



NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2017

WISCONSIN BADGER STATE ALL-AIRBORNE CHAPTER

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Chapter meetings are open to all members, are held at the “Lest We Forget” military display site in Marshfield, unless posted for alternative location, and start at 1300 and usually end NLT 1500. If possible we try to do lunch before at a local café or meet after the meeting at a local bistro to help pay for Linney’s new trucks. If you’re interested in getting involved in the administrative aspects of the Chapter, we have several positions open, plus we can just use your input and votes. It helps us to keep things in perspective by getting to know our members, face to face. We need your participation.

Secretary’s Report: We’ve had a couple of meetings since the last newsletter so I’ll try to bring everyone up to date on happenings.

We conducted a general membership/excom meeting at King Veterans Home on November 12, 2016. Highlights: (1) Raffle Drawing-1st: Daniel Jezierski; 2nd: Regina Potter; 3rd: Liz Baller; (2) By Law Changes still pending at National; (3) Ok’d setting up a web site through Holmestead’s; Battle of the Bulge ceremony in Wausau coming up; (4) Decided we would not put our name in the hat for hosting the national convention in 2018; (5) Election results: Chairman-Bret VanBlaircom; Vice Chairman-no candidate; Secretary/Treasurer-Gilbert Holcomb; Sgt-at-Arms-David Kemps; Trustee Candidates were Jim Morris and Jim Yenchesky, decided to hold off till we can get a third candidate; (6) approved donation to American Legion Riders, \$300, towards the purchase of wreaths for the King military cemetery.

Our last meeting was on January 28, 2017 at the Lest We Forget military display in Marshfield (our official headquarters for the Badger State Chapter). Highlights: (1) Extended the policy of the Chapter paying the initial membership fee of new members through December 31, 2017; (2) Final Treasurers Report to be filed with National was approved; (3) the 2017 Events/Meetings Schedule was approved and will be filed with National; (4) By Law changes are on the agenda for the AAW; work is proceeding on the web site; (5) Donations to the 82nd WW Foundation Fund (\$1000) and the 505th WW Fund (\$500) was approved; (6) Delegates for AAW and National Convention selected, Frank Morris and Bret

VanBlaircom; (7) Still looking for a third Trustee, a Vice Chairman, Newsletter Editor, and a coordinator for the Stevens Point Bridge ceremony; (8) Frank and Marge will coordinate the raffle again this year; Frank Morris will also coordinate the annual golf outing.

We have a lot going on and any help from the membership would be appreciated. We will be trying to have some meetings during other events, e.g., Iola Antique Military Show, American Legion Camp, etc., so if you can help out let us know.

Treasurer’s Report: We ended 2016 on a positive note: \$3,837.67 in the black. This allows us to proceed with our annual fund raising events: (1) Raffle (drawing for winners will be in November 2017 for the veteran’s day meeting at King Veterans Home and (2) Golf Outing which will probably be in June at the Tribute Golf Course in Wausau. The 82nd is still deploying troopers to hot spots, Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria and whatever else pop’s up so we should feel good about helping out the WWFoundation Fund for the last two years.

Membership Report: We currently have 173 members; 29 annual memberships; 11 honorary members; 136 life members. We have birthdates ranging from 1919 to the 1970’s. Six members made their last jump in 2016. We picked up 5 new members and two transfers. All our members need to be recruiters so we can maintain a healthy chapter. More coming about that later.

WE ARE DILIGENTLY WORKING WITH NATIONAL TO BRING THEIR’S AND OUR MEMBER ROSTER INTO SYNC. WE ARE CLOSE BUT IT’S STILL A WORK IN PROGRESS.

If you want to get involved with any of the events let Gil Holcomb know so he can get you connected to the right parties. **JUST A NOTE ABOUT THE GOLF OUTING: THIS IS OUR MAJOR FUND RAISER FOR THE YEAR AND ALLOWS US TO SUPPORT VETERANS IN NEED. THIS IS NOT A WAUSAU WISCONSIN EVENT, IT IS STATEWIDE BOTH FOR PARTICIPANTS AND SPONSORS. YOU WILL BE RECEIVING MORE DETAILS ABOUT THE EVENT. YOU CAN MAKE THIS A VERY SUCCESSFUL FUND RAISER BY HELPING TO RECRUIT SPONSORS AND PLAYERS AND/OR SOLICITING ITEMS, E.G., GOLF BALLS, GOLF ACCESSORIES, COMPANY LOGO ITEMS, GIFT CERTS FOR LOCAL BUSINESS SERVICES, ETC., FOR AUCTION OR FOR HOLE EVENT WINNERS, YOU WILL GET A COPY OF THE BROCHURE IN YOUR RAFFLE ENVELOPE!!!**

Events: Mark your calendar for these important dates:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>POC</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
28 JAN	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, CHAPTER HQ	VANBLAIRCOM	MARSHFIELD
25 FEB	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, CHAPTER HQ	VANBLAIRCOM	MARSHFIELD
18 MAR	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, CHAPTER HQ	VANBLAIRCOM	MARSHFIELD
20 MAY	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, LEGION POST 54	VANBLAIRCOM	MARSHFIELD
20 MAY	2017 ARMED FORCES DAY, FORT MCCOY, WI	HOLCOMB	FORT MCCOY
22-25 MAY	ALL AMERICAN WEEK, FORT BRAGG, NC	VANBLAIRCOM	FORT BRAGG

