



Badger All Airborne News

Badger All Airborne Chapter . 82nd Airborne Division Association

February 2016

The All Americans



Welcome aboard Bret!

World's Greatest Challenge Coins



Get Some! Designed by 505's Bert Schmitz & envied by all; our coins are restocked. Call Gil.



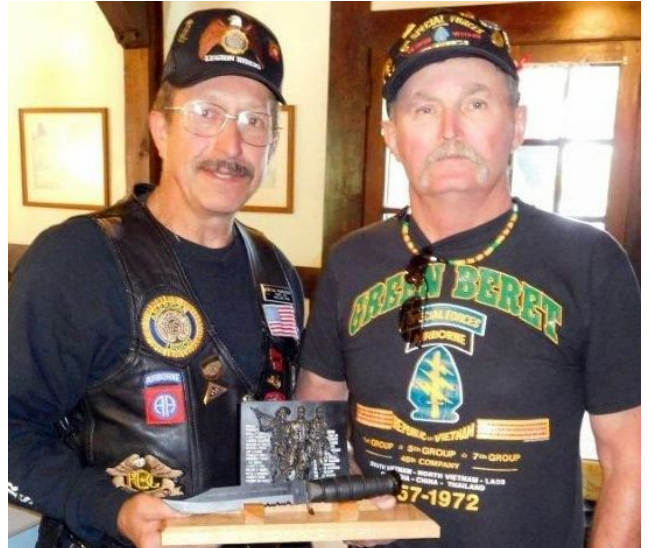
Ed Wormhoudt, 1st S. Service dies..Pg 8.

Green Beret Skip Sparks Tribute

82nd Airborne Vet Doug Rasmussen, Phillips, is one of Wisconsin's busiest Paratroopers. Not only does he pay his dues to the Badgers All Airborne Chapter, he seems to be everywhere at all times for the vets in the Tundra.

Here, Doug is honoring another busy Vet, Skip Sparks, Abbottsford, with Doug's "Gung Ho Award". It couldn't have gone to a better man. Skip is a longtime volunteer at The Highground and King.

Skip was a Special Forces SOG. More on these guys later.



Badgers jump into Marshfield Museum!



3d ID's Charlie Nelson; "Lest We Forget" Museum's Curators Shirley Mook and Mike Freirer and Badgers own Bob Shrader. Thanks to Shirley and Mike, Charlie, Bob and I were able to deliver the Badgers Airborne Display for the final time. (We all have bad backs.) Thanks to Gil Holcomb, Bret VanBlaircom and Tom Gaukel who started our displays. Shirley and Mike's welcomed Gil and Bret to make it our Badger home base! See reports from Bret and Gil inside. Shirley and Mike have a deep interest in the Airborne—Paratroopers, Glider Riders and Air Assault. See inside for the outstanding work they have done for all our troops and Airborne history. (Laney pic)



Badger All Airborne Chapter

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and pictures!

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Congrats to
Highground Volunteer
of 2015 Dave Kemp!!



Badger Sgt at Arms
Dave Kemp, 82nd/173rd
Vietnam with WWII 327
Vet, Frank Warzecha.

Chairman's Report

Great Team !!

I can honestly say thank you to each of you for your input, candor, and openness in our meeting. The missions and challenges that our Chapter will face in the upcoming months, and the hard discussions that are necessary to face these challenges, we were able to rise above and focus on the mission, and drive on, which is what I would expect from some of America's finest, so I wasn't surprised, but I am grateful, you make me all very humbled and proud to be a part of this group, let alone, in position as Chairman.

With that in mind, I have great news to report !!

I have some large steps of success to report since our Exec meeting. (See Gil's Minutes pg. 3):

1) We now have a home for our historical items and a place to permanently hang our berets as a permanent meeting site at the Marshfield Library, so there isn't a need to cart our gear, flags, and historical items everywhere when we go to meet. A very kind lady named Shirley who runs the place, loves us and welcomes us with open arms.

2) I have made contact with a gentleman named Nick Pulera who is the Southern Chapter Chairman and we talked for a half hour on the phone last night, and are collectively working towards their involvement/participation/and assistance in welcoming the 82d Airborne Division National Convention, bringing this awesome event to WISCONSIN in 2018. I will keep you posted as we get closer to this.

3) We have an opportunity to present our plan to the Highground Executive Board at their meeting in May and they gave Dave Kemp and I an idea to possibly greet and meet their chairman prior, who lives in Chippewa Falls. I plan to talk with him ahead of time to discuss concept/size and appearance of our plan



Bret presenting Badger Challenge Coin to Floyd Pratt, 513th PIR, 17th ABN, WWII. (Laney pic)

for monument, to ensure that we are successful in our proposal at the time of presentation to the board in May.

4) I have reached out to Robert Saxton, he is ready to help in a new position that I am creating that involves special projects and logistics. I spoke with him for a while on the phone and we do have a need for assistance, especially the with the "Boots on the Ground" event at the Highground where we are going to be allowed to set up a booth for a recruiting event for new members, WELCOME Bob !!

5) Finally, I would like to take time to personally thank our new newsletter editor, Tom Laney, for considering and accepting the position. Tom's talent, along with his vast knowledge of History and contacts, he will be an asset to the team.

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR HARD WORK and willingness to take this group FORWARD to welcoming new members, building a foundation of working efficiency and tactfully gaining talent as we refine the infrastructure and streamline our systems and planning methods for future success !!

God Bless and AIRBORNE ALL THE WAY !!

Bret VanBlaircom, Chairman
Badger All Airborne Chapter
82nd Airborne Division Assoc.

Badger All Airborne Chapter EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING JANUARY 30, 2016, NEILLSVILLE AMERICAN LEGION POST 73

DEDICATED TO SGT. DAVID MARINE of Mondovi, Wisconsin

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: _1100_____

OPENING PRAYER: ASSIGNED TO: _____JIM YENCHESKY_____

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: ASSIGNED TO: ___GIL HOLCOMB_____

ATTENDANCE: FRANK MORRIS; JIM YENCHESKY; GIL HOLCOMB; DAVE KEMP; BRET VANBLAIRCOM

SECRETARY'S REPORT: MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING: MADE BY: JIM YENCHESKY _SECOND BY: FRANK MORRIS RESULT: PASSED_____

TREASURER'S REPORT: : MOTION TO APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORT MADE BY: BRET VANBLAIRCOM _SECOND BY: DAVE KEMP_ RESULT: PASSED_____

COMMITTEE REPORTS: CHAIRMAN'S COMMITTEE FOR WALT PAKULSKI MEMORIAL CEREMONY; CHAIRED BY BRET VANBLAIRCOM.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS: CHAIRMAN CALLED UPON MEMBERS TO PUT IN PLACE AN AIR OF FORGIVENESS AND WORK TOWARDS EXPANDING MEMBERSHIP AND MEMBERSHIP PARTICIPATION.

VICE-CHAIRMAN'S REPORT-UPCOMING MEETINGS, LOCATIONS: NEXT EXECUTIVE/GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 12TH, BUNKERS, WAUSAU, WI AT 1400HRS.

OLD BUSINESS:

BY-LAW CHANGES: REVIEW AS IT RELATES TO NON-PROFIT STATUS AND SHARE WITH NEW CHAIRMAN PRIOR TO SUBMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP FOR APPROVAL. MOTION TABLED.

BADGER CHAPTER CO-SPONSOR OF WALT PAKULSKI MEMORIAL AT STEVENS POINT. DISCUSSION RESULTED IN AN ASSIGNMENT TO CONTACT THE PLOVER VFW POST TO DETERMINE WHAT IF ANYTHING THEY ARE WILLING TO ADD TO THEIR CURRENT SUPPORT. ALSO TO DISCUSS WHAT ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES CAN BE ADDED TO INVOLVE THE COMMUNITY MORE. INVESTIGATION ALSO LOOKS FOR MORE LOCAL SUPPORT FROM CHAPTER MEMBERS.

NEW BUSINESS:

RAFFLE FOR 2016 IS BEING MANAGED BY MARGE MORRIS AGAIN THIS YEAR. SHE WILL HAVE THE TICKETS PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTE THEM TO MEMBERS.

NEW EDITOR WILL BE RECRUITED FOR THE NEWSLETTER. CHAIRMAN WILL MAKE CONTACTS TO RECRUIT TOM LANEY.

