

WASHINGTON ARTILLERY
VETERANS ASSOCIATION
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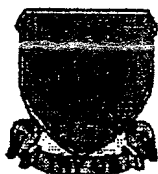
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**DON'T FORGET,
YOUR ANNUAL DUES ARE PAYABLE BY JANUARY 2010.
CONSIDER BECOMING A MEMBER IN PERPETUITY!**

Jan 10

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The Washington Artillery

WAVA NEWS

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS FOR 2010

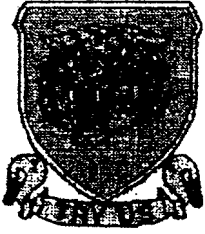
Active Battalion:	John DiMartini	(504) 738-7472
	Ed Daigle	(504) 289-6965
Audit:	Joe Centanni	(504) 733-1141
	Jay Hotard	(504) 339-2121
	Jim Ledet	(504) 887-2910
Budget/Treasurer:	Norvin Schexnaildre	(504) 889-0837
Charter Bylaws:	Peter Breslin	(504) 466-3929
	Mike Escudier	(504) 455-1939
	Joseph Taranto	(504) 834-3302
Corresponding Sect.	Russell Mayeur	(228) 255-7689
Financial Advisor:	Ron Besson	(504) 347-5026
	Jay Hotard	(504) 339-2121
Fraternal:	Ron Besson	(504) 347-5026
Food/Beverage:	Charlene Ardoin	(504) 738-9634
	Joe Centanni	(504) 733-1141
	Joseph Whitman	(504) 249-2255

Historical:	Glen Cangelosi	(504) 391-1174
	Jacques Walker	(985) 882-9973
Legal:	Peter Breslin	(504) 466-3929
	Mike Escudier	(504) 455-1939
	Joseph Taranto	(504) 834-3302
Membership:	John DiMartini	(504) 738-7472
Newsletter:	Roger Bacon	(504) 421-6358
Nominations	Roger Bacon	(504) 421-6358
	Jordan Jones	(985) 331-2093
	Russell Mayeur	(985) 255-7689
Parliamentarian:	Peter Breslin	(504) 466-3929
	Joseph Taranto	(504) 834-3302
Programs/Publicity:	Jordan Jones	(985) 331-2093
Recording Secretary:	Joseph Taranto	(504) 834-3302
Socials:	Ron Besson	(504) 347-5026
	Jim Ledet	(504) 887-2910
	Joseph Whitman	(504) 249-2255
Telephone:	Joe Centanni	(504) 733-1141

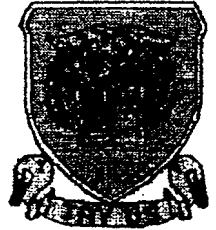
What's Inside!!!

President's & Commander's Message
Dates of Meetings, Socials & Reunion
WAVA Website
Officers and Board Members
Dues/Membership Application/New
Members

WASHINGTON ARTILLERY VETERANS ASSOCIATION



WAVA NEWS



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No. 10-1 To Perpetuate the spirit of the Washington Artillery (The 1/141FA under many numeric designations). Jan 2010

WAVA OFFICERS

Jim Ledet	President
Ron Besson	1 st Vice President
Joseph Centanni	2 nd Vice President
Russell Mayeur	Secretary
Norvin Schexnaildre	Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TERM EXPIRES DECEMBER 2010

Nelson Ardoin, Jr. (Charlene)	(504) 738-9634
Roger A. Bacon (Betty)	(504) 421-6358
Ray Hartman (Eva)	(504) 715-5704
Jay Hotard (Betty)	(504) 339-3121
Dwayne Robinette (Kimberly)	(504) 304-1071
Jacques Walker (Jill)	(985) 882-9973

TERM EXPIRES DECEMBER 2011

Edward Benezech, Jr. (Katherine)	(504) 341-2223
Edward Daigle	(504) 289-6965
John DeMartini (Sandra)	(504) 738-7472
Jordan Jones (Richelle)	(985) 331-2093
Russell A. Mayeur, Sr. (Eloise)	(228) 255-7689
Joseph Whitman (Nancy)	(985) 249-2255

TERM EXPIRES DECEMBER 2012

Ronald Besson (Barbara)	(504) 347-5026
Peter Breslin (Peggy)	(504) 466-3929
Joe Centanni (Lupe)	(504) 733-1141
Jim Ledet (Susan)	(504) 887-2910
Norvin Schexnaildre (Loyce)	(504) 889-0837
Joseph Taranto	(504) 834-3302

Annual Dues

Please check your label for the status of your dues. Annual dues for 2010 and previous years is payable immediately.

Consider becoming a member in perpetuity. Membership/dues form is on page 4.

WAVA MEETINGS/SPECIAL EVENTS

1st/2nd Quarters 2010

January 19th	Board Meeting
February 16th	No meeting due to Mardi Gras
March 16th	General Membership Meeting
April 20th	Board Meeting
May 18th	General Membership Meeting/Seafood Social
June 15th	General Membership Meeting

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR ALL MEETINGS AND EVENTS.

Meetings will be held at the home of the Delta Lions, 1725 Hickory Ave., River Ridge, and will begin at 7:00 p.m. Socials/special event locations and times will be provided elsewhere in the newsletter as final arrangements are made.

NEW MEMBERS

Members in Perpetuity: Robert McMurtry and Dwayne Robinette.

Annual Member: Justin Bertoniera, Brent Deykin, Bert Esteves, Gerald Falgout, Louis Faust, Rigoberto Gutierrez, Scott Heard, Noe Lainez, Anthony Lanasa, Warren Leal, Mark Lua, Jose Moradel, Ian Ricks, Mario Suarez, Alfred Schneider, Kenneth Schultz, Halssum Sgimar, Jonathan Smith, Ashton Stephens III and Danny Zapito.

Associate Member: Lionel Falgout, Sr., John Fleming (Member in Perpetuity) and Barbara Winfield (Member in Perpetuity).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

We have been busy since we sent out the last newsletter in October 2009. As we approach the year 2010, WAVA, like everyone else is affected by the extremely low available interest rate. High unemployment and the current economic situation is affecting many of our members.

The active Battalion, as most of you know, is preparing for their deployment. The 141st and the entire 256th brigade will leave shortly after the first of the year for approximately two months of training. I wish them the best and their safe return home.

We will be meeting this coming year at the Delta Lions Club located at 1725 Hickory Av., Harahan La. We meet on the third Tuesday of the month. There will be no meeting in February due a conflict with Mardi Gras.

There will be a seafood social in May and the barbecue social will be in October. Locations are yet to be decided. Once the social committee members have made firm arrangements the membership will be notified via the next newsletter.

WAVA was busy in December. The reunion was celebrated at Jackson Barracks in conjunction with our annual meeting and the election of six board members. We had eighty-five (85) in attendance. Eighteen (18) new members were signed up. I welcome the new members to the board. They are Capt. Dewayne Robinette, Pete Breslin and Joe Taranto. The entire list of board members is on page 2. The election of 2010 officers was conducted at our board meeting on Tuesday, December 15th. In addition to my reelection, the following board members were selected: 1st vice president is Ron Besson, 2nd vice president is Joe Centanni, treasurer is Norvin Schexnaildre and corresponding secretary is Russell Mayeur.

Charter and By law changes were also passed at this meeting. These changes affect the board members going on active duty for any deployment. They will remain as board members as long as they are deployed. It also provides for such board members to give their proxy vote to another board member for the length of such deployment. A quorum is established as the majority of non-deployed members.

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and wish all of you a happy New Year. I hope to see you at the meetings during the coming year.

THANK YOU

Jim Ledet
President
WAVA

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS:

Redlegs, this newsletter once again finds the Washington Artillery answering the nation's call to arms. On January 5, 2010, the battalion entered federal active service in support of the ongoing war on terrorism. The battalion mobilized as part of the 256 Infantry Brigade Combat Team. The battalion was organized into three motorized rifle companies rather than our traditional direct support artillery role. Nearly a century ago, our predecessors were organized in a similar fashion during the 1916 Mexican campaign.

We will be spending the next couple of months training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. Many of our World War II veterans had a similar mobilization experience at this fine facility. The focus of our training will be collective training and battle drills. We will also spend a lot of time conducting drivers and maintenance training on the MRAP vehicle platform. The MRAP or Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle is the latest in the line of vehicles designed to better protect Soldiers from Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs). We will also train on new weapons optics and individual equipment. The Department of Defense has gone through great expense to ensure that our Soldiers have the best equipment available in order to be successful.

Last month I accompanied other brigade leaders on a recon of our Area of Operations in Iraq. For Operational Security Reasons (OPSEC), I cannot go into great detail regarding our mission and future base location. I can say that our mission is critical to the future success of Iraq and supports our continued force reduction. Our Soldiers will be very busy. While in Iraq, I was able to visit the Victory base Complex; our former home for OIF III. It has remained virtually unchanged and our old TOC still bears the memorial plaque for SGT Godbolt.

Unfortunately, my trip caused me to miss St. Barbara's Night, WAVA Reunion and the annual Pass-in-Review. By all accounts, these events were well attended and enjoyed by all. Although my recon to Iraq was beneficial, it in no way made up for the fellowship and esprit-de-corps that I relish during the aforementioned events. I am grateful for all of the support from WAVA, the Family Support Group and members of the active battalion. We are truly blessed as an organization.

While in Iraq, I will continue to provide my comments for the newsletter. I will also focus on establishing a website so that we can post photos, articles and other news from the frontlines so that you can stay in touch with the battalion. As always, I am honored to be among your ranks.

Try Us!
LTC Brian P. Champagne

WAVA MEMBERSHIP/DUES APPLICATION

NAME _____

Send to:

ADDRESS _____

SECRETARY, WAVA
P. O. Box 7854, Metairie, LA 70010

PHONE _____
(Home) (Work) (Cell)

CHECK AS APPROPRIATE

SPOUSE'S NAME _____

ANNUAL DUES (\$15) _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

NEW MEMBER (\$15) _____

DATES OF SERVICE _____

ASSOCIATE MEMBER (\$15) _____

UNIT (BN) _____ BTRY(S) _____

MEMBER IN PERPETUITY (\$15) _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____

CHANGE OF ADDRESS _____

RECOMMENDED BY: _____

DATE _____ CHECK NUMBER _____

FOR MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE ONLY

APPLICATION

REVIEWED _____ APPROVED _____ DISAPPROVED _____

CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE _____

COMMENTS _____

Washington Artillery Veterans Association Website. The WAVA website has been updated. It's now interactive and contains the most current information available. It's updated as soon as possible when significant events occur. It also contains an accurate history of not only the Washington Artillery Veterans Association but, also the history of the *Washington Artillery, and the Washington Artillery Board of Managers (WABOM)*. There is a calendar so you can stay abreast of current events as well as print out an RSVP form to be mailed in for upcoming social events. There is also a menu which informs you all ABOUT US, Who the Board of Directors are, who is assigned to which committee and so on. Additionally there are contact numbers and email addresses for key people. Our Charter and By-Laws are also now online. The gift shop is currently under construction (a website term) as is the photo gallery. Hopefully, these will be up and running in the near future. Please visit our website at www.washingtonartillery.org.
