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**DON'T FORGET, YOUR ANNUAL DUES WERE PAYABLE BY JANUARY 2005**  
**CONSIDER BECOMING A MEMBER IN PERPETUITY**

Jan 05



*The Washington Artillery*

## WAVA NEWS

### COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS FOR 2005

Active Battalion: Norvin Schexnauldre (504) 889-0837  
Audit: Bill Guarino (504) 682-2885  
Donald Burgess (504) 682-6441  
Awards: Russell Mayeur (288) 255-7689  
Budget: Norvin Schexnauldre (504) 889-0837  
Dennis Showalter (504) 251-0669  
Building Management: Rene Jacques (504) 282-8307  
Building Rental: Bill Guarino (504) 682-2885  
Jay Hotard (504) 488-3121  
Ed Benezech, Jr. (504) 271-5150  
Bulletin: Roger Bacon (504) 421-6358  
Charter & By-Laws: Henry Pepper (504) 271-0634

Financial Advisor: Rene Jacques (504) 282-8307  
Food/Beverage: Bill Guarino (504) 682-2885  
Ed Harrell (504) 454-7738  
Fraternal: Mel Hibbets (504) 283-6733  
Historical: Glen Cangelosi (504) 391-1174  
Legal: John Gniady (504) 454-1515  
Membership: Anthony Pizzolato & Bd. (504) 467-7036  
Parliamentarian: Henry Pepper (504) 271-0634  
Programs: Rolla Schwartz (504) 488-8338  
Publicity: Russel Madere (504) 831-8062  
Social: Nelson Ardoin (504) 738-9634  
Telephone: Joseph Centanni & Board (504) 733-1141

- ***What's Inside!!!***
- Upcoming Events
- Rental of WAVA Facilities
- **President's Message**
- Dues/Membership Application
- Member Award
- Special Events/Socials

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WAVA NEWS



Russell A. Mayeur, Sr.	President
Nelson Ardoin, Jr.	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President
Dennis Showalter	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President
Donald Burgess	Secretary
Norvin Schexnaildre	Treasurer

**WAVA OFFICERS**

**TERM EXPIRES DECEMBER 2005**

Joe Centanni (Lupe)	733-1141
Bill Guarino (Rita)	682-2885
Henry L. Pepper Jr. (Marilyn)	271-0634
Norvin Schexnaildre (Loyce)	889-0837
Dennis Showalter (Jan)	254-0809
Vacant	

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Jay Hotard (Betty)	488-3121
Russel R. Madere, Jr. (Melissa)	831-8062
Anthony Pizzolatto (Monica)	467-7036

**TERM EXPIRES DECEMBER 2007**

Ed. P. Benezech, Jr. (Katherine)	271-5150
Ed Harrell	454-7738
Melvin L. Hibbets (Helen)	283-6733
Rene' C. Jacques	282-8307
Russell A. Mayeur Sr. (Eloise)	(228) 255-7689
Rolla Schwartz	488-8338

**WAVA MEETINGS  
1st /2nd Quarter 2005**

February 15 <sup>th</sup>	General Membership Meeting
March 15 <sup>th</sup>	General Membership Meeting
April 19 <sup>th</sup>	Board Meeting
May 17 <sup>th</sup>	General Membership Meeting/Social
June 21 <sup>st</sup>	General Membership Meeting

**ANNUAL DUES**

Please check your name label for the status of your dues.  
**ANNUAL DUES ARE DELINQUENT FOR 2004 & 2005 FOR THOSE WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS IN PERPETUIY.** Membership/dues form is at page four.

**SPECIAL EVENTS DURING 2005**

May 17 <sup>th</sup>	Crawfish Boil
September 20 <sup>th</sup>	Barbecue Feast
November 15 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual WA Reunion & WAVA's 40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR ALL WAVA MEETINGS AND EVENTS FOR 2005**

**AWARD TO WAVA MEMBER**

Congratulations to **SFC Kurt Schnexnaildre**, a Member in Perpetuity, who has been awarded the ARCOM-3OLC Medal for Meritorious Service and the MSM Medal for Exceptional Service while serving as Truckmaster with the additional duty of Platoon Sergeant. The award was for his performance while attached to the Headquarters Platoon, 1086<sup>th</sup> Trans Co., in Kuwait and Iraq during the period of Feb-Nov 2003.

