



# ***The DC Trooper***

***NEWSLETTER OF THE WASHINGTON DC CHAPTER INC.  
82<sup>ND</sup> AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION INC.***

2002 No. 1– March 2002

**Dick Yates, Editor  
5216 Cather Road  
Springfield, VA 22151**

## **CHAIRMAN'S CORNER**

Fellow Troopers,

I am pleased to take this opportunity to introduce myself to you all as the newly installed Chairman, Washington, D.C. Chapter, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division Association Inc. It is an honor to serve the soldiers and families who have provided us a legacy of excellence and continue the traditions, esprit and tenacious spirit of the airborne warrior. I recognize and appreciate the efforts of the outgoing Chairman Bill Ridley and thank him for all he has done and continues to do on behalf of the Chapter. I really appreciate his time and efforts to help me transition into the position.

It is clear to me that the core and success of the chapter continues to be well served by selfless, dedicated officers and members of the board of directors. I am impressed and appreciative of the efforts of the Board of Directors and Officers already and can report to you that these fine men are worthy of our admiration and support. I look forward to working with and just being around such superb quality.

Managed, balanced change can be a good thing for any organization. As I work with the Board of Directors/Officers and the members of this great organization, I will ask for your thoughts, time and help. I wish to focus my year of service to you on preserving the legacy of our chapter by sustaining those things that are enjoyed and appreciated while looking at new possibilities to reach out to new members, especially families and those still serving in uniform.

The core of our organization is its members. Active, involved, appreciated and fulfilled members ensure our legacy. It is time for all of us to engage in recruiting and retaining a wider population. Let's get involved and have fun. I am excited about the year ahead and am already reaping rewards just by being around patriots and history represented by our members.

Airborne All the Way!! Greg

## **From the Secretary:**

Please note my Email and telephone number below. If you have a problem about the Chapter or Association, please let me know. I will help you when I can or direct it to the appropriate Chapter Officer. Also, if you are receiving the Newsletter via "Snail Mail" and would like to receive it by "Email", please forward your email address to me. I will also add it to Chairman Greg Beach and National Director Gordon Sumner's address book.

Members are requested to submit a change of address to the National Association and the Chapter Secretary on a timely basis. The National office should be contacted 30 days before the scheduled relocation, as there is a \$.60 charge for all returned PARAGLIDES. For the month of March I received eleven notices of returned Paraglides at a cost to the 82<sup>nd</sup> association of \$6.60. Multiply that by the many chapters, and you have a tidy sum. The Spring edition of the Paraglide is scheduled for publication and mailing on April 15<sup>th</sup> 2002. Due to the uncertainty of All-American Week to go as scheduled, the Winter edition of the magazine was mailed approximately two weeks late. When it arrives please check the mailing label. CI-02 means this is your last PARAGLIDE unless you renew your membership for the year 2002. A renewal application is in this DC Trooper Newsletter or you may download one from our Webmaster Bob Fritz on the DC Chapter Website [http://www.sy-dc.com/82<sup>nd</sup>](http://www.sy-dc.com/82nd).

Belated welcome to the chapter of COL James H. Kovach (Ret). James has been with us for a year without recognition in the newsletter. He now resides in Arlington, VA. He recently became an All-American Paid for Life Member. Thanks and welcome aboard Jim.

Dick Yates  
Secretary  
ry82divartyhotmail.com 703 256-7397

**Next Activity: Chapter Meeting April 6 – 1300 (1PM) .... Days Inn, Arlington**



## **WASHINGTON, DC CHAPTER 82<sup>ND</sup> AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION**

### **Minutes of the March 2, 2002**

Chairman Greg Beach called the meeting to order at 1300 hours with 18 members present. Chaplain Buck Simmons gave the Airborne Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by our Sergeant of Arms, Bob Beck. The members thanked Trooper Beck for volunteering to take over the responsibilities for this year. Chairman Greg distributed handouts of the Agenda and the activity calendar for 2002. Greg welcomed the members and thanked Mary Simmons for her continued support of the Chapter.

