



BADGER AIRBORNE NEWS

82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION • BADGER STATE CHAPTER

May 2009



The All Americans
(Details inside)

Glider Symposium

Ft. Snelling, St. Paul
May 15

Armed Forces Day
Open House Ft.
MCoy May 16

Highground Dedic-
ation Tears Statue
May 25, 1pm

BSC Meeting Bara-
boo May 30

Highground Korean
Tribute & Flag Day
June 13, 9:30AM

Welcome Home
Menomonie DAV
June 21

Baraboo Air & Air-
borne Show
June 26-28

WWII Airborne He-
roes Dinner Prairie
du Sac July 11

August 19-22 82nd
Convention Indian-
apolis 317-701-7780

May 30 101st Old
Abe Chapter

Watertown

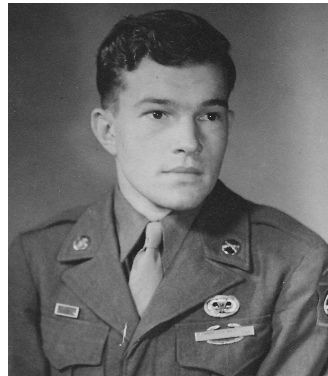
920-261-6756

Norb Studelska: 508th PIR Red Devil & Great Guy!

The 508th did—and does—an Airborne job of living up to its Red Devil nickname and Norb Studelska, as one of the best men you'll ever know, surely did his share.

It's a long story so let's start with the thing that's so special about Norb—his good humor:

“After a little less than two months of fighting in Holland the 508th was on its way to garrison duty in France. The first leg of the trip was a twenty or so mile trek by foot because of the shortage of trucks. During this march we passed English troops moving in the opposite direction toward the front. One smart alec English soldier made a remark about our reason for leaving



Norb in 1946 Germany

by asking, ‘Is it too rough up there for you Yanks?’

Our machine gunner Hayden, replied that we were moving back, ‘to

set up roadblocks to keep you God damn Limies from retreating.’”

Holland was not funny. But as is his way, Norb made the best of it. “My foxhole was a model of comfort and protection. I took the time to make my home the best on the block. It was chest deep, long enough to lie flat when I slept. To keep things neat and clean as my good mother taught me, I completely lined it with the canopy of a main chute. I had a built-in shelf for my personal gear and a picture of my childhood sweetheart, Elaine Olson, whom I married after the war.”

Small arms fire didn't bother Norb much. Artillery did. German 88s were the most feared gun. They could (cont. on pg. 7)

Airborne Dinner will honor all Badger WWII Heroes

The BSC has invited over 50 Badger WWII Airborne Vets to a dinner at the VFW Hall in Prairie du Sac July 11, 2009. This Airborne Heroes Dinner is to honor all those Paratroopers and Glider Riders who fought the hardest with the least against the finest SS Tankers and Infantry of the Reich.

Our WWII Airborne Heroes took on tanks with small arms, mortars, Thompsons, BARs and light machine guns in Africa, Sicily, Italy, Anzio, Normandy, Holland, The Bulge, Hurtgen, Siegfried Line and All The Way to Berlin! No one fought harder with less than the Glider Riders and Paratroopers of the American Airborne Forces who took on SS Panzer Divisions and beat the crap out of them.

We will gather at the VFW at 4:30 and dinner will be served 5:30-6:00. A short Airborne program will follow.

All BSC & Wisconsin Airborne Vets and their guests are invited to this dinner. However, non-WWII Vets will need to send \$13.50 per meal to BSC Treas. Reuben Clark, 5318 Greenbriar Lane, Madison, WI 53714. Please do this before July 5, 2009 so we can get an accurate meal count and for planning. If you know of

any Wis. WWII Airborne Vets Paratrooper or Glider Rider, please contact Tom Gaukel, 608-355-2382, 1721 Manassas Dr., Baraboo, WI 53913. Please contact Tom by June 1, 2009 with names and addresses to allow time for sending personal invitations and to include them in the program handout.



WWII 325 GIR 82nd Vet Les Schwarm with 82nd memories box he donated to the BSC. Join Les and all our WWII Airborne Heroes at the honors dinner July 11. (Tom Gaukel photo)



Badger State Chapter
82nd Airborne Assoc.

Officers

Mike Haller, Chairman
608-356-3235

MSG Sean Beaudette, VC
608-269-0513

John Givens, Secretary
608-788-3651

Reuben Clark, Treasurer
608-222-4833

Gerald Diemel, Sgt. at Arms
715-758-8365

Steve Helms, Adjutant
920-832-9090

Trustees

Tom Gaukel- thru 2011
608-355-2382

Gordy Starck- thru 2012
414-425-3908

Frank Morris- thru 2010
715-693-6161

Airborne Media Liaison

MSG Christina Steiner

**Badger Airborne
News**

Send us your scoops!

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All The Way!

Message from Iron Mike

Chairman Comments

Hello again to all BSC Chapter members, wives & friends. We had a great meeting at King, March 28th with fifteen members present. Our vice-chairman, Sean Beaudette, presented a "Command Operational Plan for our chapter to follow along with the existing by-laws. Good job Sean!