**LADIES AUXILIARY: Meets at 7:00 p.m. at the WAVA building on the third Tuesday each month. Next meeting is February 15<sup>th</sup>. Please pass this information on and encourage your spouse to attend and become an associate member.**

## FROM THE PRESIDENT:

The annual election for a third of our Association Board of Directors took place on December 1<sup>st</sup>. I am pleased to announce that three new board members were installed on that date: Nelson Ardoin, Donald Burgess and Russel Madere. The election was very close, with one and two votes separating the next two nominees.

The Board of Directors met On December 16<sup>th</sup> to elect officers for 2004. They are also listed on page two.

Committee assignments for 2004 are shown on page one. There are a few new committee assignments and one, the membership committee, has co-chairmen. Membership will be a high priority. We plan to be proactive in the pursuit of new membership. You can help by making contact with your former comrades and asking that they consider becoming a member of WAVA.

We are planning two socials at our home on May 18<sup>th</sup> and September 21<sup>st</sup>. Our annual reunion of active WAVA members and former and current active battalion members, is tentatively scheduled for November 16<sup>th</sup>. Please mark these and other special activity dates on your calendar without delay.

Harry McEnery III and William Crockett, new Members in Perpetuity, are being added to our plaque. Lewis Bonner and Harry Bartlett are new associate members. We welcome you to WAVA.

Please share this newsletter with your spouse or any other person you may want to sponsor to become part of a ladies' auxiliary unit of WAVA. See page two for information and page four for the information form to be sent in for planning purposes. We hope to see them at the January meeting.

For GOD and country, Roger Bacon

## CHANGE IS INEVITABLE: EMBRACE IT AND SUCCESS IS YOURS by MAJ Jordan Jones, Cdr., 1/141

Since the last WAVA meeting I attended, the 1/141<sup>st</sup> FA BN has experienced a few changes that I'm sure WAVA would like to know about. As the saying goes, "the only thing constant in the Army is change." That couldn't be any truer today.

One week prior to my first drill as the new commander I learned that our plan to conduct a live-fire exercise at Camp Shelby had to be changed due to the Chief of Staff's requirement that every soldier be provided the opportunity to vote in the gubernatorial election Saturday morning. Going to the field to fire didn't make much sense considering the distance traveled, the time required to properly perform pre-combat checks (PCC) and inspections (PCI) and the reduced time actually spent firing. There were a number of other logistical factors that also needed to be considered, but ultimately, I didn't want to chance a safety violation or accident or reduce the quality of training to standard simply for the sake of pumping rounds down range. With that said, our leaders did an excellent job of immediately adjusting the training plan and executed the new one like the true professionals they are.

The December drill wasn't much different. We had to make more changes to the training schedule and in the process tasked battery leadership to prepare for a totally revised additional training assembly (ATA) format on short notice. Once again, our leaders rose to the occasion and performed very well.

So, where are we now? Our entire '04 training schedule had to be revised because, like we anticipated, our battalion will participate in a Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) rotation at Ft. Polk June 6-20, 2004. The entire training schedule changed because we were planning to conduct a number of live-fire exercises in preparation for annual training. Due to us going to the JRTC instead, we probably won't fire a single round until November of 2004. We will still conduct our Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System

(AFATDS) new equipment training (NET) at the end of August, however, that fielding doesn't require firing.

The JRTC rotation will require the entire battalion's participation. The difference is that we won't be operating in the same configuration and performing the same missions you'd expect from an FA battalion. We'll be doing what our brothers in OIF are doing, mostly infantry tactics. Bravo will go as a pure PALADIN battery and Alpha and Charlie will go as Motorized Rifle Companies. They will be riding around in up-armored HMMWVs in contrast to Paladins. We'll probably take elements of HHB and SVC battery and plus-up the firing batteries.

