



Badger All Airborne News

Badger All Airborne Chapter . 82nd Airborne Division Association

July 2016

The All Americans



World's Greatest Challenge Coins!



The Badger Challenge Coins, designed by the 505's Mr. Hard-Boiled Paratrooper, Bert Schmitz, are the finest in America. We sold them out thanks to all of you!! The re-orders are in and enhanced. They are better than ever. NEVER be caught buying the drinks! Order yours from Gil now!



Maggie speaking to 150+ paratroopers, patriots and Packer fans at the naming of his Post Office June 14. This was a big day for the 82nd!

Fondie Post Office now Maggie's!



Stephen Connaher congratulates Maggie on his Post Office. Stephen's Dad, Justin Connaher took this picture. Justin is a member of the Badger Chapter and works as an award-winning reporter/photographer at Fort Richardson, AK. [See all of Justin's photos.](#)

Feds, 82nd, Badgers go all out for The All American Icon!

Remarks by Bret VanBlaircom, Chair:

As Chairman of the Badger State All Airborne Chapter of the 82d Airborne Division Association, to say that I get to speak on behalf of the 170 members of our organization here in Wisconsin, is an honor, would

be an understatement. Look around you, each one of you, to your left and to your right, we all are among great individuals and none greater than the man we are honoring here in Fond Du Lac., LTC James "Maggie" Magellas.

Our Chapter, here in Wisconsin is the home to paratroopers from across the state, and across the country as well as overseas.

(cont. pg. 4)

**Next Badger Chapter meeting:
Jump into Marshfield Library 211 E 2nd St.
2 pm July 23**

We would like to invite all members to this meeting as we will be traveling the High Ground Veterans Memorial Park in Neillsville Wisconsin after the meeting to attend the dedication to the Desert Storm Veterans at 1730hrs.



Badger All Airborne Chapter

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Photographers, Writers—
Volunteer now to make this paper the
finest in our Association!



Greetings to my fellow Paratroopers!

Well now that the long awaited summer is upon us, I would like to report that we have started the season off kicking butt and taking names in Airborne fashion. This was totally made possible by the great efforts made by many players and volunteers of our chapter, organizing, planning, and executing the tasks before them, and all I can say is ALL THE WAY !!

Our golf tournament was a huge success, we were able to develop great relationships with our donors, and participants, as well as raise over \$4700 to put towards our fund so we can continue to do the great work of taking care of paratroopers and their families. Our thanks go to Frank Morris, and Gil Holcomb and the rest of the team for getting this put together and executed, contributing to the success of the mission. Events like this, not only raise funds but build comradery and continue the Esprit De Corps of our chapter and we are proud of the event and outcome. The continued efforts of Frank Morris and his wife Marge to assemble, organize and carry on this legacy of fellowship is a direct result of it's outstanding success. Great Job Team !

The other wonderful event that we were able to participate in recently was on June 14th, where we were able to attend and assist in the honoring of James "Maggie" Megellas one of our favorite heroes of WW2 as the U.S. Post Office in Fond Du Lac, Wi was renamed in his honor. What an event. The US Army Golden Knights Parachute Team performed as well as the All American Chorus and a color guard from the 504th PIR. In attendance were dignitaries, as well as state and civic leaders, as well as a fellow Wisconsinite, from Milwaukee, Brigadier General Brian Winski, the Deputy Commander of the 82d Airborne Division, who spoke on behalf of the division of Maggie's courage and his blazing the way for all paratroopers to follow. The American Legion in Fond Du Lac, led by Ed Barnes, Commander, hosted a great show, where the Golden Knights jumped into the lawn adjacent to the post where the celebration continued, and guest speakers continued to talk, and



Bret salutes Maggie for leading the way, always from the front, for today's paratroopers. Laney pic.

Col Megellas was able to speak from the heart of how it felt to come home and be honored in such a way. At 99 years old, still sharp as a tack, he opened up to the group and as he was speaking you could have heard a pin drop. I, too was honored to speak on behalf of the Chapter, and with that being said, it was an event of my life that will be a cherished memory for the rest of my life. I am truly honored to be a part and represent this great organization, the Airborne Troops and the 82d Airborne Division.

Our next meeting is at the Marshfield Library, July 23rd 2016 at 2 pm. We would like to invite all members to this meeting as we will be traveling the High Ground Veterans Memorial Park in Neillsville Wisconsin after the meeting to attend the dedication to the Desert Storm Veterans at 1730hrs. I hope that you attend as a show of support and a presence of the Airborne Community at this event. Help us represent and support these veterans. We will welcome all with open arms.