6 JUN	ANNUAL GOLF OUTING, TRIBUTE GOLF COURSE	MORRIS, HOLCOMB	WAUSAU
17 JUL	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, CHAPTER HQ	VANBLAIRCOM	MARSHFIELD
9-13 AUG	ASSOCIATION CONVENTION, ORLANDO, FL	VANBLAIRCOM	ORLANDO
12-13 AUG	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, IOLA MILITARY SHOW	YENCHESKY	IOLA
26 AUG	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, MEMORIAL BRIDGE CEREMONY, ST POINT, WI	VANBLAIRCOM	STEVENS POINT
SEP	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, CAMP AM LEGION	VANBLAIRCOM	CAMP AM LEGION
21 OCT	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, CHAPTER HQ	VANBLAIRCOM	MARSHFIELD
11 NOV	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, RAFFLE DRAWING, ELECTIONS, WI VETERANS HOME, KING, WI	VANBLAIRCOM	KING
2 DEC	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, CHAPTER HQ	VANBLAIRCOM	MARSHFIELD
16 DEC	BATTLE OF THE BULGE MEMORIAL CEREMONY	VANBLAIRCOM	WAUSAU

COME JOIN US IN IOLA, WISCONSIN- AUGUST 12, 2017:

Heads up Troopers, we are planning a get together this summer are Iola, home of the famous Iola Car Show. Mark your calendars and make your plans now.

August 12th the Antique Military Equipment show and re-enactment event are held concurrently with a huge gun and knife show and old tractor show. Plans are to get as many 82nd ABN Association members together at this event as we can. A short informal meeting will be held sometime during the day. More specific details on this will come out in future newsletters.

In the afternoon about 1300hrs is a re-enactment of a Vietnam battle. Later in the afternoon is a re-enactment of a WWII battle. They are both very well done and the participants do a fantastic job. Throughout the entire day there is a gun show going on, military item flea market and, you can tour the camp site areas of the opposing forces.

We also be setting up a booth to try to recruit new members throughout the day, volunteers to help with this will be appreciated.

Nearest hotels are located in Waupaca, 20 minutes away.

A Place of Mind, Body and Spirit - All The Way. Jim Yenchesky

“On the shores of Big Carr Lake, in the heart of *The Northwoods*, there is a haven with a **Mission** to provide rest, relaxation, recuperation and rehabilitation to Wisconsin veterans of all ages, active duty military service members and their families. Camp American Legion serves those who have a physical or psychological medical condition, any and all types of service and non-service related illnesses, injuries or disabilities. A few 'physical' examples are blindness/vision loss, deafness/hearing loss, fatal/incurable disease, loss of

limb/amputees, paralysis/spinal cord injury, permanent disfigurement, severe burns, traumatic brain injury, cancer, stroke, ALS and Parkinson's disease. To help with 'psychological' conditions, Camp American Legion assists those with Post Traumatic Stress (PTS), Traumatic Blast Injuries (TBI), Combat Operational Stress (COS), Dementia and Bipolar conditions along with many other related emotional and cultural issues to get them back on the road to health." (Access www.campamericanlegion.org to learn more.)

This is where we are going to have a meeting on **Sept. 9th**. Mark your calendars and join us in the beautiful Northwoods. We will only be a minor event for the day. The main event will be your opportunity to learn, in person, what Camp American Legion has to offer eligible veterans. We will tour the cabins, lunch in the main hall, receive a brief by the manager, and if weather permits, a pontoon boat ride on Lake Tomahawk. A new hiking trail is available meandering through the forest, so get there early and take a hike before the rest of the day's events.

More info will be coming on times and places to stay for those that will need to spend the night.

Mark your calendar and make your plans now. It is a great experience to learn what is available so you can share with veterans that may need a week of piece.

LAST JUMP IN 2016:

Jerome Morrow, 2/22/2016

Clifford McGinnis, 3/13/2016

James Miller, 5/20/2016

Roy Traynor, 9/12/2016

You are invited to attend our first Awards and Recognition Dinner to be held on May 20, 2017, at the American Legion Post 54 in Marshfield, WI, from 1730 to 2230(?). We sincerely hope you will come to help recognize those individuals that have gone beyond normal to support our chapter and to help induct the new member for 2016 and 2017. The invitation is included below, complete it as an RSVP and return with a check to Gil Holcomb, 4912 Elm St., Weston, WI 54476.

You will be seeing more about this in future issues, Facebook and email.

BADGER STATE (ALL AIRBORNE) CHAPTER

2017 RECOGNITION AND

AWARDS DINNER

MAY 20, 2017

LESSELYONG-SADOWSKA-KESLER-MARTIN-ALTMANN

AMERICAN LEGION POST 54, MARSHFIELD, WISCONSIN

1730-2230

Come help us recognize our Honorary Members, our new members, and those individuals that have demonstrated an extraordinary allegiance to and support of Chapter activities. There will be a chance to socialize from 1730-1830 with ceremonies starting promptly at 1830. Then the Chairman will have a few comments, with presentation of awards at 1845 hours. There will be a cash bar. Dinner will be served at 1900 hours and will consist of:

CHICKEN AND ROAST BEEF

Including Mashed Potatoes; Gravy; Coleslaw; Vegetable; Coffee, Milk, Rolls and Butter and Ice Cream for Dessert

COST: \$15.00 PER DINNER (includes tax & tip)

RSVP: RETURN TO: Gil Holcomb, 4912 Elm St., Weston, WI 54476

NAME: _____ GUEST NAME: _____

NUMBER OF TICKETS: _____

TOTAL PAYMENT INCLUDED: \$_____ (MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO BADGER STATE CHAPTER, 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOC)