



Washington Artillery Veterans Association



WAVA Newsletter

No. 14-1 To Perpetuate the Spirit of the Washington Artillery (The 1/141FA under many numeric designations) Jan 2014

WAVA Officers

Jay Castagnetta	President
Ronald Besson	1st Vice President
Joseph Whitman	2nd Vice President
Russell A. Mayeur, Sr.	Secretary
James Copeland	Treasurer

WAVA Board of Directors Terms Expires - December 2014

MAJ John DeMartini (Sandra)	(504) 738-7472
James Copeland	(504) 669-9684
Russell A. Mayeur, Sr. (Eloise)	(504) 919-8577
Joseph Whitman (Nancy)	(985) 249-2255
LT Anthony LaNasa, III	(504) 452-0358
Fred Muhs (Pat)	(504) 236-3958

Terms Expires - December 2015

Ronald Besson (Barbara)	(504) 347-5026
Michael Kreutz	(985) 898-6339
Joe Centanni (Lupe)	(504) 733-1141
Norvin Schexnauldre (Loyce)	(504) 889-0837
Ernest Guerra (Patsy)	(985) 661-1284
Russell Mayeur, Jr. (Judy)	(228) 586-1194

Terms Expires - December 2016

Jay Castagnetta (Heidi)	(985) 285-8883
Ray Hartman (Eva)	(504) 251-0386
Charlie Bauer, Jr.	(985) 809-1223
Addison Thompson	(504) 279-2278
Emile Henriguez	(985) 788-4547
Flemming Ragas	(504) 606-8127

Annual Dues

Please check your mailing label for the status of your dues payment. Annual dues for 2014 and any previous unpaid years are payable immediately.

Consider becoming a member in perpetuity and dispense with the yearly renewal. Membership and renewal dues form is attached herein.

What's Inside!!!

New start time for Meetings, see page 2
 Dates of Meetings, Socials & Reunion
 President's & Commander's Message
 Dues/Membership Application/New Members

WAVA Committee Appointments

Active Battalion:	LTC Kenneth Baillie	(504) 715-7001
	CSM Mathew Drees	(504) 418-5704
Audit:	James Copeland	(504) 669-9684
	Flemming Ragas	(504) 606-8127
Awards/Recognition:	Norvin Schexnauldre	(504) 666-2898
	Ernest Guerra	(504) 450-1284
Budget:	Jay Castagnetta	(985) 285-8883
	James Copeland	(504) 669-9684
Contact Roster:	Jay Castagnetta	(985) 285-8883
Finance:	James Copeland	(504) 669-9684
	LTC Kenneth Baillie	(504) 715-7001
	Donald Schwarzenbach	
Fraternal:	Russell Mayeur, Jr.	(228) 586-1194
	Norvin Schexnauldre	(504) 666-2898
Historical:	Dr. Glen Cangelosi	(504) 391-1174
	John Fleming	(504) 887-8195
Legal/By-Laws:	Joseph Taranto	(504) 834-3302
Membership:		
WAVA	Ernest Guerra – Chm.	(985) 661-1737
	Addison Thompson	(504) 279-2278
Active BN	MSG Errol Williams, Jr.	(337) 423-6118
Newsletter:	Fred Muhs	(504) 236-3958
	fmuhs@cox.net	
Nominations:	Russell Mayeur, Sr., Chm.	(504) 919-8577
	Russell Mayeur, Jr.	(228) 586-1194
	Anthony LaNasa, III	(504) 452-0358
Parliamentarian:	Joe Taranto	(504) 834-3302
Photographer:	Eloise Mayeur	(504) 722-0378
	Fred Muhs	(504) 236-3958
Planning:	Jordan Jones, Chm.	(985) 331-2093
	James Copeland	(504) 669-9684
	Ron Besson	(504) 458-6559
	Fred Muhs	(504) 236-3958
Programs/Publicity:		
Recording Secretary:	Jeffrey Bohne	(504) 975-7010
Socials:	Ray Hartman	(504) 251-0386
	Joseph Whitman	(985) 249-2255
	Renda Besson	(504) 340-2987
	Jeffrey Bohne	(504) 975-7010
	Parris Andrews	
	Anthony Ethridge	
	Charles Ross	
Telephone:	Norvin Schexnauldre	(504) 666-2898
	Mike Kreutz	
Website:	Jay Castagnetta	(985) 285-8883

WAVA Meetings & Special Events

1st and 2nd Quarter of 2014

January 21	Board Meeting
February 7, 8, & 9	Live Fire at Camp Shelby
February 18	General Membership Meeting
March 18	General Membership Meeting
April 15	Board Meeting
May 20	Board Meeting and Seafood Social
June 17	General Membership Meeting

Please Mark Your Calendar for All Meetings

WAVA holds its meetings at Jackson Barracks in the 1/141 Armory. Enter the north gate from St. Claude Avenue and drive toward, the now closed, N. Claiborne Avenue gate to get to the 1/141 Armory.

