

AIRBORNE



BADGER AIRBORNE NEWS

82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION • BADGER STATE CHAPTER

May 2010



The All Americans

LZLambeau

May 20-23

Wisconsin's Biggest Vietnam Vets Tribute!

Airborne BBQ

May 21 Green Bay

Airborne Wounded Warrior program. For the 82nd trip and for Wounded Warrior 82nd Contact Gerry Diemel, 715-758-8365; or, Frank Morris, 715-693-6161.

BSC Bus to 82nd Convention

Charleston, W. V.

August 18-21, 2010

Baraboo Air Show

Airborne Displays,

June 26, 27

Stevens Point

Flag Dedication,

Col. John Scocos Speaker,

BSC Meeting

July 24

Glider Symposium

Sept. 9-11 Headlined by

Maggie and Exec Sec.

Santiago Tijerina

Madison

Wisconsin's biggest Glider Rider & Pilot Tribute!

Hi-Minus Warrior, BSC Leader Gordy doing well!

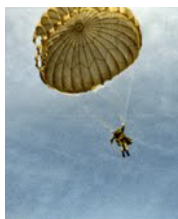
BSC Trustee Gordy Starck never had the luxury of keeping his head down during combat. The 4-combat-jumps, 505 Medic had to crawl out there in the bombs and bullets to save his Brothers. He saved a lot of them and done tough stuff all his life! Gordy was at the last BSC meeting as bright and cheerful as ever, never mind that he's battling cancer. On his mind at the meeting was crawling under the fence to sneak into the old Brewers ballpark as a kid; later, as a young man, standing in line for a day and a half to enlist; then training with the 551st for an invasion of an island off Panama occupied by the Germans.

"Lucky for them they surrendered to the Navy before we got there," Gordy said.



Airborne! Reuben Clark, Bob Shrader, Gerry Deimel, Doc Stolp, Mike Haller and Rick Whalen with our favorite Medic, Gordy Starck after the King meeting. (Laney photo)

Jump into Green Bay Airborne BBQ by Mark and Heidi Anderson!



Mark living the dream in Italy.

LZLambeau Special: BSC member Mark Anderson and his wife Heidi have invited all Wisco Airborne members to their home Friday, May 21, 5PM for a BBQ. I asked him for a picture and his background and he was good enough to send me this:

"Tom- Your request brought back a lot of memories. I entered the Army after high school in summer of 1979. After basic, AIT (I was a medic) and jump school I arrived to the 82nd in late Nov. '79 attached to the 1st Bn (Abn) 505th Inf. (3rd Bgd). While stationed with my unit we went everywhere. The 82nd being part of the Rapid Deployment Force we had to be ready for anything, anywhere, from 5 weeks of Arctic training at Ft. Wainwright, AK. to the deserts of Ft. Bliss, TX and Ft. Irwin, CA.

"I also had a luck of the draw in participating in southern NATO Forces exercise in Italy in the fall of '81. It was there that we were able to train with the Italian and Portuguese Airborne units. While training with these units we were also awarded their sets of Jump wings to wear.

"My most memorable experience had to do with

many of my high school assignments in history as they related to current events at the time. No one ever wanted to do reports on the middle east. Too much work, OPEC, Terrorists, Iran, etc. but I was always up to the challenge. I worked hard to understand the politics and the cultures of that region including the 1979 Camp David peace talks with Israel and Egypt. Three years after those reports in high school I was proud to represent My country and the 82nd as a member the first contingent of the Multi National Force and Observers. We served as the peace keeping force that gave Egypt the Sinai Desert back from Israel in the spring of '82.

"We always admired and respected our leaders in the 82nd, most of them being from the Vietnam era. Their experience helped us to become better soldiers. I have always been humbled by those who have served before me, setting the bar and standards that would make us better soldiers and better persons through life.

"Again my wife Heidi and I are glad and welcome anyone who would want to attend our Friday night get together at our house (1063 Shadow Ln.) If anyone would need ride to or from I'm sure we could accommodate that some how. We will have the full complementary bar open."

Airborne BSC Potluck. Bring a dish! . (Map pg. 3.)



Badger State Chapter

82nd Airborne Association

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Reuben Clark, Treasurer
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Badger Airborne News

Send in your AIRBORNE news and stories!