APPROVAL OF 82D PLAQUE FOR 82D TROOPERS FOR HIGH GROUND-COORD INSTAL WITH EVENT CONCEPT APPROVED DEPENDENT ON THE COST AND ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE HIGH GROUND. DAVE KEMP WILL DO SOME CHECKING ON COST FOR THE PLAQUE, PROCESS FOR PLACING THE PLAQUE ON SITE; SUGGESTION WAS MADE TO SOLICIT DONATIONS FROM THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP TO COVER THE COST TO PRODUCE AND TO INSTALL AT THE HIGH GROUND. FINAL DECISION WILL BE ADDRESSED ONCE DETAILS HAVE SOLIDIFIED.

THE ANNUAL REPORTS TO NATIONAL WAS APPROVED. GIL WILL SUBMIT TO NATIONAL PER NATIONAL BY-LAWS.

THE ORDER FOR 200 ADDITIONAL COINS WAS COMPLETED AND WE ARE AWAITING DELIVERY. MARSHFIELD MILITARY MUSEUM AT THE MARSHFIELD LIBRARY WILL BE INVESTIGATED AS THE CENTRAL STATIC MEETING SITE FOR THE CHAPTER; IT WILL ALSO BE LOOKED AT AS THE



Gil with 3rd Army Veteran of The Bulge, Clarence Marshall. Gil is arranging a large Badger All Airborne presence at this Memorial which was originated by Badgers Lester Schwarm. (Laney pic)

CHAPTER HOME FOR HISTORICAL ARTIFACTS FOR STORAGE AND POTENTIAL DISPLAY.

GIL HOLCOMB WILL COORDINATE WITH LOCAL RESOURCES FOR THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE CEREMONY-WAUSAU, SCHEDULED FOR 12-12-2015.

FRANK MORRIS WILL COORDINATE THE ANNUAL GOLF OUTING AND ST POINT CEREMONY.

DELEGATES FOR NATIONAL CONVENTION WILL BE BRET VANBLAIRCOM AND GIL HOLCOMB, FRANK MORRIS WILL BE THE ALTERNATE.

CHAPTER WILL PAY THE REGISTRATION FEES.

GIL WILL COMPLETE THE HU HOT PROMOTION APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THEIR CORPORATE NONPROFIT CHARITY DONATIONS.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

WE WILL BE LOOKING FOR ADDITIONAL WAYS TO RAISE ADDITIONAL FUNDS, I.E., INDOOR PISTOL COMPETITION; FUN JUMPS; FT MCCOY RETIREE DAYS, ETC., FOR THE PURPOSE OF INCREASING MEMBER PARTICIPATION.

GIL WILL COORDINATE A SPECIAL DEDICATION OF THE DISPLAY AT THE MARSHFIELD MILITARY MUSEUM-DONATED A COPY OF DOC'S BOOK FOR DISPLAY AND THE OTHER ITEMS DONATED BY THE FAMILIES.

PICTURES OF THE DISPLAY WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE NEWSLETTER. GIL WILL PURSUE OBTAINING SPECIFIC DONATIONS AS WELL AS POTENTIAL GRANTS THAT WOULD ALLOW US TO REPUBLISH DOC'S BOOK AND CONTINUE THE PROJECT, DETERMINE COSTS TO REPUBLISH THE BOOK. GIL WILL ALSO PUT TOGETHER A TRI-FOLD BROCHURE THAT INCLUDES A RECEIPT THAT CAN BE RETAINED BY THE DONOR TO ALLOW THEM TO UTILIZE FOR A TAX DEDUCTION. THE BROCHURE WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NO LATER THAN THE MARCH MEETING OR BEFORE.

GIL WILL REPRODUCE A CHAPTER CARD TO BE USED FOR SYMPATHY, RECOGNITION, ETC. BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

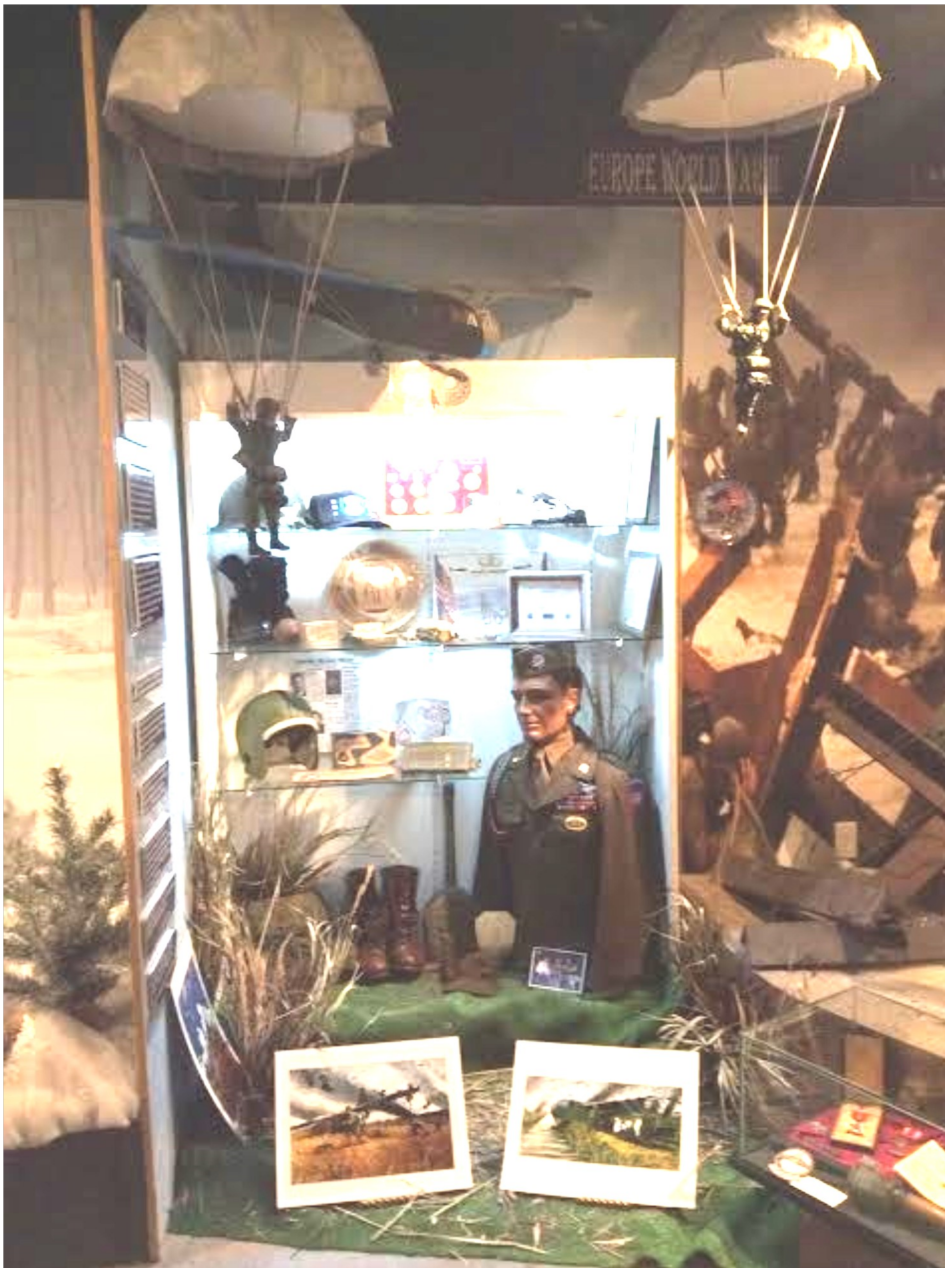
WHEN DATES HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED FOR THE "MAGGIE" POST OFFICE DEDICATION, CHAPTER WILL TRY TO ATTEND.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: AT 1330; MADE BY: BRET VANBLAIRCOM _SECOND BY: J.YENCHESKY_ RESULT: PASSED.

ATTACHMENTS: FINANCIAL REPORT; TASK ASSIGNMENTS.

Submitted by BAAC Sec/Treas Gil Holcomb

BAA Chapter wins new Airborne Home!



This is the display at the Marshfield Military Museum. Shirley Mook and Mike Freierer have done a fantastic job putting the display together. She is such a lively person. I met with Shirley and she has agreed to make the Museum "home" for Badger Chapter artifacts and historical documentation.

She is also reserving their meeting room for us to use for our general membership meetings and executive committee meetings. This will be our central "static" meeting place, although we will have other meetings in a variety of places, i.e., King, Chippewa Falls, Bunkers (Wausau), etc., for special circumstances. I'm going to suggest to the Executive Committee that we make Shirley an Honorary Member of the Badger Chapter in honor of her support. Please include these in the newsletter. — Gil Holcomb, Sec/Treas.

“Lest We Forget”



Marshfield Museum honors Iraq/Afghan Troops. (Laney pics)



Detail in the Vietnam exhibits is exquisite. It is carried throughout the displays. Shirley and Mike have made us all proud here!

Nominations for Honorary Membership!

Pursuant to our By-Laws, The Executive Committee of the Badger All Airborne Chapter will make the following recommendations for Honorary Members at our next meeting. Here are excerpts from their biographies showing why their interest and support of the Airborne, and value as Airborne Resource folks. I have their very extensive bios, too long to publish here. I will provide them by email upon request and Gil and Bret will have them available at the March 2 meeting. —Tom (tlaney1776@gmail.com)

Sara Witter Connor

We could write a book on all that Sara Witter Connor has done for Wisconsin's Airborne. From the Army War College to our Walt All Airborne Memorial, Sara has been there for us. (I have 8+ pages of Sara's Bio so this is a very short summary.)

In this picture, Sara speaks at the Marshfield Library on her "Wisconsin's Flying Trees" book. The slide shows the 325's Lester Schwarm at The Bulge Memorial he worked so hard to place. The book gives great credit to Badgers Les, Walter Pakulski and even the 101st.

Sara commissioned 4'x8' Glider Rider panels telling the story of the WWII Glider Regiments of the 101st and 82nd Airborne. The panels, which also detail Wisconsin's role in producing WACO Gliders, ships and planes are well done. The Badger Chapter has been able to use them at several of our Badger Airborne events, Air Shows and the WWII Vets dinner.

A close friend of Col. Don Patton, Director of the Twin Cities Military History Symposium, Sara was a contributor/organizer for Don's National Glider Symposium in the TC. A couple of years later we talked her into organizing the 2nd National Glider Symposium at UW-Madison. That was an outstanding event drawing 82nd and 101st Glider Riders and Pilots from across the USA. Maggie gave a stirring talk there, connecting our WWII heroes to the Airborne Lads fighting in Iraq/Afghanistan, in the eternal Airborne Brotherhood. Sara brought in Lt. Guy Lofaro, retired 325 and Ranger School commander and author of "The Sword of St. Michael", an expert on Gliders and the WWII All Americans.

It was the best Airborne Conference I've ever attended.

Shirley Mook & Mike Freirer

From Shirley: The third museum display that had been planned was the military since World War II veterans were disappearing rapidly. I started my adventure by reading three books on the Bataan Death March. They were personal accounts. I got my initiation into war and the atrocities that ensued. From there, I started reading books from each of the wars to get, again, the personal stories.

I had to go out and raise funds. It was during the economic downturn so businesses did not give as much as anticipated but we made do. We took a trip to the Veteran's Museum which was very helpful. Our first carpenter was one of our members and he and another member started building walls. Another professional carpenter and his crew donated time to build one of the long walls.

The ideas for the dioramas came from reading the accounts and pictures. I wanted them to be as realistic (with our limited funds) as



possible. I was able to get manikins from a clothing chain that went out of business. Some we made ourselves. The heads I got from a beauty supply and we cut hair and beards and made their faces look like they were on the battlefield.

I reached out to the American Legion. One of my donors was a Legion member and suggested that Mike could paint a jungle mural for us. He did and that began our journey. He was still working as the manager at the Legion and so started helping "bits and pieces."

Mike told me that when he retired as manager at the Legion, he would help us as much as we needed him. Three and a half years after we opened the Lest We Forget Exhibit, I felt that we had not devoted enough to World War II in Europe so we made some major changes and devoted an entire room to that. D-Day was a must and Mike started the construction of that diorama. Our Police Chief, who was a friend, did the construction for Battle of the Bulge. His father was there. **The paratroopers and glider display was added, also.**

My attendance at the WW II glider symposium was an awesome experience. Sara told me about the event earlier and encouraged me to attend. I talked at length with Jim Megellas on one of the breaks. There were others also, including Les Schwarm. Their stories were gripping. I had previously done a lot of reading relative to the 101st and 82nd. The connection with Marshfield and the gliders had been a major factor, also.

When we were given the notice we had to move from the Thomas House, it was Mike and another council member who convinced the librarian to give us the space we have. As we probably told you the move was awful but we made it work especially going into a much smaller space. Mike was particularly valuable in that respect. We worked together at least four days a week. I express my deep appreciation for Mike and his skills. Anything I want, he does and his advice is great. We work well as a team.

A summary or Mike's bio is as follows:

Air Force veteran from Vietnam War – stationed in Thailand. 3-4 years as a journeyman printer with the Marshfield News Herald; 20 years designing monuments for Marshfield Monuments Manager of American Legion Post 54 (retired about 4 years ago).

You can see that Sara, Shirley and Mike would be outstanding additions to the Badger Chapter! - Tom Laney



They were Airborne before we got there! Shirley and Mike with their original Airborne Display. (Laney pic)



VETERAN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Update/New Card Request/Chapter Transfer

Membership applications can also be completed and processed online via PAYPAL (for a fee) at the Association website: www.82ndairborneassociation.org for Veteran, 82nd Active Duty, and Military (not currently assigned/attached to the 82nd, complete a veteran application); click on the Membership link.



PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

NAME (No Nicknames) _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

STREET _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ 9-DIGIT Zip _____ ASN /SSN _____ (MINIMUM LAST 4)

MARITAL STATUS _____ SPOUSE'S NAME _____ NUMBER CHILDREN _____

OCCUPATION _____ HOME #: (____) _____ CELL #: (____) _____

EMAIL _____ Chapter Preference: _____

___ NEW MEMBER (MUST include proof of Airborne qualifications or service with the 82d Airborne Division)

___ Annual Membership (20___) \$25.00 or ___ \$26.00 (+\$1 to Ed Fund) or ___ \$26.00 (+\$1 Wounded Warrior Fund)
(Chapters keep \$8.00 and send \$17.00 to National)

___ REINSTATE ___ TRANSFER ___ NEW CARD (\$2) ___ NEW CERTIFICATE (\$5) ___ UPDATE (No Fee)

___ LIFE ALL AMERICAN MEMBERSHIP (\$250 for 49 years and younger-Chapter keeps \$50 and sends \$200 to National)
(\$175 for 50 years and older-Chapter keeps \$25 and sends \$150 to National))

CURRENT VETERAN / MILITARY STATUS (Check status below and complete the rank and date entries)

Time in service from MO/YR _____ to MO/YR _____

___ ACTIVE DUTY/RESERVE OR NATIONAL GUARD – Rank _____

___ RETIRED MILITARY/MILITARY VETERAN – Rank _____

List AIRBORNE Unit(s) & Combat Tour (Please be complete. Most recent first.)

Please use the back of this page if you need more room.

UNIT #1 _____ from MO/YR _____ to MO/YR _____

Combat Tour/Location: _____ from MO/YR _____ to MO/YR _____

UNIT #2 _____ from MO/YR _____ to MO/YR _____

Combat Tour/Location: _____ from MO/YR _____ to MO/YR _____

UNIT #3 _____ from MO/YR _____ to MO/YR _____

Combat Tour/Location: _____ from MO/YR _____ to MO/YR _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

The Paraglide magazine is available on-line via the Association website: www.82ndairborneassociation.org.

Mail to: 82nd Airborne Division Association, PO BOX 87482, Fayetteville, NC 28304-7482

(910) 223-1182.

Greetings Fellow Troopers !!

I am sitting here, in Northwestern Wisconsin watching a light snow dancing out my window, my mind drifts to how it must have been for those soldiers, our great warriors of WWII, like Floyd Pratt, Jim Megellas, Doc Stolp, and countless others, dealing with winter, on the battlefield in places like Belgium, Germany, and France. As beautiful as it may be outside, a walk in the woods, I often wonder if that joy and sense of nature was in the environment that they served, and if there ever any peaceful reflections of home, like the beautiful representation of a winter in Wisconsin. Or, in fact those who were spared the ultimate sacrifice found peace in coming home to a winter wonderland, such as the northern woods and the soft silent snow, and the sound of the wind over a barren but beautiful landscape of forests, frozen lakes and rolling hills and found it to be a form of healing.

Coming home, for me, is quite possibly a soldier's dream of perfection and centering with one's self.

We have the privilege to be in a position to answer the call for just that, to welcome a soldier home, or help them make some sense of what they have been through, to let them know that no matter what they come home to upon their return, we will be there for them. We are their link, their fraternal connection to a legacy of brotherhood that is coming up to a centennial level in August of 2017. That is right, our beloved Division turns 100 years old! On August 5, 1917, the 82d Division was constituted and by the 25th of the same month, organized in Camp Gordon, Georgia, and the rest my comrades, as they say, is history. Soldiers from all of the 48 states, formed this new Division, and

US MILITARY DEATHS SINCE 1999: 5,273



VETERAN SUICIDES SINCE 1999: 128,480

deemed us the name, "All Americans".

The challenge is, knowing when we have a trooper come home? How can we as a fraternal organization reach out and collect our brothers and sisters, so no one is left behind?

We had a recent death of a trooper, SGT Donald Marine, in the Mondovi, WI area. He toured multiple deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan, and as an organization, had no idea that this 33-year-old Paratrooper was even home. To reach out to these young men and women and offer them our comradeship, our open arms and welcome them home is the upmost priority. The trending climate in our society towards veterans is that of Viet Nam era, as opposed to the ticker tape parades in NYC after the surrender of Germany and Japan in the mid 1940's. We need to change the direction of history. We have the ability through our passion, professionalism, and leadership. We can change the tide of belief, in self, and in country.

No greater volunteer is one who volunteers once for service to country and the second to be AIRBORNE. We, who have made this sacrifice and volunteered, need to remember, where we have been, and to remind, help, empower, lift up our brothers and sisters in arms let them know they are NOT ALONE, and that they have a HOME, right here in the Badger All Airborne Chapter, of the 82d Airborne Division, here in Wisconsin. No one is to be left behind, our Troopers, State and Nation need us, and it is time to rise to the call. I challenge each member of this great organization, to reach out and find one new member this year, and help us in welcoming them HOME.

May God Bless You All and I hope to see you at our meeting!

All The Way!

Bret VanBlaircom, Chair Badger All Airborne Chapter



[Sgt. Donald Marine](#)

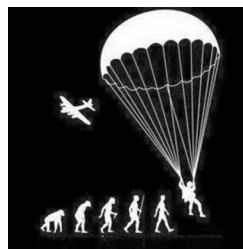
Badger All Airborne Chapter Meeting

March 12, 2015

BUNKERS

(Formerly Wausau Legion)

1001 Golf Club Road



Colors Posted 2PM. See Gil's report pg 3 for agenda.

<https://www.zomato.com/wausau-wi/bunkers-bar-grill-wausau#> Excellent food, drink and comradery!

(ctrl/click for link to Bunkers and Map.)

BADGER ALL AIRBORNE NEWS

Badger All Airborne Chapter News
82nd Airborne Division Association
E6304 866th Ave.
Colfax, WI 54730



Bill Opichka sampling our All Airborne Chili at The Highground Chili Cook Off. We didn't win. Again. But we had one hell of a great time! Again! (Laney pic)

Strutz Honored!



In tribute to VE Day, Paratrooper Col. John Scocos with Chief Clerk Jeff Renk, USMC/82nd Vet; honored WWII 504's Gene Strutzenberg, and wife Donna, Brodhead, at Madison's Military Museum. Inset is Gene's Silver Star plate. Gene went thru all of WWII with the 82nd and got the Silver Star at the Siegfried Line. Gene and Donna are faithful members of the Badger Chapter. (Laney pic.)

Paratrooper Edward W. Wormhoudt, age 91 of Durand, died October 30, 2015 at Sacred Heart Hospital in Eau Claire with his family by his side. Edward was born October 5, 1924 in Iowa. He was the son of Andrew and Rachel (Weston) Wormhoudt. He graduated from high school and joined the U.S. Army and served overseas in North Africa, Italy and Austria during WWII and was Honorably Discharged. Edward then went to Lawrence Tech and attained his Engineering Degree. He married Elaine Avis Horton and they bought house in Detroit. Edward worked for an architectural firm for 12 years before taking a job at Ford Motor Company. Edward worked for Ford until retiring in 1991. After retiring Edward and Elaine moved to Pensacola, Florida. Elaine passed away in June of 2010. In 2012, Edward moved to be with his son and granddaughter in Durand, where he remained the rest of his life. **Edward fought for his country as part of the FSSF (First Special Service Force), the Black Devils and served in Anzio, Italy. He was a decorated veteran and received the Purple Heart and Bronze Star. February 2015 Edward traveled to Washington D.C. to receive the Congressional Gold Medal for being a member of the first Special Forces.** Edward enjoyed golfing, fishing and bowling. Edward is survived by his son; Lynn Wormhoudt, granddaughter; Lisa Wormhoudt, both of Durand, grandson; John Wormhoudt of Milwaukee, 1 great grandson; Gavin Wormhoudt, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. He is preceded in death by his parents, wife; Elaine and daughter-in-law; Donna Wormhoudt.

Internment with Military Honors will be held at a later date at the Barrancas National Cemetery in Pensacola, FL.