1700 hours - WAVA Room opens for refreshments

1730 hours - Evening meal is served

1830 hours - Meeting starts

Socials and special events will be held there also, unless noted otherwise.

New WAVA Members

Perpetual Member: Clauio Perissutti and Hugh Ricks

Member: Craig Rosenquist

Perpetual Associate Member:

Associate Member: John E. Plaisant and Camille Thompson

Taps



Col Albert Johnson

Donation to WAVA

Mrs. Rosalie Johnson made a \$25.00 donation to WAVA in memory of Col Albert Johnson who passed away on Saturday, November 16, 2013.

E-Mail Verification Effort

Attention, WAVA Members and Associates, with operational e-mail addresses. We are doing a sweep through our list of e-mail addresses on record in hopes of catching any errors or omissions in our list.

To aid this effort, we are asking that you send an e-mail message to fmuchs@cox.net simply stating the full name of the WAVA member(s) and/or associate(s) that use the e-mail address, of the reply. We can then update our list with this new and/or correct information. Thank you for your help and participation in this effort.

WAVA President's Message

Well the holidays are over and a brisk winter is upon us. I do hope all have made appropriate plans to survive a colder winter than we've experienced in a few years. If you don't have to travel on the 'ICY' roads then please don't.

WOW, 2013 is history! What a great year we've had, again. I published a 2013 Year In Review for the January Board Meeting and thought I'd have it published in the newsletter for your review.

Although most will continue in their committee assignments there have been a few changes and more will follow. First and foremost LTC Baillie and Donald Schwarzenbach have agreed to sit on the Finance Committee. They will bring quite a bit of experience to the committee as they both have a deep background in economics and finance. The audit committee will be reconstituted and an internal audit will be conducted with the results reported at the April board meeting.

We have three new members on the board of Directors and I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome them. Addison Thompson and Emile Henriquez are members of WAVA who have stepped up and offered their services and Flemming Ragas is the Active Battalion S4 NCO who also offered his services. A huge welcome to their fresh ideas on making WAVA a better organization. There will be more changes coming down the road and they'll be posted as they occur.

The annual St. Barbara celebration at the WWII Museum was a great success, as expected. The Wreath Ceremony and the 175th Pass in Review went off without a glitch and the weather could not have been any better. The reception following the review was held at the WAVA Room and Gallery on the second floor of the armory and was attended by many with COL Keith Waddell, Commander, 256th IBCT, being the senior officer present.

With the upcoming social events, continued recruiting efforts, assignment of new committee members and a long list of goals for 2014 I look forward to another successful year for WAVA.

Try Us!

Jay Castagnetta
President, WAVA

Battalion Commander's Comments

2013

“The Year in Review”

Dear friends and WAVA Family,

As you all know, the annual Pass in Review was rescheduled from October 2013 and was held on 12 January 2014. We were blessed with a very nice day, and the Active Battalion looked great. WAVA was there in force, and was mentioned and thanked by MG Curtis in his remarks. We followed up with a Saint Barbara induction for CSM Jimmy Vicellio and had a very nice cake and punch ceremony. All in all we had a great time and I really appreciate the involvement of the 5th Company on the levee as part of the salute battery.

We had our annual St. Barbara celebration December 14th at the National World War II Museum downtown. We had a great turnout, and everyone I spoke to had a great time.

Our first shoot of the year is scheduled for February 7-9, 2014 at Camp Shelby. We will concentrate on certification and qualification and Direct Support missions for the maneuver units of the 256th IBCT.

I am looking forward to starting the 176th year of continuous service for the Washington Artillery, and I know that the men and women of our battalion are among the best Soldiers anywhere. I am very proud of them all, and as I said in my address at the Pass in Review, I appreciate every one of them and what they do for our great battalion.

As ever, I want to reiterate that I truly appreciate the ongoing support and friendship of WAVA and all that they do for the Active Battalion. I remain humbled by the awesome responsibility that has been entrusted to me, and I look forward to another great year.

Kenneth T. Baillie
LTC, FA, LAARNG
Commander
1-141 Field Artillery
Washington Artillery

(504) 715-7001
kenneth.t.baillie.mil@mail.mil

"Try Us!"

1. Our relationship with the Active Battalion as well as the State Headquarters continues to thrive. With the approval of both the Battalion Commander AND the Adjutant General we have succeeded in providing WAVA with a safe and secure home which dramatically ‘Perpetuates the Spirit’ of the Battalion Washington Artillery and our association. The work completed in the WAVA Room and atrium / mezzanine area is the envy of most facilities on Jackson Barracks. This will continue to be an ongoing project which is sure to impress all who visit.

2. Our ability to communicate with our membership has also dramatically improved this past year with emailing messages and our ever improving newsletter. To date we emailed 60 messages. My goal for this year is to incorporate a phone call to all of our members who do not have email / internet service when messages are emailed.

3. Our meeting attendance continues to increase with our regular attendance now crossing 50 members. With this increase in participation comes increased expenses in both food and beverages, but I believe all will agree the money is well spent.

4. Attendance at our socials continues to amaze me. We had over 200 members and guests at our Annual Seafood Dinner and more than 176 attended the BBQ. I would be remiss if I did not mention the workers for these events. Although some are paid the ‘Can Do’ attitude is evident in every task assigned and this year’s social events went off with very few, if any, hitches.

5. Along with all of the other changes in 2013 WAVA decided to change our investment strategies with the hope of insuring our future with low risk, long term investments which in time should generate more value for our invested monies allowing us to operate without the need to consider fund raising events in the future.

6. We took the time in 2013 to completely rewrite our by-laws allowing us to forge ahead into the future with a more contemporary set of guidelines on just how our organization should operate. We eliminated antiquated processes as well as updated and streamlined others. This is truly a living document and we anticipate some future by-laws work in the coming year.

7. And finally, our membership. We continue to increase our ranks like never before. Since moving to the barracks in 2011 we have gained more than 150 new members. I believe having our home in the armory was one of the wisest decisions the association has made in years. In 2013 we lost some of our dearest members and their camaraderie and counsel will sincerely be missed. Let us cherish their memories by continuing to be the ‘Best We Can Be’!

WAVA Elections December 3, 2013

At the Annual General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, December 3rd, 2013, an election was held to elect members to fill the terms of those board members that will expire in 2013. With three current members removing themselves from reelection, Addison Thompson, Emile Henriguez, and Flemming Ragas were elected along with, reelected, Jay Castagnetta, Ray Hartman, and Charlie Bauer, Jr.



Following the Annual General Membership Meeting, with the required quorum of board members present, it was decided to hold the election for WAVA Officers and eliminate the need for another meeting in December. The current WAVA Officers all expressed a willingness to serve another term and the Board Members reelected them. Not in picture: Joseph Whitman, 2nd Vice Pres.



2012 WAVA Recognition Awards For Service to the Association

The end of 2013 was marked with various Recognition Awards. Listed are those members receiving awards:

Dr. Glen C. Cangelosi, Ron Besson, and Fred Muhs

Visit the WAVA website at:
www.washingtonartillery.org



WAVA @ Camp Moore Reenactment

On 23, November, 2013 a gathering of WAVA members and associates attended a Civil War reenactment on the beautiful grounds of Camp Moore. A number of reenacting units took part in the event, sponsored by the Camp Moore Historical Association and hosted by the 5th Company, Washington Artillery. Camp Moore is situated on roughly 450 acres of land just north of the town of Tangipahoa in Tangipahoa Parish, La., Camp Moore is of historical significance because it was the training camp for about 25,000 Louisiana soldiers before they entered combat for the Confederacy during the Civil War.

On Saturday, at 1300 the reenactor Battalion formed for battle and weapons inspection behind the main house. The formation was highlighted by recognition of the WAVA members present. Mr. Ron Besson, representing WAVA, presented a certificate of recognition and \$1000 "federal" to representatives of the Camp Moore Historical



Association for their efforts in educating the public of Louisiana's part in the War Between the States; and preserving and protecting the remaining parts of Louisiana's largest training base of the conflict; and operating the museum, open to the public, which conserves, displays, and interprets artifacts and records of the War Between the States; and for caring for, in perpetuity, the graves of the Confederate dead, buried at Camp Moore and to memorialize their sacrifice.

Following the presentation, it was just as stated in the WAVA Preamble, "Let the Batteries open", and "Let us have continuous fire". Everyone in attendance was then given an extended refresher course in the "shock and awe" characteristics of black power.