Secretary Yates distributed the February 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes for the member's consideration. As there was no discussion, National Director Gordon Sumner made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Seconded by George Stoeckert and approved.

Treasurer Wally Parr distributed handouts of the 2002 proposed budget. After a lengthy discussion, one additional item was added to Treasurer Parr's proposed budget. The registration fee for the Delegate to the National Convention. Past Chairman Gordon Sumner then made a motion to accept the proposal, seconded by Ken Leggett and approved. Wally then gave his year to date Treasurers Report describing the line items of debits and credit. After a short discussion, Chaplain Buck Simmons made a motion to accept the Treasurers Report, seconded by Ray Hilgart and approved.

Chairman Greg called for committee updates; the newly established Newsletter Committee formed to assemble the 200 copies of the "Snail Mail" newsletters, i.e. print and affix the address labels, tri-fold, staple and attach first class stamps. Dick Yates will continue to assemble the March 15<sup>th</sup> edition. The first newsletter of the year gives the Secretary the opportunity to personally remind the delinquent members to re-up their membership dues for the year. The committee's initial meeting to prepare the newsletter for mailing will be in early May.

Chairman Beach distributed 2002 calendars depicting the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division milestones and the Washington, DC Chapter major activities and events. He invited the members to suggest additional input. When fully completed the calendar will be a great addition for keeping abreast of the activities and historical events.

**OLD BUSINESS:** The Annual Picnic Chairman COL Bob Elliot (Ret) was not able to attend this meeting and asked Past Chairman Gordon Sumner to remind the membership of the June 22<sup>nd</sup> Chapter Picnic. It begins at 12 Noon in the War Memorial Park, Charlestown, West Virginia. at a cost of ten dollars. Bob will have more details and outline the activities at our April 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. Gordon continued by reminding the members of the evening festivities featuring the U.S Army Band performing at the Cavalier Heights Visitors Center, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, (Just off Route 340) Harpers Ferry, West Virginia.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Sign-up sheets were distributed for the Joint Services Open House (Armed Forces Day) for volunteers to man the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division informational and Washington, DC Chapter recruitment booth at Andrews Air Force Base, Fri, 17<sup>th</sup>, Sat, 18<sup>th</sup> and Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>. The response was good, but we need a few more volunteers for Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Gordon Sumner, in his capacity as an 82<sup>nd</sup> Association National Director, is coordinating the visit to this area of approximately 200 British Paratroopers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Para Units. These troopers will participate with the Blue Ridge All Airborne Chapter's annual "Spring Fling" from May 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>, then continue to Washington, DC, Gordon hopes to set up an itinerary to visit the memorials, military installations and a luncheon. The chapter members are encouraged to participate in the activities. As Gordon gets more information he will keep us informed.

Chairman Beach was approached as to the feasibility of getting a group together in warmer weather to visit the WWII Memorial at Bedford, VA. The suggestion was to make it a family affair to make the trip a learning experience for children, spouse and members. The suggestion was well received by the members. Gordon Sumner noted as the picnic has been moved to June, the month of July is now an open month. Greg volunteered to work on the details and report back to the members. Trooper George Stoeckert described another interesting activity for the chapter to consider as a family outing. The Chapter once before, visited Cedar Creek to observe the Civil War Battle Enactment that was great and enjoyed by everyone.. Chairman Beach agreed to look into Cedar Creek or some other activity for the July time frame.

Prior to closing Greg encouraged the members to read two excellent military books, "Ridgeway's Paratroopers" and the D-Day invasion "Beyond the Beach".

The March 50/50 Raffle was won by Sergeant-at-Arms, Bob Beck. Bob donated \$25.00 of his winnings to the chapter, Thanks, Bob AIRBORNE!!!