Since the 30 BDE isn't quite sure how they are going to accomplish their mission in the JRTC "box," and we were originally suppose to model our preparation after their example, we'll end up determining our own template via lessons learned from units in OIF and from the Center for Army Lessons Learned (CALL). More interestingly, the observer/controllers (Ocs) tasked w/evaluating the 30<sup>th</sup>'s performance don't know how PALADIN Battalions are employed.

There's nothing like a good challenge, and we've got plenty. In light of all the personnel changes and major change in mission, our soldiers and leaders have demonstrated an unrepentant desire to excel and learn skills not previously available. Worse case scenario is that we'll have to use lessons learned from our JRTC rotation in the event that we'd get called to active duty in the future. The best case scenario is that we'll never have to use these soon to be newly acquired skills anywhere, but are just that much smarter and better prepared!

However the scenario unfolds, I can say without hesitation that our soldiers and leaders will rise to meet these challenges and excel with an unwavering success for which they are well known. TRY US! Thunder 6

**WE HEARD FROM:** John Wilkinson, a Member in Perpetuity, who has given an annual donation to WAVA for many years. This year John sent in a \$100 check. This will help in defraying rising operating costs and decreasing investment income. We thank John for his generosity.

### RENTAL OF WAVA FACILITIES

The WAVA hall is available for rental with the sponsorship of an active WAVA member at extremely low rates. If you have a need for a facility for yourself or friend for a wedding, meeting, party, dinner, etc., please consider our home. In addition to the social rental, the Board of Directors has authorized a search for a permanent lease of the approximately 5,400 sq. ft. on the second floor of our building. The area is in good shape and upgrade requirements are negotiable. Point-of-contact for building scheduling is William "Bill" Guarino, (504) 682-2885.

### WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL DEDICATION

On May 29, 2004, fifty-nine years after the war, the citizen soldiers of "The Greatest Generation" will finally be recognized with the dedication of the WWII Monument on the Mall in the Nation's Capitol. Some members of WAVA, including Russell Mayeur and Mel Hibbets, are planning to attend. Other official events will be on May 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, with the dedication on the 29<sup>th</sup>. It is free and open to the public. If interested, contact either Russell at 228-255-7689 or Mel at 504-283-6733 ASAP for information on hotels and room rates.

**REMINDER:** Artillery red sport coats are available at The Smart Set, 536 Oakland in Metairie. Contact Beverly Hailey at 504-833-1757. The cost is \$75 plus shipping charges. Larger sizes may cost slightly more.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I was elected President of the Washington Artillery Veterans Association at the Annual Meeting on 15 December 2004, succeeding Roger Bacon who has held the office for the past two years. According to the by-laws of the Association, Roger could not run for reelection after serving two years.

One of my major goals for this year is to continue the efforts that Roger started in bringing the membership up to the level that we had many years ago. At this time, we have eighty-three (83) members who are delinquent in their dues for 2004 and/or 2005. We cannot afford to lose this many members and still operate as an effective Association. Remember, our only sources of new members are those who are members of the active battalion or who formerly served as a member of the Washington Artillery.

My other goal is to have a program which will include invited guests to present information which should be of interest to our members. These programs are scheduled for, but not limited to, February, March, June, August and November. Our guest for the 25 February meeting will be Ken Abney, a Certified Public Accountant with the firm of Ericksen, Krentel and LaPorte LLP, who will discuss taxes.

Our crawfish boil social will be held in May and the Barbecue Feast will be in September. Board meetings will be in January, April, July and October. All members are invited to attend.

We will continue to work with the 1/141 Family Support Group and their programs, both financially and through the use of the WAVA building for their monthly meetings. Jean Ann Williams, Sherrie Smith and all of the battery representatives are doing a fantastic job.

We will continue to support the Battalion Washington Artillery during their tour of duty in Iraq. Thus far, we have supported the departure reception at their armory and have sent the battalion eight cases of Mardi Gras beads and stuffed animals, an industrial grade shop vac, a digital video camera with all necessary accessories and a tripod.

We also sent the American Flag which draped the coffin of the late Colonel Emile "Buster" St. Pierre, a former

commander of the Washington Artillery. The flag will be flown at the battalion's headquarters and, upon return, will be displayed with appropriate information regarding the location(s) and dates flown. It will be displayed at a location to be determined at a later date. We are especially grateful to Mrs. Josie St. Pierre and her family for the donation. It will be a fitting tribute to Buster, his family, WAVA and the Washington Artillery.

Our prayers are with the members of the battalion and all of the men and women serving in our armed forces. We look forward to the return of the active battalion in December 2005.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY,  
Russel A. Mayeur

**FRATERNAL: Please keep Mel Hibbets informed of members who may be sick, hospitalized or deceased. We appreciate any and all information about the health of our members.**

## SPECIAL THANKS FOR DONATIONS

**We wish to express our gratitude for the generous support that WAVA, the Family Readiness Group and the active battalion has received:**

**To Edward Benezech, Jr. who has donated \$2,000 to WAVA to support the Battalion and another \$2,000 directly to the Family Readiness Group.**

**To Dr. Glen Cangelosi who provided six cases of Mardi Gras Beads for the Battalion.**

**To the Forty and Eight Voiture 1616 Association represented by Henry Ferrer, a Member in Perpetuity, and Larry Lobre, an associate member, which donated a check for \$200 that will be used to provide calling cards to support the active battalion's soldiers.**

**To the family and estate of the late John Mac Tisdell which recently sent a check in the amount of \$2,967.68 as an interim distribution of assets. There will likely be another check when the remaining assets are distributed after all remaining liabilities are settled.**

**The battalion, WAVA and the FRG needs support such as this during these difficult times.**

### KIDS TO KIDS PROGRAM

The 141<sup>st</sup> FA BN, the Washington Artillery, commanded by LTC Jordan Jones, is currently deployed at Camp Victory in Iraq, near Baghdad. He stressed in a recent e-mail that their mission is not all done with gunpowder. They fully realize that if Iraq is to progress, they need to help the future of the country, the children. To facilitate this part of their mission they have developed a web site with necessary information -- [www.childrenofbaghdad.com](http://www.childrenofbaghdad.com). The site provides their mission statement, photographs, FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) and a DONATION link providing a list of items needed and some items which are NOT NEEDED.

WAVA requests that all donations that you do not want to send directly be sent to WAVA, P.O. Box 7584, Metairie, LA 70010. This includes money which we will use to purchase items needed and/or pay for postage to send the items. Please ask your family, friends and associates to become involved also. If you have a source of a possible donation of materials or money for this purpose let us know and, if needed, we will arrange pickup and shipment.

We should all pitch in to support their effort in this mission. Point of Contact for WAVA is Norvin Schexnaldre, 1608 Francis Ave., Metairie, LA 70003; e-mail--[nschex35@cox.net](mailto:nschex35@cox.net); Home Phone 504-889-0837, Cellular Phone 504-666-2838.

## WAVA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND DUES FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
SEND APPLICATION TO:

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY: WAVA

P. O. Box 7584, Metairie, LA 70010

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHECK AS APPROPRIATE  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
(Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Business) \_\_\_\_\_  
ANNUAL DUES (\$15.00) \_\_\_\_\_  
SPOUSE'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
NEW MEMBER (\$15.00) \_\_\_\_\_  
E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
ASSOCIATE MEMBER (\$15.00) \_\_\_\_\_  
DATES OF SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_  
MEMBER IN PERPETUITY (\$150) \_\_\_\_\_  
UNIT (BN) \_\_\_\_\_ BTRY(S) \_\_\_\_\_  
CHANGE OF ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_  
RECOMMENDED BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_ CHECK NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

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FOR MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE ONLY

APPLICATION  
REVIEWED \_\_\_\_\_ APPR  
OVED \_\_\_\_\_ DISAPPROVED \_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_  
COMMENTS: