Robert A Wolff
Olathe KS
A CO 1ST ABG 502ND INF
Deceased 10/15/2012

Roderick Craig Jamison, Captain (U.S. ARMY RETIRED), 72, of Weirton, WV, passed away Monday, January 28, 2013, at UPMC Presbyterian, Pittsburgh, PA. He is the son of the late Denward Ray and Gladys Tyo Jamison. He was born in Steubenville, OH, on October 14, 1940. He volunteered for the US Army and for two tours of duty in Vietnam. As one of the most decorated military heroes in West Virginia, his awards include the Combat Infantry Badge, The Vietnam Cross of Gallantry for heroism, five bronze stars (two for heroism and three for meritorious Achievement), three Vietnamese Campaign Medals, The Army Commendation Medal, the Presidential Unit Citation, and the Vietnamese Civic Action Medal. Captain Jamison served the first tour in Vietnam as a platoon leader in an armored unit of the **101st Airborne Division** and in the Mekong Delta as part of a unit with the only air cushion vehicle unit in Vietnam.

During his second tour of duty he was responsible for an Infantry Company and 17 hamlets within the Thoi Lai area. As part of the 1st Squadron, 14th Armored Cavalry he served as a Border Legionnaire patrolling the German-Soviet Demarcation Line as part of the Cold War. Captain Jamison was extremely proud to be an American and his association with the Army 3rd Squadron, 5th Division (Black Knights). He was an expert with Jungle warfare, rifle, pistol, and machine guns. Captain Jamison held every rank from private to Captain and served the Army in such roles as Drill Sergeant, Nuclear Logistics Officer, Hovercraft Pilot, and retired after 20 years in 1977. His military accomplishments were recently published in a book of West Virginia military heroes. He enjoyed anything to do with computers and worked for various companies related to computing before joining the US Postal Service in 1986, and retiring from the New

Cumberland, WV post office in 1995. Roderick is survived by his wife of 45 years, JoAnn Zuza Jamison; son, Denward Jamison (fiance Joyce Tomaszewski Lydick); grandson, Parker Roderick Jamison, all from Frederick, MD; brother, Ray "Dan" Denward Jamison (Darlene) of New Cumberland, WV; sister, Nancy Karen DiLullo (Matteo) of Oldsmar, FL; and mother-in-law, Louise Zuza of Weirton, WV. Visitation will be at the Steel & Wolfe Funeral Home, Inc., 380 Penco Road, Weirton, WV, on Friday February 1, 2013, from 2 p.m. until time of funeral at 6 p.m. Burial with full military honors will be at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA, on a date and time yet to be assigned. Memorial contributions may be made to "Homes For Our Troops, Inc.," 6 Main Street, Taunton, MA 02780. www.homesforourtroops.org, www.steelandwolfe.com



Martin Robert Karig, III, Lt. Col. (Army, retired), 66, of Lancaster, Pa., died suddenly Friday, Nov. 2, 2012, surrounded by his family in San Antonio, Texas. Bob was in San

Antonio attending an alumni association reunion of **Alpha Troop 2nd Squadron/17th Cavalry 101st Airborne Division (Air Mobile/Assault)**, of which he was a founding father and driving force in the association. Born in Middletown, N.Y., he was the son of the late Martin R. Karig Jr. and Dorothy Kortright Karig. He held a bachelor's degree in history and political science from Alfred University, a master's degree in business administration from Georgetown University, and had studied international business at Oxford University. Bob was a career Army officer who served two combat tours in Vietnam as a helicopter pilot, before retiring from active military duty in 1989. Among his medals and citations were the Distinguished Flying Cross, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal and two Air Medals,

one awarded for valor. Bob worked in the Pentagon while in the Army and then as a civilian for the University of Maryland and also served on a consortium for Lockheed Martin. After retiring from industry as a research and development program manager, Bob moved to Lancaster, where he volunteered as a researcher and docent at the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania in Strasburg. He also volunteered for the Ontario & Western Railways in Middletown, N.Y., Landis Valley Museum in Lancaster and Habitat for Humanity. Bob was a former member of East Hempfield Township Planning Commission. He attended Faith United Methodist Church in Lancaster. An author, Bob's first two books, "Hard Coal and Coal Dust" and "Coal Cars: The First Three Hundred Years," dealt with the history of freight car technology. He was working on a third book, "From West Shore to Coal Fields," which traces the business histories of the New York, West Shore and Buffalo and the New York, Ontario and Western Railways, and a novel, "Pennies From Heaven." Bob will be lovingly missed by his fiancée, Dolores (Dolly) L. Bankert of

Lititz, Pa., his sister, Dr. Lynda Karig Hohmann of Albany, N.Y., his brother, Thomas W. Karig, husband of Laurie of Port Huron, Mich., his stepchildren, Robert Harvey and Rhett Price; his granddaughters, Hillary Brindley and Hope Price; his aunt, Helen O'Leary; his uncle, Don Kortright (Merle), his uncle, Dick; and several nieces and nephews and grandnephews. He was preceded in death by his brother, Peter Allen Karig. The funeral service will take place at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 7, 2012, at Charles F. Snyder Jr. Funeral Home & Crematory Inc., 3110 Lititz Pike, Lititz, PA 17543, with the Rev. Kent E. Kroehler officiating. A visitation will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Interment with full military honors will take place at a later date in Arlington National Cemetery. Please omit flowers. Memorial contributions may be made to the Wounded Warriors Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, KS 66675 or www.woundedwarriorproject.org. To send the family online condolences, please visit SnyderFuneralHome.com





Phillip Martin Kopcza, passed into eternal life on January 19, 2013, in the arms of his sweetheart of 37 years, Phyllis Helbling and surrounded by his family after a brief illness.

Phillip was born on September 7, 1941 in Bristol, and lived the majority of his life in Meriden. He was pre-deceased by his father and mother, Ambrose and Frances (Folcik) Kopcza and his wife, Katie Kopcza. Phil served proudly in the U.S. Army with the 101st Airborne Division. He continued his passion of parachuting throughout his life, but added so many other hobbies that gave him great happiness. He was a avid fisherman, spending years combing Long Island Sound, the Atlantic Ocean and the Caribbean in search of "the BIG one". This he did with his best buddies, his brother, Matthew and Jim Gilhooley and taking along the guys, Joe, Ray, Merrill and Giorgio to name a few and as often as Phil's sons and nephews would agree to, they would tag along waiting to see if the stories of the Giants were true. Phil was a talented woodworker and devoted hours to his woodworking shop along with his son, Doug or his love, Phyllis. Creating gifts, Christmas sleighs, and building decks, etc., everything Phil put his mind to not only gave him great pleasure but he loved to share his talent with others. Phil would create Christmas ornaments and Phyllis

would decorate them, paint them or add her stained glass to the project. These have become family treasures and will provide great comfort in the years to come. His greatest endeavor might just be his love for his granddaughters, Audra and Sarah. The depth of love and joy he felt was unmatched in his life for those beautiful girls. It was impossible to miss the gleam in his eyes or the smile from ear to ear when he talked about them or held them in his arms. The relationship with his granddaughters, lead him to a profound love for their mother, his daughter-in-law, Christine Kopcza. They shared "Sunday Mornings" together. Their time together no matter what they did was their special time. But the happiness it brought him washed over the rest of us as he was truly satiated by their love. Phil leaves a deep void in the hearts of his two sons, Douglas and Gregory Kopcza of Meriden, although he did not want to leave them. During his short illness it was paramount to him that his sons knew that he loved them with all of his heart, saying he would keep them in his heart forever. He leaves his brother and sister-in-law, Matthew and Shari of Wethersfield, and their children; Kevin, Amber and Susan; his great-nephews; Matthew Kopcza and Peyton Pulawski. And sadly he leaves Phyllis' sons Gary and Brian whom he embraced as sons. Phil also had an extended family in his work at Aero Space Techniques. They all had a bond that breached the working

hours to encompass hours of personal time helping each other out in whatever needed to be done. Again the enrichment was immeasurable. All of these relationships provided Phil with the love and security he needed to move past his illness and into the fullness of his life. The family would like to express their sincere gratitude to the staff at the Cocomo Apple Rehab in Meriden, who provided Phil the safe environment to examine his final choices and to the VNA Patient Hospice Care. Amazing, caring, giving, compassionate does not speak to the volumes of love this staff showed Phil and our family during our time of need. Phil was able to pass in the comfort of his home a space that provided him years of happiness due to their devotion. Relatives and friends are invited to a Mass of Christian Burial, on Friday, January 25, 2013 at 10 a.m. at the Immaculate Conception Church, 130 Summer St., Southington, with military honors to follow. Phil's brother, Matthew will journey Phillip to his final resting place off of the point in Montauk, NY. In lieu of flowers, Phillip's family has requested donations be made to the VNA HeathCare, Hospice program 80 Meriden Ave, Southington, CT 06489. Newington Memorial Funeral Home, 20 Bonair Ave., Newington, is serving the family. To share your sorrow, please visit us at www.newingtonmemorial.com.



Wayne Lee LaFontaine, 82, passed from this life on Friday, January 18, 2013, at Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines. The body has been cremated and a memorial

visitation will be held 5 - 7 p.m. Monday, January 21, at Iles Funeral Homes-Westover Chapel. Wayne was born on September 8, 1930, in Rockford, Illinois to John and Myrtle LaFontaine. Wayne served in the U.S. Army in the 101st Airborne as a

paratrooper. He married Ann Anderson and they made their home in Urbandale. Wayne was employed in the Commercial Well Drilling industry for over 50 years, having worked with Thorpe Well, Layne Western, Inc. and Northway Well and Pump Co., retiring in 2000. Wayne is survived by his wife, Ann LaFontaine, his children Mary Beth Ellis of Delta Junction, AK, Robert (Kim) LaFontaine of Waukee, Georgann LaFontaine of Madison, WI, Kenneth (Deb) LaFontaine of Rockford, IL, and Roger LaFontaine and Larry LaFontaine, both of

Evansville, IN; his grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and his siblings, Jerry LaFontaine of Florida, Nancy (Charles) Layng of Rockford, IL, and Barbara (Martin) Windemuth of California. He was preceded in death by his parents, his son Steven, his son-in-law Butch Ellis, brothers, Russell and John and sisters, Eudora and Wanda. Memorial contributions may be made to the Animal Rescue League of Iowa. Online condolences will be welcomed at IlesCares.com.

Ernest A. "Pop" Lambert, 90, a resident of the Pawtucketville section of Lowell, died Tuesday morning, January 8, 2013. He was the husband of the late Doris A. (Forget) Lambert. Born in Lowell on December 5, 1922, he was a son of the late Emile and Ernestine (Grady) Lambert. Ernest was a 1939 graduate of Lowell High School. An Army Veteran of World War II, Mr. Lambert was a proud member of the 101st Air-

borne Division Screaming Eagles and fought in the Battle of the Bulge in Bastogne. Prior to his retirement in 1985, he was employed by the Lowell office of the United States Postal Service as a letter carrier. Previously he had been employed with United Elastic of Lowell. He was a communicant of the former Ste. Jeanne D'Arc Church, a member of the American Legion Post 40 in Plymouth, MA and a life member

of VFW, Walker Rogers Post 662 in Lowell. Ernest is survived by two sons; Normand E. Lambert and his wife Sheila of San Antonio, TX, and Paul R. Lambert and his wife Sandra of Plainfield, NH, two sisters; Jeanne Guay and Doris Lambert, both of Baltimore, MD, 7 grandsons, 11 great grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

Lester F. Malhojt, Jr., 63, of Rincon, Georgia formerly of Arlington, Virginia died Saturday, January 19, 2013 at his residence surrounded by his loving family and under the care of Hospice Savannah, Inc. Lester was born in Washington DC and had lived most of his life in Northern Virginia. He was a US Army Veteran having served in the 101st Airborne Division during the Vietnam War and was retired after 37 years of service as a Letter Carrier for the US Postal

Service. After retiring Lester and his wife Linda moved south to Georgia. He had a passion and love for music, Lester played bass guitar in many different bands and his love for music was passed along to his family. Lester was an avid Redskins fan, enjoyed gardening, nature and loved traveling with his wife. Survivors include his wife Linda, two daughters, Julie (Jeff) Sensabaugh of Stuarts Draft, Virginia, Stacey (Josh Egelman) Malhojt of Rincon, Geor-

gia; a son, Jason (Lesley) Malhojt of Richmond, Virginia; two brothers, Philip and David Malhojt; three grandchildren, three great grandchildren, several nieces and nephews. Expression of sympathy may be sent to the following cancer research organization: www.accrf.org A Celebration of Life service will be held Sunday, January 27, 2013 from 2:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m. at Empire, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield, Virginia 22152.

Gordon H. Mansfield, who was twice shot in the spine during combat operations in Vietnam, became a leading advocate for disabled veterans and retired as a top official of the Department of Veterans Affairs, died Jan. 29 at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Washington. He was 71. He died of a heart ailment, said his wife, Linda Mansfield. He had homes in St. Michaels, Md., and Naples, Fla. Mr. Mansfield, a Massachusetts native, joined the Army in 1964 and served two tours of duty in Vietnam. During the Tet Offensive of 1968, in which tens of thousands of North Vietnamese troops attacked South Vietnamese cities, Mr. Mansfield was the commanding officer of an airborne infantry company assigned to a search-and-clear operation. His platoon came under intense enemy fire near Hai Lang that Feb. 4. When one group of soldiers was pinned down amid withering fire, he advanced with five men to the enemy's flank and led an attack that largely silenced the guns. While attempting to move wounded soldiers to safety, he was shot twice in the spine by an enemy combatant. He refused aid until his entire platoon was evacuated to safety. He received the Distinguished Service Cross, the highest award for valor after the Medal of Honor. Mr. Mansfield, who was left a paraplegic from his injuries and underwent therapy and treatment for five years, graduated from law school and practiced law in Ocala, Fla., before joining the Paralyzed Veterans of America in 1981. He worked 15 years with the nonprofit organization, ultimately becoming executive director. Through the group, he championed the Air Carrier Access Act of 1986, which prohibited discrimination against disabled travelers on air-

lines, and the sweeping Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990. Mr. Mansfield also was a force in the effort to make the Veterans Administration the Cabinet-level Department of Veterans Affairs in 1989, said Douglas Vollmer, associate executive director of Paralyzed Veterans of America. On leave from the advocacy group, Mr. Mansfield served as the assistant secretary for fair housing and equal opportunity at the Department of Housing and Urban Development from 1989 to 1993. During that time, he promoted accessible and affordable housing for disabled people. Mr. Mansfield joined the Department of Veterans Affairs in 2001. He became assistant secretary for congressional and legislative affairs and then deputy secretary and chief operating officer before retiring in 2009. He had briefly been acting secretary of the department in 2007. As deputy secretary, he advocated for the wounded and "helped oversee a more effective and efficient reformation of the health-care procurement and disabilities compensation claims systems," said former VA secretary Anthony J. Principi. Gordon Hall Mansfield was born Sept. 15, 1941, in Pittsfield, Mass. He was a 1964 graduate of Villanova University in Radnor Township, Pa., and received a law degree from the University of Miami in 1973. Decades later, he did graduate work in theology from Christendom College in Front Royal. Besides the Distinguished Service Cross, his military honors included the Bronze Star Medal and two awards of the Purple Heart. His other awards included the Defense Department's Distinguished Public Service Medal in 2008. His first marriage, to Suzanne Petroske, ended in divorce. Survivors include his wife of 25 years, Linda

Coughtry Mansfield of St. Michaels; two sons from his first marriage, Gordon P. Mansfield of Leesburg and Leon Mansfield of Ashburn; three sisters; one brother; and four grandchildren. In retirement, Mr. Mansfield served on the board of the Wounded Warrior Project, a charitable group that helps severely injured service members, and the Disabled Veterans' Life Memorial Foundation, a group working to build a memorial on the Mall. In 2010, a housing community for homeless veterans was dedicated in his honor and built in Pittsfield by the veterans' nonprofit organization Soldier On. Following his 1964 enlistment in the Army, Mansfield served two tours of duty in Vietnam. While serving as company commander with **the 101st Airborne Division** during his second tour, he was wounded during the Tet Offensive on February 4, 1968, when an enemy soldier feigning death shot him. Mansfield sustained a spinal cord injury, but remained with his soldiers and made sure that the wounded were evacuated before he was medevaced to a Navy Hospital, and was later sent to the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland to recover. Mansfield was discharged in September 1968. For his actions while his unit was under fire, he was decorated with the Distinguished Service Cross. He was medically retired by the U.S. Army at the grade of Captain. His other combat decorations include the Bronze Star, two Purple Hearts, the Combat Infantryman Badge and the Presidential Unit Citation. CPT Gordon Mansfield, former Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs, was commanding C Company, 1/501st Infantry in Vietnam when he was wounded in 1968.





James Elbert "Jake" McNiece, son of Eli Hugh and Rebecca Ring McNiece, was born at Maysville, Oklahoma on May 24, 1919. He was next to the youngest of 10

children with 4 older brothers and 4 older sisters. He died at the home of his son Hugh McNiece in Chatham Illinois on Monday morning January 21, 2013 at the age of 93. He spent his early childhood and elementary school education in Maysville. His family moved to Ponca City, OK in 1931 when Jake was 12. He completed Junior High and was Captain of the Junior High football team for two years under Coach Baker, who later became the coach at Po-Hi and then at Oklahoma A&M (now OSU). By the time Jake completed Jr. High, the nation was in the midst of the depression. Jake's Dad could not find full employment to take care of the family, and Jake dropped out of High School to work to help support his parents and younger sister. When Coach Baker became the Ponca City High School football coach, he encouraged Jake to return to school to play football. Coach Baker informed him they could find employment for Jake or his father. Jake took a position at the Fire Department and worked the night shift while going to school and playing football by day. In Jake's senior year, he was captain of the football team and president of the senior class. He graduated in 1939. During his work with the Fire Department, he learned to use explosives demolishing fire damaged structures. Following high school he worked in road construction and at the Pine Bluff arsenal continuing his experience with explosives. After completing the job at Pine Bluff Arsenal, he enlisted for military service and volunteered for US Army Paratroop duty on September 1, 1942. He was assigned to the 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment, Headquarters Company. Basic training took place at Camp Toccoa, Georgia. With his prior experience using explosives, he was immediately assigned to the demolition saboteur section to train other troops in the use of high tech explosives. The nucleus of the group that became known as "The Filthy 13" began to form at that time. Following completion of basic training they

went to jump school at Fort Benning, GA. The 506th was then assigned for further training at Camp Mackall, South Carolina, at which time they were officially attached to the 101st Airborne Division. From there they were involved in the first Tennessee maneuvers in early 1943. The 101st Airborne embarked for England in September, 1943, for further training and to prepare for the invasion of Northern Europe. With Jake as their Sergeant, The Filthy 13, sporting Mohawks and war paint, participated in the invasion of Normandy, France, June 5th, 1944. They jumped behind German Beach fortifications shortly after midnight before the main invasion force hit the beaches the next morning. Jake and others successfully accomplished their assigned mission (thought to be a suicide mission); however, most of the core Filthy 13 were lost in battle or taken prisoner. Following this, he made three more combat jumps, the invasion of Holland, at Bastogne (The Battle of the Bulge), and at Prum Germany. The Holland jump was made famous by the book and movie "A Bridge Too Far." After the Holland jump, Jake volunteered for Pathfinder Duty. He led the pathfinder team that jumped into Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge to set up the resupply of the trapped 101st Airborne, helping turn the tide of the battle. His 4th jump at Prum Germany (Siegfried Line), was to guide resupply of a section of Patton's tank forces that had been isolated and cut off from Allied supply lines. After Jake's discharge from the military in February, 1946, he travelled the US with his father for about 6 months. (His mother had died while Jake was overseas.) He settled in California for a time, doing railroad and construction work, and returned to Ponca City, Oklahoma, in 1949. Jake went to work for the US Post Office in Ponca City and settled down for a 28 1/2 year career serving the public. Jake served in local and state offices for the Postal Clerks union. In Ponca City, Jake married his first wife Rosita Vitale, who died after 3 1/2 years of marriage in August, 1952. His second wife, Martha Beam Wonders, moved to Ponca City in September 1952, following the death of her first husband. Jake and Martha began dating the following spring and were married September 4th, 1953. They stayed happily

married for 59 1/2 years. They were active members of the Hartford Avenue Church of Christ where Jake was instrumental in beginning a food program and leading a home Bible study group among other areas of service, and later the Tonkawa Church of Christ. Jake loved fishing, hunting and gardening – and friendships and service opportunities that revolved around them. Jake and Martha took several trips to Europe, where Jake was honored for his service in WWII. Jake has been honored over the years for his service to the Country. He was inducted into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame, made an Honorary Colonel of the 95th Victory Division. He was awarded an Honorary Masters degree in Military Science, by Cumberland University, Lebanon Tennessee for his participation in the military maneuvers there 1943. In 2012 Jake was awarded the French Legion of Honor, Knight Chevalier medal, the highest honor the French President can give to an enlisted soldier. His story can be read in the book, "The Filthy Thirteen; the true story of the Dirty Dozen" by Richard Killblane and Jake McNiece. Jake is survived by his wife Martha McNiece; his sons Alan Wonders and wife Billie Ruth (Richardson, Texas) and Hugh McNiece and wife Mary Ellen (Chatham, Illinois), his daughter Rebecca Sue Brewer and husband Joel (Katy, Texas), and grandchildren Lucy Wonders Hahn (husband Micah, children Luke, Titus, and Elle), Cara Wonders, Michelle Brewer Withrow (husband Matt, children Mason and Madison), Caleb McNiece (wife Kristi), Silas McNiece, and Hannah McNiece. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, January 26, 2013 at 1:00 pm at Hartford Avenue Church of Christ with Mr. Don Huddleston, officiating. There will be a reception to follow after the service. Visitation will be held at Trout Funeral Home on Thursday, January 24, 2013 from 8:00 am-8:00 pm and Friday, January 25, 2013 from 8:00 am-12:00 pm. In lieu of flowers please consider making a memorial contribution in honor of Jake to a Veteran's Organization, A Food Bank or any other charity. Arrangements are made under the direction of Trout Funeral Home and Crematory.