Chaplain Buck Simmons gave an update on Elaine Turner. She continues to recover from a stroke suffered last year. Our hopes and prayers go out to Past Chairman Verle and Elaine Turner. Dick Owen is recovering from a broken hip at a rehabilitation center. Dick expects to be there for another three weeks.

Trooper Beck made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jim Rodier and approved by the members. Chaplain Simmons then led us in the "Airborne Benediction"

Next meeting is April 6<sup>th</sup>, 1300 hours, Days Inn Arlington. See you there.

AIRBORNE ATW!!!!  
RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY THE SECRETARY RICHARD YATES  
March 8<sup>th</sup> 2002

## **WWII/1SG Funk Ceremonies and Luncheon (8 June)**

**As in last events, everyone will gather at the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division Memorial at the entrance to Arlington National Cemetery between 1100-1130, then convoy to the 82<sup>nd</sup> Abn Div Memorial for the first wreath laying ceremony followed by a wreath laying ceremony at the grave of 1SG Leonard Funk. Once the ceremonies are completed we will convoy to Spates Hall (the NCO Club) on Fort Myer for the Funk Memorial luncheon. A flyer is provided and will be sent via email to RSVP meal selections. All RSVP's are due NLT May 31<sup>st</sup>, cost is \$30.00 per person, checks made payable to "Washington DC Chapter". POC: Gordon Sumner, 703-769-1427 or email: [gsumner@sy-dc.com](mailto:gsumner@sy-dc.com)**

## Armed Forces Day – Andrews AFB (17-19 May)

We need some Paratrooper volunteers to provide any time they can to man our Chapter booth at the Armed Forces Day Open House, Andrews AFB (17-19 May). The booth will be operational from 0800-1700 daily. Not only is it a chance to support the Chapter, but also it is a chance to see a Super Air Show, with the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division scheduled to jump each day. If you can support, sign up at the April 6<sup>th</sup> meeting or contact the POC: Bill Ridley at 703 250-3044 or email: bktravel@erols.com.

### Chapter Photos

You will note an absence of Photos in this edition of the DC Trooper. That is because the Editor and publisher received no PHOTOS. As you photograph and have pictures of Chapter activities or events printed, please provide a copy to Dick Yates or myself. Let's show the world what we are doing. They ought to know. Thank you – Bill Ridley Past Chairman/Ex Officio.

#### “NEW “ALL-AMERICANS”

Roger S. Barton	612 <sup>th</sup> QM Co., (AD) Rigger	Walkersmill, MD
Thomas J. Castellano	4/325AIR, HHC-82 <sup>nd</sup>	New Market, MD
James H. Kovach	82 <sup>nd</sup> Abn. Parachute Maint. Co.	Arlington, VA
Donald R. McCrory	505/82 <sup>nd</sup> , 77 <sup>th</sup> SFG (Abn)	Centreville, VA
Jack O'Neill	307 Engr Bn, HHC 20 <sup>th</sup> Engr Bn	Alexandria, VA
Edward Reed	173 <sup>rd</sup> PIR '66 – '69	Manchester, NH
Donald A. Himmerich	1/75 <sup>th</sup> , 1/509 <sup>th</sup> ARCT	Borrego Springs, CA
Michael Theard	B/3-325 AIR	Silver Spring, MD
Peyton R. Williams	278 <sup>th</sup> M.I. Det, 20 <sup>th</sup> SFG, E Co. 51 <sup>st</sup> Inf.	Burke, VA

#### TRANSFER “ALL AMERICAN MEMBERS”

COL Melvin Roberson	82 <sup>nd</sup> Aviation Bde	Springfield, VA
LTC Robert F. Hein	1/17 CAV, 82 <sup>nd</sup> Aviation BDE	Burke, VA
LTC Mark J. Reardon	HHC, XVIII ABC, 3/73 <sup>rd</sup> Armor 82 <sup>nd</sup>	Woodbridge, VA
MAJ Kenneth Rodgers	307 <sup>th</sup> Abn Engr Bn	Alexandria, VA
MAJ Patrick B Kernan	82 <sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, HHC	Springfield, VA
CPT George E. Lewis III	HHC, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Bn, 325AIR, 82 <sup>nd</sup>	Severn, MD
SFC Tim Ruthemeyer	B Co, 2-505 PIR	Bowie, MD
SFC Michael Venegoni	21 CM Co. (Abn)	Fort Belvoir, VA
Greg E. Beach	HSB 1/319 AFAB	Manassas, VA
Dennis R. Lewis	82 <sup>nd</sup> Divarty, HHB 1-321,1-319, 2-319,18 <sup>th</sup> FA	Burke, VA
Paul J. Ronco	HHC/1-504 PIR	Frostburg, MD
Jeffery L. Smith	82 <sup>nd</sup> Aviation (1-17 <sup>th</sup> Cav) 1-82 <sup>nd</sup> Avn Bde	Alexandria, VA

## **NEW MEMBERS**

James A. Blackwell	82 <sup>nd</sup> AAA, 187 RCT- Korea	Vienna, VA
Donald D. Jackson	82 <sup>nd</sup> , 1 <sup>st</sup> SFG (Abn), 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ranger Bn.	Ft Washington, MD
Michael K. Jewell	B Co. 1/325 AIR	Hughesville, MD
Raymond G. Kirchner	1/508 82 <sup>nd</sup> Abn Division	Pasadena, MD
John G. Linsenmeyer	HHC 4/68 <sup>th</sup> Armor, FORSCOM FC	Glen Burnie, MD
Nelson A. Lipscomb	1/505, 173d PIR '66 – '67	Chesterfield, VA
LTC J. Myron Mason	B Btry, 26 <sup>th</sup> AFAB	Manassas, VA
Howard P. Melvin	I-508 PIR	USSAH, Washington, DC
Richard M. Rainville	173d PIR, 1/503 Inf. '68 – '69	Brooklyn, NY
Glenn L. Rottmann	B Btry, 7 Bn, 60 <sup>th</sup> AD Artillery (Abn)	Montgomery Village, MD
George H. Rutherford, Jr	82 <sup>nd</sup> M. I. Detachment	Silver Spring, MD
Jeffery L. Smith	1/17 CAV, 1-82 <sup>nd</sup> Aviation	Alexandria, VA
Earl S. Newton	82 <sup>nd</sup> Div	Annapolis, MD
George H. Rutherford Jr.	82 <sup>nd</sup> M. I. Detachment.	Silver Spring, MD
Robert S. Strickhouser	1/505 <sup>th</sup> PIR	York, PA
Clayton F. Tarpley	Co A, 3/325 AIR	Sharptown, MD
Albert F. Ullman	Co. B, 3-325 AIR	South Riding, VA

## **CONGRATULATIONS – PARATROOPERS!!!**

To: General Charles Swannack, Jr. on his promotion to Major General.  
To: BG Hugh B. Tant III on his retirement and relocation to So. Carolina.  
To: Captain Natalie C. Vines, Permanent Change of Station, Italy  
To: MSG Roger Daigle's promotion and relocation to Hawaii.  
To: SFC Gregory Littleton and recent PCS to Italy.

***BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE WASHINGTON DC  
CHAPTER WEBSITE FOR NEWS & INFORMATION FROM  
NATIONAL, LOCAL AND FUTURE EVENTS.***

**<http://www.sy-dc.com/82nd/>**

***SEE YOU ALL AT THE NEXT WASHINGTON DC CHAPTER  
MEETING, APRIL 6<sup>TH</sup>, 1300 HOURS, DAYS INN HOTEL,  
ARLINGTON, ON HIGHWAY 50 EAST JUST ACROSS  
FROM FOR MYER, VA...***

***AND REMEMBER TO BRING AN AIRBORNE BUDDY!!!!***