With all that said, our mission still remains clear, to support the Airborne Soldiers of our beloved division and their families, mentor and give guidance and assistance when necessary, and above all recruit, building a stronger America through these actions. God Bless each and every one of you, and thanks for making this job the greatest volunteer job I have ever had.—Bret



Badger Chapter Sec/Treas Gil Holcomb presents 82nd BG Winski with our Badger Chapter challenge Coin at the Maggie Post Office. Gil also asked General Winski to have Maggie's book stocked at the 82nd Museum & Gift Shop.

Photo by Just Catherine.

Badger All Airborne Chapter Report:

GOLF OUTING



When I arrived at the Tribute Golf Course on June 4th, I wasn't sure we were going to be able to go forward with the outing. We persevered and continued to set up the registration and lay out the silent auction items and get the sponsor cards out to the holes. The weather cleared, the teams teed off on time and guess what, right after the last group came in it started to rain again. Didn't last but didn't impact the outing at all. We experienced another successful year, grossing \$4,700. The following companies and individuals sponsored a hole and/or a team: River Valley Bank; Aluminum

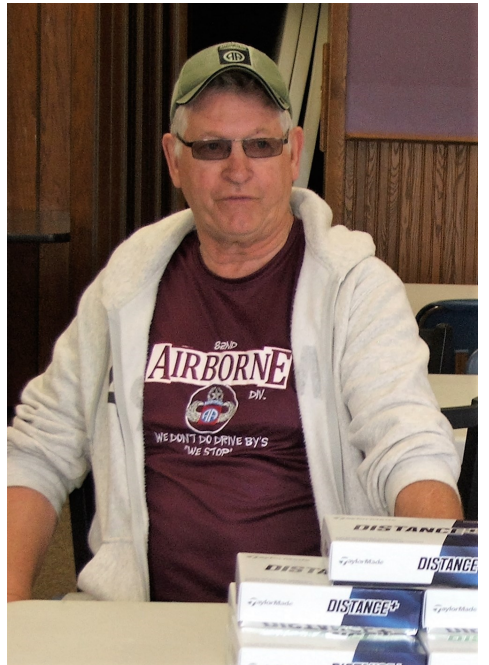
Fabricated Products, Window Accessory Co., Inc.; Bob Kulp; Fabiano Brothers-Wisconsin LLC; Brickner's of Wausau; Country Fresh Meats; Melron Corp; American Legion Post 10; Badger Pharmacy, LLC; KPS Tool & Die, Inc.; Frank Morris; Total Rental;

Mekong Fresh Meats, Inc.; Valley Communities CU; Malachi 3:10, Inc.; Marathon Cheese Corp; Quast Consulting & Testing, Inc.; David & Irene Kemp; Kafka Granite, LLC; Mullins Cheese, Inc.; Miracle Ear Center, P&P, Inc.; Nueske's at Gulliver's Landing; Swatowski Trucking, LLC; River Valley Express, LLC; Terrie & Carlton Hansen.



The following companies donated items for the raffles and games: Gander Mountain; Caterpillar; Sawmill Mini Golf; Mekong Fresh Meats; Jon's Auto; Day's Bowl-a-Dome; Great Dane Pub; New Life Ink; Total Rental Center; Eagle Express Lube; Jim Nick American Family Insurance Agency; G&H Family Enterprises. These raffle items raised \$495.

River Valley Express was the overall low score for the outing with a score of



66 for one team and a score of 68 for their second team. (Hole 1) Kevin Robbins was closest to the pink flamingo; (Hole 2) Sandy Synkelman had the longest ladies drive; (Hole 2) Mike Stolz had the longest men's drive; (Hole 4) Ryan Drake had the longest putt; (Hole 5) Carl Hansen made closest to the pin; (Hole 6 & 15) Joe Frappy had the longest putt; (Hole 7 & 16) Deb McCormick longest ladies drive and Pat had the longest men's drive; (Hole 8 & 17) Branden Jensen had chip shot closest to the pin; and (Hole 9 & 18) Steve G made closest to the pin.

A fun time was had by all and we appreciate all the donations and sponsors contributions that made this so successful. We also thank the teams and their employers for allowing them to participate. We look forward to 2017 and an even more successful event.

Gil Holcomb

Badger Sec/Treas.



“I belong to the finest unit in the world!”



Alexander Omhoff, Dutch Military Liaison; BG Winski and Maggie listening to Bret. (Laney pic)

(cont. from pg. 1) What we are about for the most part, plain and simple about supporting these troopers through brotherhood, comradeship, education and assistance when coming home. Our mission is to ensure that these paratroopers know that we are here and willing to offer help through decades of personal experiences in adjustment and reintegration back to home and family, a current need that is at the forefront and outweighs others ten to one. Through our dedication to support the troopers through comradeship, we are a phone call away to assist a trooper and his or her family.