Our next BSC meeting is at the Farm Kitchen in Baraboo. If you can, come early or extend your stay. Baraboo welcomes visitors with the charm of a small town that has pristine vistas, colorful history and many choices of things to do. You can browse in unique shops, visit historic downtown square, explore some of the most scenic natural areas in Wisconsin, ride the rails on vintage locomotives, see a circus and learn its history, marvel at some of the worlds most beautiful birds at the Crane Foundation, try your luck at the casino and more.

Also looking forward to several events that the chapter is planning starting with dinner for the World War II veterans in July and partnering with the Air Show in June. Details for these two events will be discussed at our Baraboo meeting. Hope to see all of you there.

May 30 BSC Meeting:

- Farm Kitchen – 5718 Highway 123 – Telephone #608.356.5485 – May 30th, Baraboo. Social Gathering – 2:00 p.m.

Meeting – 3:00

Drinks 5:00 – 5:30

Dinner 5:30 – Prime Rib buffet dinner with dessert – 20.42 includes tax and tip. Send checks asap to: Reuben Clark, 5318 Greenbriar Ln., Madison, WI 53714-3404.

Lodging

Clarion Hotel – 626 Pine St. - \$71.20. Reserve by May 20 for 82nd ABN
Ph: 608.356.6422

Best Western 725 – West Pine
\$79.99 reserve by May 22nd for 82nd ABN
Ph: 608.356.1100

BSC AGENDA



**May 30, 2009
Baraboo, Wisconsin**

- I. Call to Order: 3:00 pm
- II. Pledge and Prayer
- III. Approval of 3-28-09 meeting at King
- IV. Treasurer Report
- V. Secretary Report
- VI. Vice Chairman Comments
- VII. Chairman Comments
- VIII. **Old Business**
 - A. Status of display cases
 - B. Dinner honoring World War II veterans
 - C. Care Packages
 - D. Ad for Convention
- BREAK**
- IX. **New Business**
 - A. Air show in Baraboo June 26, 27 & 28
 1. 82nd promotional items (caps,shirts,etc.)
 - 2 Tent
 3. Flags
 4. Volunteers
 5. Chapter purchase one C-47 seat
 - B. National Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana
 - C. Members comments and suggestions
 - D. Adjourn at 5:00

Go Airborne all the way,
Chairman Mike Haller

Big Ed Remembered

From Bill Paxson a member of Ed's car club:

I really got to be pretty close to Ed Moerhke and his family.

During the 1964 World's Fair in New York, Maxine and I were in Eastern PA. on vacation and ended up buying our 1927 Rolls Royce. The car had a bad clutch and couldn't be driven to bring it back to Wisconsin.

While visiting Ed and Millie one night, Ed said, "Billy, lets go get your Rolls Royce."

Without ever seeing the car or doing any measuring, he made a tow bar for the car.

Ed was the one that made the arrangements to have our clutch fixed and even towed the car there to be repaired. We've had lots of fun and enjoyment driving the Rolls since then and thought of Ed many times when driving.

Once we were on a week long tour and I was having a very bad shimmy problem. Ed said he'd help me figure out what the problem was.

We jacked up the car and removed the wheel to check the bearings. You could have heard Ed screaming a block away when he discovered that I had a nail in the spindle instead of a cotter key. He said you */<# _ _ _ , what the *!@: is this? I just laughed and said, "What's wrong Ed, did I use the wrong size nail?" He was furious! Ed was an excellent mechanic, body man and welder and was always willing to help someone else. One thing I will always thank Ed for, was his idea for our club to host all of the people that came from foreign countries to the first World Meet in 1986. There were two families from South Africa, one from Australia and a family from Puerto Rico.

Maxine and I hosted the family from Puerto Rico and it was one of the most rewarding things we have ever done. Both of the children were just about the same age as our two

children and we had loads of fun. Two years later, Ed, Millie, Maxine and Tammy, our Daughter and I went to visit them in Puerto Rico for nine days and we will never forget that. It was wonderful. I could probably fill several pages with the fun times we've had together and how many times Ed had helped us. We will really miss Ed and Millie and our thoughts and Prayers are with their family. - Bill Paxson, MARC

Ed's family invites the BSC to a Memorial Mass, June 12. Visitation 1-3, Mass at 3. Bring stories.

St. Dennis Catholic Church

413 Dempsey Rd.

Madison

Apache Smoke



This is a busy, exciting time with a lot of great Airborne events coming up! Do your Airborne best to get to each one of them!

I hope I now have most of the story on my 508th PIR Hero Norb Studelka who even knows where Trimbelle is! Norb's story as told by Doc and Norb starts in this issue and will continue in July. Norb's life is one more proof of what the Airborne Heroes did to build America when they came home. I am honored and proud to call this good Airborne man my friend!

We were absolutely inspired by Judith Durkee and her Mother Evelyn at our last meeting! Judy spoke about her Father, Glenn Ward, Rhineland, who was KIA during The Bulge while fighting with the 508th PIR, 82nd. Glenn was quite a hero, severely wounded at Normandy but re-joining his Brothers while still recovering. The story will appear next issue.

Thank you to Judy for her inspiration in supporting the 508th 2/321st Arty and all the Chapter members who backed \$200 for their Deployment Ball! These guys sent three Paratroopers to our meeting last Sept. and plan to send more to our Airborne booth at the Baraboo Air show. One good Airborne turn deserves another! (The 2/321st, 508th PIB deployment support raised the question of what became of the 319th AArty? Answer: The 1/319th is assigned to the 505PIB; the 2/319th is assigned to the 325, and; the 1/319th is assigned to the 504.)

The search for our Chapter Website help may be over. 82nd Vet Randy Combs, Stout ROTC is helping. In the search process we have also made some connections with ROTC Honor Guards and ROTC officers inquiring about Airborne presentations for their Cadets. Sean did a terrific job at our last BSC meeting outlining what we must do to make the BSC more active. (See COPS article) As always, everything starts with communications and the BSC Web Site is key to commo. It should be up and running soon. In the meantime, if you have an email address please send it to me if you'd like Airborne updates between BANs.

Bill Opichka has put together a video on the 82nd and BSC that is dynamite! This should be shown at our tent that John Givens found, at the Baraboo Air Show June 26-30. the BSC tent will feature 82nd Glider Rider & Historian Les Schwarm; Mike Brennan, Paratroopers from the 82nd 508th, 2/321st AARTY; Maggie/82nd Tribute Case; 101st Airborne Skydivers; C-47 tours; 504 Hero Bill Hannigan; Welcome Home

Heroes Lee Shourds and Dave Green; Airborne weapons displays; Airborne Recruiters; Airborne Ts, stickers, etc; Honor Guards; Glider display from the Wisconsin Flying Trees Exhibit; And more!

Mike Haller, thank you and God Bless Your Great Big Airborne Heart for your persistence and hard work in getting our Chapter a place at the Baraboo Air show! This should be the beginning of a long future for Airborne Days and a wonderful continuance of the Airborne character!

Lee Shourds & Dave Green: Airborne thanks for all you do for our Troops! I hope every BSC member turns out on June 21 to meet and thank you.

Tom Gaukel: Thanks for all your hard work on the Airborne Heroes Banquet in July! Every member should plan to attend July 11!

Lester Schwarm: Thank you for representing Glider Riders at Ft. Snelling May 15!

Gerry Diemel: Thanks for all your work on Maggie's MOH!

Tom Hacker: Here's a Milwaukee 82nd Paratrooper who is in the Airborne merchandise business. I hope the BSC considers purchasing American Made Airborne items from Tom.

Kevin Greene: The new Packers Linebackers Coach is a Paratrooper! I am attempting to get an interview with Kevin for BAN. The BSC should consider making Kevin an Honorary Member of the Chapter!

Rick Whalen: I forgot to get your Jump School photo. Please bring it to the next meeting or send it to me. It just has to be in BAN!

Capt. Pete Keough: Our Nephew Peter Keough USMC has just returned home to wife Karen and new baby after his 4th trip to Iraq and Afghanistan. I just know he'll love being recognized by the Airborne! Pete flies Cobras for the Jarheads. As you can imagine, it's hard on his mom & dad and brothers. Pete has seven linebacker-type, wild and crazy brothers who would be perfect fits in the 82nd Airborne All Americans! Welcome home to a Great Marine, Great guy, Great family.

More stories coming up on Sharpshooter RVN Airborne Hero Bill Kunhke, Jr.; Doc Stolp and many others. Please write or call me if you have pictures, stories or just ideas for Airborne stories and we'll try to cover them. Contact info pg. 2.

God Bless the Airborne!—Tom Laney, Your Airborne Editor

Attention Market Garden Veterans!

Dear 82d Airborne Division Veteran of World War II,

I am a student at the U.S. Army War College, at Carlisle Barracks, PA, as well as an avid military historian.

I have studied Airborne history and traveled to World War II Airborne battlefields for more than 25 years. I wrote my first Master's thesis on Lieutenant General James M. Gavin. I am a lifetime member of the 82d Airborne Division Association. I have volunteered at the 82d's Veterans Day Activities as Arlington National Cemetery for the past nine years, and participated in the 60th Anniversary tour to Europe in 2004. Throughout all of these activities, I have loved talking with the World War II heroes, and am committed to capturing your stories.

To work towards this goal, as part of my War College work I am doing two projects on Operation MARKET GARDEN. First, I am writing my thesis on two key strategic decisions related to the battle: the decision to launch the battle after many others were cancelled in the Summer of 1944 and the decision to conduct the crossing of the Lower Waal River on 20 September 1944 during daylight. Second, I am trying to gather stories and interviews of 82d Airborne Division Veterans, with special focus on those who participated in the Lower Waal River crossing on 20 September. The immediate result will be papers written for Army War College class requirements. The longer term goal is to capture as many Veterans' stories as possible before they are lost forever, with papers, articles, and a book (as possible) to be written later.

Please consider adding your experience as an 82d Airborne Division Veteran to the historical record. Attached is a questionnaire that outlines the information requested for this survey. You can choose one of three methods for gathering this information – whatever is best for you: 1. You can fill out the survey yourself (either on line, handwritten on paper, or I can mail you a micro-cassette player so that you can record your comments); 2. As possible, I can interview you in person; 3. I can interview you telephonically. I request permission to do a telephonic follow-up to any method you choose, as required. The enclosed access agreement should be signed in order for me to accept your interview materials.

In an additional attempt to preserve your

story, I will facilitate the donation of any of your documents or materials to the Army History and Education Center (AHEC) at the Army War College. AHEC is the Army's official central repository for historical material. All items donated will have a permanent home and can be preserved and protected under carefully controlled conditions; they will be registered in the name of the individual veteran.

I am willing to pay any costs associated with the interviews, mailing, or copying materials, as required. My mailing address is: 820 Gobin Drive, Carlisle, PA 17013.

Thank you for your service and your consideration for participation. If you have any questions, please e-mail me at AB-NATW@gmail.com or call me at 703-344-4016.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Coble

Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army

Glider Symposium May 14 & 15

Les Schwarm and Syd Cohen will be taking part in this at Ft. Snelling in St. Paul. More info at:

Don Patton, 612-867-5144 (cell)
coldpatton@yahoo.com
www.mn-ww2roundtable.org

14 May - 7PM, Gerard Devlin, Author of Silent Wings speaking on the aspect of Combat in Gliders. It will be held at the Ft Snelling Visitors Center in the Twin Cities in Minnesota.

15 May - The Manufacturing and Restoration of Gliders will be the subject of a day-long Conference in the Main Ball Room of the Ft Snelling Officers Club beginning at 0900 hrs. Glider Restorations will be displayed in the Parking Lot of the Officers Club.

Tours of the Restorations of CG-4A and CG-15A Gliders will be conducted on Friday and Saturday Morning, at the Villaume Plant in Eagan MN.

Great work Doc!!

Hello Badgers:

Greetings from the U.S. Army War College.

A few days ago, Tom Laney forwarded Doc Stolp's book of interviews and stories of Badger World War II Veterans. As an avid World War II Airborne historian who is working to preserve the stories of this same group of heroes, I found Doc Stolp's work fascinating. Great stories that provided significant insights into some of the most important battles in 20th Century warfare. Without Doc Stolp's efforts, I am sure that many of these stories would have been lost forever.

To help ensure these stories are available for everyone - family, veterans, researchers - in the future, I will donate a copy to the Army History and Education Center (AHEC). It is co-located with the War College in Carlisle Barracks, PA. It is also the U.S. Army's premier archives.

Great work, Doc! Thanks for helping to preserve history!

LTC Elizabeth A. Coble

BNATW@gmail.com

BSC Elections

According to our by-laws all BSC Officer positions are for one year. The BSC holds its annual election of Officers at the Nov. Chapter meeting and has a swearing in ceremony at the same meeting so the Officers are ready to start their year January 1. The Officer positions are: Chairman, Vice chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and Sgt. At Arms.

The BSC also has three Trustees who serve a three-year term each, with one Trustee elected each year. The eight Officers and Trustees make up the Executive Committee of the BSC.

If you, or you know of someone, who would be willing to run for any one of the positions please contact one of the Trustees. (nominating committee). Their names and phone numbers are listed in Badger Airborne News pg. 2. It is important that we have strong, dedicated leadership for the BSC. -Tom Gaukel, Trustee

All American Week back on but reduced

From 82nd Abn. Div. PAO:

The 82nd Airborne Division's **All-American Week** will be May 18 through 21. All 82nd Airborne Division units remaining on Fort Bragg will participate; this includes the rear-detachments from the deployed units.

Due to the deployment schedules of the division headquarters and multiple brigades, **All-American Week 2009** will be reduced in scope. The **week** will include a division run, a division memorial ceremony and a division picnic with the 82nd Airborne Division Association and **all** available paratroopers.

This **week** emphasizes the contributions and achievements of

the division's paratroopers, enhances unit cohesion, and provides honors to fallen comrades.



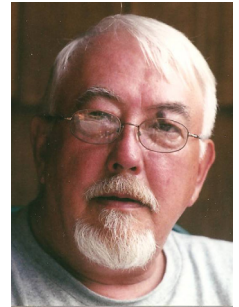
2000 Jumps Plus and 325 & All American Week Veteran Howard Rennhack presents Lt. Gen. Bill Caldwell with a BSC Challenge Coin after Mark Nagan's funeral. Bert Schmitz looks on as he says a prayer for me. (Laney photo).

Harvey Johnson joins BSC

Harv Johnson, a kid two years behind me in high school re-surfaced a few months ago as a heroic, combat-wounded RVN Vet and Paratrooper. And he joined the BSC as soon as I asked him.

It is an honor to have him although he won't be making too many meetings from Alaska where he now lives. He flew fixed wing and was shot down in the RVN Jan. 27, 1968. He was awarded four bronze Stars, 16 AM, PH, ARCOM; a total of 31 awards and decorations!

To the BSC Harvey says this: "It is an honor to be associated with such fine Airborne people, the elite!" I think he might be our longest distance member! - Tom L.



MEMBERS, CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL!

IF your BAN mailing label read C1-09:

YOU ARE PAID UP ONLY THROUGH 12-31-08.

YOU NEED TO SEND IN YOUR \$15.00, for 2009, SOON OR YOU WILL BE DROPPED FROM BSC MEMBERSHIP.

Deal of your life note:

TO BECOME A LIFE MEMBER, THE COST FOR A 50 YEAR OLD IS \$100.00, BUT THE CHAPTER WILL PAY \$50.00 IF YOU PAY \$50.00. THAT MEANS IT IS ONLY GOING TO COST YOU AN ADDITIONAL \$35.00 BESIDES THE \$15.00 YOU WOULD HAVE HAD TO PAY ANYWAY.

We need you! Re-Up BSC AIRBORNE now!

COP: A Forward BSC takes all of us!

“It takes all of us” said BSC Vice Chair Sean Beaudette as he led the way for Chapter organization through a very professional Command Operational Plan (COP) presentation on organizing at the last meeting.

Sean suggested we think about where we want to be as a Chapter, and How we are going to get there. We need to

- Develop Chapter goals
- Create there committees to develop plans for marketing, Fundraising & membership

- Create committee to organize events for summer 2009
- Develop committee oversight by BSC Chair.
- Develop goals and plans for 2010.

Sean then outlined an Outreach Plan that was very well received:

- Marketing—Website, Volunteer opportunities, Community events booths, commemorative events
- Fundraising— Website Store—Create/sell merchandise, meals, dinners, pancake breakfasts etc.; raffles,

- Membership—Web membership forms, Community events booths containing membership forms, Ft. McCoy PX carrying membership forms.

Summing up, Sean stressed the need to get the website up and running; observed that we are not organized well enough to “stand alone” yet and so we must share events with the VFW, Air Shows, Cranfest, etc.

Above all, the Sarge said, “This has to be a collective effort. We are all in this together!” This was one heck of a presentation!

MSGT Christina Steiner joins BSC as Media Liaison

The BSC is very fortunate to have two new, active duty NCOs, Vice Chair Sean Beaudette and Christina Steiner working for us.

Christina A. Steiner, Master Sergeant, U.S. Army Reserve Active Guard and Reserve Soldier (AGR) Stationed at Fort McCoy, WI is an Instructor in leadership studies (human relations and psychology).

She is also a course writer; Freelance writer for the Fort McCoy installation newspaper; also recently published in Citizen Warrior Magazine, the magazine for the Army Reserve; and does public relations for her battalion.

Christina’s past accomplishments include: co-authored two books about the Army Reserve experience following the 9-11 terrorist attacks in New York City and the Pentagon; published a series of 9-11-related articles and photography, some of which was included in an art gallery in downtown Manhattan and the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C; also at the U.S. Army Reserve Command in Atlanta and at the Office of the Chief, Army Reserve, in Washington; publishes the occasional feature article for civilian press; has worked in public relations activities for the Army for 20 years; she has been a newspaper re-

porter, copy editor; assistant editor for publishing house in Manhattan.

Education: BA in Mass Communications-Journalism, Wichita State University Minor in Spanish.



Sean L, Christina, R., inflicting some pain on Sean as unidentified leg reads directions.

Here is Christina Steiner's BSC job description:

Job title: BSC Airborne Public Relations and Airborne Media Liaison Representative

Job duties: Publicize the 82nd Airborne Association Division's activities to area newspapers and magazines when appropriate and viable through news releases and photography. Also,

liaison and coordinate media visits to activities. Assist with website and alumni newsletter when requested.

Welcome to the Badger State Chapter Master Sergeant Christina!

The Eagle’s Call

The eagle calls, time to march
 Its watchful eye scans the sky
 A symbol of freedom, through blood and pain
 A soldier’s guardian forever remains
 Day to day the eagle calls, another soldier to heaven’s halls
 We put our country before ourselves
 Within a soldier's heart the eagle dwells
 All give some, some gave all
 They selflessly answered the eagle’s call
 Throughout the lands let freedom ring
 Remember the fallen as the eagle screams.

- SGT Rous-Crosby, Noah
 Operation Iraqi Freedom April 2009 – April 2010. Written 26-27 March 2009,
 In memory of Great Grandpa (Ben) Rous, 101st Airborne “Screaming Eagles”, 82ND Airborne, 13th Airborne and missed member of the BSC.

(Norb cont. from pg. 1)

The Bulge was unimaginable!



Norb ready to jump off the roof!

Pick off a soldier a mile away!

Our platoon's two bazooka men foolishly fired their bazooka at an enemy sniper. The bazooka flash drew fire from an 88 and the two were literally pulverized.

During the first week or so of action I was too dumb to be fearful and took unwarranted chances by exposing myself to small arms fire and by not digging in for protection against artillery fire. After a few others were killed or wounded I became a

lot smarter, careful, and perhaps, more fearful of what can happen.

Norb had jumped into Market/Garden on Sept. 17, 1944 surviving the shelling, strafing and sniping of his 3rd platoon, D Co. 2/508 PIR Red Devils of the famed 82nd Airborne.

Three months after the Holland Jump, Norb and the 508th left for The Bulge. Norb managed to find the good even there! "It was a perfect Christmas Eve with starlight, some snowfall and, as an outdoors man, I had my outdoors to enjoy. I had my outdoors to enjoy but I wasn't at home enjoying my family, church, and the goodies that go with Christmas Eve. And I was dead tired, hungry and homesick.

"The Battle of The Bulge was unimaginable to describe. We not only had to fight the enemy but also the elements. The cold, the deep snow later on, lack of any shelter, enemy artillery, mines scattered in the snow, lack of warm food small arms fire. My friend, Vacca, was on patrol and got hit in the stomach with a German burp gun and died in the snow somewhere—I can't name a town or landmark in Belgium. The main objective wasn't to protect Democracy, it was to protect each other. "

To be continued in the July BAN. Combat Paratrooper Norb becomes Coach, Teacher and Community Servant Norb.

Rangers Recon

Listen to the guys on the ground!

By Baggy Pants Ranger Kipp Hartman (Our favorite Cop!)

I just attended a recent leadership class instructed by Kyle Lamb. Lamb (a Paratrooper) served with the 82nd, Special Forces and Delta. His career spanned from Mogadishu (Black Hawk Down) to Mosul Iraq (2007). Getting to hear him speak was an honor. To hear him speak about our current military was inspiring.

Lamb mentioned that today's U.S. Military is the best trained in our countries history. He mentioned that the only thing that hurts our soldiers today was poor leadership. I have seen and read many articles on both the current war in Iraq and Afghanistan on how we can win or lose the war. It always amazes me that we are supposed to listen to this persons opinion, who wrote the article in their

air conditioned office safe from any harm (maybe a paper cut), when our forces are in the heat and mud fighting a war.

Pete Blaber who wrote the book *The Mission, the Men, and Me* mentions that the best display of leadership was on D-Day. Paratroopers landed behind enemy lines, some without equipment, some without leadership, and many off course. Without worrying about strict orders on how to win their objectives, Paratroopers and Glider soldiers set to work. Objectives were met and enemy forces repelled.

Of all of the articles I have read about how to win the war in Iraq and Afghanistan it's the Paratrooper model I feel would be best. Once the soldiers are on the ground its their decision on how to win and we must support them for they are the ones in the heat and mud.

All The Way—Kipp



As the Marines say, "When in trouble look for the Double A!" 82nd S/Sgt Jeff Frawley. Menomonie, left the 82nd's mark on an Afghan mountain. (Photo compliments Ed Frawley)

Airborne Memorial Bridge
BSC Historian & Market Garden Paratrooper, Doc Stolp, says of our Airborne Memorial in Stevens Point. "Remember, it is the job of Paratroopers and Glider Riders to operate behind enemy lines, seizing and holding bridges for the Infantry, thus the Airborne Bridge Memorial," Doc says. You can place your name on this memorial to all our Airborne Brothers and Sisters for only \$100! Contact Tom Gaukel for more info.

Paraglide

If you have stories and pictures you would like to see in *The Paraglide*, the 82nd Airborne Division Assoc. National Newsletter please send them to me by June 10.

(Contact info pg. 2.) - Tom Laney



Great Airborne movie!

Badger State Chapter Meeting Minutes March 28, 2009 Marden Hall, King Vet- erans Home, King, WI.

The meeting was called to order at 2:15 PM by Chairman Mike Haller. Mike led the Pledge and Sean Beaudette led the Prayer. Fifteen members and ten guest were present. There was a quorum present. The meeting was dedicated to Big Ed Moerhke who passed away on Feb. 3rd, his wife had passed away on Jan. 15th. Chairman Mike asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting, approved.

SECRETARY'S REPORT, John Givens. John sent a get-well card to Manny de Jesus for his wife who was ill. A sympathy card was sent to Walter Pakulski for the death of his wife, Nancy. A thank you card response from Walt was received and passed around during the meeting. Also, a sympathy card was sent to Big Ed's son for the death of big Ed and his wife. John then mentioned a few things about info from the 82nd Assoc. March bulletin. The 2009 National Convention delegates should be chosen and the names sent in at least 90 days prior to the convention. Also, any chapter that would like to host the convention, must get their bids in by April 30, 2009. John then asked the chapter members if they would be interested in purchasing Airborne caps, with the BSC logo on them. No response, John asked that the membership give that some thought, we could possibly use this as a fundraiser. Challenge Coins. We have a total of 10 coins from the total of 200 originally purchased. At the last meeting, it was voted on to save 5 coins to give out to Chapter meeting places that did not charge us for meeting space. That leaves 5 coins to sell. See John during or after the meeting if you want to purchase a coin.