Forrest James "Jay" Nichols, 91, died September 30, 2012 in Lakeland due to natural causes. Mr. Nichols was born November 2, 1920 in Marie, Arkansas. He enlisted in the U. S. Army in 1942 and parachuted into Normandy on D-Day (June 6, 1944) and into Holland during Operation Market Garden (September 17, 1944). He also fought in Bastogne, Belgium during the Battle of the Bulge from December 18 to December 31, 1944 when he was wounded in action and transferred home. Mr. Nichols moved his family from East Prairie, Missouri to Lakeland in 1962. He was in the wholesale produce business until his retirement. Mr. Nichols was preceded in death by his parents Forrest and Lena Belle Nichols, his sister Eloise and his grandson Michael Ryan. He is survived by his wife of 65 years

Loretta G. Nichols of Lakeland, sons Forest Jay Nichols of Managua, Nicaragua, Michael Van Nichols and Stephen Ross Nichols, both of Lakeland. Also surviving are 11 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. Mr. Nichols was a member of the Masonic Lodge in Charleston, Missouri, 101st Airborne Association, VFW, Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, and a longtime supporter of the Lakeland High School football program. He was an active member of the South Lakeland Church of God which became TBA Church. The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 PM Wednesday at Lakeland Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held 2 PM Thursday at TBA Church. Entombment will follow in Lakeland Memorial Gardens. The family requests those wishing to make contributions make them to TBA Church in Mr. Nichols' name. Forrest "Jay" Nichols, died September 30th, 2012 in Lakeland due to natural causes. He was

born in Marie, Arkansas and enlisted in the Army in 1942. He was a proud member of the 101st Airborne Divisions B Company, 1st Battalion, 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment. Jay parachuted into Normandy and Holland and fought at Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge where he was seriously wounded and transferred home. After the war he was in the wholesale produce business until his retirement. Jay was a member of the 101st Airborne Association, the VFW, the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, and the Masons. He was also a supporter of the Lakeland High School football program. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Loretta G. Nichols of Lakeland Florida, three sons; Forrest, Michael and Stephen, 11 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. "Old Paratroopers never die, they just go to heaven and regroup."

George Ochoa Age 90. George was a decorated war veteran and Purple Heart recipient. He served with Company C, 1st Bn,

506th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division in Europe during WWII.

Interment will be at Fort Logan National Cemetery, 2:30 pm, February 28th in Area B.



CPT James A. Page, 42, passed away Monday, January 21, 2013 at Gateway Medical Center in Clarksville. He was an Army Veteran and Division Historian for the 101st Airborne Division at Ft. Campbell, and a graduate of Fern Creek High School,

Kemper Military Academy and the University of Louisville. He is survived by his wife, Kimberly Page, the daughter of Tom Anderson (Sandra) and the late Geraldine Anderson; children, Benton and Gemma Page; sister-in-law, Kari Ostby (Chris); parents, Albert and Elizabeth Page; sister, Cindy White (Chris); nephew, Jake Logsdon; and niece, Kaylee White. His funeral is 10 a.m.

Monday at Fern Creek Funeral Home, 5406 Bardstown Road with burial in the Soldier's Circle Section at Resthaven Memorial Park. Visitation is 4-8 p.m. Saturday and noon-6 p.m. Sunday. Local arrangements are in the care of McReynolds-Nave & Larson Funeral Home, (931)647-3371.

George W. Parker Jr., Retired Sgt. First Class, passed on Jan. 1, 2013. Parker was a military legend known for his several distinguished honorable achievements. His career included The Purple Heart, Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star, Army Commendation Medal (2D Award), Combat Infantryman's Badge, Good Conduct Medal (3D Award), Vietnam Campaign Medal (W/60 Device), two Overseas Service Bars, Air Medal 2D Award, Bronze Star Medal (W/4 Campaign Stars), Meritorious Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal (W/Oak Leaf Cluster) and many more. George Parker was born on Dec. 5, 1927, in Florence, Ala., and joined the Navy in August of 1945. At 17 years of age he served in Guam during the closing days of World War II. He later joined the Army in October

of 1949. Most of his medals were earned during the predawn fire fight of May 13, 1969. His heroism continued from the Korean War to the Vietnam War. He earned 24 medals while serving our country as active military, but that's not where his patriotism ended. George Parker was known for his Good Luck Paper t-shirts. As a veteran that had survived so much he felt it was his duty to thank each and every soldier he crossed and remind them about how much they meant to him and our country. He did that by giving out small paper t-shirts and requesting the soldier to promise to return with it. His support and unwavering dedication to our country and its military was so loud and heard in Washington D.C. He received a letter from President George W. Bush thanking him for his

continued patriotism. George W. Parker Jr. was preceded in death by his wife, Elizabeth E. Parker of 52 years of marriage; sister, Mary Sue Walden. He is survived by two brothers, Wesley Parker of Huntsville, Texas and William Cosby of Tusculumbia, Ala.; Timothy and Claudia Rauhoff of Killeen, Texas and many more nieces and nephews. Services will be Monday, Jan. 7, 2013, at Heritage Funeral Home, 425 East Central Texas Expressway, Harker Heights, Texas. Visitation will begin from 10-11 a.m., followed by service. Burial will be immediately followed with full military honor at the Killeen Memorial Park Cemetery on 3800 Lake Road in Killeen, Texas. Donations may be accepted at Darnall Army Medical Center BLDG, 36015 Fisher Lane, Fort Hood, TX 76544; (254) 286-7927.



Dean F. Schnoor, 87, of Milton passed away Tuesday, January 8, 2013. Dean was born in Perry, Iowa on June 3, 1925 to Jessie (Hall) and Fred Schnoor. He graduated from the U. S. Military Academy at West Point in 1950. The veteran of more than 28 years of service, Dean had seen foreign duty in the Panama Canal Zone, Puerto Rico, Korea, Germany and Vietnam. He did graduate work in Business Administration at Virginia Tech and earned his Master's Degree in Public Administration at Shippensburg State College. He also graduated

from the Army Command and General Staff College and the Army War College. Following military retirement in 1979, Dean established Whispering Pines Christmas Tree Farm in Milton. Dean was preceded in death by his parents and his first wife, Deoma Mendenhall Schnoor. He is survived by his loving wife, Joyce Penton Schnoor and ten children: Rick Schnoor (Kathie), Miami; Randy Schnoor (Jan), Bristow, VA; Chris Schnoor (Carrie), Austin, TX; Sara Sullivan (Danny), Reston, VA; Lisa Gibson (John), Asheville, NC; Julie Schnoor, North Andover, MA; Wanda Sagebiel (Chuck), Peach Tree City, GA; Mike Kelly (Erica), Pace; Jeff Schnoor (Claire), Denver, CO; and Greg

Schnoor (Lisa), Pensacola; and one sister, Helen Schnoor Georgi, Germantown, TN. Dean also had twenty-six grandchildren, twelve great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. A visitation will be held at 5:00PM on Saturday, January 12, 2013 at Lewis Funeral Home, Milton Chapel followed by a Memorial Service at 6:00 PM. Burial will be at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, DC at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society or a charity of your choice. A special thanks to Dr. Waggoner and the staff in the ICU at Sacred Heart Hospital for the excellent care our loved one received.

Wayne Philip Shoemaker, loving husband, father, brother and grandfather, as well as great friend, neighbor and mentor to many, passed away on January 27, 2013 after complications from a fall. He was 77 years old. A lifelong Washingtonian, son of Warren and Madaline Shoemaker, brother to Katherine Gail Hardy and the late Warren W. Shoemaker, Jr. He is survived by his wife, Marlene; children from his first marriage Kevin Shoemaker (Beth); Katherine Shoemaker; Karen Simundson (Ken); Keith

Shoemaker (Jodie); grandchildren Emily, Sarah Ferreira (Diego), Lillian, Ryan, Shelby and Andrew; stepson Theodore A. Hall III (Karin) and grandchildren Madison and Tucker. Wayne graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School (1953) and attended Virginia Tech and West Virginia University. He was a member of the **Army 101 Airborne Military Police**. From 1965 to 1978, Wayne was a member of the Bethesda Kiwanis Club serving as Key Club Administrator and Lieutenant Governor-Capital Dis-

trict. He started Wayne Drywall Company, Inc. in 1967 and worked there until his retirement in 2005. He was a member of St. John Neumann Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus. A memorial service and interment will take place at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to Suburban Hospital or the American Parkinson Association. Please view and sign family guestbook at www.pumphreyfuneralhome.com



Thomas Leon (Tom) Simpson, age 71 of Knoxville, born August 19, 1941, passed away Thursday, January 17, 2013. Tom was a veteran and proud of his service as a member of the 101st Airborne. He retired

from Rohm & Haas after 40 years of service. Tom will be joining in Heaven, his parents, Vance Simpson and Marie Owens Simpson. He is survived by wife of 50 years, Barbara Simpson; daughters, Angie and Rhonda; grandchildren, Tommy (wife, Leslie), Ashley, Dylan, Paige, Brandon and Vance; great-granddaughters, Eden, Ava

and Casey; sister, Joy and sister-in-law, Carol. The family will receive friends at 2 p.m., Sunday, January 27th with a Celebration of Life to follow at 3 p.m. in the Click Funeral Home Farragut Chapel. Click Funeral Home Farragut Chapel, 11915 Kingston Pike is serving the Simpson family.



Melvin H. Smith, MSG (Ret), age 70, of Clarksville, passed away Friday January 11, 2013 at Blanchfield Army Community Hospital. A Celebration of Life Service will be held

10:30 a.m. Monday, January 14, 2013 at McReynolds-Nave & Larson Chapel. Burial will be in Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West with Full Military Honors. Visitation will be 5 to 8 p.m. Sunday and 8 a.m. until the hour of service Monday at the funeral home. Melvin was born March 9, 1942 in Ft.

Wayne, Indiana, son of Lewis M. and Ruth L. Hile Smith. Melvin retired from the U.S. Army following a prestigious 23 year military career. Among other accomplishments, Melvin served two tours in Vietnam, participated and completed Airborne, Recondo, and Ranger Schools and was a highly-respected Jumpmaster and Air Assault School Instructor. Following retirement Melvin was a driver for Florim USA. He is survived by his loving family which includes his wife, April Lacy Dawson-Smith of Clarksville, sons Shane Smith (Melissa) of Denver, North Carolina, Ron Dawson and wife B.J. of Clarksville, and

Rodd Dawson of Clarksville, grandchildren, Macy and Max Dawson, both of Clarksville and Nathan, Andrew, and Kiersten Smith, all of North Carolina, and his brother, Phillip Smith of Kendallville, Indiana. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Lung Association, One Vantage Way, Suite D220, Nashville, TN, 37228. Arrangements are in the care of McReynolds-Nave & Larson Funeral Home, (931)647-3371. Online condolences may be made at NaveFuneralHomes.com.



Garet 'Gary' A. Soules of Prineville, Oregon passed away at St. Charles in Bend, Oregon on October 3, 2012 at the age of 64. He was born June 30, 1948 in Grand Forks, North Dakota

to Garet J. Soules and Dacotah Swett Soules. Gary grew up in Billings, MT and Warm Springs, Oregon. He graduated from Madras High School in 1966 and attended Dickinson State College. In 1969 he enlisted in the U.S. Army. Gary served as a squad leader for a six man long-range reconnaissance platoon with the 101st Airborne Infantry in Vietnam, and as a door gunner and crew chief on assault helicopters. After being honorably discharged from the Army, he returned to Dickinson State and graduated with a degree in Biology in 1976. He married his wife of 40 years, Carol J. Martin of Valley City, North Dakota, in 1972. Gary began his career as a Field Biologist for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife in 1978. He worked throughout East-

ern Oregon during his 32 years with the department. In 1986 he settled in Prineville where he worked extensively on habitat projects on private and public lands, building partnerships and making friends with landowners and agency personnel. Gary was an avid outdoorsman who passed on that love and respect to future generations through his mentoring of youth in The Boy Scouts of America and Venture Scouts, Hunter Education, Mt. Jefferson Rifle Archery and Pistol Association, Central Oregon Schools, Rim Rock Trails, and local conservation organizations. He was also an advocate for veterans, active in the VFW, Band of Brothers, the Vietnam Veterans Association, and Oregon Veterans Motorcycle Association. He enjoyed Dutch oven cooking, Harley Davidson Motorcycles, and once rode a bear. His special passion was working with Saving Grace of Central Oregon, providing support and safe haven for victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. He believed that everyone has the right to live life free from violence. Gary served as

a board member for eight years and as a volunteer for many more. He is remembered for his service to his country, his community, and his giving heart. Gary is survived by his wife Carol Soules, daughters Karen Soules and Diana Johnson, daughter and son-in-law Laura and JT Cray, and son and fiancé John Soules and Amy Abbott. He is also survived by his twin brother Greg Soules, his brothers Jim Soules, Dick Soules, and sister Becky Curnutt. Visitation is scheduled for Monday October 8th, 2012 at Prineville Funeral Home, 199 NE 10th Street Prineville, from 3:00-7:00 pm. The funeral will be held Tuesday October 9th, 2012 at 12:30 pm at the Carey Foster Hall, Crook County Fairgrounds in Prineville. A procession to Juniper Haven Cemetery for a graveside service with Military Honors will follow at 2:00 pm. There will be a potluck reception following the internment back at Carey Foster Hall. Memorial contributions may be made to Saving Grace at 203 NE Court St. Prineville, OR 97754, or to the youth organization of your choice.



Wade Minson Stewart age 68, of 528 Thunder Road passed away Monday, January 14, 2013 at his residence. Funeral Service will be 3:00PM Thursday, January 17, 2013 at the First

Baptist Church in Four Oaks. Rev. John Norman will officiate. Burial will follow in the Four Oaks City Cemetery with full military honors. Mr. Stewart was born February 21, 1944 in Johnston County to the late Herman Minson & Velma Lou Holland Stewart. He was preceded in death by a son, Lance Oatley Stewart. Wade graduated from Four Oaks High School in 1962 and received a Bachelor's Degree in English from Campbell University. Mr. Stewart was a US Army Veteran serving in Vietnam. He was very proud of the 101st and 82nd Airborne divisions where he earned the rank of Captain. Wade loved Four Oaks where

he served as Boy Scout Leader of Troop 60, coached little league baseball and served as past president of the Civitan Club. Mr. Stewart received the honor of being the citizen of the year for the town of Four Oaks in 1983. Wade was the president of Keener Lumber Company in Smithfield and was a member of the First Baptist Church in Four Oaks. Mr. Stewart was sworn in as a County Commissioner in December 1998, representing District 3. He won reelection to his fourth term in 2010, which was scheduled to have expired in 2014. He was very active in public service, with a passion for serving citizens, emergency workers, veterans, and building schools for the children of Johnston County. Mr. Stewart was a charter member of the Vietnam Veterans Chapter 990. Wade was Chairman of the Board of Commissioners from 2008 to 2010. He served as Vice Chairman from 2004 to 2008. He had previously served on the Crimi-

nal Justice Partnership Advisory Board, Social Services Board, Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee, and Local Emergency Planning Commission. He loved his family and helping people. Surviving include his wife of 45 years, Virginia "Jenny" Lee Stewart; Sons & Daughter-in-law, Chad Minson & Ursula Stewart, Gregory Wade Stewart, all of Four Oaks, and Jeffrey Wayne Stewart of Nashville, Tennessee; Grandchildren, Grant Minson Stewart, Andrew Lance Stewart and Grimes Oatley Stewart; Brother & Sister-in-law, E. Wayne & Julie Stewart of Four Oaks; and Several Nieces and Nephews. Family will receive friends from 6:00PM-9:00PM Wednesday, January 16, 2013 at Rose & Graham in Four Oaks, NC. Flowers are welcomed; however memorials may be made to Lance Oatley Stewart Nursing Scholarship Endowment Fund, C/O Johnston Community College Foundation, P.O. 2350, Smithfield, NC 27577.



Sumner Philip Wallace passed away at his home in Walnut Creek Friday, December 28 after a brief illness, he was 96. Born in Millbridge, ME, Philip graduated from high school in Melrose, MA. He later earned his bachelor's degree from San Francisco State University. Philip married his high school sweetheart, Mary Wilma "Jo" Garnache in 1942. Philip served in the army during WWII in the 101st Airborne Division jumping into some

of the most famous battles including D-Day at Normandy, the Battle of the Bulge, Arnhem and Bastogne. After the war, he worked in industry and finished his Bachelor's Degree. Phil began his teaching career in 1958 at the age of 40. He was a teacher, principal, a superintendent and a substitute teacher after retiring. Philip was predeceased by his beloved wife, "Jo" and is survived by his three children; Carol Sue (Roger) Rasmussen of Queen Creek, AZ, Barry (Carol) Wallace of Watsonville, CA and Wenday (Kevin Kahai-aiii) Wallace of Lahaina, HI. He is also survived by five grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Philip enjoyed his church activities, golf and his many friends over the years. He was very active in the 101st Air-

borne Association. He enjoyed his daily walks that he continued right up until his death. Phil and his family were very fortunate to have found his devoted caregiver, Ed, who cared for him "24/7" for the last two and a half years at home. They became very good friends. The extended Wallace family wishes to thank Ed and Home Life Senior Care for their devotion and excellent care these past years. Friends and family are invited to attend a memorial service on Friday, January 18, 2013 at 11:00 am at Hillcrest Congregational Church, 404 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hillcrest Congregational Church. Express condolences at www.oakparkhillschapel.com

Colonel Richard E. White, one of Air Defense Artillery's most highly decorated and exceptional officers, passed away on 24 January 2013. At the time of his passing, Col. White was a member of the faculty of the Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Ala. A charismatic leader, Col. White's mettle was tested often. Testaments to his achievements are the four Bronze Stars he was awarded, but more so a testament to his leadership, was the dedication of his Soldiers. Their utmost confidence in following his orders and direction both in and out of combat situations signified their trust. On a gentler side, Col. White showed the world his compassionate and nurturing nature. Spending as much time as possible with his children, he included them in all unit and directorate social functions. When picking out a location for organization gatherings, he often remarked, "If it isn't kid friendly and there isn't milk on the menu, we won't be going there." Col. Richard Edward White was born in Lisbon Falls, Maine. Upon graduation from High School he enlisted and attended basic training and advanced Infantry training at Fort Benning, Ga. He received an Army scholarship, attended the University of Maine and upon graduation was commissioned a 2nd Lt. in the United States Army. In September of 1989 he reported to the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Ky., and was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 44th Air Defense Artillery (2-44 ADA) Regiment. He deployed with Task Force (TF) 502nd Infan-

try in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm as a Vulcan/Stinger platoon leader. In July 1992 he reported to 5-5 ADA, 2nd Infantry Division, Republic of Korea, as the executive officer in a Bradley Stinger Fighting Vehicle (BSFV) Battery. After graduating from the ADA Advanced Course, in May 1994, he reported to California State University and was assigned as the Assistant Professor of Military Science. He also served as an assistant professor in the Physical Education Department. While teaching at California State University Col. White also earned a Masters Degree in International Relations. In May 1996 he reported to 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, Wash. He commanded Charlie Battery, 5-5 ADA (BSFV/Stinger). While assigned to C/5-5 ADA, he was awarded the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award as the Fort Lewis, I Corps and Forces Command (FORSCOM) nominee. Col. White was nominated and selected as a special assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in May 1998. In May 1999 he assumed duties as the Aide-de-Camp to the Chairman, of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He also served as an Operations Officer in the Information Strategy Division of the Information Operations Directorate of the Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Washington D.C. In June 2002 he reported to the 25th Infantry Division (Light), Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, and was assigned to 1-62 ADA where he served as the battalion operations officer and the battalion executive officer. In January 2004 he

reported to 2ND Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division (LIGHT) and served as the deputy brigade commander for projects and reconstruction in Kirkuk, Iraq. In July 2005, Col. White, reported to the 2nd Brigade Combat Team (BCT), 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). He served as the Deputy Brigade Commander for the 502nd Infantry Regiment in Southern Baghdad, Iraq. In September 2006, Col. White returned to his first unit as the commander of 2-44 ADA at Fort Campbell, Ky. His battalion conducted Counter-Rocket, -Artillery and -Mortar (C-RAM) operations as part of Multi-National Forces-Iraq (MNF-I) in Baghdad, Iraq. In October 2009 he was assigned to Fort Sill, Okla., as the Director, Office, Chief of Air Defense Artillery (OCADA). In July 2011, Col White attended the Air War College, a part of the United States Air Force's Air University at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Ala., as a student. Upon graduation, he was selected to stay at the Air War College as a member of the faculty. A service in his memory will be held on Wednesday, 30 January 2013 at 1:00 pm at Chapel 2 on Maxwell, Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama. Interment arrangements will be specified at a later date. He is survived by his parents Charles and Betty, wife Valerie and twins, daughter Keira and son Braiden. The Air Defense Artillery community offers our condolences to the family and grieves with them. Colonel White will be missed greatly.