Lead from the Front. Throughout history the tenants of leadership have been developed through experience of great men who took it of themselves to take a shot at making a difference. Those who never quit, took (cont. pg 4) (cont. from pg. 1.) a chance against the odds and gave it their best shot. Through these experiences, future soldiers can look at their examples valor, and learn to live by creeds that are developed through these actions, their actions are the motivation that creeds are written, that soldiers live, eat and breathe by. The stories of triumph, struggle, and the ability to Never Quit. (Cont. pg. 4)

If anything no one soldier has created

the culture of today's paratroopers more than James Magellas.

Airborne Creed

I volunteered as a parachutist, fully realizing the hazard of my chosen service and by my thoughts and actions will always uphold the prestige, honor and high esprit-de-corps of parachute troops.

I realize that a parachutist is not merely a soldier who arrives by parachute to fight, but is an elite shock trooper and that his country expects him to march farther and faster, to fight harder, and to be more self-reliant than any other soldier. Parachutists of all allied armies belong to this great brotherhood.

I shall never fail my fellow comrades by shirking any duty or training, but will always keep myself mentally and physically fit and shoulder my full share of the task, whatever it may be.

I shall always accord my superiors fullest loyalty and I will always bear in mind the sacred trust I have in the lives of the men I will accompany into battle.

I shall show other soldiers by my military courtesy, neatness of dress and care of my weapons and equipment that I am a picked and well trained soldier.

I shall endeavor always to reflect the high standards of training and morale of parachute troops.

I shall respect the abilities of my enemies, I will fight fairly and with all my might. Surrender is not in my creed.

I shall display a high degree of initiative and will fight on to my objective and mission,

though I be the lone survivor.

I shall prove my ability as a fighting man against the enemy on the field of battle, not by quarreling with my comrades in arms or by bragging about my deeds.

I shall always realize that battles are won by an army fighting as a team, that I fight first and blaze the path into battle for others to follow and to carry the battle on.

I belong to the finest unit in the world. By my actions and deeds alone, I speak for my fighting ability. I will strive to uphold the honor and prestige of my outfit, making my country proud of me and of the unit to which I belong.

AIRBORNE LEADS THE WAY!

***Maggie, your actions inspired this to be written for all of us to follow.
All The Way Sir !!***

- ***Bret VanBlaircom,
Chair, Badger Chapter***



Badger Chapter 82nd Para Doug Rasmussen, L., with the Phillips AmVets Military Display. We hope to get Doug to travel this to our Airborne Memorial in Point, tentatively set for Sept. 10 at the Airborne Bridge Memorial.. This is one hell of a DISPLAY!



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.

Proud day for the 82nd!

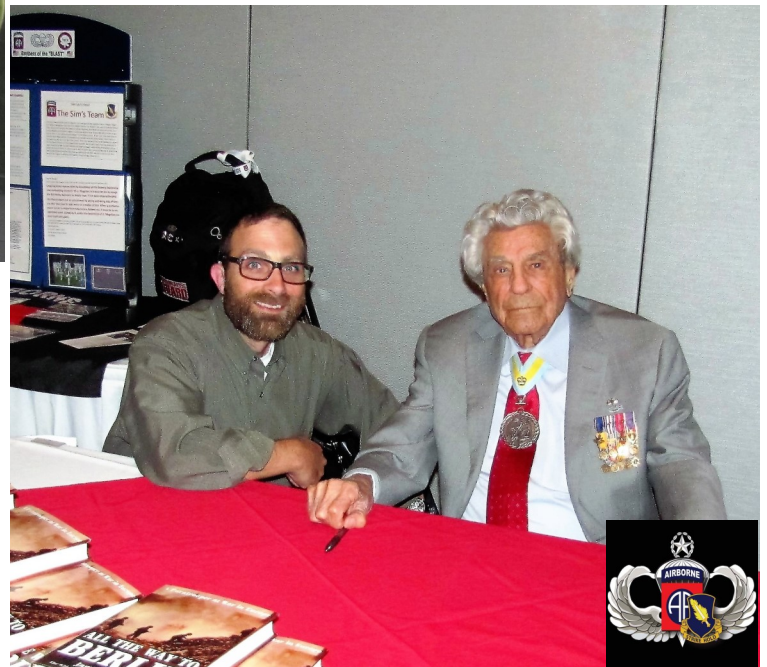


Hell yeah! We had a great, Airborne time! Gil, Mike Timmerman, Ed Wencel, 325; Bret; Bob, BG Winski at Maggie Dinner thrown by Billy Zaneitas.



U.S. Ranger, Jason Church, Menomonie congratulates Maggie. Jason starred in football for Menomonie High and UW Lacrosse. "I was so inspired by Maggie's combat heroism it helped me survive Ranger Training," Jason said in his speech. He would later survive the Afghanistan bombing that cost him both legs.