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Apache Smoke

By Tom Laney, Secretary/Editor



I hope everyone will try to make LZLambeau to honor our Vietnam Vets! We expect 100,000 people so please make your hotel reservations now! We will be handling beer sales Friday with the Chapter making 10%. Let me know if you want to volunteer. Thank you to Heidi and Mark Anderson, 505, for inviting us to their GB Airborne BBQ at their home May 21st!

Mike Haller, Bob Shrader and I met in Portage to go over the upcoming agenda(s). We agreed to ask members to join us as a BSC Planning Committee. Full report on that meeting for the next BSC meeting in Green Bay. Bob is ready to rock and roll with a gun raffle and Mike should have the new T-shirts with BSC logo (at left) before GB.

We will be moving to buy Airborne sweatshirts off the price list Mike presented at the last meeting. See Pg. 4 for two design examples. Feel free to suggest others.

We are getting way more news than we can fit in this newsletter. Good example being Les Schwarm's report on his trip to Belgium. The overflow is going to go to our website. If you don't have a computer, go to your local library and ask for help in locating our site. Most libraries are staffed by good-natured, brilliant Packer Fans who at some point in their life had wished they had gone Airborne. They will be happy to help you.

<http://sites.google.com/site/badgerairborne/>

Maj. Dan Walsh, 32nd Infantry will get us two tents for the Baraboo Air Show for our Airborne Display. Dan's Dad, now deceased, was a WWII 504 PIR hero, and holder of the DSC! Memorial Day he will be honored with a parade and new WWII Monument in Cross Plains. I will be there with my 82nd flag and hope someone will join me with the BSC flag.

Col. John Scocos has accepted our invitation to speak at the BSC Airborne Memorial July 24 Stevens Point.

82nd Association Exec. Sec. Santiago Tijerina will headline the Madison Glider Symposium Sept. 9-11 along with Jim "Maggie" Megellas, the 82nd's most decorated officer!

Big Airborne thanks to Bob Shrader for making the arrangements in Green Bay and for getting the gun raffle off the ground; and to Mike Haller for working hard to shorten up our meetings! Talk about "Let's Go!"!

All The Way to 325rs Lester Schwarm and Howard Rennhack for all they do for our Troops and the Airborne! - I wonder if they ever rest?!

AIRBORNE! -Tom

\$\$\$\$\$\$ Budget Alert! \$\$\$\$\$\$

There was a motion made to review the remaining money from the '05 convention. We have spent about 53% in five years. The members could make suggestions to me or President Mike Haller and we will pass them on to the executive committee. Perhaps we should start a budget with a new slate of items. Some ideas come to mind: Education Fund, Wounded Warriors, Airborne Care packages, purchasing more Challenge Coins and Airborne items for sale. We also should include money for the Memorial Bridge maintenance and beautification. We are not getting much annual interest from the endowment CDs Reuben Clark, BSC Treasurer

P.S. I did not mention the amount of money purposely! If members come to the meeting they will be informed.

Next BSC Meeting

May 22, 2010

AmericInn

2628 Manitowoc Rd.

Green Bay, WI 54311

\$89.90 + tax

Call ASAP

Mention 82nd Airborne

(920) 964-0177

Agenda

2PM Call to order, Pledge, Prayer, Reports

Old Business:

Purchase Caps and Sweatshirts

Re-stock Airborne Sale Items

Re-order Challenge Coins

Evelyn Ward Honorary Member

New Business:

New Airborne Display Case Placement

Host 82nd Assoc. Exec. Sec. Santiago Tijerina at Glider Symposium in Sept.

Honors for SAS Trooper Andrew Arvantis

Reimburse Bob Shrader for raffle expense

Establish BSC Planning Committee.

Re-visit Quartermaster idea

Adjourn: 3:00PM

BSC Dinner Follows

The Rite Place

1580 Bellevue Rd.

Green Bay

920-469-0055

Saturday May 22

3:30 drinks

5pm Dinner

Chicken and Beef Tips

\$16.50 (includes tax and tip)

Reuben cannot make this meeting. Please send your checks to:

BSC Vice Chair Bob Shrader

W586 State Rd.

Ripon, WI 54971

920-748-5200



Easy access from hotel to Lambeau—take 172 W. to S. Oneida and go N. to Lambeau Field. Turn R. on Lombardi then L. on Holmgren Way then 1 block, L. on Shadow Ln. to 1063 for 5PM, Friday night *AIRBORNE* Potluck BBQ at Heidi and Mark Anderson's.

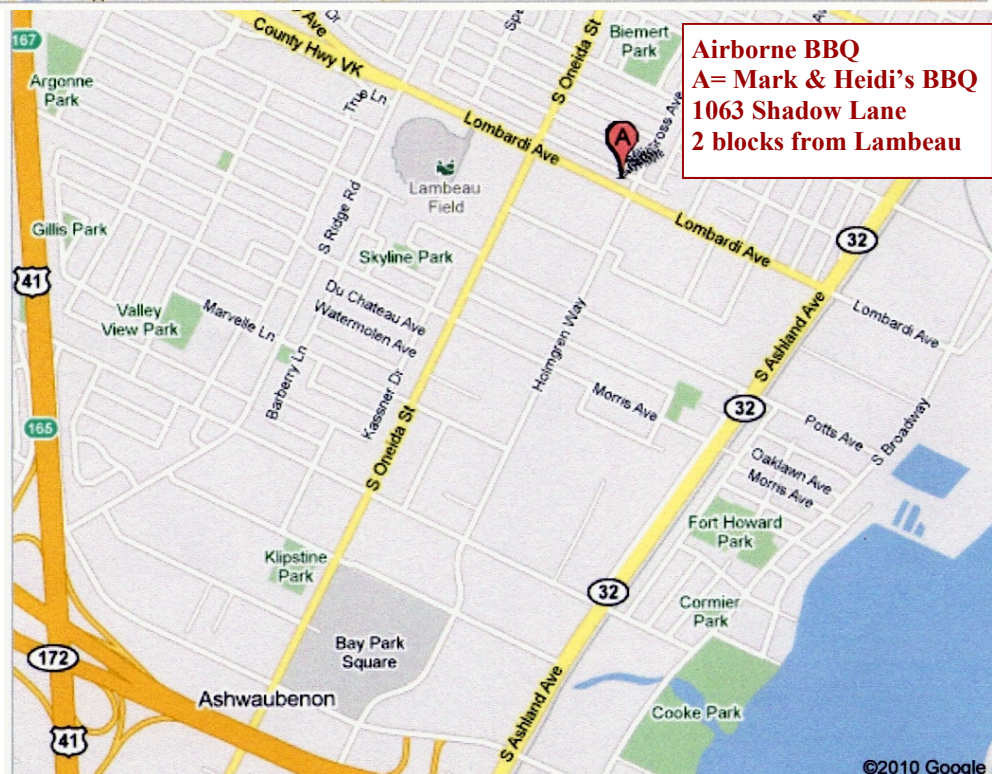
Airborne Memorial Bridge

You can place your name on this memorial to all our Airborne Brothers and Sisters for only \$100! Contact Mike Haller for more info. 608-355-

Look Airborne!

The BSC has jackets, t-shirts, sweat-shirts, ties, caps, flags, pins, patches, medals, cushions, cups, glasses, etc. for sale.

If we don't have it we can get it. Competitive prices and all proceeds go to benefit your Chapter.



Airborne BBQ
A= Mark & Heidi's BBQ
1063 Shadow Lane
2 blocks from Lambeau

Membership Meeting Minutes, Badger State Chapter, 82nd Airborne Division Assoc., King Veterans Home March 27, 2010

A quorum being present the BSC meeting was called to order by Chairman Haller at 3pm. Dedication of the meeting to Millar Edgerly, Manny DeJesus, Willis "Bud" Kohls, Donald Luedtke Sr., Markus Rupaner. Pledge & Prayer led by Reuben Clark.

Approval of Minutes from last meeting as printed in March 2010 BAN

Motion by Jim Morris, Second by Rick Whalen, Carried.

Sec. Report. Written report by Sec. Tom Laney addressed, Scocos support; Gift memberships; Badger Airborne Website; Email signup; Old Abe invitation to drinks and dinner and beer sales at LZLambeau; Maggie MOH; Glider Symposium; Re-stocking Airborne sale items. Reuben will give Tom a list of Airborne items we sold in the past to raise funds. Discussion on Scocos firing and support letter. Agreed to take up letter following meeting. Tom is working on a nomination with Margie Starck for the Wisconsin Veteran Lifetime Achievement Award for Gordy Starck and asked for members' input. Gerry Diemel volunteered for LZ beer sales. We now have Gerry, Bob Shrader, Tom and Barb Laney as BSC beer sales volunteers. Info was requested by Jim Morris and Gerry Diemel on LZ and Tom will send them the site.

