



Ray Hilgart, Editor
8211 Poplar Grove
Warrenton, VA 20187

The DC Trooper

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

2007 No.2 – May 2007

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Fellow Paratroopers, Glidermen, and Friends,

For me this period is a time of reflection. As we approach the mid-term of the Chapter year, I am thankful as we all should be for the continued support and hard work from our Secretary, Ray Hilgart and Treasurer, Ken Younger. Their work has been invaluable. These are the guys who make the Chapter work. Next time you see them, tell them how much you appreciate the work they do for US. A hardy Airborne thanks to Ray and Ken.

With the month of May upon us we are beginning a time of ceremony and celebration, a time to be proud to be an American, especially an American paratrooper. From 17-20 May we will be setting up our table at the Joint Services Open House, Andrews AFB. This is both an opportunity to support the Chapter and enjoy a SUPER air show and military equipment displays. As always I am looking for volunteers to support us. Following this, we are going to be celebrating a most special day, Memorial Day by participating in the National Memorial Day Parade in our nation's capital. Here again, an opportunity to get INVOLVED.

On a more sober note, one of our young Troopers and Quartermaster, **Jim Infanger** is shortly deploying with his Army National Guard unit to Iraq. For Jim, this will be his second deployment to this war zone. His first was with the 82nd Airborne Division. I speak for the whole Chapter when I wish you God Speed. We'll keep you in our prayers and await your safe return. We all appreciate the work you do and will be doing in our National defense. Give Um Hell Jim!!

AIRBORNE ALL THE WAY! Bill Ridley CHAIRMAN



Next Chapter Meeting: SAT (5 MAY) 13:00
Fort Myer Chapel Center – Ft. Myer, VA

FROM THE SECRETARY:

The 1SG (MOH) Leonard Funk Education Fund Award: For those Washington DC Chapter members who intend to avail themselves, or their family members, of the Chapter's Education Fund Award, now is the time to start the application process. The requirements are not difficult but it does take time and some effort. November 1st, 2007 is the latest date that the application must be in the hands of the Chapter Secretary. Incomplete applications, those not in the prescribed format and those received after the November 1st deadline will not be processed. It is not too early to get started. The first step is to obtain the Chapter Education Fund Award Plan and Application. Both can be obtained by either downloading them from the Washington DC Chapter webpage or by requesting a copy from the Chapter Secretary whose address is included below. After that, follow the steps and requirements as outlined in the Award Plan and complete the application as outlined on the form itself. The Chapter Secretary can be reached at following addresses and phone numbers.

Raymond J. Hilgart, 8211 Poplar Grove Drive, Warrenton, VA 20187-4361
Home Phone: (540) 347-7619; Cell Phone: (540) 497-1089
Email Address: rhilgart@infionline.net

WASHINGTON DC CHAPTER NEWS

Washington DC Chapter Membership Status: As of April 25th, 2007, the Washington DC Chapter has exceeded its membership numbers of Year 2006 by 13. The chart below identifies the current chapter membership numbers. For the convenience of those 20 members in arrears (Year 2006) a renewal form is being attached to this newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	
DC CHAPTER MEMBERS	25 APR 2007
Paid-for-Life AA Members (Active Duty)	81
Paid-for-Life AA Members (Veterans)	223
Paid-Up Annual Members for 2007	48
Total Paid-Up DC Chapter Members	352
Association Honorary Members	1
Washington DC Chapter Honorary Members	7
2006 Association Members in Arrears	20

Top Five Chapters as of March 31st, 2007: The top five chapters of the Association when membership is taken into consideration are:

<u>SEQ</u>	<u>CHAPTER</u>	<u>Members</u>
01	- Fayetteville, NC.....	1247
02	- 508 th Airborne - Nationwide.....	414
03	- Washington, DC.....	345 (and counting)
04	- North Jersey - New Jersey.....	337
05	- LTG James M. Gavin, New England.....	313

Genesis of the Washington, DC Chapter: During the last Chapter membership meeting, the Secretary stated there is a question concerning the genesis of the Washington DC Chapter charter. The charter currently in the possession of the Secretary states that Washington DC Chapter was established as a Chapter of the Association on August 13th, 1960. Manny De Jesus, the current Executive Secretary of the Association, has documents which refer to the existence of the Washington DC Chapter as far back as 1947. So we have a conflict on the origin of the charter and a number of individuals in staff and leadership positions within the Association are attempting to resolve the conflict. Chapter Chairman Ridley is requesting information from anyone who might have knowledge concerning the origin of the DC Chapter charter.

Association Logo Vehicular License Plate: Maryland State residents can obtain an 82nd Airborne Division Association License plate through the Maryland DMV. There is a one time processing fee of \$25.00 for the plate. Anyone interested in obtaining this plate should contact Mike St. George (410) 848-6253 for an application form.

Armed Forces Day Open House and Air Show @ Andrews Air Force: Chairman Ridley is the coordinator. Event is scheduled for May 17–20, 2007 with set up on Thursday, May 17th. Sign-up of volunteers to support the event is scheduled for the next meeting on Saturday, May 5th, 2007. Volunteers will be asked to provide information to permit the Chairman to obtain access authorization for each volunteer. If members cannot be present at the next meeting, to volunteer, call or contact the Chapter Secretary at (540) 497-1089 or by email at rhilgart@infionline.net

National Memorial Day Parade in Washington DC: Trooper Bob Elliott is the coordinator. Event is scheduled for Monday, May 28th 2007 at 1200 hours. Participants will board WWII vehicles such as ¾ ton troop carriers, armored half tracks and Jeeps and ride down Constitution Avenue. French military veterans will participate with Chapter members and it is hoped to have the British military join us also. Troopers of the Col Rueben Tucker and the 555 Chapters will be invited and it is hoped to also have our wounded warriors from local military hospitals join us in this event. Sign-up of volunteers to participate in this event is scheduled for next meeting on Sat. May 5th, 2007 where additional information will also be available. If one cannot attend and desires to participate, call or contact the Chapter Secretary at (540) 497-1089 or by email at rhilgart@infionline.net

1SG (MOH) Leonard Funk Commemoration, 82nd Abn Div Memorial, Ceremony and Luncheon: Trooper Ken Younger is the coordinator. Event is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, June 2nd, 2007. Particulars are stated in the Calendar of Events (Other Major Activities Planned for Year 2007), included as an attachment herein. Final details are to be announced at the DC Chapter meeting on Saturday, May 5th, 2007.

Wounded Warrior Program: Trooper Bob Elliott is the program coordinator. Bob states that he is working with SSG James Babin, the official liaison for 82nd Abn Div troopers admitted to the Walter Reed Army Hospital, to arrange for wounded warriors now in local military hospitals to attend the annual events and activities sponsored by the Washington DC Chapter, to include the monthly chapter membership meetings. Trooper Bob Elliott and Chairman Ridley plan to visit with SSG Babin and possibly some of the wounded warriors within the next few weeks to explore ways and means the Chapter can better accomplish the goals of the program.

Special Presentation by David G. Bolgiano: During the last membership meeting Chairman Ridley introduced Mr. David G. Bolgiano, an All-American Association and DC Chapter member who was a special guest speaker for the meeting and presented a program related to the Rules of Engagement

and the Use of Deadly Force. Mr. Bolgiano has served in Afghanistan, Qatar and Iraq as a legal advisor to the Commander, Special Operations Command Central. He is a former Army paratrooper and judge advocate.

An author, Mr. Bolgiano has written a book entitled *COMBAT SELF-DEFENSE: Saving America's Warriors from Risk-Averse Commanders and their Lawyers*. The book's external back cover reads:

“Warfare in the post 9/11 era has a new face. Enemy combatants may not be in uniform and could be hiding in villages filled with women and children or posing as dead bodies lying in the street. Soldiers have fractions of time to decide whether or not to employ the use of deadly force, balancing on a knife-edge of life and death. For many soldiers, the real battle begins after the fatalities in-theater—when lawyers get involved. Judgment and honor are called into question and hindsight applied to tactical decisions made in the heat of conflict.

An order form for Mr. Bolgiano's book is included as an attachment to this newsletter. Dave has indicated that he will return \$5 to the DC Chapter for each order (not each book) he receives from a DC Chapter member.

Sick Call and / or Condolences:

- Otis Lloyd Leming, father of Vicki Sumner and father-in-law of Trooper Gordon Sumner, passed away in late January. The funeral was held in Raleigh, NC on February 3rd, 2007.
- William S. Lucas, father of Major Shawn P. Lucas, an All-American DC Chapter member, passed away recently. Chapter members will recall last April when Major Lucas and his assistants presented an interesting program from the Army's Program Executive Office (PEO), Soldier.
- Trooper Jim Rigas is back with us at the monthly meetings and other activities although he is yet unable to use his vocal chords. He remains under a physicians care for continuing medical analysis and treatment for a throat (larynx) condition.
- Our Chaplain, Reggie Grier has completed his double knee replacement surgery and although with limited mobility, he is recovering nicely.

ASSOCIATION SHORT SHOTS

All-American Week 2007 at Fort Bragg Cancelled: Reported in the last newsletter and it repeated here to insure that it receives widest dissemination. Fayetteville Chapter Chair, Ray Willard, reported that the Fayetteville Chapter Activities are also being cancelled. However, for those planning to make the trip to the Fayetteville/Ft. Bragg area during the week of 21 - 27 May, the Fayetteville Chapter Clubhouse located at 606 Johnson Street in the Kornbow area will be open daily starting at 6:30 p.m. Monday the 21st through Saturday the 26th of May and welcome Association members to drop by and see them. See page 14 of the Winter 2006/2007 **Paraglide** for additional info.

Association Looking for Oldest Members: The Association is searching for the two (2) oldest members not later than 30 June 2007. Required information is: full name, unit (s), date of birth and dates of service. A review of the 39 members originally submitted back in 1994 has shown that they have either made their last jump or taken their final glider ride. So, all you old-timers out there, notify the Chapter Secretary and give him the information listed above.

National Airborne Heritage Day (August 16th, 2007): Progress continues at a very slow pace; since last month we have gained only four (4) new supporters, Senators Chambliss, Corker, Graham and Isakson. Below is the current list of Senators who have signed on to co-sponsor HR82. Note that **NOT ONE** is from Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia or Pennsylvania.

Chuck Hagel (NE)	John Thune (SD)	Barbara Boxer (CA)	Richard Burr (NC)
Saxby Chambliss (GA)	Bob Corker (TN)	Lindsey Graham (SC)	Judd Gregg (NH)
Henry Reid (NV)	Olympia J. Snowe (ME)	Jack Reed (RI)	John F. Kerry (MA)
Johnny Isakson (GA)	Hillary Rodham Clinton (NY)		

Members are requested to write letters to their senators asking them to sign on as a sponsor to Senate Resolution (SR82) as introduced on February 15th, 2007 by Senator Chuck Hagel (R-NE). A sample letter is attached herewith as is the mailing addresses and phone numbers of the senators from the states in which the majority of the Washington DC Chapter members reside, Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Delaware and North Carolina. Those residing in states other than those listed should contact the Chapter Secretary for the names, addresses and phone numbers of their respective senators, or alternately, go to the Senate Web Page at www.senate.gov to find the name and address of your senators. Note that Senator Richard Burr of North Carolina is already a co-sponsor so his name is not listed. Our goal is to have SR82 passed prior to our Annual Convention in August.

Promotion for Past Division CG: Our former CG, MG William R. Caldwell IV, has been nominated for his third star and Commander of the US Army Combined Arms Center at Fort Leavenworth, KS. His current assignment is in Iraq and is frequently seen in the news delivering the command briefings.

XVIII Airborne Corps NCO of the Year: The Association is proud to announce that our own 2006 Division NCO of the Year, SFC Neil A. Fletcher, went the extra mile to become the 2007 Corps NCO of the Year. The Association recognized him during the 2006 All American Week, although he did not attend the Convention. He was offered the chance to attend but in the tradition of what makes an outstanding NCO, SFC Fletcher choose to maintain his slot for early deployment so as to lead his troopers into Iraq. SFC Fletcher is still assigned to D/2-505 PIR.

Association Policy Dealing with Parachuting Activities: The 82d Airborne Division Association, Inc. does not sponsor nor lend its name in any way to parachute jumping activities. This includes, but is not limited to, individual jumps, competition jumps, demonstration jumps or any and all jumps sponsored or contracted for by any individual or group whatsoever. The 82d Airborne Division Association, Inc. does not and will not provide insurance coverage for anyone in any parachute jumping activity whatsoever. For a complete description of Policy, contact the Chapter Secretary.

Personalized Association Business Cards: Available from the Executive Director. Front reflects Association LOGO on top left side (blue and red), wording of "Chartered by the United States Congress" on top right side (red), with individual's name in middle and at bottom "82d Airborne Division Association, Inc. (left), and individual's address (right). The back of card reflects to send information to the individual in front or to the National Office and address. Check must be made payable to Allegra Print & Imaging. Costs are as follows:

100 cards --- \$30.00

500 cards --- \$60.00

1000 cards --- \$80.00

Reminder of the 2007 National Association Convention in Harrisburg, PA: The 61st National Convention will be held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania during Aug 13 – 19, 2007 and is being hosted by the Central Pennsylvania Chapter. Headquarters will be the Harrisburg Hilton and our troopers will billet at the New Cumberland Barracks. See the January 2007 DC Chapter Newsletter for additional details and for more information, contact Lou and Nancy Stewart at (302) 539 0484 or Email at NLSocceanview@aol.com. Two of the convention side trips will be a tour of the Harley-Davidson plant in York, PA and a tour of Hershey, PA to include the famous Chocolate World. A 2007 Harley-Davidson XL 1200 Custom Sportster is to be raffled off at the Convention and a limit of 2500 tickets is being sold for \$20.00 each. The DC Chapter Secretary has the tickets available until May 7th, 2007 after which they will be returned to the Raffle Coordinator. Contact the Chapter Secretary soon if raffle tickets are desired as they may be gone when you get to Harrisburg. Keep in mind when making your reservations that the Convention officially kicks off on the 15th of August; however, the Hotel is available on the 13th and 14th for Chapter activities and events for those early-birds who wish to arrive before the crowds. Further details and Tour Registrations will be published in the Spring 2007 Issue of the *Paraglide*.

82nd Airborne Division Centurion Club: Applications for the Centurion Club submitted by Washington DC Chapter members must be verified by the Chapter Chairman. The application form can be found on page 13 of the Fall 2006 issue of the *Paraglide* or the Chapter Secretary will provide a copy if such a request is made. Requirements for qualification are stated on the application form. Please note that the Jump Log copy must also be verified by the Chapter Chairman. The address to which the application and attachments/enclosures is to be mailed is now obsolete and the correct address is as follows:

**Commanding General, 82nd Airborne Division
ATTN: AFVC-PE-G1/AG-SGM
Fort Bragg, NC 28310-5100**

Author Asking for Help: Connor Noble of Nottingham, England is doing a school history project on Americans in Nottingham during WWII. He is asking for these veterans to contact him at knoble4242@aol.com

Your Name and Address

The Honorable (name of senator from your state)
c/o US Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator (name of senator from your state):

I respectfully request that you co-sponsor Senate Resolution (S.Res.) 82, as introduced by Senator Chuck Hagel and entered into the Congressional Record on February 15, 2007.

There is no political agenda attached to it. Rather, it's all about recognizing the millions of American Paratroopers who have served this nation in both hot and cold wars since the U.S. Airborne Test Platoon made its first, official military parachute jump into American History at Fort Benning, Georgia on August 16, 1940.

American Paratroopers are now represented in each of our Armed Services. Current Army units include the 82nd Airborne Division, the Ranger Regiments, and the U.S. Army Special Forces. In addition, other services have the Navy SEALs, the Marine Naval Gunfire Control Teams and Reconnaissance Units and the Air Force Combat Control Teams that jump in with the lead elements of other airborne forces to mark drop zones, aircraft landing zones, and to control inbound aircraft to their drop and air land zones.

This is about the 4 million or so American Paratroopers who over the years have regularly put their lives on the line, who jump from aircraft with nothing but a small piece of nylon above their head and, once on the ground, fight to defend the freedom and national interest of America and the free world. From his first, official military jump on August 16, 1940 the American Paratrooper has been a "special breed" of war fighter who is feared by the enemies of this nation; respected by this nation's allies; and absolutely loved by the American people.

Last year (2006), Resolution 405 was passed and we received word and a residential Proclamation prior to our National Convention in August. We urge you to do this at your earliest convenience.

In view of the above, we would deeply appreciate your cosponsoring S. Res. 82.

Respectfully,

JOHN B. DOE
Sergeant First Class, USA
Or (Veteran of XYZ Airborne units) Constituent of (name of your state)

MARYLAND

Senator Barbara A. Mikulski
US Senate Office Hart Building
Suite SH-503
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202)-224-4654

Senator Benjamin L. Cardin
US Senate Office Hart Building
Suite SH-509
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202)-224-4524

PENNSYLVANIA

Senator Arlen Specter
US Senate Office Hart Building
Suite SH-711
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202)-224-4254

Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr
US Senate Office Dirksen Building
Suite SD-B40C
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202)-224-6324

DELAWARE

Senator Joseph R. Biden, Jr
US Senate Office Russell Building
Suite SR-201
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202)-224-5042

Senator Thomas R. Carper
US Senate Office Hart Building
Suite SH-513
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202)-224-2441

VIRGINIA

Senator John Warner
US Senate Office Russell Building
Suite SR-225
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202)-224-2023