Gary G. Wright, 63, of Moscow, passed away Oct. 22, 2012, at his home outside of Moscow. Gary was born Aug. 25, 1949, in Palo Alto, Calif., to Bela and Edythe (Flaherty) Wright. He grew up in Menlo Park, Calif., where he graduated from Woodside High School. After graduation, Gary played semi-professional baseball. Gary enlisted in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War, where he became a paratrooper with the 101st Airborne Screaming Eagles unit, serving also with the Green Beret Special Forces. Gary was a decorated Vietnam Veteran who proudly served his country. Following his honorable discharge, Gary returned to northern California where

he entered an apprentice program for carpenters. Having become a licensed carpenter, Gary spent his career with Rudolph and Sletten General Contractors. In 1990 he married his loving wife Barbara. Following his retirement in 2005 Gary moved to Moscow with Barbara, where he has made his home since that time. He was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting, fishing and bike riding. Gary loved NASCAR and was a loyal San Francisco Giants fan. Gary was a member of the Carpenters Union Local 217. He was dearly loved by his daughters and stepson, and anxiously awaited being a grandfather in the upcoming spring. Gary's family would like to ex-

tend special thanks to the Spence family who were not only dear friends, but also like family to Gary through the years. He is survived by his two daughters, Flaherty Ward and Jennifer Wright, both of San Jose, Calif.; a stepson, Adam Faris of Modesto, Calif.; his sister, Pam Holterman of Sunnyvale, Calif.; and his uncle, Glenn Wright. Gary was preceded in death by his parents and his wife Barbara. Memorial services will be held in the spring of 2013. Kimball Funeral Home in Pullman is caring for the family. Online condolences may be sent to www.kim





From Our Chapters

CAROLINA CHAPTER



The Fall Meeting of the Carolina Chapter of the 101st Airborne Division Association was held on September 17, 2012 at the Holiday Inn Riverview Hotel in Charleston, SC. Members in attendance were; Brigadier General Victor & Dorothy DeFiori, Arthur & Doris Johnson, Timothy & Jo Milkie, Bill & Sheila Swift, George & Mary Johnson, and new member Eugene Davis.



Topics discussed during the meeting included exploring the possibility of getting organizational license plates for members of the Carolina Chapter and the children's hospital Christmas charity project. A raffle was also held which raised \$55.00.

All the members thoroughly enjoyed the

fellowship and camaraderie of the annual fall meeting. The next meeting of the Carolina Chapter will be at the Officer's Club at Ft. Jackson, SC. The primary date for the spring meeting will be March 10, 2013. The alternate date will be March 3, 2013.



2012 was an outstanding year for the Christmas Charity project. Each year during the holidays, the Carolina Chapter donates Christmas gifts of toys to a children's hospital as part of its annual charity outreach. A portion of the dues that members of the Carolina Chapter pay each year goes to support this worthy cause. The chapter ladies did a great job shopping for gifts with the \$202 that the chapter contributed plus a matching contribution of \$202 from an anonymous donor and a contribution of \$101 from one of the Columbia, SC members.



On December 20th, Chapter members Brigadier General Victor De Fiori and his wife

Dorothy and Sergeant 1st Class George Johnson and his wife Mary presented the Christmas gifts to Palmetto Health Children's Hospital in Columbia, SC. A bright, happy place that feels like home, Palmetto Health is a state-of-the-art facility that provides world-class care in an environment designed with children's unique needs in mind.



From toddlers to teenagers, there were plenty of age appropriate gifts for all. The generosity of the members of the Carolina Chapter brought cheer and smiles to many faces.



Thanks for all you do Screaming Eagles.

FLORIDA GULF COAST CHAPTER



President's Notes

I'd like to congratulate George Buck and Ralph Ormes on their election to the Chapter's Board of Governors and to thank Les Colegrove and Herb Hawkins for agreeing to ship over and extend their tours as Governors. I'd also like to recognize the great work that John Keene and Augie Agro have done while serving on the board these past years. Both of these gentlemen have contributed their time and efforts on behalf of our Chapter and the Chapter is better be-

cause of them.

Color Guard

The Chapter's color guard participated in the Veteran's Day parade in Palmetto and the Chapter set up a recruiting booth to talk with prospective new members among the many veterans in attendance. John Taylor and Eddie Pissott did the heavy lifting setting up of our tent and manning the recruiting table. Rick Lencioni, Bill Ball, Tom Sewell, Herb Hawkins, Randy Stollmack, Ben Infuso and Dave Hanson all participat-

ed in Tampa's annual Gasperilla Parade on January 26th. Although Bill Ball continues to complain about sore feet, the colors of the 101st Airborne Division once again led the two hour parade.



Charlie Rubado, Bill Ball, Rick Lencioni and Herb Hawkins pass the reviewing stand.

Bastogne Luncheon

Our annual Bastogne luncheon was held at the Clearwater yacht club on December 9, this is always a great event, and this year was no exception. Our active duty special guests this year were **SFC Adrian Wietzema**, 101st Aviation Regiment, and **SFC Jay Karvaski**, 159th Combat Aviation Brigade. Both men received the Chapter's Joseph G. LaPointe award and combat knives donated by Randy Stollmack. We were also fortunate to have with us Trooper **Thongpane Thongdeng**, or "TD" who served with the 506th Infantry in Afghanistan and is currently undergoing treatment at the Haley VA hospital. Our honored guests were three of our World War II veterans who fought at Bastogne, **Frank Botta**, 501st PIR, **Pat Macri**, 101st Signal Co., and **Joseph Pisano**, 327th GIR. The **Woman of the Year Award** was presented to **Lori Lencioni**, **Dennis Reardon** was selected as the **2012 Trooper of the Year**, **Malcolm McHoul** received the **Lifetime Achievement Award**. Congratulations to all our awardees. **Ben Infuso** was presented with a certificate of appreciation and a jacket from the Veterans Administration for his outstanding work supporting our veterans at the Bay Pines VA Hospital. By some miracle, the gift exchange worked out although it was doubtful that there'd be enough gifts at one point. **Dolores Schiffer** won our basket of cheer, and **Jackie Colegrove** took the 50-50 drawing and generously donated \$50 to the Chapter. We would like to thank our sponsor, USAA, for their generous donation again this year in support of our Soldier R&R Program. Finally, our thanks to everyone who assisted with the luncheon, to **Eddie Pissott** for the new Chapter tele-

phone directory and to **Bill Bennett** for his photographic skills, he rarely appears in the pictures since he is always busy taking them. Finally, to **John Taylor**, our VP, for keeping me on track.



Mal McHoul, Lifetime Achievement Award



Lori Lencioni, Woman of the Year Award.



Pat Macri WWII, Adrian Wietzema OIF/OEF, Bill Ball Vietnam, Jay Karvaski OIF/OEF, Joseph Pisano WWII, Frank Boffa WWII.



Jack Nolan, R&R Program coordinator with our two Troopers.

Snowbird


By the time this is published our annual Snowbird Reunion, 13-16 February, will have concluded. I want to thank all of our Chapter members who pitched in to make this reunion happen. If you've never attended a Snowbird you should give it a try, the weathers fine and there's plenty to see and do in the area. We hope that everyone that attended enjoyed themselves. We will see you again next year.

Taps

Forrest "Jay" Nichols, died September 30th, 2012 in Lakeland due to natural causes. He was born in Marie, Arkansas and enlisted in the Army in 1942. He was a proud member of the 101st Airborne Division's B Company, 1st Battalion, 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment. Jay parachuted into Normandy and Holland and fought at Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge where he was seriously wounded and transferred home. After the war he was in the wholesale produce business until his retirement. Jay was a member of the 101st Airborne Association, the VFW, the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, and the Masons. He was also a supporter of the Lakeland High School football program. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Loretta G. Nichols of Lakeland Florida, three sons; Forrest, Michael and Stephen, 11 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. "Old Paratroopers never die: they just go to heaven and regroup."

Norman "Norm" Thompson, 81- passed away on December 3rd and was buried in Tennessee with his wife Martha who preceded him. Norm was a Florida Gulf Coast Chapter member and a veteran of the 11th Airborne Division.

Getting out of the Army?
The first step of transition is ACAP.



Army Career & Alumni Program
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Fort Campbell, KY

(270) 798-5000 www.acap.army.mil

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN EAGLES
CHAPTER**



Tet/Bastogne Dinner! Our annual Tet/Bastogne Dinner was again a huge success on January 19th at the DoubleTree Hotel, Southeast Denver in Aurora, CO. The evening started with our business meeting and committee reports. Larry Frazier showed the plaques he had made for past presidents. The plaques are individualized by the badges presented on them. We greatly appreciate your great work Larry!

As this will be my last year as secretary/treasurer of the Chapter, we discussed breaking out the duties required of the post into more positions and that was agreed upon. There is great talent in this Chapter so we can expect great things to come.

Tom beach did a great job on the Missing Man Table ceremony assisted by Bill Somers, Lynn Walton, Jim Keeton and Tyler Pilkington a young ex-Marine who served in the current conflicts. Tom Stevens retired the table for us.

Then dinner was served. This year we had more choices of meals so everyone had their choice of an excellent meal.

I then had the privilege of introducing all of our guests plus our guest speakers. We were very honored on this evening to have some fabulous guest speakers. E. Christine Cook, a past Wounded Warrior Advocate,



E. Christine Cook

coined by GEN Petraeus for her work, spoke on her work and how she is continuing to support our troops and veterans. It was

Christine who also introduced us to our other guests!

Christine was followed by Marine Sergeant Major (Ret) Pepe Ramirez who spoke about his Organization, Combat Vets Helping Combat Vets, Inc. This organization is com-



USMC SGM (Ret) Pepe Ramirez

posed of combat veterans that have earned Masters in Social Work and Masters in Psychology degrees with an ultimate goal to assist military members and their families overcome their struggles in coping with PTSD and other psychological issues in transitioning to civilian life. SGM Ramirez's organization is a for-profit company, but he does not charge veterans for this service. Most commendable!

Our primary guest speaker was Ranya Kelly. Ranya is an amazing person! She is the founder and president of The Redistribution Center, Inc. This is a 501 (c) (3) organization that has for more than 22 years provided assistance in household goods, clothing, furniture, food and other useful items to the needy free of charge. More than 27 million dollars' worth of goods has been collected by this organization for redistribution! For each \$1 received, RCI has redistributed approximately \$67 worth of goods to the needy and other charitable organizations.



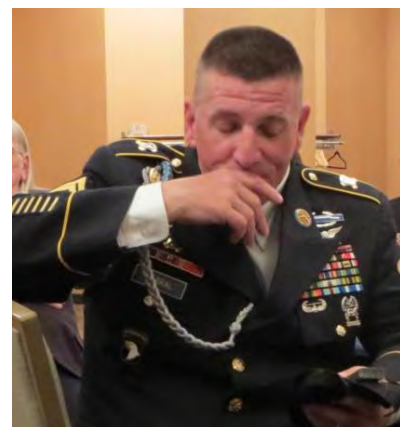
Ranya Kelly, Angel of Mercy
Ranya's son is also currently serving as a helicopter pilot seen on the banner above.

Ranya spoke about how she got started by finding 500 pairs of shoes in a dumpster that were being thrown away by a

national shoe store because these did not sell. She got with a local church to redistribute the shoes to the needy in the area and has been at it ever since. Collecting slightly damaged goods and usable products that stores would otherwise throw away; and, food products that would otherwise be dumped, she has been an angel of mercy to many of our less fortunate. Her volunteers have provided wounded soldiers and their families with food and house-hold items. They have packed and sent thousands of troop packages to our troops serving now. She sent truck loads of furniture and goods south for the disasters that occurred there. It is an honor that we have this lady and her organization in our area. It was also my honor to present Ranya a check from one of our local donors to assist in carrying their work forward.

It should also be known that these volunteers are working to make The Redistribution Center, Inc., a template model for other communities across the nation! We wish them and their follow-on agencies great success.

Ranya also brought with her a cross cut from the metal of the Twin Towers when she visited there. She passed it first to our active duty member, SGT Michael Sabral, who may have let his emotion show. No problem there, Sergeant!



SGT Michael Sabral holds the cross

We then had our door prize drawings. Larry Frazier got a neat necklace and earring set. I told him if he put that on I would kiss him! He did. I did. Dale O'Connor came out our big winner of the evening, so congratulations Dale!

Our president, Tom Beach, and our vice president, Lynn Walton, then presented me a framed print of Lee Teter's *Reflections*.



John Thompson and *Reflections*.

The inscription reads:

John Thompson

For his dedicated service to our chapter, our association, the 101st and to the soldiers.

Thank you.

It's an honor to still serve in some small way and the print is remarkable! It hangs in a place of honor in my home. Thank you to all of those who have assisted in making this a great Chapter over the last eight years. And, thank you for being so thoughtful.

The president then presented the past president plaques to those present and our evening ended with more socializing.

A great breakfast buffet by the hotel the next morning permitted more socializing and past history.

Note: I have never been to The Wall. I have been to the travelling Wall a couple of times. It is more an honor for me than you can imagine that I don't know a single name on that wall! Oh, I know too many that gave it all, but every single soldier that served with me came home – some missing pieces, but they all came home - from two tours!

Welcome Home, Brothers!

By John Thompson

MISSOURI GATEWAY CHAPTER



Surgeon General for the state of Missouri. Tom is now the VFW vice commander for the state of Missouri. Congratulations, Bro' Tom!

First Jump Monument Dedicated

The monument honoring the first parachute jump from an airplane March 1, 1912, was dedicated March 1, 2013 next to the Parade Ground at Jefferson Barracks Missouri – on the 101st anniversary of this jump. This was another event in the rich history of this military post that opened before the Civil War. Speakers and invited guests included all chapter members, those of the other sponsoring airborne units, local officials, community leaders, Army and Air Force National Guard units now stationed there, news media, etc. There still are a few commemorative posters of this event available from the chapter, by calling Barry Hana, 314-753-8932, or sending a \$30 check with ship-to address to P.O. Box 221293, St. Louis, MO 63122. The 18" x 24" horizontal poster is suitable for framing and display in your home, office or military location.

Chapter Website 'Goes Viral'

The chapter website, www.gateway101.org, has gone viral thanks to the outstanding development work by Chapter Secretary Randy Whitehead. The site contains chapter history, membership forms, photo archive, article archive, calendar, etc.

It also has links to the active 101st Airborne Division site, the 101st Airborne Division Association website, local military support organizations such as the USO, Wounded Warriors, IAVA, Mission Continues, American Legion, and Veterans of Foreign Wars. Also shown are supporting partners such as Johnny Londoff Chevrolet, Drury Hotels, and Anheuser Busch. The Veterans Administration, and websites for Veteran Benefits from the states of Missouri and Illinois are linked, too. Great job, Randy.

Chapter Staying Active in MAVO and MVC

Fred Foggie and Mike Fayette, continued to participate in the activities of the Missouri Association of Veterans Organizations (MAVO) and the Missouri Veterans Commission (MVC) in our state capital by attending January meetings on proposed veterans legislation in the Missouri Senate and House of Representatives. Strong participation, vigilance and lobbying for the right causes are keys to successful actions for our veterans. Pending is a proposal to operate a Veterans Lottery promotion, with funds generated going to veterans support.

Working with Women's American Legion Post and VA Center



Post 404 officers, from left: Shirley Walz, Gloria Barnes, and Julie Bauer

Chapter's 2nd Year Begins with Election

The chapter's final 2012 meeting was held December 8 at the Missouri Veterans Home in St. Louis. Chapter officers for 2013 were nominated and elected: Fred Foggie, president; Tim Sorth, vice president; Tom Robinson, sergeant at arms; Randy Whitehead Secretary; Randall Wilson, treasurer; and Barry Hana, public information officer/chaplain. Mike Fayette continues as Mid-Missouri director and Bruce Thompson as Western Missouri director.

Accomplishments of 2012 were reviewed, and a discussion focused on which activities and events should be repeated, and what new ones should be on the 2013 calendar. A major new D-Day event is being planned for Thursday, June 6, 2013, at the Jefferson Barracks (MO) National Cemetery. Chapter planning is underway to honor Screaming Eagles buried there. Memorial Day and Veterans Day events are also on the chapter schedule again.

Tom Mundell Honored at VFW

Former chapter Vice President and decorated Screaming Eagle Tom Mundell was honored for his service, and presented a special 101st Airborne Division Association Certificate of Appreciation for his work at VFW Post 3944 -- supporting our new chapter throughout 2012 -- while also serving as Post Commander and

Tim Sorth, Barry Hana and Fred Foggie attended a luncheon of the St. Louis Service Women's Post 404, of the American Legion (Brentwood) January 19, sharing information about our chapter and exploring ways we might work together on fund-raising projects for veterans. (Both organizations are also looking for 101st airborne women to add to our memberships.)

Fred Foggie and Randy Whitehead were invited to participate January 23 in the installation of a new director at VA Records Management Center in St. Louis. The new director is Richmond H. Laisure, a 101st veteran with service as an enlisted medic, aviation warrant officer and a commissioned officer. His leader is Michael Cardarelli, Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Benefits at VA in Washington DC – who is another 101st veteran. "It's terrific to know we have these two folks in charge, who have 'been there, done that' with the Screaming Eagles," says Randy. Fred notes that the new director's goal is to have all VA records stored electronically in less than five years as he leads a four-point improvement plan. The center contains 7 million records and has processed 18 million claims to date.

Members Attend PTSD Talk in Richmond Heights

Several members attended a National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) luncheon program February 14. Military veteran C.J. Hancock, now a law enforcement officer with a Bachelor's degree in behavioral science and a Master's degree in clinical counseling, spoke on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). His talk, "Validating Your Armor", reviewed the symptoms, characteristics, stigma, and growing medical support for this treatable disorder. "PTSD doesn't have to be victorious. It doesn't mean you are any less of a person," he said.

515th Transportation Company Sets Reunion for June in St. Louis

Chapter member and brother Mike Lavin, commanded this company in support of the Screaming Eagles in Lamson 719, running convoys from Highway 1 to Highway QL9 in I Corps, south of Con Thien and the Demilitarized Zone. He will be "welcoming his troops home" June 28, 2013 along with their spouses. CPT Mike is being supported by our chapter, the U.S. Army Reserves in St. Louis and the Transportation Museum at Fort Eustis, VA. If you remember names like Camp Eagle, Fire Base Vandergrift, Khe Sahn, Quang Tri and Tam My Ramp, you know the area. "These non-11 Bravo's, ate C's, washed in the river and shared the mission of the 101st ",

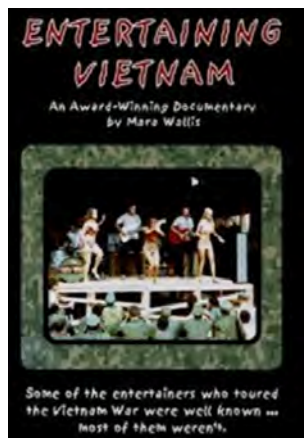
says Lavin. "They were hardcore truck drivers and mechanics, serving firebases, Bastogne, Vagel and Birmingham." The unit included 67



Truck Commander, Specialist 4 Robert Newell of the 515th Transportation Company, hooks up a crate of supplies to a 101st Airborne Chinook from C Company, Assault Helicopter Battalion (ASHB) -- for a further delivery to a drop point west of Camp Eagle along Highway QL9 in I Corps, RVN. Men of the 515th will be "welcomed home" June 28 in a St. Louis Reunion. The 515th and the ASHB provided vital support for the Screaming Eagles. Chapter member Mike Foulk served with the ASHB, and chapter member Mike Lavin served with the 515th.

five-ton trucks, 155 men, an M54 'gun truck' named 'Babysitters' and an M13 with mounted 50 caliber machine guns for convoy security. Roads were swept for mines daily, and these men fought the heat, mud and dust of this now-famous supply roadway. In 1970, the 515th was located next to the 326th Medical Evac unit at Camp Eagle. It ran convoys of ammo and artillery shells, food, beer, soda, ice, bunker construction materials, etc. to the forward areas as far west as Khe Sanh. During the winter of 1971 a convoy was ambushed and attacked along QL9, resulting in two drivers killed and several others wounded. The unit also supported Chinook helicopter delivery to Screaming Eagle units. We say, "Welcome home, brothers. Thanks for your service, and keeping the troops functioning. More details are available from Mike by email, michaellavin@outlook.com or 314-640-9815.

2003 "Entertainment in Vietnam" DVD available at Amazon.com



During the war in Vietnam, nearly 300 young Australians and New Zealand Entertainers were under private contract to perform at American and Australian military bases dotted throughout the war-torn republic. These entertainers spent months touring not only the major military facilities, but the smaller bases from the DMZ, to the Delta and out to the Cambodian border. Philippine, Korean and Vietnamese groups also entertained Allied Troops in Vietnam, as did more famous entertainers who toured through the USO, etc. You can preview this DVD on this website: www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/10371/Entertaining-Vietnam.

You will remember the sights, sounds and music of our days in-country. Order a copy on www.amazon.com if you wish. Also email your thanks to entertainer and the DVD director, Mara Wallis: mxyz@earthlink.net. It's a fun reflection on those days gone by.