Gil Holcomb with the Mike Bigalke family, Iris and grandson Michael. Mike Bigalke is a prominent 82nd historian, expert on 504 PIR and Maggie history who has "been there" for Badger events.

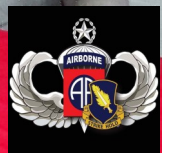


Justin Connaher, All American photographer, came All The Way from Alaska. Justin covers the 509th and 501st Paratroopers attached to the 25th ID.



CAPT John Townsend, longtime Maggie advocate, huddling with Maggie.

82nd Bucky



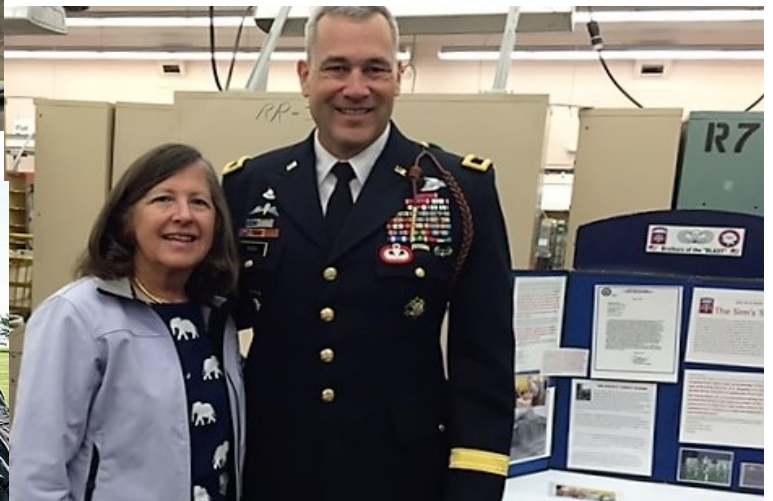
82nd BG Winski, 82nd Chorus, 82nd 504 PIR Color Guard, Golden Knights, Badger All Airborne Chapter, dignitaries and paratroopers everywhere! The 82nd did us all proud in honoring Maggie!



Maggie thanking his friends, his Troopers, Carole and America for this honor. Alex Omhoff, Dutch Liaison to our troops in the Mideast, front row, right, came from Holland with a replica of the Dutch Orange Lanyard and congratulations from General Scaparotti.



82nd All American Chorus was superb!



Sara Witter Connor with BG Winski in front of Laney's Maggie Display. Sara is an Honorary Member of the Badger Chapter for her expertise on the 325 GIR, 82nd; and, 327 GIR 101st. She is a longtime supporter of the Medal of Honor drive for Maggie's Herresbach Valor.



We thank the Golden Knights for their immense respect and honor for Maggie. This woman has over 1600 jumps! We will have more pictures (with names) next issue.



Mike Bigalke, Tom Laney, BG Winski, Frank Morris, Gil Holcomb and Dave Kemp, all made this day BIG for Maggie and the 82nd. COL Ed Sims, right, who rests at Arlington, also had a lot to do with these honors.....Ed had a better view than any of us. God bless the 82nd Airborne!



BADGER ALL AIRBORNE NEWS

Badger All Airborne Chapter News
82nd Airborne Division Association
Gil Holcomb, Secretary/Treasurer
4912 Elm St.
Weston, WI 54476-2401



COL John Scocos with Frank at our first All Airborne Memorial. COL Scocos has done tons of work for our Chapter, and Wisconsin Troopers. We even have the King Museum named after Maggie with Airborne to be featured in the new Madison Military Museum. (Laney pic.)



Badger Trustee Bob Shrader; 82nd historian Rick Holle; Badger Sec/Treas Gil Holcomb at the Fond du Lac Post Office for the Maggie-naming. Historic event for the 82nd's greatest lead-from-the-front officer, LTC Jim "Maggie Megellas!"

At right, Memorial Day, Rick and Laney at Glenn Ward's grave in Ft. Snelling National Cemetery. We decorated Bill Hannigan's grave and 18 other WWII Airborne heroes who never made it home. Thanks to Belgian Ranger Dominic Potier for their locations; and to Eddy Lamberty, C-47 Club Europe for the inspiration to continue these memorials. From Ft. Snelling we went to Baldwin, WI to decorate the resting place of Rick's Dad, Leon Holle. Leon fought WWII with the 80th AA, 82nd Airborne Division. Rick is an incomparable Wisconsin 82nd Historian. He and wife Kathy will be in Nijmegen for the Market-Garden memorials this Sept.

We hope to have Eddy and Dominic as Badger guests next Summer! Laney photos.