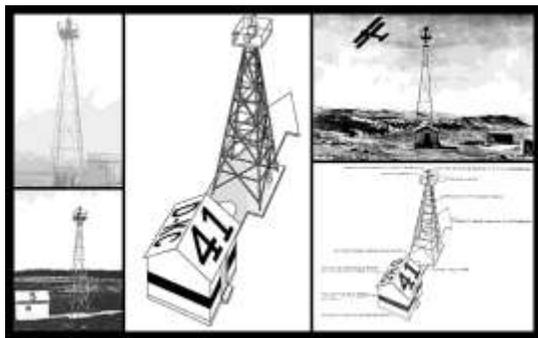


If you have never been to one of these reenactments, you are missing out on a snapshot of US history.

The Concrete Arrow Answer & Winners

On August 20, 1920, the United States opened its first coast-to-coast airmail delivery route, just 60 years after the Pony Express closed up shop. There were no good aviation charts in those days, so pilots had to eyeball their way across the country using landmarks. This meant that flying in bad weather was difficult, and night flying was just about impossible.

The Postal Service solved the problem with the world's first ground-based civilian navigation system: a series of lighted beacons that would extend from New York to San Francisco. Every ten miles, pilots would pass a bright yellow concrete arrow. Each arrow would be surmounted by a 51-foot steel tower and lit by a million-candlepower rotating beacon. (A generator shed at the tail of each arrow powered the beacon.)



Now mail could get from the Atlantic to the Pacific not in a matter of weeks, but in just 30 hours or so. Even the dumbest of air mail pilots, it seems, could follow a series of bright yellow arrows straight out of a Tex Avery cartoon. By 1924, just a year after Congress funded it, the line of giant concrete markers stretched from Rock Springs, Wyoming to Cleveland, Ohio. The next summer, it reached all the way to New York, and by 1929 it spanned the continent uninterrupted, the envy of postal systems worldwide.

Technology ultimately caught up with the arrows and beacons and by 1940 the system was decommissioned and most of the towers torn down and scrapped for the war effort. <http://www.snopes.com/travel/airline/arrows.asp>

I was right; there is no prize for the correct answer in the current budget. The following members did respond with a convincing answer:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Rufus (Sonny) Warren | Fred Grass |
| SFC Robert L. McMurty | Pete Breslin |
| Don Duplantier | |

What They Said...

“Leadership is a potent combination of strategy and character. But if you must be without one, be without the strategy.”
Norman Schwarzkopf

WAVA Attends the Active Battalion's Wreath Laying Ceremony at Metairie Cemetery

The active battalion annually pays honor to all past members of the Washington Artillery with a wreath laying ceremony at the Washington Artillery monument in Metairie Cemetery. The ceremony was conducted on January 11th, 2014 and starts with the assembly of the Washington Artillery Battalion, selected support groups and WAVA members. A prayer opens the ceremony, a black powder cannon salute assures that the attention of all is focused, and, new this year, was a “Last Call” of Active



Battalion and WAVA members that passed away during the year. At the conclusion of the ceremony, there was a brief reception in the funeral home.

175th Pass in Review for 1/141 FA Washington Artillery, Sunday, January 12th, 2014,

The parade ground at Jackson Barracks was, once again, the site of the annual Pass in Review of the Washington Artillery Battalion. Major General Glenn



Curtis, the Adjutant General of Louisiana and LTC Kenneth Baillie, Commander of the 1/141 reviewed the troops. Also present were friends and family of the men of the Battalion and members of the Washington Artillery Veterans Association.



Following the ceremony there was a reception in the WAVA Room and Gallery on the second floor of the armory.

Washington Artillery
 Veterans Association
 Post Office Box 7584
 Metairie, LA 70010



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The Washington Artillery

**Remember,
Annual Dues Are Payable By January 2014 - Please check address label for Dues Status
 Consider Becoming A Member In Perpetuity!**

Washington Artillery Veterans Association (WAVA) Membership Application and Renewal			
Name: <i>(Please print clearly)</i>			Send form & dues to:
Street address: city state zip			WAVA - Secretary P. O. Box 7584 Metairie, LA 70010
Home Phone:	Work:	Cell:	Check as appropriate
Spouse's Name:		Annual <u>Renewal</u> Dues (\$15)	
E-Mail Address:		<u>New</u> Member (\$15)	
Unit (BN):	BTRY (s):		<u>New</u> Associate Member (\$15)
Service Dates:		Member in Perpetuity (\$150)	
		Associate Member in Perpetuity (\$150)	
Date of Birth:		Change of Address	
Recommended by:		Date:	Ck. No.:
For Membership Committee Only			
Application Reviewed:		Approved:	Disapproved:
Comments:			
Membership Chairman's Signature:			