Another WWII Screaming Eagle Soars

Jake McNiece has joined his "Band of Brothers" who soared. He passed away the last week of January, in Ponca City, Oklahoma. He was one of only a handful of the 101st Airborne to make 4 combat jumps. He was a pathfinder with the 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment. He jumped in Normandy on D-Day; he jumped into Holland for Market Garden; he jumped into Bastogne; and he jumped for the Rhine River crossing, primarily the 17th Airborne Division action. He has a book entitled, "The Filthy Thirteen, from the Dustbowl to Hitler's Eagle's Nest," which is a good read. The movie, "The Dirty Dozen" was based on Jake and his men. He jumped into Bastogne as a Pathfinder in the Battle of the Bulge, to coordinate airlift resupply operations.

101st Vet Writes a Faith Tract Based on O-Deuce RVN Experience

Realizing some veterans have problems after combat, Harold Kellerman of Hillsboro, MO, has written a faith tract ("Stand in the Door") for use by Vietnam Vets and those returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. Harold has found healing in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. His pamphlet is appropriate for infantrymen, such as his brethren in C Company, 2/502nd. Copies are available to any veteran, through our chapter, P.O. Box 221293, St. Louis, MO 63122. "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ," says Harold. "I know the gospel will help others who claim it, too."

(Submitted by Barry Hana and Randy Whitehead)

MINNESOTA SCREAMING EAGLES CHAPTER



Greetings from way up north,
The Minnesota chapter is keeping busy

this winter. Some parties with our fellow airborne units and we are having a luncheon Feb. 23 2013. Unfortunately we have also lost some of our brothers this winter. Former chapter president Dennis Wells, VN alum, passed away in November and we attended funerals for too many more as well.

On Jan. 15th 2013 Minnesota had a day of observance for the International Holocaust Remembrance Day at the state capital. Col Ed Shames of Easy Company, 506th was a keynote speaker and our own Herb Suerth, also of Easy Company, was recognized as one of the liberators of concentration camps during WWII. It was a great turn

out for the middle of the day and we had several chapter members present in support of Col. Shames and Herb. Also Chaplain (Col.) John Morris was instrumental in the day's activities. Some of you may remember him as the chaplain for the 2006 reunion.

The plan for this year is to put up two stones for Airborne Circle at Ft. Snelling National Cemetery. That will leave only 4 to go for it to be complete at 30 stones.

That is all for now Godspeed to our troops deployed and wish everyone a good Snowbird reunion.

Troy S. Lindstrand
pres. MN Screaming Eagles

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER



Our December meeting was held at American Legion Post 82 on Sunday, December 2. After calling the meeting to order, President **Lancer Thelan**, in absence of Chaplain **Johnny Velasquez**, read from a memorable invocation given some years ago by Past Chaplain **Phil Wallace** in remembrance of the December 7th attack on Pearl Harbor. President Thelan offered remembrance also of those Screaming Eagles who were lost in 2012: **Russ Hardeman**, **Claude Boone**, **Roger Elam**, **Robert Garcia**, and **John Lee**.

President Thelan noted that, although we had no World War II veterans present at the meeting, **Anna Hardeman**, wife of Russ Hardeman, was in attendance. President Thelan recounted an event during the bombing of Bastogne, depicted in the *Band of Brothers* series, in which a church used to house wounded U.S. troops was bombed by the Germans. Russ Hardeman was returning from a meeting at headquarters back to his machine gun crew when he was hit with shrapnel in the stomach. He was in that church when a Messerschmitt dropped a bomb on it. Fortunately he survived and made it back.

Others in attendance were: **Phil Dow**, who

served nineteen months and two days in the Army as a "grunt" with Delta Company 1st Battalion 327th Infantry; **Tim McElrath** (C Co. 159th Aviation VN) and his wife, **Joyce**; **Ron Moore** (A Troop 2/176); **Jim Peterson** (2/502 Recon VN) and his wife, **Mia**; **Ron Gillette**, B Company, 2/502nd in Vietnam in 1967, and his wife, **Marsha**; **Barbara Schumacher**, Honorary Chapter Member and Raffle Chairman, her sister, **Geri**, and her friends **Ward Stewart** and his wife, **Carol**, who was in the Air Force, 1973-73, with the Security Police; **Basil Brunner**, who served at Ft. Campbell, Mortar Battery 502, 1958-59; **Albert Berwick**, A Company 502, who served with Albert and they have been "thick as thieves" ever since; **Bob Dickens**, with the 502nd in Vietnam and a Korean War veteran as well, and his wife, **Erika**.

Northern California Chapter Officers for 2013-2014

Nominations were made and the following members were elected to serve the Chapter for the next two years:

President **Jim Peterson**
Vice-President **Tim McElrath**
Secretary **Ron Gillette**
Treasurer **Lancer Thelan**

Johnny Velasquez will also continue to serve as our Chaplain.



Chapter Officers for 2013 Treasurer **Lance Thelan**, Secretary **Ron Gillette**, President **Jim Peterson**, Vice President **Tim McElrath**, with **Phil Dow** lending support.

City of San Mateo and the 101st Airborne Division

Representatives of the City of San Mateo joined us at our December meeting: City Clerk **Patrice Olds**, liaison for Adopt-a-Unit in the city; **LeAnne Thornton**, who works for the Hillsboro Police Department and coordinates their Adopt-a-Unit Program; and **Ben Ocon**, San Mateo City Librarian, who proudly oversees the location of the 101st memorial display on the 3rd floor of the library. Patrice spoke of the Memorial Day activities in San Mateo this past year honoring 101st veterans as well as active duty troops from Ft. Campbell. The wonderful event solidified their support of the 101st 1/327 Company A going forward. They have partnered with their neighboring cities of Hillsboro and Burlingame, who also adopted units. Ben Ocon welcomed everyone on behalf of the City of San Mateo, a home to everyone from the 101st. The Library is honored to have the memorial display that commemorates the special relationship between the City and the 101st. During the Memorial Day event this year, they hosted the active duty troops, who really seemed to connect with the history depicted there. Phil Dow described his experience attending the Memorial Day events in San Mateo. The whole area went out of their way to accommodate the veterans and the active duty during four days of events and ceremonies.

On January 31, 2013, "City With a Heart," a documentary focusing on the story of Linda and Steve Patterson and the founding of America Supporting Americans, debuted in San Mateo. The documentary details how the City of San Mateo adopted A Company, 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment in 1968 and the ongoing relationship the city

has had with the unit ever since. It also documents the activities surrounding Operation Eagle Visit, the 2012 Memorial Day Weekend celebration of the 40th anniversary of San Mateo's welcome home parade for returning Vietnam vets in 1972. Attending the premiere were Northern California Chapter President **Jim Peterson**, Secretary **Ron Gillette**, and past officer **Phil Dow**, who was actually there when Linda Patterson visited at Camp Eagle on Christmas Day 1968 and received one of the "care packages" from a grade school in San Mateo. The evening included a video chat with troops of the 101st deployed to Afghanistan and stationed at Fort Campbell.



Ron Gillette (left) and Jim Peterson (right) with Steve and Linda Patterson

These Eagles Have Soared

Sadly, we lost two of our Screaming Eagle

brothers, **John Boitano** and **Phil Wallace**, in December.

John Norman Boitano

November 18, 1921 – December 17, 2012

John was a WWII veteran and hero, and a founding member of the Northern California Chapter. He succumbed at the age of 91 at his family home in Sonoma in the arms of his wife, Mary Lucille. John enlisted in the Army in 1942, attending boot camp at Fort Campbell and Fort Bragg. He went to England as a paratrooper in Company B, 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne. He jumped into Sainte-Mere-Eglise during the Normandy Invasion and into Holland during Market Garden, and fought during the Battle of the Bulge. On more than one occasion, John rescued fellow soldiers who had been wounded, saving their lives. For his service in WWII, he earned a Silver Star, two Bronze Stars, and a Purple Heart.

S. Philip "Phil" Wallace

November 8, 1916 – December 28, 2012

Another hero of WWII, Phil passed away at his Walnut Creek home at the age of 96, after a brief illness. Phil was born in Millbridge, ME, and graduated high school in Melrose, MA. He earned his bachelor's degree in San

Francisco State. He married his high school sweetheart, Jo, in 1942. During WWII, as a member of the 101st Airborne, Phil was a veteran of the D-Day Normandy Invasion, as well as the Battle of the Bulge, Arnhem, and Bastogne. After the war, he worked in industry, finished his bachelor's degree, and began his teaching career in 1958. Phil was very active in the 101st Airborne Division Association. He served as an officer in the Northern California Chapter, and was the Chapter Chaplain for many years, providing inspiration and guidance to his Screaming Eagle brothers. Phil's wartime letters to Jo were regularly printed in our Chapter's newsletter. In sharing them with all of us he was sharing a piece of living history, which seems only fitting, as he spent a good deal of his life teaching and inspiring subsequent generations, as attested to by several of his former students who attended his memorial service in January.

Meeting Schedule

- March 10, 2013 Quarterly Meeting at the Blue Frog Restaurant in Fairfield, 11:30 am – 2:30 pm
- June 1, 2013 Quarterly Meeting at the Menlo Park VA Hospital barbecue event

SENTINEL CHAPTER



The successor unit to the 265Rh RRC (ABN) is B-1STB/1BCT. As evidence of our close and continuing association with our active duty descendants we note with great satisfaction that they have recognized their heritage through the adoption of the chiropteran symbol (the Bat) that speaks to the logos and mottos of both. The 265th RRC (ABN) derives its logo and motto from its parent battalion, the 301st ASA Bn; the bat on a full moon, rising, the crest emblazoned with "Through The Night." Bravo Company continues the *Through The Night* motto but as our capabilities and methods of operation have changed, updated and advanced, it follows that the unique logo should also change.

As the 101st Airborne Division Association Snowbird reunion in Tampa, FL approaches, Sentinels are preparing to visit nearby MacDill Air Force Base for a Sentinel



Typical 265th RRC (ABN) operations field site



Typical STB Operations site

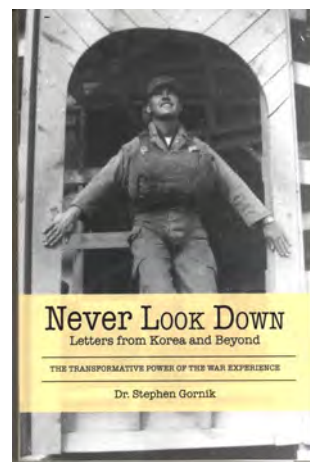


265th RRC (ABN) Challenge Coin on left and B-1STB/1BCT Challenge Coin



Museum display and presentation of Vietnam Signal Intelligence Experiences and Observations to USACENTCOM Signal Intelligence personnel.

Congratulations to Jerry Siquefield in publishing "Never Look Down", Wingspan Press, for His Brother-in-Law Dr Stephen Gornik. The book is based on letters written home from Korea where Dr Gornik served as a Rakkasan in the '50s. Dr. Gornik's Grandfather was a General in the Finnish Army and fought the Russians in the winter war in 1939. We'd definitely like to read some of his letters home too. Siquefield is a member of both the Sentinel Chapter and the Missouri Gateway Chapter.



GENERAL WILLIAM C. LEE CHAPTER



Richmond December meeting : The Chapter met at Extra Billy's in Richmond 6 December for some good BBQ and wonderful fellowship. It was also a renewal of a college friendship for Jim Shamblen when Mike Divita introduced himself. They had graduated and were commissioned together in 1966 and had not seen each other since! He served with the 2/502 in 80-83. Mike was not the only new member for the Chapter. Harry Roye accompanied Mike also joined the Chapter as Lifetime Members!

We discussed events for Chapter participation in 2013. Snowbird and Portland were put on the calendar as well as the Memorial Day events in Washington DC and the Bastogne Dinner at West Point in December. Chapter events planned for participation are the Virginia Beach Memorial Day Wreath Laying, Bedford D-Day Ceremony, and the Urbanna Oyster Festival Parade in November. We will also have Picnics in July

in Hampton and one in the Fall in Charlottesville as well as meetings in Richmond and Hampton.

The members also expressed a desire for another National reunion in Virginia. Options discussed were Richmond, Hampton, and Virginia Beach. We are working to identify available sites as well as developing a standard proposal for a contract.



Members: Front Row: Mike Divita, Harry Roye, Leslie DeMagrstris, Ed Barbour, Doc Nelms, Joe Nowlan. 2nd Row: Walt Hein, James Collins, James Grady, Norwood Thomas, Jim Shamblen. Back Row: Dan Agren, Ed Tomson, Fred Beherns, Jim Rickard, Wayne Metheny, Chuck Payne.

Hampton Chapter Meeting: The Chapter met at Kelly's in Hampton 31 January for dinner and fellowship. Ed Shames brought some copies of the book "Deliver us from darkness" the story of the 3/506 during Market Garden by Ian Gardner to share with us as well as one of "Tonight we die as Men". We discussed progress on evaluating hotels for a Reunion proposal and participation at the Virginia Beach Memorial Day Wreath Laying and the Easter Parade in Richmond. We also discussed putting an Ad in the installation newspapers at Ft Eustis and FT Lee.



Sitting: Jim Rickard, Lin Haskins, Ed Shames, Doc Nelms, William Collins, Keith Hoban, Chuck Payne
Standing: Ken Fix, James Collins, Clint Hayes, Keith Wolff, Fred Beherns, Bill Hookham, Wayne Metheny, Ed Tomson, Jim Shamblen, Chuck Griminger

Chapter Coin and Patch: The Chapter voted last year to develop a coin and patch for the Chapter. Jim Rickard developed designs for each and once we got the Chapters approval for a design he contracted for the items. We received the coins and patches in late October and have been distributed them to Chapter members who have paid dues. We also will present coins to each of the Charter Members of the Chapter we can locate. The coin is a 2" diameter coin 3.5mm thick with a Diamond cut oblique line edge to both sides. It is a shiny gold and antique bronze coin with raised objects on each side as well as the stars on General Lee's collar.



OREGON—WASHINGTON CASCADE CHAPTER

The Oregon Cascade Chapter is looking forward to next summer's National 101st Airborne Reunion which will take place in Portland, Oregon at the lovely Red Lion Hotel on the Columbia River. Hope that members from around the United States will plan on attending this reunion and take time to visit one of the best kept secrets of the beautiful Pacific Northwest. Our weather can range from light rain to beautiful sun. Be prepared and bring a light jacket. Don't worry about humidity – except for an occasional raindrop. We hope that many of you plan to visit the famous Columbia Gorge, Bonneville Dam, Fort Vancouver, Washington (just across the river 10 minutes away) and downtown Portland's Rose Garden, Japanese Garden and Vietnam Veterans Living Memorial; not to mention Mt Hood and Mt St Helens if you stay an extra day or two.



Japanese Garden- Washington Park

Two places you most definitely wouldn't want to miss.



Multnomah Falls, Columbia Gorge

If you have any questions about your travel to Oregon, please give us a call. We'll be glad to send you a brochure about Oregon. Jerry Gomes 503-668-6127

Our Chapter will be marching again in the Albany, Oregon Veteran's Day Parade with Old Abe our 6' tall Eagle. We'll get together for breakfast and lunch at Elmer's Pancake House in Albany as usual.

101st 3/506 Lrrp Team Rides Again at 2012 National Reunion! L to R: Gene Carne, Jerry Gomes, Jerry Wilson. In front: Tim Howard They served together in 1967 -68-69 in Phan Thiet, Vietnam



Chapter Eagles who have Soared:

We are very sad to announce the death of Dorothy Dominguez August, 2012 She was the widow of Joe Dominguez, E 2/506 WWII. Dorothy was the treasurer of the Washington State 101st Chapter for many years.

Founding member of the Oregon Cascade Chapter, Dennis McManus, Sr. died November 2010. He jumped on D-Day, was wounded in Holland and fought in The Battle of the Bulge. We had lost track of Dennis for many years and are very sad to hear he has passed away.

SE PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER



Meeting Notice: The monthly meetings take place on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Continental American Legion Post # 263, at 7:30 PM sharp!! The post is located at the corner of Wissahickon Ave. and Hansberry St.

Repetitive Orders: Keep me updated on all Chapter news, OR e-mail address changes. My e-mail is sepa101st@comcast.net, or call me at 267-973-0600. Also, mail can be sent to our assistant editor, Marty Tomkin. His e-mail is [...met101sepa@gmail.com](mailto:met101sepa@gmail.com), and his # is 215-219-8675.

Chapter and 101st Division News:

1) Our Chapter's NEW website at... www.sepa101stairborne.org. The website is the work of our recently deceased member Guy Anhorn.

2) Chris Hill from the Homeless Veterans contacted me and would like to thank Barbara Taylor, a 101st widow, for her timely and generous donation to that group during the holidays. We also extends our "thanks" to you, Barbara..!!

3) The third annual Veterans Fair took place on February 17th at the PA National Guard Amory located in Conshohocken, PA. It's been renamed in honor of its originator, Guy Anhorn, our past member. The event lasted from 10AM to 4 PM and was very well attended by the usual cast of military re-enactors, supporters, and veterans, which also included local members of the Pearl Harbors association. Our cChapter was also represented, which included our very own "Wild Bill" Guarnere. Luckily, no damage was done to the camera when our picture was taken....!!



L-R Duke Gallagher-Pres....Wild Bill...Mike Daily-Sect. and standing in back...Marty Tomkin..Treasurer

Heads-Up Dept:

1) VA is reaching out to more veterans and service members to remind them about their *eBenefits* program. *eBenefits* is a joint VA/DoD web portal that provides resources and self-service capabilities to veterans, service members and their families, enabling them to access and manage their VA military benefits and personal information online. It also gives a list of links to other sites that provide information about military and veteran benefits. It is an essential way for veterans, service members and their families to receive access to, and service from, VA and DoD. Veterans and service members wishing to use the site must be listed in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) and obtain a DS login. You can register for an account online using the *eBenefits Logon Account Registration Wizard*. For more information, call 1-800-827-1000 or visit the [eBenefits website](http://www.eBenefits.gov).

2) Burial benefits available for all eligible Veterans (discharge issued under conditions other than dishonorable), regardless of whether they are buried in a national cemetery or a private cemetery, include a burial flag, a Presidential Memorial Certificate and a government headstone, or grave marker or medallion. The medallion is available only to eligible Veterans already buried in private cemeteries without a government headstone or marker. It comes in three sizes, 5 inches, 3 inches, and 1 ½ inches in width. The medallion is a device furnished in lieu of a traditional Government headstone or grave marker for Veterans whose death occurred on or before Nov. 1, 1990, and whose grave in a private cemetery is marked with a privately purchased headstone or marker. Information on VA burial benefits can be obtained from national cemetery offices, from the VA website on the Internet at www.cem.va.gov or by calling VA regional offices toll-free at 1-800-827-1000.

3) A US house Resolution, H.R.454 was introduced by Rep C. Fattah [PA] and Cosponsored by Rep Brady, and A. Schwartz, on 2/4/2013. This designated the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs located at 3900 Woodland Avenue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as the "Corporal Michael J. Crescenzo Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center". Latest Major Action: 2/4/2013 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

4) A revised "Stolen Valor Act", legislation that would make it a crime to knowingly benefit from lying about receiving a military valor medal, was introduced by Congressman Joe Heck (R-NV). The bill, **H.R. 253**, currently has 63 original co-sponsors and was referred for consideration to the House Judiciary Com-

mittee, the same panel that approved Heck's bill last year. Violators would face a fine and up to one year imprisonment

5) The Philadelphia Vietnam Memorial celebrated its 25th Anniversary the weekend of October 26-27, 2012. A candlelight ceremony was held on Friday night which included the reading of all 646 Philadelphians on our Wall. That was followed by a very successful "R&R" Reception. On Saturday, there was an "Operation Brotherly Love" Parade which included carrying the names of the 646 fallen and led by the Vietnam Motorcycle riders. At 12 noon, the Memorial held its Rededication and POW/MIA Ceremony. More than 500 Veterans and family members attended, and which included the presentation of flags by veteran honor guards, the singing of the National Anthem and Danny Boy (by Secretary-Mike Daily), along with wreath laying, a dual rifle salute and "Echo-taps". Anyone interested in the Phila VN Memorial's can check out the website at www.pvvm.org.

Casualty Dept and Sick Call:

1) Sgt. Joshua Michael, 34, was one of four people who were killed Thursday, November 15th after a Union Pacific freight train slammed into the Veterans parade float as it traversed a railroad crossing in Midland Texas. However, Joshua saved his wife, Daylyn, by throwing her from the flatbed truck on which they rode. She was not injured. Joshua had two tours in Iraq, the last one in 2005-06 when he served with Chapter member, Reed Mазzie. They served in the 101st, "A" Co., 2nd Bn., 1st Brigade Combat Team. Why doesn't this last act of heroism surprise anyone...!!

2) Mary Facenda, Frank's wife passed to God on October 27, 2012. Mary worked for RCA during WWII and she met Frank there after he returned from Europe and was recovering from his wounds received in Bastogne while with the Division.

3) Got a call from Joanna Flynn's son, Bob. Joanna passed to God on December 3, 2012; she was 86. Some of the WWII troopers will recall her husband, Jack "Mickey" Flynn, who served with the 377th Field Artillery, "B" Battery in WWII. I recall Joanna fondly and our talks at the national reunions and especially the "Market Garden" operations the Chapter would conduct every September first at Wildwood, and then Avalon, NJ. What a great sense of humor, and ironic wit that she had...!! God rest your soul, Joanna...!!

