

WASHINGTON ARTILLERY
VETERANS ASSOCIATION
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**DON'T FORGET,
YOUR ANNUAL DUES ARE PAYABLE BY JANUARY 2011.
CONSIDER BECOMING A MEMBER IN PERPETUITY!**

Jan 11

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The Washington Artillery

WAVA NEWS

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS FOR 2011

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
	Joseph Taranto	(504) 834-3302
Budget/Treasurer:	Norvin Schexnauldre	(504) 889-0837
Charter Bylaws:	Peter Breslin	(504) 466-3929
	Mike Escudier	(504) 455-1939
	Joseph Taranto	(504) 834-3302
Secretary:	Russell Mayeur	(228) 255-7689
	Jay Hotard	(504) 339-2121
Financial Advisor:	Nelson Ardoin	(504) 738-9634
	Jay Hotard	(504) 339-2121
Fraternal:	Joe Centanni	(504) 733-1141
	Renda Besson	(504) 340-2987

What's Inside!!!

President's & Commander's Message
Dates of Meetings, Socials & Reunion
Officers and Board Members
Dues/Membership Application/New Members
5th Co. WA Events
Taps/Deaths in the WAVA Family

Food/Beverage:	Charlene Ardoin	(504) 738-9634
	Renda Besson	(504) 340-2987
	Joe Centanni	(504) 733-1141
	Ray Hartman	(504) 715-5704
	Joseph Whitman	(985) 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	Jordan Jones	(985) 331-2093
	Russell Mayeur	(985) 255-7689
	Joseph Whitman	(985) 249-2255
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:	Joseph Whitman	(985) 249-2255
	Renda Besson	(504) 340-2987
	Ray Hartman	(504) 715-5704
Telephone:	Joe Centanni	(504) 733-1141
Website	Jay Castagnetta	(985) 285-8883

WASHINGTON ARTILLERY VETERANS ASSOCIATION



WAVA NEWS



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No. 11-1 To Perpetuate the spirit of the Washington Artillery (The 1/141FA under many numeric designations). Jan 2011

WAVA OFFICERS

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

TERM EXPIRES DECEMBER 2013

Nelson Ardoin, Jr. (Charlene)	(504) 738-9634
Roger A. Bacon (Betty)	(504) 421-6358
Brian Champagne (Denise)	(504) 394-1913
Ray Hartman (Eva)	(504) 715-5704
Jay Hotard (Betty)	(504) 339-3121
Jacques Walker (Jill)	(985) 882-9973

Annual Dues

Please check your label for the status of your dues. Annual dues for 2011 and previous years is payable immediately. Consider becoming a member in perpetuity. Membership/dues form is on page 4.

WAVA MEETINGS/SPECIAL EVENTS 1st and 2nd Quarters 2011

January 18th	Board Meeting
February 15th	General Membership Meeting
March 15th	General Membership Meeting
April 19 th	Board Meeting
May 17th	General Membership Meetings/Seafood Social
June 21st	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 newsletters as final arrangements are made.

NEW MEMBERS

Annual: Joseph Paciera

DEATHS IN THE WAVA FAMILY

Robert Mercadel, Jr.

October 30th

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

WAVA Members, Associates and Soldiers of the 1/141.

2011 will be a challenging year for WAVA. It will include a possible move to Jackson Barracks, recruiting new members and the retention of present members. I plan to meet with the Battalion Commander, TAG and Board members to discuss all of these challenges and to get answers to our many questions.

I will report to you the facts as I see them. This information will allow you to make reasonable decisions.

We will also welcome home our Active Battalion Soldiers. This is a good thing. I welcome your suggestions, ideas and critique. Together we will build a stronger Association. Try Us!

Ronald R. Besson,

President WAVA

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS:

Friends and Families of the Washington Artillery. December finally arrived and as did our replacement unit, the 1-116th Heavy Brigade Combat Team (HBCT), Idaho Army National Guard. They immediately began the Relief in Place (RIP) Mission with all of our units with the end state being a Transfer of Authority (TOA). All of the subordinate batteries and company of the 1-141 FA BN had different TOA dates and subsequently different return dates back to Kuwait. Many of you have inquired as to why we all had different return and release dates. This was a result of the responsible drawdown of forces from 130,000 troops to 50,000 troops. The 256 IBCT assumed the mission of three brigades resulting in the battalion being spread from Tallil to Irbil, Iraq. This distribution of forces coupled with varying types of missions caused us to have different replacement training requirements resulting in different TOA dates. The weather in Iraq also caused some unforeseen delays. Therefore, we had Soldiers arriving at Camp Shelby, Mississippi from 17-23 December 2010 with all Soldiers making it home for Christmas.

This past year has been very challenging for the Soldiers of the battalion. We were all stationed in Tallil, Iraq from March through June conducting Convoy Security Missions from Tallil to Balad, Iraq. The mission required Convoy Escort Teams (CETs) of six vehicles to protect forty-five truck convoys of "eighteen-wheelers" for missions that lasted up to twelve

hours of non-stop driving in full combat gear; not an easy task. The Battalion conducted a change of mission mid-way through the deployment which required them to move from Tallil to locations throughout Iraq. This was not an easy mission to accomplish because it required movement of millions of dollars of equipment as well as all of our Soldiers. In most cases, the units had to adapt to completely new missions. Alpha Battery began security missions for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI). Their mission was to protect UNAMI Officials as they conducted operations throughout Baghdad. They were the only US Forces that operated in Baghdad during the day. Bravo Battery attended specialized training in the United States prior to returning to the International Zone (IZ). They worked with the Joint Counter-intelligence Unit (JCIU) which collected intelligence throughout Iraq. Their mission required them to wear civilian clothing and relaxed the grooming standard allowing them to have beards so as to look like contractors rather than military personnel. Headquarters Battery assumed the mission of the Rear Area Operations Center (RAOC) which required them to function as the garrison command for the IZ. They worked closely with the United States Embassy, military tenant units, contractors and the 56th Iraqi Army on all security issues within the IZ. Golf Company was the only unit that continued conducting Convoy Security Missions after departing from Tallil. They moved up to FOB Speicher in Tikrit, Iraq and re-task organized under 3-156 Infantry which is part of the 256th IBCT.

Despite the hardships encountered, the battalion knew that it had the unwavering support from the home front. The Washington Artillery Veterans Association (WAVA) was there for us whenever we needed their support. They represented the battalion well as they continued to honor our annual traditions and supported the Rear Detachment. However, we would not have been as successful as we were had it not been for the love and support of our spouses, families and friends. No matter how tough things got at times, your love and reassurance enabled us to persevere. You all did a magnificent job supporting each other and continuing with life and raising children. Simply knowing that you were home safe enabled us to get through another day. You are the heroes of the deployment and worthy of the highest praise.

It has been my honor to serve with your Soldiers. They truly represent the best of the United States of America.

Try Us!

LTC Brian P. Champagne

WAVA MEMBERSHIP/DUES APPLICATION

NAME _____

Send to:

ADDRESS _____

SECRETARY, WAVA
P. O. Box 7584, 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 (\$150) _____

CHANGE OF ADDRESS _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____

RECOMMENDED BY: _____

DATE _____ CHECK NUMBER _____

FOR MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE ONLY

APPLICATION REVIEWED _____ APPROVED _____ DISAPPROVED _____

CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE _____ COMMENTS _____

The 5th Co. Washington Artillery: Following is a list of the Winter / Spring events that the 5th Company will attend:

1. Jan 15, 2011. St. Barbara Night. N.O. LA.
2. Jan 15, 2011. Surrender of the Federal Garrison grounds and signing of the LA. Ordinance of Succession, Pentagon Barracks and Old State Capitol Building, 9:30 A.M. and 11:30 A.M. Baton Rouge, LA.
3. March 26 - 27, 2011, Siege of Port Hudson, Zachary, LA.
4. April 2, 2011, Civil War Sesquicentennial event, False River, Point Coupee Parish, LA.
5. April 16 - 17, Battle of Jackson Crossroads, Jackson, LA.

WAVA veterans and families will be honored guests in their camp.



At left is a photo of soldiers of the 5th Company portraying the 6th Massachusetts Light Artillery at Camp Moore, Tangipahoa, LA., 21 Nov. 10. We were the host unit. The event raised over \$8000 for the operation of the Camp Moore Museum. The Color Guard L. to R. are: Pvt. Gregory Hardy, Pvt. Brian Fleming, Corporal Charles Lee and Pvt. Clay Ainsworth