



Ray Hilgart, Editor
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Warrenton, VA 20187

The DC Trooper

NEWSLETTER OF THE WASHINGTON DC CHAPTER INC.
82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION INC.

2006 No. 1 – March 2006

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Fellow Paratroopers, Glidermen, and Friends,

As we begin the first quarter of the Chapter year we are saddened by the loss of our stalwart Troopers. On 26 January, 2006, COL (Ret.) Ed Maltese stood in the door and jumped into the "Big Drop Zone in the Sky." He left a legacy of service to his country in three wars (WW II, Korea and Vietnam) and was the founder of the Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP) companies in both V Corps and VII Corps in Germany. He retired from active military service in 1972. Ed was an example of a loyal, involved and dedicated paratrooper who devoted his time and effort to supporting the Chapter and continuing the spirit of the Airborne. He will be missed, but we know Ed will be waiting for us on the drop-zone in the sky.

Attention - It is time to focus on the Chapter year ahead as we get ready to take –off into our program of activities and programs which promote and support the spirit of the AIRBORNE. For those who are still sitting back on their butts, it's time to "Stand in the Door" and **JUMP into the Chapter's 2006 program**. See you on the Drop-Zone! Airborne!!

AIRBORNE ALL THE WAY! Bill Ridley CHAIRMAN

" SPECIAL PROGRAM - Chapter Meeting 1 April 2006 "

This meeting we are having a very special program. Major Shawn Lucas from the Army's Program Executive Office, Soldier, is coming to speak about the latest in Airborne Equipment!! He is currently on Jump Status as part of his duty performance on Ft. Belvoir with PEO Soldier. He is putting a lot of effort into this presentation, is bringing a lot of equipment for all to see and touch, as well as some of his assistants from PEO Soldier.



FROM THE SECRETARY (28 March, 2006)

HONOR BESTOWED: The Washington DC Chapter is honored to have one of its members appointed as the Association's Committee Chairman for the National Airborne Heritage Day (NAHD). Here is what the Association's February 2006 Bulletin #546 had to say:

President Ronald H. Rath announced his appointment of Trooper Billie J. Kingfisher, Jr. (Washington DC Chapter) as the Association's National Airborne Heritage Day Committee Chairman. He will replace Bud Dutton who recently offered his resignation of this position citing medical reasons. It will be a fast and furious transition as Billie must get started immediately to persuade the US Senate to pass a permanent NAHD Resolution; or, at a minimum, a 2006 NAHD Resolution before our Convention in Orlando. Billie will have some very large boots to fill as Bud "retires" with six resolutions under his belt. Nevertheless, he is motivated and seems very excited to get started. Billie currently lives in DC and has served with the 2-504 PIR under our current President, Ron Rath, as the 504 CSM.

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP NOTES: The following chart provides the status of the membership as of 1 March 2006. We are 22 members shy of reaching our 2005-membership goal of 339. Please consider renewing your membership if you fall in the delinquent category.

- ✓ Membership 2004.....338
 - ✓ Membership 2005.....339
 - ✓ Membership 2006.....317 (as of 1 March 2006)
- Includes 268 All-American Members and 49 Annual Members

The Washington DC Chapter is currently #6 in Association membership numbers as shown below.

- ✓ 1 - Fayetteville Chapter.....1083
- ✓ 2 - 508th Chapter.....386
- ✓ 3 - North Jersey Chapter.....331
- ✓ 4 - LTG James Gavin Chapter.....322
- ✓ 5 - Rocky Mountain Chapter.....321
- ✓ 6 - Washington DC Chapter.....317

MAJOR UPCOMING EVENTS: The following events are included on the Chapter calendar included elsewhere in this newsletter. We are including them here to emphasize them as major events. They could be easily overlooked if (when) a member gives the calendar only a cursory glance. Members are urged to plan ahead for participation in these Chapter events.

Thu thru Sat (May 18 thru 21):

Armed Forces Day Open House and Air Show @ Andrews Air Force Base.

Chairman Ridley is Point of Contact (POC). DC Chapter will:

- ✓ Conduct membership drive
- ✓ Display the Airborne (Sprint & tell)

Mon thru Sun (May 22 thru 28):

All-American Week - Fort Bragg, NC: See pages 10 and 11 of Winter 2005-06 Paraglide for schedule of events and registration form.

Sat (June 3):

1SG Leonard Funk Memorial & Luncheon; POC To be Determined.

Sat (Month of June):

Washington DC Chapter Picnic: Location and POC To be Determined.

Mon thru Sun (Aug 7 thru 13):

60th Anniversary Convention of the 82nd Airborne Division Association at Orlando, Florida. See back cover of Winter 2005-06 Paraglide for particulars.

CAMPAIGN DATES TO REMEMBER: Division announced campaign dates shown below:

- ✓ 11 September 2001 - GWOT - Global War on Terrorism began.
- ✓ 7 October 2001 - OEF - Operation Enduring Freedom began.
- ✓ 13 March 2003 - OIF - Operation Iraqi Freedom began.

82nd AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION EDUCATIONAL FUND INC: Donations to the Educational Fund from the chapters continue to arrive at the National Headquarters, which is in error. The fund, although located in Fayetteville, has its own address, which is as follows:

82d Airborne Division Association Educational Fund

PO Box 65089

Fayetteville, NC 28306-5089

QUARTERMASTER FOR WASHINGTON DC CHAPTER: Chairman Ridley has appointed AAM James D. Infanger as the Chapter QM. James maintains a variety of Chapter memorabilia on hand and the list includes:

- ✓ White T-Shirts (all sizes) displaying a DC Chapter Patch and JM Parachute emblem on the front left & right breast. The 82nd Abn Div campaigns from WWII to the present are listed on the back along with a Division shoulder patch emblem.
- ✓ Golf (Polo) Shirts (all sizes) in both white and navy blue. The DC Chapter patch is displayed on the left front breast and a miniature US Flag is emblazoned on the right shoulder.
- ✓ Washington DC Chapter patches (embroidered) in both the 3-inch and 4-inch diameter sizes. This patch was designed by AAM Richard "Dick" Owen, a WWII 508 PIR Vet and who is still active within Association circles.
- ✓ Soda & Beer can Koozies with Division shoulder patch emblem emblazoned on it.

Members desiring to place an order can reach James at:

Home: (910) 578-3131

Email: Jdinfanger82@aol.com

DIVISION WEBSITE: CSM Amacker, Division CSM, reports that the Division now has a website up and running that the public can access: www.bragg.army.mil/82DV.

1-504 PIR RETURNS FROM IRAQ: More than 850 Paratroopers from the 1-504 Task Force have recently returned from Iraq. The Red Devils' were deployed on short notice in September 2005 to establish the first maximum security detention compound in Iraq, train Iraqi Forces and conduct combat operations in a remote area of Northern Iraq.

DIVISION UNIT RECEIVES AWARD: The 7-17 CAV (formerly 1/17 CAV) received the LTC Ellis D. Parker Combat Aviation Unit of the year award at Fort Rucker, AL on 2 February 2006. The award recognizes superior aviation units in the areas of leadership, training, maintenance and safety. The unit was chosen based on their accomplishments during a yearlong deployment to Iraq (Nov 04 - Oct 05) wherein they flew over 3,000 combat missions and logged more than 21,000 flight hours. The Squadron is scheduled to become part of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault).

XVIII AIRBORNE CORPS WELCOMES TOP DOG: During ceremonies on 9 February, CSM Joseph R. Allen, formerly 1st Corps Support Command and DISCOM, was welcomed by LTG John R. Vines, Corps Commander. CSM Allen is a Veteran from the Grenada Conflict, Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm and the Global War on Terrorism. He is also an All-American Member of our Association.

DELINQUENT MEMBERS: Forty-Five (45) 2005 members have not renewed for 2006; they have received their last issue of PARAGLIDE. If you count yourself as one of these delinquent 45, submit your application for renewal now. Contact the Chapter Secretary, Ray Hilgart, if a renewal form is needed. He can be reached at:

8211 Poplar Grove Drive, Warrenton, VA 20187-4361

Home: (540) 347-7619

Mobile: (540) 497-1089

Email: rhilgart@infionline.net

DIVISION REORGANIZATION: During a ceremony at Simmons Army Airfield on 6 January 2006, the Division Reorganization began. Following is a copy of the remarks of the Commanding General, MG William B. Caldwell IV, in which he describes some of the major changes in the organizational structure of the Division.

The U.S. Army is in the midst of its most comprehensive reorganization since World War II. In order to make combat units more flexible and responsive, the Army is replacing the Division's three Infantry Brigades, Division Artillery Brigade, Aviation Brigade, Division Support Command and numerous separate battalions with the four Brigade Combat Teams (BCT), a Combat Aviation Brigade, a Sustainment Brigade, and a Division Headquarters - an increase of 3,500 Paratroopers in the Division.

heritage in our Division and a reactivation of some storied organizations. The 504th PIR, 325th AIR, and 505th PIR will retain their historic lineage as 1st, 2nd, and 3rd BCTs. In a historic precedent, the 82nd Airborne Division will activate a fourth BCT by reorganizing the Division Artillery Brigade (DIV ARTY) as a Brigade Combat Team. The 4th BCT welcomes two Infantry Task Forces: 3-504th PIR and 3-325th AIR and assumes the proud lineage of the 508th PIR.

The Combat Aviation Brigade will increase by two Avn Bns and 56 combat helicopters. The Brigade will also gain an AH-64D Longbow Apache Battalion, (re-establishing heavy attack capabilities within the Division); CH-47 Chinooks, Command and Control UH-60s, an UH-60Air Ambulance capability; and an Aviation Support Bn for the first time in Division history. Leaving the Division will be the 7-17th CA V Squadron, as they are transferred to the 101st Airborne Division.

The Division Support Command (DISCOM) will reorganize by reassigning much of their subordinate battalions personnel and equipment to stand up the BCT Support Battalions. However they will also receive numerous units from the XVIII Airborne Corps Support Command and become a Sustainment Brigade capable of commanding and controlling support units from any Army organization. Three of our distinguished separate battalions will case their colors for the final time, reorganize, and be absorbed into our 4 BCTs. These historic units are: 313th Military Intelligence Battalion, 307th Engineer Battalion, and the 82nd Paratrooper Support Battalion. A fourth, the 82nd Signal Battalion, will form the nucleus of the Division Special Troops Battalion. Additionally, the 82nd Military Police Company will deactivate and become part of the Special Troops Battalions in our BCTs and the 21st Chemical Company will be assigned to the XVIII Airborne Corps and attached to the Division's Sustainment Brigade.

Throughout this reorganization, the 82nd Airborne Division will maintain its readiness and continue its' role as America's Strategic Response Force, ready to deploy anywhere in the world within 18 hours.

2006 ALL AMERICAN WEEK AND DIVISION REVIEW: Due to military commitments the Moon and Hardy Halls on Fort Bragg will not be available. Therefore, the best and most convenient and reasonably priced hotel in Fayetteville has been obtained for our use. Like last year, you will need to make your own reservation and must mention the 82d Airborne Division Association in order to get the special rates. The Winter *PARAGLIDE* will carry the full schedule of events, along with a new registration form. Chapter officers please advise the membership to carefully read all instructions and to fully complete the form. Members should indicate on the form where their hotel reservations were made.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSOCIATION: In the January 2006 Monthly Bulletin of the 82nd Airborne Division Association, the following paragraph is included:

Congratulations are in order to our proud Association. Although formed prior to the Normandy Invasion, the Association was chartered as a non-profit organization in Illinois on the 26th of March 1946. Further, congratulations are extended to the Chicago Chapter

Gavin Chapter for being chartered in the same year.

45 YEARS AND COUNTING: Now, as the 82nd Airborne Division Association approaches its 60th Anniversary, we should pause to note that on August 13th of last year, 2005, our own Washington D.C. Chapter completed its 45th Charter Year. Because we missed publicizing that milestone, it is appropriate that we make note of it here. Our Charter reads thus:

CHARTER

Be It Known That:

Whereas the Washington D.C. Chapter has complied with the Constitution and By-Laws of the 82nd Airborne Division Association, Incorporated, and is actively engaged in carrying on a Local Chapter of said Association:

Now, therefore, the Washington D.C. Chapter is certified to be legally organized and established as a Chapter of said Association.

Given this 13th day of August 1960, A.D.

s/Carl L. Davis
Executive Secretary
Carl L. Davis.

s/Carl A. Helgren
President
Carl A. Helgren

Charter Members

Nicholas E. Allen
James E. Beach
Robert E. Beck
Peter C. Beer
James M. Coutts
William E. Ekman
James M. Gavin
Paul Georgoplis
Robert C. Grimes
Francis A. March
Daniel W. Miller
Townsend Miller

John Norton
Alan L. Oson
John E. Onyun
Basil C. Paulish
James V. Rodier
Charles W. Sens
Guy Sens
James C. Todd
R. L. Stephens
James S. Velasko
Richard R. Wagner
James S. Wells

Charles. Billingslea
William C. Dutton, Jr
Phillip M. Hannan
Charles W. Knight
Ernest L. Massei
Presley W. Mauney
Leonard H. Robinette
William L. Strieter
Joseph M. Thompson
Worthington J. Thompson
Robert K. Swanson
Garfield Wilkinson

82nd AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION
Activity Calendar for 2006

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR YEAR 2006

LOCATION - UNLESS ANNOUNCED OTHERWISE, MEETINGS TO BE HELD IN THE COMMUNITY HALL WITHIN THE MAIN POST CHAPEL @ FT MYER, VA. THE MAIN POST CHAPEL IS LOCATED DIRECTLY ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE MAIN POST EXCHANGE.

Sat	Apr 1	1300 Hours – DC Chapter General Membership Meeting
Sat*	May 6	1300 Hours – DC Chapter General Membership Meeting
---	June TBA	Abbreviated meeting planned at Funk Memorial Luncheon (Place TBA)
---	July	Summer Recess – No meeting
---	Aug	Summer Recess – No meeting
Sat*	Sep 2	1300 Hours – DC Chapter General Membership Meeting
Sat	Oct 7	1300 Hours – DC Chapter General Membership Meeting
Sat*	Nov 4	1300 Hours – DC Chapter General Membership Meeting
Sat	Dec 9	Abbreviated meeting planned at Christmas/Holiday Banquet at Fort Myer Officer's Club

Note 1: TBA = To Be Announced

Note 2: Asterisk (*) denotes a Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled one hour prior to the general membership meeting. All Officers and Directors should attend.

OTHER MAJOR ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR YEAR 2006

NOTE: 1SG Leonard Funk (MOH) Education Fund Award planned for Year 2006 – Timely notice concerning the period (dates) of submission of applications will be made. Point of Contact TBA.

T – S	May 18-21	Armed Forces Day Open House and Air Show @ Andrews Air Force Base
M – S	May 22-28	All-American Week – Fort Bragg, NC (Dates are tentative)
Sat	Jun 3	1SG Leonard Funk Memorial & Luncheon; POC TBA
Sat	Jun	DC Chapter Picnic – Date & Place TBA; POC TBA
M – S	Aug 7-14	82 nd Airborne Division Association Convention @ Orlando, Florida
Sun	Oct 1	Army 10 Miler - POC TBA; Date of event is tentative.
Tue -	Nov 8-11	Veteran's Day Operations – Hospitality Suite. POC TBA
Sat	Dec 9	Christmas / Holiday Banquet; Fort Myer Officer's Club (POC: Skip McGrath)

PHOTO CHUTE



“ In Memoriam ” - COL (Ret.) Ed Maltese



Trooper Ken Legget Receiving the 2005 IRON Mike Award



Washington, DC & Ruben Tucker Chapters – Christmas Party 2005



2006 Officers Sworn – In



Recognizing Christmas Party Chair Lady – Skip McGrath