The TALON Chapter and the Robert G. Cole Chapter

Arkansas Texas

WANT YOU!

Together then Together now.



For more information on the Talon Chapter in Arkansas contact: Edward Pye (936) 242-6195 or epye@suddenlink.net

For more information on the Robert G. Cole Chapter in Texas contact: David Bush (281) 310-0640 or thedavidbush@att.net

KEEP THE TRADITION AND HISTORY ALIVE.
Both Chapters of the 101st ABN DIV ASSN
are looking for new members!



The 47th European March of Remembrance and Friendship
25-28 June 2013

La Défense recrute  0800 3 3 3 4 8 www.mil.be

Trails : 32 Km or 16 Km
Departure from 8 to 10

www.marche-mesa.com
srtmesa@marche-mesa.com
 084-246017 / Fax : 084-322157








Editeur responsable: Pascal LAUREYS Colonel Breveté d'Etat-major Commandant de la Brigade Légère Camp Roi ALBERT 6900 MARCHÉ EN FAMENNE

THE BULLETIN BOARD

I am writing an article about my uncle, who was a band leader and a soldier – assigned to the 35th Special Services Company, VIII Corps – in World War II. I am hoping to find a former GI who might be willing to talk to me – someone who recalls having seen or participated in, even as a member of the audience, any of the live shows (or sports activities or movies) put on by the 35th, in Europe, during the war. Since the 101st Airborne Division was, I believe, part of VIII Corps, I am betting that someone in your Association might be able to help me! My uncle (my mother's brother) was named Charles Joseph Craft. He took on as a stage name "Baron Elliott," probably in imitation of Duke Ellington. In Europe, the 35th followed the U.S. Army through France and Belgium, and then into Germany. Most of the performances put on by the 35th were impromptu, and often outdoors. The 35th was de-activated on November 5, 1945. My uncle and his group landed in France, on the

coast of Normandy, on July 12, 1944. Since the temporary port that was planned for the landing sites had not yet been constructed, Baron waded ashore at Omaha Beach, he told me "with my rifle in one hand and my saxophone in the other." I am trying to find out as much as possible about the 35th Special Services Company, which has been utterly left out of the history of the U.S. Army in World War II, as far as I can see! Every World War II member of your Association has a wealth of information about the day-by-day life of a soldier in Europe. I would like to talk with a person who was there in Belgium, Luxembourg, and/or Germany in 1944 and early 1945. I have read that, when things were quiet, the GIs attended to forward positions, most often staying in foxholes, and that the men who were not forward were able to lodge in huts, houses and cellars a bit behind the lines. I also have read that a soldier might obtain an occasional pass to move back toward a "rest camp," where, I presume, he

might take in a movie or a concert put on by the 35th. I'm not sure how the life of that airborne division members differed from that. I hope that you will be able to locate a fellow who might like to talk with me about the day-to-day experience of being a World War II soldier who lived that lifestyle. I have been trying to read as much as possible about the U.S. Army's conduct of the war in Europe from June 1944 through to the end. If you are able to recommend books or articles that will assist me in understanding the day-by-day experiences of soldiers in that theatre, I would appreciate recommendations. Thank you in advance for any information you might be able to provide, or for a referral to any member of the 101st Airborne Division Association who might be able to help me with my project! Best regards, Lynn Mendelsohn, San Diego, California
My cell phone number is 619-980-1801.
Email: mendasst@n2.net

I'm working on a project regarding the 101st members who are from Texas and died in Vietnam and who are listed on "The Virtual Wall". In researching one particular soldier, I noticed that many of the soldiers do not have a photo shown on the wall. I would like to correct this situation. I'm sure that every soldier had a photo taken when they were either in basic or at jump school, air mobile school, etc. I'm hoping to get a photo or photos for each of them for whom no photo is shown. Please mail or email pictures to me.

Respectfully,

David Bush
President, Robert George Cole Chapter
101st Airborne Division Association
14618 Wind Hollow Cir, Houston, TX 77040
Mobil: 281-310-0640
101st.Airborne.Houston.Texas@gmail.com
or TheDavidBush@att.net - NEW

My name is Wallace Duggins and I am writing this for my wife Leopoldine Haigner Duggins. When she lived in Germany about 1959-1963 she met a soldier and now she is not very well and is 78. She is wanting to know if he is still alive and if he is could he be contacted some way. His name is William Larkin Vance Captain stationed with the 101st army airborne in Flint Kaserne Badtolz Germany 1959. She just wants to know what happened in his life after they went their different ways. His home state was Oklahoma. If there is a way to help her that would be great.
Leopoldine (Haigner) Duggins
1213 Reardon Cir Virginia Beach, VA 23453
757-232-6113 Wduggins1@cox.net

Looking for pictures of Larry Franklin, SP4 Vietnam December 30, 1967—Sept 17, 1968 Co E 2nd BN (Abn) 506th 101st Airborne. DOB February 8, 1949 Date of Death April 2, 1978 (by accident). Daughter is now 41 she was 7 at time of his death. She does not have any photos of him. If you have any photos please send them to Lesley Chadwick, 1127 Mohawk Trail, Shelbourne Falls, MA 01370
Phone: 413-489-3079

On 6 June 2012 a memorial park was unveiled in the Normandie village of Ravenoville. The park honors those members of A Co 506 PIR who liberated the village in the morning of DDay, and also other airborne troops who captured the nearby stronghold of Marmion Farm and defended the village from counterattacks. The centerpiece features three plinths; the center listing the A Co troopers and the outer plinths list by name and unit all others that could be identified. A circular entry plaque recognizes all these troop-

ers, both 101st and 82nd, as "Eternal Heroes". The entry to the park is a row of conifers each with a plaque recognizing those participants KIA at Ravenoville or later in the war. A military program dedicating the park was attended by six veterans including Don Burgett and Gene Cook who helped with historical facts. The park was conceived and constructed by David Ashe, a local resident who plans to add a full size bronze airborne statue as funding permits.

Eugene Cook

Hello, my name is Adam Slusher, grandson of Adam F. Slusher. My grand pop passed away before I got a chance to know him or have a chance to ask him about his experiences in the 101st. I ended up becoming a high school history teacher and am interested in finding out more about him. Would there be any chance that I could talk to someone that may have knew him in the 326th? I know that many in the greatest generation are leaving us and want to try to do this while there is still time. Any help you could give me would be greatly appreciated! Thank you so much
her@psdnet.org





2013



Registration, Larry and Mary Redmond about to lighten Augie Agro's Wallet



CSM Frank Grippe and Vinnie Speranza 501st PIR



Art Miller, cigars anyone?



Robert Wright, 501st PIR



Joseph Pisano, 327th GIR and Mickey Bordi



Leon Jedziniak, 501st PIR and Richard Rodriguez



Vietnamese paratroopers drop by to wish a Happy Tet



Pat Macri, 101st Sig Co and Patti with Eddie Pissott, Herb Hawkins, and Doris McIntyre

Snowbird



Tough questions on women in the Infantry



The Bar Crew



Some of the 13 men who participated in the Snowbird Jump



The lunch crew—the ladies did another great job!



Fred Behrens and his toys



VA Presentations, questions and controversy

K's Korner

by George Koskimaki

Written by: Dan Cutting

It's not very often in life that many of us get a chance to go back. Back to a time that was a milestone in our life. A time when we were young and may not have realized the gravity of our situation at that point in time. Few of us ever get the chance.

But there is a way for some to go back. Maybe not exactly like it was, but pretty darn close. Such was the case for a couple of WWII era Airborne Paratroopers recently. Two Detroit area Paratroopers recently made the trip to Frederick, Oklahoma to take a step back in time. Little did they realize when they climbed aboard the airliner in Detroit, that in a mere 24 hours, they would be able to see themselves as they were almost 70 years ago.



They had begun a journey to Frederick to visit the World War II Airborne Demonstration Team. They had both been Legacy Members of the Team for years but had never really understood the impact of the Team mission to Remember, Honor and Serve the Airborne Paratrooper. Sure, they knew that the Team travelled the U.S. and Europe to jump in air shows and Veteran reunions in the WWII style of military parachuting. Not until they set foot on the tarmac at Frederick Army Air Field (FAAF) did they begin to comprehend the magnitude of what has been assembled in this sleepy, little Oklahoma town. Let's go back a little bit and see how these old Paratroopers and Frederick, Oklahoma converged.

George Koskimaki has lived in Northville, Michigan for over 30 years. He is a retired high school teacher and basketball coach. He is also an author, a fact that most of his students never knew until many years after they graduated.

George served as General Maxwell Taylor's radioman in HQ Signal Company. He jumped with General Taylor in Europe on D-Day and served with him as his radioman as the 101st Airborne Division landed in Holland and then on to Bastogne, Belgium.

Upon his return to civilian life after the war, George told his wife more than once that he wanted to write a book about his experiences. He didn't get started until one day in 1968 when he said it one more time to her, that she replied, "You better get going on it and

quit talking about it. You aren't getting any younger!"

Apparently, that was what it took for George to get moving. He decided, however, that he would send questionnaires out to as many 101st Airborne Division men as he could to solicit their stories. He was quite surprised and quite pleased to get an overwhelming response to his request. Upon reading the replies, George decided that there was a bigger picture to paint than his lone perspective of the war. It was then that he embarked on a series of books that would forever change his life and the lives of countless others.

In 1970, George published *D-Day with the Screaming Eagles*. It is a narrative from the recollections of over five hundred men who fought in that historic battle in Normandy. He then went on to publish two more books, *Hell's Highway*, about the battle in Holland in Operation Market Garden and *The Battered Bastards of Bastogne*, detailing the events of the 101st battling a surrounding German enemy in the fields and forests in and around Bastogne.

Ed Hallo was 22 years old and working at Ford Motor Company when the war started and he knew that he wanted to serve. He didn't want to get drafted but also wanted to do "something different" as he put it. He learned about the new program of the Paratroopers and decided that he wanted to be part of that new group. He had no fear of jumping out of an airplane and thought he would be suited for that type of duty. He signed up in Detroit and was shipped off by train to Fort Custer in Battle Creek, Michigan.

At the time, the Army told him he was too small for the Airborne but after much insistence and a little help from one of the Sergeants, he was shipped to Toccoa, Georgia in December for basic training. There he lived in a tar paper shack and slept on a thin mattress stacked on cinder blocks. After his successful completion of basic training at Toccoa, he was off to Fort Benning, Georgia for his Airborne training.

After finishing up at Fort Benning, Ed found himself with the rest of A Company, 501st Battalion at Camp McCall in North Carolina. In January he shipped out for Lambourne, England. He spent the next six months there doing PT and some jumps to be ready for the impending invasion. Five days before D-Day, on or about 1 June, Ed was participating in a night jump and broke his leg. Although he was not able to jump with his unit on D-Day, Ed came back and distinguished himself by jumping in Holland and making the long truck ride to Belgium. A Company, of the 501st was the first to

make contact with the Germans outside Neffe and fired the first shots.

Ed continued on to fight in Bastogne and to make it through one of the worst winters and fiercest fighting of the war. At wars end, Ed was asked to continue in the Army after they broke up the 501st. He turned down a stripe to do so and mustered out of the Army with others of the 501st. Ed married a good English woman and raised a large family in the Detroit area after the war.

George and Ed soon found themselves attending 101st Division Reunions in the midwest and meeting once a month with other 101st guys in the Detroit area in what would become to be known as the Lunch Bunch. Over 30 years, members of the 101st, 82nd, 11th and other Airborne units have been getting together to keep memories alive and to continue to honor those that did not return.

Today, the Lunch Bunch consists of men and women from all walks of life. There are Airborne and Air Assault members from the Vietnam era and later. Troop carrier pilots and a Marine or two thrown in for good measure. History buffs and relatives of those who served, but have now passed, also attend.

That brings us to the present. There are a couple other Lunch Bunch members that are also members of the WWII Airborne Demonstration Team that attend regularly. Since George and Ed had never taken the time to go to Oklahoma to witness the Team's Jump School operations, they decided it was high time that George and Ed made the trip. That brings us back to our Paratroopers boarding the plane in Detroit to fly to Oklahoma City.

What greeted them when they arrived at FAAF, was a 70 year old hanger built just after Pearl Harbor to train young B-17 pilots. After the bombing of Pearl Harbor on 7 December, 1941, Frederick Army Air Field was constructed and by April was functional as a training base with over 100 buildings in place and thousands of pilots making their way through training until cessation of hostilities in 1945.



Only the hanger, that serves as the Headquarters for the WWII Airborne Demonstration Team, is all that is left of the original structures. With a lot of hard work and tender loving care, the 70 year old hanger is once again being put to work to house vintage WWII aircraft and to resume its place in the training of young men.

Each January and July, the WWII Airborne Demonstration Team holds Jump School for those that want to learn to jump in the manner of the Paratroopers of World War II. The nine day basic course teaches students how to safely jump in similar equipment and style as men like George and Ed did back in 1944.



Walking into the hanger is like walking back in time. Upon opening the door, one is met with the imposing beauty of two C47 aircraft. These lumbering giants were the beloved carriers of troops and cargo in the European Theater and in the Pacific. You are likely to hear music from the forties and see men and women in the uniform of the day from WWII. Such is what George and Ed saw when they arrived on a cold Friday morning in January 2013.

They were also met by several other WWII Veterans, Legacy Members, who also made the trip to FAAF. Men such as Mel Pliner, a glider pilot who made landings in Europe. Not just one or two landings like most glider pilots, but six landings. Landings of troops and supplies so needed in the effort to prevail over the entrenched Germans.

Other men like Duane Harvey and Leon "Jed" Jedziniak who served as Medics, or Angels of Mercy, as George puts it. Bobby Hunter, whose son is a Team member and has had the honor to jump on the same DZ as his father in Holland. These are just a few of the Legacy Members, the WWII Airborne Troopers, that come to share what George and Ed have come to see.



From left to right, Bobby Hunter D/501, Duane Harvey, HQ/501, George Koskimaki, Signal Company/ Div/HQ, Ed Hallo, a/501. The 501st was nicely represented.

On a cool but warming early Saturday afternoon, George and Ed climb aboard Boogie Baby, a WWII era C47 that saw action in Europe during the war. A flying museum piece that has

been left almost untouched in its original configuration since the war. She sits on the ramp in all of her majesty as the sun warms her olive drab skin. As our Vets climb aboard, they are met with the smells of the old aircraft they have long forgotten. As they sit across from the open door, they look at men clad in uniforms they too wore so many years ago.

As the props begin to turn, signaling engine start up, long ago memories begin to flood their minds. Memories of a time that was not as safe as today but when they would be flying into the face of battle. Flying behind enemy lines to battle from the rear, to make their way to the sea to meet up with invasion forces.

Finally the engines cough to life and purge the oil through the exhaust, rocking the aircraft with their sputters and filling the cabin with the acrid but sweet smell of burned oil and aviation fuel. After engine warm up and tower clearance, our Legacy Members are off, down the runway to take a flight they have waited almost 70 years for. Just as the wheels leave the runway, they shout "Airborne" with the troops packed into the cabin with them. George and Ed look at each of the faces across from them as these young men prepare themselves mentally to exit the airplane in flight.

It isn't long before the Jump Master, standing directly in front of our friends, begins the process of Jump Commands. He shouts wind speed and direction to the waiting jumpers. Moments later he gives the 6 minute warning and begins the Jump Commands; "Stand up, Hook up, Check your Equipment." Every command echoed in response by the pensive jumpers. "Sound off your equipment check" rings through the fuselage. The men count down from the front of the aircraft as they signify they are ready to jump. Then comes the command they have anticipated..... "Stand in the door!"



George Koskimaki & Ed Hallo with in flight

Time slows down. George and Ed have forgotten the chill in the air. They have forgotten that they are now 90 years old. Their aches and pains have left them. They have gone back in time. They are 22 again and they see themselves from a different perspective. They are looking at men that they looked like so many years ago. They have transcended the barrier of time and have truly gone back, gone back to those many years ago when they didn't know if they would ever come back. But they did come back.....

"Stand in the door." That command still grabs them by the throat. It is invigorating

and terrifying all at once. They remember D-Day. They think of Holland. They remember that they are the lucky ones.



Ed Hallo, Dan Cutting & George Koskimaki

"GO!" That command unleashes a cacophony of sound as the troops boots do the Airborne Shuffle on the old metal floor, the sliding of static line hooks on the anchor cable and the sound of the prop blast against the jumpers as they exit the airplane in a rush of bodies that is but a blur to George and Ed. The men are gone but the exhilaration continues as what they have just witnessed sinks in. "So that's what it looked like!" Ed says. Later George recalls to a Team member, "That is the first time I ever landed in a C47!"

The weekend continued for our boys with many people wanting autographs and to hear first hand accounts of what happened "over there." They dine and fellowship with the Jump School students and the Cadre. They revel in the past and mourn the friends they lost. They find they are among friends here. People that understand. People who have dedicated themselves to Remember, Honor and Serve Airborne Veterans like them. They realize that this is as close as they will ever come to those heady days of the forties as they prepared to go to war. This is a good thing in Frederick. It is good to remember.

At Graduation, Ed and George were asked by students to pin their newly earned golden wings on them. Emotion swells in both student and Veteran as the ceremony proceeds. For the student, it was nine days of grueling training and hard work. For our Veterans it was so long ago when they were standing waiting for their wings. Where has the time gone?

Later, at the Dining In, there are more wings presented for those that earned Senior and Master Wings. More Pomp & Circumstance and with it, more of a sense of belonging. Belonging to a brotherhood of men that truly understand what it takes to throw themselves out of an airplane and into battle. These men of The WWII Airborne Demonstration Team care. They care and they honor those that fought and died and those that came back and carried on. Carried on in spite of the pain and the nightmares. Carried on as if what they did was nothing special. Carried on under the burden of what they saw and what they had to do. These few men in Frederick, Oklahoma, that live all over the United States, care. Care enough to see to it that a couple old Vets are catered to like celebrities. Like the heroes that they are.



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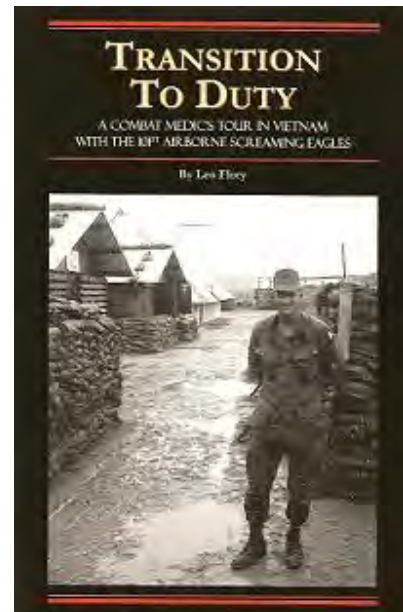
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NEW RECRUITS

Achuo, Yawic M
Armstrong, Troy D, HHB 2nd BN 320th FAR 1BCT
Ayers, Steven A, B CO 1st BN 101st ABN 1BCT
Basnight II, Frederick S, HHB 2-44 ADA
Bell Jr, Tom, I CO 3rd BN 327th INF 1BDE
Bierds, Charles, C 1st HOW 321st 1st
Birdwell, Jeff R, D CO 2nd BN 327th INF 1BDE
Bradley, Norman L, 187th INF
Bryan, Michael C
Brymer, James E, B CO 2nd BN 501st abn inf 2 BDE
Buckley, William W, B CO 1st BN 502nd INF
Buker, Regina W,
Burnard, Craig B, HHT 1st squadron 75th Cavalry RGMT 2 BCT
Cackett, Robert, 1BCT
Capps, Gregory S, HHB 2nd BN 320 FAR 1BCT
Carr, Robert E, A101 AHC 101 AHB
Chandik, Gerald P, B BTRY 1st BN 321st FAR
Charters, Paul T, A CO 1st STB 327th INF 1BCT
Classen, Lance D, 7th 101st 159 AVN BDE
Dawkins, Donald H, A CO 2nd BN 506th INF
Devore, James A, 2BDE
Dille, Mark W, Discom
Drake, Jon A, 326th ENG BN
Dunham, Dean, 2nd BN 502nd INF
Earl, Ryan, 3BCT
Ellis, Deontay Q, 5th Group
Fallin, Donald G, HHC 3rd BN 502nd INF 2BCT
Floyd, Harry,
Fryer, David, A CO 1st BN 501st INF
Gourdine, Kenneth, HHC 1STB 1BCT
Gronau, Nathan t, A CO 1st BN 326th ENG 1 BDE
Hanlon, Thomas, HQ 501st Signal 1st
Harcrow, Jason P,
Hemrich, Roy W, A 331st 4/77 ARA
Holland, Donald A, HHQ 2nd BN 506th INF
Hood, Leon R, B CO 1st ABG 501st INF
Iverson, Thomas R, HHD 129th CSB
Jimenez, Alejandro
Jones, Mickey
Jones, Wes, 101st MP
Kammerdiener, Stephen, HQ 326th
Karvaskl, Jay J, HHC 159th CAB
Kellerman, Harold, C CO 2nd BN 502nd INF
Kelly, Hubert W, HHC 1st BN 327th 1 BDE
Ketcher, Jim L, Hq & Co A 801st Maintenance Bn
Lawson, Leonard L, CO B 1st BN 327th INF
Luczynski, James C, HHC 1st BN 327th INF
Maddox, David L, HSB 3rd BN 320th FA
Marchigiani, Perry
McBain, Richard L, A 2 502
Miller, Chuck, B CO 158th AVN BN
Miller, Jacob B, 2nd BN
Milslagle, Bradley R
Morris, Powell D, B CO 2nd BN 502nd INF
Moulliet, Seana M
Navarro, Jaime E, HQ 101st ABN DIV
Nix, William C, D CO 2nd BN 502nd INF
Ozolins, Taryn L, SSB Finance BN
Ozolins, Alexander P, A CO 2nd BN 327th INF
Paganello, Nicholas, 2nd Squad 17th CAV
Pagones, Jordan, HHB 2nd BN 320th FAR 1 BCT
Piercy, Francis H, Discom
Powe, Domonique L, 4BDE
Ramos, William F, HHB 2nd BN 320th FAR Bastogne
Rastellini, William R, 4BCT
Reid, Ron, C CO 2nd BN 327th INF 1 BDE
Rickman, C.D., A CO 2nd BN 506th INF 3BDE
Rocha, Arturo O, C CO 3rd BN 506th INF
Rohrer, Tyler S, 159th CAB
Sahago, Mark A
Samuel, Herman L, 1st BN 502nd INF 1 BDE
Scalia, Christopher, DIV HQ
Scott, Michael
Smart, Gregory, B Co 8th 101st
Smith, Curtis H, G. 426 BSB 2nd BN 320th FAR
Spring, Larry L, D 3-101 3-101 Avn Regt
Taffoya, Christopher G, HHC STB 1ST 1BCT
Taylor, Natasha R, HHC 801ST BSB 506th INF 4 BCT
Taylor, Derek D, 194th mp 716th mp 101 avn 101st sustainment
Torset, Samuel G, D CO 2nd BN 502nd INF 2BCT
Trzicky, Cameron T, HHB 2nd BN 327th INF Bastogne
Warner, Rebecca, HHC 2nd BN 101st
Watson, David R, C CO 1 STB 327th INF 1BCT
Wietzema, Adrian D, D CO 3rd BN 101st AVN
Winters, Kenny W, G CO 2nd BN 320th FAR 1BCT

OPERATION HOMELINK: 100 LAPTOPS FOR THE 101ST

**Sgt. Joe Padula
2nd BCT PAO**

FORT CAMPBELL, KY – One hundred smiles, one hundred handshakes, one hundred thank you's; one hundred members of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), received free refurbished laptops and webcams during Operation Homelink at Fort Campbell's Family Resource Center, Jan. 26. Fluor, Inc. of Irving, Tx., the number one Fortune 500 Company for engineering and construction, made the Operation Homelink donations possible. The Screaming Eagle family members were excited to receive their new electronic devices.

"I am ecstatic about having this laptop and was very surprised when I first heard of this opportunity," said Cassie Coley, wife of Spc. Arthur Coley, a cargo specialist with the division's 101st Sustainment Brigade and she is also the mother of eight-month-old Brianna Coley. "I think this is a great thing done for my family by these really thoughtful people."

Operation Homelink is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization founded in the fall of 2002. Their mission is to facilitate e-mail messaging, social networking and video communication between servicemembers deployed overseas to their families back home. The group does not look at the laptops as a free

gift, but as something already the Soldiers and family members have earned.

"We appreciate the sacrifices made by today's Soldier and their spouses and they deserve our respect," said Dan Shannon, president and founder of Operation Homelink. "These laptops that are being provided today were earned a long time ago when that Soldier strapped on their boots, stood up and said, 'send me.' They are earned every early morning when that spouse gets up and gets those kids off to school; this is a small token to show them our appreciation."

Eligible for the gifts are Soldiers and their family members ranging from the pay grades of E1 to E5, private to sergeant. During this particular Operation Homelink drop-off, the receiving families were given the tools to stay in contact with their deploying heroes with a refurbished Dell laptop and web cam.

"It's not everyday you find people that are kind enough to do something like this and a Soldier's pay isn't the highest around, don't get me wrong, I don't serve for the money, but my family actually did need a laptop," said Spc. Coley. "It is difficult to stay in touch with family while overseas and this helps staying in contact

with my wife during deployments."

The 101st Airborne Division currently has units deployed to Afghanistan with more about to go as its headquarters unit began their deployment process with a casing of the colors ceremony held Jan. 25. Operation Homelink, whose supporters now include companies like Fluor, Raytheon, Dell and Southwest Airlines, has distributed 7,100 computers to military families, wounded warriors and unemployed veterans since its founding. Operation Homelink's goal to support the members of the armed forces by bridging the gap of time and distance while separated, is considered an honor on their behalf.

"I am humbled and have such an appreciation for anyone that wears the uniform and their family members and their stories," said Shannon. "Today a young woman, with tears in her eyes, told me about her four-month-old son named Aiden and how she wanted him to remember his deployed father's voice and face, so that Aiden would then recognize his father when he returns home. Hearing the story about Aiden makes everything we've done all worth it; we are blessed and fortunate to serve those who serve."



FORT CAMPBELL, KY – Carmen Capestany, wife of a deployed Soldier from the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), receives a refurbished laptop from Operation Homelink at Fort Campbell's Family Resource Center, Jan. 26. Operation Homelink is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization whose mission is to facilitate e-mail messaging, social networking and video communication between servicemembers deployed overseas to their families back home. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Alan Graziano, 3rd BCT PAO, 101st Abn. Div.)



FORT CAMPBELL, KY – A Screaming Eagle Soldier with the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), receives a refurbished laptop from Operation Homelink at Fort Campbell's Family Resource Center, Jan. 26. Operation Homelink has distributed 7,100 computers to military families, wounded warriors and unemployed veterans since its founding. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Alan Graziano, 3rd BCT PAO, 101st Abn. Div.)



FORT CAMPBELL, KY – Mrs. Cassie Coley, Spc. Arthur Coley, a cargo specialist with the 101st Sustainment Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and their daughter, eight-month-old Brianna Coley, sit together with their donated laptop from Operation Homelink at Fort Campbell's Family Resource Center, Jan. 26. "I think this is a great thing done for my family by these really thoughtful people, said Mrs. Coley." (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Alan Graziano, 3rd BCT PAO, 101st Abn. Div.)



101st Airborne Division Association, Inc.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

32 Screaming Eagle Blvd. / P.O. Box 929

Fort Campbell, KY 42223

Phone: (931) 431-0199 Fax: (931) 431-0195

Email: semag101st@comcast.net

Website: www.screamingeagle.org

ELIGIBILITY: Anyone who was assigned, attached or are presently assigned to the 101st Airborne Division can become a regular member of the Association. The Association also welcomes as associate members anyone who is interested in the 101st Airborne Division Association.

To maintain our non-profit 501 (c) (19) status with the IRS the Association must have proof of your military service is some type of document such as a copy of your DD form 214, orders to the 101st, military award orders, military promotion orders, copy of military ID, or VA Card, etc. This list is not limited to just those documents but anything that proves you are a veteran.

Please check the applicable box: New Member Reinstatement Gift

Enclosed is \$30.00 for a one-year membership, which includes *The Screaming Eagle* publication.

Note: International members must enclose an additional \$30.00 per year for the mailing of *The Screaming Eagle*.

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Please furnish the applicable information and complete those blanks you wish to have as part of your Association records:

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Dates of 101st Service: From _____ To: _____

If you did not serve with or was not attached to the 101st, are you a veteran? YES NO

Are you or were you the spouse of a veteran? YES NO

Are you a descendant of a veteran? YES NO

Please specify branch of service, unit and dates of service if you did not serve with or was not attached to the 101st

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101st Airborne Division Association, Inc.

Active Duty Application / Kangaroo Chapter

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--



Memorial Day Weekend with The Screaming Eagles



We invite you to join the National Capital Chapter of the 101st Airborne Division Association in commemorating our comrades and socializing with each other.

Schedule of Events

Date	Time	Event
Friday, May 24	12:00 PM	Assemble at the Visitors Center at Arlington National Cemetery to walk to the tomb of the Unknowns.
	1:15 PM	Division Association wreath will be laid at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery.
	3:00 PM	Hospitality Suite opens at the Sheraton National Hotel, 900 Orme St.
Saturday, May 25	10:00 AM	Bus leaves the hotel for the National Mall. 101 st ABN DIV ASSN wreaths will be laid at the WWII Memorial, the Korean War Memorial and the Vietnam Wall. <i>*Informal lunch after return to hotel. Hospitality Suite to open after lunch.</i>
Sunday, May 26	11:00 AM	Laying of Wreaths at the 101 st Division Memorial
<i>Note: Washington Blvd. will be closed between I-395 (Shirley Hwy) and Memorial Bridge beginning at 8:00 AM for Rolling Thunder</i>		
	12:30 PM	Luncheon followed by addresses TBA. <i>*Hospitality Suite opens after lunch.</i>
Monday, May 27	1:00 PM	Memorial Day Parade starts at 2:00 PM and we will assemble on the Mall near the south end (near 7 th street) of the Air and Space Museum. Look for the Eagles, Cameros and Firebirds!
<p>The nearest Metro station is L'Enfant Plaza – cross Independence Avenue and walk down 7th Street to the Mall (Jefferson Drive) and look around. You can also be dropped off at the north end of the Mall on 4th Street, from where you can walk to the assembly area. The parade will go down Constitution Avenue, and end at 17th Street (that's the street with the WWII Memorial.)</p>		



We have a set of rooms blocked for the 101st Airborne Association at the Sheraton National Hotel, Arlington. The room rate plus will be \$129.00 for single, double, or triple occupancy.

Reservations must be made by April 26th 2013.

Individuals must make their own reservations by calling 1-888-627-8210 and identify themselves as members of our group.

Individual cost for the luncheon is \$27.00, but they pay that at the hotel **not in advance**.

**National Capital Area Chapter
Memorial Day Weekend 24-27 May 2013
Registration Form**

Name _____ Spouse _____ or Guest _____

Unit _____ WWII _____ VN _____ OE/IF _____ FC _____

I/we plan on participating in the following events:

_____ 24 May: Wreath Ceremony, Tomb of the Unknowns # _____

_____ 25 May: Bus and War Memorial Ceremonies # _____

NOTE: Buses originate and return to Sheraton National Hotel, \$5 pp at boarding

_____ 26 May: 101st Memorial Ceremony and luncheon # _____

NOTE: Luncheon payment is \$27.00, but payable at the hotel **not in advance**.

_____ 27 May: National Memorial Day Parade (only current and ex-military)

_____ I am able to march

_____ I will need to ride in order to participate

_____ I would like to ride if available

Mail registration forms to Bob Ponzo, National Capital Area Chapter,
4141 Henderson Rd, #1007, Arlington, VA 22203

Registrations should be received no later than 22 May 2013

2013 Memorial Day Wreath Ordering Form

Name/Organization of person ordering wreath: _____

Person (s) placing wreath (if known): _____

Inscription for ribbon adorning wreath: _____

Cost is \$85 per wreath. Mail orders to Bob Ponzo,
4141 Henderson Rd, #1007, Arlington, VA 22203, Telephone: 703-527-3084
Please make checks payable to the National Capital Area Chapter

Wreath order must be received NLT 22 May 2013



CHAPPIE HALL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

(To encompass the following scholarships: Catherine and Charles Kratz, AG Gueymard Memorial, Pratt Memorial, Edward Knapp and others.)



All Students may apply for both scholarships if qualified, but will only receive one and not both scholarships.

All applications must be completed and submitted in a timely manner during the four week application period. Partial or incomplete applications will not be accepted. Applications will not be accepted for any reason either before or after the designation application period. Applicants may submit their applications to the Foundation beginning Monday, April 15, 2013. All applications must be received by the Foundation at its designated address, Screaming Eagle Foundation, PO Box 929, Fort Campbell, KY 42223-0929 no later than its close of business on Friday, May 10, 2013.

1. OBJECTIVE:

The objective of this program is to provide financial assistance to students who have the potential to become assets to our nation. The major factors to be considered in the evaluation and rating of applicants are eligibility, career objectives, academic record, and insight gained from the letter requesting consideration and letters of recommendation.

2. ELIGIBILITY:

- A) Applicant must maintain an overall “C” or better grade average during the past school year.
- B) Applicant’s parents, grandparent, husband or wife is (or if deceased was) a regular or life (not Associate) member of the 101st Airborne Division **Association**.

3. INSTRUCTIONS:

Complete this application form and submit it with the following documents. Applications will only be accepted beginning April 15, 2013 to close of business on May 10, 2013. All information will be kept in the strictest confidence. **Incomplete applications will not be considered.**

- A) Complete application form.
- B) A small photo (head and shoulders) to be used for publication in “The Screaming Eagle” if scholarship grant is awarded
- C) Proof of membership of parent, grandparent, husband or wife in the 101st Airborne Division Association (see eligibility paragraph 2 B above).
- D) A transcript of school records including, as a minimum, the past school year.
- E) Letters of acceptance from a university or college.
- F) Two letters of recommendation (from other than a relative). One must be from a teacher.
- G) A typed letter in which the applicant will briefly discuss the following subjects in addition to others he or she considers relevant, e.g.
 - Hobbies, interests and personal achievements.
 - Career objectives – near term and long term.
 - Name of school, college or university applicant plans to attend and why chosen.
 - How a higher education for the applicant in his/her chosen field can benefit our nation.
 - Community Service.
- H) 250 word essay (**Not less than 250 or more than 300**) on Patriotism. Please do not use what you’ve written in the past.

To ensure your application is not delayed or rejected as incomplete, include all materials listed in A) through H). All applications must be completed and submitted in a timely manner during the four week application period. Partial or incomplete applications will not be accepted. Applications will not be accepted for any reason either before or after the designation application period. Applicants may submit their applications to the Foundation beginning Monday, April 15, 2013. All applications must be received by the Foundation at its designated address, Screaming Eagle Foundation, PO Box 929, Fort Campbell, KY 42223-0929 no later than its close of business on Friday May 10, 2013.

Materials not included will make your application invalid and you will not be considered for an award. Winners will be announced and notifications will be mailed in late September 2013.

**Applications can be obtained by going to www.screamingeagle.org or by calling the Foundation at 931-431-0199.



Screaming Eagle Foundation AL & WILLAMARY VISTE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



All Students may apply for both scholarships if qualified, but will only receive one and not both scholarships.

All applications must be completed and submitted in a timely manner during the four week application period. Partial or incomplete applications will not be accepted. Applications will not be accepted for any reason either before or after the designation application period. Applicants may submit their applications to the Foundation beginning Monday, April 15, 2013. All applications must be received by the Foundation at its designated address, Screaming Eagle Foundation, PO Box 929, Fort Campbell, KY 42223-0929 no later than its close of business on Friday, May 10, 2013.

1. OBJECTIVE:

The objective of this program is to provide financial assistance to students who have the potential to become assets to our nation. The major factors to be considered in the evaluation and rating of applicants are eligibility, career objectives, academic record, and insight gained from the letter requesting consideration and letters of recommendation. Preference will be given, but is not limited, to obtaining a degree in one of the Physical Sciences, Medical or Scientific Research fields.

2. ELIGIBILITY:

- A) Applicant must be an upperclassman, 3rd or 4th year or a graduate student.
- B) Applicant must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.75 (transcript required) or better.
- C) Applicant's parents, grandparent, husband or wife is (or if deceased was) a regular or life (not Associate) member of the 101st Airborne Division **Association**.

3. INSTRUCTIONS:

Complete this application form and submit it with the following documents. Applications will only be accepted beginning April 15, 2013 to close of business on May 10, 2013. All information will be kept in the strictest confidence. **Incomplete applications will not be considered.**

- A) Complete application form.
- B) A small photo (head and shoulders) to be used for publication in "The Screaming Eagle" if scholarship grant is awarded
- C) Proof of membership of parent, grandparent, husband or wife in the 101st Airborne Division Association (see eligibility paragraph 2 C above).
- D) A transcript of school records including all post secondary education.
- E) Letters of acceptance from university or college.
- F) Two letters of recommendation (from other than a relative). One must be from a college or university professor.
- G) A typed letter in which the applicant must give a concise statement of long-term goals, to include post graduate educational and professional aspirations, following graduation.
 - Hobbies, interests and personal achievements.
 - Course of study
 - Name of college or university applicant is or plans to attend and why chosen.
 - How a higher education for the applicant in his/her chosen field can benefit our nation.
 - Community Service
- H) 500 word essay (**Not less than 500 or more than 550**) on what it means to be an American. Please do not use what you've written in the past.

To ensure your application is not delayed or rejected as incomplete, include all materials listed in A) through H). All applications must be completed and submitted in a timely manner during the four week application period. Applications will not be accepted for any reason either before or after the designation application period. Applicants may submit their applications to the Foundation beginning Monday, April 15, 2013. All applications must be received by the Foundation at its designated address, Screaming Eagle Foundation, PO Box 929, Fort Campbell, KY 42223-0929 no later than its close of business on Friday May 10, 2013.

Materials not included will make your application invalid and you will not be considered for an award. Winners will be announced and notifications will be mailed in late September 2013.

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FROM OVER THERE...

Jan Coolen Reports

BASTOGNE

In winter and Christmas time my thoughts irresistibly go -- more often than during the year -- to the eastern part of Belgium, to the Ardennes, to Bastogne. To the highest region of the Low Lands, where it can be extraordinarily incredibly cold during wintertime. An area that is -- at a rough estimate -- 60 miles long and 25 wide with a few covered roads in 1944 and which still exists of rough, difficult passable and very hilly terrain in an incredibly beautiful landscape.

That was the décor the 101st Airborne had to fight in during the very severe winter of 1944 in the Ardennes, for Hitler decided to do a last attempt to bring the Allies on their knees with all the troops he had on the western front, 20 divisions, well trained and fed and heavily armed. There in all probability took place one of the most heroic, brave and dramatic life-or-death struggles of WWII, of military history, from Dec. 16, 1944 until the end Jan. 1945. Over a front of only 60 miles the Germans threw in battle 250,000 soldiers, almost 1,000 tanks and assault guns as well as 1,900 guns and howitzers, a lot of 355mm. The Americans, totally surprised, had in the neighbourhood 80,000 men: the 2nd and 99th Infantry Divisions of General Gerow and the 4th, 28th, 106th and part of the 9th Armoured Div. of General Middleton. Immediately were added the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions (from France) and General Patton promised to be in Bastogne from France, with his 3rd US Army, within 48 hours!! .

Every year I feel the duty to go to Bastogne around Christmas. In a warm, thick sweater and overcoat, on a full stomach and enough money for another warm meal during the day. "Feel the duty", because here, in and around Bastogne, are killed almost 900 soldiers and four times (unusually high) more very severely wounded soldiers of the 101st Airborne Division. These fallen and wounded soldiers were my liberators during Operation Market Garden (Sept-Nov 1944). I talk about warm clothes and enough food because most of the time the 101st Airbornes were without these highly necessary, essential and morale stimulating provisions in this horrible battle. The reason, the 101st was in rest, recuperation and addition -- after wet, cold, muddy and continuous fights of 72 days in Holland

(Operation Market Garden) -- and from one moment to the other the 101-soldiers were directed from Mourmelon (France) to Bastogne. But much more distressing and serious were the light and slight arms of the 101st (they are paratroopers) and the overwhelming and frightening power of the enemy. Most of the time each 101-er faced seven enemies, because the Allied Command never had expected an attack via the very difficult passable Ardennes. We all know the result. The 101st held out, caused a turning point at the end of WWII and was declared as a very brave division. The division got a Presidential Unit Citation for the defence of Bastogne. But it wasn't only the 101st which caused the turnabout; historians say: "the actions of Gerow's 2nd and 99th Inf. Divisions also could be considered as one of the most decisive of the Ardennes Campaign". Some figures: Finally the total American contribution in the Battle of the Ardennes (also called the Battle of the Bulge) was 610,000 soldiers. About 70,000 were wounded (many amputated or frozen legs) and 19,000 were killed!!

Very exceptionally, I this year (2012) didn't go to Bastogne. So I cannot write about the events which have been organized -- as every year -- by the extreme grateful population of Bastogne and surrounding villages. Is it meaningful then to tell what I know about the 101st in Bastogne in 1944?, about the Battered Bastards of Bastogne (see the book of 101st historian and veteran George Koskimaki, Signal WWII) ? I don't think so. The veterans of the Ardennes will rightfully say: "What are you going to write, I fought in Bastogne, or near Foy (Forrest Jacques) or Champs, or Bizory or Savy or Marvie or Noville, or other villages and I often told my family, even my grand and great grandchildren, about that time". And other veterans and active soldiers of the 101st will say: "We have to learn and know the very brave actions of our division in WWII".

Instead of a trip to Bastogne I read about the Battle of the Bulge during Christmastime. And so now and then I googled on internet one or more catchwords to know more about the battle.

Then I got the idea, that you, veterans -- perhaps with the help of your children or grandchildren -- also should have to look at internet. Because you maybe forgot things or

you never told something about these -- for you -- very intense and far-reaching experiences in and around Bastogne in WWII. Or it's interesting to read about what happened with other 101st units in your battle area or in other places around Bastogne.