Vice Chair Report. Bob Shrader reports he is working on the raffle. He has made all BSC meeting arrangements in American Inn, Green Bay for LZLambeau. Details in next BAN.

Treasurer's Report. Written financial report distributed. Reuben cashed in a CD to pay for the new flag pole at Stevens Point. There is \$8,273 remaining from the "Convention Budget". He suggests re-budgeting and will write a new budget proposal for the upcoming BAN soliciting input from BSC members. The BSC must start raising funds. The EB will discuss the Airborne Care Package Program with Bert Schmitz as to the connection with Fr. Foley, 82nd Chaplain and Care Package Priest.

Motion by Laney, Second by Clark for to publicize and seek members input to develop a Membership/EB proposal on re-budgeting to the May BSC meeting for discussion and approval. Carried.

Reuben sent \$35 bereavement gift to the Manny DeJesus family. Reuben will be unable to attend Green Bay May meeting. Dinner payment, normally received in advance by Reuben may be made at the hotel on meeting day.

Motion by Jim Morris, Second by Gerry Diemel to approve the Treas. Report. Carried.

Chair Report. Mike Haller objected to a member calling the National 82nd Assoc. office in regard to the Scocos support letter, without going through the Chairman or an-

other Officer. Laney explained that BSC Adjutant Steve Helms and Member Tom Gaukel, separately, had called the National 82nd Assoc. to clarify our Chapter rights to use the 82nd Airborne Division Association ID in a letter that is political. They found it was a violation of the Association's bylaws and the letter was re-drafted accordingly.

Mike went over the BSC meeting dates: May, Green Bay; July 24, Stevens Point All Airborne Flag Dedication; August 82nd Convention; Sept. 11, Glider Symposium; Nov. 13, King.

Mike asked for a motion for BSC participation in the Baraboo Air Show at \$150. Laney said he would make the motion if we agreed to raise enough funds at the show to cover the \$150. Agreed.

Motion by Laney, Second by Shrader to pay \$150 to the Baraboo Air Show for participation and Airborne Tent Display. Carried. Break.

Mike introduced a T-shirt, Sweat-shirt, bumper sticker purchase proposal for BSC fundraising from Tom Gaukel. The apparel will carry the BSC logo. The bumper stickers should incorporate the wings, BSC logo and the Glider Patch. Haller and Gaukel will handle the color details.

Motion by Jim Morris, Second by Laney to purchase six dozen T-shirts and 126 bumper stickers at the costs contained in the Gaukel proposal. Carried.

Gerry Diemel reported the flags Ed Moerhke had for the Stevens Point Airborne Memorial are lost. Gene Strutzenberg said we can buy flags from his VFW for \$25.

Motion by Lenny Shier, Second by Laney to authorize Diemel to buy an American Flag, State Flag and POW Flag for the SP Memorial. Carried. \

Haller presented Clark with a Member Memorial Plaque donated by Haller, Gaukel, Givens and Clark.

Bob Shrader presented a certificate of appreciation to Gordy Starck.

Mike Haller has a certificate of appreciation for Tom Gaukel who was absent.

Motion to adjourn by Laney, Second by Morris. Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm.

- Tom Laney, BSC Secretary

Letters:

Dear Fellow Members of the Badger State Chapter,

I would like to Thank all of you for the get-well card and the Certificate of Appreciation from the BSC. I really enjoyed being an officer for 8 of the last 9 years. It really was an honor to be a part of our officer group during that time. All of them were great to work with, especially Tom Gaukel who was the Chairman for 6 of those years and Reuben Clark, who was the Treasurer the whole time. The 82nd Airborne Division Assoc. National Convention that was set up by Chairman Tom Gaukel was a joy to be a part of. That helped out the BSC big time by raising money for the future of the chapter. A special Thank You to Tom Gaukel and to all of you who helped out at the convention. Perhaps sometime in the future I would consider running for an office again. But for now, we have a good group of officers and I can take some time off to just enjoy the meetings without the responsibility and work. All members should consider running for an officers job or just helping out anyway you can. It is good to get new people in occasionally with new ideas and lots of ambition. That helps keep the chapter going. Again, Thank You All.

John Givens

Past Vice-chairman and newsletter editor
Past Secretary

Thanks Tom!

Every time I read the newsletter, it makes me realize how much I miss the Airborne and the 82nd in particular. I started watching the Band of Brothers series again last night and it makes me appreciate the sacrifices everyone made during that war. I know it sounds corny but getting involved with the BSC, made me realize my service to this great nation wasn't over yet. I'll get you some pics soon.

Take care, talk to you soon!

2nd Lt. Bob Phillips
4th ID, Ft. Hood, Texas

Possible Sweatshirt Designs

U.S. PARATROOPERS



GLIDER RIDERS

GO AIRBORNE!



U. S. PARATROOPERS

Sam Sanfillippo, 325 GIR Medic, Fisherman and Good Citizen

Editor's note: BSC Member Sam Sanfillippo, 89, is probably the nicest guy I've ever talked to on the phone. For a couple of years, we've been trying to get together in Madison but Sam's health is not the best and so it has not worked out. But he always asks about the family and let's me know he's praying for me—not new for Sam.

Sam was a 325 Glider Rider and Medic. During WWII he prayed every day that God would help him save his Airborne Brothers. Prayers answered he saved many 82nd Airborne Troopers in the battles of N. Africa, Sicily, Italy, Normandy, Holland, Belgium and Berlin.

He met Gen. Jim Gavin at the Lord Mayor of Leicester's party for 500 American and British Soldiers and became friends with the General.

The jacket he's wearing in the picture at right is Badger Red. He wears the 82nd patch on the shoulder and a pair of huge Glider Wings on the left collarbone. Below those are his decorations and Bucky. Sam was a close friend of Gov. Warren Knowles and fished with him often. Sam wore this jacket when accepting the Fishing Hall of Fame's Legendary Angler of 1999 Award. A steady contestant in the Governor's Fishing Opener, Sam also won the Largest Bass Award in 1999 and is pictured with Gov. Tommy Thompson.

Here's a terrific story on what this great Airborne Trooper and Citizen did for kids:

MADISON, Wis., Jan 31 (Reuters Life!) - A stuffed squirrel clutching a fishing rod. A dead badger hefting a football for a winning pass. Other ex-rodents enjoying a carousel ride.

Welcome to the world of Sam Sanfillippo, a funeral director who has amassed a large collection of stuffed animals in unconventional scenarios to cheer up guests mourning their loved ones -- and created a mini-tourism attraction.

"This is to show kids when they come for a funeral and they cry," said Sanfillippo, 86, the semi-retired director of the Cress Funeral Home in Wisconsin's capital city, Madison.

In one room here stuffed squirrels drink and carouse in a warmly-lit saloon, while over at "The Woodland Fair," families of dead animals enjoy fair rides and three squirrels dance on stage in grass skirts in the "Topless Girlie Show."

Alongside the numerous display cases and 1,200 fish on the walls, which includes everything from a hammerhead shark to marlins, are trophies showing Sanfillippo's prowess as a fisherman. "I caught all the fish myself," said Sanfillippo, a war veteran, who is unique as his collection.

On the hang pictures of Sanfillippo on fishing trips with celebrities like former



astronauts Deke Slayton, Vance Brand and Tom Stafford and politicians Gerald Ford and Ronald Reagan.

Sanfillippo served as a medic in World War Two, receiving five Purple Hearts, a Silver Star and a Bronze Star. A veteran of campaigns in North Africa, Sicily, Italy, and France, he says he was briefly declared dead in 1944 when a large shell exploded above his unit.

"The shell supposedly killed five of us," he said. "Afterward they figured that the vibrations of the lorry they put us in started my heart because I sat up. The driver thought the dead were coming back to life and he was so scared he ran away."

Since the late 1940s Sanfillippo has worked in the funeral business in Madison and built up his collection of stuffed animals.

Although he caught the fish himself, the squirrels and chipmunks have all been killed by cars, with the exception of the albino squirrels, on display playing basketball or driving miniature cars. Friends in Marionville, Missouri, who raise them sent those to him.

"The first time they came I was amazed to find a box of eight frozen squirrels at the door," sent via United Parcel Service Inc., Sanfillippo said.

Buses of tourists come to see his collection on a regular basis. Andrew Johnson, one of the Cress Funeral Home's directors, said the home is happy to accommodate guests if they call ahead and no funerals are under way.

"It's certainly an interesting collection," he added, "but it is most definitely Sam's."

We thank Sam Sanfillippo for Badger America.

It is our honor to know him!

RANGERS RECON

By Kipp Hartman, Ranger/504PIR

Rangers Lead the Way!

2010 is going to bring big changes to the way Paratroopers arrive to the field of battle. The new T-11 Parachute is now being used at The US Army Airborne School at Ft. Benning GA.

The new T-11 parachute is designed to hold up to 400 pounds compared to its predecessor the T-10 at only 300 pounds. The ability to carry more weight equals a softer landing for Paratroopers reducing injuries. Today's paratroopers are carrying more equipment to the field of battle and are exceeding the capabilities of the T-10 parachute. The T-11 has more of a square shape than the familiar circular shape of the T-10 parachute. Its being said that the deployment of the parachute is smoother and oscillation is minimized.

Currently Students at the US Army Airborne School are required to jump both the T-10 and T-11 parachutes. The T-11 parachute is currently being used by the Ranger Regiment and the US Army Airborne School.

The 82nd Airborne Division is currently fielding the T-11 parachute and the rest US Army plans to field the T-11 parachute by 2014.

After more than 50 years of service, the T-10 parachute that most of us jumped with, will be replaced by the new T-11.

All The Way!

- Kipp

Les Schwarm makes Bulge Anniversary!



By Lester Schwarm
(Editor's note: More pictures of Les's tour and the complete report will be up soon on our Website.)

On Sunday afternoon 13 Dec. 2009 Ray Fary of Munster, IN. called me and asked if I would go back to Belgium for the 65th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge. My Daughter, Tamara Halbesleben, said she would go with me.

There were four of us, Ray Fary and his wife, Irene, Tamara Halbesleben and myself.

9 January 2010 - We arrived in Amsterdam, Holland Fred Hoek of Zuid, Holland met the four of us at the Airport. He drove us down to Trois Pont over 300 miles. As we walked into Castle Wanne at Trois Pont there were over fifty people waiting to greet us. They had a banquet for us welcoming us there. Francine Noyon, who I met years ago, was there also. After the Banquet, Ray and I had the honor of placing a wreath at the Monument of the 80th A.A. of the 82nd Abn. Div. and then driven to a private home for pie and wine. Later we were taken to the Hotel Val de La Cascade at Coe, Belgium where we stayed the next five nights. Three of these nights were paid for by the Town of Vielsalm. All transportation was provided by the Belgium Families.

Sunday 10 January 2010 - Welcome given by the Mayor of Stoumont at the townhouse. Ray and Les were given Plaques with Irene and Tami receiving a bouquet of roses. We then went to a Ceremony at the Monument of the 30th Division with the Patriotics Association and school Children. We were treated to meat balls at Stoumont with many people attending. Visited the Stoumont 44 Exposition, "Stoumont in the Depth of War" at the museum. We then were driven to Stavelot, Belgium for reception by the Mayor. Ray and Les were given certificates for the 65th Anniversary and a commemorative coin. We were treated to pie and wine after the ceremony.

Monday 11 January 2010 - At the Poteau Museum in the town of Veilsalm a toast was given by the Mayor. Ray and Les were given an Honorary Citizen Plaque, a 2010 calendar and a book named "Province de Luxembourg". Had LaMyrtille d' Amelie beer (awesome berry beer), a shot of berry liquor, cheese and crackers. Lunch was at L'eau de Melisse. At Enmal Museum Ray and Les received a Certificate of Authenticity and a 65th Anniversary Coin by Ed Lopotsky, U. S. Army. Then we stopped at Mike's Baker Shop owned by an American named Mike for drinks and visiting. This is a must to stop and talk with Mike. Tami brought Kinder eggs which is a chocolate eggs with a toy inside.

Tuesday 12 January 2010 - Attended Mass



Front, Monique Beauvoir, Ray Fary, Ed Lapotsky, Les and daughter Tami behind him, at the Normandy Museum.

at the Henri Chapelle Cemetery in memory for the fallen Veterans of the Ardennes. It was ice cold in the Chapel. Ray and Les were acknowledged as WWII Veterans. The Superintendent of Henri Chapelle, Alvin Nagel is originally from Marshfield, WI.

A reception was held at the Provincial Palace in respect for all the Veterans of the 82nd Abn. Div. and the 30th Div. at Liege Province with being welcomed by Mister Michel Foret, Governor of the Liege with the presence of the Mayors and Personalities of the towns of Vielsalm, Stavelot, Stoumont, Werbomont and the Military Authority. Mayor of Vielsalm, Elie Deblire gave us each a set of six crystal coasters and a book "Province Of Luxembourg". Governor Foret then showed us different parts of the Palace. We had lunch at Ay-waille Restaurant paid for by Joe Schwan of the 505th PIR of WWII and the C-47 Club. We attended another wreath laying ceremony next to the home of Ghislain and Marie Laporte who had us for drinks and supper afterwards.

Wednesday 13 January 2010 - Visited the Mardasson Monument at Bastogne, Belgium. The Monument is in the shape of a giant Star supported on pillars over 50' in the air. Each point of the Star points to a Battle Ground of the four Regiments of the 101st Abn. Div. In the 506th PIR there were five or six Paratroopers who joined the Paratroopers after we got over seas from the 326th GIR. with Ben Rous being one of them. We then visited the Bangnez Memorial. This is where the Germans killed over ninety American Prisoners of War in outright murder. The wall of the Bangnez Memorial has all the names listed that were killed.

Thursday 14 January 2010 - Fred Hoek came all the way from Northern Holland to drive us from Coe, Belgium to the Hotel De

Molenhoek at Molenhoek, Van der Valk with stopping at Frits Janssen's home to look at his collection of the 82nd Abn. Div. W.W. II. That evening at the Hotel we met with Herman Wijnhoven, Marco, Jeanne Melchers, Father Turing over drinks and discussed Market Garden.

Friday 15 January 2010 - Herman Wijnhoven pick us at 10:30 and took us to his home to see his amazing personal museum. This is dedicated to the 82nd Abn. Div. located on the third floor of his home. We also visited with his wife and son. Ray and I were asked to tell a story we had from Market-Garden and were videoed. Frits Janssen picked us up at the Hotel to visit Memorials in Nijmegen, The Bridge, General Gavin Memorial, the Waal River water crossing where three BSC members fought - Lt. Jim Megellas, Bill Hannigan and Simon Renner.

Saturday 16 January 2010 - Picked up by Jeanne Melchers and we were given a personal tour of the Airborne Museum at Oosterbeek, Holland. She told many stories involving her family and experiences during the battles. In the afternoon we met with Father Turing and drove out to the Kiekberg Forest. This is where the 325th GIR 2nd Bn. had a great battle. Father Turing explained this battle to Tam and kept saying, this is where Lester was involved. He knows the history of the 82nd Abn. Div. Market-Garden very well.

Sunday 17 January 2010 - Fred Hoek came again to pick us up at our Hotel at 6:00 AM to drive us to the airport at Amsterdam. He again had a wheel chair for me and stayed with us until we went through the check-out. Flying from Amsterdam to Minneapolis-St Paul and visiting with my Grandson, Matt and then onto home.

Badger Airborne News
82nd Airborne Division Assoc.
E6304 866th Ave.
Colfax, WI 54730



Sam Sanfillippo, 325 GIR, 82nd Airborne Hero (Story Page 6)

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

Mr. Airborne, Howard Rennhack honors Screaming Eagle Don Olson

There are not many Paratroopers who pass unnoticed by Howard Rennhack's Airborne Recon eyes.

A few months ago Howard met Don Olson at a café in Merrillan and discovered Don was a WWII 502nd PIR Warrior with the 101st Airborne. Then he noted Don's Wings were missing the Combat Jump Stars Don earned by jumping into Normandy and Holland. So on April 6, Tom Laney and Howard fixed that at the Vets Memorial in Black River Falls as Howard pinned Silver Combat Wings with the two Bronze Stars on a man we are honored to know, Silver Star Winner, Donald R. Olson. We were joined by BSC Member Floyd Pratt, Sr., 17th Airborne, who is also missing his combat Jump Star for Operation Varsity. We're going to fix that too, very soon.

Laney presented a Certificate of Airborne thanks to Don: *In appreciation to Paratrooper Donald R. Olson, 502 PIR, 101st Airborne Division, Black River Falls, Wisconsin, for jumping into Normandy and Holland; and for so heroically saving so many of our Airborne Brothers during the Battle of the Bulge. Thank you from your Wisconsin 82nd Airborne Brothers for fighting the Nazis so we can continue to shoot off our big mouths without Storm Troopers tramping to our doors. God bless you Donald! All The Way Sir!*

The story ran on the front page of the *Jackson County Chronicle*! More will be in the *All Wisco Airborne Reporter* soon.



Howard Rennhack pins Combat Wings on Screaming Eagle Don Olson with BSC Member, 17th Airborne Varsity Vet Floyd Pratt, Sr. (Laney photo.)