TREASURER'S REPORT, Reuben Clark. Reuben distributed the financial report. He also mentioned that the chapter yearly financial report was available for the chairman to sign so it could be sent in. Membership: 38 regular members, 128 life members, for a total of 166. Of those, 21 are delinquent by 1 year, and 1 is delinquent by 2 years. Reuben will contact them all via letter, and if no response they will be dropped from membership. John Givens mentioned adding a reminder in the next newsletter for the delinquents. Motion by Tom Gaukel, 2nd by Tom Laney to accept the report as presented, motion carried. **VICE-CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS,** Sean Beaudette. Sean presented a visual Command of Operational Planning suggested for the future of the BSC. This included a Mission Statement, Vision Statement, Outreach Plan, Website, and Marketing, Fundraising, and Membership Focus. His Summary included a Website to get up

and running. Anyone who has the knowledge to do that, or knows someone who could do it, contact Sean or any Board member. We need to participate in shared events with military-related organizations. Has to be a collective effort. Tom Gaukel suggested that Article 2, sections 1,2,3,4, from the present Bylaws be incorporated into the mission statement.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS, Mike Haller. Mike mentioned that his aim for the chapter is to get our message out there, promote the legacy of the Airborne. Mike also handed out literature on the Baraboo Dells Air Show to be held on June 26-28, 2009. We have an opportunity to partner with the sponsors for this show.

PROJECT COORDINATORS: Tom Gaukel reported that he will put the name tags on the Highway 10 Bridge Memorial after it warms up. There are 2 display Cases. One is presently on display at the River Arts Gallery in Sauk City. It will go out of there the first week of April and may be taken to the VFW in Sauk-Prairie if possible. Rick Whalen would like to display it in his area next and after that Tom Laney has arrangements for it to go to Menominee. Mike Haller offered to transport the display cases. The second case is being prepared to be placed in the cafeteria of Ripon College. This case pertains mostly to James Megellas. Tom L. is requesting more items be placed in the case. The school requested that the Thompson Machine Gun and the Bayonet not be in the display while it is in the cafeteria. Tom L. suggested that the gun be dropped. Agreed. It was suggested that when someone donates an item for display cases, that they receive a letter stating the date and the item which has been donated, so in case of a death, family members would be able to retrieve their family's item. Gerald Deimel reported that he attended a meeting in which Senator Russ Feingold was in attendance and discovered that now that there is a new Congress, Senate Bill S3232 is no longer valid. This is the bill that requested the Medal of Honor for James Megellas. We need to put pressure on our Congressmen/women to reintroduce and support this bill.

OLD BUSINESS: A Dinner for Wisconsin WWII Airborne Vets will be held at the VFW in Prairie du Sac. Tom Gaukel has been working on this project. The meal will be catered at a cost of \$13.50 per person, which includes tax and tip and starts at approx. 5:30 PM on July 11, 2009. The gathering will start at 4:30 PM. The WWII Vets and invited Guest's meal cost will be covered by the BSC.

NEW BUSINESS: Baraboo Air Show; The Air Show will be held on June 25,26, and 27th. A C-47 will be on display. We would be responsible for selling tickets for a ride in the C-47. If we partner for this show, we will need a tent. A discussion was held on the pros and cons of renting or buying a tent. Tom Gaukel made a motion, second by Gerald Deimel, that the Executive Committee gather cost info on this and bring it up at the

next meeting. Motion carried. Suggestions were made as to what should go into the tent. A raffle was suggested but there is not enough time to get the permit etc. Tom Laney mentioned that we are going to receive two panels that can be displayed in the tent. An Arms display will also be available. This will also be discussed at the next meeting. Paraglide Articles; Tom Gaukel has been writing the articles for the Paraglide. He is no longer interested in doing them. Anyone who would like to take over this project, get in touch with Tom. Gerald Deimel mentioned that all of the 82nd Airborne Flags have been sold. He requested that we purchase 10 more. Agreed. The BSC had two Large Flags with Bases that have been lost in transit somewhere. If anyone knows of there whereabouts contact Mike Haller.

MEMBERS COMMENTS; Tom Gaukel noticed that the framed Airborne Print that was given to the King Veterans Home was not on display. He will check on that. Tom G. also mentioned that he thinks the BSC meetings should start at 3:00 PM and end at 5:00 PM. Reuben Clark and Tom Gaukel are working on purchasing a new plaque that holds the names of deceased Troopers. The one that is presently used has only 6 spaces left on it after Ed Moerhrke's name is added. Tom Laney was instructed to prepare a 1/2 page ad for the National Convention Ad Book. Judith Durkee and her mother, Evelyn Perry, attended the meeting.. Judith's father was an 82nd Airborne Trooper who was KIA at the Battle of the Bulge on Jan. 30, 1945. She was only 3 years old at the time. She has spent considerable time trying to fill in the empty spaces of her fathers short life. Tom Laney made a motion that the BSC donate \$250.00 for a going away party for the 508 which will be going to Afghanistan. (This would be the funds that were going to be used to purchase the Thompson Sub Machine Gun). It was recommended that the amount be \$200.00, which would be consistent with the amount donated to the 505 party. After considerable discussion, motion by Tom Laney, seconded by Sean Beaudette, that the BSC donate \$200.00. Motion carried. Judith Durkee asked if it would be OK if she could make a private donation of \$250.00 to the 508 as an associate member in memory of her father. Everyone agreed that would be a very nice thing to do. Thank you Judith. Reuben Clark mentioned that the agreement to pay \$50.00 toward members who become life members had ended on Dec. 31, 2008. Motion by Tom Gaukel, second by Rick Whalen, to continue the program until the budgeted amount of money for this program is gone or reallocated. Motion passed. Motion to adjourn by Sean Beaudette, second by Bill Tobin, motion passed. Adjourned at 5:25 PM.

Secretary, John Givens and assisted by Liz Clark

(Thank You Liz)



AIRBORNE DISPLAY BIG HIT!

After being in the Sauk Prairie Fine Arts building for six weeks, we have moved the Airborne Tribute Case to the Sauk County Museum in Baraboo. It will remain there until October 30.

We have had many fine comments on the display which includes Class As worn by a Badger Paratrooper who was a member of the 82nd's Berlin Honor Guard and many Airborne pictures, jump boots, Parachute and Airborne Memorabilia.

Our goal is to promote the legacy of Wisconsin Airborne Veterans. If you have any authentic Airborne memorabilia that you would be willing to share for our displays, we would greatly appreciate it. Your name will be placed with any donation on display and any memorabilia you donate will be returned to you at your request. Donations could include: patches, uniforms, pictures, medals, materials, equipment, etc.

If you would like more information on our Museum project to promote the Wisconsin Airborne Legacy or to find out about membership, please contact" Tom Gaukel, 1721 Manassas Dr., Baraboo, WI 53913. Call: (608) 355-2382."



Membership Application

82nd Airborne Division Association

Paratroopers, Glider Riders from all Units, Divisions, Services—Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard — Welcome!



(Circle one) New Member Renewal Reinstatement Life Member

Date _____ Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Email _____

Phone _____ Rank _____ ASN _____ Or, SSN _____

Airborne Unit(s) _____

Dates of Airborne Service _____ to _____

Rank _____ Birthday _____

Occupation _____ Single _____ Married _____

Spouse's Name _____ Children's Names _____

Chapter preference _____ Preferred Beer(s) _____

(Provide DD214 proof of Jump/Glider qualification.)

Enclosed is \$15.00, my membership dues for one year. (Includes subscription to *Paraglide* magazine)

ASK- About our terrific Life Membership deal!

Make checks payable to: Badger State Chapter, 82nd Airborne Division Association, Inc.

Mail to: Reuben Clark, BSC Treas., 5318 Greenbriar Lane, Madison, WI 53714-3404

Badger Airborne News

82nd Airborne Division Assoc.

E6304 866th Ave.



Check your dues! Keep Badger Airborne News Dropping/Gliding in! RE-UP BSC today!

New Richmond VFW Welcomes home troops and Honors 82nd Veterans June 21 at Menomonie DAV

173rd Airborne Sky Soldier & 75th Ranger Dave Green and Air Force veteran and computer whiz Lee Shourds, VFW 10818, New Richmond, decided no veteran would come home again without a warm welcome if they had anything to say about it.

Dave and Lee have organized highly moving and patriotic Welcome Home ceremonies for the troops in NW Wisconsin. So moving are these events in fact, that they have begun to spread across the state and country. These guys are PATRIOTS of the first order!

82nd Chapters are beginning these ceremonies now and BSC members will have their own opportunity June 21 to see close-up what can be done when a couple of good-hearted vets set their minds to true troop appreciation.

That day, honors will be given to BSC members Judith Durkee and Bill Hannigan.

Judith Durkee attended our last BSC meeting and spoke eloquently about her father Glenn Ward who was KIA Jan. 30, 1945 while fighting at The Bulge. Glenn was from Rhinelander and a Paratrooper with the 508th PIR, 82nd Airborne. Judith was three at the time of her father's death. Much of her adult life has been devoted to finding information on her Dad, a story in itself which will be told June 21 and appear in the July BAN.

Bill Hannigan was a squad leader in one of the best platoon's in military history, led by Jim "Maggie" Megellas, the 82nd's most decorated officer. Bill started in N. Africa with the 82nd and went All The Way to Berlin with the All Americans. He was in the first wave of the Waal River crossing. He is alive by a miracle. He is more than a combat Paratrooper. Bill is one of the best men I've ever met.

I hope every BSC member will come to this event, trade some Jump and Glider stories, show our jackets and Chapter Colors for Glenn and Bill and for Judy Durkee who so inspired us all at our last meeting!

Lee Shourds and Les Schwarm will say a few words about Glenn, Judy and the 82nd. -Tom Laney

Welcome Home Menomonie

A Big Day for the 82nd Airborne!

1 PM Sunday June 21

DAV Chapter 26 Menomonie

4710 Cty Rd BB

(1 Mile North of I-94 on Hwy 25)

Menomonie, WI 54751

715-235-9085

www.vfwwelcomehome.com