Senator James Webb
US Senate Office Russell Building
Suite SR-C1
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202)-224-4024

WEST VIRGINIA

Senator John D. Rockefeller, IV
US Senate Office Hart Building
Suite SH-531
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202)-224-6472

Senator Robert C. Byrd
US Senate Office Hart Building
Suite SH-311
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202)-224-3954

NORTH CAROLINA

Senator Elizabeth Dole
US Senate Office Dirksen Building
Suite SD-555
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202)-224-6342

PLANNED ACTIVITY CALENDAR FOR YEAR 2007
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR YEAR 2007

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

Sat*	May 5	1300 Hours – DC Chapter General Membership Meeting
Sat	Jun 2	1300 Hours – DC Chapter General Membership Abbreviated Meeting at the 1SG (MOH) Leonard Funk Luncheon. To be affirmed at May 5 th meeting.
Sat*	Sep 8	1300 Hours – DC Chapter General Membership Meeting
Sat	Oct 6	1300 Hours – DC Chapter General Membership Meeting
Sat*	Nov 3	1300 Hours – DC Chapter General Membership Meeting
Sat	Dec 8	1300 Hours – DC Chapter General Membership Abbreviated Meeting at the Christmas/Holiday Banquet. Location to be Announced.

Note 1: Asterisk (*) denotes a Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled one hour prior to the general membership meeting. All Officers and Directors should attend.

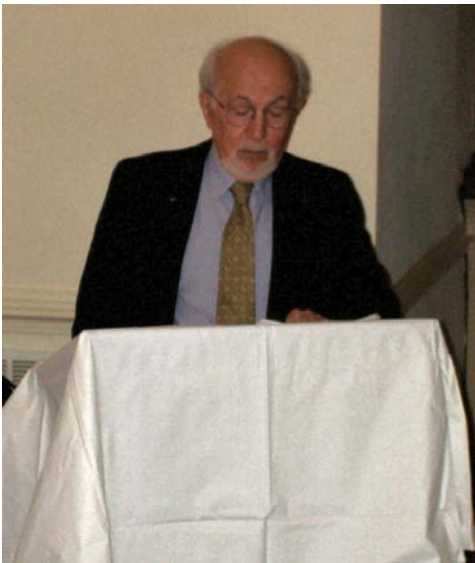
OTHER MAJOR ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR YEAR 2007

Thu – Sun	May 17-20	Armed Forces Day Open House and Air Show @ Andrews Air Force Base. The DC Chapter operates a booth to show and tell the Airborne Story.
Monday	May 28	Memorial Day Parade in Washington DC on Constitution Avenue at 1200 hours. Final details to be announced at May 5 th meeting.
Saturday	Jun 2	1SG (MOH) Leonard Funk Commemoration, 82 nd Abn Div Memorial Ceremony and Luncheon. Location is Arlington National Cemetery and Spates Community Center at Fort Myer, Virginia. Final details to be announced at May 5 th meeting.
Saturday	June 23	Washington DC Chapter Picnic – Date is tentative; Location, point of contact and other details to be announced at a later date.
Mon – Sun	Aug 13 – 19	82 nd Abn Div Assn - 61 st Annual Convention @ Harrisburg, PA
Sunday	Oct 7	DC Chapter supports the Army Ten-Miler. The date is tentative and the Point of Contact to be announced at a later date.
Tue – Sun	Nov 8 - 11	Veteran’s Day Operations – Chapter operates the Hospitality Suite for visiting veterans usually at the Arlington Days Inn near Fort Myer.
Saturday	Dec 8	Christmas / Holiday Banquet, usually held at the Officers Club at Fort Myer, Virginia.

PHOTO CHUTE



A farewell presentation to former Vice Chair Bob Woods (FEB 07)



Lucien Stervinou, President of the French WWII Veterans Assn addressing the Chapter's FEB 07 Meeting

ORDER FORM - Make copy or remove this page

**COMBAT Self-Defense:
Saving America's Warriors from Risk-Averse Commanders And their Lawyers**

Author: David G. Bolgiano, All-American, DC Chapter Member

Name _____ Street Address _____

_____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

_____ Telephone Number _____ YES
Circle YES above if DC Chapter Member

_____ E-mail Address _____ Signature if DC Chapter member _____

Number of Books Ordered: _____ Price: \$20.00/book

Books will be mailed shortly after order is received

Enclose/Attach Check or Money Order Payable to: **David G. Bolgiano**

Submit in-person to Author or Mail to: **David G. Bolgiano
42 Hatton Drive,
Severna Park, MD 21146**