Just key in on google (or AVG or another search machine) the words in italics: *legs amputated Bastogne December 1944*. The winter of 1944 was terribly cold; the 101st wasn't prepared for that cold; the Germans had quilted boots and thick fur coats; many 101st soldiers had frozen legs (amputated) or other frozen parts of their body; that was heartbreaking. Partly the reason was the unexpected and hasty depart from Mourmelon (France) to Bastogne. Some had drawn a place at Paris to paint the town red after the heavy battles in Normandy and Holland. Many were replacements; for these guys I have the greatest admiration: never been in a war and then Bastogne!; give in: *Mourmelon / Paris 101st December 1944*. The 101st soldiers and their vehicles had no white camouflage material, even though there was a thick layer of snow almost during the whole battle (Dec 1944- Feb 1945). Commander John Hanlon let ring the church bells of Hemrouille and asked bed sheets and linens; a great gift for the soldiers; he promised to give back that. He returned to Hemrouille in 1948 to see how the post-war reconstruction had gone. "Not that bad", said the mothers, "but we are still waiting for our sheets". See: *John Hanlon Hemrouille December 1944*. Or key in: *monuments Battle of the Bulge*. I guess in and around Bastogne are more than 200 monuments, many for the 101st, from a tank to a statue or structure or a wall plate of marble or a huge very big building, like the *Mardasson*, extent 450, height 45 feet; enter: *Mardasson*. When you give in: *Humbo King Cobra*, you can read the story of the first Sherman tank (M4A3E2-nr 3083084) which raced way ahead of Patton's Fourth Armoured Division and reach the 101st on Dec 26, 1944. Some confusion arose concerning the tank commander Lt. Boggess and the soldiers he saw, because in the Ardennes battle the Germans often posed as American soldiers (which place do the Braves come from?). That was done by the so called German *Skorzeny group December 1944*. The group also changed place name sign refer-

ences. Key in: *Seminary Bastogne December 1944 truck with mines*. Every 101st Bastogne veteran can tell the dramatic story of the exploded truck with mines and 13 comrades of 101st were killed. The 101st soldiers had an alarming shortage of ammunition and – due to the terrible cold – a continuous lack of warm, fresh food (tin food enough). Because of the bad weather supply droppings weren't possible. All the battle time the 101st was in bitter and frigid cold. Can you imagine what it meant the weather on the 23rd Christmas day was good enough for droppings. Once a veteran of B 326th Engr WWII looked round, to see where his wife was, and told me: "That was the most beautiful day of my life". Key in: *Food dropping Christmas 101st Bastogne December 1944*. Talking about food shortage. The Ardennes have been an intensive scene of battle during the whole war (1940-1945). So the civilians had a shortage of food too. In spite of that a woman, from the village Longchamps, brought warm soup and a (hidden) great ham, famous Ardennes ham, to the soldiers of 502nd on Christmas eve. In 1989 I was with Gen. Chappuis and a few veterans of 502nd (among them John Seney) to say thank you to the great grand mother (the group had

bought a big ham). Give in: *Longchamps Chappuis ham December 1944*. Read the story about the *Greindl family at castle Isle la Hesse 1944*. Due to the very severe bombing and artillery shelling of Bastogne the 101st Airborne Division chose a safer command post (McAuliffe) away from the town in castle Isle la Hesse, lived in by Countess René Greindl and 12 children (her husband died in concentration camp Buchenwald as a resistance man). A very moving story written by the countess in 1964, twenty years after the liberation. Another castle played a role in the battle, headquarters 502nd (Chappuis): *Castle Rolle Chappuis December 1944*. Between Bastogne and Noville is *Bois Jacques December 1944 (Forrest Jacques)*. This area was a continuous very fierce scene of battle. It changed six times from occupying force. Almost all trees had no top and many only the trunk and there are still many foxholes. Or key in: *names of villages or names of units or comrades*.

Also interesting is to read the role of the German Luftwaffe (Air force) in the Ardennes area. See *Operation Bodenplatte (Baseplate)*: an attempt by the Luftwaffe to cripple Allied air forces in the Low Countries

during the Second World War. The goal of Bodenplatte was to gain air superiority during the stagnant stage of the Battle of the Bulge, to allow the German Army and Waffen SS forces to resume their advance. Owing to bad weather (and happily) they have to wait until New Years Day 1945.

Maybe it's interesting the Korean veterans do the same. The Korean war (1950-1953) was horrible, treacherous and strange; May 1950 the USA forces were pushed back to the Pusan perimeter -- is 10% of Korea -- and barely two months later they had conquered almost entire Korea, south and north. Finally the war ended on the 38th parallel. Key in: *battle of Osan or battle of Taejon* (in that battle 3,600 US soldiers of the 24th Div were KIA and 3,000 wounded), or *38th parallel or Korean War Wikipedia*. Why not *Vietnam, the Pacific, Iraq, Afghanistan*.

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Helping a Hero

SSG Charles Allen and SGT Chris Kurtz, both from 1st Squadron, 75th Cavalry Scout Regiment in the 2nd BCT "STRIKE" of the 101st Airborne Division, were honored with a retirement ceremony on 9 January 2013 at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. Both SSG Allen and SGT Kurtz were at Walter Reed for the past two years recovering from wounds they received during their combat deployments in Kandahar, Afghanistan. The ceremony was hosted by the Warrior Transition Brigade and included presentation of awards, retirement certificates and a lovely reception following the ceremony. The Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Winnefield, and his wife, attended the ceremony along with many, many other wounded warriors and their family members. The 101st Airborne Division Association had members in attendance to pass on their congratulations on behalf of the Association. Bob Seitz and Dick Winters I'm sure attended as members of the Association but felt like they were there as part of the family.



The families of SSG Allen and SGT Kurtz were also recognized for their service to both the Army and Walter Reed wounded warrior communities. Mrs. Jessica Allen and Mrs. Heather Kurtz received certificates of appreciation, along with bouquets of flowers, for their selfless service and contributions to the Warrior Transition Brigade community. Both Jessica and Heather provided genuine comfort and assistance to many other wounded warrior families during their time at Walter Reed, and earnestly developed strong relationships and friendships across the hospital and wounded warrior community.

In retirement, SGT Kurtz and his family also plan to move to a new home in Tennessee, near Fort Campbell, where he will pursue a degree in electrical engineering from the University of Tennessee. SGT Kurtz joined the Army in 2009, serving three years

In retirement, SSG Allen will continue his studies in information technology and information management with a goal to start a small business. SSG Allen joined the Army in June 1998, serving a total of near 15 years.

HelpingaHero.org, a non-profit organization whose Motto is "Changing Lives, One Veteran at a Time" is doing just that by assisting both families in building homes in TN. These homes will be built to accommodate these new challenges in the life's of these two Screaming Eagles.

Jessica posted on her Blog, "God never

promised us an easy road. I've read the bible three times cover to cover and let me tell you it's not in there. What is in there are the numerous stories of those who walked in faith and came out victorious. Think of Job, think of Joseph, both of them had so much sorrow and disappointment thrown at them and yet they never gave up. My husband is a present day example that parallels to Job and Joseph and I am so honored to be walking along this journey with him."



The community gathered for the ground breaking for the Allen family on February 25, 2013 where Wayne St. Louis represented the 101st Airborne Division Association at the event and passed on words of support on behalf all the many veterans in attendance and those who couldn't attend. The Association continues to show support to all the wounded Soldiers and their families and plans to be there for the Kurtz family's ground breaking also.

The Man Behind this Year's Reunion Coin

By Wayne P. St. Louis

For many years it has been customary to receive a coin for participating in our wonderful Reunions. This has become a time honored tradition that all of our members look forward to as they check into the Reunion. This year though that coin will be uniquely special and unlike any other that has been given out previously. Our 68th Annual coin will have been designed by one of our very own members and this is his story.



Clause "Dutch" Mann has more than his share of enthralling stories like any WWII era Paratrooper. I first met "Dutch" when I became the Executive Secretary of the Association. It wasn't until this American gem started helping me gather new Eagles at the Newcomers Briefings that I truly got a chance to know him. When he was just 7 years old he traveled 3rd class alone on a boat and ended up in an Irish neighborhood in the Bronx in 1931. This is where the lone German kid garnered the nickname of "Dutch" which he still goes by to this very day.

In 1942 at the age of 18 he was drafted and during the interview process he not only had medical knowledge, but had been working at a local hospital to gain experience towards his goal of becoming a surgeon. In March of 1943 Dutch found himself serving with the 35th Field Hospital in North Africa when the 82nd Airborne Division came looking for medical Paratroopers. Without hesitation and with just one day of airborne training he found himself about to make his first jump over Sicily with the other members of the "Devils in Baggy Pants" the 504th PIR. He was part of the 60% losses when he was wounded in both knees when he was shot with wooden bullets! Yet his war was far from over when in 1944 after two weeks of Infantry Training he supported the Special Forces and British troops on the Yugoslavia border doing code work.

Following his service to his country Dutch returned home to finish his high school diploma at last. While there he met a woman named Helen who would become the love of his life and later his beloved spouse. They became high school sweethearts, but this romance had a twist! Not many lucky ladies can claim that their love was in fact one of the famous "Devils in Baggy Pants." Dutch enlisted again in 1946 to be part of the 504th again and served with them ultimately achieving the rank of Command Sergeant Major. But again the Airborne and the United States Army still had plans for this talented Paratrooper. In 1951 General Westmoreland asked him to take a direct commission in preparation for the conflict on the Korean Peninsula. As a not so young 2nd Lieutenant with the 7th Division he served 13 months during the Korean War. Dutch was a member of the "Frozen Chosen" and suffered through the -40 degree temperatures.

After many other assignments Dutch found himself at Fort Campbell and the 101st Airborne Division. During his time here he served as a Commander and Artillery Officer in the 501st and he retired in 1963 after serving his country honorably for 21 years. Clause "Dutch" Mann CPT(R) traded his jump boots and his rifle for a blackboard and chalk when he resumed his civilian life as a teacher. He finished his degree and became a key figure in the life of numerous young boys and girls in Clarksville, TN as an elementary school teacher. After only one year he became the Principle of Ringgold Elementary school and he again retired in 1985. But his drive to impact the youth of this country just couldn't keep him away and he returned to teaching after only two years away. He also continued to impact the young men of Clarksville with his work with the Boy Scouts.



After finally stepping away from teaching Dutch and his beloved wife Helen had a chance to enjoy the retired life! They enjoyed watching their 3 sons grow up and

become men before their eyes. Dutch continued to pursue his love of wood carving in his free time. By looking at this year's coin you can see that his mother, the artist of the family, passed along her talent to Dutch! Among other items he carved plaques and even the flags that are displayed in our national headquarters. Sadly his wife Helen of over 61 years passed in 2010. Speaking with him you can hear in his voice the love he had for Helen and how much he misses her. One thing that kept him going after this tragedy was his wood carving. In 1986 he was approached by Judge Beach the owner of the Beach Haven Winery to carve a plaque when he stopped to purchase a bottle of wine. It wasn't until 2001 that he carved his first barrel. He has just finished his 58th barrel and has a goal of completing 101.



Dutch celebrated his 89th or 22nd birthday depending on how you add it up since he was born on February 29th. He takes advantage on most years to celebrate it on February 28th and then again on March 1st! Again this is just another example of what a truly unique man that my friend Dutch really is. I remember when I first asked him to draft a design for this year's coin that within a few minutes he had a sketch in my hand. Although I know better to ever doubt ANY Paratrooper I was floored at the skill, speed, and love that he puts into any of his work. I am proud to be able to call Dutch my friend; he is a true inspiration to any generation. So when you check into Portland and you finally get that coin in your hand please take a moment to enjoy it. In your hands you have something uniquely special. It is a token of brotherhood that was crafted by one of our very own Brothers in Arms. Dutch's smile, positive attitude, and attention to detail show why his generation is known as The Greatest Generation.

Man's best friend plays pivotal role in IED defeat

by Spc. Brian Smith-Dutton, 3rd Brigade Combat Team

KHOWST PROVINCE, Afghanistan – One asset being used today against roadside bombs is a different type of tool often seen on the battlefield.

The fact that it isn't another electronic item stored away in a backpack or vehicle is a change for some Soldiers.

Military working dogs have worked hand-in-hand with the military for decades as guard dogs or attack dogs. However, Soldiers are now seeing more and more bomb sniffing dogs going on missions with them.

"These dogs smell the odor no matter what it's hidden or buried in, their noses will pick up the explosive's odor," said Staff Sgt. Matthew Phillips, an infantryman and dog handler assigned to 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division. "You could spend days looking around with a metal detector and only find garbage. No matter what the explosive is made of, the dog will smell the odor of the material."

Phillips is just one of 13 Rakkasans in the Tactical Explosive Detection Dogs program. The program takes Soldiers from different military jobs and sends them to a nine-week course where they learn to work hand-in-hand with their new partner and the responsibilities inherent with being a dog handler.

"You have to learn the dog's body language on what they smell," said Cpl. Daniel Crean, a 3rd BCT military police officer. "Each dog has a different reaction to explosive odor. In a perfect scenario, the handler notices the dog's reaction and calls them back before they go to the bomb."

Phillips leans over and hugs his canine partner, a German shepherd named Sgt. 1st Class Rocky.

"I think the hardest part of the class was learning how to read your dog's movements," said Pfc. William Clark, an infantryman and dog handler assigned to 3rd BCT. "It was the most stressful part of the class, and it was the part that many people failed."

Crean describes the dog's reaction to detecting an explosive. The dog will start walking side to side, turning around when they have reached the limit of the odor, almost in the shape of a funnel. It is through this technique that Soldiers are able to know the direction and usually the distance of the improvised explosive device.

The handler and dog teams rotate through all the larger forward operating bases and smaller outposts to assist as many Rakkasans as they can.

"These dogs work ahead of the troops," said Crean. "They work really hard to

keep us out of harm's way."

"The dog's body language says it all," said Phillips. "It can be something small like the slight perking of their ears or something big like the movement and speed of their tail."

"Dogs have proved to be the best asset to have in finding improvised explosive devices," said Phillips, who has been in the Army 11 years and deployed multiple times.

There are 13 dogs within 3rd BCT and their assistance is spread among most of the troops when they are out on missions.

"In December and January, the TEDD dogs had more explosive finds in country than any other programs," said Crean.

"We go out with the infantrymen, the scouts and really anyone who would like to have our assistance while out on patrol," said Clark. "These dogs have saved lives."

Dogs with the TEDD program are not the only dogs working at Forward Operating Base Salerno, Afghanistan.

AMK9 is a civilian dog handling company hired by the Department of Defense.

"The only difference between our dogs and the dogs working with Soldiers is that we handle the work on the operating bases and outposts and their dogs work outside on missions," said Kevin Campbell, the kennel master assigned to FOB Salerno.

Dogs assigned to AMK9 conduct operations on deployed military installations, and their operations include, but are not limited to, vehicle inspections, drug related operations, security and escorting personnel.

"Our dogs have to meet the same standards as the dogs working with the Army," said Campbell.

Deployed dogs, whether they are assigned to the military or work with a civilian company, have played a large role for the Rakkasans; from assisting them on missions to protection while on a FOB or COP.

Though they are here for work, Soldiers working through the TEDD program can't help but bond and grow attached to their canine partners.

"My dog, Spc. Hugo, in a nutshell, is bipolar, clumsy and such a goofball. But I don't think I have a bond as strong with anyone else but him," said Clark. "Even fellow Soldiers I have known since the start of my career, none come close to the bond I have with Hugo."

"My dog, Sgt. Misa is amazing," said Crean. "He is really timid, he will scare himself all the time, but he is the most loving dog I have ever met."

"Rocky is just a big baby," said Phil-

lips. "He thinks he's a lap dog, but he's such a sweetheart."

Looking at all three Soldiers with their canine partners you can see the strong bond each team shares as well as the affection, dedication and love each dog shows for their handler.

"I love that dog." Said Crean. "I really don't want to give Misa back to the TEDD program when we get back to Fort Campbell."

"If I could come up with the money, I would buy Rocky from the TEDD program after the deployment, in a heartbeat," Phillips said.

"This is the last thing I ever expected to do when I enlisted in the infantry," said Clark. "But it was a change for the best, I love doing this."

More than 20 dogs work in the Rakkasans area of operations, doing their part in Operation Enduring Freedom.



Staff Sgt. Matthew Phillips, an infantryman dog handler assigned to 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, rewards Sgt. 1st Class Rocky with some play time after a successful demonstration of bomb detection at Forward Operating Base Salerno, Afghanistan, Feb. 26. Phillips and Rocky are part of the Tactical Explosive Detection Dog program, which trains Soldiers to work hand-in-hand with military working dogs.

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The 101 Club was started to get 101 members of the Association to donate \$101.00 to the Operating Welfare Fund. Members of the 101 Club get certificates of membership and their name listed in The Screaming Eagle Magazine. Help us to meet our goal by signing up today! The following members have joined the club!

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On October 3, 2012 Honor Air Knoxville Tennessee flew 122 veterans and guardians to Washington DC for a day tour.

Jerry Halkey, B CO 1/326th ENG, American Flag Shirt, Life Member of the 101st Association and guardian for Vern Wilson, 90 years old, 13th Airborne, WWII. Standing at the Army Airborne Memorial in Washington.





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Patch of Hope

By Karen Tumulty

That February morning in 2008 found Barack Obama decidedly out of sorts.

He was locked in one battle with Hillary Rodham Clinton for the Democratic nomination that showed no signs of ending -- and another with a vicious cold that felt the same way.

As he rode the service elevator in the backway of a convention hotel here, the snowy-haired African American operating it turned suddenly. He held out a black-and-gold bit of fabric embroidered with a screaming eagle.

"Senator Obama, I have something I want to give you," the man said. "I've carried this military patch with me every day for 40 years, and I want you to carry it, and it will keep you safe in your journey." Obama tried to refuse, but the older man persisted. Big endeavors can find their meaning in small moments.



Later that day, Obama and his aides discussed the encounter. The future president pulled the patch from his pocket, along with about a dozen other items people had pressed upon him.

"This is why I do this," he said. "Because people have their hopes and dreams about what we can do together."

Two American stories intersected that morning in that elevator. The more famous, of course, is the one that begins its next chapter on Monday, as the nation's first black president takes the oath of office for a second term.

But the other story also tells a lot about where this country has been and how far it has come. No one in Obama's small party that day noticed the man's name tag or, if anyone did, the fact that it said Earl Smith was quickly forgotten.

No one knew how much of Smith's life had been woven into a patch that, over four decades, found its way from the shoulder of an Army private to the pocket of a future commander-in-chief.

It was the only shred of cloth he had saved from the uniform of a nightmarish year in Vietnam. Smith fired artillery with a brigade that suffered 10,041 casualties during the course of the war. The brigade's soldiers received 13 Congressional Medals of Honor.

The patch was waiting among his possessions when Smith was pardoned by the state of Geor-

gia in 1977 after spending three years in prison for a crime he claimed was self-defense.

Smith kept it close as his lucky charm while he rebuilt his life and his reputation, starting with a job vacuuming hallways and changing sheets in an Atlanta Marriott. He carried it with him as he traveled halfway around the world again, to positions in hotels far from home, Riyadh in Saudi Arabia and Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates.

Along the way, as he tended to travelers and made sure VIP gatherings went smoothly, he met three U.S. presidents.

His instincts told him Obama would make it four.

Like just about anyone else who was alive on Nov. 22, 1963, Smith can describe exactly where he was when he heard the horrific news: He was coming off a high school football practice field in his home town of San Benito, Tex.

Though not yet old enough to have voted for the man slain in Dallas, "I was devastated -- a lot of us young people were -- because John Kennedy was the young president," recalled Smith, now 68.

"When I met Senator Obama, that feeling I had when I was 19 years old. That feeling was there. I thought I would never live to see such a feeling again."

In that short ride between hotel floors, Smith did not have the time or the words to "say a lot of the things that I wanted to say." So he offered a gift and a wish -- that the badge of his resilience might lend its protection to another generation's young president.

"I thought he might put it on his desk, and every once in a while, he would look at it," Smith added. "And if he got in a situation where he was not feeling well, or some troubled times, I wanted him to be able to look at that patch and see we, the American people -- we're here."

Totems from supporters

Obama carried the patch in his pocket, said his close friend and top adviser Valerie Jarrett, until the end of the campaign.

He had an almost-spiritual regard for the totems and trinkets that people gave him as he made his way to the White House.

When Time correspondent Jay Newton-Small asked Obama late in the 2008 campaign to show her the contents of his pockets, they included a memorial bracelet for a son fallen in Iraq, a gambler's chit, a silver charm engraved in Braille, a tiny Hindu monkey god, a Madonna medal.

Jarrett first told me the story of the patch a few days before that election, in an interview aboard Obama's campaign plane.

As the second inauguration neared, I wondered what had become of the generous stranger. Had the reality of the Obama presidency matched his hopes for it?

The chances seemed great that the man had long since retired or moved on. Jarrett said she had never known who he was and had no idea where he might be.

Through reconstructing Obama's schedule from five years ago, aides offered one possibility where the encounter might have happened, and I put in a call to the human resources office of the Hyatt Regency in the Texas capital on Jan. 4. Yvonne Moore answered the phone. She never had heard the story, but 90 minutes later, she sent an e-mail:

"I am so excited to tell you that it is our very own Earl

Smith / Director of Security. . . . It took a bit of convincing to get him to consider calling you, but he promises he will."

I forwarded the news to Jarrett, and she sent an emotional letter to Smith that day. She told him she thinks of him every time she drives through the White House gates. Jarrett has often cited him in commencement addresses and political speeches.

"I challenge myself to try to do something in the course of the day that would make you proud. I often have wondered how you are doing and regret that I never learned your name so that I could thank you for the joy your gift has given me every morning and each time I repeat the story of our brief encounter," Jarrett wrote.

"Of course, the President remembers you too," she added. "We are in Hawaii enjoying a short break and he asked me to invite you to Washington so that he can thank you for believing in him. Please let me know if you would like to come. It would be such a thrill to see you again!"

To Obama and the others who had been on the elevator that day, the patch retained a special significance.

But they never learned the story that went with it.

Texas roots

Willie Earl Smith Jr. traces his Texas roots to the black cowboys who rode the Chisholm trail after slavery ended. His forebears scraped together enough money to buy land at the bottom tip of the state, only to lose it when times got bad.

Work defined life. His mother, Rosie Josephine Lasley Oliver, worked in the kitchen of a rich family; family lore had it that a young Dwight D. Eisenhower once complimented her cooking. The only father he knew was Andrew Oliver, a laborer at a cotton gin, whom the widowed Rosie married when Earl was a baby.

The eldest of 10 surviving children in this blended family, Smith washed dishes at San Benito's Stonewall Jackson Hotel before school and after football practice.

He also worked in Rio Grande Valley fields for 50 cents an hour. An older kid who picked cotton around the same time as Smith would become San Benito's biggest celebrity. Smith knew him as Baldeemar Huerta, but he later made Tejano-flavored records under the name Freddy Fender and topped the 1970s pop and country charts.

Smith was a veterinarian's assistant when the draft caught up with him in 1965. His orders were to report to the 101st Airborne in Phan Rang, which is what earned him the screaming eagle patch. When he arrived in Vietnam in 1966, however, he got a new assignment.

Fresh troops were needed to replenish the ravaged 173rd Airborne Brigade. It had been created in March 1963 specifically for jungle fighting. The brigade members' official military nickname was "sky soldiers," but the 3,000 or so men of the 173rd called themselves "the herd."

All told, the 173rd fought 14 campaigns in Vietnam and remained in combat longer than any other American military unit since the Revolutionary War, said Guy Nasuti, an information specialist at the U.S. Army War College's military history institute. More than 1,600 members of the herd did not make it back alive.

Smith declined to talk much about what it

was like over there, although he said it gave him nightmares for 15 years. His exposure to artillery fire also cost him part of his hearing. Without his aids in, he is deaf to the tick of a watch, the rustle of paper, the song of a bird.

Smith has moved on from Vietnam in some ways; in others, he hasn't.

It bothers him to see the criticism that is being aimed at another Vietnam veteran, the one who is Obama's choice to head the Pentagon.

"Look at Senator Chuck Hagel," he said. "All of a sudden, he's got people taking shots at him, and there's a possibility he may not even become defense secretary. Here's a person that would be the first time in our history [someone who] came from the ranks of the enlisted persons to be a secretary of defense. Can you imagine how every service person now, male or female, or those of us in the past -- can you imagine how we would feel if that didn't take place?"

Smith is a private man, who bears witness -- to the war and the difficulties that followed -- in a private way.

"I never went to Washington, to the wall, the Vietnam [memorial]," he said. "I never wanted to go, purposely, because I'd rather remember the guys that didn't make it back in my own way. I thought that if I went to the monument, it would be too overpowering.

"I think I have enough strength to go now."

A different kind of battle

A different kind of hell awaited Smith when he returned to the United States, after he was discharged at Fort Campbell, Ky., and found his way to Atlanta.

The court record of what happened on Aug. 16, 1973, describes a robbery and assault. In Smith's version, it was an argument with acquaintances at an apartment complex that drew in a neighbor who happened to be an off-duty cop.

"He comes back with a gun, and he puts the gun to my head, and he says, 'Boy, I'm going to kill you. N-I-G-G-E-R, I'm going to blow your head off,'" Smith recalled, spelling out the word he would not bring himself to say.

They struggled. Smith got the gun but not before he was shot in the hip and leg.

"I took the gun. I left the scene, and I went to a service station," Smith said. "I said, 'Look, I've got this gun. I want you to call the police.'"

It was the word of a young black man against that of a police officer. Among the lesser of five counts against Smith was stealing the Smith & Wesson .38 that shot him. A court document valued the pistol at \$75.

"No money, no understanding of the court system -- I had a lawyer that I thought was my friend, who entered a plea of guilty on me that I knew nothing about. And when I got to the courts, it was just too late," Smith said.

Sentenced to five years for aggravated assault, Smith began writing letters -- to lawyers, right up to then-Gov. Jimmy Carter.

"I felt bitter," he said. "Coming from Vietnam, coming from a combat zone, you think, 'You know, I deserve a little better than this.'"

Somehow, his plight caught the attention of Mamie Reese, the first African American woman named to the Georgia Board of Pardons and Paroles.

"Several of the parole board were political hacks, but Mamie Reese was really a decent person," said Allen Ault, a former Georgia Department of Corrections director who is now dean of the College of Justice and Safety at Eastern Kentucky University.

The board was not known to be generous

with clemency, especially in a case like Smith's.

"Typically, they would just reject it on the face of it," Ault said, recalling that one member insisted that petitioners prove they had a personal relationship with Jesus.

But when Reese, then the board's chairman, submitted Smith for a pardon under a special program for first offenders, he won it, two years before his scheduled release.

Smith had cleared his record, and he was determined to clear his name. His mother, however, counseled him against it.

"I said, 'Mom, I want to spend the rest of my life trying to show that this just didn't happen this way,'"

Smith said. "She said, 'Son, look. I know your heart. I know you. I believe what you said. Let it go. It's just not worth it.'"

He hopes that the way he has lived is the proof that will matter.

"I've always tried to [focus on] character and honesty and sincerity and being a good person," Smith said. "Since that time, I think the only thing I've ever gotten is a traffic ticket. Sometimes, you could be at the wrong place at the wrong time. Sometimes, innocent people -- I'm blessed that my life is preserved. I'm blessed. I could have died back there."

Smith moved forward, carrying his patch and keeping close a precious piece of paper.

"ORDERED that all disabilities resulting from the above stated sentence(s) be and the same are hereby removed," reads the pardon certificate dated March 28, 1977. "And ORDERED FURTHER that all civil and political rights lost as a result of the offense(s) be and the same are hereby restored."

A new career path

The hotel business -- which Smith prefers to call "the hospitality industry" -- turned out to suit him. And he suited it.

His job as a "floor houseman" at the Marriott led to one as an attendant cleaning 16 to 18 rooms a day. Sorting dirty sheets and towels set him up for his first management position, as a laundry manager with a Marriott in Chicago. Eventually, he became what Marriott called a director of services, supervising a range of operations from the laundry to the health club.

One job that he could never do, however, was the front desk. Not with his hearing being what it was.

There was the stint in the Middle East. "Abu Dhabi was just the sticks. Now it's not that anymore," he said. Smith met Gerald R. Ford and George H.W. Bush while he was working in Atlanta, and then-Gov. George W. Bush in Austin.

At the Hyatt, which hired him in 1998, Smith has made fans among less-famous guests, such as Canadian businessman James Thomas.

"Earl Smith at Austin Hyatt rocks!" Thomas tweeted on March 1. "@hyattconcierge Thanks for the awesome above and beyond service!"

When a bleary-eyed Thomas accidentally dropped off his credit card instead of his room key at a pre-dawn checkout last year, Smith was dogged in his efforts to get the card back to its owner.

"There's something about him that restores your faith in humanity," Thomas, the marketing vice president at recruiting software firm Talent Technology, said in an interview. "I don't know where people like him come from."

Smith's life outside of work came together nicely, as well. A brief early marriage had fallen apart. Then came one night when Smith saw two women stranded next to a broken-down car by the roadside. Smith fixed their tire and was smitten by one of the women. "I told her, 'Look, I know you don't talk to

strangers, but you seem to be a real nice lady. And I know you don't give your number to strangers, but I'm going to give you my number, and tell you where I work and where I live, and if you foresee that you want to call me, maybe we could go have a cup of coffee or a cup of tea,'" he said.



It took Claudia Howard six months to phone. They have been married 32 years and have two grown children, a daughter and a son.

The Obama years have been good to his family, Smith said. Claudia is retired from teaching. His kids are working.

If he is disappointed, it is not with the president but with politics.

"It's not like it used to be," Smith said. "Now you've got red states, blue states. I'm a Democrat; I'm a Republican. We're Americans."

Connecting with Americans

There are two ways to measure how the country relates to its president. One is polling, the amalgam of the masses, pored over and picked apart by operatives and pundits. The other is a bond forged one American at a time.

With all the noise coming out of Washington, it is easy to overlook the fact that most Americans want to see the president succeed, regardless of whether they voted for him.

One measure of that connection is how many Americans feel compelled -- as Smith did -- to give the president a tangible piece of themselves. The 13 presidential libraries have cataloged nearly 600,000 such "artifacts," said Diane LeBlanc, a spokeswoman for the National Archives and Records Administration, which oversees the libraries.

Among them are the badge of a Port Authority officer who fell on 9/11, given by his mother to George W. Bush. Herbert Hoover's library displays hundreds of decorated flour sacks sent to him by Belgians grateful for shipments of food he had organized during World War I, before he was president. With Obama, there also is the thrill that Americans of all colors have felt at the proof that a person doesn't have to be white to sit in that office.

As Smith put it: "There's a person who is one of us, even though he's well-educated -- gone to Harvard, gone to Columbia University. And I had that feeling. That's what motivated me. . . . I've always had this feeling you always want to protect your president."

The president keeps the patch in what a White House official described as a "safe place" in his Chicago home.

As for Smith, he still rides that service elevator almost every day. tumultyk@washpost.com

Research editor Alice Crites contributed to this story.

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I (We), _____ would like to make a donation to the following 101st Airborne Division Association fund(s):

Operating & Welfare Fund	\$ _____	Pratt Memorial Fund	\$ _____
Screaming Eagle Support Program	\$ _____	Ft. Campbell Monument	\$ _____
Scholarship Fund	\$ _____	Project Memorial Fund	\$ _____

Please record my name in the next issue of The Screaming Eagle and (if applicable) accept my donation in memory of:

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Check enclosed or charge my Visa MasterCard American Express Discover

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SCREAMING EAGLE SUPPORT PROGRAM REPORT

For the period January 1, 2012—December 31, 2012
the Screaming Eagle Support Program has
donated to the following organizations:



Assisted soldiers and their families with individual grants totaling: **\$86,306**

Purchased uniforms (hats, shirts, sweatsuits) for wounded soldiers in hospitals: **\$7,317**

TOTAL: \$93,623

We have assisted with utility bills, car insurance, rent, injured soldiers (and/or family members), stay in Turner Guest House, transportation expenses to hospitals for family members, food, clothing, diapers and many others not mentioned here.

Thank you for your contributions! They really are making a difference. Hoo-ah!

ASSOCIATION FUNDS

As of Oct. 31, 2012



Life Membership Trust Fund, Smith Barney	\$745,560
Chappie Hall Scholarship Trust Fund, Smith Barney	\$241,295
Catherine and Charles Kratz Scholarship Fund	\$102,900
Pratt Memorial Fund, Smith Barney	\$184,086
Project Memorial Fund, Smith Barney	\$9,345
Fort Campbell Monument Fund, Smith Barney	\$56,616
William McGonigal Reserve Fund, Smith Barney	\$226,250
Viste Scholarship Fund	\$33,012
Screaming Eagle Support Foundation	\$202,465
General Operating Fund Checking, Bank of America	\$32,244
General Operating Fund Savings, Bank of America	\$3,308
Total:	\$1,837,081



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FORT CAMPBELL MONUMENT FUND

The Fort Campbell Monument Fund was established over eight years ago with the goal of erecting a monument for the 101st Airborne Division that would memorialize the men and women of this great Division. The monument is located in front of the 101st Airborne Division Headquarters and serves as a reminder to today's soldiers of the many brave and dedicated soldiers before them who have made the ultimate sacrifice so that our Nation may be free. Pavers are available for purchase and are located at the base of the monument. (See "Paver Order Form" in this publication and on our website.) *Thank you to the following (and anonymous) donors this past quarter: Roberto Moreno; George Walko; Dorsey Brown; Paul Madigan*

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Combat to command: Army nurse leads by example

by Michele Vowell, Courier assistant editor

"Muddy boots leadership," that's how Lt. Col. Hope Williamson strives to do her job at Fort Campbell every day.

The commander of the 212th Medical Detachment (Combat and Operational Stress Control) stayed true to her word Monday morning. With a smile on her face, Williamson trekked out in the rugged, muddy terrain outside Gate 10 in 30-degree weather to visit with five of her Soldiers, who were pre-training for the Expert Field Medical Badge competition.

"...You go where the Soldiers are," Williamson said, smiling. "You can't do leadership from your desk."

With each Soldier she encountered down the mud-covered path, the lieutenant colonel had a few words of encouragement for them to continue on their journey. "Stay warm. Stay motivated," she told them. "I'm very proud of you."

For Williamson, being personal with her Soldiers comes with the job – whether it's in an office or out in the elements. "I don't like to be at my desk very often... I want to be out with the Soldiers," she said. "At the end of the day, I'm a Soldier, too."

Go Army!

Growing up in a military Family, Williamson knew the discipline and dedication of a service member's career. Her father, David Royston, served as a tech sergeant in the Air Force. Her mother, Margie Royston, was a civilian nurse. She and her eight siblings grew up at bases all over the world.

"We came from a pretty disciplined Family," she said. "We were always taught to help others." As a teenager, Williamson decided to follow in both her parents' footsteps. She wanted to become a nurse, but needed funds for her education. Joining the military, like her father, seemed the smart path to take to achieve her goals.

In 1983, Williamson enlisted in the Army. She was 17. "Ironically enough, Fort Campbell was my first duty station," she said.

While serving with the Screaming Eagles, she enrolled in night classes at Austin Peay State University to pursue a nursing degree. Her long hours and dedication paid off. Three years later, she received her associate's degree and was accepted into the Army Enlisted Commissioning Program.

"Enlisted was good... But, I wanted to go on and do more," she said. She served as an enlisted Soldier for 12 years and obtained the rank of staff sergeant. Soon thereafter, however, Williamson deployed the first of three times so far in her career.

The combat zone

It was in early 1990s and Williamson was in her late 20s when she deployed from Germany to Saudi Arabia with a non-medical corps during Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm.

"We moved up really close to [the front lines]. My mom was frantic because she thought females shouldn't be that close to the line, but we kept moving up," Williamson said.

That experience on the front lines stuck with Williamson after she returned to Germany six months later. She continued serving in the Army and eventually earned her bachelor and master's degrees as a nurse practitioner in emergency, critical care and trauma nursing.

"That's when I began to go into the ER and trauma," she said. "A whole new avenue opened up to me at that time."

Less than a decade later, in 2007, her sec-

ond deployment was in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Certified in trauma and emergency, Williamson worked in the Tallil and Baghdad ER with Soldiers of the 250th Forward Surgical Team (Airborne) from Seattle, Wash.

"That was arguably the... bloodiest timeframe of the war because that was during the surge. The President sent over more troops to go into Iraq and cover down," she said. "That was my [first] exposure as an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner in a deployed environment and handling massive amounts of combat trauma... We did the best that we could to provide compassionate and competent care."

Williamson almost became a patient herself at the Baghdad ER following a mortar attack on the city. She and two other officers were returning to their posts after eating a meal, when they heard the "whistle overhead." "We hit the ground. It fell right in front of us. Some people were killed in that attack. Debris and rocks flying... It was chaos," she recalled. "We were drilled to get into the bunkers as soon as possible... I was thanking God. I had been spared on so many occasions, so I was just thanking God for my life."

From that point on, Williamson said her life changed. "I think because I had faced some giants in my lifetime, that I could understand what the patient was experiencing and administer a depth of care to those who had faced similar conditions," she said.

Three years later, Williamson shared her combat experience as an instructor at the U.S. Army and Ryder Trauma Training Center in Miami, where Forward Surgical Teams prepared for deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan.

"I already had my turn being over there and learned valuable lessons. I tried to deposit back into those young men and women lessons learned critical to save the lives of Soldiers," she said. Little did Williamson know that her combat and teaching experience would prove critical for her third deployment.

While working at the Trauma Training Center -- and just days before receiving her Doctorate of Nursing Practice -- she received orders to report to Fort Campbell.

Within a month, she deployed to Iraq with the 86th Combat Support Hospital in support of Operation New Dawn. Williamson returned to familiar ground – Baghdad – to serve as the chief of the emergency department. As the new Soldier on the block, Williamson wasn't sure how the trauma team would work.

"They started to know me. I started to know them. We just knew we were all on the same team," she said. "The major focus was those Soldiers -- bringing them back to their Families. We all had that same mission."

Williamson and 100 fellow medical personnel redeployed to Fort Campbell on Sept. 11, 2011, to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. She soon returned to nursing. She divided her duty hours between the Byrd Clinic and the Blanchfield Army Community Hospital ER.

Just four months later, her scope of duties changed when she accepted the commander billet for the 212th Medical Detachment (Combat and Operational Stress Control) in March 2012.

Taking command

"I believe that command is an honor," Williamson said. "I believe as a commander you are a leader, but you are also a servant. You have to recognize that. You are called to serve the people."

Part of her service to Soldiers as a commander, Williamson said, is "to prepare that unit, teach them, train them, coach them, mentor them, make sure that they are resilient – also their Families.

"I have to make sure that everybody, even in the Garrison environment, is OK. That's a 24/7 job, which I don't take lightly," she said.

Under her command are behavioral health technicians, psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers and psychiatric nurse practitioners who help to diagnose and treat Soldiers' behavioral and psychological health issues, not easily visible to the untrained eye.

"Additionally, our specialized behavioral health personnel provide command consultation to leaders. They go out and speak to the command teams and provide them with techniques to assess and assist their Soldiers," she said. "My Soldiers are a dynamic group of people."

30-plus years of service

After 30 years of service, Williamson has faced some obstacles because of her gender, but she said, "I never believed in the glass ceiling. "Even though I was aware of some of the constraints and challenges women in service experience, I never let the concept define my purpose."

For Williamson, the key has been maximizing every opportunity, training hard and being a respectable role model.

"I always believed that you have to strive to be physically, mentally and spiritually fit... Moreover, I believe whatever God's called me to be, I'm going to be. I'm going to seek to fulfill my purpose with everything within me," she said.

Colonel Steven Drennan, 86th CSH commander, said Williamson is a "very motivated, driven person" who "leads by example." "She adheres to the standards and she lives by them," he said. "She walks the talk... and she expects the same of the Soldiers. She'll bend over backwards to help you."

At 48, Williamson said she's "still having fun" and has no plans to retire from the Army in the immediate future. "I have purpose. I'm still as passionate as I was as a private, E-1, here at Fort Campbell," she said. "I do have a rendezvous with destiny. So, whatever comes up next, I believe I am equipped."

As one of his "most trusted leaders," Williamson is "doing a great job," Drennan said. "She's definitely influencing her corner of the world," he said. "She's very much a visionary leader. Whether she's going to be a Florence Nightingale, I don't know... Time will tell on that."



Sergeant April Noonan, 212th Medical Detachment (Combat and Operational Stress Control), listens Monday as her commander, Lt. Col. Hope Williamson, gives them some sound advice to, "Stay warm," while Noonan pre-trains for the upcoming Expert Field Medical Badge competition. Williamson believes in "muddy boots leadership," in which she serves alongside her Soldiers.

MONUMENT PAVERS

JAMES E. HALL
SPC 4BCT 2/506
IRAQ/AFG NOV11

SGT J.W. GOODMAN
3/506 101ST
VIETNAM 70-71

KENNY MANNING
C/2/506
VIETNAM 70-71

TIM TROUTMAN
2/320/FAR/IBCT
04/02-12/07

KYLE WORRELL
C-1-506 INF
VIETNAM 67-68

MARTIN VAN
KUIKEN C/2/506
VIETNAM 70-71

N. MOORE 101ST
DIV CSM 85-87
VIETNAM 65/68

PAUL B TEATOR
101 AIB DIV
MP PLATOON WWII
LAFAYETTE KEATON

SGT L. BATTLE
A&B/2/17 CAV
VIETNAM 66-68

CSM DON CAVER
426 SS BN 1BDE
502 VN 65-68

HQ 101ST
1956-1959

MARSHALL BEALL
LTC RET A/2/501
64-66

KEN HESLER
D/463RD PFAB
WWII 1944-45

W H FERGUSON
E/1/501 ABN INF
FC 1959-1961

LLOYD A. KING
SSG B/2/327 VN
PH 81268-22069

SP4 DAVE FRYER
A/501 ABN INF
1960-1962

PATRICK GERMANY
C/2/506
VIETNAM 70-71

515th Transportation Company Will be holding a Reunion in St. Louis MO June 28, 2013



Specialist 4 Frank Rizzo, Specialist 4 Robert Newell, and Specialist Ken Schaeffer display their five-ton trucks at the 515th Transportation Company Motor Pool, Camp Eagle.



Men of the 101st Airborne help off load supplies from truck convoy of the 515 Transportation company, at Firebase Birmingham, west of Camp Eagle.



Specialist 4 Robert Newell, of the 515th Transportation Company with his truck, "The Proud American". His five-ton truck is augmented by a fifth wheel dolly, to carry 20 more tons of supplies.

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